

# The VIEW

## News of the Ministries of Pleasant View Evangelical Lutheran Church February 2023

Doing Justice, Loving Mercy and Walking Humbly with God

These actions are what is required of us as the people of God according to Micah 6:8. In this text, God is wearied by the inaction and lack of response to his saving work on behalf of the people of Israel. They respond with what could be an exaggerated and possibly sarcastic questions. What is it you want from us? Rivers of oil? Great offering of cattle and even our children? What would satisfy God's demands upon their lives? This is when we read that what our gracious and life saving God asks of them and of us which is simply doing justice (what is right), loving mercy (when given to others as it has been given to us) and walking humbly (reverently, mindfully) with God who has done all to save and preserve us.

These are actions, not merely thoughts and prayers for the victims of injustice and abuse.

Doing justice. We know what it is the right things to do as followers of Jesus when the world expects us to play along with injustice of individuals or groups of people. What would we want for ourselves, our children and our families? Wouldn't we want more than just a little justice?

Loving mercy. We all love mercy when we are the recipients of it. Give us more mercy, as much as you have, we might say. Loving mercy also means loving being the one giving mercy even when it may not have been earned or deserved. When we think of times we have been on the receiving end of mercy, we might breathe a sigh of relief with those upon whom we show mercy. Their joy, their relief, their response is a source of joy for the followers of Jesus, the one who gave mercy to all people.

Walking humbly with God means being mindful of our flaws and shortcomings. It means knowing deep down that we are sinners and cannot free ourselves from its grip. Remembering this truth is indeed a humbling experience and yet, God has not given up on us, or on our neighbor. We walk as humble servants with the Lord of all.

As we begin this month, one known for love, may we remember the unconditional love of God for us and for all creation. May we be channels for that love to flow into the world by giving mercy and doing the right, just things.

Much love to you in the name of Jesus our Lord,

*Pastor Phyllis*

**The COVID-19 Community Level is currently listed as LOW for Augusta County.** The State Health Department recommends: Wear a mask indoors in public and on public transportation. Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines. Get tested if you have symptoms. If you are at high risk for severe illness, consider taking additional precautions. All are encouraged to continue to wear masks as desired but are not required. Masks will continue to be offered as a sign of hospitality so that all may feel safe, comfortable and welcome in this place of worship. May God continue to heal, protect and strengthen us as a community of faith so that all may know God's love.

**COMMUNION OPTIONS:** Due to the current level of COVID-19 in the community and the preference of some congregational members, prefilled (disposable) communion packets are located in the Narthex. Please pick up a packet of wine/wafer or juice/wafer if you choose this form of Holy Communion rather than participating in Intinction. During Communion you may either bring your disposable packet with you to the front of the sanctuary or you may remain in your seat.

**Sunday, January 29, at 9 a.m.: Worship and Music Committee Meeting in the Choir Room.**

**Sundays, at 10 a.m.: Open Door Class meets in the Social Hall.** Teachers: Larry Landes, Rosemary Spell and Stephen Troxell. Join us in reading and in studying selections from the Gospel of Matthew. All are welcome to attend.

**Change for Hope/"Red Bucket Collection:"** The Council has approved the following "Red Bucket" collections: **January 29 and February 19 -- General Outreach.** Within PVELC's approved 2023 budget, our Congregation has agreed to annually support the Virginia Synod (benevolence), Weekly Religious Education, the Valley Mission, SACRA, the Augusta Free Clinic, and the Verona Community Food Pantry. **February 5 - GraceInside** is a chaplain service "bringing faith, hope, and love to incarcerated men and women in Virginia's correctional facilities."

**Wednesdays beginning, February 1, Choir Practice, at 6 p.m.:** All are welcome. Choir Director, Gary Flavin. Organist, Stephen Dickerson.

**Thursday, February 2: Council Meeting at 5 p.m. in the Social Hall:** The Church Council has ongoing issues that must be addressed to ensure the appropriate planning for worship services, overseeing the operations of our Church, and discussing transition issues for the 2023 Council. Members are John Bowers, Terry Bunch (Vice President), Robyn Dean, Mary Garber (Secretary), Debbie Hastert, Larry Landes, Doug Painter, Rebecca Perrin, Rosemary Spell (President), Pastor Phyllis, and Karen Fauber (Treasurer). If you have any questions or suggestions for the Council's consideration, please submit them to Rosemary Spell (preferably in writing) no later than January 30.

**February 5, First Sunday Celebration will be held immediately following the worship service.**

**February 5, Hospitality Committee meeting in the Choir Room following the First Sunday Celebration.** Anyone interested in serving on this Committee, please contact either Debbie Hastert, Council representative, or Jimmy Cox.

**Saturday, February 11, at 9 a.m.:** The **Blessings Group** will meet the second Saturday each month at Stella, Bell and Lucy Restaurant in Waynesboro. Anyone interested should contact Joy Landes.

**Sunday, February 12, PVELC Congregational Meeting will be held in the Sanctuary immediately following the worship service.**

**Please plan to attend.** The agenda will include presentation and distribution of the annual report and income/expense report for 2022; distribution of the annual congregational directory; and approval of the nominating committee members for 2023. If you are unable to attend the congregational meeting and would like a copy of the 2022 Annual Report/Congregational Directory, please contact Stephen Dickerson or Becci Page after February 12.

**News from the Evangelism Committee:** Celebrate Love! On February 12, please pick up a “love” bookmark and “heart” favor from a basket in the Narthex. We ask that you take one per person. Happy Valentine’s Day! Mary Garber, Committee Chair.

**Saturday, February 18, at 9 a.m.: Family Valentine’s Brunch in the Social Hall. All are welcome.** A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Main Hall for those who plan to attend. Please sign up by Sunday, February 12. The women will be providing and serving a varied breakfast buffet. In addition, there will be a short program focused on family and love. WELCA will not meet on February 8. For further information on monthly WELCA activities, please contact Goldie Shiflett, Becci Page or Linda Page.

**January 30 – February 1, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.: Midwinter Power in the Spirit Online Event.** The theme is “Blessed Are” and explores the “Beatitudes” in the modern world. The keynote presenter will be The Rev. Brenda Smith, retired director of the ELCA Book of Faith Initiative, 1517 Media (formerly Augsburg Press). Registration deadline is January 26; there is no cost to participate. [Power in the Spirit - Virginia Synod, ELCA \(vasynod.org\)](https://www.vasynod.org)

**February 21, Shrove Tuesday, 5-7 p.m. Salem Lutheran Church Men’s Group and Thrivent Financial will sponsor a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper in the Imagine Center at Salem.** There will be several varieties of pancakes, sausage patties and sausage gravy as well as condiments to go with the meal. A free-will offering will be appreciated.

Donations will be deposited to the Health Needs Fund which is used to help those who need some assistance paying medical bills.

**February 22, Ash Wednesday, Imposition of Ashes: Pastor Phyllis will be available between 11 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Sanctuary.**

**February 22, Ash Wednesday Worship Service, at 7:00 p.m., including Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.**

**Wednesday Lenten Services: March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 5 p.m. in the Social Hall. Soup and Sandwiches** followed by a Lenten meditation. The Council Committees will coordinate food for each Wednesday's meal. Please volunteer with your Council representative or Committee coordinator to bring either soup or sandwiches. Drinks will be provided.

**Monday, March 13, at 7 p.m. (also April 10):** Pleasant View will serve a meal to the Spring Hill Ruritan Club in the Social Hall. Net proceeds benefit Open Door Class Projects. For details, please contact Goldie Shiflett.

**Live Easter Lilies and "Easter Lily" Project (donations in lieu of live Easter Lilies):** Forms are available in the Narthex, in the Main Hallway, and via email. The cost of a live Easter Lily is **\$11.75** each; checks are payable to Rosemary Spell. The deadline for ordering is **March 29**. The deadline for the "Easter Lily" Project is **April 6**, provide donation form to either Rosemary Spell or Stephen Dickerson.

**April 2, Palm Sunday (Sunday of the Passion) at 11 a.m.** The Worship Service will include procession with palm branches and a narrative reading of "**The Passion of Our Lord According to Matthew.**" Please plan to attend and volunteer to participate as a reader. Contact: Pastor Phyllis or Gary Flavin.

**April 2: First Sunday Celebration in the Social Hall.**

**April 2, Easter Egg Hunt, in the Pavilion and Social Hall immediately following the Worship Service.** The Youth and Education Committees will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt for young children and youth. The event will begin in the Pavilion (weather permitting). Easter eggs will be hidden on the west and north sides of the church. Plan to bring a basket for the egg hunt. Pastor Phyllis will share a children's Easter story. Prizes will be awarded, and food will be served.

**April 6, Maundy Thursday, at 6 p.m. in the Social Hall:** Please bring a covered dish for the meal (meat and drinks will be provided). A Worship Service, including Holy Communion, will be held immediately following the meal.

**April 7, Good Friday, at 7 p.m. Tenebrae Worship Service will be held in the Sanctuary.**

**April 9, Easter Sunday, at 11 a.m.: Easter Celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord.**

**“Water and Spirit” Devotions for Lent:** The booklet provides daily devotions for February 22 through April 9. “The writers then bring their unique voices and pastoral wisdom to the texts with quotations to ponder, reflections, and prayers.” Copies are available in the Narthex.

**June 9-11: Virginia Synod Assembly at Roanoke College. Voting Members are needed.** This event includes the special business of electing a new bishop as Bishop Robert Humphrey is retiring. If you are interested in representing Pleasant View, please contact either Rosemary Spell, Terry Bunch, or Pastor Phyllis.

**Contributions:** Please mail your contributions (or correspondence) to: **PVELC, 2733 Spring Hill Road, Staunton, VA 24401.** If you wish for your contribution to be designated to a special fund (e.g., Outreach, HVAC, Change for Hope request), please make a note in the memo section of your check or include a note along with the contribution. Thank you for your ongoing support of PVELC. **Financial Giving:** Please contact Becci Page to request a copy of your personal 2022 PVELC Financial Giving.

**PVELC Communications:** If you need pastoral consultation, please contact Pastor Phyllis either by phone or by email. If you have issues for the Church Council, please contact Rosemary Spell. For additions or corrections to the bulletin prayer list or email distribution, please contact Stephen Dickerson.

**Prayer Chain Requests:** To initiate specific prayer chain requests, please contact Linda Page either by phone or by email. To be included in the prayer chain text list, please contact Linda Page. In addition, please refer to the “Our Prayers” section of the weekly Announcements.

**News from the Evangelism (Welcome) Committee:** Many thanks to all who contributed to and found an item to reuse from the Gift Exchange Table. This was a way for us to practice environmental and financial stewardship while still enjoying the seasonal tradition of gift giving. Also, a great example to follow from the “Season of Creation” liturgy shared in October. Positive feedback was received so we hope to follow this practice again! There were only two books “left” after the season, which were donated to a local thrift store. Mary Garber, Council Chair.

**Exterior Doors - Property Committee:** Many thanks to Randy Sutler, Rick Fauber and Clark Cook for securing and installing the beautiful exterior doors for the Narthex and the ADA Entrance.

**Pleasant View Cemetery Rock Wall:** Many thanks to the Pleasant View Cemetery Association for the repairs and maintenance to the Rock Wall that separates the cemetery from the church property. Jeff Link replaced limestone rock and sealed the exposed crevices.

**Good Stuff** is a section of the bulletin board beside the pastor's study. The good stuff may include newspaper articles related to faith, background information for the seasonal or weekly liturgies, photos and definitions of difficult words, to name a few. So, as you go down the hall, check it out.

**Bulletins, Newsletters, Emails.** If you are having difficulty accessing the email distributions or are not receiving emails, please contact either Stephen Dickerson or Becci Page.

**Winter Weather Closings:** Church closings, due to inclement weather, will be broadcast on WHSV (Channel 3) and an email will be sent to everyone on the church mailing list who has provided an email address. If you prefer to receive a telephone call informing you of church closures, please contact Rosemary Spell or Steve Dickerson.

**“Word in Season” (January, February, March devotions) and “Living Lutheran”** are available in the Narthex and Main Hall.

**Spark Quarterly Bulletin – “Let’s Follow Jesus”:** Spark Worship quarterly bulletins engage kids (and adults) with fun activities that connect them to worship practices, lectionary readings, and the people who are worshipping with them. If you would like to receive a copy for your children or grandchildren, please contact Larry Landes or Rosemary Spell.

**“Daily Grace”** is an on-the-go companion for your journey, offering a faith reflection every day. Signup up for an email message. [Daily Grace, Reflections of Faith - Women of the ELCA](#)

**Staying in Touch:** Holidays, Get Well, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Thinking of You: Please take time to send a note of encouragement to one another, make a phone call, send a text message, post a social media message, light a candle, donate to a charity serving those in distress, and pray for our brothers and sisters at home and around the world.

**Verona Community Food Pantry:** The VCFP needs plastic bags. Contact: Goldie Shiflett.

**Pleasant View Evangelical Lutheran Church:** search website and Facebook posts: <http://www.pvelc.org/> and [Pleasant View Evangelical Lutheran Church - Posts | Facebook](#)

**COVID Information:** The church council has agreed to follow current CDC and Virginia Synod guidelines regarding COVID-19 restrictions. The Council will be using the following websites (CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker and [www.vasynod.org](http://www.vasynod.org)) when making decisions concerning necessary restrictions during our Sunday morning worship services and all other church-related activities. Currently the Community Level for Augusta County is **LOW**. Refer to the guidance listed in the first announcement for additional information. The COVID-19 Community level rating will be provided in the weekly announcements and the monthly newsletter.

**Free COVID-19 Home Tests** are once again available to order at: <https://www.covid.gov/tests/>.

**Please remember to turn out lights and lock doors when leaving the church!**

## WELCA Minutes January 11, 2023

The PV WELCA met Wednesday, January 11, 2023 in the Church social hall.

**Devotions:** Goldie Shiflett had devotions and prayer.

**Cards:** Thinking of you cards were sent to Bill and Mary Tueting and Alma Landes. A Birthday card was sent to Von Simmons.

**Election of Officers:** Becci Page agreed to be president with Goldie Shiflett, Vice President. Linda Page agreed to continue as Secretary and Sue Cook agreed to continue as Treasurer. Rosemary Spell made a motion that we accept the slate of officers as mentioned and it was seconded by Carol Troxell. Motion was passed with voice vote of members.

**Old Business:** We reported on our visits with our sick, shut-ins in December as follows: Bill and Mary Tueting (Goldie and Sue); Gladys Fockler (Linda and Christine Puffenbarger); Alma Landes (Debbie and Dennis Hastert) and Connie Quick (Rosemary-Connie wasn't home but Rosemary left her a note and gift).

**Thank You's:** were received from Western State Hospital for \$30; Church World Services –Blanket Drive for \$762.25; WELCA (Synodical Office) for Love Offering; \$96.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sue Cook reported we have \$457.41 in our treasurer. \$96 was sent to Synod for our dues; and \$50 Visa Cards each to Chapman Toman and Alex Rankin. Offering today was \$65.

**PROGRAM** We didn't have a program today. January is the month for our Planning Meeting as follows:

February: Valentine Family Brunch, Saturday, February 18 at 9:00 .m.

March: Pastor Phyllis Diamond (TBD), Devotions, Carol Troxell

April: Comfort Care Project

May- Tuesday 5/9 SVWO Spring Bible Study-place to be announced

June-Visit/Tour the 29<sup>th</sup> Division Military Museum in Verona and eat lunch afterwards. Plans not final yet.

July-SVWO Fun Activity- to be announced

August-Picnic at Jo Cline's home in Mt. Solon

September-Rosemary Spell to have a program

October-Sunday 10/8 at 2:00 p.m. Fall Gathering to be announced.

November-our Thank Offering Month- no program decided as of yet

December-no meeting, visit shut-in's.

Other activities: VSWO yearly Convention, July 21-23 at Roanoke College-Dorm rooms \$29.00 a night and a one-time linen fee of \$11.

Triennial Convention-September 19-21, 2023 in Phoenix, Arizona-further details to be announced.

**Projects:**

**Comfort Care:** Rosemary has received a letter from Comfort Care asking if we would like to participate in the Bottle Project. It's where they give us baby bottles to be filled with money and returned to them. After discussion, we decided we would rather do another project for them. Either Rosemary or Becci will contact CC to see what they need (i.e. supplies, baby items, items for the mothers.).

**Rise Against Hunger:** Rosemary reported this project is Saturday, March 25 at Cherryvale Methodist Church in Staunton. Volunteers participate in an assembly line where rice and other dry goods are packaged to be sent to those in need. Goldie is going to find out contact information for those of us who wish to participate.

**Grace Inside:** which is a prison Chaplin ministry, is having a fundraiser the end of January. After discussion a motion was made by Goldie Shiflett for our WELCA to give them \$100 and a request from Council that we take up a "red bucket". Wanda Bowers seconded the motion. Motion passed with voice vote of members present.

**Next Meeting:** We will NOT meet February 8. Instead we are hosting a Valentine Family Bruch for the church on Saturday, February 18, 2023. Members of WELCA have lined up food to be served and a sign-up sheet will be posted in the back hall for those wanting to attend. They must sign up by Sunday 2/12 so we will know who many to fix for.

**Members Present:** Today, Linda and Becci Page, Goldie Shiflett, Rosemary Spell, Sue Cook, Carol Troxell, Wanda Bowers, Jo Cline and Joe Price. Our meeting today was followed by a luncheon.

Linda Page, WELCA Secretary



## Our Prayers

**For the good of the church:** Our bishops, Elizabeth and Robert, Pastor Phyllis and all pastors and deacons.

**For those serving on military active duty:** Chapman Toman and Alex Rankin

**For healing and recovery:** Bill Braithwaite, Gladys Fockler, Pat Luders, Fred Cox, Dale Moyers, Jimmy Cox and Bill & Mary Tueting

**For our friends and neighbors:** Lilly Myers, granddaughter of a friend of Joy Landes; **Linda Holbert**, aunt of Joy Landes; **Lisa Fauber**, friend of Sue Cook; **David Helmick**, brother-in-law of Christine Puffenbarger; **Austin Bowers**, son of John & Beth Bowers and grandson of Wanda Bowers; **Frank Carter**, neighbor of Alice Fauber; **Kamden Bunch**, grandson of Terry Bunch; **Mark Tueting**, son of Bill & Mary Tueting; **Kelly Kessler**, cousin of Roger Shiflett; for the congregation of **Rose Park United Methodist Church** in Wolftown (Madison County), VA. The church sustained heavy fire damage on January 25<sup>th</sup> due to arson. Rose Park is Rebecca Perrin's daughter's church.

### Church Contacts

Parish Secretary: Stephen Dickerson 434-996-0934

Music Director: Gary Flavin 885-8479

Organist: Stephen Dickerson 434-996-0934

Parish Nurse: Sue Cook 292-0327

Financial Secretary: Becci Page Home 886-3220; Cell 255-3887

Assistant Financial Secretary: Janet Braithwaite 886-5880 Cell (540)448-3466

Sexton: Jimmy Cox 241-8500

### Church Leadership Contact information

Pastor: Phyllis Diamond: 540-589-6988

Treasurer: Karen Fauber 290-1999

Council President: Rosemary Spell 248-1450

Council Vice President: Terry Bunch 292-1086

Council Secretary: Mary Garber 480-0444

### Committee Representatives:

Education: Larry Landes 448-0047

Evangelism: Mary Garber 480-0444

Finance and Stewardship: Rebecca Perrin 434-981-5587; John Bowers 337-7061

Hospitality and Fellowship: Debbie Hastert 430-0000

Property: Doug Painter 280-0882; John Bowers 337-7061

Social Ministry (Outreach): Rosemary Spell 703-298-3604

Worship and Music: Terry Bunch 292-1086

Youth and Recreation: Robyn Dean 490-1884

## February Birthdays

Forester Wright	2/3
Ian Hensley	2/5
Tara Magoon	2/5
Goldie Shiflett	2/5
David Beisner	2/7
Rachel Coffin	2/10
Sibbie Jetton	2/10
Eddie Michael	2/11
Mary Tueting	2/16
Valerie Smith	2/18
Allison Simmons	2/19
Dylan Moyers	2/22
Christine Puffenbarger	2/24
Duane Perrin	2/25

## February Anniversaries

Kenny & Betty Jordan	2/14/1992
Clark & Tanya Cook	2/24/2008



## Worship Assistants for February

Assisting Minister: Michael Vayvada

Ushers & Communion Preparation: Dennis & Debbie Hastert

February 5, 2023	Lay Reader: Robyn Dean	Acolyte: James Cox
February 12, 2023	Lay Reader: Dale Rankin	Acolyte: Lisa Rankin
February 19, 2023	Lay Reader: Larry Landes	Acolyte: Dale Rankin
February 26, 2023	Lay Reader: Steve Troxell	Acolyte: Robyn Dean