

THE PROSPECT TOWER

Prospect United Methodist Church

A Growing Christian Community of Faith in Action

May 2019

Vol. 80, NO. 4

Pastor's Page

Today's Passion for the Immediate and the Casual

This is the aspect of today's world that makes the work of leading Christians in the way of faith most difficult. The fruit of Christian life is not that obvious nor does it give an immediate result. When you pray for something, the prayer might be answered right away or in 10 years. Only God knows. So for people used to the world's pace, Christianity is not that attractive.



The people a pastor leads in worship, among whom he/she counsels, visits, prays, preaches and teaches, want shortcuts. They want a pastor to help them fill out the form that will get them instant credit in eternity. They are impatient for results. They have adopted the lifestyle of a tourist and only want the high points. But a pastor is not a tour guide. I have no interest in telling apocryphal religious stories at and around dubiously identified sacred sites. The Christian life cannot mature under such conditions and in such ways.

Friedrich Nietzsche, who saw this area of spiritual truth with great clarity, wrote, "The essential thing 'in heaven and on earth' is ... that there should be long obedience in the same direction, which thereby results, and has always resulted, in the long run, something which has made life worth living." It is this "long obedience in the same direction" which the mood of the world does so much to discourage.

Some of you might be discouraged and disappointed because nothing remarkable like a resurrection happened after Easter. But we need to remind ourselves that we are pilgrims. Pilgrim tells us we are people who spend our lives going someplace, going to God, and whose path for getting there is the way of Jesus Christ. We realize that "this world is not my home" and set out for "the Father's house." Abraham, who "went out," is our archetype.



God
Calls
Abram

(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



*We want to hear from you. Please
email, or phone with any concerns
or suggestions.*

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

E-Mail Addresses:
prospect.yountae@gamil.com
(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

(Cont. from page 1)

Answering Thomas's question "Master, we have no idea where you're going. How do you expect us to know the road?" Jesus gives us directions: "I am the Road, also the Truth, also the Life. No one gets to the Father apart from me" (John 14: 5-6). The letter to the Hebrews defines our program: "Do you see what this means — all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running — and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in" (Heb 12: 1-2, The Message).

It is finished. But it is not over yet. Greater things have yet to come. Greater things are still to be done in our life. We wait, expect, and pray for the greater things God will do in our lives. Do not give up! Keep moving on!

Waiting, Expecting, Praying
PK

**"A MAN CAN ACCEPT WHAT
CHRIST HAS DONE WITHOUT
KNOWING HOW IT WORKS;
INDEED, HE CERTAINLY WON'T
KNOW HOW IT WORKS UNTIL
HE'S ACCEPTED IT."**

—C.S. LEWIS

Pastor Kim To Begin CPE Internship

Pastor Yountae Kim (PK) was appointed as our pastor at Prospect by then Bishop Jane Middleton on July 1, 2016. At that time, PK had been commissioned as a provisional member in the New York Annual Conference. Through commissioning, PK was sent in leadership and service in the name of Jesus Christ, marking his entrance onto the path for ordination as an elder in full connection. Becoming an elder is the final step in becoming “official” in the UMC.

PK will be pursuing required Clinical Pastoral Education credits (CPE’s) by interning in the chaplaincy office at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford. This program will begin the last week of May for 11 weeks, ending the second week of August. He will be at the hospital five days a week, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



We, the laity at Prospect, are PK’s partners in ministry. He supports us and likewise, we support him (and his family). During this upcoming period, PK will need our support more than ever. First and foremost, he’ll need our prayers. Church Council and the Nurture Team will be working on a plan to cover hospital and homebound visits. PK will preach most of those Sundays. There will be a plan in place for pastoral care in the event of an emergency.

We are on this holy journey with PK. Prayerfully consider how you can help our beloved pastor and family. Take the initiative and extend some radical hospitality with a meal, a visit, a card or a call. We look forward to celebrating his ordination at Annual Conference in June 2020.

*Susan Powers, Chairperson
Staff Parish Relations*

SIX THINGS YOU’LL NEVER REGRET

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

Church Council

■ Human Sexuality Update

~Mary Rogers, Council Chair

*God offers each of us
acceptance and love. Let us
pass that love to others.*

In February, the United Methodist Church held a special conference to discuss and vote on the human sexuality issue within the United Methodist Church. A majority voted for the Traditional Plan as the way to go forward. This will be discussed further at the Annual Conference in June and we will hear more about it after the Conference.

In the meantime, your elected leaders of this Church met and talked about how we as a local congregation want to be a welcoming church without prejudice as to sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, faith history, economic status, marital status, physical and mental ability, and education.

We would like to have a conversation with each of you in order to get to know you better and to hear your thoughts on this issue and others that may be of concern to you related to our church. Over the next couple of months, we will be reaching out to you to try to set up time for this discussion. You may be contacted by any one of the leaders (Susan Powers, Stuart Brown, Carolyn Brown, Art Paul, Tim Krauss, Beth Provost, Christa Zaldivar, Kathy Dube, Chris Kingsbury, Jeanette Baker, Lynn Limeburner, Matti Verzino, Vivian Brackett, Carol Rivard, Jackie Palance, Luisa Gladu, or Mary Rogers).

Mission Corner

■ Easter Baskets Collected

Thank you so much to all who donated Easter Baskets for our Covenant to Care drive for children in need. Our adopted Social Worker filled her car on April 7th with gift cards, toys and 50 baskets! She was very grateful. The children will appreciate your generosity.



~ June Schilling
Covenant to Care Liaison

Middle Ages Group

■ Relay For Life

Relay for Life will run from Friday, June 7th, starting at 2:30 p.m. to Saturday, June 8th, at 8 a.m. Middle Ages Group's Luisa Gladu, event chair for Team Prospect, reports, "Team PUMC will be participating in the Bristol Relay for Life beginning Friday, June 7th, at Memorial Boulevard. Join us as we honor our survivors and remember those we lost to cancer. Our team will be setting up the PUMC Pâtisserie, (a fancy French word for pastries/bakery), to raise money during the event. We will be selling Iced or Hot Coffee and delicious baked goods. We usually sell out!

"Closer to the event I will ask for some help baking brownies and Rice Krispie treats, which we will turn into delicious gourmet baked goodies. Our team already has been entered into the Bristol Relay, so please consider joining. We hope to have someone walking the laps throughout the night and if you are really brave, join Gary and I as we 'camp' out on the field."

"We are \$506 towards our goal so far! We all have been touched by cancer one way or another. Relay for Life brings us all together to give each other hope and support. We laugh, we cry and we Relay. I will keep everyone posted as to the theme and plans for this year."

Education Notes

■ Family Fun Outing

All are invited to the 2nd annual "PUMC Family Fun in the Sun Day" at Hammonasset Beach State Park, 1288 Boston Post Rd., Madison, on Saturday, June 15th, 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. We recommend a \$15 donation per family. Please sign up in Sessions Hall by June 9th.

■ Summer Sunday School Teachers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to teach Summer Sunday School to Pre-K to 5th grade during our summer worship service. No experience necessary, just a love of children and the 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 2nd! We need two adults per Sunday throughout the summer. Please contact Christa Zaldivar at 917-386-8599 or cjw02@hotmail.com to sign up or for more information.



Vacation Bible School “To Mars and Beyond”

We invite all children to Prospect United Methodist Church’s “To Mars and Beyond” Vacation Bible School, where kids will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they explore where God’s power can take them.

They will become Voyagers and discover how to serve God and God’s mission for their lives. After a high-energy Opening Assembly time, Voyagers make their way to the Bible Story Station. Interactive Bible lessons reveal Power Launcher (key learnings) to equip them for an active life with God. Your Voyagers will also discover our Vector Verse (Bible memory verse), Ephesians 3:20 - Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us! Students will expand on their discoveries by singing new songs at the Music Station, exploring the wonders of creation at the Science Station, playing games at the Recreation Station, and enjoying tasty treats at the Snack Station. Along the way, the Voyagers will hear about our mission project and respond to a call for action!



The adventures are intended for pre-k to grade 5. To be a part of all the (free) excitement at To Mars and Beyond, contact

Christa Zaldivar at 917-386-8599 or
email cjw02@hotmail.com or

visit the church's website at <https://tmab.cokesburyvbs.com/>
prospect

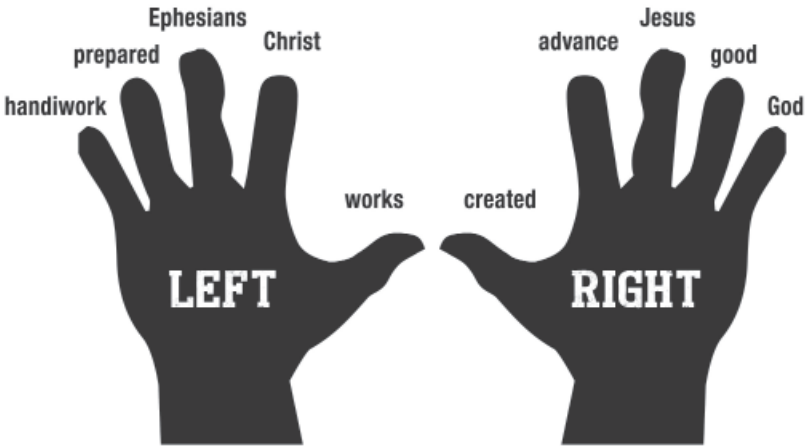
The fun begins Monday July 8th and ends
Friday July 12th from 6:00-7:45 pm at Prospect
United Methodist Church, 99 Summer St.
Bristol, CT 06010.



Handiwork to do good works

God has a special plan and purpose for each of us.

Directions: Use the finger-position clues under the blanks below to complete Ephesians 2:10, NIV.



For we are God's _____, _____ in
L pinky R thumb
_____ to do _____,
L pointer R middle R ring L thumb
which _____ in _____
R pinky L ring R pointer
for us to do. _____ 2:10, NIV
L middle

Answer: handiwork, created, Christ, Jesus, good, works, God, prepared, advance, Ephesians

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

Dated Material - Please Do Not Hold

Return Service Requested