

July Link



I once heard of a Pastor, who during a children's time in church, wanted to make the point that God never rests but is continually caring for us. So, the pastor asked the young people if God ever went on vacation.

His plan was quickly derailed by a youngster who jumped up and said, "Sure, when my family goes camping, God comes along with us."

When I read this, I immediately had a vision of God sitting by the campfire enjoying s'mores with that little boy. How wonderful it is for that child to recognize God was with him. Always. Even on vacation.

This summer, I pray that you all have an opportunity to rest and refresh. Some will go to a new venue, perhaps camping or to the beach or to the mountainside. Some will reunite with families, especially after a long few years of being separated by a worldwide pandemic. Some will just relax at home. I must admit my favorite spot is in my own backyard, basking in the sun with a good book.

But no matter where you spend some much needed down time this summer, remember to invite God to go with you. See God in the beauty of the earth, in the calm of the quiet and in peace of heart and mind.

Hear God speaking in the songs of birds, the squeals of kids at play and the gentle breezes. Know God in all you do and all you see and all that you are. May you all have a refreshing, peaceful and safe summer.

Pastor Barbara

THE POWER OF KINDNESS

No kind action ever stops with itself. One kind action leads to another. Good example is followed. A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees. The greatest work that kindness does to others is that it makes them kind themselves. —Amelia Earhart

In the Garden

Gardeners who've dealt with inhospitable conditions can relate especially well to Jesus' parable of the sower. Drought, invasive critters and thorny weeds often seem to conspire against growers' efforts. Yet when seeds fall on "good soil," the crop yield is abundant — up to a hundred times what was sown (Matthew 13:8). That parable emphasizes the need for hearts to be receptive to God's Word. But it's also a reminder to plant Scripture persistently. Just as soil and weather conditions change, so may someone's attitude toward following Jesus. Pastor J. Ellsworth Kalas writes, "Whenever we serve as witnesses to the faith, we must do so with all earnestness, because one doesn't know the season in which the soul currently abides. That uninterested, distracted or unresponsive person may be nearer the Kingdom than we — or they — realize." Kalas adds, "We dare not give up on anyone at any time — including ourselves."



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**GOD OF FREEDOM, I PRAY FOR THE TIME WHEN ALL "EARTH AND HEAVEN
[WILL] RING ... WITH THE HARMONIES OF LIBERTY" (JAMES W. JOHNSON).**



4th of July Parade



We are once again planning to participate in the Town's 4th of July Parade on Monday, July 4th. We are still trying to find someone with a pickup truck who would be willing to drive in the parade. We would like to be able to have our Church Musician, David Zucker, playing his keyboard in the back of the truck and Pastor Barbara sitting waving to the crowd from the truck. Please let me know if you have a truck and would be available and willing to drive. The route is very short so it will only take a small part of your morning. This year we are also adding some Bible characters as walkers. It should add some fun and interest for children watching the parade! We are hoping for a couple children to be animals accompanying Noah. Other costumes will be for adults, senior citizens, teens or young adults. We need several more fun-loving people to be characters! We would love to have you join in the fun! If you would prefer to walk without a costume, we also need people to carry banners and hand out bracelets. So please consider joining us! We can try on costumes on Sun July 3 after service. On the 4th we need people to arrive at church by 9:00 am to get ready. The road closes at 9:30.

Please email any questions to me -

Ruthie Roberts at: thewayruth@aol.com or text or call me at 207-205-4620.



Gospels for July

July 3: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
July 10: Luke 10:25-37
July 17: Luke 10:38-42
July 24: Luke 11:1-13
July 31: Luke 12:13-21


July 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 Barbara at barb_drew@hotmail.com**

July 3 July 10 July 17 July 24 July 31	<u>Nursery Care</u>	<u>Cleaners</u>	<u>Ushers</u> Bonnie & Darlene Slater Dawn Renfrew & Shelley Bailey Steven Shaw & Judy McKay Steve & Barb Bailey Sandy Slemmer & Janet LaGrange
July 3 July 10 July 17 July 24 July 31	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Lectors</u> Tom Lucas Kathy Loomis Bonnie Slater Steve Bailey Karen Dietz	<u>Coffee Hour</u>
July 3 July 10 July 17 July 24 July 31	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Children's Message</u>	

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

July

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

Church Humor:



July Announcements

The July/August issue of the Upper Room is on the Bessie Table in the Narthex.

An updated reader schedule is posted in the Narthex.

Linda Winstead would love to hear from old friends. If you wish to send Linda a card, her address is 2614 Grady's Ground Drive, McConnells, SC 29726.

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.

A reminder that we are still collecting items for the Winsted YMCA. There is a donation box in the Narthex. The items most needed are pillows, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, shampoo & conditioner and totes. They can also use towels & washcloths, twin sheet sets, twin size blankets, unisex socks, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, etc., bottled water, scrubs and crocks.

Children's Message

If you would like to volunteer to give a Children message during worship, or if you would like to volunteer to be a liturgist (Reader) let Pastor Barbara know.

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