



THE PROSPECT TOWER

Prospect United Methodist Church

A Growing Christian Community of Faith in Action

December 2023

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Pastor's Page

'MAKE ROOM FOR THE BABY JESUS!'

Have you ever traveled or visited a strange area and wandered around without finding a room? When I moved to New York from Chicago, I had no place to stay because my church couldn't prepare my parsonage. So I moved into an empty house where someone else moved and stayed with my family for a month. When a new owner moved in a month later, we moved to my senior pastor's parsonage again.

After a month, schools started and my two children had to go to school, but they couldn't go to school because we didn't have our own house and a home address. So they were able to go to school after moving to our parsonage. Fortunately, the owner who moved told me to live in his vacant house, so we stayed there for a month. Also, we gave thanks to my senior pastor because he made room for my family. It's not easy to make room for others because you have your privacy and show everything you have.

It was a very busy day on the day Jesus came. The Roman emperor Augustus issued a family register order, and everyone had to go to his hometown to register their family. The newlyweds Mary and Joseph also traveled to Bethlehem to be registered. However, there were already many people in the inn and no place to stay. Fortunately, the host of the inn gave them the stable. The stable is not a place for people to stay, but it is better than staying on the street.

It's not easy to accept a stranger and give you a vacancy. One said, "Forgiving others does not eliminate his sins, but make him a room in your heart for him to stay." Such as the host of the inn made a room for the baby Jesus, in the season when baby Jesus came, I hope that you make room for the baby Jesus in your hearts and for those who were unforgivable. Thus, I pray that the peace, joy, hope, and love of baby Jesus will fill your heart.

In the season of Jesus' Birth,
Pastor Yongyeun Lee



"She gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger because there was no place for them in the inn." (Luke 2:7)

Middle Ages Group Update

By Luisa Gladu, Middle Ages Chair

The Relay for Life Holiday Magic Craft Boutique Fundraiser held on November 19 raised a total of \$615.00 for the American Cancer Society. Team PUMC and Team Patty's Pride will each receive \$307.50 towards their team goals for the Plainville, Bristol, Southington Relay for Life Event which will be held on June 1, 2024 at Norton Park, Plainville.

Upcoming Event

The Annual Valentines Dinner Dance Relay Fundraiser will be held Saturday, February 17, 6 to 10 p.m. at Luna's Banquet Hall, King Street, Bristol. Profits raised will go to the Relay for Life Plainville/Bristol/Southington Teams — Team PUMC and Team Patty's Pride.

Tickets at \$35 per person include Buffet Dinner, Dessert, Coffee, Tea and DJ. There will be a Cash Bar and Raffles.

Speaking of the raffle prizes: the amazing quilt, "Angels Among Us" pieced, sewn and donated by Melissa Brown, is valued at \$300 and it will be one of the premiere raffle items that evening.

This is a reserved ticket event, no tickets will be sold at the door and must be purchased by February 14. Please email Luisa Gladu to reserve your ticket at thegladus@comcast.net and for payment information.



We already have 30 tickets reserved/sold and this event sells out quickly.

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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Order Your Poinsettias

These flowers will adorn our altar on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning. The cost is \$15 each. For those wishing to take the plants home, they will be available after the worship service on Christmas Day. Please submit orders during worship service or to the office no later than December 18. Thank you.



Nurture Team

Mary Rogers, Chair, Nurture Team

■ Arts and Crafts Group

The Arts and Crafts group met twice in November to make Christmas cards. Some of the cards will be mailed to homebound or ill congregants. Making the cards was great fun and they came out beautifully.

Education News

from Director Christa Zaldivar

■ Christmas Pageant

All are invited to the Annual Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 17 during the 10 a.m. worship service. Our Education Team has decided to have a “rehearsal-free” pageant again this year! ALL members of the congregation will be invited to participate ... including the young and the not-so-young!

How it works:

As members of the congregation arrive for worship, they are greeted with tables of costumes from which, with the help of enthusiastic volunteers, they will choose what character in the story they would like to dress up as. There will be costumes for angels, shepherds, various barn animals (cows, donkeys, sheep) and townspeople. Once the worship service begins, a narration based on the Luke telling of Jesus’ birth is read/shared with the congregation. At various breaks in the narration, while the congregation sings a corresponding song, folks with certain costumes will go to the front of the sanctuary and help create a live nativity scene.



We hope to see you all there! Costumes will be first-come, first-serve, unless previous arrangements have been made with Christa!



■ New Year Party

All are invited to come ring in the New Year — 2024! Bring your family and celebrate the New Year with PUMC!

Date: Sunday December 31

Time: 4 to 6 p.m.

Place: Sessions Hall

Cost: Free!

****Please bring an appetizer to share.****

Party Includes: Pizza, Drinks, Make-your-own-ice-cream-sundae, Crafts, Games, and More! Special “Ball Drop” at 6 p.m.

Please RSVP by 12/26 with Christa Zaldivar: cjw02@hotmail.com or 917-386-8599.



**PROSPECT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
99 SUMMER STREET
BRISTOL, CT 06010
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