

Pleasant View Lutheran Church 801 West 73rd Street Indianapolis, IN 46260 P: 317.253.0872 pvlcelca.org



News & Notes

November 2021

November Worship

Sundays at 10 am @ PVLC

Out of hospitality to all, masks are required.

Join in on Zoom Meeting ID: 217 197 4317 Password: 02261844 Join by phone: 1 929 205 6099

From Your Pastors



In the Bleak Midwinter...

Ok, so we're not quite ready to sing this hymn yet, but that time is coming closer than you'd believe! As we enter this month of November, with scripture texts about the end of the world in worship, and as the air around us grows colder, we prepare with the rest of Creation to enter the bleak winter months. We know that so much is ahead of us still, so much to look forward to – Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years celebrations, just to name a few, but the season change is still unmistakable. And, with our congregation creating a book of Advent devotions together again, you'll be encouraged to think about Advent and Christmas even soon than you would like to add to that!

But, even in this month of the climates' annual cool down, and outdoor life slowing down around us, we'll be talking about hope. Yes, that's kind of an Advent thing as well, but in our annual encouragement to think about your own stewardship of all that you have, all that you have to offer God and others in love, we'll be thinking about the hope that we have and the hope that we proclaim together as a church to the world.

This winter season may seem, again, a bit more bleaker than winters of the past with our world still dwelling in pandemic exile from what we knew as "normal." Questions of what holiday celebrations will look like are again starting to bubble up – what is safe to do? What isn't yet? What's worth the risk? What can wait yet? What needs to change during these months when we tend to spend much more time indoors?

And yet, we're going to be talking about hope. The hope that we have in God's intended future for us that is still coming. The hope that we have for the healing of the world – from covid, from hatred, from refusal to repent and forgive, from climate change, from all that ails us! The hope that we have for our congregation – for continued ministry and growth with our whole community including those who had been left out before. And, the hope that we have for the promised Spring that always comes after these bleak winters.

As we enter these chilly months, may your hearts be warmed with the eternal flame of Hope.

- Pr. Sarah & Pr. Bob

President's Note

Alan Zimmermann

Greetings fellow PVLC-ers,

What are the three most important things in real estate? You've probably heard this, more than three times... Location, location, location!

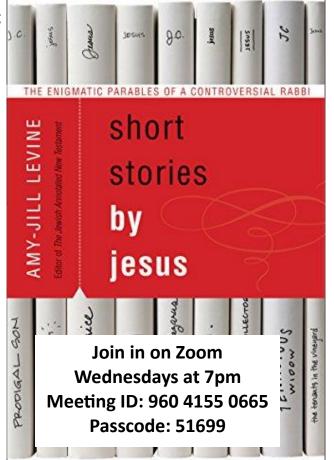
What are the three most important things in studying the Bible? Following the oft quoted three most important things in real estate, you may have some idea where this is going. The three most important things in Bible study are... Context, context, context!

I've heard this expanded on in multiple ways. A favorite (although I can't quite remember where I heard it) is as follows. Context, context, context can mean, the context of the original reader/hearer of the Bible text, the context of your community, and the context of your own life. Of course, here, that 'middle' context of community can mean anything from the people in your household, to all PVLC folks, to Earth in 2021.

If you're interested in the original context for Jesus' parables, and what they might mean today, the PVLC book study group is just starting *Short Stories by Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine, and the book's aim is just that. In the intro, the author quotes something similar to what

I've heard from folks who've attended Bible Study Fellowship: "A text without a context is just a pretext for making it say anything one wants." The stated goal of the book is to ask two main questions: "How do we hear the parables through an imagined set of first-century Jewish ears, and then how do we translate them so that they can still be heard speaking?" When I read these brief stories that Jesus told, I'm inside my own head with all the background that entails. I'm looking forward to learning more about how the original hearers of the parables might have reacted and seeing how that changes my reaction. If this interests you, check out the book and/or consider joining the group on Wednesday evenings on Zoom.

Peace, Alan Z.





Stewardship

Jane Bird



"A Future with Hope" is the theme of our Stewardship Campaign this year. It is based on Jeremiah 29:10-11:

I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely I know the plans I have for you, says God, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

In the next few weeks we will have some devotions/ reflections based on this theme and our future with hope. Sunday, November 21 is our Stewardship Sunday and everyone is invited to make a voluntary response as an individual and collective witness to God's presence in our lives and in support of our collective ministry. You may bring your stewardship response in person on that day or mail it to the church.



If you are worshipping in person on November 21st you are invited to remain after the service to offer your talents in one or more of the several activities taking place that day (Advent banner making, wreath making, and decorating the church) and remain for a light meal.

We look forward to your participation as we explore how to move forward into a Future with Hope.

Sincerely,

Jane B.

- Stewardship Chair



Outreach

Kathy Henkel

Greetings from Outreach!

We had a lovely day for the Crop Walk on October 17. We are very thankful for the donations that you all made. We exceeded our \$500 goal by more than 30%! Any amount helps us to chip away at hunger throughout God's kingdom.

Our November opportunity is now upon us. The Fay Biccard Glick Neighborhood Center is where I take our food pantry donations. They are collecting to help families with Thanksgiving. You can find their list of needs below. We will accept your donations for them here at the church (either in the Narthex or outside bins) until Sunday, November 21. I will take our collection to them on Monday the 22nd.

We are so thankful to all of you for your generosity. God bless us all to continue to be a blessing to our neighbors!

- Kathy

Holiday Donation Needs

"Giving isn't just making a donation, it's making a difference!"

Frozen Meats

- Turkey
- Ham
- Chicken

Toiletries

- Toilet Paper
- Tooth Paste & Brushes
- Soap
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Feminine Products

Dry & Canned Goods

- Bread
- Cranberry Sauce
- Canned Soup
- Canned Fruits/Veggies
- Dessert Mixes

Baby Supplies

- Formula
- Baby Food
- Diapers
- Wipes
- Bottles

Worship

Jenny Morlan-Horner, VP



Advent is going to feel extra special this year. While we will continue to take health and safety precautions, we will be able to decorate the sanctuary to prepare for Christ's birth. We'll light candles and enjoy our

congregation's musical talents. We'll sit together in meditation and prayer. We'll feel and enjoy each other's presence — in person or on Zoom.

In preparation for Advent, we invite you to help decorate the sanctuary after the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, November 21 — the Sunday before Thanksgiving. We'll put up new banners that the kids helped design. New garland will be draped on the walls and lecterns. We'll hope someone remembers how to put the Advent wreath on the candle stand.

Things might be a little dusty after being stored for two years, but it will be a joy to decorate God's House! And if you are worshipping from home, consider creating a special space with a wreath, manager scene, or maybe a blooming bulb to signify God's promise to make all things new in Jesus Christ.

Help us prepare God's House as we prepare our hearts for Advent! - Jennifer M.



Bob Stratford

Intergenerational Sunday School was held on October 17th.

We completed the banners that are predominantly red, and therefore

appropriate for special Sundays in the Church year, such as upcoming Reformation Sunday and Christ the King Sunday. In our next intergenerational Sunday (November 21st), we will complete the advent banners!

In memory and celebration of Reformation Sunday on October 31st, we will be having a mixed Sunday School program in the Fellowship Hall. Margaret has prepared a special program intended for all ages. Please come and learn, and rejoice in the Reformation of God's living body, His beloved Church!

As a reminder to you all, here are a few important points about Sunday School program this year:

- It will be held in-person so long as we are able to worship in person.
- It will immediately follow the 10:00 AM service. All ages are welcome.
- There is a mixed high school class run by Margaret Stratford, consisting of in-person and Zoom formats.
- As we continue to worship in-person, and if we have in-person Sunday School, the third Sunday of each month will be Inter-Generational Sunday School. All participants will meet in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service on these days.

| November Sunday Church School | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Nov. 7 | Classes for all! | A Ruler From Bethlehem Micah 5: 2-5 (PreK—5th class) |
| Nov. 14 | Classes for all! | Angels Visit Luke 1: 26-38 (PreK –5th class) |
| Nov. 21 | Prepare for Advent | Intergenerational Sunday School |
| Nov. 28 | THANKSGIVING 25 th (Thu) 1 st Sunday in Advent | NO SUNDAY SCHOOL |





Thank you everyone for your support!

Together, we raised \$700 to help feed people both near and far!

GET READY TO CREATE!

We're calling all writers, artists, poets, and.... well everyone, even if you don't consider yourself one of those things! This Advent, we want to hear from you! Throughout the month of November, we will be inviting all members of Pleasant View to contribute to an Advent devotional that will be shared with the whole community to help us journey through this season together. Plan on signing up and writing/drawing something to share with your church community soon! Thanks!



Welcome Team ASSEMBLE!

In order to help welcome new neighbors from Afghanistan and elsewhere, PVLC is again forming a Welcome Team to serve through Exodus Refugee Immigration! If you are interested in being part of this awesome, welcoming group, come to the Zoom training on Monday, November 1st at 7pm. This is open to everyone interested - no commitment needed until after training!

You can join the training at this link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89780116510?</u> pwd=NFZubEpIVjk0eUQzakhSTHVTOEpFdz09

Council Minutes

October 2021

PVLC Council Meeting Virtual Meeting 10/18/2021

Present: Alan Z., Jane B., Jennifer M., Jon S., Karen M., Kathy H.; Pr. Bob N., Robert S., Tom M., Amber S.

Devotion: Alan Z.— God Pause

Good News and Gratitude

- Good crop walk, beautiful day. Lilly's first crop walk that she walked. We raised ~ \$700
- Karen M. had a good trip home to her parents. Her mother has completed the first round of radiation and is doing well.
- Tom M. is doing well, will be having tests to confirm success of treatment
- Stratford's niece (and goddaughter) gave birth to her firstborn a boy.
- Thanks to banner makers, red ones completed and blue ones started. Adele and Ceci helped design the blue ones.
- Thanks to Adele and Bob S. for sorting dishes to be donated to Exodus Refugee Immigration.

Agenda

COVID-19 Review and Discussion

COVID-19 moving forward

- Q: How is In-person indoor service + Streaming doing? Back to congregational singing?
- A: Pastors suggested returning to congregational singing . Zoom will remain an option.
- Discussion that an announcement should be made first, so no one is surprised. Agreed this would be done.
- Masks will remain required.

LLC update:

- Would like to start back up worshipping at PVLC in January 2022.
- Pr. Sarah replied to email of their president with PVLC current schedule and extended offer to worship in the sanctuary at 11:30 or after.

Tenants Updates:

- ACH: Doing well, no positive cases.
- DBSA no new update, continue to meet
- AA no new update, continue to meet
- ELCARM: going well & following guidelines
- Resolution Choir will be using the facility to rehearse in the sanctuary and will be masked per building policy.
 Mondays at 7:30pm

PVLC Roof Update:

- EADS Roofing. Church Mutual covered asphalt shingle roof. EADS is looking at flat roof and is in conversation with Church Mutual as well. Looking to next spring for actual work.

Committee's Report

- A. Pastor's Report- Pr. Bob
 - Welcome team for Exodus, training November 1st, 7:00 pm on Zoom.
 Do not need to commit before the meeting.
 - Pr. Bob will take donations of cleaning supplies and dishes soon.
 - Book group starting 10/20 at 7:00 pm on Zoom. "Short Stories by Jesus" by Amy Jill- Levine
 - Pastors have been doing online continuing education. Pr. Sarah did one regarding Afghan Refugees at Camp Atterbury.
 Bob did one on post pandemic connection.
 - Pastors will be switching days next week but not sure on particular days.
 - Working with Synod on Youth Gathering.
 - Advent create a devotional?
 Consensus to create one.
 Pr. Sarah will organize and compile contributions to devotional.
- B. Outreach Kathy H.
 - Successful crop walk, exceeded our goal
 - Will start collecting for food bank again
 - Will reach out to Trinity House for
 - Christmas giving tree opportunity.

Council Minutes

October 2021

C. Finance – Tom M./Jane B.

- Balance: \$53,158

- Note: balance includes ~\$17,700 partial payment from Church Mutual for roofing.
- Note: Balance includes ~ \$3000 payment from Church Mutual toward light pole.
- Stewardship Theme: A Future With Hope pandemic related resource.
- Stewardship Sunday on November 21st.

D. Facility and Grounds – Jon S.

- Expressed displeasure to Edwards on issues, and they are considering what was shared.
 - Possibly some work under warranty.
 - Chris L. advises that we ride out the contract and send Edwards a termination notice 30 days prior to renewal date.
 - Appel is a candidate for new contract, other candidates will be sought. Suggestion to talk to other churches about companies.

E. Hospitality – Sonia S.

- Oct 30th: Trunk or treat 4 -6pm.
 - Bonfire continues to 8.
 - Flyers will be printed to distribute.
 - Need help with greeting, food, painting
 - Will be canceled if rainy/bad weather
- F. Worship Jennifer M.
 - Advent decorating November 21st, Advent starts 11/28. Possible food to share.
 - Possible will not decorate fellowship hall.
 - Jennifer will buy new garland old is worn.
 - Hanging of greens service –potentially 12/4.White elephant exchange??
 - Thanksgiving Eve service- Zoom Only?

- Would like to get a large screen TV for sanctuary to broadcast bulletin.

G. Education – Bob S.

- Intergenerational Sunday School crafting banners for the sanctuary.
- Younger kids started have teachers for the rest of the school year.
- High School class Margaret willing to teach and capable to do Zoom as well as in person
- \$500 grant received, will need to track use of funds.
- Continue to collect diapers

Newsletter: Oct. 25th midnight deadline — send to Karen M.

Motion to adjourn: Jon S. Second: Jennifer M. All in Favor: Unanimous Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next meeting: Monday Nov. 15th @ 6:30pm

| Date | Attendance |
|---------|------------|
| Oct. 3 | 26 |
| Oct. 10 | 28 |
| Oct. 17 | 27 |
| Oct. 24 | 21 |

Offering: \$7,025.00 *does not include online giving



3rd Lillian Nowak 7th Pr Bob Nowak Matt Steed 12th Madelin Foster 13th Jerry Bishop 14th Bill Crispen Joel Henkel Luke Henkel 16th Dawn Gill 28th Deon Bishop Susan Stolz