

# The Prospect Tower

November 2021 Volume 84, Number 7

# Prospect United Methodist Church

# The Rev. Yongyeun LeePastor

Founded 1834 99 Summer Street Bristol, CT 06010

Rev. William S. Barnes Pastor Emeritus Heidi Flower Director of Music &Organist

### **Summer Worship**

8:30 am Chapel 10:00 am Sanctuary

#### **Contact Us:**

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

**Phone:** (860) 582-3443

#### E-Mail Addresses:

yongyeunlee@gmail.com (information meant only for the pastor) prospectoffice@snet.net (all general information and information necessary for the Church Secretary.)

#### Website:

www.anewprospect.org

#### **Prospect Tower:**

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# Give Thanks in Hardships!

"We also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope." (Romans 5:3-4)

November is the month of thanksgiving. We should remember God's grace and thank God for the past year. If the conditions of our gratitude depend

on our environment and situation, we will be full of resentment and complaints rather than appreciation. When we look at the realities of our life, there are actually more unwanted and unexpected things than we wanted. We hope that the Pandemic will end as soon as possible and our lives will return to normality, but we are still not free.



You want to meet, eat, and socialize with your beloved family and friends freely

without worrying, but there are still many restrictions. Even if you want to come to church to worship and socialize with your children, you still fear the Pandemic. Many families and young people are losing their jobs or having financial difficulties. There should be more workplaces and more job opportunities, but the situation is not resolved. Many families are suffering from rental fees or mortgage payments for the house.

But suffering is not the end of hardship. Those who do not believe in God think that hardship is the end of life. However, those who believe in God look at hope in hardship. That hope does not come from people or situations. It is to give hope to God we believe in. Many of the great figures of the Bible met God in hardship, gained hope for God through hardship, and eventually became the protagonists of that hope over hardship.

The apostle Paul was encouraging Christians who are oppressed and persecuted in Rome to be joyful with their hopes even in hardship. He told them not to hide or be ashamed of their hardships, but rather to boast. Because hardships are not the end for you, but the beginning of blessings. Difficulties bring you the wisdom and ability to endure. In Christ, hardship brings about a change in your personality and character. Personally, and spiritually, it makes you more mature, deeper, and more humble. You have the power and ability to make hardships hope for yourselves and win through hope. Now, the long ordeal of Pandemic is almost over. Booster shots have arrived and younger children can now begin to get vaccinated. Soon, the day of freedom and peace will come after the Pandemic.

#### **CALENDAR**

Arts and Crafts Group: November 16, 30, 10 am

Finance Committee November 11, 7 pm

Junior MYF: Sunday, October 17, 6:30 pm

Worship Committee November 14, 11 am

Church Council November 18, 7 pm

Interfaith
Thanksgiving Service
November 24, 7:30 pm

Parish Church Conference November 28, 3 pm

> Charge Conference December 2, 7 pm

Let's thank God for keeping us safe in the Pandemic and for giving us hope and peace in the midst of hardship. In November, we are planning to hold a celebration of thanksgiving every Sunday to thank God for the grace of

God that each committee and each department of our church has given over the past year. On the first week, the Board of Trustees will show us the newly refurbished church by repairing the roof of the church, the classroom, and the parsonage. On the second week, we will thank God for continuing meetings and activities with Sunday School and Jr. MYF among Pandemic such as Family Fun Sun day and VBS. On the third Sunday, even in Pandemic, our small groups will continue to gather in the church and share caring and fellowship with each other. On the last week, we will also announce the sharing that mission teams have done for our community and neighbors in need.

Let's come out to the house of the Lord and have a Feast of Thanksgiving together. I hope it will be a season to thank and celebrate God's beautiful fruits in the rich harvest season.

#### A gratitude game

Years ago, ads for a toy-store chain featured an animated kangaroo jumping on a frown to turn it upside down. That reminds me of family life, which can feel like a nonstop attempt to keep everyone happy. Busy schedules, grumpy kids and tired parents can be a bad combination.

When our family needs to turn frowns upside down, we play the thankful game. The rules are simple: We take turns sharing one thing we're thankful for. Everyone plays. No one can pass. No repeats are allowed. Our kids, now teens, still chime in.

As we share gratitude for football, Grandma, hugs, warm brownies, coffee and more, kids tend to stop bickering, and adults get a mental reset. Try playing — and bring on lots of smiles!

—Janna Firestone

Pastor Yongyeun Lee

### **Music Notes**

#### **Sounds Of Music Returning**

The sanctuary is now alive with the sound of singing from the Senior Choir! Music Director Heidi Flower announces, "We have resumed our regular rehearsals on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. For now, we are practicing in the sanctuary while we wait for the Music Room restoration to be completed. We welcome any new or past singers to join us! our first Sunday with singing was November 7th.



"Our handbell choir continues to work on seasonal music. Rehearsals are at 6 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. We can use some more hands, too! Also, children's chimes has five ringers right now but we can certainly have more kids join us. We have been practicing right after church for about 20 minutes."

Speak to Heidi or any choir member if you are interested!

## Honoring our Veterans

Veterans Day has its roots in what was called Armistice Day, when a peace agreement ended World War I on November 11, 1918. President Wilson proclaimed that Armistice Day was to be marked with solemn pride in heroism and with gratitude for victory as well as the "opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice." In 1954, the remembrance was renamed Veterans Day to honor all U.S. military personnel. It's a reminder to pray for and honor all who serve and sacrifice, to support and assist their families, and to pray that God will bring peace on earth.



# **Small Groups**

#### **Nurture Arts And Crafts**

The Nurture Committee's Arts and Crafts group painted pumpkins and made autumn cards which were delivered or mailed to shut-ins. The remaining sessions this month will be Tuesdays at 10 a.m. on November 16th and 30th to make spool angels, diamond dot key



chains, and Christmas cards. Please join us as we have much fun and conversation.

## Middle Ages Group

#### **Breakfast With Santa**

The Middle Ages Group plans on having the Annual Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, if all goes as planned. Luisa Gladu, who chairs the group, reports, "We will need to follow all



the guidelines for social events in the church, social distancing, children wearing masks etc.

"At present we are trying to determine if we have enough volunteers to make this event happen. If you have helped in the past and would like to do so again, please contact Luisa at (860) 582-8383 or TheGladus@comcast.net. We are planning to have the hot breakfast buffet, the magic show, arts and crafts, story time and a one-on-one with Santa and Elf Mart for some Christmas Shopping.

"The cost for the Breakfast will remain the same, \$15 for adults, \$10 for Children 3-12 and \$5 for children under 3.

The event will run from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This is a reserved ticket event, no tickets will be sold at the door. It has sold out in the past and we hope to have success with it again this year. Please contact Luisa Gladu at (860) 582-8383 or TheGladus@comcast.net for more information.

### **Education Activities**

Education Director Christa Zaldivar

#### **Bible Sunday**

Prospect United Methodist Church has a long-standing tradition of giving each third grade Sunday school student a gift of the Holy 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!)



Education Superintendent Christa Zaldivar reports, "We will mark this faith milestone by presenting Bibles during the 10 a.m. worship service on Sunday, November 21st. It is essential for families to sign up in advance to reserve their child's Bible. The Registration Deadline is November 7th."

Please contact Christa Zaldivar at (917) 386-8599 or cjw02@hotmail.com to reserve your child's Bible. Thank you!

#### **Giving Sunday 2021**

The PUMC Sunday School children will be hosting a collection for Brian's Angels Homeless Outreach Center on Sunday, November 21st.

We will be collecting the following items for the homeless of our community, at each entrance of the sanctuary. Please consider contributing to help the less fortunate in our local community!

- Pudding cups
- Fruit cups
- Peanut Butter crackers
- Cheese crackers
- Protein bars
- potato chips
- Tuna packets
- Powdered creamer
- Coffee
- Pop tarts
- Rain ponchos
- Umbrellas
- Paper plates
- Cold cups
- Hot cups

- Napkins
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Antibacterial Wipes
- Kleenex
- Men's & ladies' deodorant
- Body spray
- Hair brushes
- Combs
- Men's Boxers
- Men's T-shirts
- Thermal Underwear
- Heavy gloves
- Hand, foot, and body warmers
- \$5-\$10 DD and McD gift cards

#### **UNICEF Thanks**

Thank you all for making Trick or Treat for UNICEF a great success! We raised \$252.21 to help children in need, around the world!

PROSPECT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 99 SUMMER STREET BRISTOL, CT 06010