

The *VIEW*

News of the Ministries of Pleasant View Evangelical Lutheran Church

April 2023

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre

This great church was built over the probable site of the crucifixion and burial of Jesus. Its walls have been destroyed by invaders and rebuilt over the centuries by the disciples of Jesus but the places where Good Friday happened has endured. Thousands of people come to worship and reverence these sacred spaces each year. Six different Christian traditions worship there each week. Among the things one might see there is Golgotha, the place of the skull and the tomb in which it is thought he was buried nearby. The first thing one sees when entering the church is a large marble slab which represents the place where the body was laid although this cannot be confirmed. What you will not see there is the body of Jesus.

What remains is the stage upon which the drama of our salvation was enacted. At this place, God's greatest gift was given, the ultimate sacrifice of beloved, only Son was made and death was defeated once for all.

As we face the rising sun in the east every morning, we remember that a new day has dawned for each of us. Easter morning marks the beginning of new life not only for our Savior, but for each of us. Without the resurrection, Jesus may have been remembered by history and tradition. With the resurrection, God's life among us in the body of Jesus is confirmed. He opened the door to eternal life and was the first to walk through it. Because of Jesus, the Christ or anointed one, we are assured that because he lives, we shall live as well. Death has indeed lost its sting, the grave deprived of victory over us.

We praise the Lord for God's great victory over death for us, each and every day, but most especially at Easter for Christ is risen, he is risen indeed!

Blessed Easter,
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.

A Special Congregational Meeting was held immediately following the Worship Service on March 19. The Congregational members approved Rebecca Page and Stephen Dickerson as our two lay-voting members at the Virginia Synod Assembly to be held at Roanoke College, June 9-11. Pastor Phyllis will be attending and voting as a rostered pastor.

Sundays, at 10 a.m.: Open Door Class meets in the Social Hall. Join us in reading and in studying selections from the Gospel of Matthew. All are welcome to attend. The class will not meet on Easter Sunday, April 9. Teachers: Larry Landes, Rosemary Spell and Stephen Troxell.

Wednesday Lenten Service: March 29 at 5 p.m. in the Social Hall. Soup and Sandwiches followed by a Lenten meditation. The Social Ministry (Outreach) and Youth Committees will coordinate food. Thanks to everyone who attended and who provided soup and sandwiches during our Lenten Season. Thank you to Pastor Phyllis and the Choir for introducing "The Holden Prayer Service." All are welcome to attend.

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

March 1-31: Verona Community Food Pantry: "The Verona Community Food Pantry is announcing the second 'Hunter Fauber Memorial Paper Drive.' Items listed may be placed in the Narthex until March 31. Thank you to everyone for bringing supplies in support of this program.

Change for Hope/"Red Bucket Collections:" The Council has approved the following "Red Bucket" collections: **April 2: General Outreach or Easter Lily Project Donation. April 16 and April 30: General Fund:** 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.

Potted Palm Plants: If you have potted palm plants at home that you would be willing to bring to the church to be used to enhance the beauty of our Sanctuary on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, please contact Jim Cox.

April 1, Work Day at the Church, 8:30 a.m.: The objective is to help Sue clean the flower beds and spread mulch. We would appreciate any help to accomplish this. We will schedule another work day later in April or early May.

Thanks

Doug Painter

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 will be held immediately following the worship service in the Main Hall.

April 2, Easter Egg Hunt, in the Social Hall and Pavilion area from 12:30-2:30 p.m. 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. Contacts: Robyn Dean and Rosemary Spell.

April 6, Maundy Thursday, at 6 p.m. in the Social Hall: Please bring a covered dish for the meal (fried chicken 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.

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.**

Monday, April 10, at 7 p.m.: 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.

Wednesday, April 12, at 10 a.m.: WELCA Meeting in the Social Hall. Deacon Phyllis Cox will provide an overview of “Fresh Start,” a program for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. All are welcome. For further information on monthly WELCA activities, please contact Goldie Shiflett, Becci Page or Linda Page.

Thursday, April 13: 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 April 10.

Sunday, April 16, at 9 a.m.: Worship and Music Committee Meeting in the Choir Room.

Sunday, April 30 at 9 a.m.: Worship and Music – Training for Worship Leaders – Pastor Phyllis will provide training for all acolytes, assistant ministers, greeters, and lay readers. Please plan to attend. Additional information will be provided prior to this meeting.

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.

Baby News: Congratulations to Zach and Gabby Hastert upon the birth of their son, Milo Davis Hastert, born on March 11. Best wishes for safe travels to proud grandparents, Dennis and Debbie, on their family visit to York, Maine.

In Memoriam: Patricia Ann Whedbee Luders passed away on March 16. Our prayers and condolences to her husband, Bill, and her son, Cody Boyers and his wife, Sarah, and their family, and to Pat’s siblings, Michael and David Whedbee and Jackie Croy and their extended family and friends, including a number of Cox family nieces and nephews. Pat’s parents were Ivey and Martha Cox Whedbee.

In Memoriam: Mary Jane Cox Farmer passed away on March 18. Our prayers and condolences to her brother, Fred Cox, and to the extended Farmer family and friends, including a number of Cox family nieces and nephews.

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

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

“**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.

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, 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; **Kamden Bunch**, grandson of Terry Bunch; **Mark Tueting**, son of Bill & Mary Tueting; **Howard Ratcliffe**, our former Pastor; **Connie**, friend of Pastor Phyllis; **Mark Price**, son of Pastor Kenneth & Joe Price

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

April Birthdays

Cassidy Knicely	4/1
Kim Toman	4/1
Zane Simmons	4/3
Emmarae Dawn Cary	4/4
Rosemary Spell	4/4
Jordan Toman	4/4
Zach Cook	4/11
Lisa Rankin	4/15
Gene Lilly	4/22
David Jetton	4/28

April Anniversaries

Mark & Leah Wheeler	4/10/2010
Michael & Emily Vayvada	4/18/1998
Glen & Ruth Worrell	4/20/1996
Gary & Mary Roudabush	4/27/1986
Duane & Rebecca Perrin	4/30/2011



Thank you for your continued prayers, cards and kindness. Through these tough times it means a lot to me. The prayers and medicine are working as I'm feeling better each day.

Thank You,
Dale Moyers

Worship Assistants for April

Assisting Minister: Larry Landes / John Bowers

Ushers & Communion Preparation: Steve & Carol Troxell

April 2, 2023	Lay Reader: Dale Rankin	Acolyte: Lisa Rankin
April 9, 2023	Lay Reader: Phil Dixon	Acolyte: James Cox
April 16, 2023	Lay Reader: Robyn Dean	Acolyte: James Cox
April 23, 2023	Lay Reader: Susan Wright	Acolyte: Robyn Dean
April 30, 2023	Lay Reader: Jackie Meeks	Acolyte: Dale Rankin