



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

"Cast the Net to the Right Side!"

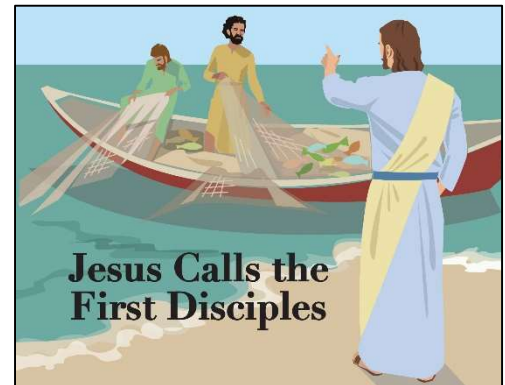
He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many." (John 21:6)

Hallelujah!

Jesus is risen! Easter is already over, but every Sunday is Easter Sunday. The word "resurrection" means dying and then coming back to life. It's a hope for us to come back to life. Being able to start over again gives us courage. It's often said, "If only I were 10 years younger." People in their 50s say, "If I'm in my 40s." People in their 60s say, "Even if you're in your 50s." A 70-year-old pastor said, "Even if I was younger 10 years, I would plant a new church."

We want to start over, but we give up before reality. There are many reasons for health, age, finance, and environmental reasons. Jesus' disciples were also anxious after Jesus was caught. They gathered in one place, couldn't speak loudly, and they were hiding with their breath. They locked the door, and they couldn't walk around because they were scared. Also, witnessing the death of Jesus, the two disciples were leaving Jerusalem and heading to their hometown of Emmaus helplessly. But Jesus showed them and talked with each other. After hearing Jesus' words, the two disciples became warm-hearted. Now they were no longer on their way home. Their steps went back to Jerusalem, filled with hopes and dreams of a new beginning of faith.

The other disciples returned to their hometown of Galilee and went fishing again on a boat. They threw nets all night, but they couldn't catch anything and were in despair. But the resurrected Jesus came. Jesus said to them, "Cast the net to the right side. And you will find some." Jesus didn't say that they would catch more fish than they did in the past, but some. But when they threw the net to the right side according to his word, they caught 153 fish. St. John wrote down the number of fish in the Bible because they caught so many fish like a miracle. Peter and his disciples met the resurrected Jesus and had new hope.



Life without Jesus is still dark and hopeless. No matter how many times you throw, you get empty-handed. However, if you rely on Jesus' words and throw a net, you can get unexpected results. Easter is the new beginning of our lives and churches.

On May 1, 2022, the Global Methodist Church left our UMC and started a new church. I feel heartbroken at the news of the split of the same church. But let's bless the new church which leaves with new hope. And with their new start, let's reaffirm the essence and identity of our faith and throw the net again into the new vision. Let's become fishermen who catch people by throwing the net to the right side with the Lord of Resurrection!

In the season of Easter,
Pastor Yongyeun Lee

Easter Music Memories

By Heidi Flower, Music Director

Psalm 121 begins: "I lift up my eyes to the hills — from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber."

"When I get discouraged with the tribulations of our crazy world, this passage brings me comfort. Growing up at Prospect, I have fond memories of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday as a Junior Choir member. There were always two services and the choirs had hot-crossed buns downstairs in the dining room between the services. It was a full house, with the Sanctuary packed and the sliding doors to Sessions Hall opened for overflow seating! And the music was just incredible — full stops on the organ and marvelous Alleluias from the choirs.

"This Easter was the third year in a row that the services were without singing choirs! A small COVID outbreak prevented our choirs from performing. I had been looking up to the hills a lot lately! Fortunately, all have recovered and we are back in the choir loft and the handbells will be ringing again. I am grateful for the dedication of the singers and ringers that add such a special touch to our worship.



"Speaking of handbells, please mark your calendars for the Shoreline Ringers concert on June 5 at 4 p.m. here at Prospect. It will be a wonderful program!"

Nurture Team News

By Mary Rogers, Nurture Team Chair

Nurture's Arts and Crafts Group has changed its schedule to meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 10 a.m. in the meeting room. Chair Mary Rogers says newcomers are always welcome. In May we are planning to do a craft for Memorial Day. In June we will be learning how to color a pattern on rough sand paper and transfer it to fabric. We hope you can join us.

The Lunch Group is continuing to meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. In May the group we will be meeting at the Parsonage for an Asian meal prepared by the Lees. We will have a sign-up sheet so Ohyeun knows how many to expect. If you are not going to be in church to sign up, please call Mary Rogers at (860) 582-3199 (land line) or text Mary at (860) 818-1309 so she can add you to the count.



Middle Ages Update

■ Relay for Life — June 4th Norton Park, Plainville, CT

Luisa Gladu, Middle Ages Group Chair, invites members and friends to join their team at the Relay for Life event, Saturday, June 4th, 10 a.m. to Sunday, June 5th, at 8 a.m. Team PUMC will be there selling extreme baked goods to raise money to help the fight against cancer.

Luisa reports, "We would love to have you come and help pack the track as participants walk in honor of or in memory of loved ones. This year's theme is Seasons of Hope, teams have chosen holidays and seasons to decorate their sites. Our theme is a Harry Potter Halloween theme. Our tent will be a Magical Bake Shop! We will also have a Harry Potter themed lap during Relay. There will be food, contests, raffles, music and fellowship.



"Thank you to all who have already donated! If you still would like to donate we need baking supplies ASAP. Donations of the following items by May 15th would be wonderful. We Need:

- 10l bs. of Confectioners Sugar
- 10 lbs. of Sugar
- 10 lbs. of Flour
- 10 lbs. of Butter
- Shelled Pistachios
- Chocolate Chips
- Vanilla Extract

Oh and I have been told that Calories Don't Count At Relay!" Please contact Luisa Gladu at thegladus@comcast.net or (860) 582-8383 for more info.

Faith In Action

■ Meals for Neighbors

By Ohyeun Lee

The Meals for Neighbors program started again at the Zion Lutheran Church on Monday, May 2. This program could not serve dinner during the pandemic, leaving only the Food Pantry open. Since last January, volunteers have been meeting with Carla Heister participating from Prospect. Our church decided to take charge of dinner the first Monday of every month.

We discussed plans with each other via email. Carla went shopping; Filomena Butler, Beth Provost and Wendy Carros prepared cookies for dessert; Carla and I cooked; and Susan Thayer and June Schilling came to serve. Van Monak Chhun, in charge of the program, greeted us warmly and showed us the kitchen and food pantry and explained how it works. I am proud to know that the community of Bristol has so many caring ministries and I am grateful to be able to participate.

The menu included baked chicken legs and thighs, cold vegetable macaroni salad, and cookies. As it was the first day we didn't know how many people would come; 25 people were expected and prepared for but around 10 people came for dinner. Almost everyone ate twice as much. It was delicious! Leftovers were sent to another food center.

The kingdom of God is expanded, grown, and established by these small but passionate people. Thanks be to God.



Education

■ Easter Sunday

Christa Zaldivar, Education Superintendent, reports that about 15 eager children scrambled across our church grounds in search of their share of over 450 Easter eggs to fill their baskets! Thank you to all who donated filled Easter Eggs: Jennifer, Chris, Laura, and Jeanette!



■ Father-Daughter Dance

"All are invited to a Father-Daughter Dance on Sunday, June 12th, from 4-7 p.m. in Sessions Hall. Tickets must be reserved in advance, by signing up in Sessions Hall or contacting Gabi Orcutt (321) 626-8461. The cost is \$25 per pair, \$5 for each additional guest, to be paid at the door. Dinner, dessert, dancing, and a keepsake photo will be included. Sponsored by Jr. MYF."

■ Summer Teachers Needed

"We are looking for volunteers to teach Summer Sunday School to Pre-K-7th grade throughout the summer months: of June, July, and August. No experience is necessary, just a love of children and a 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 5th! We need two adults per Sunday. Contact Christa Zaldivar at (917) 386-8599 or cjw02@hotmail.com to sign up or for more information.

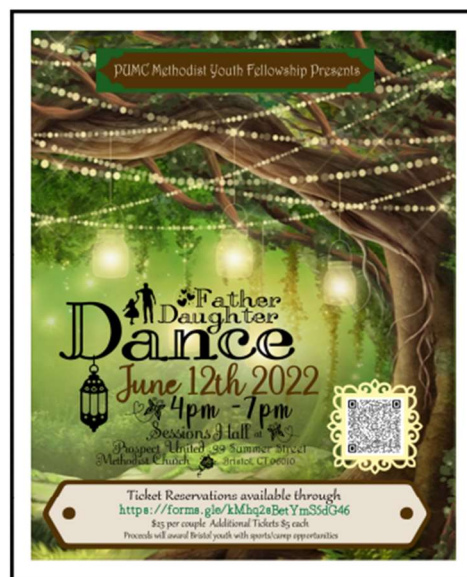
■ Fun in the Sun

"All are invited to our 'PUMC Family Fun in the Sun Day' at Hammonasset Beach State Park, Saturday June 18th, from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. We are asking for a \$10 donation per person (\$25 max per family) to cover the cost of renting the pavilion, to be paid upon arrival. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Drinks, Ice Cream, and Paper Products will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share. Activities will include water balloon fight, relay races, pie eating contest, watermelon exploding and more! Please sign up in Sessions Hall by 6/11. Sponsored by the Education Team."

■ Food Truck Party

"We invite all Pk-5th graders to Prospect United Methodist Church's 'Food Truck Party' Vacation Bible School, where kids will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time! The fun begins Monday, June 20th and ends Friday, June 24th from 5:45-7:45pm at Prospect United Methodist Church, 99 Summer St. Bristol, CT 06010.

"To be a part of all the (free) excitement at Food Truck Party VBS, contact Christa Zaldivar at (917) 386-8599 or cjw02@hotmail.com."





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