

Letter from the Pastor

This 4<sup>th</sup> of July our nation celebrated 244 years of independence. As American citizens, independence has come with a great number of freedoms, including the ability to gather and worship without fear or threat from the government. I'm thankful for this freedom and the lack of persecution that I face as a Christian in western Oklahoma. I recognize that this is not everyone's story.

Let me introduce you to Jean-Paul Sankagui. In 1993, Jean-Paul planted a church in the Muslim neighborhood of Ramandji, on the outskirts of Bangui located in the Central African Republic. As a nation, the Central African Republic is approximately 50% Christian. Pastor Jean-Paul was well known for his faithful Christian witness. Determined to eradicate Christians, radical Islamists shot and killed Pastor Jean-Paul Sankagui on Feb. 7, 2017 and then proceeded to loot and burn his home. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, 11 children and 17 grandchildren.

According to church tradition, June 29 is the date on which the Apostle Paul was beheaded on the Appian Way in Rome. June 29 has grown into an annual day of remembrance called the Day of the Christian Martyr, when Christians around the world honor the legacy of those who, like the Apostle Paul, sacrificed their lives for the advancement of the gospel.

This year, in conjunction with the Day of the Christian Martyr, Jean-Paul's story is being told and his name is being added to the Martyrs Memorial at the Voice of the Martyrs headquarters in Bartlesville, OK.

Jean-Paul's story and those like it are important. They remind us that the freedoms we experience as American citizens are indeed a blessing, but the joy of knowing God and sharing the freedom found in His love is even more important. "...But whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it." Mark 8:35.

May we be bold witnesses for Christ to a nation in need of saving.

Shalom, Pastor Jeff

We experienced another exciting day at Pleasant View last Sunday at our annual Church in the Canyon. Elliana Martin, Lakyn Peachy, Jonathan Steigman, Andrew Slagell, and Robert Holder were baptized into the family of God. What a great day it was!!

**Is God calling you to be PVMC's Youth Coordinator?** If so, please let Pastor Jeff or one of the elders know by today. A search committee, appointed by the elders will meet with applicants and make a recommendation to the elders. The congregation will be asked to affirm a Youth Coordinator through a vote of the members.

**Delegates Needed.** South Central Conference is going virtual for this year's annual gathering, July 24-26. We have four delegate spots available. If you would like to serve as a delegate from our church, please let Pastor Jeff or one of the elders know.

From the Elders: Pastor Jeff's current term as Senior Pastor ends August 31st. In an effort to hear from the congregation concerning the extension of a call to another term you are invited to participate in the following options. Option 1: There is a 3-question survey available on the counter below the mailboxes. We ask these be turned in to an elder no later than next Sunday, July 12. Option 2: The elders will be available, Wednesday, July 8, from 7-8 pm, in the conference room (#104) and in room #100, if you would like to visit with them concerning your thoughts or questions. Please be in prayer as we as a congregation process this important subject.

There is a **come & go wedding shower** for Clement & Kodee Schrock, this Saturday, July 11, from 2-4 pm, at the home of David & Martha Miller. This is a couple's shower, so guys and girls are invited. They are registered at Walmart and Target under Kodee Kippenberger.

**Quilters** ~A quilt is set up in room #112 (off the foyer) and you are invited to come from 2-4 pm, every Thursday, and put in some stitches. This is a come and go time so stay as long as you want.

**No VBS this year** ~ The elders and CEC made the decision not to have Vacation Bible School for this year.

The July Bible Reading/Prayer schedules and event calendars are available for pickup in the foyer. They are also available on our website, [www.pvmcok.org](http://www.pvmcok.org)

**STILL** ~Check out the most recent newsletter from Reggie and Angel Miller on the bulletin board.

**Thank You!** Each Sunday of the year, persons give of themselves to make our worship service happen. This is especially true when we move worship to a canyon. A special thanks to Kenneth and Janet Slagell for making the canyon available to us. A special thanks to each of you who helped with the worship service in any way. Audio/Visual committee, thanks for going mobile with the sound equipment so we can hear better. Thanks to each of you! The elders and wives prepared and served the food, so we could just come and enjoy it. To those who provided transportation in and out of the canyon, thanks! Thanks to the team who helped lead music The morning's worship could not happen if it weren't for the willingness of so many. Thanks to Pastor Jeff for all the time you put in to help make this day happen. This year we witnessed five baptisms in the creek! What a blessing! Most of all, thank you for coming and being a part of our growing faith community! To God be the Glory!

If you took pictures at "Church in the Canyon", would you mind sharing them? You may send them to [pvmc.office@gmail.com](mailto:pvmc.office@gmail.com). We would like to display some of them. Thanks so much.

*Mennonite Mission Network has many partners around the world that we help to support. None of Mission Network's ministries would happen without congregational contributions to support these life-changing ministries. Pleasant View Mennonite Church's contribution of \$13,844.29 has enabled Mission Network to partner with more than 115 organizations around the world. Thank you for your prayers and generous contributions in 2019. Stanly W. Green.*

**Contact Us**

**Office hours:** T-TH 9 am to 2 pm and Friday 9 am to noon

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**Website:** [www.pvmcok.org](http://www.pvmcok.org) or (find us on Facebook @pvmchydro)

**Pastor Jeff Selzer:** Personal phone: 580-816-0459.

email: [pvmc.jeff@gmail.com](mailto:pvmc.jeff@gmail.com)

**Elders:** Del Mast\*, Kent Switzer, Edwin Detweiler, Mike Steigman, Karl Stutzman

**Christian Ed:** Nikki Slagell\*, Jordan Nel, Faith Slagell

**Trustees:** Freeman Schrock\*, Dwayne Slagell, Travis Chupp

**SALT:** Carolene Jackson, Ellen Shantz, Dori Slagell

**Sunday Evening Planning Committee:** Karl/Brenda Stutzman\*,

Brent/Susan Taggart, Edwin /Melissa Detweiler, Seth/Julie Thomas

**Mission's Committee:** Hank Eichelberger\*, Daryl Mast, Del Mast,

Tonia Martin, Bill & Carolene Jackson, Keith Miller, Pastor Jeff,

**Care Givers:** Keith Miller\*, Anita Mast, David Miller, Kathy Thomas

**MDS** (Mennonite Disaster Service) Bob Yoder

**MYF Deacon:** Erin Slagell

**Audio/Visual:** Michael Slagell\*, Jordan Miller, Stenson Miller

\*contact person for each committee

### Today July 5

- 10:30 am** Worship Service (also streaming live on pvmcok.org)  
~ no organized Sunday School classes  
~ no nursery with volunteers until further notice  
~ no Sunday evening services until further notice

### This week July 6-July 11

- Wed 7 pm – 8 pm Listening time with the Elders-Rooms 100 and 104  
Wed 8 pm Missions meeting  
Thurs 2-4 pm Come and go quilting time in room #112  
Sat 2-4 pm Come & go wedding shower for Clement & Kodee  
Schrock at David and Martha Millers home-See announcement

### Next Sunday ~July 12

- 10:30 am** Worship Service (also streaming live on pvmcok.org)  
~ no organized Sunday School classes  
~ no nursery with volunteers until further notice  
~ no Sunday evening services until further notice

### Upcoming Events

- July 22 7:30 pm Elders meetings  
July 24-25 SCC annual meeting to be held online via zoom.  
Go to sccmenno.org for complete information.  
Oct 17 Heidi Chupp and Jordan Miller wedding

### Prayer Requests

Add your prayer requests by contacting Pastor Jeff or the church office.

#### **For our church family**

- Courage to share the Gospel
- Congregational discernment for renewal of Pastor Jeff's term
- Our church family as we continue to transition meeting again
- Harvest
  - Dwayne/Kerry Slagell & family and custom harvesting crew
  - Local farmers and their help
- Moisture
- Pastor Jeff /Dana & family; Hayden
- Elders & families
- Health Concerns
  - Martha Zatarain ~shoulder therapy
  - Layman and Dorothy Slagell ~Dorothy's health
  - Mim Mast
- Edwin/Melissa Detweiler family; John
- Gabriel/Christa Pennington; Sylace and Kaiden
- Justin/Rachel Jefferson & Kai
- In a Home away from home ~ Beulah Switzer

#### **In our community**

- Those who need to be introduced to Jesus
- Our local, state, and national leaders
- Local Ministries: Weatherford Food & Resource Center, Etc Shop, Hope is Alive, Branch 15, Agape Health Clinic, Arapaho Jail, Habitat for Humanity, 1st Choice Pregnancy Center
- Health concerns
  - Dixie Yoder
  - Donna Gray ~ surgery July 31 ~Clifford Zook's sister
  - Janet Slagell Kauffman ~ Praising God for health & strength

#### **Around the world**

- ~Serving in the US
- Corey/Brooke Makeever -STUMO
  - Brooke Miller ~Summer Bible Memory Camps -Goshen, IN
  - Oklahoma MDS
- ~Serving other countries
- Reggie/Angel Miller and family
  - Kiran Paul & Lakshmi
  - Global Disciples
  - Rolly/Robyn Walter and Family

## **Pleasant View Mennonite Church**

July 5, 2020

Attendance at Church in the Canyon 151

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Call to Worship: Michael Steigman

"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" MH #95  
"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" MH #311

Congregational Prayer: Carl Steigman

Special Music: Men's Chorus

"Come, Thou Fount" MH #310

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 Abby Selzer

Message: "Sojourning Messiness" Pastor Jeff

Announcements

Benediction

