



THE PROSPECT TOWER

Prospect United Methodist Church

A Growing Christian Community of Faith in Action

September 2013

Vol. 74, No. 7

Pastor's Page

"Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise." Psalm 66:1&2



Welcome back! Summer is over and we will soon return to our normal, everyday, activities. Parents are busy rushing around buying back to school supplies. Sport leagues are getting ramped up for fall games. It is very exciting.

Prospect UMC has had a good summer. We had a new innovation--summer Sunday school—which was a big success. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this program possible. Sadly, we said goodbye to some old friends and entrusted them to God's love. But we also celebrated a new life and a new member of the Prospect UMC family during a wonderful baptism service in August.

Now we are focusing our attention to the fall and to new programs. This is the year when we will finally get our Steven's Ministry up and running. Steven's Ministry is a ministry of presence. Lay members of our church will be trained to be with people going through those difficult moments in life; as people deal with grief, family issues and a whole host of other challenges, a Steven's Minister will be there to listen patiently and remind them that they are not alone. Classes, for people who are interested in this important ministry will be held at our church, starting in the next few weeks.

Our Christian Education Committee is hard at work preparing programs for people of all ages. Our expanding Sunday school will begin on September 8th with our annual Rally Day. We are all looking forward to having our children back and having fun as we learn about Jesus. But, Christian education is not just for children. We are looking at programs, workshops, movies and other opportunities so that we all can learn a little more about God's love. Watch for flyers, bulletin announcements and articles in the Tower in the weeks ahead.

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Prospect United Methodist Church

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Remember, we never stop learning about God.

Related to worship, if you love to sing, and you thought about singing in the choir, but you have children, have we got news for you! The Church Council has approved expanding nursery hours on Sunday morning. You can now come to choir rehearsal before Sunday morning worship, and know that your children will be watched by our trained (and carefully screened) nursery staff.

Summer is over and even though we might be dejected by its passing, we can be excited by what lies ahead. Our church is filled with committed and very energetic people. New programs and new opportunities abound. Stop by and join us as we discover that God is here!

Grace and Peace,

Bob Sorozan

Church Charge Conference

Our Annual Church Charge Conference will occur on January 5, 2014 at 3:00 pm. In preparation for the charge conference, the Committee on Lay Leadership (aka, Nominations Committee) is meeting to discuss the new church officers. If there is something that is of interest to you, or something that you would like to try, please speak with Pastor Bob and he will relate it to the committee. We need your help to keep our church running.



Save The Date Gilded Age Program, Luncheon Planned

Kandie Carle, known for her one-woman shows on Fashion, Life and Etiquette during eras ranging from the 1860s to the early 1900s, will appear at Prospect Church on Saturday, November 9th, with a program on the Gilded Age — the 1890s.

The presentation is sponsored by the History Committee to help promote its historic preservation projects and its history. The committee selected the Gilded Age because Prospect's current sanctuary was completed during the 1890s.

A luncheon at Noon in Sessions Hall will precede the program, scheduled for 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Details on how to obtain tickets will be in the October Tower. The \$15 cost will cover both the luncheon and the program.

Kandie Carle combines history, humor and high fashion in her presentations, appropriate for girls, boys, women and men ages 10 to 110.

Kids' Corner

■ SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

The beginning of the new Sunday School year is nearly here! Sunday, September 8th, is Rally Day! On this date, parents will fill out registration forms and meet the teachers. During our 10 a.m. worship service, children ages 3 and up are invited to participate in some fun activities and games.



Sunday School classes at Prospect Church will begin on Sunday September 15th, during the 10 o'clock worship service. In addition to nursery care for children, ages 6 weeks to 3 years of age, there will be four levels of Sunday School classes this year: Pre-K/K, 1st /2nd, 3rd/4th/5th, and 6th-12th.

We have a talented group of dedicated adults who will be teaching this year's children's Sunday school. The teaching team consists of Eleanor Riker, Alecia Bohan, Mary Rogers, Yaa Amoakehene, Vickie Budnick, Terry Sorozan and Susan Thayer.

If you have any questions about our programs or would like to serve as a volunteer please contact Christa Zaldivar at cjw02@hotmail.com or (860) 845-2016.

■ RALLY DAY POTLUCK

There will be a potluck luncheon in honor of Rally Day on September 8th. We are asking everyone whose last name begins with A through H to bring a salad or side dish. People whose last name begins with I through P bring a main dish. And, people whose last name begins with Q through Z bring a dessert. This will be a fun time for everyone!

HONORING OUR TEACHERS

We give thanks that you will lead us in the ministry of Christian education. We offer you our pledge of support. As you teach your students, may all be open to God's truth and be inspired to live the Christian life as fully as possible. Remember that we appreciate greatly the time and effort you expend as teachers of our church family. May God grant you strength and joy in your important role.

■ VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

A great time was held by all at this summer's Vacation Bible School.



■ CHRISTIAN SYMBOL - BELL

A bell was used in VBS as a signal to change workshops but it also symbolizes the call to worship, reflected in the ringing of bells in many churches to announce or open the worship service. A bell also symbolizes the proclamation of the gospel to the world: hence, the ringing of church bells at the close of some services as worshipers depart to spread Christ's good news in their daily lives.

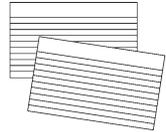


Keepsake BOOK

With your grandparents, create a special book to preserve cherished memories.

What you need:

- Index cards
- Pencil
- Hole punch
- Binder ring (or yarn)
- Crayons or markers



What you do:

1. Brainstorm questions to ask one or more of your grandparents (topics can include their childhoods, favorites and advice). Write one question on each index card.
2. Ask your grandparent to write his or her answers on the blank sides of the cards.
3. Make a cover by decorating one index card.
4. Punch a hole in the top left corner of each card.
5. Use a binder ring or string yarn through the holes and tie to secure the cards together.

Music Corner



■ SENIOR CHOIR

The Senior Choir will begin rehearsals on September 11th at the usual 7 p.m. time. Heidi Flower, music director, says, "Please invite a friend to try us out. I think we are a pretty amiable group and am sure newcomers will feel welcomed!"

As Rally Day is so early this year — September 8th — Heidi will serve breakfast that morning for choir singers at 8 a.m. instead of the customary Welcome Back Dinner. She adds, "I will be taking a leap of faith and have us sing that day without a prior Wednesday rehearsal. I promise our anthem will be something simple!"

■ HANDBELLS

A handbell workshop will be held on Saturday, September 14th, from 9 am until noon. Beverly Simpson will be leading the group in basic ringing, sight reading and other handbell techniques. If you have ever thought you might be interested in playing handbells, please plan on joining us! Our regular rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, September 18th from 6 – 7 pm.

■ KIDS PRAISE GOD

Kids Praise God will resume our singing on Sunday October 6th, immediately following worship service in Room 208. Our rehearsals last a short time – approximately 15 – 20 minutes. All kids from Kindergarten and up are welcome to attend! Please see Heidi for more details!

Sunday Schedule

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

A shorter version of the Sunday Service, with Holy Communion, in the Chapel.

10 a.m. Sanctuary Service

Traditional service of worship in Sanctuary with hymns, prayers, sermon, children's and adult choir anthems and solos. Holy Communion the first Sunday of each month.

10 a.m. Church School

Children attend opening portion of service with family, then go to Sunday School classes.

11 a.m. Fellowship

Time of fellowship and friendship with coffee, tea, cookies and conversation in Sessions Hall.

Outreach Corner

■ HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILDING ON FAITH IN BRISTOL

When asked “What is Habitat?” most people will answer “They build Homes.” While this answer is correct, it is also very vague.



The Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity builds affordable, decent homes for hard-working low to moderate income families. The homes are sold at no-profit and zero percent interest to families needing a “hand up” not a hand out.” Habitat families commit to mortgage payments, work at least 150 “sweat equity” hours and attend home ownership education classes.

Sue Powers attended a Hartford Habitat for Humanity meeting over the summer. It was well attended by members of several area churches. Several representatives from Habitat spoke. They expect to break ground of 4 to 5 houses in Bristol this fall.

Hartford Habitat for Humanity is seeking sponsorship (both corporate and faith-based) and volunteers. “This will be a great opportunity for members and friends of PUMC to volunteer on the house sites during the building process,” says Sue. “ Our support will open the door to a new home and a better life for a local family.” Stay tuned for more information.

There will be an outreach program that Hartford Habitat for Humanity will hold at the Bristol Library on September 21st at 9 a.m. on information for potential home owners.

■ INCLEMENT WEATHER

Inclement weather can cause transportation problems and hazardous conditions. Severe weather may result in some closures including church services. Personal safety is an important consideration when evaluating the ability to ask our members to drive to attend service. In case of bad weather or power outages, Prospect would like to start a phone/email chain to notify our members of any closings, to let you know if we are open as a warming/charging center and also to make sure you are ok. If you would like to be on this emergency phone chain, let the office know your name, phone and/or email.

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

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