

Pleasant View Lutheran Church
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pvlcelca.org



News & Notes

May 2022





From Pastor Sarah & Pastor Bob

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." (John 20:21-22)

These words spoken by Jesus to his disciples came amid an anxious and uncertain time for them, as they were hiding behind locked door, for fear of what was to come next. And yet, the resurrected Jesus meets them right where they are at, offering them compassion, and granting them the gift of the Holy Spirit so that they may continue on in love and service to others.

As we continue to discern together where and how the Spirit is calling us to love our neighbor, we may feel anxious or scared of the unknowns. Yet, Jesus' words of assurance are with us, as we remember that no matter where we are, together we remain the church, and, guided by the Spirit, we will continue to do as Jesus commanded – to love and serve our neighbor.

Even as we currently are facing some anxious or challenging times, the Spirit continues to move among and through our congregation and there is much to celebrate! Just in this past month alone, we have served our neighbor by serving dinner at Wheeler Mission and by collecting and creating an amazing 85 care kits for Lutheran World Relief. And on the first Sunday of May, we will continue to serve our neighbor by advocating through the Bread for the World letter-writing campaign.

No matter what the times bring or what the particular situation is, God's mission for those who follow Jesus, those who make up the Body of Christ as the Church, remains the same. No matter what is next for us as the people of Pleasant View, no matter where we are, we shall continue to be people who do this work – sharing the love, forgiveness, and resurrection joy we know so well through Jesus.

Peace be with you!

- Pr. Sarah & Pr. Bob

Regular Office Hours

Pastor Sarah:

Mondays & Wednesdays

10am-4pm

Email: prsarah@pvlcelca.org

Cell: 419-343-2559

Pastor Bob:

Tuesdays & Thursdays

10am-4pm

Email: prbob@pvlcelca.org

Cell: 419-944-1345



President's Note

Jennifer Morlan Horner

Thank you to Pastors Bob and Sarah, Madelin, Hayley, Robert, and everyone who made Holy Week and our Easter service so special! There were so many blessings:

- The beautiful, colorful banners that even the littlest hands helped create.
- Adele serving as an acolyte for the first time!
- Having wine and big chunks of bread for communion.
- A full children's area, including Amélie, Theo and other young guests.
- Family and friends who joined the service.

Can you believe we hadn't had an in-person Easter service since 2019? I think we should be proud of our resilience and creativity over the past several years.

We'll need to call on those attributes – and each other – on May 8th during a special congregational meeting. At the meeting, we will propose using money from the endowment fund to help shore up our financial situation, allowing the congregation to address our long-term financial plans.

Yours in Christ,

- *Jennifer*

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns at jennyamorlan@gmail.com or 317-441-7069.

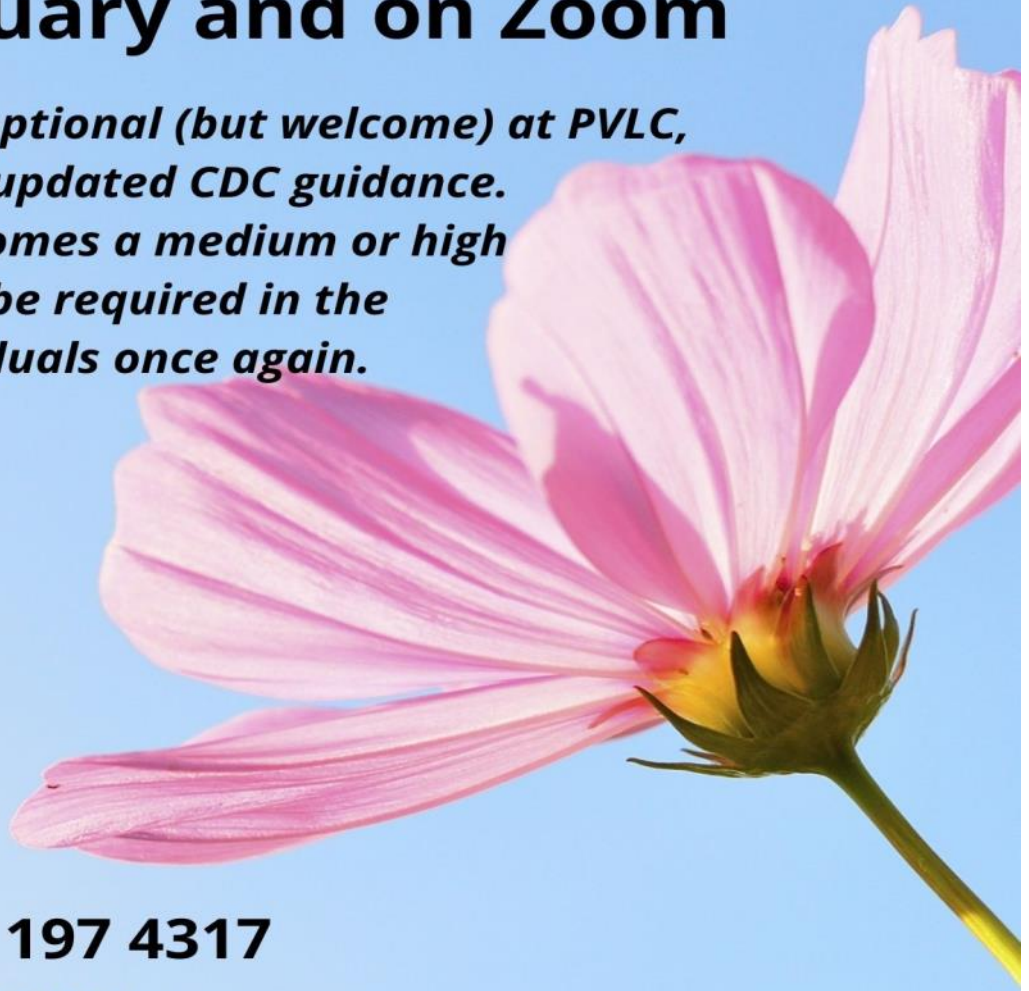


May 2022

Join Us For Worship!

**Sundays at 10am
Sanctuary and on Zoom**

*Masks are currently optional (but welcome) at PVLC,
in following with the updated CDC guidance.
If Marion County becomes a medium or high
risk area, masks will be required in the
building for all individuals once again.*



Meeting ID: 217 197 4317

Password: 02261844

Join by Phone (Audio Only): 1 929 205 6099

**Zoom Link: [https://zoom.us/j/2171974317?](https://zoom.us/j/2171974317?pwd=c0V2TExzQWlmd09PQkxhOE1ZUEZmdz09)
[pwd=c0V2TExzQWlmd09PQkxhOE1ZUEZmdz09](https://zoom.us/j/2171974317?pwd=c0V2TExzQWlmd09PQkxhOE1ZUEZmdz09)**



Greetings from Outreach!

On Saturday, April 23rd nine of us went to serve a meal at Wheeler Mission. What an honor to help our brothers in Christ! So glad that Pastor Bob, Karen, Steven, and Lewis Meyers, Margaret and Bob Stratford with Bob's mom, Sharon were able to join Dave and me. Our next opportunity will be June 18 when we serve at the women's shelter. Be on the lookout for that signup.

On Sunday, April 24 members of our congregation assembled 66 personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. Combined with the kits that folks had previously assembled, Dave and I will drop 85 kits at the Maryland office of Lutheran World Relief when we visit Luke next month. What a wonderful congregation we have that you are all so generous!

I am happy to continue taking donations you provide to our friends at Fay Biccard Glick Neighborhood Center. If you ever have questions about their needs, please email me! You can also check out their website, which has a list of needs.

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

- Kathy H.





Sadly, Sunday School concludes for the year on May 1st, but first let's celebrate this past year of learning together!

On May 1st, we will be writing "Bread for the World" letters to our Indiana Federal congress members to encourage them to increase funding of food programs for children and their families in Indiana. Please come join us in this worthy effort. There will also be treats, some activities focused on hunger, and a few moments to congratulate our graduates this year!

- Margaret and Bob

Keep donating diapers!

- You can drop diapers off at the church in a bin located under the portico at the main church/office entrance.
- You can bring your diaper donations to worship service and drop them off.
- 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>.



Food for Thought

It's back.....

It's gone by many names, (Luther by the Pint, Food for Thought, and most recently Quarantine Quandaries...) but beginning on May 12th, we will once again gather for a time of food, fellowship and conversation!

More information will be shared soon as to where we will gather and what topics of conversation we will share in together! Come and join in on the fellowship, food and fun! All are welcome!

Thursdays in May @ 7PM
Starting on May 12th
Location: TBD



The Offering of Letters is one of the ways Indiana congregations affiliated with Bread for the World put their faith in action. Congregations supply the pens, paper & letter-writers to urge their lawmakers to pass legislation that can help end hunger in our time. Simple. And impactful.

By raising our voices — across the nation — in one “offering,” we get results. In Indiana alone, we mail, email and even hand-deliver *thousands* of letters to our U.S. legislators, sending a clear message that hungry people deserve their attention.

Like any offering, the Offering of Letters is, at its heart, an act of generosity in a world where there is plenty, if we would simply learn to share.

As Christians, we are called to seek justice, care for those experiencing hunger and poverty, and embrace our Creator’s vision of hope, love, and peace. We are called to embody it in public as we commit to live in solidarity with those who are made vulnerable by the inequities that drive hunger and poverty in the United States and around the world. For more information, go to: <https://ol.bread.org/>

*“Speak out for the rights of all who are destitute.
Defend the rights of the poor and needy.” (Proverbs 31:8-9)*

May Birthdays



May 4	Jessica Simmons
May 7	Allie Nicholson
May 8	Sonia Simmons
May 10	Brooklyn Beachler
May 11	Emma Beck
May 12	Jeff Weust
May 15	Deon Worrel
May 15	Zach Lafuse
May 19	Jon Stolz

PVLC Council Virtual Meeting 04/18/2022

Present: Amber S., Chris L.; Jane B., Jennifer M.; Karen M., Kathy H.; Kristi G., Pr. Bob N., Robert S., Sonia, S.

Devotion: Jennifer MH

Good News and Gratitude:

- Holy week and all worship services were nice and large attendance
- Musicians and music were beautiful
- Joel helped his grandfather with house repairs and bringing joy to his grandfather
- Very joyful to have more children in church
- Great Job, Adele, as acolyte at Easter worship!
- Thank you for the opportunities for the Stephon's girls to assist with pre/post worship services
- Stratford's had a lovely dinner with family and are regathering again soon
- Thank you to Charlie and Pr. Bob for installing the new wifi for the sanctuary and thankful for the grant money to do so
- Lovely seeing the Myer's family and they are thankful to see everyone in person again

Lead Topics

1. Congregational Meeting Review & Discussion

- Uplifting that as a congregation can discuss situations like this as a community
- Clearly define our mission and path forward
- Reminder on the language utilized during discussions when exploring options
- MOU review
- How much land do we own? 4.6 acres/8 lots – the building touches majority of the 8 lots
- Council agrees to gather property value info.
- How many commercial realtors do we need to interview? Several to find the best fit for our situation.
- Current sub-committee: Pastors, Robert K, Kim K, Bob S, Charlie S, Jon S, Jennifer MH

Pastor's Report - Pr. Bob

- Treasurer Position
 - Vote : Pr. Bob N. motion to appoint Chris L. as PVLC treasurer effective immediately
Second: Bob S.
All in favor: Unanimous
All opposed: None
- WELCOME Chris L. as PVLC Treasurer!
- Youth Get Together- Saturday April 30th @ 6pm - at church
 - Which activity: Book Group or Food for Thought? Share thoughts by end of April to Pastors
 - Saturday April 23rd – Shred event – shred church materials that have been designated for shredding – cheaper than having shred truck come to the church - council agrees
 - Offering Letters for Bread of the World – info. to come from Pr. Sarah N. and Margaret S.

Committee's Reports

- Finance – Jane B./Karen M.
- Balance: \$117,327.37
Includes insurance funds of ~\$101,691.82
Includes last offering on 4/4
- Operating balance: ~\$15,635 (less insurance \$)
- Budget review – over the past 3 months, donations are under \$15,000
- Q: How much time is required to notify of a congregational meeting, to vote to move money from endowment?
A: 2 Sunday prior to mtg and 10 days by writing.
- Q: Should we ask the congregation for a special appeal?
A: No not currently.
- Q: Should we request memorial for contribution to assist with upcoming maintenance needs?
A: Yes, we will be for upcoming repairs
- Discussion of steps to obtain funds
- Congregational Meeting date: May 8th, 2022 in person and zoom
- Thanks, to Chris L., for stepping up and look forward to bringing some of our processes into the 21st century. :)

■ Facility and Grounds – Jon S. via Jennifer M.

- Roof update
- Parking lot light fixture – Dave H.
- Terminated our agreement with Edwards
Reviewing new HVAC agreement w/ Apell
- Brush pile to be taken care

■ Outreach – Kathy H.

- Saturday April 23rd – Wheeler mission dinner
- Saturday June 18th – Women's shelter
- Sunday April 24th - Lutheran World Relief -
Finish creating Personal hygiene kits

■ Hospitality – Sonya S.

- Sunday April 24th – food for kit making
- Brainstorming possible June cookout

■ Education—Bob S.

- Sunday School going well
- Sunday School Celebration changed to 5/1
due to congregation mtg.

■ Worship – Jennifer M.

- How did everyone feel about how communion
provided at Easter? Good
- Did everyone feel it was safe? Yes
- Moving forward with new communion process.

Newsletter: Monday April 25th at 11:59 pm
deadline – send to Karen M.

Motion to adjourn: Jane B.

Second: Bob S.

All in Favor: Unanimous

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next meeting: Monday, May 16th , 2022
@ 6:30pm on Zoom

Congregational Discussion

Sunday, April, 10th , 2022

Opening prayer –Jennifer M.

Amount attended: 21 in person; 6 zoom

Discussion regarding the stewardship of our facility

■ Overview for Mtg. – Jennifer, Pr. Sarah, Pr. Bob

- Pastors were approached about purchasing
the building by interested party.
- Council discussed at next meeting and agreed
that this would be a good opportunity to
consider as a congregation especially with all
the accruing maintenance requirements.
- PLVC is not closing or dissolving but physical
worship may occur in another location
- If we decide to move forward, formation of
work group to help focus on the project is
recommended

■ Current Options:

- To sell the building– discerning our path of
stewardship for our congregation
- Keep the building- knowing the strains in
maintaining the building to keep it safe

■ Stewardship

- This is not only financial or maintenance,
it is us, the community and what we have the
human power/time to support
- Multiple considerations of discernment:
Synod can provide guidance and governance,
but PVLC will be making the decision as a
congregation
- As for the offer, we are in the infancy stage.
A realtor has not been acquired at this time
because wanted to move forward as a whole
congregation.

Question/Answer/Discussion

- Q: As tenant, when is the contract up with ACH?
A: Spring 2023 (1 more full school year)
- Q: Will there be a formal congregational meeting to vote if recommendation is to sell?
A: Yes
- Q: If we sold, is there an option to lease from the buyer?
A. Yes, it is a possibility. Synod recommendation is to move from the building because the space changes could be emotional.
- Q: If the party interested is not the right buyer, do we still decide to move forward to put on market?
A: Possibly— this is an option
- Q: Are we planning to get an appraisal?
A: Yes, this would be the next step, if we decide to move forward to sell. Will need to interview commercial realtor(s) and then the realtor would organize this for us.
- Q: Is the Latvian Lutheran church returning?
A: PVLC has had open conversations with LLC and they currently have a contract with the Latvian Center. All tenants are aware of this conversation.
- Q: Did interested party indicate what part of the building they need?
A: They are looking to move to ownership rather than leasing.
Q: If we sell, is there a lease back option?
A: Yes, it is possibility. We would not have control on the changes that will occur to the building to fit the new owners needs. Before we would consider a lease back option, we would need to have a clear picture on what we would require.
- Q: What is the proposal?
A: The proposal would be to find out the worth of our building first (Fair Market Value), An option could be to nest in another church building for a year or two, before we decide on a place of worship or being mobile to public locations like parks for our services.

We would take our time to determine what our congregation's mission is to be and move forward establishing our mission.

- Facility costs update: Jon shares current situation, maintenance needs and costs
- Q: When does interested party need to hear from us?
A: There has not been a date to notify our decision, however it would be respectful to begin the process as we are today and determine if our path is to sell.
- Q: As main tenant in building, how much does ACH pay in rent?
A: \$2300/ month
 - Robert K. indicates that the contract is based on square footage. The overhead (maintenance) was not included in the cost. They have donated but not required to provide support the overhead.
 - Pr. Bob: there is the option to raising ACH rent but that would not be enough to be sustainable for the building costs.
- Q: If we decide to sell, is it a sold as is or will repairs to facility be required ?
A: First thought is Sold As Is.

Discussion

- Jennifer M.: We also have the option to separate the contents from the building/land in the sell.
- Dorothy: Suggestion: Offer daycare for older adults as our ministry.
- Do we know our neighbors, and do we utilize our facility to support our neighbors?
- Jon: Updates on repairs that will occur prior to sell: portion of the roof repair (facia, shingles not flat roof but aging flat roof) HVAC; lawn care, etc.
- Acknowledge that per building use agreement, ACH has the right to first of refusal.
 - Q: Do we want to keep putting weight on one person to manage this facility?
A: No that is not ideal.

- Q: Do we have memorial funds?
A: Yes
- Q: Is selling our acreage off a possibility?
A: Not sure— will need to look into it more.
- A lot of time and money is being spent by the church as being a building manager. Council/ congregation does not have the skills
Q: Do we hire a building manager?
A: an option to consider, though difficult to hire new staff due to current finances.
- Q: How many acres do we have?
A: need to verify the exact amount
- Robert K.: This is not light decision to make but having been part of leadership this is a time to look at reality and question our mission. Suggestion: surveys in the past have been a good way to collect information and gather ideas. There are other ways to gather thought other than a meeting. What are we strongest/weakest? Adding the core values of the congregational.
- Jessica: thoughts, concerns, and affects
- Dave: thoughts about his spiritual needs
- Bev: thoughts about spiritual needs.
- Suggestions: We need to develop our own timeline separate from interested party.
- Suggestions: What is our path forward, what is the plan to form a group through council, and the reconvene with the congregation and gaining feedback? Defined process where we feel we need to be in 6 months

Summary:

Jennifer: Next steps: Interview commercial realtor; gain info on property value; send out surveys; hold a congregation meeting to vote to authorize the council to sell the property on behalf of congregation.

Interested party sent an MOU to PVLC, however no offer. We believe they are doing their due diligence to formulate a potential offer.

Q: Instead of selling, maybe reach out to other churches that need space?

A: that is a possibility— need to gather info to explore viability.

Chris/Susan: We need understand the path forward after selling and this is not known at this time.

Robert reiterates Kristi's suggestion to reach out to other churches looking for a location

Suggestion: It is important to be cautious with the language we are using. It is important to understand the options we have and make educated decision.

Pr. Sarah: Financial situation is dire and soon, there probably will be a congregational meeting to vote to pull funds from endowment for short-term financial support of operating budget.

Robert: Thank you Jennifer for your leadership and we are supporting your and here for you.

Next Steps:

- Begin team
 - * Interview realtor
 - * Start surveys
 - * Newsletters updates
 - * Congregational Meeting for operating budget support

Adjourn

Date	Attendance
4/3	35
4/10	40
4/13 MT	20
4/15 GF	29
4/17	58
4/24	30
Offering: \$ 12,134 Deposits made 4/4 & 4/25 Amount doesn't include gifts given online	