

Founded 1834
99 Summer St.
Bristol, CT 06010

The Rev. Yountae Kim
Pastor

Rev. William S. Barnes
Pastor Emeritus

Heidi Flower
Director of Music & Organist

Phone: (860) 582-3443
Fax: (860) 582-9224

E-Mail Addresses:
pastorpumc@snet.net
(information meant
only for the pastor)

prospectoffice@snet.net
(all general information and
information necessary for the
Church Secretary)

Website:
<http://www.anewprospect.org>

Editor: Kathy Dube
Layout: Jeanette Baker

THE PROSPECT TOWER

Prospect United Methodist Church

A Growing Christian Community of Faith in Action
February 2018 Vol. 79, No. 2

Pastor's Page

"REVIVAL"

Does the word 'revival' ring a bell with you? You might think of a tent revival which is a gathering of Christian worshipers in a tent erected specifically for revival meetings, healing crusades, and church rallies in early American Christian history. Or it might remind you of recent revival meetings where young Christians gather at a large stadium, sing contemporary Christian songs with a rock band, jump to the music, and pray fervently. Either way, we tend to consider revival as enthusiastic events or movements. However, it basically denotes life. Revive is originated from a Latin word, Revivere (Re-'back' + vivere 'live'). So 'Revive' can mean 'coming back' to life. Revival is a life coming back to us. Revival does not have to be related to Pentecostalism like the tent revival. Revival is about vitality.

Therefore, when we pray for our church's revival, we do not have to expect the congregation to speak in tongues or heal the chronically ill or resurrect the dead (WOW!). Instead we pray, wait, and expect vitality to come back to our congregation. We expect our church's vitality to be renewed and increased. What are the signs of vitality? I think they are reaction and growth. Living animals react to stimuli from outside in any way. Living plants grow toward light or darkness. So we as a living church should spiritually react to God and relationally grow toward people. In order that our church can be revitalized we need to boost up our spiritual vitality and our relational vitality needs to be revived among our church. If we stop reacting to God or we do not reach out to people around us or there is negative tension among us, we are not a living church. We cannot be revitalized.



cont on page 2

I believe loving God and loving people is the way for us to react to and grow toward God and people, that is, to be vitalized. The scripture tells us to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength and to love your neighbor as yourself." We should love God using our heart, soul, mind, and strength and we should consider others as ourselves or as mini-me to love them. The scripture also says "No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us." God will be vitalized among us when we love each other. These loves will be expressed through regular prayer and worship, meditation on the scriptures, generous gifts, and service for people.

Spring is a vital season when everything comes back to life. However, the winter is not a dead season. I believe it is a season of preparation for revival, for a seed to break through a frozen ground to embrace the warmth of spring and for a bud to sprout out of winter clothes of a tree. We need to prepare ourselves to be revitalized and shoot up during the winter, because spring is coming.

Spring is coming! Prepare for the vitality to come!

Under ground waiting for vitality,

Pastor Yountae Kim

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

A shorter version of the Sunday Service, with Holy Communion, in the Chapel.

10 a.m. Sanctuary Service

Traditional service of worship in Sanctuary with hymns, prayers, sermon, children's and adult choir anthems and solos. Holy Communion the first Sunday of each month.

10 a.m. Church School

Children attend opening portion of service with family, then go to Sunday School classes.

11 a.m. Fellowship

Time of fellowship and friendship with coffee, tea, cookies and conversation in Sessions Hall.

THE SEASON OF LENT

Ash Wednesday

7 p.m. Feb 14

Ash Wednesday is the first day of the church season of Lent, which precedes Easter. This year, Ash Wednesday is on Feb 15.

PUMC invites you to a "come as you are" service in the evening with the imposition of ashes.



Lenten Sermon Series 24 Hours

- Walk with Jesus on his final day
- Sit beside him at the Last Supper
- Pray with him in Gethsemane
- Follow him to the cross
- Desert him. Deny him."

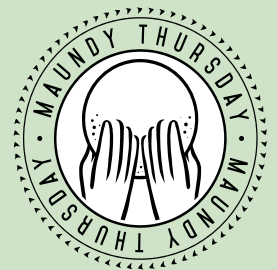


We will explore Jesus's final day. You will experience and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death like never before.

Maundy Thursday

6 p.m. March 29

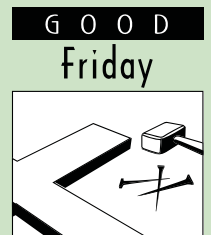
We will have a communion with our family in faith like Jesus did with his disciples at the Last Supper. The word "Maundy" comes to us as an Anglo-French word derived from the Latin "mandatum," which means "commandment." We will remind ourselves of "the new commandment" Jesus gave us that night: "YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER."



Good Friday Service

7 p.m. March 30 2018

We will listen to the last seven words of Jesus at the cross, sing a song of remembering, and meditate on the passion, the love, the goodness, and the grace of Christ. It is music-oriented service.



History Corner

Who Was Saint Valentine? - Kathy Dube

In February, our shortest month, many minds will zero in on February 14th, Valentine's Day, bringing thoughts of romantic gifts such as chocolates and flowers. Ironically, this year Ash Wednesday coincides with Valentine's Day. But who was St. Valentine?



According to the on-line dictionary Wikipedia, "Saint Valentine (Italian: San Valentino, Latin: Valentinus), officially Saint Valentine of Terni, is a widely recognized 3rd-century Roman saint commemorated on February 14 and since the High Middle Ages is associated with a tradition of courtly love.

"All that is reliably known of the saint commemorated on February 14 is his name and that he was martyred and buried at a cemetery on the Via Flaminia close to the Ponte Milvio to the north of Rome on that day. It is uncertain whether St. Valentine is to be identified as one saint or the conflation of two saints of the same name. Several different martyrologies have been added to later hagiographies that are unreliable.

"Because so little is reliably known of him, in 1969 the Catholic Church removed his name from the General Roman Calendar, leaving his liturgical celebration to local calendars. The Roman Catholic Church continues to recognize him as a saint, listing him as such in the February 14 entry in the Roman Martyrology ... Saint Valentine's Church in Rome, built in 1960 for the needs of the Olympic Village, continues as a modern, well-visited parish church. Saint Valentine is commemorated in the Anglican Communion, as well as in Lutheranism.

"Many of the current legends that characterize Saint Valentine were invented in the 14th century in England, notably by Geoffrey Chaucer and his circle, when the feast day of February 14 first became associated with romantic love. During the Middle Ages, it was believed that birds paired in mid-February. This was then associated with the romance of Valentine. Although these legends differ, Valentine's Day is widely recognized as a day for romance and devotion."

Finance Corner

■ Stewardship Change

Carla Heister has announced the following change in the Stewardship Committee:

"It has been my privilege to be the head of Stewardship here at Prospect for the last few years. I have seen the generosity of members of our church family for so many requests — for the annual Pledge Campaign, for the 144 Campaign, for the We Need to Pay Our Oil Bill request, for our Missionary Covenant, as well as for the many times special requests have been made through the past seven years. I thank you all for your willingness to support your church.

"With that being said, it is time to have new leadership for Stewardship and I am pleased to announce that Stuart and Carolyn Brown have agreed to be the head of Stewardship starting in 2018. Please give them your full support as they take on this role within our church family."

Yours in Christ,
Carla Heister

Well done, Carla!

Take care of. That's language not of ownership but of stewardship.

That's the language of



Genesis 2:15 (NIV) — "The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."

What have we been called to "take care of for a little while"? The earth, surely. Perhaps a congregation, a business, a neighbor in need, a volunteer or an employee. A child, who may need less care — or different forms of it — as time goes on. We don't own these people and things. God invites us to be stewards of them, to care for them, to use wisely and value these precious gifts ... and someday, to pass them on to others.

Notes of Interest

■ Chili Cook-Off Tally



There were seven participants in the January 28th Chili Cook-off sponsored by the Women of Prospect. Judges were Pastor Kim, Roger Michaud and Steve Oakes. The winners were: 1st place, Diane Ashworth; 2nd place, Chris Kingsbury; and 3rd place, Matti Verzino. Jackie Palance of Women of Prospect thanks all who participated as well as the judges, adding, "A good time was had by all."

■ Make Your Own Pizza Party

You're invited to a "Make Your Own Pizza Party!"

When: Sunday February 25th
(following 10 a.m. worship)

Where: PUMC Downstairs Dining Room

What to Bring: Your family's favorite Toppings and/or a Salad to share (Crust, sauce, and mozzarella cheese will be provided*)

Sponsored By: PUMC Education Team



Please sign up in Sessions Hall by Friday 2/23!

Middle Ages Group

■ Save the Dates: Annual Renaissance Dinner Show ~ Luisa Gladu, Middle Ages Group Chair

The Middle Ages Group is preparing for our Annual Renaissance Dinner Show Fundraiser. The dates this year are Saturday, April 28th, and Saturday, May 5th.

This year's dinner will transport you to the Scottish Isle, for a fun Celtic Fling! Men in kilts, savory food and intrigue will abound. You will feast on a delicious seven-course meal with their majesties and visiting royal guests while being entertained.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for children 10 and under. To reserve your tickets or a table, please contact Luisa at TheGladus@comcast.net.

We look forward to selling out for both evenings and seeing you there.

Remember, this is a reserved ticket event. No tickets will be sold at the door. Also, if you would like to help out we are always looking for volunteers. Please let Luisa or Gary Gladu know, by contacting them at TheGladus@comcast.net or (860) 582-8383 or see them during Fellowship Hour.

Outreach

■ Souper Bowl of Caring a Success

Our PUMC youth, with your help, filled a trunk and back seat with food for the Agape House. The Agape House, Inc. serves the homeless and people in need in the Bristol community. Thank you for your help and support of the annual Souper Bowl of Caring! Your cup of soup made a big difference!



Youth in their tackle hunger team gear.

YOUTH PAGE



But the Greatest of These Is LOVE!

God shows love to us every day and in many ways. Fill in the blanks below with the missing letters to see how God loves us perfectly!

“For God so lo _ _ ed the world,

that he g _ ve

his on _ y

begott _ n

So _ ,

_ _ hat whosoever

believeth _ _ n Him

should _ _ ot perish,

but have _ _ verlasting life.

—John 3:16, KJV

Answer: valentine

LOVE TREATS

Show others love by baking them a lovely treat!

What you need:

- ♥ An adult to help
- ♥ Refrigerated cookie dough (sugar or chocolate chip)
- ♥ Jar of red jam (raspberry or strawberry)
- ♥ 1 or 2 heart-shaped cookie cutters. (If you use 2, make sure they are different sizes.)
- ♥ Powdered sugar
- ♥ Sifter
- ♥ Knife



What you do:

1. Follow the cookie dough directions for rolling out the dough.
2. If you are using one cookie cutter, cut out the heart-shaped cookies and transfer to a baking sheet. Try to have an even number of hearts when finished.
3. If you are using two cookie cutters, cut out the large hearts. Take half of the hearts, and cut out a small heart window in the center with the smaller cookie cutter. Now you have a heart inside another heart.
4. Have an adult help you bake the cookies according to the dough directions.
5. After baking, place the cookies on a cooling rack.
6. When the cookies are cooled, make cookie sandwiches by spreading jam onto the flat side of half the cookies, and then placing another cookie on top of each one. (If you made cookie windows, use those for the tops.)
7. Sprinkle powdered sugar over your heart sandwiches with a sifter.
8. Share the cookies with the people you love.



**PROSPECT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
99 SUMMER STREET
BRISTOL, CT 06010
Dated Material - Please Do Not Hold**

Return Service Requested