

The Link

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church
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Address Service Requested

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays 9:30 AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Wednesday - Friday
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

*July & August
2010*

*L*ectio*n*ary *R*eadings

*SUNDAYS IN
JULY & AUGUST*

*Special Days &
Offerings*

July 4: 2 Kings 5:1-14; Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16; Luke 10:1-11,
16-20

July 11: Amos 7:7-17; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37

July 18: Amos 8:1-12; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

July 25: Hosea 1:2-10; Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19); Luke 11:1-13

August 1: Hosea 11:1-11; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

August 8: Isaiah 1:1, 10-20; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

August 15: Isaiah 5:1-7; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56

August 22: Jeremiah 1:4-10; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

August 29: Jeremiah 2:4-13; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1,7-14

July 4: Independence Day

Readers

July 4, 2010: Emil Klein

July 11, 2010: Beth Abbott

July 18, 2010: Paul Foxx

July 25, 2010: Jacque Williams

August 1, 2010: Becky Bridges

August 8, 2010: Ray Abbott

August 15, 2010: Gail Klein

August 22, 2010: John Baum

August 29, 2010: Ann Kramer

Men's Bible Study

Meets on Sundays at 9 AM
to discuss lectionary passages.



Pastor Carl is away on a mission trip to Bolivia, so is not available to provide a pastor letter. In exchange I'd like to share with you one of those "pass it on" stories I received in an email.

An atheist was walking through the woods. 'What majestic trees! What powerful rivers! What beautiful animals,' He said to himself. As he was walking alongside the river, he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him. He turned to look and saw a 7 foot grizzly bear charging toward him. He ran as fast as he could up the path. He looked over his shoulder and saw that the bear was closing in on him. He looked over his shoulder again and the bear was even closer. He then tripped and fell on the ground. He rolled over to pick himself up, but saw that the bear was right on top of him, reaching for him with his left paw and raising his right paw to strike him.

At that instant the atheist cried out, "Oh my God!!" Time stopped! The bear froze! The forest was silent!

As a bright light shone upon the man, a voice came out of the sky. "You deny My Existence for all these years, tell others I don't exist, and even credit creation to cosmic accident. Do you expect Me to help you out of this predicament? Am I to count you as a believer?"

The atheist looked directly into the light. "It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask You to treat me as a Christian now, but perhaps You could make the BEAR a Christian?"

"Very well," said the Voice.

The light went out. The sounds of the forest resumed...And the bear dropped his right paw, brought both paws together, bowed his head & spoke:

"Lord bless this food which I am about to receive from Thy Bounty through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Congratulations to all our Graduates: Congratulations to members of our church family who were not included in last month's newsletter: **Shayla deRoode and Marissa Vasko.** Our church is very proud of all who have graduated from High School and College. We know you will all do great things.



Come Join the Parade!

Attention children & adults! Come join the Pleasant Valley July 4th Parade. The Parade begins at 10:30 AM on Monday July 5th so plan to meet at the church parking lot by 9:30 AM.

Members of Vacation Bible School will be joining us.

Vacation Bible School is July 12th thru July 16th, from 5:45 to 8:15 p.m. This year we will go on an awesome cosmic adventure praising God. Please see Janet Lucas for an opportunity to help out with the fun. Contact Mindy Henry at 860-738-7737 for information on registering your child, or registration forms will be available in the church



office during office hours. It is not necessary to be a church member to attend or to help out. We will "Begin Blast Off" during the fourth of July Parade. Sign up early. If you want to march on Monday, July 5th with our VBS crew, meet us in the church parking lot at 9:30 AM.

Summer Choir



The Chancel Choir has begun their summer break. During July and August, Mari will ask for volunteers to join together to sing the anthem each Sunday. If you like to sing but are unable to commit to the rehearsal schedule during the winter months, this is just what you're looking for!

Coffee Hour is going to continue this summer as it is such an important part of fellowship with our congregation.

I am suggesting that two people, that includes the men of our church, each week do the coffee hour and also that we keep it small. Coffee or lemonade of course, and whatever else you feel would be good. The main focus would be fellowship. We would like to keep this as informal as possible, as it is summer after all. See Janet LaGrange if you'd like to be put on the list.



Summer Float Fest



Bring your kayak, canoe, or sailboat and come join the fun on Sunday, July 18th at Stanclift Cove from 4PM until closing. Everyone is welcome to come float awhile and then enjoy supper together at the beach. Bring your own picnic and

a lawn chair as table space may be hard to find.

We'll plan to eat at 6PM so if you want to come just for the meal, that's great too! If the weather is rainy, the outing will be canceled; no rain date is planned. Please RSVP to Margo Fenn or Barbara Bailey as we have to make prior arrangements with the beach staff for larger groups. If you don't have a beach sticker, you can still come in on a guest pass; speak with Margo or Barbara to connect you with someone who has a sticker.



Small Group Ministries

A couple of small group ministries at our church that you might be interested in.

Tuesday morning prayer group: Tuesday morning at 9:30 AM several ladies gather in the Parish House for about one hour (unless we get carried away) to review the selection of the day in The Upper Room, to study the word of God from the Bible passages, and to offer prayers for our friends and neighbors. This group has been meeting continuously for several years, and welcomes anyone to come and join hands with this faithful group.

Mens Bible Study: Meets Sunday at 9 AM to discuss lectionary passages.

The Bolivia VIM'S Have Landed!!!

The 14 member Volunteers in Mission team has landed in Bolivia 1:00 PM on Friday, June 18th after a minor problem with late flight. The team members are (* = 1st time in Bolivia VIM): Dan Abbott*, Rachel Bird, Susan Biggert*, Ed Dayton, Rev. Carl Franson, Chris Freeman, Donna Holt, Linda Mellor*, Holly Johnston*, Kathy Silva*, Bob Stevenson, Ginny Stevenson, Dawn Mauro, Rod Wendt. They will be working on construction of a new church facility. For complete updates on their progress, go to our website at www.pleasantvalleyumc.com



UMW News for July/August Link 2010

Our final meeting for this spring was held in Fellowship Hall, with eleven ladies in attendance. After enjoying a yummy potluck supper, Devotions were shared by Joann Little. Our wrap-up business meeting followed.

The Church World Service kits were shipped off, and we were pleased to provide 12 school kits, 18 health kits, and 9 baby kits. The UMW purchased four additional long tables to be used in Fellowship Hall, in the expectation that some of the worn out wooden tables could be "retired" from use. Plans are in the works for purchase of an item(s) for the church in memory of June Eid, a long-time and much missed member. A time of dedication will take place once the details are finalized.

Crafting, knitting and crocheting continue in order to supply product for our annual Christmas Fair, scheduled for the second Saturday in November. It is hoped that over the summer months some evening crafting sessions may be planned to help the supply along. This is an especially fun evening of laughter and chatter as we attempt to create "masterpieces", and anyone is welcome to attend. The UMW would like to hold a planning session later in the summer to attempt to schedule our yearly programs well in advance so that advertising may bring in more attendance to the meetings.

The UMW takes a break from official meetings during July and August, so our next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, September 1st at 6:30 PM where we will again meet for a potluck meal, time to catch up with everyone's activities over the summer, and begin our year of projects and programs.

As summer continues, I want to offer my sincere thanks for all the help and support the ladies of the UMW have provided. Over the coming months, I wish everyone a healthy, restful, and peaceful time to enjoy the wonderful gifts from our Heavenly Father.

Shalom, Margo

Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church

Website: Check out our church website. It is continuously being updated. You can find out about upcoming events, read the Link newsletter and much more. Go to www.pleasantvalleyumc.com to find out the latest and greatest news!!

If you're willing to get your Link this way, please call the office at 860-379-2157 and let Sharon know to remove your name from the email or "snail-mail" list.



COM Article for July & August 2010 Link

The Council on Ministries met on June 8th, with 7 people in attendance. Pastor Carl reported that there are approximately 49 people signed up to ride the bus to the Annual Conference on Saturday, June 12th. Joann Little has agreed to act as 'bus steward', keeping track of names and people, etc. There is also a planned group of our youth, along with Laure Fenner and Karen Carvalho, who will be attending and participating in the Conference events. A representative from the First Torrington United Methodist Church came in late May to meet with parents and youth who were interested in the UM Army program. Although there was interest expressed by some of our youth to join with the Torrington group in participation in the UM Army endeavor, it was decided that, at this point, summer plans were already made and there wasn't enough notice to allow our youth to be a part of the group. It is hoped that interest will remain high and plans can be made for next summer. Pastor Carl will be away on the Bolivia Mission from June 18th through July 3rd. In addition, he will be working with youth at camp from July 25th through the 31st.

Our choir will be taking a break from regularly scheduled practices during the summer months, but Mary will be asking for volunteers from the congregation to join in a 'pick-up choir' each Sunday. We were reminded by the Worship Committee that Tool Sunday, celebrated on Father's Day, will be coming up on June 20th and people will be encouraged to make a special donation to help others in need. The final Sunday for formal Sunday School will be on June 12th and the students and staff will be presenting information during the worship service about their studies, Bibles will be handed out to those students going from second to third grade, and the Sunday School children and staff will host Coffee Hour.

Because Coffee Hours is such an important part of our life as a church family, it was decided to continue them through the summer months, asking people to volunteer to bring in something simple to share. A sign-up sheet is on the Bessie Table for those interested in helping.

The UMW reported that their final meeting of the year was, as always, a potluck supper. Eleven ladies joined in fellowship and participated in the wrap-up business meeting which followed our meal. Devotions were shared by Joann Little. The next scheduled meeting of the UMW will be held in September.

Due to the interest and participation in the book discussion of The Shack, it was felt that more of these type of book discussions would be welcome. In the fall plans will be made for a Confirmation Class. Classes will run for 12 weeks and should end just before Advent begins.

Discussion was held regarding events for Rally Day, which takes place on September 12th. Plans will continue to be made to welcome the official start of Sunday School, and all the fall church activities.

Old Business touched on the following topics: the Mother's Market was deemed a success bringing approximately \$900+ to the church; PVUMC will have a presence in the annual July 4th Parade (held on Monday, July 5th); progress is being made on updating the church website; plans need to be made for follow-up to the Gifts Discovery initiative, started in the spring.

New Business brought up the following: suggestions to have more potluck suppers just for the sake of fellowship, perhaps with a little music; suggestions to have a hymn sing one Sunday; plans for a Float Fest to be held at Stanclift Cove later in July. Details of all these events will be forthcoming.

COM is open to all members of the church and anyone with ideas, fundraising events, programs, small group initiation, educational opportunities, etc. is invited to attend. Everyone is encouraged to take an active part in helping plan and direct the ministries and activities of the church. Council on Ministries will take a break in July, so the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 10th at 7:00 PM.



Prayers for the family of Ellie Ahlberg. She was welcomed into Heaven on June 15, 2010.



Reminder!

As we continue to enjoy our summer, please don't forget that the church still needs you to keep your pledge current.

Helpers In June

Greeters

7/4 Mary Lou Centofanti
7/11 Ann Kramer
7/18 Janet Lee
7/25 Pat Allen

Sanctuary Cleaning

7/4 Abbott
7/11 & 7/18 Peck
7/25 Sherwin

Counters

7/4 Ann Kramer & Gail Klein
7/11 Steve Bailey & Becky Bridges
7/18 Ted Millahn & Mary Lou Centofanti
7/25 Mary Liz Simons & Emil Klein

Ushers

7/4 Barbara & Steve Bailey
7/11 Bill & Becky Bridges
7/18 Ray Abbott & Shirley Green
7/25 Sharon & Paul Foxx

Acolyte

7/4 Nathan Benham
7/11 Samantha Benham
7/18 Matthew Civelli
7/25 Ashley Civelli

Helpers In August

Greeters

8/1 Gail & Emil Klein
8/8 Pudge & Ted Millahn
8/15 Beth & Ray Abbott
8/22 Janet & Jay LaGrange
8/29 Crystal Diyulio Family

Sanctuary Cleaning

8/1 Sherwin
8/8 & 8/15 Civelli
8/22 & 8/29 Kramer

Counters

8/1 Ann Kramer & Becky Bridges
8/8 John Baum & Gail Klein
8/15 Emil Klein & Becky Bridges
8/22 Steve Bailey & Mary Lou Centofanti
8/29 Ted Millahn & Mary Liz Simons

Ushers

8/1 Dawn & Wayne Renfrew
8/8 Gene deRoode & Wendy Sullenberger
8/15 Barbara & Steve Bailey
8/22 Bill & Becky Bridges
8/29 Ray Abbott & Shirley Green

Acolyte

8/1 Thomas Henry
8/8 Abby Henry
8/15 Austin Stoeke
8/22 Justin Lucas
8/29 Sarah Lucas

celebrations in July

July Birthdays

7/2	Ray Abbott	7/19	Samantha Stoeke
7/6	Jay Bullard	7/20	Karina Dyer
	Bridie Rogers	7/21	Shirley Green
7/7	Heather McIlroy		Angelyna Vega
	Ann Naticha	7/23	Barbara Bailey
7/10	Todd Dyer		Emma Grandquist
7/11	Anthony Scirpo	7/26	June Eid
7/12	Thomas Henry		Tracy Ott
7/16	Penny Lee Church	7/27	Ed Zygmunt
7/18	Charlie Vignali		Vince Vasko

July Anniversaries

7/16 Margo & Jim Fenn
7/17 Nancy & Laurence Winn
7/31 Kathi & Stephen Derochick
Shirley & Alan Green

celebrations in August

August Birthdays

8/2	Chaz Zygmunt	8/13	Kristen Ahlberg
8/4	Linda Winstead		Amy Simons Witmer
	Shelley Bailey	8/14	Carter Peck
	Tom Lucas		Kellsey Shaffer
8/5	Greg O'Brien	8/16	Matthew Civelli
8/6	Kristen Green	8/18	Lawrence Winn
	Linne Landgraf	8/23	Ryan Dyer
8/8	Karen Civelli	8/24	Betty Vignali
	Anthony Ahlberg	8/25	Cathy Baum
8/11	Brandon Shaffer		David Stoeke
		8/29	Tom Bailey

August Anniversaries

8/3 Pat & Leigh Allen
8/8 Patrice & Jamie Heuschkel
Pudge & Ted Millahn
8/11 Cathy & John Baum
Shelley & Tom Bailey
8/12 Janet & Tom Lucas
8/23 Karen & Rui Carvalho
8/25 Dawn & Wayne Renfrew

Nursery Adult Volunteers

If you would like to be added to the list of Nursery Volunteers, please add your name to the list on the Bessie Table.