

THE PROSPECT TOWER

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

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Pastor's Page

VISION

As I told you before, my father is a farmer. He has an orchard with peaches, pears, and some other vegetables. After a harvest, he was not always happy. One year the peaches were too small in size. Another year the taste was not good. Nevertheless, he was



always thankful for what he harvested that year. He always expected better for the next year. After harvest, he would ask for some advice from other farmers, try to figure out why the taste was not good or why the size of fruits was small, try new fertilizers in the coming year, and make a new plan for better produces next year. There must be some sad things, bad things, and good things that happened this year.

You might be in complex emotion now. But I believe we are still able to be thankful for what happened to us this year, because God has been there with us all the time. When we go out and look at the field after harvest is done, it might look empty and hollow. But we should be able to see through the empty field next year's abundant harvest, more bountiful and overflowing than this year.

Our church has been so blessed to have you as our members and partners in ministry. I am so grateful to you for your passionate commitment to our church and to our God. God has blessed us with a lot of fruits this year. However, I want us to envision what we can be and what our church can be or should be during this Thanksgiving season. So I share a prayer with you.

"Father, Make us a people of prayer who intercedes daily on the behalf of the needs of our spiritual family both here and around the world.



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.

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"Keep us on our knees, always submitting to you and mutually submitting to one another. May our churches be known as the houses of prayer of which Jesus spoke.

"May we love and live in harmony with one another, so that those around us will be filled with a longing for the Christian life. Lord, fill us and use us so that our friends, neighbors, family and loved ones will be drawn to Jesus as they observe Christian love in action.

"Protect our church from bitterness, gossip and division. Forgive our sins of selfishness, greed, anger, tendency to take things personally and desire for control. Grant us instead, selflessness, generosity, gentleness, long-suffering and submission.

"We, your people, look forward to the day when believers from the four corners of the earth will gather before your throne. On that day, men and women from every tribe and nation will give you the honor and glory you are due. Give us strength and wisdom as we work to bring others into the fellowship of the Church, ready to join with those who worship you with gladness and thanksgiving.

"Heavenly Father, build your Church we pray. Amen."

Thank God and Thank You,

Pastor Kim

History Corner

All Saints Day Methodist History by Kathy Dube

The Methodist Church doesn't believe in saints, does it? As detailed by Joe Iovino for Methodist

Communications in 2015, it's complicated: "November 1 is All Saints Day, a sometimes-overlooked holy day in United Methodist congregations. It is not nearly as well known as the day before, All Hallows' (Saints') Eve,

better known as Halloween, but is far more important in the life of the church.

"John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement, enjoyed and celebrated All Saints Day. In a journal entry from November 1, 1767, Wesley calls it 'a festival I truly love.' On the same day in 1788, he writes, 'I always find this a comfortable day.' The following year he calls it 'a day that I peculiarly love.'

"Wesley cautioned against holding saints in too high regard. The Articles of Religion that he sent to the Methodists in America in 1784, include a statement against 'Invocation of saints' ... Wesley did not see biblical evidence for the practice and discouraged Methodists from participating.

However, he also advised against

disregarding the saints altogether.

"... Scholars have found four, interrelated theological guidelines: Scripture, tradition, experience, and

reason. These are the sources of our understanding of our faith. ... All Saints Day is an opportunity to give thanks for all those who have gone before us in the faith. It is a time to celebrate our history, what United Methodists call the tradition of the church.

"From the early days of Christianity, there is a sense that the Church consists of not only all living believers, but also all who have gone before us.

"Charles Wesley, John's brother, picks up on this theme in his hymn that appears in our United Methodist Hymnal as 'Come, Let Us Join our Friends Above, #709. On All Saints Day we remember all those famous or obscure — who are part of the 'communion of saints' we confess. whenever we recite The Apostles' Creed. We tell the stories of the saints 'to glory gone.'"On All Saints Day, we recognize that we are part of a giant choir singing the same song. It is the song Jesus taught his disciples; a tune that has resonated for more than 2,000 years; a melody sung in glory and on the earth. Our great privilege is to add our voices to this chorus."

Middle Ages Activities

Breakfast with Santa: The popular children's event will be held Saturday, December 15th, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30. p.m. Luisa Gladu, who chairs the Middle Ages Group, reports, "Santa tells us he had so much fun last year with us that he wants to come back and have Breakfast with us again! And Anna and Elsa will be joining us too!



"Breakfast with Santa tickets will go on sale Sunday, November 18th! They will be available in Sessions Hall after the 10 a.m. service. This is a reserved ticket event so no tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets need to be paid in full when ordered or within one week of the reservation date. This will allow us to be fair to everyone as we usually have a wait list.

"Make checks payable to PUMC and in the memo section Breakfast w/Santa. Ticket prices are \$15 for Adults; \$10 for 12 and under,; and Ages 3-12, \$5, to cover the cost of the photo. Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. for seating and Breakfast will be served at 9 a.m.

"To reserve tickets, please call Luisa Gladu at (860) 582-8383 or the church office at (860) 582-3443. In the event of questions, you can also reach Luisa by email, email, TheGladus@comcast.net.

"We also need donations for Elf Mart and we are always looking for help to make the event run smoothly. Please let Luisa know if you would like to help out in any way."

Adopt a Tree: "We will need some help getting ready for Santa. On Sunday, November 25th, we hope to have enough help to bring down the Christmas trees that need to be decorated for Breakfast with Santa. We are looking for people who will come forth again to 'adopt a tree'. You pick the theme and decorate it by Sunday, December 2nd.

"Trees up for adoption are for the Sanctuary, Sessions Hall, Chapel and the Library. We already have someone who has adopted the Parlor Tree. Decide on how you want to decorate it. You can decorate it on the 25th or pick a night for a tree trimming party for your team. Trees need to be taken down by Saturday, January 12th.

"Please let Luisa Gladu know by Nov. 18th if you will be adopting a tree @ TheGladus@comcast.net or call her at (860) 582-8383. Thank you all in advance for your help."

Notes

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service

This year's service is to be held at Prospect United Methodist Church on Wednesday, November 21st, at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served in the lower dining hall following services. We will be collecting nonperishable food items for local food distribution.

■ Thanksgiving Dinner

The second annual Thanksgiving dinner at PUMC will be served in the lower dining hall on Thursday, November 22nd, at 1 p.m. for members of our congregation, family, friends, and neighbors. If you would like to join us, please call the office (860) 582-3443 and leave your name and number in your party or leave your information on the sign-up form in Sessions Hall. Last day to notify us will be Sunday, November 18th, in order for us to have an estimate of how many people will attend. If you need a ride, let the office know so we can arrange it for you. Thank you to Stuart and Carolyn Brown for their sponsorship.



Education Activities

■ Bible Sunday

Education Superintendent Christa Zaldivar announces, "The Bible is the living word of the living God. Prospect Church has a long-standing tradition of giving each third grade Sunday School student a gift of the Holy Bible. We will mark this faith milestone by presenting Bibles during the 10 a.m. worship service on Sunday, November 18th.

It's essential for families to sign up in advance to reserve their child's Bible. If there are any children above 3rd grade who have not yet received a Bible from us, we would certainly like to include them too!

Registration deadline is November 11th. Please contact Christa Zaldivar at (917) 386-8599 or cjw02@ hotmail.com to reserve your child's Bible.

■ Can Collection

Sunday School children will be holding a "Turkey Trot Can Collection"



on Sunday, November 18th We will be collecting nonperishable food items for the Zion Ecumenical Food Pantry during coffee hour. Please consider contributing to help end hunger in our local community! Especially needed: soup, peanut butter, jelly, tuna, cereal, canned fruit and vegetables, and pasta. Thank you!





We have so many reasons to give thanks to God. When we take time to count our blessings, we realize they just keep multiplying and adding up.

Use your multiplication or addition skills to answer each equation.

Then use the word key below to write out Psalm 100:4 (NIV).

WORD KEY

22= him 16= courts 4=gates 24=name 9=praise 8=and 2=to 12= his 18= give 6= with 10= Enter 20= thanks 15= thanksgiving

//

$$5 \times 2 \text{ or } 5 + 5$$
 $12 \times 1 \text{ or } 7 + 5$ $2 \times 2 \text{ or } 3 + 1$

$$6 \times 1 \text{ or } 5 + 1$$
 $3 \times 5 \text{ or } 5 + 5 + 5$ $4 \times 2 \text{ or } 6 + 2$

$$6 \times 2 \text{ or } 6 + 6$$
 $8 \times 2 \text{ or } 8 + 8$ $3 \times 2 \text{ or } 3 + 3$

Answer: "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." (Psalm 100:4, NIV)

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