

The Link

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 181
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063
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<http://www.gbgn-umc.org/pleasantvalley>

Address Service Requested

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays **9:30 AM**

Sunday School Offered Every
Sunday!

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Wednesday - Friday
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

September 2009

Lectionary Readings

SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

Special Days & Offerings

September 6, 2009: Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23;
Psalm 125; James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17; Mark 7:24-
37

September 13, 2009: Proverbs 1:20-33; Psalm 19;
James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

September 20, 2009: Proverbs 31:10-31;
Psalm 1; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-
37

September 27, 2009: Esther 7:1-6, 9-
10; 9:20-22; Psalm 124; James 5:13-20;
Mark 9:38-50

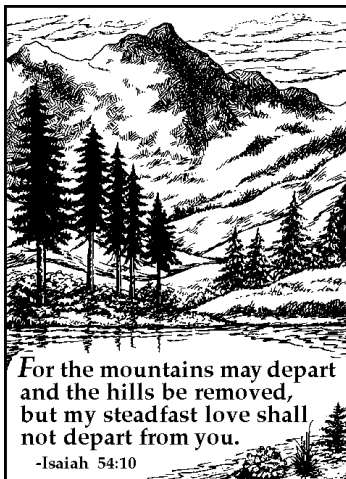
Rally Day

September 13th

Beanhole Bean Supper September 19th

Blood Drive

September 26th



Men's Bible Study

Meets on Sunday mornings to dis-
cuss lectionary passages

Readers

September 6: Jacque Williams

September 13: Beth Abbott

September 20: Ray Abbott

September 27: Kathy Baum



Message from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

I'm sure you have heard, "everyone is a minister" and then wondered what that really means. The pastor is also a minister, and all believers and disciples are called to be ministers on behalf of Christ, the one who calls us: "Come to Him a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet

chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:4-5).

Pretty soon, September 13, Sunday School will begin. Many of you have signed a "Safe Sanctuaries" application, which indicates that you have some understanding of the importance of protecting our children and teachers from any misconduct or misunderstanding concerning the relationship that exists between teacher and student. What is appropriate and what is not is not always easy to discern. So we have guidelines that spell that out. To avoid any situation that may jeopardize a loving and beneficial relationship between student and teacher, Pleasant Valley UMC has a policy that every teacher and student needs a witness.

This is where you may come in to be a minister and a witness. You will get to know some children and, by your presence, you will be participating in the building of that "spiritual house" that Peter wrote about. All of us, from one to ninety-two, are like those living stones, built together to be the church, here, in Pleasant Valley. To give up your time of worship to make this church a "Safe Sanctuary" is, indeed, a "Spiritual sacrifice."

Please see Mindy Henry at 783-7737 if you are feeling called to minister in this way. If we have many volunteers, the time commitment will be reduced and many people will have the opportunity of participating in the ministry of "Safe Sanctuaries" while being built into the household of God.

Pastor Carl



Worship Time Change: Since we now have a part time pastor, it has become necessary to make an adjustment to our Sunday morning worship schedule. In order to make the best use of Pastor Franson's time with us, the 8:30 and 10:00 Sunday morning services will be combined into one service. Starting on the first Sunday in September (9/6/09), worship will begin at 9:30 a.m. We will revisit the issue of worship time and number of Sunday services when we return to full time status. John Baum, Chairman, Staff Parish Relations Committee



Our deepest sympathies go out to the family of June Eid who passed away suddenly on August 17, 2009. June was a special person who will be greatly missed by her loving family and church family. Our thoughts and prayers are with Dawn, Debbie, Darlene, Wayne and all their families.

Rally Day, September 13th



Sunday, September 13th is Rally Day and the beginning of our year of church activities, including Sunday school. We will be having a cookout with games and food for the kickoff!

We invite everyone to bring hamburgers and hot dogs for their family and a side dish to share. A sign up sheet will be on the Besse table in the Narthex. Cooks will be provided and bring a lawn chair. If you have a fun game to share bring it! This event will be rain or shine! Hope to see everyone there!

Also, the Sunday School staff is in place but we are still in need of a teacher for the Junior and High School group. We are looking for two teachers to commit to a month at a time. A month is 3 weeks because the children will be in service the first Sunday of every month. The sign up sheet will be on the Besse Table in the Narthex. Please see Mindy Henry for more information.

Bean Hole Bean Suppers 2009



The last two Bean Hole Bean Suppers are planned for September 19th and October 24th.

Committee heads are in the process of lining up their teams and filling those positions that are vacant. These events are one of the major fundraisers for our church and yet are very labor-intensive. Your help is needed so if someone calls requesting your participation, please don't hesitate to say yes.

Council on Ministries, September 2009 Link

At the Council on Ministries meeting, Pastor Carl shared that he has been in contact with our new DS, Ken Kiefer. In his conversations, he shared some information regarding PVUMC and how he expects to work together with the congregation as time goes by. He is becoming more familiar with our church by studying various committee reports and past Annual Report booklets. The DS has set the date for our Annual Charge Conference as Sunday, December 13th. Rev. Kiefer will be joining our congregation for the worship service, coffee hour, and the Charge Conference following. Every church member is encouraged to attend.

Discussion was held regarding a time change for the Sunday morning worship services. It was noted that any decision regarding a time change would have to be made by the Admin Board and Mary Liz announced a meeting for the following Sunday, August 16th to vote on the proposal. The reason for making any time change would be to accommodate Pastor Carl, taking into consideration that he is a part-time pastor with a long distance to travel.

The UMW spoke about providing assistance at the memorial service reception for Tony Centofanti. As always, the ladies were more than willing to help. The next meeting of the UWM is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9th at 6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. This marks the beginning of our fall activities and, as is our tradition, we'll share a potluck supper before getting down to business.

Mention was made of the continuing work on the revisions to the Prayer Chain by Kathi Derochick, the Prayer Board handled by Pudge, and the Circles of Care. Margo is working with the chairperson of each Circle to ensure that all our new people have been added to the lists. Updates will be provided in the near future.

Mindy shared the success of the VBS program this year, remarking that everyone, kids and adults alike, agreed it was a great time of fun and fellowship. Mindy is seeking a teacher for the Jr. High and High School Sunday School class. She is hoping that people would be interested in team teaching, perhaps signing up for a month commitment. Discussion was held regarding our current Safe Sanctuaries Policy and the need to ensure that all people working with children and youth have completed the appropriate forms.

Mindy also let us know that due to family and work-related commitments she will be unable to continue as leader for the Youth Group. She will be available to help with special projects but a new leader will need to be found for the monthly meetings.

Pastor Carl will be meeting with Ann Kramer re-

garding continuation of the NCD process.

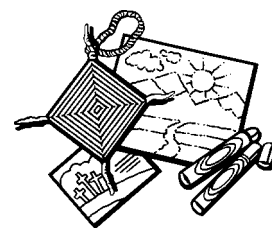
Rally Day this year will be held on Sunday, September 13th. This day marks the beginning of the fall activities for the church and Sunday School. There will be some special activities following the worship service that day, and everyone is encouraged to join in a potluck lunch at noon. Mindy will be coordinating the events and will have a sign-up sheet on the Bessie Table.

There was discussion regarding a change for next year's Vendor Fair, incorporating it with a Fruit Fest and holding it toward the end of summer or perhaps September. The hope is that more people will attend if the event offers more than just the vendors, and, of course, having lots of food usually draws a crowd. More details will be forthcoming as the time comes closer.

The next meeting of COM is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8th at 7:00 PM in the Parish House. Any member of the congregation is welcome to attend meetings to present their ideas or offer suggestions for additional ministries of the church.

Ladies' Arts & Crafts

Night at Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church. Join us Wed, September 16, October 21 and November 18 at 7 PM. No experience is required and it's open to all ladies in the community-bring a friend! We'll have some supplies, but feel free to bring your current project to work on and/or any art or craft supplies you'd like to use or share. Come for a no-stress night with the girls.

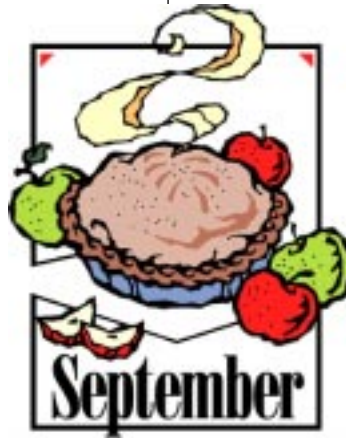


UMW News

The UMW will begin their meetings on Wednesday, September 9th at 6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. Please note the date and time change from the usual first Wednesday of the month. We are trying to accommodate moms with school children who may not want to come out the first week of school. As is our custom, we'll gather to share a potluck supper meal and catch up with all the events of the summer. It is always a special time of fellowship and enthusiasm for the upcoming year.

I'd also like to remind everyone that the fall Bean Hole Bean Suppers are being held on September 19th and October 24th this fall. Once again everyone's support will be needed to make these final two suppers in 2009 a success.

Again, I'd like to invite all ladies of the church to come to a meeting and see what we're all about at UMW. In the meantime, may the peace of the Lord be with you.



Greeters

- 9/6 Simons Family
- 9/13 Bridges Family
- 9/20 Carvalho Family
- 9/27 Stoeke Family

Sanctuary Cleaning

- 9/6 & 13 Civelli
- 9/20 & 27 Sherwin

Coffee Hour

- 9/6 Mary Lou Centofanti, Janet LaGrange
- 9/13 Rally Day!
- 9/20 **Ann Kramer**, Shirley Green, Janet LaGrange
- 9/27 **Marie Phelps**, Barbara Sherwin, Judy McKay

Counters

- 9/6 Steve Bailey & Emil Klein
- 9/13 Ted Millahn & Becky Bridges
- 9/20 John Baum & Ann Kramer
- 9/27 Mary Lou Centofanti & Mary Liz Simons

Ushers

- 9/6 Bill & Becky Bridges
- 9/13 Steve & Barbara Bailey
- 9/20 Emil & Gail Klein
- 9/27 Bill & Becky Bridges

Acolyte

- 9/6 Erick Bailey
- 9/13 Lawrence Lambert
- 9/20 Samantha Benham
- 9/27 Nathan Benham

Nursery Care

- 9/6 Kara Vasko & Bette Vasko
- 9/13 Lyndsey Fenner/Sharon Foxx
- 9/20 Leah Sullenberger & Kim Connors
- 9/27 Jared Sullenberger & Barbara Bailey

Nursery Cleaning

Ann Kramer

Birthdays

- 9/5 Vera Holden
- 9/6 Alysa Vega
- 9/7 Sarah Hague
- 9/10 Kristin Stoeke
- 9/11 Barbara Sherwin
- 9/12 Terry Montgomery
- 9/13 Samuel Joh
- 9/14 Chuck Sherwin
- 9/17 Mary Forman
Lori Rogers
- 9/18 Rui Carvalho
Pudge Millahn
- 9/19 Paul Foxx
Debbie Kerr
- 9/21 Dawn Renfrew
- 9/22 Jennie Peck
- 9/24 David Derochick
- 9/25 Bryce Zygmont
- 9/28 Alan Green
- 9/29 Nicholas Peck
Gene deRoode

Anniversaries

- 9/2 Becky & Bill Bridges
- 9/14 Barbara & Steve Bailey
- 9/19 Beth & Ray Abbott
- 9/29 Judy & Eric Baron



The Church will be hosting our fourth Blood Drive on Saturday, September 26th, from 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

As we've had in the past, I am looking forward to a good turnout.

Volunteers are needed to help out during the blood drive. We also need people to make sandwiches. Bakers are needed of course, and I would like to give everyone an opportunity to help at this very important function. If you would be able to help, please contact Janet LaGrange, 379-0553.

Donors are also desperately needed. We try to get 50 pints of blood total, so if you would like to donate blood, please give me a call and set up an appointment. If you have never donated before, please talk to someone who has. It takes just a little of your time and is a wonderful feeling to help so many people with on little pint of blood. Some of our congregation gave for the first time after they had retired. Age is no problem. Thanks in advance.

Janet LaGrange



Choir practice will begin soon and I'd like input as to what would be the best night for everyone to get together to practice. We could even do a Saturday afternoon if that works for everyone. Please see me as to what would work best for you and we'll try to come up with a date that works for everyone.
Thanks, Mari Forman