

## August Link

It's the beginning of August and summer is still bustling with outings, picnics, swimming and laid-back living. This is not the time to plan for events to come - it is the time for quiet, slow living and relaxation. And yet.... There they are - Back to School Sales- Fall Event Planning- Winterizing Homes. Gee, can't we just be in the moment?

The sun-drenched days seem to plead for our attention, urging us to savor each lush hour before the golden light fades into autumn's longer shadows. Yet, as crickets hum and the scent of sunscreen still lingers, the subtle tug of preparation persists: It's as if the calendar itself is impatient, whispering reminders of what is next, even as we yearn to linger in the fullness of now. Still, there is a balance to be struck—a way to honor the slow, honeyed rhythm of August while letting gentle thoughts of the coming seasons drift quietly at the edges

So, in the spirit of preparation, November 8<sup>th</sup> is our annual Christmas Fair: an event that is in need of preparation.

First, we need crafts items - if you can sew, knit, or work with wood, or any craft, we need your talent. Now is the time to begin your projects.

We need baked goods. Plan your treats and anticipate your culinary gifts.

We need used books and puzzles, so maybe now is a good opportunity to finally clean out that closet.

We need themed baskets for a silent auction.

If you have holiday decorations tucked away—gently used ornaments, wreaths, or festive tableware—consider donating them to add sparkle to our fair. Handmade cards, cheerful centerpieces, or any creative seasonal touches are equally welcome, infusing the event with warmth and character.

Mark your calendars, gather your ideas, and let's make this year's Christmas Fair a celebration that lingers in memory—woven together by the gifts of many hands and generous spirits. As we soak up the last stretch of summer, let's also look ahead with a quiet sense of anticipation, knowing that the season of giving is just around the corner.

Enjoy the last weeks of the season.

Perhaps inspiration will strike during a lazy afternoon, or maybe you'll find yourself humming holiday tunes as you knit by the window. Even as we revel in summer's slow embrace, let's allow a quiet current of creativity and generosity to flow through our days—turning the anticipation of autumn into something tangible, something joyful, something we can all look forward to together.

Pastor Barbara

**All are welcome!!!!**



# **2025 Vacation Bible Camp**

**August 11-15  
9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

**Memorial United Methodist Church  
867 West Avon Rd. Avon, CT**

**Age 3 as of 8/11  
(must be potty trained)  
to those completing Grade 4**

**\$25 per child; max. \$60 per family**

***“The Lord your God is with you  
wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9***

**Register at: [avonmumc.org/vbc](https://avonmumc.org/vbc)**

## ***Blessing of the Animals***



*<sup>0</sup> And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." <sup>21</sup> So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." <sup>224</sup> And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind And God saw that it was good. Genesis 1*

On August 10, we will celebrate our worship service outside in and around the memorial garden. It is a joy to honor God in the glory of the world God created.

We will also invite some very special guests: Our pets! Bring your animals to receive a blessing as we recognize the presence and role of animals in our daily lives.

Please bring a lawn chair and, if possible, an extra one for those who may not have one.

Please make certain that your pets, even if they are very well behaved, are on a lease or in a cage for the safety of all.



## Food Bank Wishlist

Pancake Mix, Instant Oatmeal and Canned Pasta.

No time to shop for the food bank?? Donations can be made here:

<https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/J36KTCUVNFYRY>



~~~~~  
**Thanks to everyone's generosity we have so far collected \$351.00 for the  
UMCOR Texas Flood Fund.**

~~~~~  
**I know it is too early to be thinking about back to school, but school does begin  
the end of August. We hope all the students, parents, teachers, bus drivers, etc.  
have a safe, happy and healthy 2025-2026 school year.**



## Gospels for August

August 3: Luke 12:13-21  
 August 10: Luke 12:32-40  
 August 17: Luke 12:49-56  
 August 24: Luke 13:10-17  
 August 31: Luke 14:1, 7-14

## August Schedule

	<u>Cleaners</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
August 3 August 10 August 17 August 24 August 31	Barbara Sherwin Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed	Steve Bailey John Baum Cathy Baum Karen Dietz John Lundy	Steven Shaw & Judy McKay Sandy Slemmer & Janet LaGrange Peg Palmer & Cliff Hoxie Barbara Sherwin & Shirley Green Darlene Slater & Jennifer Lambour
	<u>Greeters</u>		<u>Coffee Hour</u>
August 3 August 10 August 17 August 24 August 31	John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange		Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Janet & Darlene Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed
		<u>Counters</u>	
August 3 August 10 August 17 August 24 August 31		Barbara Bailey & Jennifer Lambour Steve Bailey & John Lundy John Lundy Barbara Sherwin Barbara Sherwin & Barbara Bailey	

**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.**



# August

<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  4:00 – 7:00PM Food Bank	5 10:00AM Prayer Group  8:00PM AA	6	7  2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank  6:45PM AA	8	9
10 10:00AM Worship Service Outdoor Service with Blessing of the Animals	11	12 10:00AM Prayer Group  7:00PM Admin./Finance Meeting 8:00PM AA	13 9:00AM – Noon Scrapbooking with Carolyn  4:00 – 6:00PM Food Bank	14  6:45PM AA	15	16
17 10:00AM Worship Service	18  4:00 – 7:00PM 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 9:00AM – Noon Scrapbooking with Carolyn  4:00 – 6:00PM Food Bank	28  6:45PM AA	29	30
31 10:00AM Worship Service						

## August Announcements

**Pastor Barbara will be on vacation from August 11<sup>th</sup> through August 24<sup>th</sup>. She will be back in the office on Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. Kathy Loomis will be covering worship. Pastor Barbara will be available for any emergencies.**

The annual Christmas Fair is scheduled for early November, which seems very far away, but it takes time to create the many arts and crafts that we need to sell.

Many hands and many talents are needed. If you craft, knit, or do woodcraft, please begin to create your wares.

---

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](http://pleasantvalley-umc.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