

January Link

Bad Grout

Several years ago, my wife and I decided to redo our bathroom, we picked out the tile for the tub surround and went to work, however when it came time to pick the grout, we decided to go with this new-fangled “stain proof grout.” Turns out this stuff is not so great. Snake oil I tell you, snake oil!!! The grout while curing created tiny little bubbles, which in turn became tiny little holes. . . not a good thing to have in a shower. These holes kept moisture in and the battle between those little holes and my wife and I armed with a toothbrush and mold and mildew remover. It’s been a battle for more than a decade.

So, I recently decided to attempt to solve the problem before we put the house on the market. So I began by attempting to “paint” the grout with of course, grout paint, but this ain’t your momma’s grout, and the paint didn’t take. . . so after failed attempts to remove the grout, grind it out, saw it out, I wound up with scratched and chipped tiles.

Ultimately, in the end, we will have perfect grout, however that’ll be after gutting the shower surround, installing a new faucet, new hardeebacker and new tile. . . problem solved (the hard, but “right” way).

This got me thinking, Jesus calls us to do it the hard way. There is no easy way to follow Jesus. The apostles all met their demise for following Jesus. Many have been persecuted for following Jesus, and we today can be ridiculed and looked down upon by the world that doesn’t approve of or know of Jesus as we do.

This year as we start anew, as we look forward to winning the battle against Covid-19, as we start recovering and returning to **our normal**, instead of the **new normal**, remember the hard way may be the right way. We pray that worship services will be open and in person again soon, but doing so before it’s safe, may be the easy way, not the right way. We look forward to perhaps another bean-hole supper in 2021, but that may need to wait until the fall. These are all hard decisions the leadership of PVUMC are working on making to keep us all safe.

Stay strong, stay safe and keep your church, your love of Christ, and your passion for God’s love in your heart, until we can all safely celebrate that perfect love of Jesus together once again.

Blessings Always
Pastor Mike and Karen Antici

A New Year's Prayer

May God make your year a happy one!
Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;
Not by making your path easy,
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;
Not by taking hardships from you,
But by taking fear from your heart;
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping your face bright,
even in the shadows;
Not by making your life always pleasant,
But by showing you
when people and their causes need you most,
and by making you anxious to be there to help.
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you
for the year ahead.

~Anonymous

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Scriptures for January

January 3: "New Year's Resolve": 1 John 1-10

January 10: "It's all about you, Jesus": Colossians 1:15-19

January 17: "God is a registered trademark": Colossians 2:6-15

January 24: "Take off ya bad self": Colossians 3:5-17

January 31: "The Man Song": Colossians 3:18-25

January 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.**

January 3 January 10 January 17 January 24 January 31	<u>Nursery Care</u>	<u>Cleaners</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
January 3 January 10 January 17 January 24 January 31	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>
January 3 January 10 January 17 January 24 January 31	<u>Children's Message</u>		
January 3 January 10 January 17 January 24 January 31	<u>Lector Readings</u>		
	1 John 1-10 Colossians 1:15-19 Colossians 2:6-15 Colossians 3:5-17 Colossians 3:18-25		

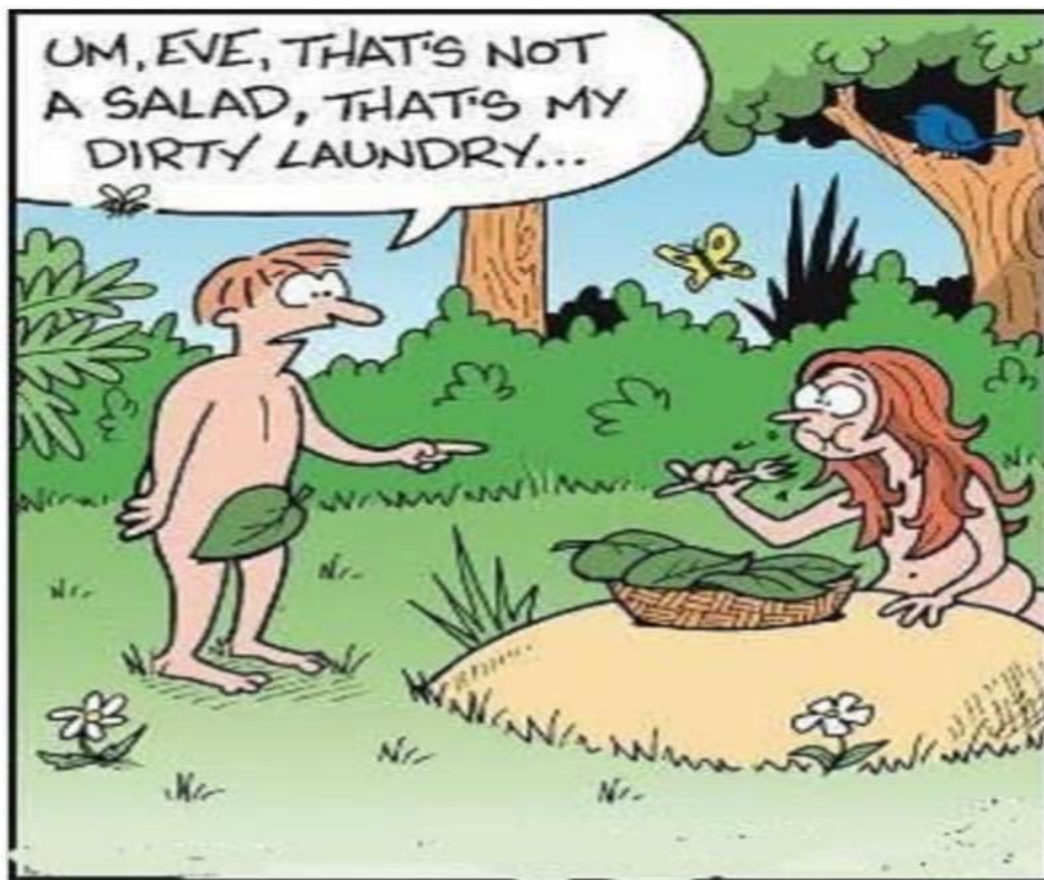
**WELCOME
2021
MAY THIS YEAR
BE BETTER THAN
THE LAST**

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

January

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

Church Humor:



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The local news station was interviewing an 80-year-old lady because she had just gotten married for the fourth time.

The interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it felt like to be marrying again at 80, and then about her new husband's occupation.. "He's a funeral director," she answered. "Interesting," the newsman thought... He then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living.

She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years. After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she had first married a banker when she was in her 20's, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40's, and a preacher when in her 60's, and now - in her 80's - a funeral director.

The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers.

(Wait for it...)

- She smiled and explained, "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go."

An old couple took their four-year-old grandson to church where the grandmother sang in the choir. She gave the boy a quarter to keep his grandfather awake during the sermon, but grandpa slept through most of the service. After church she asked the boy why he had not followed her instructions. He said, "Grandpa gave me 50 cents not to wake him up."

A businessman from Wisconsin went on a business trip to Louisiana, and his wife was joining him later for vacation. Upon arrival, he immediately plugged his laptop into the hotel room port and sent a short E-mail back home to his wife, Jennifer Johnson, at her address, JennJohn@world.net.

Unfortunately, in his haste, he mistyped a letter and the E-mail ended up going to JeanJohn@world.net, a Jean Johnson in Duluth, the wife of a preacher who had just passed away and was buried that day.

The preacher's wife took one look at the E-mail and promptly fainted. It read,

"Arrived safely. It sure is hot down here! Can't wait for you to join me.

January Announcements

**The fruits of the mitten tree were delivered to, and gratefully accepted by the Salvation Army in Winsted on Monday, December 21. Included were 22 hats, 9 pairs of gloves and mittens, and 7 scarves. Many thanks to all who contributed their time and talent.

**Please note that the Food Bank days and hours have changed. These changes will be in effect until April.

**The clothing donation bin in the parking lot is open again.

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

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Pastor Mike's phone number: 203-997-5069