

THE PROSPECT TOWER

Prospect United Methodist Church
A Growing Christian Community of Faith in Action

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Pastor's Page

Learning Life's Lessons

During the Korean War when my father was 10, North Korean soldiers took my grandfather to North Korea. My father and grandmother had to leave the village and went south before they were arrested. That was the last time my father saw him. My grandfather never came back. I have never met my grandfather. I saw him in an old picture when he was a teenager. My father does not have much memory of his father. What I heard from my father about him is that he was very strict, stubborn and rich. He used to spank my father when he did something wrong. I was spanked a lot by my father when I broke rules or did something stupid. Anyway, as I grew up, I realized that from my father's point-of-view, a father must be strong and strict to his children like his father. I believe he did not know how to make and develop an intimate relationship with his child, because he never had one with his father. He did not have an opportunity to learn how to build a relationship with his son and how to express his love for me.



My father and I did not have much conversation until my late 20's. He just told me what I should do and how I should manage things because he thought he knew everything and I was too young to know something about the world. He used to say that I should do what everyone did in the same way as they did. I hated to hear that. He believed that is how a father loves a son: Instructing what he believes is right, making sure a son follows it and correcting when something go wrong. He never paid any compliments about me even if I was an honored student in my school. He cared for me and loved me in his own way, but I felt uncomfortable when my father was around. I did not want to let him down and to tell him my mistakes or wrongdoings. When I graduated from college, that was the first time my father said he loved me and that I had done a good job.

I believed my relationship with my father influenced my other relationships with people. I found it difficult to deeply accept people into my life. When there was an argument or conflicts with friends, or when I let them down, I thought the relationship was over and they would not consider me as a friend any more. So I tried to avoid conflicts and arguments or sometimes tried to draw attention from someone who might dislike me. So I was often tense or stressed. I did not know how to express my love and care for people and manage damages to relationships. I had a lot of friends and colleagues but I did not open myself



I PRAY
THAT YOU
MAY... KNOW
THE LOVE
OF CHRIST
THAT
SURPASSES
KNOWLEDGE.
EPHESIANS 3:17-19, NRSV

(Cont. to Page 2)

Prospect United Methodist Church

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

100 percent. I wanted to be their good friend but I did not give them an opportunity to be my best friend. I wanted them to share everything with me, but I did not share anything with them, because I believed I must be perfect to keep the relationships. At that time I did not know that was wrong, and not just to people who loved and cared for me.

Then the day came to me when everything changed and I experienced what love is (I am going to share details of the event later). Struggling with forgiving someone who betrayed me, through the life and the death of Jesus Christ, I realized how God loved, how he was betrayed, and how he forgave. That was like my story but a little different in terms of how to react after a betrayal. I came to know how deep God's love is, how costly God's forgiveness is, and how much I had been loved, even if I did not have a loving relationship with my father. God's love and the experience of it changed my life and taught me how to love and care for people. That was the beginning of my journey and who I am now. I did not decide to be a pastor. But I decided to be a person who would give what I received from God back to people. I wanted to help people see how deeply God loved and loves them. That is why I am here writing this letter to you today.

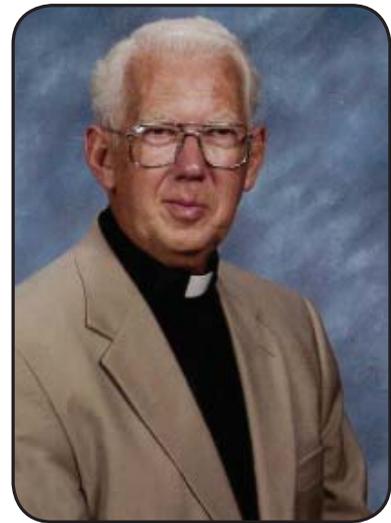
I pray that you can experience God's love in your daily life and within our church. I encourage you to desire God's love working through your life and our worship. I want you to experience the changes God's love bring to our lives. Our church has been through a lot for the last decade. Now we all are thirsty for a change. Only love can change. Only love can heal. Only love can bring it back. Only love can protect. Only love makes things possible. Let God's love go through our lives!

Love Overcomes,
Yountae Kim

■ Former Pastor Dr. Phillip Schnell Dies

The Rev. Dr. Phillip Schnell, Prospect's pastor for 13 years from 1978 to 1991, died Tuesday, May 23rd, at Dempsey Hospital after a lengthy illness. A Memorial Service was held on May 28th at the Simsbury United Methodist Church.

Dr. Schnell is survived by his wife of 62 years, Anne Schnell; four children, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



Rev. Schnell was born in Peekskill, NY, and received his B.A., M.A. and D.Min. from Drew University in New Jersey. He started his career with the New York Conference in 1955 and served at many parishes in New York as well as Connecticut and in Rhode Island in retirement.

While at Prospect Pastor Schnell worked tirelessly at shelters for the homeless, finding affordable housing for the working poor, food for the needy and providing work for the unemployed.

After his retirement from the New York Annual Conference, he gave pastoral support to several churches in Rhode Island. He retired fully in 1993. Prior to that and his wife Anne enjoyed leading many ecumenical trips to the Holy Land and many other places in the world with religious significance.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Music Fund of Simsbury U.M. Church, 700 Hopmeadow St., Simsbury, CT 06070 or the American Parkinson Disease Association, P.O. Box 718 Old Mystic, CT 06372.

For those who wish to send cards to his wife, her address is 8 Beaverbrook Rd., Simsbury, CT 06070.

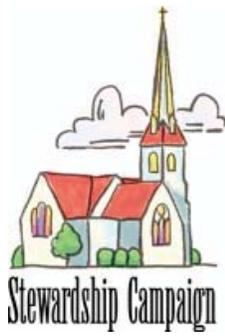
■ Help Wanted ~ The Trustees

Home gardeners are asked to help with a little clean-up around the church and parsonage. Take on a bush or two or weed a garden at your convenience. Bushes need to be trimmed back, trees removed from flowering bushes next to the garage door, gardens except for outside the office door need weeding. We are also looking for someone to power wash the side of the parsonage. Please consider helping in any way you can. All help will be appreciated!

Also, remember we are all responsible for the cleanliness of the church. One way you can help is if you see a mess/ crumbs whether big or small clean it up. Please be kind stewards of this place we call home and pitch in when you can. Many hands make light work. Please contact Chris Wilson of the Trustees or Pastor Kim to coordinate if you have questions, especially with regard to work around the parsonage.

■ 144 Campaign

The PUMC Finance/Stewardship Team has started the “144 Campaign,” which is active now until Labor Day. The Finance Committee hopes this campaign will help augment the budget.



Since the budget to run the PUMC building and programs for 2017 is MORE than the pledged income plus income from investments, this means we are working with a “Faith Budget” for the year: We have faith that we will receive contributions and gifts that will allow us to meet our obligations and expenses for the year.

How to Help: In Sessions Hall, you will see two blue poster boards with little envelopes attached to them ... 144 envelopes in all, numbered 1, 2, 3, ... 143, 144 (the maximum numbered envelopes). You get the idea. If each one of us takes an envelope and, by Labor Day, returns the envelope with the amount of money in it that equals the number on the outside (e.g., if you take envelope 99, you put at least \$99 dollars in it) we will have \$10,440 to help meet the shortfall between pledged income and budgeted expenses.

So pick up your envelope, or just use any envelope you may have, put “144 Fund” on it and put what you can contribute in it and send it in to the PUMC Office. Pastor Kim has promised some interesting incentives as we reach our goal.

■ Church-Wide Retreat

Hold the date of Saturday, September 9th, for a church-wide retreat for adults

only. The Retreat will be held at Mercy by the Sea in Madison. Carpools will leave from the Church Upper Parking Lot at 8 a.m. The \$18 charge per person will cover breakfast of bagels, fruit, coffee and lunch.

The typical format includes some worship time, discussion of church goals, plans and activities for the upcoming year, and time for personal reflection. A sign-up sheet will be available in Sessions Hall. The Retreat is open to all adult members of Prospect Church. Each committee is encouraged to have at least one member to represent them.

■ Summer Sunday School Teachers Needed

The Education Team is looking for volunteers to teach Summer Sunday School to Pre-K-5th grade during our 9:30 a.m. worship service. No experience is necessary, just a love of children and desire to share the love of God with them! All curriculum materials will be provided.

Please consider signing up for one or more Sundays until August 27th! We need two adults per Sunday throughout the summer. Please contact Christa Zaldivar at (917) 386-8599 or email her at cjw02@hotmail.com to sign up or for more information.

■ Missionary To Visit

Our Missionary Helen Camarce (Cambodia) will be in the USA in September, visiting her supporting churches. She will be at Prospect U.M.C. the last week of September.

She is looking forward to seeing all of you again, since it was 2014 when we were last together. Watch for more information as plans are finalized!

■ “Art After Church”

The Education Committee is sponsoring a fun art event on July 16th for all ages and talents. “Art After Church” will be a multi-media event enabling all ages to explore different mediums.

Following church services, we will spread out around the church inside and outside to paint, draw, or sculpt a feature of our church that interests each of us. Everyone is encouraged to portray their vision of the church building.

If you prefer, bring your own materials, but some supplies will be available for those who are inexperienced and don’t have their own supplies including canvasses, paper, crayons, markers, chalk, paint, paintbrushes and watercolors. Paper, markers, crayons, and colored pencils will be provided for children. Adults may wish to do pen and ink, charcoal, watercolor, oil or acrylic, or even photographs.

The following week we will set up an art gallery of our work. Please join us for the fun even if you don’t think you are artistically talented. A sign-up sheet for the event will be available in Sessions Hall.

■ “Hero Central V.B.S.”

Prospect United Methodist Church invites children to soar with us at “Hero Central Vacation Bible School.” This superhero adventure experience includes music that will energize your ears, interactive Bible Fun, super science, hands-on mission hero work, delicious snacks, great games and more.

The fun runs from July 10th to the 14th from 6 to 7:45 p.m. To be a part of all the SUPER fun at “Hero Central,” please call Christa Zaldivar at (917) 386-8599 or visit us online at <http://2017.cokesburyvbs.com/prospect>.

Hope to see you there, Heroes!



Make this heartwarming handprint gift to give your dad or another special man on Father’s Day.

What you need:

- Tempura paint (any two colors besides white)
- A paper plate
- Two paintbrushes
- Your dad’s hand
- White cardstock
- Paper towels
- A pen



What you do:

1. Place paint on the paper plate.
2. Paint your dad’s palm and the insides of his fingers with one color of paint. Set his hand in the center of the cardstock and press down. Let dry.
3. Paint your palm and fingers with the other color. Place your hand in the center of your dad’s. Let dry.
4. Write a loving message to your dad on the blank sections of the cardstock.
5. Give your dad the gift – and a hug!

History Corner

During summer days from the late 1800s through the early 1900s, the Plainville Camp Grounds was the gathering place for area Methodists. The original cottages are still standing today, but are no longer associated with the Methodist Church.

Postcards of the Camp Grounds can be found at post card sales and even flea markets. The postcard featuring people on their porch is a treasure, because it was taken in real time and not produced by a professional company that made multiple copies.



A brief synopsis of the history of the Camp Grounds from PlainvilleCampgrounds.org shows scenes of the cottages and reveals the history of this aspect of Americana. “The Plainville Camp Grounds was founded in 1865 by the New Haven District of the Methodist Church as ‘Forestville’ on the southern slope of a forested, farmland hill in Plainville, Connecticut known as Campground Hill.

“At the end of the Civil War, the United States was swept by religious fervor sparked by itinerant preachers, Methodist circuit riders, and the rise of the camp meeting.”

“Camp meetings were a kind of religious revival to which people traveled as far as 40 miles. They brought their bedding, provisions and tents to form outdoor churches that were in constant session for three or four days. People came out of a yearning for religious worship as well as a desire for social contact and festivity.”

“At Plainville and other camp grounds throughout the country, tents and temporary accommodations gave way around 1900 to permanent Carpenter Gothic, Eastlake and Stick style cottages encircling a tabernacle, dining hall, library and other buildings.”

“By 1901, a total of 3,000 to 5,000 people were gathering each summer at the Methodist Camp Meetings at Plainville. As the years passed, full summer programs developed and even more persons attended, sparked by the presence of several other local and nationally significant organizations. These included the American Temperance Movement, the Grand Army of the Republic (forerunner of today’s veterans groups), Seventh Day Adventists, the Forestville Camp and Bible Conference, and the Connecticut Chautauqua. Chautauqua was founded in western New York State in 1874. It became a summer “Lyceum,” hosting lectures, concerts, entertainment and a summer school for Sunday school teachers.”

“Chautauqua developed a four-year home reading course that, by 1891, enrolled 180,000 people across the nation. The Plainville chapter of Chautauqua brought thousands to its site to hear nationally prominent speakers and entertainers.”

“In 1957, the Methodist Church sold the property to the newly-formed Plainville Camp Grounds Association, Inc. Since then, the Campgrounds have been restored to a vital seasonal residential community. Most of the original cottages and other buildings are privately owned and have been restored, preserved and maintained. The site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.”

PUMC HAPPENINGS



Surprise Shower

Children's Day



Confirmation

Hike



**PROSPECT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
99 SUMMER STREET
BRISTOL, CT 06010**

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