



THE PROSPECT TOWER

Prospect United Methodist Church

A Growing Christian Community of Faith in Action

May 2018

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Pastor's Page

'Wake Up, My Soul!

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.
Psalm 42:5



Finally, spring has arrived! I hope it is not going to jinx us again. The season of hope came back! It has been getting warmer. Some days were hot. Honestly, I do not like this past winter. A lot of things happened to our church family. Someone got injured. Kids got sick. Some family lost their loved ones. It has been a tough winter for all of us. However, I believe we have been through all those turmoils with hope in God. We have praised God in those moments of challenge and grief. Then we are here embracing new spring now (I am writing this hoping it is not going to be like summer when you get this letter).

Psalm 42:5 is one of the scriptures I meditated on during last winter. We can guess David is definitely in the midst of a very difficult situation and his soul is in conflict and in anxiety. But he recovers with hope in God. It is very typical in his other psalm. But the way he comes back to faith is interesting. He is preaching to his soul. He is rebuking and ordering his soul: Do not be disappointed and put yourself together and look up to God.

Hoping in God does not come naturally for us. We must preach it to ourselves, and preach diligently and forcefully, or we will give way to a downcast and disquieted spirit. I love the way David wrestles and fights and struggles to maintain his hope in God. This is a normal Christian experience while we are living in this world and in this flesh. And we better own up to it, or else we may grow sluggish and negligent in our fight for hope.

Like being through Winter to encounter Spring, we have just been through Lenten season and Easter, which is the highest moment of hope. And now is the time to maintain the hope in God in our lives. I encourage you to preach to your soul, "Why are you cast down, O my soul, hope in God!"

Hope in God,
PK



Prospect United Methodist Church

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■ Ministry Fair

Pastor Yountae Kim called for all committees, missions and outreach groups to prepare presentations for a Ministry Fair held on April 22nd. Each group prepared displays in Sessions Hall and were prepared to answer any questions from the congregants. The expectations of showing our many interests, missions and outreach activities were met. This is the first such fair we have had in many years and was such a success that we want to continue with the idea. Watch for notices in the Fall for future presentations.

(See photos on page 4.)

■ Stewardship Message

"It was a real treat to participate in the ministry fair in April. As the chair of the Stewardship Committee, my presentation was meant to convey all of the ways we can give to our church in furtherance of God's mission; each one of us has some measure of time, talent and resources to give. We saw that demonstrated in all of the displays at our ministry fair. I believe that many people were inspired by what they saw. In order to turn that inspiration into action, I have a survey that I would like our members to fill out that I hope will help us match your interests and skills with some of the groups doing great things in our church. Please see me during the coffee hour if you have a moment and I will get a copy of the time and talents survey for you."

*Yours in Christ,
Stuart Brown, Stewardship Chair*

Worship Notes

■ Historical Presentations

The History Committee, a subcommittee of the Worship Committee, will make two presentations during the month of May:

- the history of PUMC Sunday Schools on Children's Day, May 20th; and
- a presentation to accompany the showing of the Memorial Banner on Memorial Day weekend, Sunday, May 27th.

■ Book Review

By Mary Rogers, Worship Chair



"Women of the Bible" by Frances Vander Velde, published in 2000 by Kregel Publications; 238 pages. Frances Vander Velde relates the stories of 31 women in the Bible with discussion questions following each of the stories. She includes modern issues as well as historical and social backgrounds which makes the book an excellent additional resource to other studies. Learn about the power of prayer in the story of Hannah or heroism in the story of Deborah. Find out how Esther save her people from extinction. Discover a different perspective on the story of sisters, Martha and Mary, and their relationships with Jesus. Each of these 31 women have something special to offer. *(This book is available in our Church library.)*

■ Up But Not Away

Many Christian denominations celebrate the Feast of the Ascension, which refers to a post-resurrection event that took place 40 days after Easter.

This year it occurs on May 10th.



According to Luke, Jesus led his friends to a Jerusalem suburb called Bethany. While on a small mountain, he blessed his friends and then rose into heaven while they watched.

The ascension was such a momentous occasion that after Jesus disappeared, his followers had a worship service at the spot. Then they "returned to Jerusalem with great joy."

Because Christ had promised to be with his followers always (Matthew 28:20), from then on they knew he would be with them as Spirit. Jesus' body was up and away, but spiritually he was still and always would be their companion.

Six things you'll never regret :

1. Feeling reverence for your Maker.
2. Showing kindness.
3. Destroying a letter — or not sending an e-mail — written in anger.
4. Offering an apology that saves a friendship.
5. Stopping gossip.
6. Taking time to show loved ones consideration.

Ministry Fair



Middle Ages Group

■ Renaissance Dinner

The Middle Ages Group sold out both nights of this year's Renaissance Dinner, held April 28th and May 5th. Watch for a wrap-up of this worthy event in the June Tower.

■ Relay For Life

Team PUMC is currently its in 4th place for the Friday, June 8th, Relay for Life. This year's theme is "*Carnival for a Cure.*"

In May Luisa Gladu, Middle Ages chair, hopes to recruit some more team members and put together a list of volunteers to help the group man its booth: "If we have power on the field we would like to sell coffee and baked treats again. The Middle Ages Group will donate \$100 towards the cost of the food/coffee, etc."

Services

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.

Youth

■ Easter Egg Hunt

On Easter Sunday, April 1st, 25 eager children scrambled across our church grounds in search of their share of Easter eggs to fill their baskets! Many thanks to Chris Kingsbury for his generous donation of filled eggs. Also, thanks to all the children and families for helping to make this a fun event!



■ Family Fun Day

All are invited to "PUMC Family Fun in the Sun Day" at Hammonasset Beach State Park, 1288 Boston Post Rd., Madison, on Saturday, June 9th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., sponsored by the Education Team. Hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, and paper products will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share.

■ Sunday School Teachers Needed

The Education Department is looking for volunteers to teach Summer Sunday School to Pre-K- to the 5th grade during our 10 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 starting June 3rd! We need two adults per Sunday throughout the summer. Please contact Education Superintendent Christa Zaldivar at (917) 386-8599 or email her at cjw02@hotmail.com to sign up or for more information.

■ Vacation Bible School

"Rolling River Rampage" Vacation Bible School for Pre-K to 5th grade will be held Monday, July 9th to Friday July 13th from 6-7:45 p.m. Children are invited to participate in a week of free activities including Bible storytelling, games, science, snacks, mission, and music! To register, please visit <http://2018.cokesburyvbs.com/prospect> For more information, contact Christa Zaldivar, cjw02@hotmail.com or 917-386-8599.

■ "Rolling River Rampage"

Vacation Bible School (VBS) youngsters have a theme and mission focus each year. This year's program is called "Rolling River Rampage," and everything centers on water! They will be collecting items for cleaning kits used for flooding in the U.S. as catastrophes continue to occur.

Most recently we think of Hurricane Harvey in Houston, Hurricane Irma in FL and Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. In 2016 there was historic flooding in West Virginia. Thousands lost everything they own. Our United Methodist Committee on Relief sent thousands of cleaning kits to assist in the relief. UMCOR always needs more kits!

During May and June, our youngsters will be collecting items in order to put together 10 cleaning kits during VBS. Will you help them by donating items needed? You may create a complete kit on your own, or pull a tag from the display in Sessions Hall. If you wish to bring two items (or more) please take the appropriate number of tags! We hope you will help our youth meet their goal!



■ PUMC Collecting UMCOR Kit Items

Kit items Items needed are very specific per UMCOR guidelines and include:

- 5-gallon round bucket with resealable lid
- Liquid laundry detergent
One 50-oz. or two 25-oz. bottle(s)
- Liquid household cleaner
12-16 oz. liquid cleaner that can be mixed with water. No spray cleaners.
- Dish soap: 16-28 oz. bottle any brand
- 1 can air freshener: Aerosol or pump
- 1 insect repellant spray: 6-14 oz. aerosol or spray pump with protective cover
- 1 scrub brush: Plastic or wooden handle
- 18 cleaning wipes: Handi Wipes or reusable wipes. No terry cleaning towels. Remove from packaging
- 7 sponges: No cellulose sponges due to mold issues (Non-cellulose sponges or "foam sponges" only. Remove from wrapper
- 5 scouring pad: Remove from wrapper. No stainless steel, Brillo pads, or SOS pads (nothing with soap built in)
- 50 clothespins
- Clothesline: One 100-ft. or two 50-ft. lines. Cotton or plastic.
- 24-roll heavy-duty trash bags: 33- to 45-gallon sizes. Remove from the box
- 5 dust masks
- 2 pairs kitchen dish washing gloves
Should be durable enough for multiple uses. Remove from packaging
- 1 pair work gloves



On Mother's Day, we celebrate our moms and everything they do for us. How does God tell us to treat our moms?



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5:16, NIV

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**PROSPECT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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