

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**

Sunday School Starts Sunday, September 12!!

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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

September 2010

Lectionary Readings

SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

Special Days & Offerings

September 5, 2010: Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6,
13-18; Philemon 1-21; Luke 14:25-33

September 12, 2010: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm
14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10

September 19, 2010: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1;
Psalm 79:1-9; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-
13

September 26, 2010: Jeremiah 32:1-3a,
6-15; Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16; 1 Timothy 6:6-
19; Luke 16:19-31

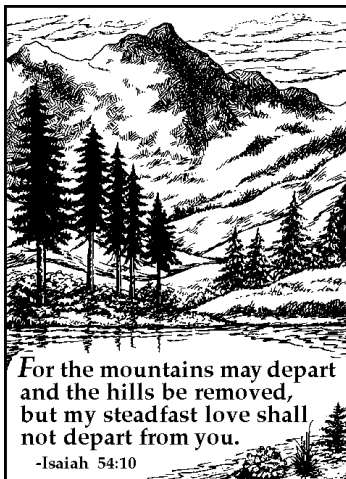
Rally Day

September 12th

Blood Drive

September 25th

8:00 am to 12:45 pm



Men's Bible Study

Meets on Sunday mornings to discuss
lectionary passages

Readers

September 5: Eric Bailey
September 12: Youth
September 19: Ray Abbott
September 26: Beth Abbott



Message from the Pastor

Have you ever heard of the 24 hours of Lemons? That's right, not Le Mans, the famous 24 hour endurance race held annually in France. The concept for the 24 hours of "Lemons" is simple. Take a car, any car, that's worth no more than \$500, fix it up with safety equipment, i.e., roll cage, safety

harness to hold the driver in a racing seat that enfolds the whole body. It's like being held in a huge hand. Add a certified fire resistant suit complete with "nomex" underwear and socks and shoes and gloves. Add a fire extinguisher just in case and, oh yes, the driver needs a certified helmet to protect what's left of his or her intelligence following the decision to enter the race. All costs to protect the driver and other competitors are not included in the initial \$500.

Picture 300 drivers, 77 cars, on a ½ mile road course, no practice, and you get an idea of the mayhem that ensues. There were no injuries related to the race, except for hurt egos. My "87" Audi Quattro got banged up on all corners but it finished 15 hours of thrashing abuse. Did I feel safe and secure? In Sarah Palin's words, "you betcha." I felt more secure than driving through Hartford on I-84 during rush hour, with all the "crazies" trying to make time going home.

What makes you feel secure? Is it your home, your 401k., your job, your health, or is it something else? Is anything secure? What can you place your whole weight on knowing you cannot fail?

During my last appointment, the church I was serving received a rather large bequest from a former member who had gone on to his rest in the Lord. In my estimation, this generous man knew on what his ultimate security rested. My first response was, "let's invest in the future of our church and ministry." One member stated, "I don't believe in the stock market." I said, "I mean let's tithe this money to the work that God has given us to do. Let's give it to the town fire and rescue squad, the other churches in our community, other organizations that help people, missions, etc." Giving our time, talent, and financial resources toward the work that God has given us to do is a time proven approach to inner peace and security.

St. Francis of Assisi, born into wealth, felt unfulfilled: "When I was yet in my sins it did seem to me too bitter to look upon the lepers, but the Lord Himself did lead me among them, and I had compassion upon them. When I left them, that which had seemed to me bitter had become sweet and easy." Francis went about from there on a quest to rebuild the "fallen house of God."

He sold cloth from his father's warehouse to fund his mission until his father, "thoroughly disgusted with his unbusinesslike ways" disinherited him, but Francis declared that he had henceforth no father but the Father in heaven.

Investing in God's future is one access into the realm of security, trust is another. When the "chips were down" in our family matters concerning money and the security associated with that, my father would always proclaim, "trust in the Lord who will provide." You know what? Though my dad was a single provider earning \$5,000 a year (1950's), paying off a mortgage and car loan and all other expenses, we never went without. Not once did we miss a meal or go into deep debt over his and my mother's ability to manage a household. "Trust in the Lord." Jesus offers this invitation to all who want to find peace and security: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30). Brothers and sisters in Christ, as we journey on together, let us put our whole trust in Jesus and his invitation to take his yoke upon us so that we will never fear for our well being for our being is invested in him. So buckle up and hang on for the ride of your life!!

Pastor Carl

Hey, Good News! Recession Buster Pricing!



The final Bean Hole Bean Supper for this year is October 23rd. In recognition of these tough financial times for all, the Bean Hole Bean Supper Committee is happy to announce that this final supper of the year will offer lower pricing for adult tickets. Here's an opportunity to take

the family out for dinner, including beverages and dessert, for \$10 for adults, and \$5 for kids ages 6 to 12 (children under 6 are free). Our menu includes home-style beans, baked for eight hours in the ground, homemade cole slaw and potato salad, deli honey ham, rolls & butter, pickles, beverage, and homemade dessert. Enjoy a New England style meal and still have money left over!

The tradition of hosting Bean Hole Bean Suppers is a long one at PVUMC, beginning in the 1940's, and continuing today. They are the major fund-raiser for our church and require the combined efforts of our church members to make each one successful. If you are asked to make some potatoes, eggs, or a dessert, or work at the dinner itself, please say "yes". Your on-going support helps ensure that our church continues to be a vibrant house of worship and a continued presence in the community.

Council on Ministries, September 2010 Link

The Council on Ministries met on August 10th, to begin planning for the start-up of the church's fall activities. Time was taken to recap events since our last meeting, including a review of the Annual Conference, updates from Pastor Carl on his Bolivia Mission experience, and his week at Camp Wood Smoke with 5th and 6th grade children from throughout the conference, Vacation Bible School adventures, and the Summer Float Fest. Each activity greatly enriched those who participated.

The Worship Committee will meet to develop plans for Rally Day on Sunday, September 12th. Rally Day marks the beginning of the Sunday School year as well as the beginning of the fall activities at church. It was also announced that Pastor Carl will conduct a Confirmation Class, beginning right after the worship service on September 12th. Typically students in the eighth and ninth grades attend this 12-week program, culminating with their joining the church membership just before Advent begins.

The UMW did not meet over the summer months but will resume their meetings on Wednesday, September 1st at 6:30 PM with a potluck supper. All ladies of the church are encouraged to come.

There will be another Mother's Market and Tag Sale hosted by the church on October 2nd. Proceeds from the sale of table space and items sold from the church tables will be directed toward the Roof Repair Fund. Contact Pat Allen, Mindy Henry, or Ann Kramer for additional information.

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. The next meeting of the Council on Ministries is scheduled for Tuesday, September 14th at 7:00 PM.

Buy-A-Bundle Campaign

A short walk by the old library and Food Bank will show why your help is needed. Roof shingles are coming loose! The roof needs to be stripped and shingles replaced before winter causes bigger problems. We're offering a Buy a Bundle Campaign - bundle of shingles that is.

We ask that you consider helping by symbolically buying the materials. The options are:

A square of shingles	\$500
A bundle of shingles	\$175
A half bundle of shingles	\$ 90
A quarter bundle of shingles	\$ 50
A blue tarp to cover the roof	\$ 25
Five-gallon pail to catch rain water	\$10

We ask that you consider this need, and contribute as you can. Contributions may be directed to the buy a Bundle Fund by referencing this on your check memo line.

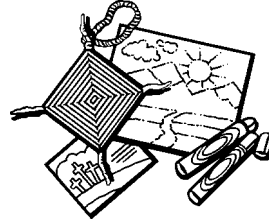


Prayer Shawls

Prayer Shawls can offer comfort during times of joy or sorrow, and our church has a collection of shawls just waiting for the right moment. If you know of someone who could use the comfort of a Prayer Shawl, please contact Margo Fenn.

Sunday School Program

I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer! It's time for the Sunday school program to start back up. Classes will start on Sunday, September 12th. Each class needs 2 adults and we ask parents to take turns helping teachers that do not have 2 adults in their class. Preschoolers and kindergarteners have Mrs. Benham this year. She needs a volunteer each



week to help her. Grades 1 - 3 will have Mrs. Fenner and Mrs. Civelli, Grades 4 - 6 will be with Mrs. Lucas who will need a volunteer each week. Grades 7 - 12 will have a rotating teacher team each month. This group will not have class the first week of every month so that they can be part of communion Sunday. We look forward to another great year learning about God! If you have any questions, please contact me at 860-738-7737 or email me at mhenry7737@gmail.com. Thanks for helping our youth get an important christian education. Mindy Henry.

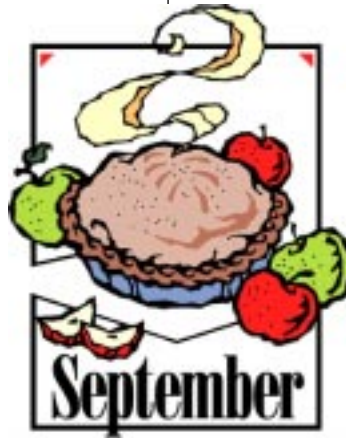
Rally Day, September 12th



Sunday, September 12th 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!

A sign up sheet is on the Besse table in the Narthex. Cooks will be provided and bring a lawn chair. This event will be rain or shine! The Rocket Man, aka Aaron Benham will be shooting off rockets from VBS and games will be provided for all to enjoy. Hope to see everyone there!

Mother's Market: We're hosting a Mother's Market/Tag Sale/Vendor Fair October 2, 2010, 9 am to 3 pm including a bake sale and luncheon. This is an all-church fund-raiser and we need people to support it. As you're doing your Fall cleaning, keep us in mind.



Greeters

- 9/5 Cathy & John Baum
- 9/12 Terri Collins
- 9/19 Civelli Family
- 9/26 Michael Derochick Family

Sanctuary Cleaning

- 9/5 & 12 Klein
- 9/19 Foxx
- 9/26 Lucas

Coffee Hour

- 9/5 Pippi dickens & Diann Franson
- 9/12 Rally Day! Volunteers
- 9/19 **Sharon Foxx**, Shirley Green, Janet LaGrange
- 9/26 **Pat Allen**, Sandy Slemmer, Karen Carvalho

Counters

- 9/5 Ann Kramer & Emil Klein
- 9/12 John Baum & Becky Bridges
- 9/19 Gail Klein & Steve Bailey
- 9/26 Ted Millahn & Ann Kramer

Ushers

- 9/5 Sharon & Paul Foxx
- 9/12 Dawn & Wayne Renfrew
- 9/19 Gene deRoode & Wendy Sullenberger
- 9/26 Barbara & Steve Bailey

Acolyte

- 9/5 Tom Fenn
- 9/12 Mack Fenn
- 9/19 Victoria deRoode
- 9/26 Nathan Benham

Nursery Care

Nursery Room coverage will be on an “as needed” basis. There are several volunteers. Ushers should contact a nursery volunteer if they notice someone needing to use the nursery.

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 Mari 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

Next Link Deadline
September 20th

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 fifth Blood Drive on Saturday, September 25th, from 8 am to 12:45 pm in 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, 860-379-0553.

Donors are also desperately needed. We try to get 50 pints of blood total, so if you would like to donate blood, volunteers should either notify the Red Cross (1-800-give life) or give me a call to 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. Thank you for all your support in this important outreach.

Janet LaGrange



Choir rehearsals will start September 8th. We will rehearse on alternating Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Choir will start performing in church September 19th.