

## July Link

### *Be Still and Know That I Am God Psalm 46:10*

I was once in a church that, as with many United Methodist churches, graciously opened its doors to AA groups. The church respected the anonymity of the group and never entered their space, so they never met any of the members.

One gentleman from the group, however, would visit my office for a conversation and would often express his gratitude for our hospitality to him and his group.

Once a year this church would participate in a town wide fall festival. We would sell a delicious homemade clam chowder. This gentleman from AA would come every year to the church's booth to purchase a bowl. He did not want to be introduced to the church folks but simply wanted to sit and eat his meal. He told me that he attended the festival each year because he just wanted to sit and be present with the people who so truly loved and cared for him. I was amazed at the comfort he gained, the joy he experienced, in just sitting quietly among us. He just sat in our presence and loved us back.

How much comfort we would gain and how much joy we would experience when we take time to just sit quietly with God; to recognize how much God cares for us and truly loves us; to be in God's world and love him as he loves us.

Summer is a perfect time to sit in peace. Summer is a perfect time to sit in quiet. Summer is a perfect time to absorb the presence of God.

This is the season to stop all the busyness, all the chaos and all the responsibilities of our lives and be still. Sit by the river, or lake or under a tree. Lay in the grass, walk near the flowers, listen to the birds. No eloquent words are needed- only quiet, gentle togetherness. Renew your relationship with God in gentle quiet of summer.

Blessings,  
Pastor Barbara



On Monday, 19 June 2023, I had the pleasure of meeting with the new owners of the Winsted United Methodist Church now known as the Laurel City Playhouse and Concert Hall. John Noone and Alla Kravchenko are wonderful people who have a vision for the arts in Winsted.

The Winsted United Methodist Church (WUMC) congregation vacated the premises and turned over the control of the property to the New York Annual Conference on 1 February 2022. We began worshipping at the St. Andrews Masonic Lodge at 27 Wheeler Street in Winsted.

On 6 June 2022, The Conference and the local congregation conducted a decommissioning of the 630 Main Street property, walked up High Street, turned left onto Fairview Avenue, and continued to the Mason's Lodge where we were and welcomed with open arms.

The relationship we had with the Masons was wonderful. Even so, we could not financially survive the new arrangement. So, after six months and many discussions and negotiations, we merged with the Pleasant Valley Methodist Church (PVUMC) in Barkhamsted on 1 October 2022.

This has been another wonderful association. Again, we were welcomed with open arms and assimilated into the life of the Pleasant Valley Church.

When we departed the old building, many things had to be left behind...old financial and church records, furniture, books, music, and many unfinished projects.

I connected with John and Alla, and we spent about four hours sharing thoughts, concerns and stories. I supplied them with a list of former workmen who had done different maintenance and repairs of the church over the last few years. I also gave them a big bunch of keys that Pastor Adeline had left with me.

We talked of some of the items that may have historical significance for the town. Possibly the Winchester Historical Society may be interested. We also discussed the possibility of helping the Society with a display and history of religion in Winsted, including all the houses of worship and the rise and fall of various religions in the area.

One of the questions I had was what to do with the clothing bins. The options were to discontinue the pickups, change the income to their accounts or keep it as is. John said that they have no problem with the arrangement as is, which means that we will continue to earn \$200.00 income every month.

Also, the Conference has requested an inventory of religious items that we left behind, that Conference would retrieve after John and Alla have gone through them. They are issuing an invitation to church members to help in deciding what goes and what stays. So, I am asking for any volunteers who may want to help.

Another question I had concerned all the music left behind. I have put out an email to Dave Zucker for help in this instance.

A box of Christmas tree ornamental glass bulbs have been brought to the PVUMC, depicting 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Methodism in Winsted in 1971. I am offering them up to the Winsted people as a memento and reminder of our ties to the Winsted community.

One thing that John and Alla want to do is install a memorial plaque commemorating the life of the church for all to see once the building is completely renovated.

Barb Hawley



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.

### **5 fun facts about July**

July is synonymous with fun in the sun. In the northern hemisphere, July is typically characterized by sunny days, warm weather and long hours of daylight, making it an ideal month to enjoy a little rest and relaxation.

Though it might be a great time for some R&R, July also boasts an interesting history. As revelers soak up some sun this summer, they can ponder these fun facts about the month of July.

1. July is named after a person whose been famous for thousands of years. According to the Farmer's Almanac, Roman dictator Julius Caesar developed the precursor to the Gregorian calendar used today. Though that made him worthy of a month named in his honor, it didn't do much to protect him during his life, as Caesar was famously assassinated in 44 B.C.
2. July is a celebratory month for fans of revolution. American Independence Day (July 4) and Bastille Day (July 14), which commemorates the storming of the Bastille and the dawn of the French Revolution in 1789, are among the notable revolutionary moments celebrated in July.
3. Baseball historians know that many significant events in the game have taken place in July, and some records set in the month have withstood longer than others. On July 12, 1931, Mel Ott of the New York Giants hit his 100th career homerun, becoming the youngest player to reach that milestone. Ott was 22 years and 132 days old when he set the mark, which still stands today.
4. One of the more famous statements in United States history was uttered in July, though it wasn't within American borders or even on the planet Earth. On July 20, 1969, American astronaut Neil Armstrong, after stepping onto the surface of the moon, declared, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."
5. Two men who played integral roles in the American colonies gaining their independence from Great Britain both passed away on July 4th, the day that celebrates that very independence. On July 4, 1826, former presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, who were once friends, then political rivals and, finally, friends again, passed away within hours of each other.

## Gospels for July

July 2: Matthew 10:40-42  
July 9: Mathew 11:16-19, 25-30  
July 16: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23  
July 23: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43  
July 30: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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## July Schedule


	<u>Cleaners</u>	<u>Nursery Care</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
July 2 July 9 July 16 July 23 July 30	Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Stephanie Stark		Barbara Sherwin & Darlene Slater Shirley Green & Volunteer Dawn Renfrew & Shelley Bailey Steven Shaw & Judy McKay Steve & Barb Bailey
	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>
July 2 July 9 July 16 July 23 July 30		Cathy Baum Kathy Loomis John Lundy Sandy Taylor Steve Bailey	Ruthie Roberts Cathy Baum Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Stephanie & Patty Stark
	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Children's Message</u>	
July 2 July 9 July 16 July 23 July 30	Steve Bailey & John Lundy Jay LaGrange & Wayne Roberts John Lundy & Barbara Sherwin Wayne Roberts & Volunteer Barbara Sherwin & Barb Bailey		

**HAPPY 4TH OF JULY**



**INDEPENDENCE DAY**

# July

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THUS.	FRI.	SAT.
						
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<b>2</b> <b>10:00AM</b> <b>Worship Service</b> <b>with Holy</b> <b>Communion</b>  <b>11:30AM</b> <b>Trustees Meeting</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  <b>8:00PM AA</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  <b>2:00 – 4:00PM</b> <b>Food Bank</b>  <b>6:45PM AA</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> <b>10:00AM</b> <b>Worship Service</b>  <b>11:30AM</b> <b>Mary &amp; Martha's</b> <b>meeting</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>10:00AM Prayer</b> <b>Group</b>  <b>8:00PM AA</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  <b>6:45PM AA</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>26</b> <b>10:00AM</b> <b>Worship Service</b>	<b>17</b> <b>6:00 – 8:00PM</b> <b>Food Bank</b>	<b>18</b> <b>10:00AM Prayer</b> <b>Group</b>  <b>8:00PM AA</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>2:00 – 4:00PM</b> <b>Food Bank</b>  <b>6:45PM AA</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> <b>10:00AM</b> <b>Worship Service</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>10:00AM Prayer</b> <b>Group</b>  <b>8:00PM AA</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  <b>6:45PM AA</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  <b>6:00 – 8:00PM</b> <b>Food Bank</b>					

## **July Announcements**

The July/August issue of The Upper Room is here. They are on the Besse table in the Narthex.

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.

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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](http://pleasantvalleyumc.com)

Church Office: 860-379-2157

Church Kitchen and Food Bank: 860-379-0346

Church email address: [pvumc181@gmail.com](mailto:pvumc181@gmail.com)

Pastor Barbara's email: [barb\\_drew@hotmail.com](mailto:barb_drew@hotmail.com)

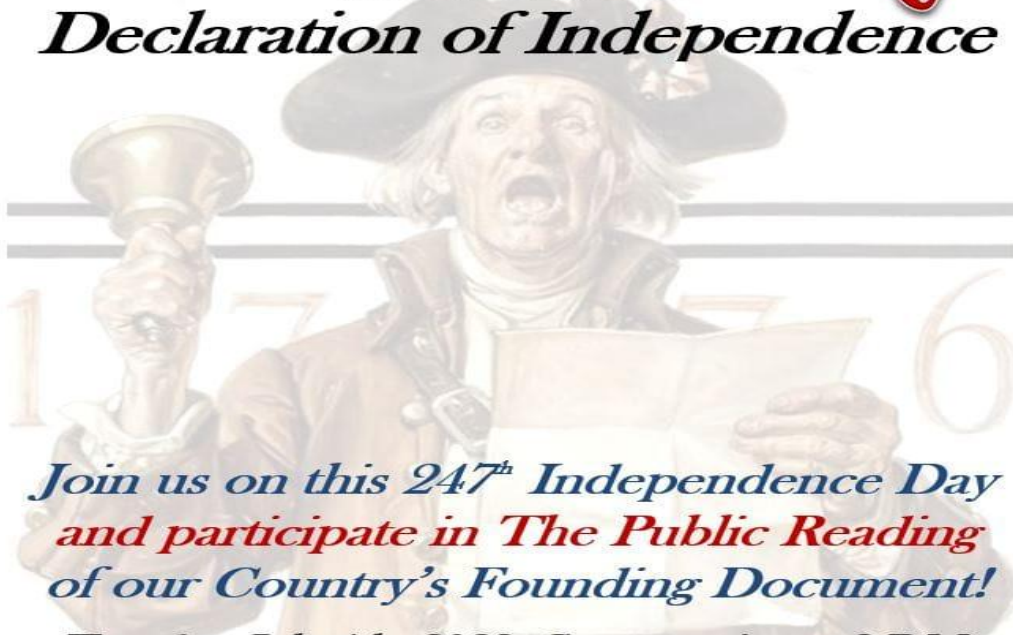
Pastor Barbara's phone number: 203-623-3754

/ *Winsted Civil War Soldiers' Monument*

# **4<sup>th</sup> of July**

*Public Reading of the*

## ***Declaration of Independence***



*Join us on this 247<sup>th</sup> Independence Day  
and participate in **The Public Reading**  
of our Country's Founding Document!*

*Tuesday, July 4th, 2023, Commencing at 3 P.M.*

*Winsted Soldiers' Monument, Crown Street*

*Monument will be open for tours between 2 - 4 P.M.*