

## May Link

*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you.*

*Numbers 6: 24-25*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I confess that I have been procrastinating all day, staring at a blank page, attempting to write this, my last newsletter meditation. I have no idea how to say goodbye. As the end of my time here in PVUMC and in ministry, hover over me, I am filled with both sadness and sweet memories.

During my time here, I've gained invaluable insights, largely thanks to the support and dedication of everyone in this church. Your encouragement and commitment have truly left a lasting impression on me. Your kindness, humor, generosity, and care are endless. But I am mostly grateful for your love of Christ manifested in worship together and in your grace and care in the community.

Throughout my time here, I have been deeply grateful for the unwavering support and heartfelt dedication shown by everyone in this church community. The encouragement I've received has offered invaluable insights and left a profound impression that I will always carry with me.

As we look to the future, I am filled with genuine hope and excitement for what lies ahead for Pleasant Valley. Each new pastor brings a set of unique gifts, and I am truly confident that Pastor Jeff will guide with compassion, wisdom, and a spirit inspired by the Holy Spirit. Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church stands on the brink of an uplifting new chapter, brimming with opportunities for transformation and renewal. This is a remarkable season of fresh beginnings for all, and I look forward to witnessing the ways you will grow together as a congregation and community.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Barbara

*We will miss you Pastor Barbara*

Good morning brothers and sisters in Christ.

I am pleased to announce that the Bishop and Cabinet have appointed Pastor Jeffrey Cedarfield to serve as pastor at PVUMC beginning July 1, 2026.

Pastor Jeff has been serving as a half-time pastor at Copper Hill UMC in Granby since July 1, 2025. Effective July 1, 2026, he will share his time between the two churches. Next month, at Annual Conference, he will be recognized as a licensed Local Pastor within the New York Annual Conference.

Pastor Jeff was born and spent the first part of his childhood in northern Vermont before his family later moved to Warwick, Rhode Island. He earned degrees in Political Science and English Literature before going on to receive his law degree. He practiced civil and criminal law for 21 years before transitioning to work in insurance for four years.

Jeff lives in Canton, Connecticut with his wife, Lisa, and two of her three children. Jeff's two sons, Ethan and Riley, are grown, as is Lisa's eldest daughter. Outside of family, work, and church, his interests include hiking, camping, fishing, and barbeque in its many forms.

Pastor Jeff's spiritual journey has been equally meaningful. Several years ago, he was a member of Plainville UMC, where he delivered messages as a certified lay speaker. In 2023, he became a member of North Canton UMC, where he has served in leadership and delivered messages in several churches throughout the quad prior to his appointment at Copper Hill UMC.

His spiritual gifts and talents include serving as co-leader of the Methodist Youth Fellowship at Plainville UMC and developing and co-coordinating an 11-year Thanksgiving food drive that collected over 150,000 pounds of donations, valued at more than \$300,000, for the Plainville Community Food Pantry. Currently, Copper Hill UMC hosts a youth group for grades 6–12 that meets twice monthly, as well as two men's groups that meet weekly on Tuesday evenings and Friday mornings.

Our time with Pastor Barbara has been an incredible gift to our church. As Pastor Barbara begins to wind down her ministry with us over the next seven weeks, the SPRC will work closely on a smooth transition plan with Pastor Jeff. I will also be reaching out to him to invite him to visit again sometime in June so that he may introduce himself and answer questions from the congregation.

I know that change can be difficult, but it also brings opportunities for growth. Pastor Barbara agrees that Pastor Jeff will bring many gifts and talents to our church community.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me or any member of the SPRC.

Wishing you peace and grace,

Angela R. Root  
SPRC Chair  
May 2026

### **PVUMC Financial Update**

The Administrative Board and Trustees would like to update you on the church's current financial situation. When we merged with the Winsted UMC in 2022, we not only became stronger for the union, we also received a welcome financial boost. The combined congregations were on a relatively even keel. However, over the past couple years we have seen fewer pledging commitments and lowered loose plate giving. We thus find ourselves in the position of dipping into savings to meet our financial obligations.

The result is that last year, 2025, PVUMC spent about \$13,000 more than we received from pledging, loose plate, and fundraising events. Based on pledges and giving received to date, indications are that this year will have an even greater deficit. We work hard to minimize costs and are now paying only our essential needs. We feel we can say it's not possible to cut costs lower than we have.

As you know, Pastor Barbara is taking a well-earned second retirement at the end of June, and we will be welcoming a new Pastor in July. The DS has indicated the new Pastor will receive current salary scale, with additional required expenses such as insurance, pension, and housing allowance.

At this time, we estimate that we may need in excess of \$20,000 above the currently anticipated income from pledging and giving in order to meet all our financial obligations for 2026.

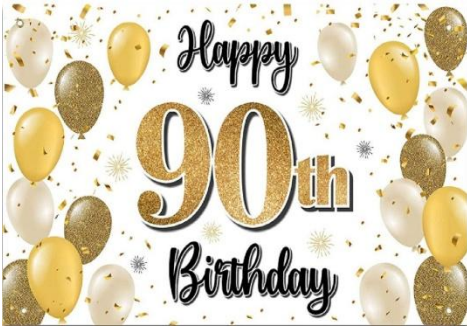
We believe it is important that you are aware of this situation as we must remain on an even financial footing. Thus, any additional giving you can do will help this church to continue our mission within and service to this community.

Please talk with me with any questions you may have. We are always interested in any fundraising opportunities you think of as well.

Thank you,

Steve Bailey

Administrative Board Chair



Ted Millahn is turning 90 years young on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. His son Steven has let us know that there will be a gathering for Ted on Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> from 3:00PM to 6:00PM at the St. James Parish Hall in Winsted.

You are welcome to stop by and wish Ted a Happy Birthday and partake in some refreshments.



### **Food Bank Wishlist**

Oatmeal, Pasta, Cake Frosting, Soup, Juice, Juice Boxes

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

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



## Gospels for June

June 7: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 14: Matthew 9:35-10.8

June 21: Matthew 10:24-39

June 28: Matthew 10:40-42

## June Schedule

	<u>Cleaners</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
June 7 June 14 June 21 June 28	Sandy Taylor Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed	Karen Dietz Suzanne Gerber Janet LaGrange Tom Lucas	Steve & Barb Bailey Stephanie Stark & Janet LaGrange Karen Civelli & Shirley Green Darlene Slater & Jennifer Lambour
June 7 June 14 June 21 June 28	<u>Greeters</u>		<u>Coffee Hour</u>
	John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange		Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed
June 7 June 14 June 21 June 28		<u>Counters</u>	
		Barbara Bailey & Volunteer Jennifer Lambour & Steve Bailey Barbara Bailey & Jennifer Lambour Steve Bailey & John Lundy	



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**Volunteers are needed for the Coffee Hour and Cleaners. The sign up sheets are on the Bessie Table in the Narthex.**

# June

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

## June 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 Bessie 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: [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

