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News & Views

March 2021



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From The Reverends Nowak

One Year Later...

This month contains an anniversary we never thought we would see, one that most certainly will not be “celebrated” but rather “observed.” It’s been a year since we’ve gathered together in-person for worship. Does it feel like one year? Does it feel like ten? Does it feel like just yesterday you were here at the PVLC building? We’ve all reacted to this new way of doing life and especially church life differently, but we’re so glad that we continue to move forward together as a community. We miss those who are unable to join in on Zoom for various reasons, but we’re glad to hear that our many methods of outreach (weekly worship materials mailed, abbreviated services on YouTube, bulletins with sermon emailed, phone calls, and front yard and virtual visits) are effective for so many of you!

And, we’re thankful that not one of the decisions made by our church leadership has been made out of fear or lack of faith, but out of love. If there is something we’ve gained through this pandemic (or rather more of a muscle that we’ve strengthened) it is this: we have let our love be more powerful than our fear, and love has been our guiding light. As a church, may we never lose this strength; may we never again allow fear to drive us.

These somber, cold, days of Lent and March, days filled with memories of years past and tiny sprigs of hope for the future, offer us time to ponder what “love in action” looks like for our community in the months ahead.

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, superficial relationships, so that you will live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people so that you will work for justice, equality and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you will reach out your hand to comfort them and change their pain into joy.

And may God bless you with the foolishness to think that you can make a difference in the world, so that you will do the things which others tell you cannot be done.

God bless you that you may show God’s blessings, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. Amen.

(Adapted from “A Non-Traditional Blessing” by Sister Ruth Marlene Fox)

Easter is coming!

Pr Sarah & Pr Bob

Wednesdays @ 7pm

Get together, share, and discuss
An Altar in the World
by Barbara Brown Taylor.

If you want to join in the discussions let
Pr. Sarah know!



President's Note

Alan Zimmermann

Greetings fellow PVLC-ers,

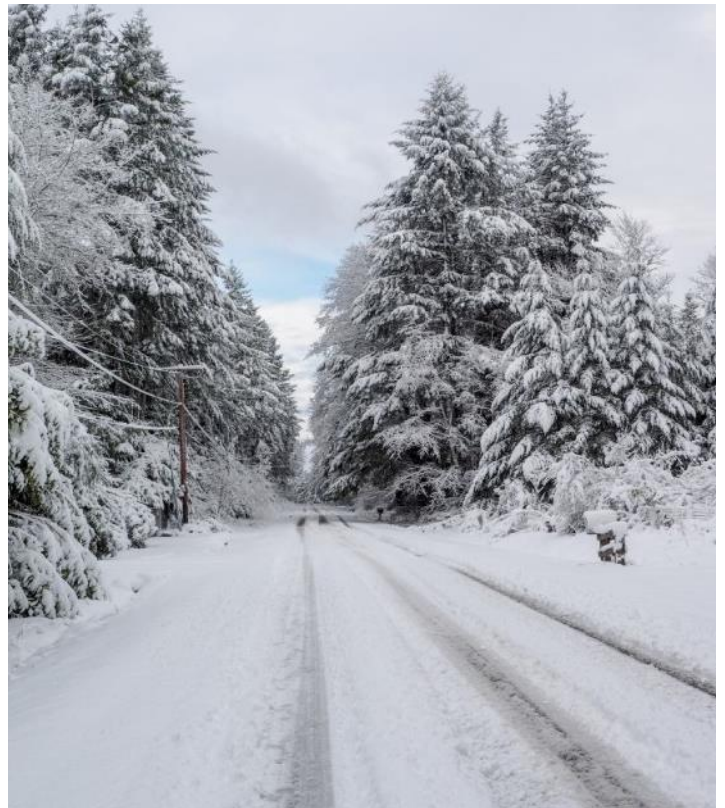
Last month I said that in February I don't like to think about how cold it is. I like to focus on February being a short month, the days are getting longer, and spring is around the corner. Well, this February sure has made it hard to focus on "spring is around the corner"! Lots of snow, lots of cold. No record setting, thankfully. But record or no record, enough to keep me inside more than I would've liked.

As I write this, things are warming up nicely. Well, ok, it's above 32 degrees anyway. And depending on whose forecast you believe, the next 2 nights may stay above freezing! We went for our longest walk in a while today. Still didn't see as many folks taking a stroll outside as we ordinarily have in the wintertime of Pandemicland. Seemed like even fewer dog walkers. But it was another day God gave us to go out into the world. And find an altar in the world. Last month, the Pastors plugged our PVLC book study group, which has started reading the book, *An Altar in the World*. I mentioned it briefly, but now I'll say more.

One of the first chapters was on the practice of paying attention. Or in a word, "reverence." Noticing other things. Not just paying attention to myself, and my wish for better weather. Of course, I think I'm very good at paying attention. But occasionally something or someone reminds me to do better. This year, I am getting better at identifying what made the tracks in the snow. Or, at least, I think I am! It helps to have seen the critter make them, of course, but one can get a lot of clues from where the tracks come from and where they go. And today, I saw some new tracks by the house and I have no idea what they are. Something new for me to have reverence for. Whatever it is, it went into the backyard. Or, did it come from the backyard? I guess I need to keep paying attention.

Peace,

Alan Z.



Holy Week Worship

4/1 - Maundy Thursday, 7pm Zoom

4/2 - Good Friday, 7pm Zoom

4/3 - Easter Saturday
11am Outdoors @ PVLC
(weather permitting)

4/4 Easter Sunday
10am Zoom



3/7

Virtual Coffee Hour

Stay for some
community time
after 10am
Worship on Zoom!



We gather for Worship every Sunday at 10am on Zoom, accessible on phone, tablet, or computer. Feel free to invite friends & family. This login information stays the same for each worship service.

We will celebrate Holy Communion each week. Join in from wherever you happen to be!

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

Meeting ID: 217 197 4317

Password: 02261844

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



Christian Education Update

- For pre-school and elementary school ages, we continue with the virtual format. Below is the schedule for Sunday School classes through April. Thank you for volunteering to teach! There remain a few more slots.

Sunday	LESSON	TEACHER
March 7	A STORM	Margaret
March 14	THE CENTURION'S SERVANT	
March 21	JESUS BLESSES THE CHILDREN	Amber
March 28	HOLY WEEK	Margaret
April 4	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	EASTER
April 11	THE EMPTY TOMB	Susan and Lauren
April 18	THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT	
April 25	THE GREAT COMMISSION	

- Lewis Myers is the sole student in the Confirmation Class. Alan Zimmermann and Bob Stratford are teaching this class. We covered the Lord's Prayer in February, and will begin a series on the Apostle's Creed in March.
- Adult Education is reading and discussing *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor. (Wednesdays, Zoom, 7:00 pm) Please join them! Contact Pastor Sarah for further details, or if you have questions.
- Diaper donations continue to be accepted. There are several ways to donate, as follows: You can drop diapers off at the church in a bin located under the portico at the main church/office entrance. If you would like to donate money for the purchase of diapers, you have two options: (1) You can send your monetary donations to the church office (writing "GWOH Diapers" in the note section of your check), or (2) you can donate diaper funds directly to:
<https://www.aplos.com/aws/give/IndianaDiaperBank/general>.

- Robert & Margaret



Greetings from Outreach!

There are no official activities happening this month, unfortunately. However, Dave and I are hoping that someone out there has an idea for a way we can serve our neighbors. We are such a generous, loving congregation! Please let us know if you are aware of a need that we can help address. Don't feel pressured to have a plan! We can work on that together. And thank you for sharing your time, talent and treasure. We appreciate each and every one of you!

Dave and I continue to donate groceries weekly to the Fay Biccard Glick Neighborhood Center. We encourage any of you who can to help out our neighbors through any food bank. We will continue to publish some options. And 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 1-3 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.

In the meantime, stay safe and well as we continue to navigate the coronavirus environment. We are hopeful that the numbers will continue to drop!

- Kathy Henkel, PVLC Outreach Team Leader

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>

Congregational Meeting Minutes

Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda *Sunday, February 14TH, 2021*

Devotion – Pastor Nowak

Establishment of a Quorum: Yes - 23 voting members

Special Recognitions

- Church Staff: Pr. Sarah, Pr. Bob, Charlie S., and Madelin F.
- Facilities: Robert K., Jon S., Charlie S., Sonia S. and Pr. Bob
- Sunday School: Margaret S., Kim K., and teachers
- Intergenerational Sunday School
- Volunteers to read during worship
- Henkel Family with community out reach
- Margaret S.- Bread for the World and diaper Collection
- Financial: Kim K., Jane B., Tom M., and Karen M. and volunteers who assist in counting offering
- Newsletters: Karen M. and Pastors Nowak
- Worship Team: Pr. Sarah, Pr. Bob, Jennifer M., Robert K., Hayley K., Jerry B., Madelin F.;
 - Thanks for creating a spiritual live services
 - Also created an avenue for those who were not able to attend Zoom service to had the resources to worship independently.
- Thank you to the congregation for sticking together and staying faithful during this extraordinary time.

Action Agenda– Meeting Minutes

- Robert K. motion for approval of February 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes
 - Motion: Robert K.
 - Second: Janet W.
 - All in favor: 22
 - All opposed: 0
 - 1 - unavailable to respond

- Jane B. motioned for the approval of the October Congregational Meeting Minutes including the accurate verbiage and modifications provided of the October Congregational Meeting Minutes provided in the November Newsletter.

Motion: Jane B.

Second: Kathy H.

All in favor: 22

All opposed: 0

1 - unavailable to respond

Action Agenda- Election of New Council Members

- Robert K. motioned the re-election of returning council member for hospitality chair to be Sonia Simmons
 - Motion: Robert K.
 - Second: Bev T.
 - All in favor: 22
 - All opposed: 0
 - 1 - unavailable to respond

Action Agenda- Elect Synod Assembly Reps. for 2021

- Pr. Sarah N. motion to vote for Karen M. to be 2021 Synod assembly representative and for council to be able to make changes or additions to those elected as Synod assembly reps. (June 11th and 12th)
 - Motion: Pr. Sarah N.
 - Second: Janet W.
 - All in favor: 22
 - All opposed: 0
 - 1 - unavailable to respond

Note: Openings for one male & one youth

Action Agenda- Approval of Endowment Committee Interest Distribution – Tom M.

- Notes/Discussion: \$2000 (\$1000 per group)
 - 1) Wheeler Mission
 - 2) Ascension St. Vincent Foundation COVID-19 Relief

- Robert K. motion to approve the two listed charities to receive the endowment interest distribution. (\$1000 each)

Motion: Robert K.

Second: Jane B.

All in favor: 22

All opposed: 0

1 - unavailable to respond

Action Agenda- Approval of 2021 Budget

- Chris L. Motion to approve 2021 Congregational budget as is.

Motion: Chris L.

Second: Robert K.

All in favor: 22

All opposed: 0

1 - unavailable to respond

Information Items

- Constitution Work Update – Alan Z.

Consent Agenda

- The agenda includes reports from the Pastor, the Officers, and Committees.

Adjourn

Motion: Chris L.

Second: Jane B.

All in favor: 22

All opposed: 0

1 - unavailable to respond

Closing: Lord's Prayer



ARE YOU A DETAIL ORIENTED PERSON?
DO YOU HAVE A FEW HOURS A MONTH TO GIVE?

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY!

The Finance work group is looking for someone to learn the accounting program, Aplos, and to begin to take over the bookkeeping duties. If you are interested in this vital position please contact Jane Bird, Finance Chair, or Kim Kernodle, Aplos Administrator.



2021 I-K Synod Assembly

June 11 & 12, 2021

PVLC is still seeking a male and a youth delegate for this year's VIRTUAL Synod Assembly. If you haven't wanted to travel to attend in the past, this is your year to "go"!

Let one of the pastors know if you are interested!

PVLC Council Meeting Virtual Meeting 02/15/2020

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

Devotion: Alan Z.: God Pause

Good News and Gratitude

- Successful first virtual Congregational Meeting
- Book Group is going well
- Margaret's art work for the cover of the Annual Report was very lovely
- Karen M. going to Synod Assembly as PVLC rep.
- Snow looks lovely
- Madelin Foster and Jean-Luc are excited to be expecting a baby boy this July!
- Sunday school is going well
- Lylah started virtual preschool on Feb 15th

Agenda

- COVID-19 Review and Discussion
 - PVLC: Discussion about re-opening.
 - Will revisit re-opening at March Council Meeting
 - Discussion about recent CDC guidelines and vaccine updates
- Tenants Updates
 - ACH: Full session for all classes, continue to keep classes in pods with dismissal staggered (Same as January)
 - Other tenants: No updates since Jan. council mtg.
- PPP Update: Tom M. provided update (PPP=Paycheck Protection Program)
- Financial Secretary council position will continue to be vacant and re-evaluate June 1st
- Jane B. motioned to appoint Tom M. as Treasurer for the upcoming term and leaving Financial Secretary position vacant.
 - Motion: Jane B.
 - Second: Jennifer M.
 - All in Favor: 9 (Unanimous)
 - All Opposed: 0
- Council Retreat – 2021? Brainstorming and Goals for the time

Committee's Report

A. Pastor's Report - Pr. Sarah

- Lent Events
 - Feb 17th: Ash Wednesday @ 7 pm
 - Book Group: Weekly on Zoom at 7pm starting Wed. January 27th in place of Mid-week gathering during Lent (exception- Ash Wed.)
 - Saturday April 3rd: Outdoor Easter celebration and Baptism
 - Sunday April 4th: Easter Service @ 10am, Zoom
- Saturday Feb 20th: Youth virtual hang out
- New Devotions book are available
- March: Virtual Coffee & Fellowship time at the same time as Sunday School in a Zoom break out room
- Grace Unlimited is looking for Board Members: 3 additional members needed. Let Pr. Sarah N. and she will nominate you to the committee.
- Offering envelopes are available
 - discussed distribution
- Pr. Sarah N. will be out of office Monday Feb 22nd through Wednesday Feb 24th.
 - Pr. Bob N will be available
 - Kathy H. assist with mailing and administrative needs.

B. Finance – Jane B.

- Monday Jan 25th: Financial Audit completed
- Kim K. is looking for a volunteer who is interested learning about the books and accounting system.
- Kim K. highly recommends the creation of credit card expense designation and approval form to designate for this category.

C. Finance – Tom M

- Checking Acct. Balance: ~33,424

D. Newsletter: Monday Feb 22nd @ Midnight

- Send to Karen M.

Motion to adjourn: Pr. Sarah N.

Second: Amber S.

All in Favor: Unanimous

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting: March 15th @ 6:30pm on Zoom

Date	Attendance (Zoom)
2/7	32
2/14	35
2/17 Ash Wednesday	25
2/21	27
2/28	33



Birthdays

- 1 Karen Myers
- 4 Pr. Sarah Nowak
- 6 Jennifer Morlan
- 6 Kelsey Stolz
- 11 Keith Johns
- 25 Will Stolz
- 26 Kathleen Leander
- 26 Rick Baldwin
- 27 Alex Lafuse

I want Jesus
to walk with me;
I want Jesus
to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus
to walk with me.