

## October Link

Dear Church Family,

As local and national elections approach, many of us will again feel the rising tension that politics places on families, friendships, and communities. Public debate too often teaches us to treat neighbors as enemies and disagreement as a reason for contempt. Yet our first allegiance is not to a party, candidate, or ideology; it is to Jesus Christ. In a season of campaign signs and ads, competing claims, and character attacks, the church is called to offer a different witness—one shaped by truth, humility, courage, and love.

Scripture urges believers to be “quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger” (James 1:19) and to make “every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:3). We may reach different conclusions while praying sincerely and seeking the common good. Our calling is to disagree without demeaning, to speak conviction without cruelty, and to question without quarrelling (Titus 3:1-2).

Faithful citizenship includes learning, praying, voting, and participating in public life with integrity. Before we cast a ballot, we should ask not only, “What benefits me?” but also, “What serves my neighbor?” Jesus commands us to love God and love our neighbor (Mark 12:29–31). That love should guide both the positions we take and the way we take them. We can reject misinformation, refuse language and policies that strip others of dignity, and test every political message against the character of Christ.

Seeking unity also does not mean remaining silent when neighbors are denied dignity, access, or a meaningful voice. The prophets repeatedly call God’s people to “seek justice, rescue the oppressed” (Isaiah 1:17), and Jesus identifies himself with those who are hungry, vulnerable, sick, imprisoned, or overlooked (Matthew 25:35–40). As Methodists, our concern for personal holiness is inseparable from social holiness. We must listen to those pushed to the margins, defend fair participation, and stand beside people whose rights are threatened.

In the weeks ahead, I invite us to pray for candidates, election workers, public servants, and one another (1 Timothy 2:1–2). “Blessed are the peacemakers” (Matthew 5:9) - not the peacekeepers who avoid every hard truth, but the peacemakers who combine justice with mercy and courage with humility.

The grace of Christ be with your spirits,

Pastor Jeff

# THANKSGIVING BASKET SPONSORSHIP



**\$40 half basket / \$80 full basket**

Your donation sponsors a basket that includes:

- Turkey
- Gravy
- Potatoes
- Carrots
- Celery
- Sweet Potatoes
- Fresh Squash
- Vegetables of choice
- Stuffing Mix
- Cranberry Sauce
  - Butter
  - Rolls
- Pickles & Olives
- Dessert & more

## CASH & CHECK ACCEPTED

Checks can also be mailed to:

Community Food Bank

P.O. Box 181, Pleasant Valley CT 06063

## DONATE HERE:



**\*any amount of monetary donation is gratefully accepted year round**



Date: Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Pleasant Valley Methodist Church

93 River Rd, Pleasant Valley, CT

Tickets: At the door, \$20 donation per person.\*

Children under the age of 15 years old are Free!

Refreshments will be provided.

Questions? Lorna Delaney

860 379 6419

\*All proceeds support the missions of Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church

## Food Bank Wish List:

Oatmeal, Cereal, Pasta, Hot Chocolate, Coffee, Tea

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

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



## Gospels for October

October 4: Matthew 21:33-46  
October 11: Matthew 22:1-14  
October 18: Matthew 22:15-22  
October 25: Matthew 22:34-46

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## October Schedule

|                                                     | <u>Cleaners</u>                                                                                                  | <u>Lectors</u>                                                                                                               | <u>Ushers</u>                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October 4<br>October 11<br>October 18<br>October 25 | Volunteers Needed<br>Volunteers Needed<br>Ted Millahn<br>Ted Millahn                                             | Sandy Taylor<br>Jennifer Lambour<br>Steve Bailey<br>John Baum                                                                | Darlene Slater & Jennifer Lambour<br>Dawn Renfrew & Shelley Bailey<br>Peg Palmer & Cliff Hoxie<br>Steven Shaw & Judy McKay |
|                                                     | <u>Greeters</u>                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                              | <u>Coffee Hour</u>                                                                                                         |
| October 4<br>October 11<br>October 18<br>October 25 | John Lundy & Jay LaGrange<br>John Lundy & Jay LaGrange<br>John Lundy & Jay LaGrange<br>John Lundy & Jay LaGrange |                                                                                                                              | Volunteers Needed<br>Volunteers Needed<br>Volunteers Needed<br>Pat, Stephanie, Gail & Sandy                                |
|                                                     |                                                                                                                  | <u>Counters</u>                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                            |
| October 4<br>October 11<br>October 18<br>October 25 |                                                                                                                  | Peg Palmer & Volunteer<br>Barbara Bailey & Volunteer<br>Jennifer Lambour & Steve Bailey<br>Barbara Bailey & Jennifer Lambour |                                                                                                                            |
|                                                     |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                            |

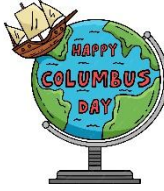


# Volunteers Needed

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

# October

| <u>SUN.</u>                                                         | <u>MON.</u>                                                                                  | <u>TUES.</u>                                   | <u>WED.</u>                                   | <u>THUS.</u>                                          | <u>FRI.</u> | <u>SAT.</u>                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                     |                                                                                              |                                                |                                               | 1<br><br>6:45PM AA                                    | 2           | 3                                                                                               |
| 4<br>10:30AM<br>Worship Service with<br>Holy Communion              | 5<br><br>4:00 – 7:00PM<br>Food Bank                                                          | 6<br>10:00AM<br>Prayer Group<br><br>8:00PM AA  | 7                                             | 8<br><br>2:00 – 4:00PM<br>Food Bank<br><br>6:45PM AA  | 9           | 10                                                                                              |
| 11<br>10:30AM<br>Worship Service<br><br>11:15AM<br>Trustees Meeting | 12<br><br> | 13<br>10:00AM<br>Prayer Group<br><br>8:00PM AA | 14<br><br>7:00PM<br>Admin./Finance<br>Meeting | 15<br><br>6:45PM AA                                   | 16          | 17                                                                                              |
| 18<br>10:30AM<br>Worship Service                                    | 19<br><br>4:00 – 7:00PM<br>Food Bank                                                         | 22<br>10:00AM<br>Prayer Group<br><br>8:00PM AA | 21                                            | 22<br><br>2:00 – 4:00PM<br>Food Bank<br><br>6:45PM AA | 23          | 24<br><br>Rich<br>Badowski<br>Concert                                                           |
| 25<br>10:30AM<br>Worship Service                                    | 26                                                                                           | 27<br>10:00AM<br>Prayer Group<br><br>8:00PM AA | 28                                            | 29<br><br>6:45PM AA                                   | 30          | 31<br><br> |
|                                                                     |                                                                                              |                                                |                                               |                                                       |             |                                                                                                 |

## October 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.

If you, or someone you know, is in the hospital in need of a visit please call either Pastor Jeff 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 Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 9:00 AM to Noon.

### 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 Jeff's email: [pastor.pvumcCT@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.pvumcCT@gmail.com)

Pastor Jeff's phone number: 860-461-3988



***Daylight Savings Time ends on November 1, 2026 at 2:00 AM. Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour on Saturday night, October 31<sup>st</sup>!***