

Yours in Christ, Mark

*Virginia
Synod*

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN AMERICA



**FAITHFUL
BOLD
SERVING**

Bishop Humphrey's Statement on the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly and "Sanctuary Denomination" declaration

Grace to you and peace... in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Our denomination, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), every three years meets in a Churchwide Assembly. Approximately 950 Voting Members from all 65 Synods gather for amazing worship, rich education and thoughtful, prayerful deliberation on matters affecting the whole church.

Our last Assembly concluded on August 10th. Here are just a few highlights:

We re-elected Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton to a second term on the first ballot!

Deacon Sue Rothmeyer was elected to a 6-year term as ELCA Secretary

Deacons will now enter their call to serve in Word and Service through Ordination

We adopted a new Social Statement “Faith, Sexism and Justice” calling on all of us to repent and respond to the sin of sexism and prejudice woven into the very fabric of our church and society. We celebrated 50 years of ministry with women Pastors; 40 years with women Pastors of color and 10 years of full inclusion with LGBTQIA+ Pastors

We offered a powerful and needed apology to our siblings of African descent for the sin of racism and voted to commemorate June 17th as a day of repentance and remembrance of the murdered “Emmanuel 9” and committed ourselves to working toward authentic diversity

We approved a Declaration of Our Inter-Religious Commitment

We pledged our support for the World Council of Churches “Thursdays in Black” Campaign to raise awareness of the crimes of rape and violence.

We offered our support for the work in our church Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities (AMMPARO) which included a declaration of the ELCA as a “Sanctuary Denomination.”

I want to make a few comments that will hopefully clarify this action and respond to concerns. First, this declaration is consistent with the teachings of Holy Scripture in both the Old (Lev.19:34) and New (Heb. 11:13-14 & 13:1-2) Testaments, to cite just a few. It is consistent with the history in our church, long before the ELCA. The Bible and our long tradition clearly articulate that we are to provide support, care and advocacy for the least among us as though caring for Christ. (Mt. 25: 31-46)

Offering hospitality and support to the stranger is at the very heart of who we are as God’s people. This is another way of understanding the word, “Sanctuary.” Our ELCA heritage is filled with stories of millions of immigrants, including many of our ancestors, coming to this country. Welcoming the stranger, offering hospitality, advocacy and care is certainly consistent with our Synod Vision to be FAITHFUL + BOLD + SERVING.

Let me be clear. **There is no call for Civil Disobedience or for actions breaking the law**, in any way. If individuals, congregations or others feel called to such actions, they are strongly encouraged to consult an immigration attorney and become well educated about the potential risks and consequences before taking action. In a congregation, this should be a well informed and strongly supported decision.

The ELCA’s action is binding only on the Churchwide expression of our church, not Synods, congregations, institutions or agencies. So, this sanctuary declaration will take many forms across our church, including such things as: weekly worship prayers; English as Second Language (ESL) classes; protesting the detention and separation of children from their families; holding respectful conversations and events to learn of the needs and challenges of immigration and how this intersects with our faith. It could also include providing food, clothing and/or

shelter to people in need, including immigrants and refugees. (Consult an immigration attorney for more information about pertinent laws and legal risks).

Many more ideas for how to live out this Sanctuary declaration in your life and ministry context can be found on the website of our ELCA ministry called, **Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities, or (AMMPARO)**.

The ELCA Church Council along with ELCA staff and agencies have been given the responsibility of providing all of us with more information and potential resources.

The Virginia Synod Office of the Bishop will be glad to respond to your questions and concerns. We will also be lifting you and all our members in prayer along with all those we seek to serve in Jesus name!

Peace!

Bishop Bob Humphrey

Virginia Synod, ELCA

LOOKING AHEAD

Open Door Sunday School. Please join our “all ages” class on **Sunday mornings at 10** as we begin a 16-session study entitled: “The Greatest Story: Paul.” We will learn about the earliest Christian communities – how they developed, grew, and spread around the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. Acts will provide the overview of Paul’s story and will be the “travel guide” for our journey. We will study the apostle Paul through his journeys and his letters to these communities. Pastries and coffee available at **9:30 a.m.** Teachers: Allison Simmons, Rosemary Spell, Steve Troxell

The Greatest Story: Paul (16 Sundays)

Sep 1	Paul’s Letters and Legacy	Acts 15:19-29	Esther 8 & 9
Sep 8	A Memo from Prison	Philemon 1	
Sep 15	Back to Church Sunday		

Sep 22	Sharing and Living the Gospel	Philippians 1-4	
Sep 29	Joy Even in Tough Times	1 Thessalonians	2 Thessalonians
Oct 6	Whose Do You Think You Are?	1 Corinthians 1-10	Acts 17:14 - 18:18



Rise Against Hunger – **September 7 at 10 a.m.**

For a third year, Grace Lutheran invited all Lutheran congregations from the Southern Valley Conference to join them in Rise Against Hunger. It is an international hunger relief organization that distributes food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable, mobilizing the necessary resources to end hunger by 2030." <https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/>

Pleasant View has affirmed its commitment to this initiative which requires our two-part participation. This initiative will be one of our projects in support of the ELCA's "God's work, Our hands" planned for early September 2019.

Financial Support: Our Red Bucket collection in early July provided funds to purchase food items that will be packaged.

Volunteers: a commitment to take part in assembling packages on **Saturday, September 7**, beginning at **10 a.m.** at **Grace Lutheran Church, Waynesboro** – mark your calendar. Please contact Jim Sheets or Rosemary Spell if you will participate. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. All ages are needed. Carpooling will be available from PVELC.

September 15 is National Back to Church Sunday: The vision of National Back to Church Sunday is to create a movement of churches encouraging their members to invite every person in America back to church. Now in its 11th year, the goal of the 2019 National Back to Church Sunday movement is to see over 13,000 churches participating and inviting their community to give church a try! At Pleasant View we will celebrate:

10:00-10:45 a.m. Social Gathering. Please join us in the social hall where we will enjoy pastries and coffee. Do you know these Women in the Bible? Can you match the Couples in the Bible? Do you have a Good Wish for Family and Home to share? Details to follow.

11:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship. Join us for worship at the picnic shelter (weather permitting). Holy Communion will be served. We praise outside with all ages of the church and sing familiar hymns.

12:00 noon. Covered Dish Lunch. We continue our celebration at the picnic shelter with a covered dish lunch.

In case of inclement weather, all activities will be held inside the church. Accessible seating will be available for all events.

ACTS 2019 Fall Course: New Testament, **Sept. 21** and **Nov. 2, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** (ACTS: Ambassadors Community for Theological Study) “The New Testament is like a choir filled with many different voices singing different parts, and yet, all telling the same story: the witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and the powerful experience of the risen Christ in the communities that follow him. We will explore selected gospels, epistles, and writings in their historical context. And we will also engage the meaning of how our own current context, situation, background, beliefs, etc. affect what we hear and how we interpret it.” Registration information is posted on the bulletin board or see Rosemary Spell for further information.

Pleasant Memories

The Pleasant Memories planning group met on August 6, 2019 to finalize plans for the remainder of the year and begin tentative planning for 2020. Scheduled programs include: **September 17, 2019 at 12:00 p.m.** we will meet for a covered dish luncheon (meat and drinks provided) and a monologue by Pastor Price about Onesimus - a slave to Philemon who became a bishop in Ephesus. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the back hallway. Please sign up by **September 15th** if you plan to attend.

October 15, 2019 luncheon catered by Jim Cox (cost of \$10.00 per person). The program will include a musical presentation by Joe Price, a friend of Bill and Janet Braithwaite.

December 3, 2019 luncheon catered by Jim Cox (cost of \$10.00 per person) and Christmas music provided by Judy Shuey.

CHOIR NEWS

The Choir will begin the fall season by meeting **September 4, 2019 at 6:00pm** for the annual picnic at the church picnic shelter. Weekly rehearsal will begin **September 11, 2019 at 7:00pm**. Newcomers are welcome (especially sopranos). Come make a joyful noise!!!

Pleasant View Women of the ELCA

Minutes –August 13, 2019

The Pleasant View WELCA met at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at church. Rosemary Spell presented a program on: 12 Good Wishes for Your Home and Family. She talked about the following items, what each represented and showed us the items she has in her home that relates to these items:

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Represents</u>
Fruit Basket	Generosity
Angel	Grace & Guidance
Heart	True Love
Flowers	Good Wishes
Pine Cones	Good Fortune and Fruitfulness
Bird	Happiness and Joy
Santa Clause	Goodwill and Unselfishness
Rabbit	Faith and Hope
Fish	Blessings and Fertility
Teapot	Hospitality
Rose	Inner Beauty and Affection
House	Shelter and Protection

Minutes: of the May meeting were read and approved. We hosted the Family Day Breakfast for our June meeting and didn't meet in July.

Fall Gathering: has been changed from Muhlenberg Lutheran to Grace Lutheran in Waynesboro on Sunday, October 6 at 2:00 p.m. The program will be "Friends of the Blue Ridge Parkway" and a Parkway Guide will be there. . Units are asked to bring something to share for refreshments. Hosting unit will provide paper products and drinks. Unit assignments: Christ, nametags; St. James, registration; Salem ushers. We will need to have one new member of the Planning Team as Lola Heffner's term runs out the end of the year.

Rise Against Hunger/God's Work, Our Hands: This will be held at Grace Lutheran in Waynesboro. They are asking for volunteers to come and help make food packets. If you would like to volunteer contact Rosemary Spell. It will be Saturday, September 7 at 10 a.m. PV's Red Bucket collection in early July helped to provide funds to purchase food items.

Treasure's Report: Sue Cook reported we have \$355 in our treasure. We collected \$50 today. Since last meeting she has written out: \$50 to a gift card for Jo Cline and \$50 to State WELCA for our Love Offering. \$283 went for the PV WECLA members that attended Southern Valley play/luncheon. SV WELCA had 63 that attended the play at ShenArts, and 48 attended the luncheon.

Staunton Church Women United of Staunton: will meet at Third Presbyterian Church on Friday, September 6 at 9:30 a.m. The program will be on “Human Rights”.

Our Service Project-Minnick Center: We decided to “recognize” the teachers at Minnick Center. Council will be asked to approve a Red Bucket Sunday for this and Linda Page will check into getting a \$250 grant from Thrivent for this project.

VSWO Yearly Conference: for 2020 will be held at Salem Lutheran Church. We will be notified of dates at a later time.

All Lutheran Women’s Retreat: is at the Natural Bridge Hotel, Conference Center. It begins November 7 at 6:45 p.m. thru November-9. Cost is \$125 per person, including some meals and Retreat materials. (does not include rooms, however a block of rooms have been reserved at \$89 plus tax, etc.-mention that you will be attending the All Lutheran Women’s Retreat. -you will need to call 540-291-2121)to make room reservations. Register by October 15 for the retreat. Goldie Shiflett has registration forms. Theme of retreat is ”For Everything There is a Season.”

Next Meeting is: Tuesday, September 10, at 10 a.m. at church. Judy Shuey will have a program on “It’s a Miracle-or Is It?”

Those attending today were: Jo Cline, Joe Price, Sue Cook, Goldie Shiflett, Becci Page, Carol Troxell, Janet Braithwaite, Rosemary Spell, Christine Puffenbarger and Linda Page.

Linda Page, Secretary

IN MEMORIAM

Frances Pence Leach

December 7, 1920- August 14, 2019

The family of Frances Pence Leach thanks everyone for their prayers and support during her recent illness and death. Your cards, visits, food and social media messages of condolence are appreciated. She loved and cared for her PVELC and community families. Always remember, "You are a special person."

THANK YOU

Kenneth and I want to thank you for the Sunshine Box you sent several weeks ago. It brought a lot of sunshine our way and we do appreciate your thoughts and prayers. God bless.

Love,

Alma Landes

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

June Ratcliff	9/1	
Emily Vayvada	9/1	
Hunter Wright		9/3
9/15/2012		
Jean Link	9/4	
Jeremy Magoon	9/5	
Korey Rankin		9/5
9/19/1987		
Hannelore Beisner	9/6	
Katlyn Bates	9/6	
Katie Garrison	9/7	
Gladys Fockler	9/9	
Joan Free	9/9	
Susan St. Clair	9/10	
Glen Worrell	9/10	
Kori Simmons		9/11
Frances Knott		9/15
Mary King	9/15	
Bill Braithwaite	9/16	
Camalee Lihos	9/25	
Vanessa Burns		9/27
Carolyn Cox	9/30	
Robert "Andy" Fauber, Jr.	9/30	

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

John & Martha Arehart	9/2/1967
Fred & Wanda Bowers	9/13/1958
Brad & Robyn Dean	
Gene & Mandy Lilly	9/16/1961
Clark & Sue Cook	9/17/1969
Dale and Lisa Rankin	

Congregational Care

Jim Sheets

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© 540-569-2515

Sheetsjim1219@yahoo.com

Music Director

Judy Shuey 245-0052

Parish Nurse

Sue Cook 292-0327

Financial Secretary

Becci Page 886-3220

Assistant Financial Secretary

Janet Braithwaite 886-5880

Church Council

President

Mark Cline 810-3818

Vice-President

Terry Bunch 292-1086

Secretary

Mary Garber 480-0444

Treasurer

Karen Fauber 248-0103

Burke Simmons 886-3086

Mary Garber 480-0444

John Knott 430-3005

Frances Knott 280-9003

Rosemary Spell 248-1450

Joy Landes 280-9019

Mary King 430-2612

September 2019

Happenings at Pleasant View

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 Worship / Music 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Meeting	2 Labor Day	3	4 8:30 Food Pantry 6:00 Choir Picnic	5 8:30 Food Pantry	6 9:30 CWU at Third Pres.	7 10:00 Rise Again-st Hun-ger Grace Wayne-s boro
8 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship	9 8:30 Food Pantry	10 10:00 WELCA Meeting	11 8:30 Food Pantry 7:00 Choir	12 8:30 Food Pantry	13	14
15 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship	16 8:30 Food Pantry	17 12:00 Pleasant Memor-ie s	18 8:30 Food Pantry 7:00 Choir	19 8:30 Food Pantry	20	21
18 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship	19 8:30 Food Pantry	20	21 8:30 Food Pantry 7:00 Choir	22 8:30 Food Pantry	23	24
25 10:00 Sunday School	26	27	28 8:30 Food Pantry	29	30	31

11:00
Worship

8:30
Food
Pantry

7:00
Choir

8:30
Food
Pantry