

THE PROSPECT TOWER

Prospect United Methodist Church

A Growing Christian Community of Faith in Action

October 2023

Vol. 87, No. 7

Pastor's Page

GO AFTER LOST SHEEP

Jesus often ate and socialized with sinners and tax collectors. Then the Pharisees and scribes accused Jesus of being in touch with the sinners. Jesus told them the parable of a shepherd going for a lost sheep in order to teach them why he should socialize with sinners. Jesus said that finding sinners was his purpose in the world. It also emphasizes that it is our mission to find sinners, and lost sheep.

Who is the lost sheep in our church? "Lost sheep" refers to a person who does not attend worship service regularly or church activities or class meetings. Sometimes, we call them as 'VIP.' 'VIP' means literally 'very important person.' In general, the most important person is the pastor or the lay leader who devotes a lot to the church. But, in our class meeting, 'VIP' is an inactive member or a newcomer. So we focus on VIPs first at the church.

The class leader and members should be the first person to go after them, expressing that they have been missed, asking if they are doing okay, and asking if they are willing to come back to the church. The class members should again ask the person how they are doing, express that they have been missed, and indicate that the group hopes they will be able to return. If they are unwilling to return to church, the leader cannot force them to come. The class members should never be like some telemarketers who refuse to take no for an answer and call repeatedly. Our purpose is not to harass people. And we should always respect people's decisions, even if we are grieved by them. Some people might find it hard to accept, but this is in keeping with God's own posture toward us. The basic purpose of following up with folks who miss a meeting is simply to let them know they were missed.

One of the reasons people often begin to distance themselves from a group is because they do not feel as if their presence is significant. The purpose of the class meeting is to keep in touch with all of you who are lost for a week and take care of each other.

From the first Sunday of October, the class meetings that we've been preparing for will begin. We hope that our faith will mature, and the church will grow by going after the lost sheep, and also by watching over one another and strengthening our relationship with God.

Pastor Yongyeun Lee

"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)



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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MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD!

Choir rehearsal schedule is on
Wednesday:

- Handbells - 6 p.m. (in the Sanctuary)
- Senior Choir - 7 p.m. (in Room 208)

New singers and ringers are most
cordially welcome!!!

Please speak to Heidi if you have any
questions.

Faith in Action Project

Mary Rogers for Carla Heister

During the September 17 10 a.m. service the congregation was addressed by Al Church, Executive Director of the Connecticut DAV. He spoke about the ministries the DAV conducts and thanked the congregation for participating in the Connectional Ministry of supplying homeless vets with scarves and hats to go along with the coats the DAV supplies. Members of the congregation made over 35 hats and scarves for this ministry (see picture).



The DAV would like us to continue with this ministry for next year. If you are interested, please let Carla Heister know. Most of the hats and scarves go to male vets so be sure to use appropriate colors for them. There is a large box in the supply room marked DAV hats and scarves. Your finished products can be left there or in the office marked DAV. We have a year before they will collect them. There is some yarn in the supply room you can use.

Nurture Team

Mary Rogers, Chair, Nurture Team

Arts and Crafts Group

The first meeting of the season was held on Tuesday, September 26, where we did watercolor paintings (see picture). Fun was had by all. At our next session (10 a.m. on Tuesday, October 10), we will be decouping keepsake boxes. All materials are provided. On Tuesday, October 24, we will be painting wooden pumpkins. Hope you can join us.



Education News

from Director Christa Zaldivar

Trick or Treating for UNICEF

On Sunday, October 22, during the 10 a.m. church service, our Sunday School students will be dressed in their Halloween costumes and trick-or-treating for UNICEF!



UNICEF is an organization that works in cooperation with governments and non-governmental organizations to save and protect the world's most vulnerable children, working to ensure child rights and providing health care, immunizations, nutrition, access to safe water and sanitation services, basic education, protection and emergency relief.

We are asking for the congregation's help in collecting loose change. Please bring as much loose change (or dollar bills) as possible, to help our children fundraise!

Middle Ages Renaissance Group Update

By Luisa Gladu, Middle Ages Chair

SAVE THE DATES

Breakfast with Santa:

Saturday, December 9, 8:30 a.m. to Noon.

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, meeting Mrs. Claus and then getting to talk to Santa and get a photo with him to take home.

Tickets go on sale Sunday, November 5, in Sessions Hall and will be advertised throughout the community. This is a reserved ticket event which sells out quickly.

Seats are limited and no tickets are sold at the door. Profits this year will go towards the church's Oil/Heating Bill.

Ticket Prices are: Adults - \$15; Children ages 3 - 10, \$10; Children under 3 - \$5 to cover the photo costs. If you can't attend the breakfast but would like to help, donations to offset the food and supply costs are always welcome. In the past we have also used donations from PUMC "Angels" to purchase tickets for families in need.

To volunteer or donate, please contact Luisa Gladu at thegladus@comcast.net.

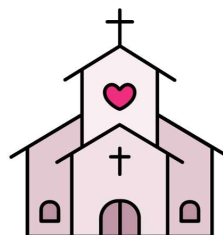
Christmas Open House:

Friday, December 15, 5 to 7 p.m.

Join us as we open our PUMC doors to our beautifully decorated church to the community. Santa and Mrs. Claus will welcome our guests as they enjoy cookies, hot chocolate and fellowship with church members in our beautifully decorated Hall, Parlor and Sanctuary.

This is a great time to showcase some of our missions and what we do in the community. Help us welcome our guests, please sign up to bake some delicious cookies and snacks and spread some Christmas cheer.

For more info please contact Luisa @ thegladus@comcast.net.



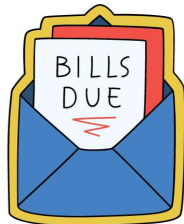
Relay for Life Valentines Dinner Dance Fundraiser: Saturday, February 17

Join us for our annual Relay for Life Valentines Dinner Dance fundraiser on Saturday, February 17 at Lola's Banquet Hall, King Street, Bristol from 7 to 11 p.m. This fundraiser is the start to our Relay for Life fundraising. My sister Angie and I co-host this event and the money raised is 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 \$35 per person and the cost covers the buffet dinner, coffee, tea, dessert and DJ. There will be a cash bar, raffles, prizes and fun! This year we have an amazing handmade quilt donated by Melissa Brown that will be raffled. Look for more info to come.

**Annual Renaissance Dinner Show Fundraiser:
April 27 and May 4, 2024.**

Join us for our Annual Fundraiser, profits will go towards our Oil/ Heating Bill. Enjoy an evening of food, fun and courtly fellowship. You will feast on a delicious 7-course meal with their majesties and perhaps some visiting royal guests while being entertained.



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. No tickets are sold at the door. Renaissance costumes are not required but encouraged. We have sold out both evenings in the past, and no seating is limited to 90 guests. Reserve your tickets or table early by contacting Luisa @ theGladus@comcast.net.

**Relay for Life 2024: June 1 and 2
at Norton Park, Plainville.**

Team PUMC is already signed up as a participant. Go to the Relay for Life of Plainville Bristol Southington website and sign up to be a team member via secure.acsevents.org.

We will be setting up our “infamous” Magical Bakery to raise money at the event. We’re already planning some tasty new treats and our plan is to sell out and wow the Relay crowds once again. All profits raised go to The American Cancer Society as we walk to honor those we love, survived, still fighting and in memory of those we lost.

Closer to the event we’ll let you know what we could use to help our bakers do what they do.

Thank you for your support this year and I know we can count on our PUMC family to help us in 2024! No One Fights Alone!

Coloring Page “Let’s Thank God”



**PROSPECT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
99 SUMMER STREET
BRISTOL, CT 06010
Dated Material - Please Do Not Hold**

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