

March Link

Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Psalm 51:9,10

Many people talk about giving up something during Lent. For some it may be a favorite pastime. For others it's chocolate or desserts. And that's all well and good, especially if it is a daily reminder of the season of Lent. However, the real intent of Lent is that we should look within. We should change our hearts and not our diets.

God doesn't want an outward display from us. God doesn't want us to change our eating habits. God wants us to change our hearts. God wants a change within.

The first task of Lent is not fasting or self-denial. It's not giving up sweets or going off fatty foods or your favorite TV show. It is repentance. It is about turning away from sin and, most importantly, turning to God.

Repentance brings us before the Lord with renewed and contrite hearts. Lent tells us to repent of our sinfulness; to look within and purify our hearts. As the prophet Joel says, "Return to the Lord, your God...." Repent of your sinfulness. Turn back, change directions, make a new start from an old life

It is befitting that we begin Lent in the cold icy winter months - a time when the earth seems unyielding and desperate and we enter Easter in a time of rebirth. So, too, is our lives. We begin in a time of sin and despair as we travel toward new life in Christ.

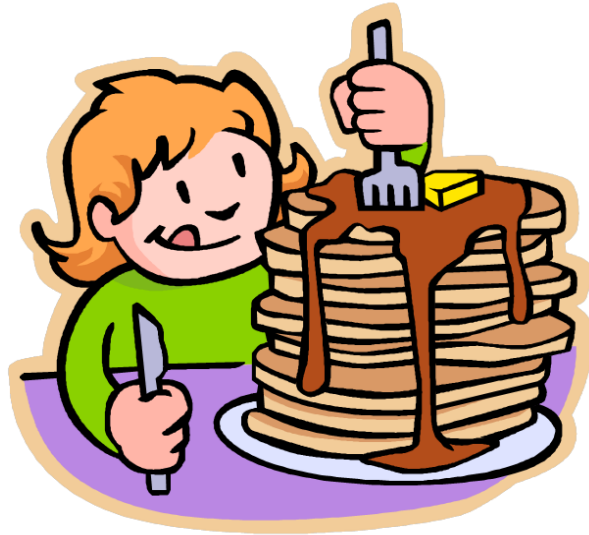
As we begin this season of Lent, we are invited to bring our sins and lay them before the throne of God. We are invited to unburden our souls in repentance. We are directed to come before the Lord our God with open hearts and make a new start within.

Keep a holy, purposeful Lent as God creates in you a new pure heart and a renewed spirit.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Barbara

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Pleasant Valley
United Methodist Church
93 River Road, Pleasant Valley, CT



TUESDAY, MARCH 4TH, 2025
SERVING AT 6:00 PM

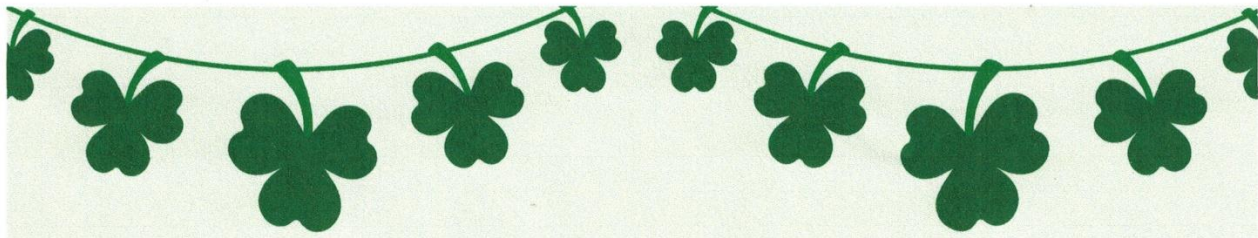
Shrove Tuesday

We all know the first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday which this year falls on March 5th. But do you know what Shrove Tuesday is and why we eat pancakes? Or what has Mardi Gras had to do with the season?

Throughout the years Lent has been associated with denial. People began to eat pancakes to use up the eggs and fats in the house that they would give up, rather than waste the food. And Mardi Gras, French for Fat Tuesday is the last time for frivolity before the season of denial began.

Even today many people talk about giving up something during Lent. Some stop eating meat. Some give up coffee. For others it's chocolate or desserts. And that's all well and good, but the real intent of Lent is that we should look within. We should change our hearts and not our diets.

Begin Lenten season with us at our pancake supper, brought to us by the men of the church on Tuesday at 6 PM and then Ash Wednesday Services at noon and at 7PM.



Corned Beef Supper

Friday, March 14 - 5:00 - 7:00

Chef Ken prepares his famous Corned Beef and Cabbage, with special mustard sauce on the side.

Potatoes, Onions, Carrots, soda bread.

And of course heavenly dessert!

Adults \$17.00 Seniors \$15.00 Children (6 and under) \$10.00

Takeout Available



North Canton Community
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Corner of Cherry Brook Rd. & Case St.,
about 5 miles north of Route 44/Route
179 intersection.





January 2, 2025

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

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"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
UMCOR US Disaster Response and Recovery

Gift Amount
\$1,477.50

Date Received 12-13-24

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.



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...

- 30,000 pounds of clothing were donated to your shed in 2024
- This was enough to clothe an estimated 5,526 people all over the world
- Based on this volume of clothing, your organization received \$1,200

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@stpaullytextile.com

Gospels for March

March 2: Luke 9:28-36
 March 9: Luke 4:1-13
 March 16: Luke 13:31-35
 March 23: Luke 13:1-9
 March 30: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

March Schedule

March 2 March 9 March 16 March 23 March 30	<u>Cleaners</u> Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed	<u>Lectors</u> Steve Bailey John Baum Cathy Baum Karen Dietz Suzanne Gerber	<u>Ushers</u> Barbara Sherwin & Shirley Green Darlene Slater & Jennifer Lambour Dawn Renfrew & Shelley Bailey Steve & Barb Bailey Steven Shaw & Judy McKay
March 2 March 9 March 16 March 23 March 30	<u>Greeters</u> John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange		<u>Coffee Hour</u> Sandy Taylor Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Janet LaGrange & Darlene Slater Judy McKay & Dan Hurley
March 2 March 9 March 16 March 23 March 30		<u>Counters</u> John Lundy & Wayne Roberts Wayne Roberts & Barbara Sherwin Barbara Sherwin & Barbara Bailey Jennifer Lambour & Steve Bailey Barbara Bailey & Jennifer Lambour	

As you can see by the calendar, we are in need of volunteers for Coffee Hour and Cleaning. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex on the Besse table.

March

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

Food Bank Wishlist

Crackers, Jelly, Juice, Mayo & Ketchup

March 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.

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: pleasantvalley-umc.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

