

# The VIEW

News of the Ministries of Pleasant View Evangelical Lutheran Church  
March 2023

## *Down the Mountain and Into the Wilderness*

I wonder if you noticed that we hear the voice of God in the Transfiguration just as we heard it on the banks of the Jordan when Jesus was baptized. As you remember, Jesus went from the river into the wilderness to be tested by Satan, the great liar. The lesson is repeated at this time of year as we walk down the mountain with the disciples, post transfiguration, into the events surrounding the betrayal, the mock trial, the crucifixion of Our Lord. One person said it best when they said we have to go through Good Friday to get to Easter Sunday. Jesus walks with us into the world which tests our patience, our faith and all we have been taught about righteousness, in other words, the right things God expects of us. We could think of our everyday life as a type of wilderness, where the things that sustain our spiritual life are often forgotten and must be recovered. We are often lured into the shade offered by systemic injustices. We seek water and food in places that threaten our well being. We are baked by the heat of social pressures. We are assaulted by temptations and distracted by the lies of the tempter on a daily basis. This is one of the reasons we observe Lent. The practices recommended for us are things like giving to the poor and focusing on our relationship with one another (looking out). We are also called back to prayer and feasting on God's word (looking in). Our meditation and prayers may bring us joy and peace as well as confession and repentance. Together, they bring us back into line with the ways of the One who has gone before us. May we follow Jesus into the wilderness knowing we are never lost when we go with him. He has never lost us or left us. We can rest in this knowledge as we step out into new wildernesses. As we go, may we be more aware of God's presence and delight in our obedience as we move forward together.

*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.

**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 "Journeying through Lent with Matthew." All are welcome to attend.

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

**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. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Main Hallway. All are welcome.

- March 1: Worship and Music Committee
- March 8: Education Committee
- March 15: Evangelism and Property Committees
- March 22: Finance Committee and Council Executive Team
- March 29: Social Ministry (Outreach) and Youth Committees
- April 6 (Maundy Thursday): Hospitality and Worship and Music Committees

**Thursday, March 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. If you have any questions or suggestions for the Council's consideration, please submit them to Rosemary Spell (preferably in writing) no later than February 26.

**Change for Hope/”Red Bucket Collection:”** The Council has approved the following “Red Bucket” collections: **March 5 – “Rise Against Hunger:”** March 25, 10 a.m.-12 noon: Cherryvale UMC, Staunton, is sponsoring a Meal Packaging Experience in the movement to end hunger. In addition to raising funds through this “Red Bucket” collection, Cherryvale UMC is requesting volunteers to help package dry food “rice” meals for distribution to a foreign country. If you have questions or are willing to volunteer, please contact either Goldie Shiflett or Rosemary Spell. To register to volunteer: [Home page for Rise Against Hunger Meal Packaging Events \(force.com\)](#)

**March 5, First Sunday Celebration** will be held immediately following the worship service. Thank you to Sandi and Doug Painter for providing the cake.

**Wednesday, March 8, at 10 a.m.: WELCA Meeting in the Social Hall. All are welcome.** Pastor Phyllis will have the March program on “Aprons”. Bring your favorite apron or an old apron that means a lot to you (like your mothers, grandmothers, etc.) along with a story about the apron. For further information on monthly WELCA activities, please contact Goldie Shiflett, Becci Page or Linda Page.

**Wednesday, March 8, at 6 p.m.: The Forty-first Annual Meeting of the Pleasant View Cemetery Association** will be held in the Social Hall of the Pleasant View Evangelical Lutheran Church on Wednesday, March 8th at 6:00 pm for the following purposes:

- Review and approve financial reports for 2022
- Review and approve lot sales and burials records for 2022
- To conduct any other business properly presented

The public is cordially invited to attend.

Susan B. Wright  
PVCA Secretary/Treasure

**Saturday, March 11, at 9 a.m.: The Blessings Group** will meet at Stella, Bella and Lucy Restaurant in Waynesboro. Anyone interested should contact Joy Landes.

**Sunday, March 12, Daylight Saving Time begins. Spring Forward!**

**Monday, March 13, at 7 p.m. (also April 10):** Pleasant View Open Door Sunday School Class members 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.

**Sunday, March 19, at 9 a.m.: Worship and Music Committee** Meeting in the Choir Room.

**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. Food and drinks will be served. Please your children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. All are welcome.

**Easter Lilies (live plants)** order forms are available by email or in the Narthex and the main hallway. Easter Lilies may be ordered at a cost of **\$11.75** each and may be designated in memory or honor of loved ones/individuals. Please make checks payable to Rosemary Spell and give your check or cash to Rosemary Spell with the order form **no later than April 2.**

**“Easter Lily” Project (donations in lieu of live Easter Lilies)** donation forms are available by email or in the Narthex and the main hallway. Donations may be designated in memory or honor of loved ones/individuals. Donations may be designated to a specific church fund or multiple funds, if desired. Donation forms, with accompanying cash or check (payable to PVELC), may be given to Becci Page, placed in the offering plate, or mailed to the church for receipt, **no later than April 6.**

**Automated External Defibrillator (AED):** The Council has recommended the purchase of an AED for our church. If you would like to contribute to the purchase of this device, you may designate your contribution on the “Easter Lily” Project form or make a notation in the memo section of your check. The approximate cost is \$1,700. After the AED has been purchased, PVELC will schedule a training session for anyone interested in learning how to operate the AED. If you have questions, please contact either John Bowers or Terry Bunch.

**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.**

**March 1-31: Verona Community Food Pantry:** “The Verona Community Food Pantry is announcing the second Hunter Fauber Memorial Paper Drive.’ Hunter was the founder of the VCFP and served over 30 years of dedication and commitment to our community. This special kickoff is for the month (of March) however, we will continue to receive the following items after the 30-day period. We will be collecting the following products for distribution to clients: toilet tissue, facial tissue, paper towels, diapers and ... baby wipes.” Please see separate attachment to this email for additional details. **Items listed may be placed in the Narthex during March.**

**PVELC 2022 Annual Report to the Congregation:** This document contains 2022 activity reports from Pastor Phyllis and the Church Committees; 2022 Financial Results; 2023 Weekly Worship Leaders; and Directory of Members and Friends. Thank you to everyone who submitted information for the report and to those who have volunteered for worship assistants in 2023. A special thanks to Stephen Dickerson, Karen Fauber, and Becci Page. If you would like a copy of this report, please contact Stephen Dickerson.

**In Memoriam:** Oliver "Obb" Atlee Burkholder passed away on February 10th. Our prayers and condolences to his sister, Von Simmons, and to the extended David Simmons family and friends.

**Baby News:** Congratulations to Ben & Sage Hastert on the birth of their son, Obsidian Sumner Hastert. “Obi” was born on February 21, 2023. Proud grandparents are Dennis & Debbie Hastert.

**Family Valentine’s Brunch:** Thank you to WELCA for sponsoring this event. Thirty attendees enjoyed delicious food and fellowship.

**Thank You:** “Thank you so much to everyone for all the wonderful things you have done for us. Your kindness is very appreciated. Love, Bill and Mary Tueting.”

**Thank You:** Thank you letter from the PV Cemetery Association for the PVELC Memorial Fund “donation in the amount of \$2,000 to the Pleasant View Cemetery Association to assist with the costs incurred for the maintenance and repair of the cemetery stone wall.”

**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.

**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.

**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.

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**“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.

**“Word in Season” (April, May, and June devotions) and “Living Lutheran”** are available in the Narthex and Main Hall.

**“Every Day of Lent and Easter”** for young children is available. 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.

## **WELCA Minutes, Saturday, February 18, 2023**

The PV WELCA hosted a Valentine Family Breakfast in the Church social hall on Saturday, February 18 at 9:00 a.m.

**Devotions:** Linda Page had devotions and prayer.

**Breakfast:** WELCA women hosted a breakfast of hashbrown, egg/sausage and vegetable casseroles, bacon, biscuits and gravy (compliments of Jimmy Cox) and baked apples, fruit and pastries. 30 people attended the breakfast which was enjoyed by all.

**Program:** Rosemary Spell had a very informative program on the History of Valentines.

**Door Prizes/Games:** a small plant was given to the couple married the longest, Pastor Kenneth and Joe Price, (68) years and the couple married the least, Duane and Rebecca Perrin (11) years. The game “The Color Red” was given to the men and the game “Valentine’s Day Candy Match” was given to the women. Duane Perrin won the men’s game and Terry Bunch won the women’s game. Names from those attending were drawn for 6 more door prizes (also small plants). Two more games, “Valentine Riddles and God’s Conversation Hearts were given to the attendees to take home with them.

Many THANKS to those who set up, decorated and provided food for the breakfast and cleaned up afterwards.

The next WELCA meeting is Wednesday March 8 at 10:00 a.m. in the church social hall. Pastor Phyllis will have the March program on “Aprons”. Bring your favorite apron or an old apron that means a lot to you (like your mothers, grandmothers, etc.) along with a story about the apron.

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 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; **Howard Ratcliffe**, our former Pastor

### 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



## March Birthdays

Chip Lilly	3/12
Janet Braithwaite	3/13
Tammy Lilly	3/15
Austin Bowers	3/17
Jedidiah Winfrey Cox	3/17
Connie Quick	3/18
John Bowers	3/26
Timothy Lihos	3/26
Bill Coffin	3/29
Jasmine Cook	3/29
Gavyn Hensley	3/30

## March Anniversaries

Chip & Tammy Lilly	3/19/2010
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## Worship Assistants for March

Assisting Minister: Bill Luders

Ushers & Communion Preparation: Wanda Bowers and Susan Wright

March 5, 2023	Lay Reader: Gary Flavin	Acolyte: Dale Rankin
March 12, 2023	Lay Reader: Emily Vayvada	Acolyte: Lisa Rankin
March 19, 2023	Lay Reader: Duane Perrin	Acolyte: Robyn Dean
March 26, 2023	Lay Reader: Terry Bunch	Acolyte: James Cox