

The monthly newsletter of the Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 181
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063
Carl Franson, Pastor
Sharon Foxx, Editor
(psfoxx@att.net)

Office Phone (860) 379-2157



The Link

Worship Services

Sundays 9:30 AM

Church Office Hours

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

Address Service Requested

Lectionary Readings Sundays in September

- September 4, 2011: Exodus 12:1-14; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20
- September 11, 2011: Exodus 14:19-31; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35
- September 18, 2011: Exodus 16:2-15; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16
- September 25, 2011: Exodus 17:1-7; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

September 2011

Special Days & Offerings

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| September 4 | Rally Day |
| | Admin Board Mtg |
| September 11 | 9/11 Memorial |
| September 24 | Beanhole Bean Supper |

Readers

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| • September 4 | Eric Bailey |
| • September 11 | Emil Klein |
| • September 18 | Joann Little |
| • September 25 | Jacque Williams |

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



Thanks to Benoit Paquette
HERKIMER THE ANGEL KNEW THAT THIS WAS HEAVEN FOR SURE AS THE NEWSPAPER HAD NOTHING BUT GOOD NEWS TO REPORT
11-30-2001



September means "Back to School" for lots of children. Be careful while driving and be aware of bus stops and school & children cross walks.

We're on the Web

www.pleasantvalleyumc.com

FROM THE



Pastor's Link

One day, two men were following Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" Everyone is looking for something, a job, more money, better health, a new home, a soul mate; you name it. Everyone is looking for that something that will satisfy, fill up, bring to completion, fulfill a purpose, or just provide security. What are you looking for?

I think people are looking to be spared, spared from the fear of losing something, a job, money, a home to foreclosure, a loved one, health, self respect. We look all over the place for the one thing that is causing us to be afraid of losing something. We may focus on this: "If only we could have a president who could lead us out of our economic woes, a president who could end our wars, a president who could create jobs for everyone, a president who could make terrorism go away." Or "If only I could win the Lottery, then I would be free from all worries." Does that cover it? Hardly! Fear leads to anxiety and constant worry. Having fear in your life can cause you to miss out on all that life has to offer.

Maybe what we are looking for cannot be satisfied by things and circumstances that we can lay our hands on. Many people attain wealth and recognition and all the things that the average person hopes for, and still they are looking for more, that something that will make their life complete and satisfying.

The two men who were following Jesus were looking for the Messiah, the Anointed one that John the Baptist pointed out to them saying, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" In the minds of most people, at that time, the promised Messiah was supposed to free Israel from the oppressive threat of Rome. In a sense, the vicious and cruel power exerted by Rome kept the people in a constant state of fear. The two men, however, got a tip from John that this Jesus, this "Lamb of God" was actually the "Son of God!" So they asked Jesus, "where are you staying?" "Come and see," said Jesus. So they went off for the afternoon and came back convinced that they had found the Messiah. I have always wondered why we never found out what happened during the few hours they had spent with Jesus. Why did they ask him where he was staying? Andrew, one of the two, immediately went to his brother, Simon (later to be known as Peter) and declared that "we have found the messiah."

What ever happened during his stay with Jesus, Andrew came away with the inspiration and motivation to share his experience with his brother. They had found

what they were looking for. Jesus was not a leader that would take care of the problem of Rome, not directly anyway.

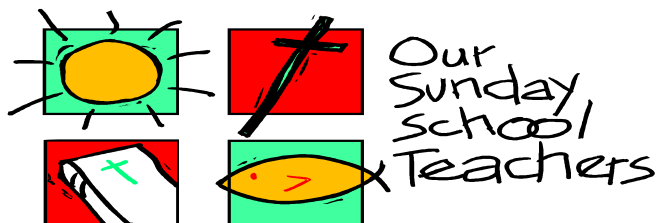
Jesus came to deliver us from all that causes us to live in fear and anxiousness, resulting in the forfeiture of the life that God intends for us. If you, like Andrew, believe that you have found the one who offers a life free from fear, what keeps you from sharing that with your friends? Why not invite a friend to "come and see." You never know, but you could be the one to make a huge difference in another's life when they discover Jesus for themselves. It just takes a simple invitation. The worst that could happen is they may say "no thank you." What if they take you up on your offer? Wouldn't that make all the difference in your life as well?

September 11 is Rally Day for PVUMC. That would be a great day to bring a friend. There will be a pot luck picnic and children's games and great fellowship. See you there.

Pastor Carl

Vacation Bible School: VBS had 27 kids this year from 3 years old to 6th grade. The kids had a great time with "Shake It Up Cafe where kids carry out God's recipe." Even with the heat no one wanted to miss the experience to learn about God. We made several "manna bags" and please feel free to take one to give to a needy person. The kids brought in many items to give to the food bank. Our mission this year was to feed the hungry. I want to thank all the people who helped me make this year a success. A special thank you to all the youth, the Benham's, Lucas's, Bridges, Pat Allen, Angela Root, Lori Fenner, Karen Civelli and the Gerber-Hurley's. Mindy Henry

Rally Day: Join us for a potluck picnic this year to kick off the Sunday school program which starts again on Sunday, **September 11th.** We need some older youth to play some games with the younger kids, so please let me know if you'll be around to help. I'll put a list in the Narthex on the Bessie table for items that we need. We will need at least one grill. Everyone could bring a dish and grills will be available if you want to bring something to throw on to cook for you and your family. Thank you!





JEREMIAH J. PARK
RESIDENT BISHOP

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NEW YORK AREA
20 SOUNDVIEW AVENUE
WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK 10606
TEL: 914-615-2221 • 888-696-6922
FAX: 914-615-2246
www.nyac.com
E-mail: bishop@nyac.com
New York City Office
TEL: 212-879-3092

DENNIS R. WINKLEBLACK
ASSISTANT TO THE BISHOP

EVELYN R. BRUNSON
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
TO THE BISHOP

*"May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord,
even as we put our hope in you."*

(Psalm 33:22)

August 23, 2011

Dear United Methodists of the New York Annual Conference:

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Redeemer, the Prince of shalom, Healer of our brokenness, and Hope of the world!

As we observe the 10th anniversary of 9/11, our hearts go out to the grieving families and loved ones of the innocent victims for their suffering. They are in our prayers for comfort, strength, and healing. The world shall never forget what happened on that beautiful Tuesday morning. Indeed, the world was dealt not only a diabolical blow but a monumental challenge. Since then, the world has radically changed.

We have learned much in ten years. Some have learned better how to love their neighbor. Some have learned how to hate. In the main, however, ignorance and fear still abound and we seem more divided than ever as a nation and as a world. To be very sure, our hope is not in political strategies alone. Rather, our hope is in God who is working to redeem and repair a lost and broken world until all creation is reconciled and abounds in love, respect and harmony.

The world-changing events of 9/11 were an expression of unalloyed hatred which brought about destruction and despair beyond description. As Christians, however, let us be reminded that there was another kind of world-changing event some 2,000 years ago on the Mount of Calvary. It was an expression of God's love which brought light and life to the world. For this, human destiny would no longer be the same. To be very sure, God is not quitting on us. We can be assured of God's love for the world that triumphs over the powers of death and darkness. So let us join our loving God as agents of God's vision for a just peace for all.

This year September 11 falls on a Sunday. Accordingly, let us mark this day with prayers of remembrance, prayers for healing, and prayers for peace. Our God who desires that we "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God" (Micah 6:8) is able. And in this we ground our hope and take our refuge.

In Christ,

Jeremiah Park

September 11: September 11th is the anniversary of the terrorist attack on the Twin Towers, Pentagon and the plane that crashed in the field in Pennsylvania. We want to pay our respects with a short and simple service at the large bell in the Center Hill Cemetery, Hwy 181, south of the Congregational Church. In case of rain, we'll use the church. This is a community event organized by the churches and town selectmen. It will begin at 8:30 on the morning of Sunday, September 11th.

God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain. But he did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, and light for the day. If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it.

COMMUNITY FOOD BANK NEEDS LIST

For the first time since opening in 1995, the food bank is running out of some staple food items we offer. The warehouse where we shop and have been able to purchase food and personal items for 16 cents a pound no longer is able to secure bulk food salvage. This is leaving us with a critical shortage. Here is a list of items we are low or out of. Please help if you can. Thank you.



- Juice - jelly - tuna fish in water - spaghetti sauce - flavored rice - crackers
- Brownie mix - cookies - canned pasta - instant potatoes - canned beets, cream corn, sauerkraut, spinach - tea bags
- Personal items - Kleenex - deodorant - shampoo - shaving cream - razors

Portraits: Some portraits of church founders dating back several years were recently discovered in the church. Anyone with input as to what we should do with them, please speak with Peggy or any Trustee. Also, they are in need of a good cleaning, so if you could assist in that, it would be appreciated.

Adult Choir resumes in September. If one wishes to sing an anthem with the choir, the minimum commitment is two Sundays in a row (one Sunday to rehearse, one Sunday to polish and present). Participation can be occasional and intermittent. Rehearsals will be held Sunday mornings in the sanctuary, before service, and will begin promptly at 8:15am and end at 9:15. First rehearsal will be Sept.11; the first sung anthem will be Sept 18. Hope to see you there.



Choir Start-Up

Karl Gallmeyer

COM Article for September 2011 Link

Council on Ministries met on August 9th to begin planning the events that will carry on the life of our church. Rally Day, on Sunday, September 11th, is quickly approaching and the planning has begun to welcome the Sunday School students and staff back to their classrooms. Mindy Henry, Sunday School Superintendent, shared the following information about the class breakdown: K – 2nd grade will be taught by Jennifer Benham; grades 3 – 5 will be taught by Karen Civelli; and grades 6 – 8 or 9 will be taught by Janet Lucas and volunteers on a rotating schedule. Based on current enrollment, there will be about 7 students per class. As always, we offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to those adults who are willing to share their faith with our youngsters.

Mindy is also planning events for the Youth Group throughout the year, beginning with organizing the Operation Christmas Child endeavor. She has lots of great ideas for the kids but will be looking for adult volunteers to help as well.

A Potluck BBQ lunch is planned for after the worship service on Rally Day. The congregation is invited to take this time to join together, share a meal together, and kick off our fall church activities together. Please bring a dish to share and, if desired, meat for the grills for your family. A sign-up sheet is located on the Bessie Table so that food organization will be made easier.

Pastor Carl shared information regarding a town-wide recognition of the tenth anniversary of 9-11. A short ceremony, sponsored by the local churches and the Town, will be held at 8:30 AM on Sunday, September 11th, at the Center Hill Cemetery, on Route 181. It is hoped that our church will be well represented at the event.

Some discussion time was also spent on ways in which we can encourage more people to come to our church. It was suggested that on Rally Day everyone should be encouraged to invite someone to come to church with them.

As the fall continues, we'll again be hosting a Bean Hole Bean Supper on September 24th and the final one for 2011 on October 29th. Many hands are needed to make these important fundraisers successful, so when you are asked to help out, please don't hesitate to say yes.

The next COM meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 13th at 7:00 PM in the Parish House. Everyone is welcome to come and work together to ensure that PVUMC continues to be an active and vital part of the community and a center for spiritual growth.



UMW News

Now that summer's over, we're continuing our United Method Women's group meetings. Come and catch up with everyone, hear about their adventures over the summer or tell about how you spent the long, lazy days of the summer. We'll meet at the church at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, September 7. Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish to share. Following the meal we'll have devotions and a short business meeting. All women of the church are welcome to come.



Operation Warm the Parish House: The furnace in the Parish House has been declared inoperable. We need to raise \$5500- to replace it before the chill of winter arrives. Please consider a donation designated as **Furnace Fund** to keep our parish house functional. The Administrative Board will meet on Sunday, September 4th after church to discuss the need for a new furnace.

Our thanks to our friends, Joe & Annette Fitzgerald in Branson MO for their generous donation that enabled us to purchase a shelter for our Bean scoopers.



Beanhole Bean Suppers: The dates have been set!! Mark your calendars for the 2011 Beanhole Bean Suppers:

- September 24th
- October 29th



Help Wanted: Due to travel plans, Cathy Baum reports that she will not be able to take Bean Hole Bean Supper reservations after Wednesday night, 9/21 (for the 9/24 supper). We need someone to cover the time period from Thursday to Saturday afternoon. Please see Cathy if you can help (379-9398). Our loyal Bean Hole Bean Supper customers are a pleasure to deal with over the phone. The Bean Hole Bean Supper Saturday Morning Kitchen Crew is seeking a new chairperson. Interested? See John Baum

Helpers in September

Greeters

September 4 Gerber–Hurley Family
 11 Sandy Slemmer
 18 The Dickens Family
 25 Peggy Arnold

Sanctuary Cleaning

September 4 Fenner
 11 Lee
 18 M. Fenn
 25 LaGrange



Coffee Hour

September 4 Volunteer
 11 Rally Day—Pot Luck/Volunteers
 18 Janet LaGrange, Sharon Foxx,
 Barbara Sherwin
 25 Jennie Peck, Cathy Baum, Shirley
 Green

Counters

September 4 Ann Kramer & Emil Klein
 11 John Baum & Becky Bridges
 18 Gail Klein & Steve Bailey
 25 Ted Millahn & Ann Kramer

Ushers

September 4 Bill & Becky Bridges
 11 Ann Kramer & Shirley Green
 18 Sharon & Paul Foxx
 25 Dawn & Wayne Renfrew

Acolytes

September 4 Matthew Civelli
 11 Ashley Civelli
 18 Thomas Henry
 25 Abby Henry

Birthdays

September 10	Kristin Stoeke
September 11	Barbara Sherwin
September 12	Terry Montgomery
September 14	Chuck Sherwin
September 16	Jeff Forman
September 17	Mari Forman
September 18	Rui Carvalho
	Pudge Millahn
September 19	Paul Foxx
September 21	Dawn Renfrew
September 22	Jennie Peck
September 24	David Derochick
September 25	Bryce Zygmunt
September 28	Alan Green
	Gene deRoode
September 29	Nick Peck



Wedding Anniversaries

September 2 **Becky & Bill Bridges**
September 14 **Barbara & Steve Bailey**



Nursery Care

September 4 Peggy Arnold
 11 Crystal DiYulio
 18 Barbara Bailey
 25 Pippi Dickens



Treat Your Bible like your cell phone

What if we carried our cell phone around in our purse or pocket?
 What if we turned back to get it if we forgot it? What if we flipped
 through it several times a day? What if we used it to receive
 messages? What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?
 What if we gave it to our kids as gifts? What if we used it in case
 of an emergency? Hmmm...where is my Bible?



Please have all articles for
 the next newsletter to
 Sharon by
September 15, 2011. Send
 to psfoxx@att.net or leave in
 Secretary mailbox in library

Nursery Help: Our nursery is in desperate need of Caregivers
 and Assistants to be placed on the rotation schedule. To be
 in compliance with Safe Sanctuary guidelines, we need two
 people in Nursery. Anyone utilizing the nursery is expected
 to contribute to the schedule. Please contact Peggy (860-
 738-9332) if you are willing to help parents of young chil-
 dren attend Sunday Services.