

March Link

A Downward Spiral

Normally, the phrase “a downward spiral” is used to describe and depict something that used to be good and seems to be getting worse and worse over time. Admittedly it’s usually a short period of time, when things start going wrong, then keep on getting worse and worse. But in this case, we’re using it to describe the numbers that have kept us in pandemic-mode for nearly a year now (or is it over a year, it’s all a blur). In this case, a downward spiral isn’t a bad thing at all (unless of course you’re the coronavirus, and if you are . . . how are you reading this?).

You see, as the numbers begin to drop across the state, even in the cold weather, and vaccinations are underway, we are all starting to see a light at the end of the tunnel. More and more places are starting to open up, so we can hopefully get back to some form of fellowship of days gone by. But let’s not jump the gun quite yet.

Worship services at PVUMC are back in person, though we still need to maintain safe distances and wear our masks when we congregate, at least we can, if we feel up to the task. Services are still online and will continue to be for the foreseeable future in a hybrid format that (hopefully) keeps both online and in person connected. So come, join us on Sundays at 10AM, drive to the sanctuary, or log on to our Facebook or YouTube page from <http://pv-worship.com>

As the weather starts to get warmer, the trustees are starting to look at our buildings and have begun a process of beautification, beginning with the yellowed windows that cover our beautiful stained glass. If you’d like to lend a hand in our beautification process, whether it’s lifting a paintbrush, a power washer or your checkbook please contact the church office and tell us what you can do!

The bible tells us that the church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the church is the people (ok that’s a song, but it’s in scripture too), and while that’s very true, our church is also the building. Though the United Methodist organization itself is going through some problematic transitions of its own, our church, the one that sits on River Rd in Pleasant valley, our church is the face of Jesus Christ to this community. It’s where we come to worship the one true God, and how we care for that building reflects to the community (true or not) how we feel about our community, and how much we want Jesus Christ in their lives, not just ours.

So, let’s all begin this coming spring with a new fervor to show Pleasant Valley and Barkhamsted how much Christ means to us, and how much they mean to us. Let’s show our love.

Blessings Always

Pastor Mike and Karen Antici

this is my

prayer for you:



smiles

when sadness intrudes,

rainbows

to follow the clouds,



laughter

to kiss your lips,



hugs



sunsets

to warm your heart,

when spirits sag,



friendships

to brighten your being,

beauty

for your eyes to see,

faith



so that you can believe,



confidence

for when you doubt,



patience

to accept the truth,

courage

to know yourself,



love



to complete your life.



Scriptures for March

March 7: "What have you overturned lately?": Exodus 20:1-17, John 2:13-22*
 March 14: "God uses a Transmogrifier": Numbers 21:4-9*, John 3:14-21
 March 21: "Do you hate your life?": Jeremiah 31:31-34, John 12:20-33*
 March 28: "Leave it all out there": Isaiah 50:4-9a, Luke 19:28-40*

March Schedule

****We are holding back on the schedules until we know more about when and how services will resume in person. However, if you'd like to do something please reach out to Pastor Mike at mike@antici.com.**

March 7 March 14 March 21 March 28	<u>Nursery Care</u>	<u>Cleaners</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
March 7 March 14 March 21 March 28	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>
March 7 March 14 March 21 March 28	<u>Children's Message</u>		
March 7 March 14 March 21 March 28	<u>Lector Readings</u>		
	Exodus 20:1-17, John 2:13-22* Numbers 21:4-9*, John 3:14-21 Jeremiah 31:31-34, John 12:20-33* Isaiah 50:4-9a, Luke 19:28-40*		

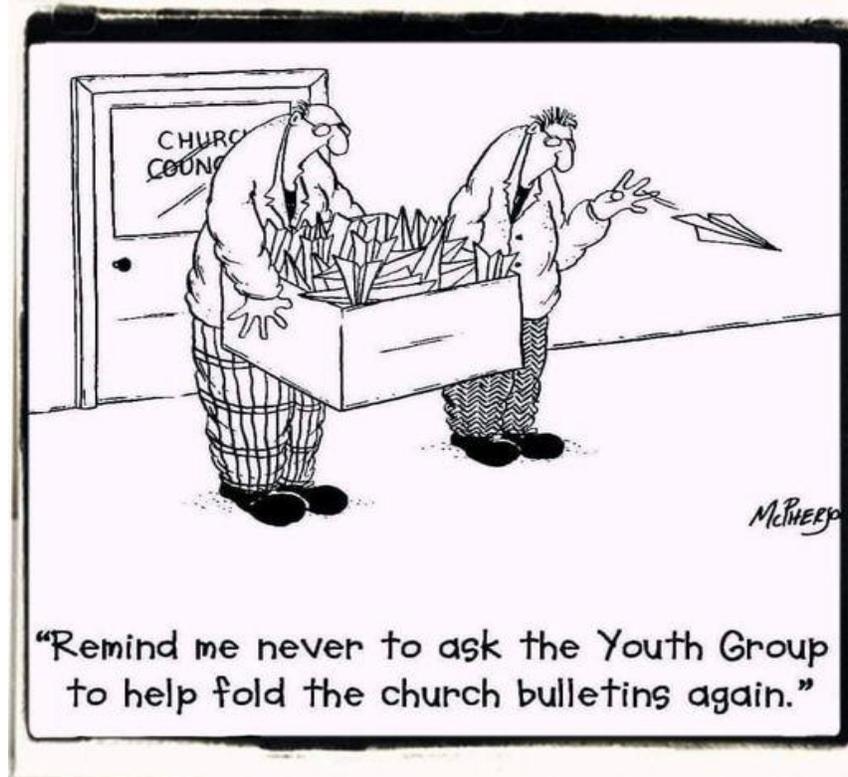


****Because of the COVID-19 virus all meetings and Church Schedules are tentative. Please call or email me to confirm.**

March

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THUS.	FRI.	SAT.
	1	2 10:00AM Bible Study 7:00PM Trustees Meeting 8:00PM AA	3	4 12:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA	5	6
7 10:00AM Worship Service with Holy Communion	8	9 10:00AM Bible Study 7:00PM Admin./Finance Meeting 8:00PM AA	10	11 6:45PM AA	12	13
14 10:00AM Worship Service 	15	16 10:00AM Bible Study 8:00PM AA	17 	18 12:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA	19	20
21 10:00AM Worship Service	22	23 10:00AM Bible Study 8:00PM AA	24	25 6:45PM AA	26	27
28 10:00AM Worship Service 	29	30	31			

Church Humor:



The strongman at a circus squeezed the juice from a lemon between his hands. He then said to the audience, "I will offer \$200 to anyone in the audience who can squeeze another drop from this lemon. A thin scholarly looking woman came forward, picked up the lemon, strained hard and managed to get a drop. The strongman was amazed. He paid the woman and asked, "What is the secret of your strength?" "Practice," the woman answered. "I was the treasurer of a Lutheran Church for thirty-two years!

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play. "Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently. "But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances." During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up." At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner." And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!

Sister Mary Katherine entered the Monastery of Silence. The Priest said, "Sister, this is a silent monastery. You are welcome here as long as you like, but you may not speak until I direct you to do

so."
Sister Mary Katherine lived in the monastery for 5 years before the Priest said to her, "Sister Mary Katherine, you have been here for 5 years. You can speak two words."
Sister Mary Katherine said, "Hard bed."
"I'm sorry to hear that," the Priest said, "We will get you a better bed."
After another 5 years, Sister Mary Katherine was called by the Priest. "You may say another two words, Sister Mary Katherine." "Cold food," said Sister Mary Katherine, and the Priest assured her that the food would be better in the future.
On her 15th anniversary at the monastery, the Priest again called Sister Mary Katherine into his office. "You may say two words today."
"I quit," said Sister Mary Katherine.
"It's probably best," said the Priest, "You've done nothing but complain since you got here."

March Announcements

Church office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00AM to Noon.

Pastor Mike has office hours on Sunday from 12:30PM to 3:30PM or by appointment.

Church contact info:

Visit us online at: pleasantvalleyumc.com
Church Office: 860-379-2157
Church Kitchen and Food Bank: 860-379-0346
Church email address: pvumc181@gmail.com
Pastor Mike's email: mike@antici.com
Pastor Mike's phone number: 203-997-5069

