



PLAINVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

16 East Bacon Street
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October 2008

From The Pastor's Desk

As I write this it is nearly Halloween. Advent is just around the corner. As we button up our houses for the cold weather, how well are we securing our spiritual lives for the storms present and troubles ahead? Advent is a time of beginnings and a time of thanksgiving. The church year begins with the announcements of the coming Elijah (John the Baptist) and Christ Child. Amongst all the tinsel and lights, don't forget the reason for the season.

The Plainville Church Calendar is full for November and December. Here are the things that I know that are happening: On November 7th and 8th, we will be having our Fall Fair. As usual there will be handcrafts, books, antiques, "Dave's Attic," and a bake sale. Thursday noon will feature Rita's Chicken Pot Pie, and on Saturday our kitchen will be open for snacks. Saturday night, the 8th is one of our scheduled church suppers. The menu for that night is ham and beans.

November is also our stewardship month. I will go into detail later, but for now be aware that our commitment Sunday is November 23rd. As we pause to give thanks for all that God had done and provided for the past year, consider how we each might support the ministry in Plainville for 2009.

November 30th is the First Sunday of Advent. Each Sunday we will light an Advent Candle, culminating in the entire Advent wreath being lit on Christmas Eve. The candlelight service at Plainville will be at 11 PM on Christmas Eve. If you would like an earlier service, there will be one at the First United Methodist Church in North Attleboro at 7 PM. During Advent we will have a special Bible Study, based on the lectionary readings for each Sunday. Details of time and place will be announced.

May you have a blessed season as we remember the birth of Jesus.

A Fall Meditation

Autumn is one of my favorite times of year. There is so much activity in nature as the leaves change and come down. We finish up our gardens and put our flowerbeds to sleep. We prepare for a new season.

The church is like that, too. We start our new programs, Sunday School and Bible Studies, and begin once again our round of church suppers.

In November the church year ends and a new Advent begins. Advent means coming. It entails anticipation. As we see our children prepare for Christmas, with visits to Santa, gift choosing and wrapping, as the tree is decorated and lights are lit, all is in anticipation of that day of coming, the coming of Jesus.

Website: www.PlainvilleUMC.net
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FROM THE COMMITTEES:

The Living Bread Food Pantry – from Becky Simon

Located in the basement of the church, has been handing out bags of nonperishable foods and breads for 23 years. We are currently serving 25 to 30 families weekly. Recently we have received donations from the Wood School, St. Martha's Parish, Lion's Club, and the Kappa Sigma Sorority. We have also received donations from individuals from the community, young and old. I would like to thank everyone for his or her generous donations. We continue to have an increase in the amount of people using the pantry, so before we know it the supplies will be running low again. On Saturday, November 15th, the Cub and Boy Scouts will be collecting food by putting a plastic bag on your door the week prior. Please remember to fill it up with canned and boxed foods; the Scouts will pick up your bag and bring it to the Pantry. Some of the items that we need right now are canned fruits, spaghetti sauces, coffee, rice, and potatoes. We cannot accept outdated foods, so please check expiration dates. If the Scouts do not leave a plastic bag on your door and you would like to donate, feel free to call the church office.

Church Supper Report - from Donna Brown

The theme for Plainville United Methodist Church's suppers is "Come Join Us". This past year this theme played out successfully as has happened in the past. Volunteers assisted in making ten church suppers happen. Whether it was, for example, a traditional supper such as the Calendar Supper featuring Chicken Pot Pie, or celebrating St. Patrick's Day with Corn Beef and Cabbage, etc. the tradition of church suppers continued. Our thanks to the owner of Micheletti's Restaurant for helping with the meatloaf supper; and to Dr. Fatallah for donating fish and doing the fish fry supper. It is clear that our supper guests and all the volunteers continue to make our theme of "Come Join Us" most successful. So if you are reading this report and you think that you have missed out, please don't hesitate to join us for our next supper (2nd Saturday of the month). Come enjoy dinner or come give us a hand – all are welcomed. As always thank you to everyone who volunteers his or her talent, energy, and time.

Country Fair – From Joan Clarke & Melody Ellis

The 2007 Fair brought in a profit of some \$6,200, which surprised us all, since we didn't seem to have as many people coming through as in previous years.

We held a number of workshops; and many people worked before, during and after to make the Fair a success. Rita's Luncheon, Sue and Lynne's Saturday Café, Mel's Pies, and the Silent Auction are always big attractions. Our thanks to all who helped in any way.

At this time, we are busily preparing for our 2008 Fair to be held on November 7 and 8.

DUE DATE FOR COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 20

FROM OUR PRAYER LETTERS:

From Ocean Road Cancer Institute: Deb, Lisa, Barb, Meghan, Colleen

Thank you all so much for your caring thoughts and donations for the patients, families and staff here. Each and every one will have lasting impacts for those who are alone and very much need. Your kindness is an inspiration to all.

From Ethel Cooper

My prayers and my thoughts are with you all.

I now have to wear a brace for my back. It's very tight and helps to give me better posture and does keep the pain in my back so I can stand it a little better. Thank God I don't have to wear it to bed! Now I have to go see a spine specialist at the Orthopedic Hospital in two weeks, and he will tell me the options I have if I don't want a back operation which I don't choose to have at the age of 87.

I had a short visit from Theresa Duffy, one of my nieces, and one of her draughts, husband and family. I was so happy to see them as I hadn't seen them since my husband died in 2005. I enjoyed the puzzle that was in the Newsletter. I'm still looking for one more book. Thanks for the Prayer Letter. It's so nice to know so many of my friends from up North are praying for me.

From Margaret Hamilton

Perhaps Barbara Flück has told you that we meet in the fall of '39 as members of the Simmons College freshman class of '43. I commuted from Belmont, and she was living with her family in Boston. The Prance family had moved into Boston and lived not far from Simmons. A group of us used to gather at her home fairly often. It was always a very warm and welcoming atmosphere. Her Dad played the accordion, and Mrs. Prance passed the homemade cookies. And, even if on my first visit, I did drive down the one-way street in the wrong direction (as her Dad had predicted). We have continued our friendship for a lifetime. When Barbara first asked me if I would like to have my name on a support prayer group her church sponsored, I did not realize just how much these letters would come to mean to me. Please thank each and everyone for their prayers and kind wishes.

From Hazel Potter

Thank you so much for the very nice letters I receive from time to time from your church. It is so nice to receive it and know I am thought of and prayed for. God Bless You All.

From Eileen and Bob Simon (Becky and Tom Simon's folks)

Thank you so much for your thoughts and prayers for our 55th wedding anniversary. To celebrate we took a river cruise in Russia. From St. Petersburg to Moscow. Saw lots of nice sites, and found the citizens of Russia to be very friendly and good people. Enjoyed the trip very much. Thanks again for your prayers.

From The Wojciechowski Family

Thank you so much for the prayers said by your congregation for our mother Rose and for our family. We have received many acts of kindness during this sad time and we want you to know how much we appreciate the prayers said for us.