



The View

Sharing the ministries of
Pleasant View Evangelical Lutheran Church
www.pvelc.org

Volume 3, No. 12 ♦ December 2011

Activities at a glance

Worship – Each Sunday

-Sunday School 10:00 AM

-Worship 11:00 AM

Sermon Topics

December 4th

Comfort My People

Isaiah points to the messenger of comfort, and the real comforter is in Jesus.

Is. 40 and 2 Peter 3

December 11th

A Covenant Based on Faith

Unlike a modern contract with guarantees to protect the maker, a covenant is based on faith.

Is. 6: 8

December 18th

Choir Cantata

December 24th

A Light to Break the Darkness

Into a dark world came a light that breaks the darkness forever.

Is. 9: 2-7

From the Pastor

Dear Members and Friends,

I am pleased to be asked by Bishop Mauney and the church council to continue to serve as the interim pastor of Pleasant View for another year. Joe and I have really enjoyed our stay among you, and we look forward to another year of sharing together in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Advent and the Christmas Seasons are upon us. Please look over the schedule of worship events and join with family and friends to give praise to God.

Advent is a season of preparation and anticipation. You will notice several different things in the morning worship service. The most notable is the hanging of the Advent Wreath and the lightening of its candles as we count down to the Good News that God has entered the world in the form of the baby Jesus. Also the Hymn of Praise will be omitted from the worship; however, we will pull all the stops on Christmas Eve to proclaim for all to hear that Christ is born.

The Christmas Eve service this year is at 9:00 p.m. Your Worship and Music Committee, Staff and Church Council have pondered over the past several years as to the best time to have the Christmas Eve Service. I suspect that it is impossible to find the perfect time, but I would hope that all of us will make a special effort to attend this most important worship service. Everyone is needed to hear and to proclaim the Good News of God Emmanuel (God with us).

Christmas Day falls on Sunday and we will gather at 11:00 a.m. to worship. The service will be Lessons and Carols and be informal in nature. Note that we will not have Sunday School on Christmas Day.

I am excited as we approach these two important seasons in our church year. Get excited with me and share the Good News.

Peace and Joy,
Pastor

November Council Meeting Minutes

The regular council and the proposed new council members met on November 10th with Bishop Mauney. After enjoying a potluck dinner, the council shared their thoughts of the past year. We told Bishop Mauney that Pastor Price has done so much to help the congregation reconnect and feel at ease with other. We are closer than we have been in many years to meeting our financial budget. We are attracting new members. The Bishop feels that this progress is an important foundational step for when we are ready to start the call process. The Bishop stated that knowing who we are, what we want, and where we want to go will be important considerations in the future. So, with the Bishop, Pastor Price, and council in agreement, we are very fortunate and pleased to have Pastor Price and his wife, Joe, remain with us for another year, to help guide us closer to our goals. Special thanks to Joy Campbell (and others I am not aware of!) for helping set up the dinner.

November Congregational Meeting

The congregation met after church on November 13 for its fall meeting. After enjoying a potluck meal (thanks to the Hospitality/Social Committee), Jim Sheets announced that Pastor and Joe Price will be with us for another year. Minutes from the February 2011 Congregation were approved with a motion from Betty Cox, second by Larry Landes. Greg Campbell had to resign from council due to work schedule conflict. Trustees for the next 5 years were voted in: Fred Bowers, Russell Landes, and Mac Link. Council members for 2012 were also voted in: Jimmy Cox, Elisabeth Rankin, Susan Wright, Shirley Crawford, Steve Dickerson, Cheryl McKay, Jim Sheets, and Burke Simmons. An addition to the church by-laws was passed out that included adding the Pastor Relations Committee. The congregation will vote on this proposal in February 2012. Current members of the Pastor Relations Committee are Jim Sheets, Steve Troxell, Forester Wright, Debbie Hastert, and Becci Page. We are working on arranging for the parking lot to be painted with parking stripes. The person who will be doing the painting has been contacted and measurements have been taken. Hopefully, time and weather will allow that the stripes be painted before winter. The congregation will be able to see the proposed parking stripe plan prior to painting. The choir will be moving back up into the choir loft during Advent. Cassie Simmons announced that the Change for Chicks collection from Nov. 13 service raised \$300 from the congregation, plus \$100 from Thrivent. Approximately 40 families will be helped with this project. The budget for 2012 was presented by Burke Simmons and accepted by the congregation. Some food for thought for the council was: discussion of installing an alarm system, and refurbishing and installing the old church sign. Special thanks to Jimmy and Carol Cox for the delicious meatloaf for the meal.

Advent Services

On December 7 and 14 at 6:30 Advent services will be held at Pleasant View. These services will last approximately half an hour and will feature an interview with Leonides from the *Bethlehem Star*. On November 30 Zachariah was interviewed. The next two Wednesdays Leonides will meet Joseph and Herod the Great.

Invite your family and friends to join with you in these informative and worship events.

Christmas Eve

The Christmas Eve Service will be held at 9:00 p.m. this year. It will be a festive service and will conclude with the candle lighting ceremony. The pastor's sermon will be "A Light to Break the Darkness." Christ is that light that has come into the world to drive the darkness from our lives that we may behold the glory of God and our salvation.

Please make a special effort to share in this meaningful worship experience. Invite your friends and neighbors to join with you.

Born a Savior, Born a King

You won't want to miss our choir's annual Christmas cantata, **Born a Savior, Born a King**, which will be on the 4th Sunday of Advent, December 18, at the 11:00 a.m. worship hour. Invite your family and friends to join us for this service of readings and music to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Savior. All are welcome.

Sunday School Forum on Jan. 1st

January 1st will be the next Open Forum with the pastor during the Sunday School Hour. Light Refreshments will be served.

The object of the forum is to give members an opportunity to explore with the pastor Biblical and Theological concerns. During the forum in November the discussion centered primarily on the Bible. Everyone is welcomed to share in these events and bring up issues that might be concern for open discussion.

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Well, it won't be on Christmas Day, but we will get to hear the Mountain Valley Community Handbell Ringers in a special concert just for us and our guests on Wednesday, December 21, beginning at 6:30, at the church. This will be the culmination of our Wednesday Advent worship services, a joyful musical celebration of the Advent season. You will enjoy hearing the music of this very talented group, so invite your friends for this evening of Christmas bells, followed by refreshments.

Chili Cook-Off

Thanks to everyone who participated in the 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off, including those who made chili, purchased chili and helped me with setup. A great time was had by all. This year's winner was Forester Wright who edged out last year's winner by \$2.75. We cleared \$400 for Community Outreach. Becci Page

Out Reach Programs

At Pleasant View one probably hears a lot about Out Reach. Most of our “Change for Hope” goes to out reach as noted in the budget. Nearly all of our special events like the Chili Cook-Off and plays go for out reach. It may be appropriate to take a look as to just what is our Out Reach.

Out Reach is that part of our budget that goes to support ministries beyond the local congregation. A large part is our Virginia Synod Benevolence. This money is used to support the synod staff that includes care to congregation, synodical youth events, Southern Seminary, Roanoke College, Lutheran homes and even missionary activities. Here we are involved in ministries that we could not do alone but are vital in proclaiming the Good News all over the world.

Locally the Out Reach also supports Weekday Religious Education in the local schools. We give money to ministries like Valley Missions, SACRA (Staunton Augusta Church Relief Association) Augusta Free Clinic and Verona Food Pantry. Not only do our financial resources help to support these ministries, but many of our members are involved directly in helping those in need.

Actually \$16,400 or over 10% of our income is used to support out reach ministries. When we have “Change for Hope” offering it does several things. First and most importantly it helps those in need physically, mentally and provides the Gospel to those whose souls are hungry. Secondly, it involves our children in the worship experience and makes them feel apart of the ministry of the church. Therefore, it behooves us to be generous in our Out Reach effort.

Verona Community Food Pantry

Report for October 2011

Submitted by Hunter Fauber, Executive Director

Days/Hours open to clients:

17 days: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 AM-12:45 PM,
Tuesday 4:30-6:30 PM

Number of clients:	Total	Food Stamps	WIC
Elderly	472	148	0
Children Under 18	2,406	1,122	207
Adults	3,746	1,546	189
All Individuals Served	6,624	2,816	396
Total households Served	2,434	1,016	103
Total Volunteers			134
Total Volunteer hours			2,272
USDA Food – Pounds Received			29,050
Donated Food – Pounds Received			239,126
Cost of Donated Foods			\$5,943.45
Donated Bread Loaves Received			18,040
Martin’s Food Stores – Pounds Received			3,005
Verona Food Lion #384 – Pounds Misc. Food			6,390
W. Beverley Food Lion #132 – Pounds Misc. Food			592
Greenville Ave. Food Lion #497 – Pounds Misc. Food			279
Whole Foods, Charlottesville – Pounds Misc. Food			916
Wal-Mart, Staunton – Pounds Misc. Food			12,292
Churches, Civic Clubs, Individuals, Etc.			2,388

~

Find updates to the calendar by visiting our website at www.pvelc.org

Pleasant View Health Watch greater health God's way.

December 2011

Joel 1:3 "Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation."

This month we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Isn't it easy to envision him as the small baby lying in a manger with Mary and Joseph at his bed. What proud parents they must have been, knowing that he would someday rule the world. They could not see at his birth all the trials and sorrows that he would suffer. No doubt, he grew up in a loving home and was trained in the Scriptures of the day. Have you ever wondered what he was like as a youngster? Did he sit still to hear the Word? Did he memorize verses, attend the synagogue regularly? What must he have been like?

Parenting is a very weighty responsibility, as we all know. It is our task as mothers and fathers (and sometimes, as grandparents) to transform our tiny babies into civilized, mature, productive and stable human beings. We love them, care for them, educate them, and pray for them. We cannot be certain what their future will hold either, so we pray.

It has been said that those who learn to love the Lord and memorize His Word are fortunate, indeed. They are more likely to know who they are, why they are here, what God wants them to do, and what they need to know about the meaning of life. Where else will they learn these "fundamentals" if we fail to introduce them to the Giver of Life? Our church is blessed to have children attend church, and now we have a "children's church" and pray that the children will come! We must keep it up!

*Shirley Dobson and co-author Gloria Gaither wrote a book to help parents "Hide the Word" in the hearts of their boys and girls. They hoped to make it fun for them to commit Scripture to memory. They wrote that the best time of the day to learn about God is just before the children go to bed. The Bible says God "will keep him in perfect peace, whose minds are stayed" on Him. The authors suggest you make a **Promise Pillow**.*

- ∞ Make or buy a small pillow covered with satin or soft flannel. Sew a pocket to one side of the pillow.*
- ∞ Write the comforting assurances of God's presence on strips of paper. Choose one verse for each week. Read it several times each night, then fold it and tuck it into the pocket of your Promise Pillow.*
- ∞ By the end of the week, you will know the verse by memory. Choose a new verse at the beginning of each week:*
- ∞ Psalm 127:2 Isaiah 41:10*
- ∞ 1 John 5:14-15 Proverbs 3:24*
- ∞ John 14:1 John 14:13*
- ∞ Psalm 121:1-2 John 14:27*
- ∞ Philippians 4:8 Psalm 121:3-4*
- ∞ Psalm 23:6 1 Peter 5:6-7*
- ∞ Psalm 121:5-6 1 Peter 3:13*
- ∞ Jeremiah 17:7-8 Romans 8:37-39*
- ∞ Psalm 91:10-11 Psalm 121:7-8 **A Blessed Christmas, Betty A. Cox, PN***

Left Blank for Calendar

Pleasant Memories

Pleasant Memories met in October with Shirley Crawford presenting a most interesting program on Luther Land and the Passion Play. Thanks Shirley for a most interesting program.

Our next meeting will be on December 14 at noon at Traditions in Harrisonburg. A chorus group from Fort Defiance High School will present the musical program. Plan to attend and bring a friend and begin the Christmas season with us. This is always a most enjoyable time.

Pleasant View WELCA

The Pleasant View WELCA meeting which was cancelled on 11/8 has been re-scheduled for Tuesday, November 29 at 1:00 p.m. This will be our Thank Offering meeting and Joe Price will have the program

Personals

Christian sympathy is expressed the family of **Jim Sheets** at the death of his sister, **Lois Derrick**.

Debbie Blackwell has spent nearly a month at the hospital at U.VA. At this writing she is to be moved to Envoy in Staunton. Please continue to keep her in your prayers, and she enjoys receiving cards and visits.

Sue Painter continues to be in our prayers, and it is good to see her at church on occasion.

We also want to keep **Linda Zullig** in prayers.

Keep both **Russell and Bernice Landes** in your prayers.

Otis Troxell hopefully is improving and we hope to see him and **Yvonne** back at church soon.

Pleasant View Happy Birthdays for December!

2	Pat Luders	19	Mike Cox	24	Krissy Roudabush
3	Laurel Simmons		Jim Sheets	29	Christopher Shiflett
13	John Flavin	20	Betty Jordan		
14	Tom Cox	23	Frances Quick		
15	Kenneth Page		Isabella Carrillos		

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the January "View" is Sunday, December 18th. Please send newsletter information to Catherine at pvelcnewsletter@yahoo.com. It will go to print on December 20th and be available at church on Sunday, December 25th.

**Pleasant View Evangelical
Lutheran Church**
2733 Spring Hill Road
Staunton, VA 24401
www.pvelc.org

Pastor Kenneth A. Price
Home: 885-3749
Cell 290-3109
Email: priceken@verizon.net

Youth Director
Judy Shuey, 885-1142
jlewisshuey@hotmail.com

Church Council:

President
Jim Sheets: 448-4438

Vice-President
Doug Painter Jr.: 337-1249

Secretary
Rebecca Coffin: 885-0036

Property
Doug Painter Jr.: 337-1249
Tom Cox: 248-2410

Treasurer
Karen Fauber: 248-0103

Finance/Stewardship
Burke Simmons: 886-3086

Education
Shirley Crawford: 248-2066

Youth & Recreation
David Taylor: 943-9227
Gary Flavin: 885-8479

Evangelism
Jim Sheets: 448-4438

Hospitality & Social Ministry
Gary Flavin: 885-8479

Worship & Music
Stephen Dickerson: 885-8479

Financial Task Force
Cheryl McKay: 885-0919



Christmas Greetings from Your Staff

Pastor Price, Judy Shuey, choir director,
Steve Dickerson, organist,
David Taylor, secretary, Betty Cox, parish nurse,
and Jim Sheets, president,
wish you and yours a blessed Christmas.
May God's glory overflow into our
congregation this coming year!

