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To: fccv@snet.net;
Date: Tue, July 3, 2012 11:29:51 AM
Cc:
Subject: Pastor's Weekly Email

Summer blessings, Stormy blessings!

Plans for a dinner of grilled hamburgers were scrapped at the Minnick household one night last week. An unexpected line of thunderstorms came through Middletown shortly before I was to begin grilling. We opted for the alternative plan, spaghetti and meatballs, cooked inside on the stove. But there was an unexpected blessing in all this. Just before the storm hit our area, Maggie went out and picked some fresh basil and other herbs from the herb garden plant I bought her (from our Ways and Means Committee Plant Sale) for Mother's Day.

The fresh basil and herbs greatly enhanced the spaghetti sauce we had in stock. We enjoyed a very tasty dinner while the thunderstorm roared and crashed all around us. It was amazing how rich a blessing those fresh herbs, picked just before being served, were. Certainly one of the joys of summertime.

Last Sunday, we gathered as the guest of Jesus around the sacred table, (hopefully) drawing inspiration on the message of the day which looked at some parallels between kissing and communion.

This Sunday, July 8th, the service will center on drawing inspiration from the challenges of our own lives and that of others. The sermon text is II Corinthians 12: 2-10, in which Paul speaks of the lessons he learned from a "thorn in the flesh." Paul Shimer will be our guest soloist.

Please Note: This Sunday, there will be no Sunday school during the worship hour. Children are welcome to stay with their families during worship. The Crib Room, in the balcony, will be open for any family who would like to use it, but it will not be staffed.

Also, the Kellogg Wing, where our Sunday school classes are often held, will be closed off for some major maintenance. Access into the buildings should not be hindered, but the class rooms will not be open during this time of construction through July 22nd.

The Trustees continue to welcome those who are able to assist at workdays being held on July 7th and 8th. Contact any of the Trustees if you are able to help out.