

## **December Link**

### ***And the word became flesh and dwelt among us John 1:14***

I remember many years ago an advertisement on television for ketchup. Frustrated and hungry people waiting for the ketchup to slowly run out of the bottle onto the plate. When the sauce finally disengaged from the bottle on to the plate, there was thick, bright red lusciousness well worth waiting for. The lesser brand ketchup we see came quickly but indeed was watery and weak. The point taken; it was worth the wait if you want the genuine ketchup.

We are not always proficient at waiting. We pray, Lord grant me patience and grant it to me, now! Busyness dictates that all should be hurried along, so we can get to the next task, the next gathering, the next whatever.

And the season of Christmas is the most hurried of them all. So much so, that we are tempted to skip through the season of Advent, altogether.

Why is Advent important at all? In this season, we begin to understand that Jesus Christ was born into history for the salvation of humankind. We remember and experience the mystery of the coming of the Messiah in the darkness and turmoil, both 2000 years ago and today. The celebration of the birth of the Christ child must be unison with the anticipation, the reception in the human heart for the reconciliation with God and humankind as heaven and earth meet on the day.

The purpose of advent is to reignite the hope and anticipation of the coming of Jesus. I pray that we each approach the season of Advent with a sense of excited anticipation and waiting for the manifestation of the love of God in Jesus Christ. Wait patiently for the light to come.

### ***The light shines in the darkness and darkness has not overcome it***

### ***John 1:5***

Blessed Advent,

Pastor Barbara





# **Holiday Fair**

**Saturday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**9am – 2pm**

**Pleasant Valley**

**United Methodist Church**

**93 River Road, Pleasant Valley, CT**

**Between the drive-in movie and the bridge**

**Handmade Crafts**

**Christmas Items**

**Knit Items**

**Bake Sale**

**Filled Baskets**

**Cookie Walk**

**Tag Sale**

**Children's Room**

**and**

**More!!**



**\*\*Help is needed with setting up and cleaning up. Also, baked goods are needed for sale. Please remember to list ingredients for those who may be concerned about food allergies.**



## Christmas Service

Christmas Eve service will be Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.

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## The Mitten Tree

It has been a long standing tradition at PVUMC to “dress” a tree in the Narthex with warm hats, mittens, gloves, or scarves. This year the Mitten Tree will be in place from December 1<sup>st</sup> through December 22<sup>nd</sup> and the congregation is invited to bring in new items to decorate the tree. Just after Christmas these donations will go to local charities for distribution to their clients. Here’s a great opportunity to help someone keep warm this winter!

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## Sock Drive



With so many people out of work and homeless, we would like to make the sock drive our main drive this year. All of the socks donated (mens, womens and childrens) will be donated to the Winsted YMCA. There will be a basket under the mitten tree for your sock donations from December 1<sup>st</sup> through December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

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Thank you to all those who contributed to the Food Bank Thanksgiving Baskets. We were able to feed 47 families.

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## Food Bank Wishlist

Stuffing Mix

Gravy

Cranberry Sause

French Cut Green Beans

Olives

Pickle

Pasta

Peanut Butter

Jelly

Canned Beets

Canned Carrots

Canned Corn

Rice or Pasta Side Dishes

Baked Beans

Baking Supplies

Flour

Sugar

Cake Mixes

Frosting

## Gospels for December

December 1: Luke 21:25-36  
 December 8: Luke 3:1:6  
 December 15: Luke 3:7-18  
 December 22: Luke 1:39-45  
 December 24: Luke 2:1-20  
 December 29: Luke 2:41-52

## December Schedule

	<u>Cleaners</u>	<u>Nursery Care</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
December 1 December 8 December 15 December 22 December 29	Volunteers Needed Altar Guild Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed		Sandy Slemmer & Janet LaGrange Barbara Sherwin & Shirley Green Darlene Slater & Jennifer Lambour Dawn Renfrew & Shelley Bailey Steve & Barb Bailey
	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>
December 1 December 8 December 15 December 22 December 29	John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange	John Lundy Sandy Taylor Steve Bailey John Baum Cathy Baum	Dan Hurley & Judy McKay Angela Rood & Terri Collins Dawn Renfrew & Karen Civelli Stephanie & Pat Stark Ruthie Roberts
	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Children's Message</u>	
December 1 December 8 December 15 December 22 December 29	John Lundy & Barbara Sherwin Wayne Roberts & Barb Bailey Barbara Sherwin & Steve Bailey Barb Bailey & John Lundy Steve Bailey & Wayne Roberts		



# December

<u>SUN.</u>	<u>MON.</u>	<u>TUES.</u>	<u>WED.</u>	<u>THUS.</u>	<u>FRI.</u>	<u>SAT.</u>
1 10:00AM Worship Service with Holy Communion	2	3 10:00AM Prayer Group  8:00PM AA	4	5  6:45PM AA	6	7 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM Craft Fair
8 10:00AM Worship Service  11:15AM Trustees Meeting	9  4:00 – 7:00PM Food Bank	10 10:00AM Prayer Group  7:00PM Admin./Finance Meeting  8:00PM AA	11 9:00AM – Noon Scrapbooking with Carolyn	12  2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank  6:45PM AA	13	14
15 10:00AM Worship Service  11:30AM Mary & Martha's Meeting	16	17 10:00AM Prayer Group  8:00PM AA	18	19  6:45PM AA	20	21 
22 10:00AM Worship Service  11:30 AM Mary & Martha's Meeting	23  4:00 – 7:00PM Food Bank	24 10:00AM Prayer Group  5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service  8:00PM AA 	25  MERRY CHRISTMAS 	26  6:45PM AA	27	28
29 10:00AM Worship Service	30	31 10:00AM Prayer Group  8:00PM AA 				



## December Announcements

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 Besse 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.

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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

