



## Prospect United Methodist Church

Founded 1834

99 Summer Street  
Bristol, CT 06010

### The Rev. Yongyeun Lee Pastor

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

Worship  
8:30 am Chapel  
10:00 am Sanctuary

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# THE PROSPECT TOWER

## Prospect United Methodist Church

*A Growing Christian Community of Faith in Action*

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### Message from Pastor

#### Look for the Lost Sheep!

"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?" (Luke 15:4)



A long time ago, a man was tried in Australia for stealing sheep and raising it at his house. He pleaded not guilty to the police officers, claiming that the amount was a lost amount a long time ago. Eventually, the case brought the man to court. After the judge was wondering how to make a judgment, he brought the sheep into the court. Then the judge asked the defendant to call the sheep. However, the sheep did not respond to the call at all, but rather became more nervous and afraid. Then the judge sent the sheep outside again and asked the defendant to call the sheep again. The defendant called the sheep again loudly. Then the sheep heard his voice and instinctively jumped into the courtroom. The sheep heard the owner's voice and ran to the owner. Only then did it prove that the sheep belonged to the defendant, and he was acquitted and went back home with his sheep.

The owner who lost the sheep thinks of the sheep as his own child, takes care of it, and searches for it when he loses it. I sometimes see flyers looking for pets. Some people say they lost their dog and others say they lost their cat. Some people even say they will give a big gift. Until I raised a pet myself, I didn't know why they would look for a dog or a cat like that. But as I raise pets, they are not just animals, but they are considered my biological children.

Last spring, I lost my beloved dog 'Cola', who I lived with for 15 years. A bear living in the area came down with her cubs and passed by my backyard and bit Cola when she approached them. She was seriously hurt and eventually died. Having lost Cola was like losing my biological daughter, I have missed her for months. And sometimes when I see a dog that looks similar, I fall into the illusion that it's Cola. Pets are no different from our own children.

The pain of losing a pet is big, but if you lost your child, how painful would it be? Jesus teaches us the heart of the shepherd who lost the sheep and the heart of the father of heaven through the metaphor of the lost sheep. If you lose a sheep, you wander around the mountains and fields all day to find the sheep, and when you find it, you return with joy and have a big feast with your friends. The party costs may be higher than sheep ransom. However, you have a big feast at a higher cost. This heart is the heart of God Father and of Jesus.

I came to our church during the pandemic. And at a time when the pandemic turns into an endemic and returns to normal little by little, I think of our church members who have not been able to attend the service in person. Pandemic and the transition of pastors make me think of our church members who could not actively attend worship and activities. Starting with this Lent, I hope we will find our lost friends of faith, be friends of prayer, and connect with each other to gain the joy of finding them again. I hope that each person will be a prayer friend, so that our church will be restored to a community of love.

Pastor Lee

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## Education

Christa Zaldivar

### ■ Souper Bowl of Caring

Our Sunday School's "Souper Bowl of Caring" Collection yielded \$150. As we enjoyed the Super Bowl football game, we were mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat. Thank you all for giving from your hearts! Thanks to your contributions, we will be donating \$75 to St. Vincent DePaul Mission of Bristol and \$75 to Zion Lutheran Church "Meals for Neighbors."

### ■ Thanking Healthcare Heroes

Our Sunday School students and Jr. MYF are joining forces to honor local health care heroes and first responders. They will be making gift baskets with goodies for the Bristol Police Department, Bristol Fire Department, Bristol EMS, and Bristol Hospital.



The Education Team asks for the congregation's help in donating items for the four baskets. We will be collecting items at the church entrances from March 13-March 27.

Suggested Items are listed below. Please note: only store-bought, packaged items

- Cookies (single serving)
- Breakfast Bars/Granola Bars/Protein Bars
- Chips or Pretzels or Popcorn (single serving)
- Chocolates or Candy
- Crackers (single serving)
- Nuts or Trail Mix (single serving)
- Gum or Mints

Please contact Christa Zaldivar (call/text 917-386-8599, e-mail: [cjw02@hotmail.com](mailto:cjw02@hotmail.com)) if you have any questions!

Thank you!

### ■ Pretzel Party

All children and youth are invited to a "Pretzel Party!"

When: Sunday April 3rd at 9 a.m.

Where: Prospect UMC Downstairs Dining Room

Sponsored By: PUMC Education Team

Please contact Christa Zaldivar ([cjw02@hotmail.com](mailto:cjw02@hotmail.com) or 917-386-8599) if you have any questions!

### ■ Camping Ministry

*A Message from The New York Conference of the United Methodist Church "Camping and Retreat Ministry":*

One week of camp can change a life! Experiencing Christian hospitality and community through the fun of Summer camp deepens one's sense of purpose and encourages spiritual growth. Engaging in the outdoors helps youth strengthen relationship skills, appreciate diversity and challenge themselves to live in the moment. Last summer, we saw first hand the toll a year of social and physical isolation took on our community. But through creative programming and a lot of camp magic, we created the summer of a lifetime for our campers and staff! This year, we aim to develop even more exciting programs and outreach opportunities for the youth who need it most. Please consider making a donation today or contributing online!



To learn more about our work and how to support our camps, please visit:

<https://www.nyaccamps.org/camping-sunday.html>

# Nurture Committee Update

## Easter Eggs Painted

Nurture Committee’s Arts and Crafts Group has started meeting again. Chair Mary Rogers reports the group met on February 22nd to paint wooden eggs for Easter. “We will be meeting March 8th and 22nd to color pictures and make Easter cards for those who are unable to attend church. We always welcome new people to our group so feel free to join if you are able.

“We’re collecting empty Quaker Oats round boxes for a November/December craft so if you have any of the large or smaller round boxes with lids, please send them our way. You can give them to Carol Rivard or Mary Rogers or drop them in the office. We need 12-14 boxes and only have 2 so far. Thank you.”



## Luncheons Return

The Nurture Team is restarting the Third Wednesday luncheons in Sessions Hall. The first one for this year will be March 16th at 11:30 a.m. Due to Covid, lunch will be handled a little differently. According to Chair Mary Rogers, “We will provide two varieties of soup. You will need to bring your own soup bowl or mug and your own sandwich. We will also provide place settings, napkins, soup spoons, beverages, and if available individual packs of crackers. No dessert will be served during Lent.

“This is a fun time of socialization so we hope you can join us. If interested, please call or text Mary Rogers at (860) 818-1309 so we have a count of people coming.”

# Music Notes

## Singing Returns

Music Director Heidi Flower announces the return of singing at Prospect Church: “It is great having singing again at PUMC! Our Senior Choir, though small in number, is mighty in spirit! If anyone is interested in joining our merry group, we rehearse every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. in Room 208. Speak to any choir member for more information.



“Kids Praise God started up on March 6. We will have a short practice each Sunday morning at 9:40 in Room 208. All kids ages 5 and up are welcome! There is more room at the handbell tables. We hold our rehearsals each Wednesday at 6:15 in the Sanctuary.”

In addition, hymn singing has returned as well.

## Order Your Easter Flowers

Orders are currently being taken for Easter flowers. These flowers will adorn our altar on Easter morning. The cost is \$12 each. For those wishing to take the plants home, they will be available after the worship service on Easter. This form must accompany payment. Please submit orders during worship service or to the office no later than March 10. Thank you.



In Honor of	_____
In Memory of	_____
Number Requested	_____
Given by	_____

## Middle Ages Group

Luisa Gladu

### ■ Family Fun Movie Night – Relay For Life Joint Fund Raiser For Team Pumc & Team Patty's Pride

We had a great time on Saturday, February 19th for Moana Movie Night! We had 40 attendees and we raised a total of \$280.00, which will be split between Team PUMC and Team Patty's Pride for Relay for Life.

It was fun seeing everyone in their Hawaiian Shirts and bright colors. Especially when during the day we had snow squalls that looked like mini blizzards! Everyone enjoyed their movie combo dinner and the Pop Corn machine was popping throughout the night! Thank you to all who came out to support this event.

### Special Thank You To:

- Gary Gladu for repairing the popcorn machine and setting up the movie & screen.
- Chris Kingsbury for organizing the Youth Group, cooking the hot dogs and kitchen clean up.
- Sarah Michaud for the beautiful flower leis to hand out to everyone.
- Jr. MYF for volunteering to help serve.
- To those who helped us clean up afterwards.

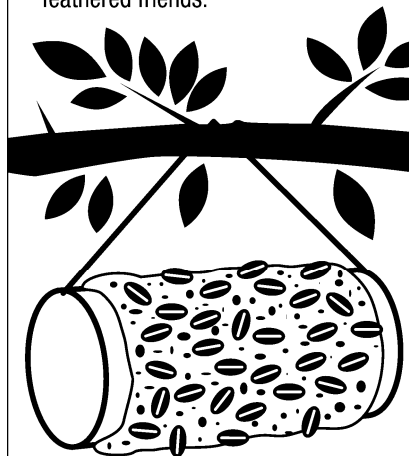
### ■ Special Events

- Saturday, April 16th, Family Fun Night Karaoke, look for more details to come in our weekly updates and bulletin.
- Saturday, June 4th & Sunday, June 5th – Relay For Life – Norton Park – Plainville The theme this year is Holidays – Seasons of Hope and it will be a 24-Hour event, 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Saturday, June 4th to Sunday, June 5th. Our Bakery will be Harry Potter Halloween themed. We are looking for donations of brownie mixes, chocolate chip morsels etc. for gourmet brownies. Please see Luisa Gladu for information on how to register or donate.



## FOR THE BIRDS

Display this recycled craft to care for feathered friends.



### What you need:

- Peanut butter or vegetable shortening
- Plastic knife
- Empty toilet paper tube
- Bird seed
- A plate
- String

### What you do:

1. Spread peanut butter or vegetable shortening on the tube, covering the entire outside surface.
2. Pour bird seed on a plate and roll the tube in the seeds.
3. Thread string through the tube and tie it to make a loop.
4. Hang the bird feeder outside. When seeds are eaten, coat the roll again.



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