



Pleasant View Lutheran Church  
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**Our Mission:**  
**To live in Christ and to  
share God's love.**



News & Views

February 2018



"I give you a new  
commandment, that  
you love one  
another. Just as I  
have loved you, you  
also should love one  
another."

John 13:34



## Meaningful Journeys

The journeys that we take change us—whether it is a hike in the woods for a few hours, a relationship with someone else, the time we spend living in a certain place, a trip, a job, a difficult medical journey, etc. We don't come out on the other side of these things unchanged in some way; they become a part of who we are from then on, for the better or worse.

We also often refer to the season of Lent as a journey in the church—this time between Ash Wednesday and Easter when we remember with reverence Jesus' journey to the cross and beyond, and where we see just how immense God's love for us is. Often we are encouraged to mark this time by giving something up for Lent. In years past, we've given up things like chewing gum, soda, cheeseburgers, caffeine, and video games. But, we found that this often cheapened the great celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord at Easter into, "Hooray, I get to go back to eating/doing \_\_\_\_\_ now!"—taking the emphasis off of the wonderful work of God and putting it on something completely trivial for ourselves.

Instead of "giving something up" or making a change for Lent this year, we invite you to allow the journey of Lent to make a change to you. A change that will become a part of who you are from now on, not one that will just disappear when Easter arrives. Here are a few suggestions:

- ◇ Take advantage of Sunday worship and Wednesday evening meals and study of the "Faces of Christ" here at Pleasant View
- ◇ Grab a copy of "The Word in Season" devotions that can be found for free around the PVLC building
- ◇ Commit to reading through a book or two of the Bible through the season of Lent. Pick one of the Gospels or a book you haven't spent much time with yet. Do this on your own, with a buddy, or your whole family.
- ◇ Printable, family-friendly activities for each day  
Living Simply With God: A 40-Day Calendar from ELCA World Hunger  
<http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository>  
[ELCA World Hunger 40 Day Living Simply With God Calendar.pdf](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA%20World%20Hunger%2040%20Day%20Living%20Simply%20With%20God%20Calendar.pdf)
- ◇ A great daily, email devotion  
God Pause Lenten Email Devotional (from Luther Seminary): Through the Night of Dark & Sorrow  
<https://www.luthersem.edu/lent/>
- ◇ And, a lighthearted option  
Lent Madness- like March Madness but with Church figures!  
<http://www.lentmadness.org/about/>

Blessings as we begin this Lenten Journey together!

*Pastor Sarah and Pastor Bob*



## **HEARTBROKEN**

No, Lori is not leaving me but I am heartbroken nonetheless. I recently learned that Our Redeemer Lutheran Church right here in Indianapolis will be closing its doors for good in a couple of months. This church faithfully served its members and community since 1920 and it breaks my heart thinking of the displaced members losing the church that they love. In fact 4,000 churches close across the country each year as membership and attendance continue to decline along with changing demographics. Thankfully with our new annual budget, faithful giving members, and stable attendance, we here at Pleasant View are blessed to be able to depend on our church to be around for many, many, more years to come.

Still, I'm heartbroken. It breaks my heart to hear our members dealing with life issues such as unemployment, care of elderly parents, and sick family and the reason why is because we Love! You cannot be heartbroken if at first you do not Love! We are commanded to love one another and our neighbor as ourselves, and that's exactly what we do here at Pleasant View Lutheran Church. So, on this upcoming Valentine's Day I invite you to be heartbroken. It only shows the people, community, and world around you that you are a person of Love!

Live Generously,

*Jim*

2018

**ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE  
CONGREGATION**

**SUNDAY**

**FEBRUARY 11**

**WORSHIP @ 11AM IN**

**FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**FOLLOWED BY MEAL & MEETING**

The PVLC Hospitality Group will provide the main dish, sides, and beverages. Those attending are invited to bring an Italian-themed appetizer or dessert to share.



## February - the Season of Lent?

February naturally has everyone thinking about Valentine's Day. This February 14<sup>th</sup>, however will be Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. What?! Now, check your calendars once more – Easter Sunday is April 1 – no fooling! April Fool's Day may be a global event, but throughout the world on April 1 Christians will celebrate our Lord's resurrection! This confluence of religious and secular days hasn't occurred since 1956. Perhaps God's message this season is that His love is not a Valentine's Day love but a perfect, holy love for everyone, every day, and everlasting as proven by Jesus' redeeming love on the cross and resurrection. I'd be foolish to believe otherwise.

Our journey through Lent this year will include weekly Wednesday evening soup suppers beginning February 21 through March 21. The meal begins at 5:45 pm with worship/study at 6:30. This year we will look at a Lenten study entitled "Faces of Christ" from ELCA World Hunger, which focuses who Jesus is and how He is among us today. Please mark your calendars for these meaningful Wednesday nights and bring a soup if you are able. Our Lenten season worship schedule is also included in this newsletter.

## Faces of Christ



### Lenten Study 2018

Session 1: Faces of Christ – Theme: Who do you say that I am?

Session 2: Partners in Mission – Theme: What does it mean to be partners in God's mission?

Session 3: Faith and Thanksgiving – Theme: Where is God?

Session 4: God in the Neighborhood – Theme: *Dios Vive en el Barrio*—"God lives in the neighborhood"

Session 5: Hunger and Hope – Theme: Christ, hunger, lent and hope



## February Worship Schedule

Sunday, February 4	9:00 AM	GRACE Service in Sanctuary
	11:00 AM	ALIVE Service in Fellowship Hall
Sunday, February 11	11:00 AM	ONE Worship Service in Fellowship Hall Followed by Meal & Congregational Meeting
	3:00 PM	Second Sunday Service at MorningSide of College Park—All invited to assist!
Wednesday, February 14	7:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Service in Sanctuary with Latvian Lutheran Congregation
Sunday, February 18	10:00 AM	I CAN Blended Service in Fellowship Hall **Please bring personal care items or canned, nonperishable food for donation to Crooked Creek Pantry.
Wednesday, February 21	5:45 PM	Soup Supper in Fellowship Hall (If able, please bring a soup to share.)
	6:30 PM	Worship and Lenten study - "Faces of Christ" Who do you say that I am?
Sunday, February 25	9:00 AM	GRACE Service in Sanctuary
	11:00 AM	ALIVE Service in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, February 28	5:45 PM	Soup Supper in Fellowship Hall (If able, please bring a soup to share.)
	6:30 PM	Worship and Lenten study – "Partner in Mission" What does it mean to be partners in God's mission?



Thank You!

A Big Thank You to the cheerful group of workers who removed the greenery and Christmas décor from the Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary and placed them back into storage on January 6!

Your faithful service is so much appreciated!

Gratefully,  
*Dawn*



## What is “The Youth Gathering?”

Every three years, 30,000+ high school youth and adult leaders from ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in American) congregations across the country gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA National Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service projects, fellowship, and daily large-group gatherings, young people can grow in faith together by being challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

The 2018 Gathering will be in Houston, Texas June 27<sup>th</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup>. The theme for this Gathering is **“This Changes Everything”** and is based on Ephesians 2:8:

*“For by Grace you have been saved through faith,  
and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.”*

## Why should we help?

As a congregation, you are invited to support and share in the faith formation of our 4 youth attending the 2018 Gathering. Those youth are, Joel Henkel, Luke Henkel, Steven Myers & Lauren Stolz. Your support is an expression of your baptismal promise to nurture one another in faith and is greatly appreciated.

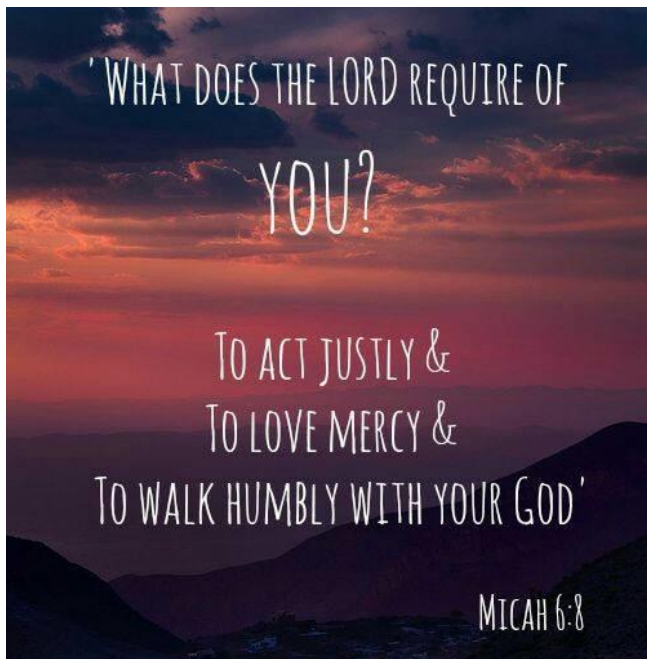
## So how can you support our youth on their quest?

Pray! - Please pray with and for all those attending the Gathering this summer.

Attend and support the various fundraising events in the months leading up to the Gathering. *(Keep your eyes and ears open for announcements about upcoming events!)*

Purchase share(s) of stock from one *(or more!)* of our youth attending the Gathering. *(Shares of stock are \$15/adult and \$5/child.)*

Donate pre-paid Visa Gift Cards. These will be used to buy gas as we drive from Indy to Houston. *(Gift Cards can be dropped off at the PVLC office anytime between now and the month of June.)*



## February Sunday School

2/4/2018	10am	Intergenerational Sunday School- Social Justice Focus All ages welcome!
2/11/2018	10am	Traditional Sunday School Children, Confirmation, High School & Adult Classes
2/18/2018		No Sunday School I CAN Sunday
2/25/2018	10am	Traditional Sunday School Children, Confirmation, High School & Adult Classes



On behalf of the Outreach Team, I'd like to extend a big "Thank You" to the entire PVLC and Latvian Lutheran congregations for your generosity in providing more than \$1,300 in gift cards for our "Adopt-A-Family" project during the Christmas season. This year, we sponsored the ten boys from Trinity House. Trinity House is a ministry sponsored by Lutheran Child and Family Services, which assists teenage boys with their transition from Lutherwood to adult life. Included in that transition is job training, mental health services, education, and transportation assistance.

A "gift tree" was placed in the PVLC narthex in December containing approximately 40 ornaments. Each ornament contained a gift card for one of the boys. The congregation was instructed to take one or more ornaments from the tree, buy the gift card noted on the ornament, return it to PVLC, and place it under the tree. Thanks to your generous hearts, all of the ornaments were spoken for!

On Friday, December 22, the gifts were delivered to LCFS. The reaction from the LCFS staff was one of overwhelming appreciation – priceless to witness!

Thanks again to the PVLC congregation and the Latvian congregation for all of your heartfelt generosity – affirming that both congregations truly care about our community. We're hoping to arrange a visit to PVLC from the boys sometime in February or March, furthering our relationship with this wonderful ministry.

God Bless one and all!

*Dave*

## From residents & staff at Trinity House...

Dear Pleasant View Congregation,

I want to sincerely thank all of you for making the boys Christmas extra special this year with your thoughtful and generous gifts. The boys were thrilled Christmas morning and loved getting to go shopping to pick out exactly what they wanted! The holidays are a difficult time for them and I can't thank you enough for lifting their spirits and making their Christmas special.

Sincerely, Alisse Wilburn & Trinity House

Thank you, Pleasant View Church, for the gift cards. It was very kind. I got my new board and I love it! Thank you again. -Blake

Dear Pleasant View Church,

I really appreciate the gift cards. I didn't have a Christmas last year. My family didn't want me. I'm very impressed and shocked. Thank you so much. God bless you!!! - Brandon

Pleasant View Church,

Thank you for the gifts. It really brightened my Christmas. Sincerely, -Cameron

Pleasant View Church,

Thank you guys! I really like the shoes, and this really means a lot. -Chase

Pleasant View Church,

Thank you. I appreciate the gifts, and may God bless us all. -Christopher

Dear PVLC,

Thank you for the gift cards. I love the shoes that I got with them. God bless you all. -Dashaun

Pleasant View Church,

Thank you guys sooo much...

I don't think you understand how much you helped not only mine, but this whole houses' Christmas! You guys are greatly appreciated, not only for the presents but mainly for the thought. -Dylan

Pleasant View Church,

Thank you guys for the (video) game and gift cards. This is keeping me out of trouble and my player on the game is really good.

Your friend, -Gage

Pleasant View Church,

Thank you for the visa cards. I really appreciate it. I used it to buy clothes and other stuff I needed. Thank you so much. Sincerely yours, - Justin

Dear Pleasant View Church,

I loved the gifts and appreciate the time you guys took to make it happen. Best thanks, -Steven



**THANK YOU!**

**TO ALL WHO DONATED  
CHILI, HELPED SERVE,  
CLEANED UP, AND MADE  
DONATIONS FOR THE CHILI  
YOU ATE. WE WERE ABLE  
TO RAISE **\$748** TOWARD  
OUR TRIP TO HOUSTON  
THIS SUMMER!!!**

LAUREN  
STEVEN  
JOEL  
& LUKE

**FEBRUARY  
BIRTHDAYS!**

- 5- JIM EATON
- 7- KIM KERNODLE
- 8- AMY CRISPEN
- 10- JIM MORGAN

Ash Wednesday, February 14  
Worship in Sanctuary, 7pm

Palm Sunday, March 25  
Worship in Sanctuary, 9am  
Worship in Fellowship Hall, 11am

Maundy Thursday, March 29  
Worship in Sanctuary, 7pm

Good Friday, March 30  
Stations of the Cross  
Fellowship Hall, 7pm

**Our Lenten Journey**

**Easter, April 1**  
**Worship in Sanctuary, 11am**

## PVLC Community Yearly Contact Update

This form is for everyone in the Pleasant View Lutheran Church community. We would appreciate you taking the time to complete it to ensure that our records are accurate and up-to-date. The items marked with \* will be included in the next directory. The other information is to assist our office and pastors. Please complete the portions of the form that are applicable to you and return it to us by our Annual Meeting on February 11, 2018.

\*Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\*Primary Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Address: \_\_\_\_\_

When should we use this address? \_\_\_\_\_

\*Primary Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Email Addresses: \_\_\_\_\_

When should we use these other email addresses? \_\_\_\_\_

\*Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Baptism(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Status:  Member  Non-member  
 I no longer wish to be a member  I would like to become a member

Emergency contact: Who should the pastors contact if you are having an emergency or if you are hospitalized?  
(Spouse, Child, Sibling, Neighbor, Friend...?)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Work group involvement: What group(s) are you a part of or would like to be a part of?

- Education  Outreach  Hospitality  Finance  Visitation  Wedding  
 Staffing  Facilities  Communications  Worship  Celebration of Life

Subscriptions: Which email communications would you like to receive?

- Monday Prayer Email  Thursday "Saints" Update Email  
 Monthly Newsletter Email  Prayer Chain Email (used as needed)

Would you like a paper copy of the newsletter mailed to you?  Yes  No

If you are unable to come to regular worship,  
would you like a pastor or church member to visit once a month and bring Holy Communion?  Yes  No

Do we have permission to use images of you on our website and social media pages?  Yes  No

## PVLC Council Meeting

01/15/2018

Present: Amber S.; Pr. Bob N; Dawn G.; Jane B.; Jim E.; Jon S.; Kim K.; Lori E.; Mike H.; Pr. Sarah N.; Tom M.; Margaret S.

I: Devotions – Jim E. – Prayer

II: Good News and Gratitude

A: Hanging of the Greens, Christmas, and Taking down the Greens – WONDERFUL!

B: Stain glass pictures from Kim K.'s friend was beautiful Christmas décor looked exceptional

C: Morningside services is going very well

D: Thank you Jon S. for running December Council Mtg

E: Appreciate everyone on council showing up due to the "lovely" weather

III: General Questions/Discussion

A: Church Council 2018 Discussion

B: Church Awards Discussion

a: Vote: New Category- Youth of the Year Award For Youth/Child under age of 18

Motion: Jim E.

Second: Dawn G.

All in favor: Unanimous

All opposed: None

C: Church Award Voting Session

D: Annual Meeting Meal

E: Annual Meeting Letter is edited and ready to go.

F: Endowment Interests Discussion (Possibilities)

a: Two Donations of \$1050 each

b: Puerto Rico Power & LCFS as possibilities

G: Directory Update Sheet will be provided in the Annual Meeting Letter

H: Break away meeting for new council after Annual meeting

I: Suggestion: Sign up table at the Annual Meeting for upcoming events

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

IV: Pastors Report – Pr. Bob N. / Pr. Sarah N.

A: Food for Thought will begin after baby Nowak is here

B: Youth: Sunday Jan 21<sup>st</sup> – Chili Luncheon

a: Donations will go to supporting trip to Houston

b: Summary provided about the Youth and the Youth Gathering during Luncheon

C: Update on Baby Nowak

D: Contingency Plan Discussion:

a: Services: Reaching out to area Pastors.

b: Other options:

- Preparing lay-led service
- Having Preachers to provide service (minus communion portion)

c: Pr Lazdins- Pr. Sarah to ask him if he would be able to cover some 9am services

d: Sundays and Season book – reference for hymns if hymns are not picked

e: Office work: Outline of tasks to sign up in February

f: Providing accessibility to the team supporting work

g: Thank you Robert K. for offering to prepare bulletins

E: Membership

a: Miriam Cotanch – Passed away July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

b: Vote: Per membership guidelines in the PVLC

Constitution, Removal of listed names from voting member list and moved to inactive.

- Janna Armstrong and Raiden Feltes

- Leslie, Christian, and Mya Elliott

- Mike and Roxanne Ford

- Matt and Patty Fotiades

- Patti Hogan

- Ginny and Colin Jenkins

- Lisa, Hannah, Taylor, and Lauren Krinn

- Walter Swanson

- Sarah Terrill

- Latricia Carter

Motion: Jim E.

Second: Dawn G.

All in favor: Unanimous

All opposed: None

c: Kim K: Will you be updating Shelby? Pr. Bob - Yes

F: Easter Egg Hunt before Easter Service – yes or no?

a: Like the idea but needs to be planned continued discussion

V: Treasurer – Tom M.

A: Reminder: GFS billing options

B: Checking: \$47,080

C: Our Redeemer Church closing after Easter (April 2018) –

a: Do we invite them to our church?

b: Pastors will ask Pastor of closing church what is the member plan.

VI: Finance – Kim K.

A: Budget line item discussion- Maintenance Reserve Fund

B: Kim K will present the budget and provide overview during Annual Meeting.

C: Reports need ASAP to prepare for Annual Meeting

D: December 2017 Transactions – Discussion

VII: Finance – Jane B

A: Review of current pledge status

VIII: Education - Margaret S.

A: Sunday School Schedule sign-up will be sent out for 2nd half

B: Adult Sunday School – Revelations is going well

C: Costumes/Puppet Ministry – Storing them in the attic?

a: Pr Bob and Charlie to move to storage

D: AED – purchased - \$1494

IX: Facility – Mike H.

A: Pleased with the snow removal team & salting

X: Hospitality – Lori E.

A: Budget reduced discussion

B: Annual Meeting

a: PVLC Hospitality - Lasagna, Salad, Bread, and Drinks

b: PVLC Members – Appetizer and Desserts – Italian Theme

c: Need assistance with setting up and clean up

C: Latvian Hospitality Coordinator contacted Pr. Sarah about Easter

a: For 2018 in lieu of Easter Breakfast: Light Breakfast between services provided by Latvian and PVLC – Lori will contact coordinator and clarify details

XI: Worship – Dawn G.

A: Supply organist filled through Easter

B: Altar Guild- Send out schedule for individual dates to claim

C: Ash Wednesday – Touch base with Pr. Lazdins

D: Soup Suppers – (Wednesday)

a: Sonya Simmons offered to assist with coordinator the meal.

b: Theme will be Faces of Christ study

c: Consider changing the day from Wednesday to Thursday  
- no confirmation of change at this time

XII: Nominating/Staffing – Jon S.

A: New Council Members

a: approached some members and process is progressing

b: What council positions are open

- decided after members are elected

B: Currently serving by appointment to be voted on @ Annual Mtg:

- Lori E.

C: In March – will look at staff review

Motion to adjourn: Tom M.

Second: Jon S.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting: Monday February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 @ 6:30pm.

What do you get from sitting on ice too long? Polaroids!

Dec-Jan Giving	
12/24	\$13,880.00
12/31	\$1,492.00
1/7	\$4,578.55
1/14	\$2,317.00
1/21	\$4,308.00

Dec-Jan Worship Attendance		
12/24	15 (9am), 60 (Eve)	
12/31	10	
1/7	10	32
1/14	17	23
1/21	44	

**Mortgage Balance:**  
**\$18,162.62**