



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

NYAC Cooperative Parishes: "One body, One Spirit, One Hope"

"Therefore, as a prisoner for the Lord, I encourage you to live as people worthy of the call you received from God. Conduct yourselves with all humility, gentleness, and patience. Accept each other with love, and make an effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit with the peace that ties you together. You are one body and one spirit, just as God also called you in one hope. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Creator of all, who is over all, through all, and in all." (Ephesians 4:1-6)

Hello! My friends,

How is your summer going?

I had a good vacation and came back to church safely. During the vacation, I met my two sons in the south, met Ohyeun's uncle from South Korea, and attended a pastor's retreat and met old friends. I was so happy to see my family and friends that I couldn't meet with during the Pandemic. Through the vacation, I had enough rest and renewed strength in my body and soul.

During the Pandemic, there was a big change in our life and church. Last April, the bishop and the cabinet faced a big challenge while proceeding with the normal appointment process. Five pastors were waiting for appointment, but there were 40 churches left waiting for appointment. There was an absurd lack of pastors to be appointed to 40 churches. Eventually, the cabinet stopped the appointment process and began to come up with countermeasures. Instead of sending a pastor to one church, it is necessary to try to change "the parish cooperative system" in which a pastor serves several churches or two or three pastors serve several churches together. This change in the church is due to the fact that many of the pastors retired early due to the Pandemic. Some people retired early because of their health issues and others did so because of the new technology changes. The bishop and cabinet learned of the need to reorganize the system of the conference, looking carefully again at all the pastors, all the churches, congregations and communities.

In 2019, the New York Annual Conference already organized all churches into cooperative parishes. The conference was to make the church's ministry more effective through mutual cooperation and support for evangelism and mission in



A visit to Rock City, Chattanooga, TN

each region. However, the need for such a parish ministry has become more urgent due to Pandemic. Parish ministry saw new possibilities for ministry as pastors and churches cooperated and supported each other. It is to share the talents and gifts that individual churches have and to cooperate together for common missions and goals. You can also expect a more effective ministry while filling up scarce human and material resources together.

For this work, two lay representatives of each church will work for the Parish Council from September of 2022. In this council, they work together by sharing each church's programs and activities and by sharing what they can cooperate with each other. This August, "Kids for Christ Fund Day" was held at Bakerville UMC, where children and church members gathered together to play fun games and have fellowship. Our church is also planning the 2023-24 Confirmation Class with Asbury Church. Also, we are informing other churches of the "Rally

Benefit Concert and Picnic" on September 11th to participate and cooperate together. Many more events will be held in cooperation with each other.

Pandemics can negatively affect us, but they can also give us new spiritual challenges and visions. Pandemic shrinks our bodies and minds, and economic, political, and social crises come, but there we see God's plans and providence. God saved the people of Israel through the 10 disasters of Egypt, and through the miracle of Red Sea, Israel experienced hope in God, but Egyptians despair. I pray you will have a victory by looking at the light of God's life and hope in a world darkened by pandemic.

(For more information about Parish ministry, visit <https://www.nyac.com/cooperative-parish-resources>.)

On the threshold of Fall,
Pastor Yongyeun Lee.

Welcome to Lay Servants

Welcome to New Lay Servants Corey Nagle and Don Orcutt.

Corey Nagle, New Lay Servant

Pastor Lee asked me to introduce myself and to share my hopes for contributing to the PUMC's ministry. I was born in western Pennsylvania and grew up in a small town north of Pittsburgh. After graduating college, I moved to Bristol in May 2001 to work at Indian Rock Nature Preserve where I lived and worked for a little over four years. Since then, I have taught middle and high school science in Southington and Bristol. I currently live in Bristol with my wife, Johanna, and daughter, Ella, and teach science at Bristol Central High School.



While growing up, my parents were committed to providing a Christian foundation for my life. I cannot remember a time when my family wasn't actively supporting my spiritual development. My first years were guided by family and the congregation at a local Presbyterian church. During the summers and days when I was not in school, I would accompany my mom, the part-time church secretary, to church becoming more helpful with small jobs as I got older. During my time growing up in church, my parents served as leaders of the youth group and I saw them modeling positive, Godly relationships. My grandparents also fostered faith in God and Jesus Christ.

I attended Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and church services and events. Over time, I developed a sense of who God is and the importance of God and Jesus in my life. When I was in junior high, I publicly professed my faith as I joined the church. Later, my family decided to explore other churches and we began attending a United Methodist Church. When I moved to Connecticut, I felt the need to find a church, first attending Bristol Baptist Church, where Johanna and her family were members, and later First Baptist Church of Southington.

Several years ago, my family and I decided it was time to find a new church family and we found ourselves welcomed at PUMC by Pastor Kim. Since first attending Prospect, my family and I have felt welcomed and encouraged by the church's "Welcoming Statement" and interactions with the pastors and church members. Pastor Lee's book study on being the bridge to promote racial reconciliation along with the continuing dialogue on ways we can grow and support others in God's love have continued to engage us. We have witnessed the outreach from MYF projects and VBS to collection of back-to-school supplies, Christmas gifts, and Easter baskets to breakfast with Santa and Relay for Life and have tried to help where we can to support the mission of Prospect and the work of God's Kingdom. After attending PUMC for several years, I joined the church on Easter Sunday of 2022.

When Pastor Lee asked me to consider being a Lay Servant and Speaker, I was not sure if I was the right person. I acknowledge that I am new to this church family. However, I am hopeful that I can use my spiritual gifts to contribute to the work that is being done at Prospect. I hope to encourage and add to the spiritual gifts that are already present at PUMC. I look forward to continuing the racial reconciliation dialogue group to foster Biblical approaches to addressing social justice issues including and beyond race.

I hope to do this in ways that show love to our neighbors through humble and just actions. I am also looking forward to working with Pastor Lee to plan and facilitate other opportunities to engage members and the community. I pray that my family and I can continue to join with PUMC as we keep our focus on God, loving our neighbors, and working for God's Kingdom.

Donald Orcutt, New Lay Servant

Greetings fellow Prospect UMC members. My name is Donald Orcutt, and I recently finished the Basic Lay Servant course after being recommended for it by Pastor Lee. I want to share with you a little about my life and faith journey leading to this point as I hope to get to know each of you as well in future fellowship opportunities.



I am soon to be 33 years old, and have a wonderful family with my wife Gabrielle and three kids, Orion, Madeline, and Lucy. My wife and I were born and raised in Brevard County FL, or more commonly known as The Space Coast. In fact, my wife's high school was named Space Coast Jr/Sr High. I had an early introduction to my faith having been baptised as an infant in a Catholic church and attending service for the first 5 or 6 years of my life with my mom, brother, and sister. Unfortunately, this sort of crippled my faith as a young boy as I struggled to understand why I was not able to partake in the communion element of service. My mom never fully explained to me the reasoning and it wasn't until many years later after we stopped attending church as a family that I discovered the reasoning behind this. I was reintroduced to faith and church through a program at a baptist church called Awana where I would attend regularly on Wednesday evenings with a close family friend. This was a positive contrast to my previous experience as it was vibrant and encouraged growing in personal understanding of the bible and Christ. This was also the point in my life where I formally accepted Jesus as my Lord and savior. This time was short lived as I entered my teenage years soon after and never had an opportunity to become a regular member of a church mostly because my parents split up and I spent weekends with my Dad who had a more private faith life and was focused on other matters come Sunday morning. To truly develop as a Christian I believe parents have to take the charge in showing their children what faith looks like and being the example. Without parents leading the charge children are left to figure it out on their own and in this modern age that has become increasingly more difficult as Christianity and secular society has a widening rift.

It wasn't until about 15 years later when I found I was becoming a father myself that my faith flame was reignited. Around 2016 I started attending a church that was full of passion and energy where I really rediscovered what faith looks like. I couldn't get Gabi interested in this church because it wasn't her style of praise and worship. So, one day shortly after Orion was born we were sitting at breakfast and I was looking through a local newspaper classified section in search of something for us to do over the weekend. It was close to Christmas time and I noticed this ad for a church service that was labeled "A Blue Christmas" and it was described as a service for people who have lost loved ones. Gabi's mom had passed away just a couple years prior and my dad passed away in 2011 so we're really two people hurting and pining for ways to overcome our grief as young adults with a big hole in our hearts. We attended this service which was at Suntree United Methodist and were overcome with joy at the service that we decided we would return the following Sunday. Since that day we have been faithful members of UMC and upon moving to Bristol we discovered Prospect as a place with such a welcoming and loving congregation that has become a family to us as we have no family here in CT.

It is my honor and privilege to be a lay servant to this congregation as it gives me an opportunity to give back in service to you all. My hope is to form and lead a couple different small groups centered around getting outside and out in the community to show how we can praise God's creation together in fellowship and to reach members of our community in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Curiosity is at the heart of discovery, we don't need to look any further than the beautiful children of the world to agree on this simple truth. My vision is this: If we can form a group that regularly meets at a place where other people in the community are gathered and center our time around fellowship we can chip away to get to that innate curiosity inside their soul and hope to start having conversations. It could be as simple as a walking group or a recreation group and when we meet regularly other people that may be at that place on a regular basis will start to wonder why do I always see that group at the same time and who are they or what are they talking about or why are they so happy all the time. That curiosity may just lead to conversation, and if nothing else we can rest in the comfort of each other's company. Stay tuned for more details when these groups form!

Middle Ages Update

By Luisa Gladu, Chair

■ So, what does one do in the middle of a heatwave? You start planning the Breakfast with Santa!

Save the Date: Breakfast with Santa: Santa will be with us on Saturday, December 10. Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. and the festivities go on 'til 12 noon.

Santa and Mrs. Claus had such a great time with us last year that they will be here to meet all the boys and girls and their families. Santa once again will magically bring his workshop and office to Prospect United Methodist church for one day to help celebrate Christmas.



Our guests will enjoy a delicious hot breakfast and spend the morning doing Arts and Crafts, shopping at Elf Mart, watching a Magic Show, listening to a Christmas story and of course getting to talk to Santa and take a photo with him to take home.

Tickets will go on sale November 6 in Sessions Hall. This is a reserved ticket event which sells out very quickly as there are limited seats. No tickets are sold at the door. Ticket Prices are: Adults, \$15; Children ages 3–10, \$10; Children under 3, \$5 to cover the photo costs. Profits this year will go towards the church's Heating Bill.

If you cannot attend the breakfast but would like to help, donations to offset the food and supply costs are always welcome. We have also had donations from PUMC Angels to purchase tickets for families in need.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Luisa Gladu at thegladus@comcast.net.

■ Relay for Life Annual Valentines Dinner Dance



We may have found a bigger venue to host our annual Relay for Life Valentines Dinner Dance. We are tentatively planning on either Saturday, February 11th or 18th depending on availability. This fundraiser has always been a great start to our Relay for Life fundraising.

My sister Angie and I co-host this event. In the past we have raised over \$1,500 which was split between Team PUMC to honor our PUMC survivors and those we lost and Team Patty's Pride which is in memory of our mother Patty Orefice who lost her battle May 2015.

Tickets are \$40 per person. The cost covers dinner, coffee, tea, dessert and DJ. There will be a cash bar, raffles, prizes and fun! More information to follow.

■ Annual Renaissance Dinner Show Fundraiser: April 29 and May 6, 2023

We have been asked if we can bring our Annual Renaissance Dinner Show Fund Raiser back in 2023. We would love but it all depends on if we get enough volunteers and if it will be safe to do so. Our Annual Dates are always the last Saturday of April, which will be April 29th, and the First Saturday of May, May 6.

The theme will be a Scottish fling. We'll transport you to the Scottish Isle, for a fun Celtic Fling! Men in kilts, savory food and intrigue will abound. You will feast on a delicious 7-course meal with their majesties and perhaps some visiting royal guests while being entertained.

Once again this is a reserved ticket event. No tickets are sold at the door. Ticket Prices are Adults: \$30; Children 10 and under, \$20.

Tickets will go on sale the end of February. We have sold out both evenings in the past and the event is limited to 90 guests so reserve your tickets or a table early by contacting Luisa @ thegladus@comcast.net.

Renaissance costumes are not required but encouraged.

Choir Invitations: Calling Singers and Ringers

Senior Choir and Handbell Choir will resume rehearsals beginning Wednesday, Sept 7. Handbells start at 6p.m. and Senior Choir at Director Heidi Flower or any choir member if you are interested. New folks are always welcome!! Please speak with Music



Nurture Team

■ Update

Wednesday Lunch Group will be starting up its Wednesday lunches on the third Wednesday of September (the 21st) according to Chair Mary Rogers: "We will do salads for this luncheon as I expect it will still be warm weather. I am looking for people to make the following salads: green salad, macaroni salad and caprise salad. We also are looking for people to bring a loaf of sliced Italian bread with butter, a few desserts, and beverages. I will provide deli items (sliced ham, roast beef, and turkey)." Please contact Mary Rogers at (860) 582-3199 or text her at (860) 818-1309 with what you would like to bring to the luncheon

Arts and Crafts Group will resume on the fourth Tuesday of September (the 27th). "For this first meeting, we will have coffee/pastry and discuss the upcoming schedule, special craft ideas, etc. Then we will do some coloring or painting. The group grew from 6 to 14 people last year. We had great fun and companionship. This is an adult only group. Please join us."

Education

From Education Superintendent Christa Zaldivar

■ Prospect Nursery Dedication

Last December our beloved nursery caretaker, Patti Fiorillo, passed away unexpectedly. The Education Team has dedicated the nursery of Prospect United Methodist Church in her memory. May her spirit live on in those who gather, play, and build friendships in this space.



■ Food Truck Party

PUMC was filled with chefs this summer at the Food Truck Party Vacation Bible School. Twenty-four children from Pre-School to Grade 5 met Top Chef Sue and DJ Cupcake each evening, learning how God provides for us. "On a Roll with God" was the theme of this fun-filled and exciting adventure. Enabling all to learn that "God is Great! God is Good! Let us thank God for our food! By God's Hands we all are Fed! Give us, Lord, our daily bread!"

The learning encompassed God providing manna and quail; Elijah, the Widow, and the Endless Oil; Daniel and friends eating the good stuff; Jesus Feeds the 5,000 plus; and Jesus Cooks the Catch of the Day in our Bible story time. Game time centered on these same themes. Curiosity was piqued as budding chefs experimented with science and were engaged in thoughtful discussion during Mission time.

Thanks to Nick Valenta of Smetana Food Truck for helping kick off VBS. And thanks to Daren's Ice Cream Truck for bringing us cold treats for our closing celebration! Many thanks to the adult and youth volunteers of Prospect United Methodist Church who helped guide our chefs on their adventures!



■ Junior MYF

Our Junior MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship) program for 6th-8th graders will continue! We are inviting students to participate in bi-monthly Sunday evening meetings from 6:30 to 8 p.m. which will include fun, faith, and fellowship! We will also plan some community service projects in which students will learn to serve our church community and the greater community around us.



Our 6th-8th graders are welcome to invite friends to join our meetings!

Please mark your calendars for our first Junior MYF meeting of the year, which will be held on 9/18 at 6:30 p.m. at church! Please contact Christa Zaldivar if your child is interested in participating: e-mail: cjw02@hotmail.com or call/text (917) 386-8599.

■ Rally Day

The beginning of the new Sunday School year is nearly here! Sunday September 11th, is our Rally Day! We will host a picnic and benefit concert, by Christian-based band "True North Rising" following the 10 a.m. worship in the upper parking lot. Burgers and hot dogs will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. \$10 is the suggested donation.

Students will meet Sunday School teachers for pre-k through 7th grade. Registration forms will be available. Sunday School classes at Prospect United Methodist Church will begin on Sunday, September 18th. If you have any questions, please contact Christa Zaldivar at cjw02@hotmail.com or (917) 386-8599.

Heat'n up PUMC! Benefit Concert and Picnic

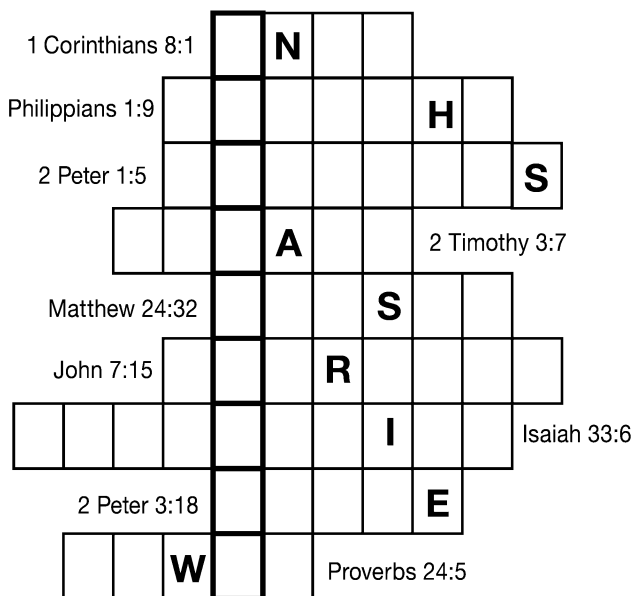
Sunday, September 11, 11:00am
Sign-up in Session's Hall.
Please bring a dish.

True North Rising is a CT faith-based band that blends rock, americana, and blues and sends a hopeful and inspirational message.



Puzzle!

Look up each verse in an NIV Bible and find a word that fits in that row. Then write the word from the bold vertical column in the blank below to complete Proverbs 24:3-4.



By wisdom a house is built, and ...
 through _____ its rooms are filled with
 rare and beautiful treasures.

PROVERBS 24:3-4, NIV

Answer: know, insight, goodness, always, lesson, learning,
 foundation, grace, power, knowledge



PROSPECT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
99 SUMMER STREET BRISTOL, CT 06010