



Pleasant View Lutheran Church
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News & Views

January 2021





From The Reverends Nowak

New Year, Same Old Calling...

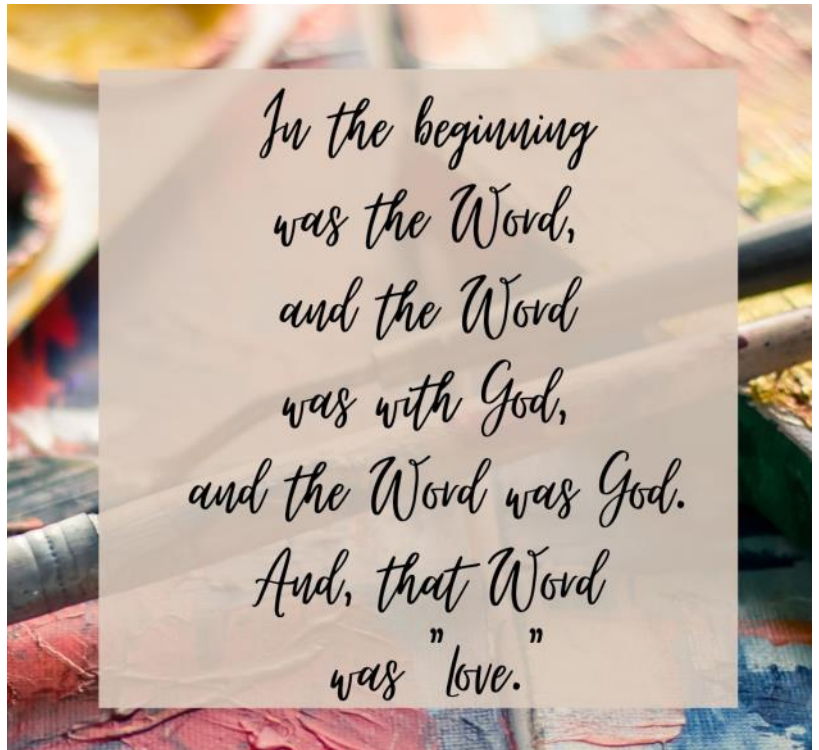
Happy New Year! We know many of us have been looking forward to having 2020 behind us and starting fresh in 2021! But, we also have all lived long enough to know that the world doesn't just magically reset with a new year. I think we're all looking forward to getting back to some form of in-person worship this year... eventually. And, looking forward to being social creatures again...someday. And, being out and about, seeing friends and family whenever we want to again...when we know we can keep them safe in doing so. We had a lot of hope for 2021, but now that it is here, perhaps you are also realizing that our hopes won't be realized as easily as hanging up the new calendar. And, we're all still waiting...but hopeful.

I know we've been stressing it so much lately, but God's greatest commandments: to love God and love neighbors, remain the same even into the new year. As we hold hope for the healthier, happier future before us, may we not abandon our calling to – above all else – make sure that we are leading with love; still choosing the wellbeing of others over what we may personally want to do. We want to see amazing things happen this year, get back to “normal” and LIVE...but, if we're not living in love, it's not really living.

In our baptism our life is joined in the life of Christ, the one who died out of love for all. Because of this, our lives are now lives of sacrifice and service as well, and there is a whole world out there just waiting to be loved by us in the name of Christ. This new year, may we all continue to choose the life of love, and just see what goodness God has in store for all of us in doing this! As with 2020, life may be very different than what we imagined or hoped for, but we will continue to move forward together as one church, following in the footsteps of Love Incarnate. Love will continue to dwell among us, no matter what this year brings.

In Christ,

Pr Sarah & Pr Bob





Greetings fellow PVLC-ers, and Merry Christmas!

Christmas day has come and gone, but it still Christmas on the church calendar! Our tree is still up, and will be until Epiphany, January 6. And despite the new year on the church calendar arriving with Advent in late November, it's also time to say Happy New Year! We're throwing out our 2020 calendars and putting up 2021 calendars!



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When we Christians hear the word “salvation” we often think of being saved from our sins. Forgiveness of our sins through the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. In my Advent reading, I learned that for Jews in the time of Jesus — for Mary and Joseph, the rest of Jesus’ family, and family friends — “salvation” wasn’t thought of that way. “Salvation” was used to refer to relief from something more specific, such as suffering from illness, or from job loss, or likely even from oppression of Roman rule. And in Jesus’ ministry, we certainly see him concerned about and taking action on such sufferings. We are called to do likewise.

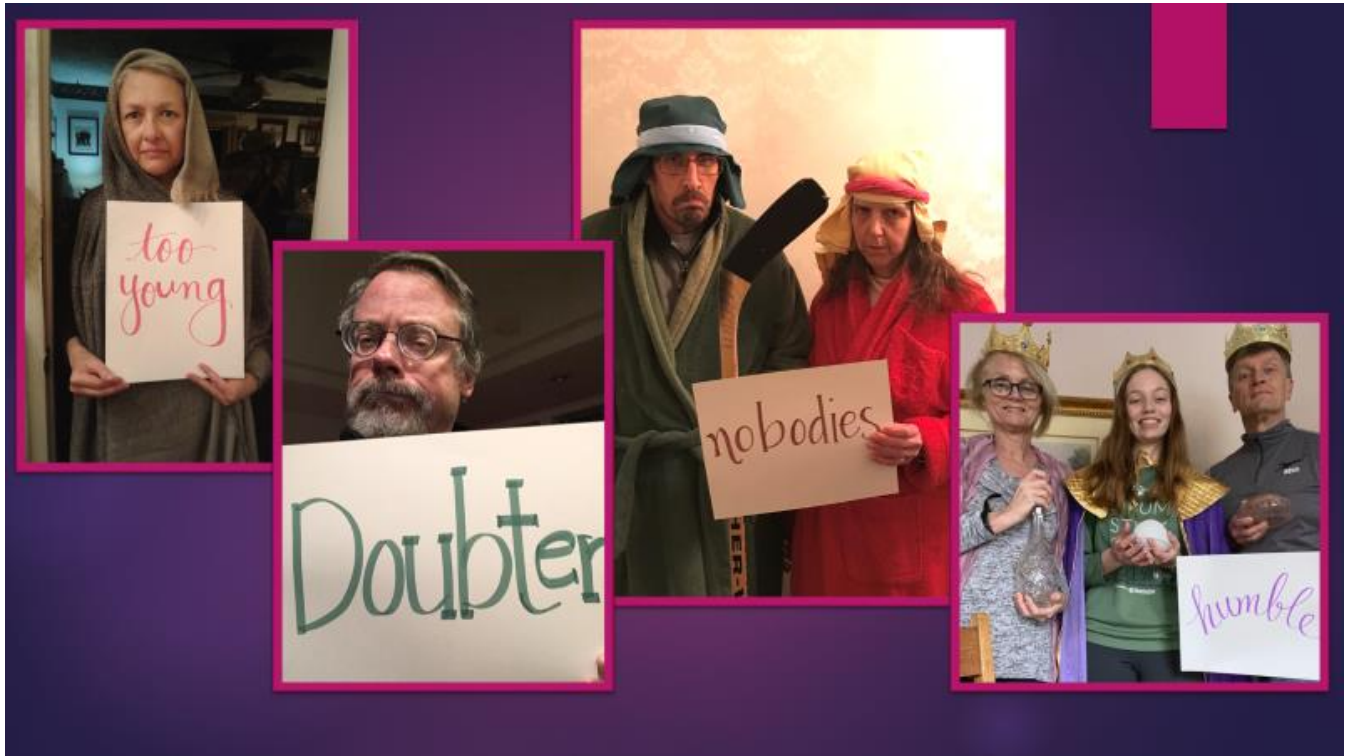
What specific thing springs to mind that I think I need relief from? 2020!! We all need relief from 2020! That’s quite broad, but it’s also specific. 2020! The impacts of COVID-19, the fight for social justice, and all the many issues of 2020 have been different for different folks, but we all want it — salvation from 2020!

As regular readers of my monthly ramblings may recall, last month I mentioned that 2021 certainly won’t start out very differently than 2020. Any magical hope I have of a new calendar on the wall bringing immediate improvements will quickly fade away. But last month I listed all sorts of signs of “God’s work, our hands” that were giving me hope. And those signs are still there. Salvation from 2020 isn’t an immediate thing — it will continue throughout 2021. Yet, leaving 2020 behind still has a good feeling to it, doesn’t it? After all, we are human, and that new calendar on the wall helps us see that hope.

Alan Z.



Thank you! to all who participated in the annual Sunday School Christmas program held on Sunday, December 20th. The message was how the birth of Christ changed Mary, the Shepherds, Joseph, and the Wise Men, and still changes people's lives. Here are some 'transformations' below.

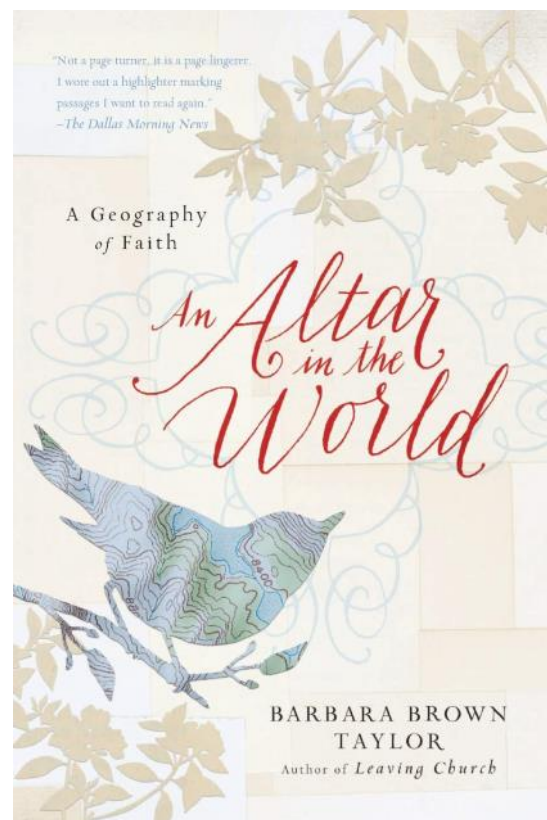


Christian Education Update

- * **Preschool and elementary school ages will continue with the virtual format after the Christmas and New Year holidays, beginning on January 24th. Please volunteer to help teach if you can; there are several Sundays to fill through early May.**
- * **There is one student in the Confirmation Class. Alan Zimmermann and Bob Stratford will be teaching this class, in coordination with the pastors. The class will also start on January 24th. It too will be virtual.**
- * **With respect to Adult Education, discussion of the book “Queerfully and Wonderfully Made” has completed. The next book that the group will read together is “An Altar in the World” by Barbara Brown Taylor. The group will start to gather again on Zoom starting Wednesday, January 27th at 7:00 pm. Everyone is invited to join in for discussion of this wonderful book. Contact Pastor Sarah for further details, or if you have questions. More info on how to get your book will be coming soon!**

January Birthdays!

6 Dave Henkel
8 Cathryn Schroeder
13 Julia Myers
15 Troy Stratford
18 Mark Doctor
22 Dan Robin
27 Kim Reid
28 Joanna Lange
29 Kathy Henkel





Greetings from Outreach!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our 'adoptees' at [Trinity House](#). We were able to provide just over \$100 in gift cards to each of the nine young men who are working toward independence in the program developed by Lutheran Child and Family Services. The Pastors have received a 'thank you' stating how very grateful these young men are. Dave and I are so thankful to be a part of such a generous congregation!!

Dave and I continue to donate groceries weekly to the [Fay Biccard Glick Neighborhood Center](#). We encourage any of you who are able, to help out our neighbors through any food bank. We will continue to publish some options (see below).



The [Glick Center](#) always needs volunteers. On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, between 12:00 and 5:00, they need 1 or 2 people to deliver donations to homes. On Tuesday and Thursday, also between 12:00 and 5:00, they need 1 to 3 people to help distribute donations to folks who come to the Center. They are located on 71st Street just west of Michigan Road. Give them a call if you can help: 317-293-2600.

We are looking forward to new opportunities in 2021 to serve our community in person, as improving conditions allow. - **Kathy**

Local Food Pantries and Kitchens Need Your Support!

Pike Township Red Zone Food Pantry. Donate here:

<https://pike-ef.org/give/pike-red-zone-food-pantry-donations/>

Wheeler Mission. Donate here: <https://wheelermission.org/donate-to-wheeler/>

Crooked Creek Food Pantry. Donate here: <https://www.ccfpindy.org/donations>

Glick Neighborhood Center. Donate here: <https://www.faybiccardglickcenter.org/donate>



You are invited to join us for Online/Phone Worship and Fellowship each Sunday at 10am! You are encouraged to invite friends & family! The login information stays the same each week for worship services. Join in in from wherever you happen to be!

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/2171974317?pwd=c0V2TExzQWlmd09PQkxhOE1ZUEZmdz09>

Meeting ID: 217 197 4317

Password: 02261844

Join by phone (audio only): +888 788 0099 (Toll Free)



Q: How exactly do I “join by phone” for a Zoom gathering?

Step 1. Dial 1 929 205 6099

Step 2. When prompted to enter the meeting ID, enter on the keypad the meeting ID number 217 197 4317

Step 3. If prompted for a host or participant ID, simply press the pound key: #

Step 4. When prompted to enter the password, enter on the keypad the password 02261844

Note: If you're told the meeting hasn't started yet, it's best to just hang up and try again

PVLC Council Meeting Virtual Meeting 12/21/2020

Present: Alan Z., Amber S., Bob S., Jane B., Jennifer M., Jon S., Kathy H., Karen M., Pr. Sarah N., Sonia S.

Devotion: Alan Z.: God Pause: Isaiah 9

Good News and Gratitude

- **Christmas Star is visible**
- **Sunday School Christmas Play – Fun to watch**
- **Participation in contribution for the Trinity House**
- **Thanksgiving Service went well
- good attendance**
- **New family interested in having their child baptized**
- **Advent devotion pulled together really well**
- **Youth time was fun and connective moment**
- **Kathy for mailing out Christmas cards**
- **Grateful for blessings to help alleviate financial debts**
- **Thomas is doing a lot, A LOT better now**
- **Fence around the utilities area looks gorgeous!**
- **Heartfelt gratitude for all the time spent preparing, sharing, and creating a wonderful virtual Christmas season**
- **Pr. Bob N. and Charlie for taking the lead on addressing/solve the Fire Marshall inspection findings.**
- **Thankful for the dedication to children's Sunday school education, the supplies and the teachers! Thank you for keeping the children's minds engaged...virtually.**

Agenda

COVID-19 Review and Discussion

- **PVLC: Virtual Worship through end of January 2021. Council will revisit topic at January 2021 council meeting.**

Tenants Updates

- **ACH: Reviewed their changes regarding Marion County Health Ordinance with Bonnie.**
 - **Pre-K: will remain in session due to low numbers**
 - **K-5: virtual through mid-Jan**
 - **Currently: No record of positive cases**
 - **Cleaning: New cleaning personnel and getting used to the routine; Charlie to remain his cleaning routine**
- **Other tenants: No updates/changes since November council meeting**

Budget

- **Budget: Review and Discussion – Jane B.**
 - **Review of staff's salaries**
 - **Jane B. moved that the proposed budget be accepted with the amendment of increasing the pastors' salary to \$46,000 and adjustments consequential to that increase**
 - **Second: Sonia S.**
 - **All in Favor: 9**
 - **All Opposed: 0**
- **Monthly Offering Total: \$26,510**
- **Staff Gift discussion**
- **Charlie Vacation: Wednesday Dec 23rd – Tuesday Dec 29th**

Committee's Report

A. Pastor's Report - Pr. Sarah

- Tues Dec 22: Blue Christmas Service @ 7pm
- Thurs Dec 24: Christmas Eve Service @ 7pm
- Sunday Dec 27: Worship @ 10am
- Sunday Jan 3rd: Hymn Sing Service @ 10am
- 12/28-1/2/21 Pastor's on vacation
- Jan 4th week: work from home
- Jan 8th: Lylah Surgery: wire repair/sternal at Riley. Worship and clergy support anticipates to maintain as normal.
- Preparing for next book group for end of January or early February
- Grace Unlimited at Butler University: 1 term completed and Congratulations to Pr. Sarah N. as Vice President of the board
- Sunday February 14th: Annual Meeting
 - Kim will be requested to run reports
 - Church persons of year award to decide in January

B. Education – Bob S.

- Sunday Jan 24th - Reboot Sunday School

C. Outreach – Kathy H.

- Trinity house: Thank you for contributions for Christmas gifts

D. Facility – Jon S.

- Nursery heaters have failed and in progress to repair
- Is there a time frame when the facility is not being utilized in thinking of cost savings and reducing plowing/salt during time ACH is out? Jon to check in with Bonnie on time frame to take advantage of low usage of the facility/parking lot

E. Worship – Jennifer M.

- Advent devotionals are ready for next year, since they arrived late for this year.

F. Finance – Jane B.

- Budget review
- Jan 25th: Finance Audit

G. Finance – Tom via Pr. Sarah N.

- Balance: ~56,000
- Endowment: Funds are available to provide 2 organizations with \$1000 each.
- Have an idea on who/what to contribute to, please send to Tom M.

Motion to adjourn: Jane B.

Second: Jennifer M.

All in Favor: Unanimous

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next meeting: January 18th @ 6:30pm

Date	Attendance (Zoom)
12/6	33
12/13	33
12/20	32
12/22	15 (<i>Blue Christmas</i>)
12/24	38 (<i>Christmas Eve</i>)
12/27	28
12/18 Offering Count : \$26, 510.59 12/31 Offering Count: \$2,835.00 Dec. Online Giving: \$3,993.70	