

February Link

Psalm 51: "The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

It seems that the Christmas season was only a moment ago and yet here we are preparing for Ash Wednesday! Time is compressed more and more every year. So perhaps we groan to think the season of Lent is upon us. And, sadly, because we are just not ready, we set the time of Lent aside. Please do not let this season of Love pass you by.

This year, befittingly, Ash Wednesday is on Valentines Day. This day is symbolized by Love and pretty red hearts: some hearts are filled with candy, some hearts are drawn by youngsters and colored in, some are decorating cards.

We use hearts to symbolize all the emotions and love and angst that we carry within us: we refer to our hearts as the place where our emotions are located. Indeed, the Day of Hearts is a perfect symbol for the beginning of Lent. We offer our open and contrite hearts to the healing of God.

In Psalm 51 the author, David, speaks of his failure when he speaks of a broken and contrite heart. David recognizes his errors and his sins and is asking for God's redemption. He knows that change will take place in a person's heart only through the love, forgiveness, and power of God.

Do you need a new heart? Is your heart filled with anger, sadness, despair, resentment, fear, addiction, or a bundle of other negative emotions? Has emptiness of sin overshadowed the joy of faith?

Do you have a deep desire for peace within. Is your heart heavy? Perhaps this is the time to pray with David, "Oh, Lord, give me a new heart. And renew a steadfast spirit within me".

Renew your relationship with God on this Ash Wednesday. Open your heart to the Love bestowed on you through Jesus Christ.

In His Love,

Pastor Barbara



Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! We're excited to share with you the impact your clothing shed made over the last year...

- 22,493 pounds of clothing were donated to your shed in 2023
- This was enough to clothe an estimated 4,144 people all over the world
- Based on this volume of clothing, your organization received \$900

Thank you so much for everything you, your volunteers, and your communities do to support the clothing shed program!

Sincerely,
The Team at
St. Pauly Textile, Inc.

1067 Gateway Drive • Farmington, NY 14425 • 585-924-7941 • questions@stpaulytextile.com



CT DISTRICT CHURCH RESOURCING EXPERIENCE 2024

“MINI CLINICS”

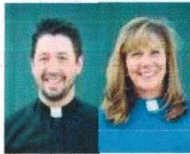
Linking Conference Resources to the CT Churches



Rev. DR. Alpher Sylvester
CT District Superintendent

Simplified Board Leadership Model for Small Church

February 4, 2:00 - 3:00 pm



Presented by
Conference Resource Expert
Rev. Gene Ott
Rev. Deb Clifford
Pastors,
Simsbury UMC

Sponsored by: The Farmington River Parish, Rev. Gene Ott

To Register: Please Click Link Below

<https://ny-reg.brtapp.com/2024CTDistrictRESOURCINGEXPERIENCE71>

Effective Church Finance

- Managing Apportionments
- Fiscal Acumen in Difficult Times

February 11, 2:00 - 3:00 pm



Presented by
Conference Resource Expert
Lonnie Chafin
Treasurer and Director of
Administrative Services
NYAC of UMC

Sponsored by: The New Room Parish, Rev. Richard Hanse

To Register: Please Click Link Below

<https://ny-reg.brtapp.com/2024CTDistrictRESOURCINGEXPERIENCE71>

Reigniting Youth Ministry: All Systems Go!

February 18, 2:00 - 3:00 pm



Presented by
Conference Resource Expert
Rev. David Czeisel
Pastor,
Northport St. Paul's UMC

Sponsored by: The Eastern Fairfield Rev. Jacob Hanbin Eun

To Register: Please Click Link Below

<https://ny-reg.brtapp.com/2024CTDistrictRESOURCINGEXPERIENCE71>

Tools to Repurpose Property for Future Church Viability & Success Lessons Learned & Things You Should Know

February 25, 2:00 - 3:00 pm



Presented by
Conference Resource Expert
Rev. Bill Shillady

Sponsored by: Western Frontier Parish Rev. John P. Parille

To Register: Please Click Link Below

<https://ny-reg.brtapp.com/2024CTDistrictRESOURCINGEXPERIENCE71>

REGISTRATION FOR SEVERAL OF THESE EVENTS IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Finance Chairs & Members

SPRC Chairs & Members

Pastors

Trustee Chairs & Members

Nomination Members

Lay Leaders & Others

Questions? Office Phone: 914-615-2227

"In Connecticut, After God, We Put People First!"



January 17, 2024

2 / 17

Pleasant Valley
United Methodist Church
PO Box 181
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063-0181

NCOY00HA0000170101

“You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.” – Luke 10:27 CEB

Dear Friends in Mission,

Thank you!

The dear people you just helped with your gift to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be – *Thank you!*

Since 1940, UMCOR has served as the humanitarian agency of The United Methodist Church, providing disaster response and relief to areas impacted by natural and man-made disasters around the world. And through your financial support, you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships as UMCOR responds to increasingly-frequent and destructive storms – sharing 100% of donated funds with those in need!

Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate genuine love for our neighbors.

Grace and Peace,

Roland Fernandes, General Secretary

Supporting	Gift Amount
UMCOR US Disaster Response and Recovery	\$ 335.00
UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery	\$ 250.00
Total Gift Amount	\$ 585.00

Date Received 12-14-23

Account #3910

Please retain this letter as your receipt. In compliance with IRS regulations, no goods or services were provided by the General Board of Global Ministries in consideration of your contribution. Thank you for your continued support.



Each year, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a 40-day season marked by repentance, fasting, reflection, prayer and ultimately celebration. The 40-day period represents Christ's time of temptation in the wilderness, where he fasted and where Satan tempted him. Lent asks believers to set aside a time each year marking an intentional season of focus on Christ's life, ministry, sacrifice, and resurrection.

This year Ash Wednesday is on February 14th. Please plan to set aside the time to receive ashes as we begin the journey to the cross. Through the preparation of Lent we will truly experience the joy of Easter.

To accommodate all of our congregation we will have a time of distribution of ashes at noon as well as an evening service at 7:00 PM.

Thank you!

Through your financial partnership with Global Ministries and UMCOR, you are...

- helping restore communities devastated by war and natural disasters;
- providing shelter to the displaced;
- offering medical care, prevention and healing through a network of hospitals and clinics;
- and
- sharing the gospel in over 60 countries.

Yours are the eyes through which Christ looks with compassion on the world.

Gospels for February

February 4: Mark 1:29-39
 February 11: Mark 9:2-9
 February 18: Mark 1:9-15
 February 25: Mark 8:31-38

February Schedule

February 4 February 11 February 18 February 25	<u>Cleaners</u> Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed	<u>Nursery Care</u>	<u>Ushers</u> Darlene Slater & Jan Perry Dawn Renrew & Shelley Bailey Steve & Barb Bailey Steven Shaw & Judy McKay
February 4 February 11 February 18 February 25	<u>Greeters</u> John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange	<u>Lectors</u> Janet LaGrange Tom Lucas Kathy Loomis John Lundy	<u>Coffee Hour</u> Kathy Loomis & Sandy T. Dn Hurley & Judy McKay Darlene Slater & Janet LaGrange Barbara Bailey & Lorna Delaney
February 4 February 11 February 18 February 25	<u>Counters</u> Barbara Sherwin & Steve Bailey Barbara Bailey & John Lundy Steve Bailey & Wayne Roberts John Lundy & Barbara Sherwin	<u>Children's Message</u>	



FEBRUARY

<u>SUN.</u>	<u>MON.</u>	<u>TUES.</u>	<u>WED.</u>	<u>THUS.</u>	<u>FRI.</u>	<u>SAT.</u>
				1 2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA	2  GROUNDHOG DAY	3
4 10:00AM Worship Service with Holy Communion	5	6 10:00AM Bible Study New Testament 8:00PM AA	7	8 6:45PM AA	9	10
11 10:00AM Worship Service 11:15AM Trustees Meeting	12 6:00 – 8:00PM Food Bank	13 10:00AM Bible Study New Testament 7:00PM Admin./Finance Meeting 8:00PM AA	14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i>  ASH WEDNESDAY	15 2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA	16	17
18 10:00AM Worship Service 11:30AM Mary & Martha's Meeting	19  PRESIDENTS DAY	20 10:00AM Bible Study New Testament 8:00PM AA	21	22 6:45PM AA	23	24
25 10:00AM Worship Service	26 6:00 – 8:00PM Food Bank	27 10:00AM Bible Study New Testament 8:00PM AA	28	29 2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA		

February Announcements

Storm Warnings

As we approach winter, please remember to watch WFSB, channel 3 for any cancellations of meetings or worship due to winter weather.

If you know of someone who is not getting the Link but would like to, please contact Re with their information and email address so they can be added to the list. If they don't have access to emails, just give us their mailing address and we will mail it out to them. We will also leave a few copies on the Bessie table.

If you, or someone you know, is in the hospital in need of a visit, please call either Pastor Barbara or the Church office to schedule a visit. Because of privacy laws, hospitals can no longer give out this information.

Church office hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 9:00AM to Noon. If there is a Monday holiday, office hours for that week will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00AM to Noon.

Pastor Barbara will be in the office Monday and Tuesday from 9:30AM to 1:00PM, 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 Barbara's email: barb_drew@hotmail.com

Pastor Barbara's phone number: 203-623-3754

