



THE PROSPECT TOWER

Prospect United Methodist Church
A Growing Christian Community of Faith in Action

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Pastor's Page

"Happy is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways. You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be happy and it shall go well for you." Psalm 128:1-2



A number of years ago, a comedian offered up this throwaway line. "I believe it was Emerson who said, 'Welcome back my friends to the show that never ends. We're so glad you could attend. Come inside. Come inside.'" Being a fan of both New England transcendental philosophers and 1970's rock groups, that really quick, and actually rather intellectually astute, joke stayed with me. It caused me to think about our church and the new season we are entering.



With Labor Day behind us, the unofficial start of the season of autumn, we are all heading back to the unofficial grind. The traffic reports are back to telling us about traffic jams heading into Hartford. I've watched the children in our neighborhood, carrying backpacks, seemingly loaded with heavy lead weights. And, it seems like everyone in SUV's and minivans are running around in the late afternoon, dashing between after school sports leagues and grocery shopping. The lines at Starbucks are now impossibly long after 3:00 pm—oh well at least there's Dunkin Donuts! Welcome back to the grind!

But with the daily grind, comes a blessing. We can come back to see friends that we've missed all summer. We can come back to activities which are fulfilling and meaningful. We can come back to those things that build up our world and fill people with hope. Do you see where I'm going?

Sunday school, Mission Trips, Bible Study, Book Groups, Choir practice, fellowship hour, all these things, and a few surprises, will take place this fall at Prospect United Methodist Church. We are going to begin a new season of opportunities to spend time together, love one another and experience the presence of God. It is actually a very exciting time of year! Think of it as an opportunity for discovery.

That being said, there is one thing that is really needed if our church is to do so many exciting things—there is one thing that will really determine if our church will be able to offer rousing programs and to reach out in service to our world in the name of our loving God. We believe that God will bless our efforts in the year ahead, but God will bless us through—are you ready for this?—you! Welcome back my friends!

Grace and Peace,
Bob Sorozan

Prospect United Methodist Church

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■ A Note From PUMC Music Room

Now is the perfect time to consider joining in PUMC's music ministry!

Sr choir will begin singing on September 7 during worship with regular rehearsals on Wednesdays, from 7 to 9 p.m. Handbells will have their first meeting on September 10.



■ Be a lively Christian

A man once told a pastor that he wanted to become a member of the church. 'But,' he said, 'I'm very busy, so don't ask me to join a committee, teach a class or sing in the choir. Spare me from anything that would take up my time, and don't be surprised if I'm not in worship very often.'

The pastor thought for a moment, and then replied, 'I believe you're at the wrong church. The church you're looking for is 10 blocks down the street.'

The man followed the pastor's directions and soon came to an abandoned, boarded-up church building. It was a dead church - out of business.

May each of us always be alive to the ministry of the Lord's church. Remember that lively Christians make churches that are alive.

The Nominating Committee will be seeking people to serve on committees starting in 2015 so be a lively Christian if they ask you.

■ Our Missionary Helen Camarce ~Jill Wilson

What a delight it was to meet 'our' missionary, Helen Camarce, from Cambodia. We shared a meal, chatted casually, and saw a slide show as we became acquainted with her as we learned of her work and that the Methodist Church of Cambodia.



She has been in Cambodia since 2011, serving as a missionary in the Phillipines before that. We learned that The Methodist Church in Cambodia has spread to the 11 districts, with about 4,000 members, 151 churches and 140 young men and women pastors. The General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church is involved in different programs there, including: Street Children, Women Empowerment and Livelihood programs, Pastoral Support, Christian Education, Scholarships, Community Health and Agricultural Development, Church and Parsonage development and Dormitory development. As the treasurer, Helen's ministry promotes stewardship and accountability in handling God's generous provision to the programs in Cambodia.

Helen was overwhelmed with the outpouring of interest and love she felt when she was with us. After she left us she continued onto other conferences during her itinerancy in the States. She is returning to Cambodia in late August. We were very fortunate to meet her at the beginning of our relationship with her, as she is not planning to return to the US for 3 years. Helen expressed much gratitude for our support and for forming the Covenant Relationship with her.

■ Prospect Team Traveling to NY on Hurricane Sandy Mission Journey.

Hard to believe, but help is still needed in areas affected by Hurricane Sandy. A team of PUMC members and friends will be traveling to NY October 9th-13th to assist with the rebuilding process, including installation of



insulation, wallboard, taping, mudding, etc. We are responsible for the cost of the construction materials that will be used by our team. One way you can assist the team to raise the needed funds is to participate in our Themed Basket Silent Auction happening September 14th - September 21st. Do you have a "treasure" you'd like to donate for our auction? Would you consider donating some passes to a museum, movie, etc? Do you have an item you've hand-crafted that you'd like to share? You could gather up several small items and package them attractively in a basket or box—use your imagination! If you have any questions about this event, please contact Lisa Limeburner at 860-585-7429 or lisa.limeburner@gmail.com.

■ Relay For Life Update: Prospect Rocks! ~ Luisa Gladu

Team Prospect United Methodist Church ~ Bristol Relay For Life, raised a grand total of \$2,045 to fight cancer. The individual totals raised were: Luisa Gladu, \$790; Laura Taylor, \$300; Carol Rivard, \$235; Terry Sorozan, \$165; and Jackie Palance, \$130. The event took place on Friday and Saturday, June 6 and 7, at Bristol Eastern High School.



“What can I say but thank you to the most incredible team and supporters ever! Our team stepped up to the challenge and in our first time participating in the Relay For Life, we rocked it!” The Prospect United Methodist Church Team was ranked ninth out of 45 teams! “Our goal was to raise \$1,000. Not only did we raise that but EXCEEDED it and raised a total of \$2,045! Five team members raised over \$100.”

A Relay For Life event is much more than just walking around a track. At the event, participants celebrate loved ones who have won their battle against cancer, remember those no longer with us, and fight back against this disease that robs so many of so much. Cancer never sleeps, so there is always someone walking the track at a Relay for Life. It can be teams of people or just one person ... the track is never empty.

Teams can adopt themes, wear crazy hats or carry props, set up tents and sell goodies to raise more money. The goal is to have fun while raising money for a good cause. Team

PUMC walked laps in honor and in memory of our church members, family members and friends. Every lap we walked another name would be added to our poster. We had survivors on our team that walked the survivor lap and quite a few caregivers who walked that lap.

At 9 p.m. our entire team walked the memorial lap for those we have lost. The memorial lap is done in complete silence as each person is given a glow stick candle to hold. Then all the luminaries and torches are lit in memory of those who have lost their battle with cancer.

“It was amazing seeing everyone come together for a common cause. It was an emotional night as we laughed and cried and laughed again.” Our top “Lap Walker” was Luke Ashworth! “This amazing young man just kept going and going. He encouraged others to keep going by that infectious smile of his. Our church family supported us by making donations towards the team and they were a key part in helping team PUMC achieve the number nine spot out of 45 teams!

“The Relay for Life is very near and dear to my heart as I have always participated in it with my family in honor of my mother who is a cancer survivor. This year’s Relay had a whole new meaning for me as I was diagnosed with breast cancer on June 4, 2013. I am blessed and grateful to say that I am in the ranks of Survivors and humbled to be our Team Captain. I plan on championing this cause every year because I feel The Relay For Life is one of the best ways to show our support, make some noise and fight for a cure.

“Hopefully with the support of church members, The Relay for Life will become one of our most rewarding annual events as we give back to the community. Warning, there has been some talk of taking the Relay to the next level and camping out next year. The 2015 dates are Saturday and Sunday, June 6 and 7, most likely at Bristol Eastern again, so Save Those Dates!

“I also hope that this endeavor may spark an interest in some of you to find a cause that you believe in and encourage you to step up to make a change. There are so many worthy causes out there, such as The March of Dimes, American Diabetes Association, The American Heart Association, The American Lung Association, Alzheimer’s Walk for Memories, Muscular Dystrophy, Multiple Sclerosis, ... Unfortunately, I could go on and on! If the spirit moves you, I encourage you to find a cause you believe in and become its champion. You never know what you

can accomplish unless you try. Look at what we did for the Relay for Life, in the short time we had to prepare, we started later than most teams and we exceeded our goal.

“The money we raised will stay in our community to help fight cancer and provide treatments. Every dollar raised brings us one step closer to a world with less cancer and more birthdays — a world where not another life is lost to the disease.

“Thank you to everyone for your support. Together, we will finish the fight!”

■ Middle Ages Group Plans

The Middle Ages Group is planning for the two remaining fundraisers for 2014: the December 13th Annual Victorian Tea, and December 20th Breakfast With Santa. The group is collecting items for children to purchase at the “Elf Mart” during Breakfast With Santa.

Looking ahead to 2015, the group has started planning the script for next year’s Renaissance Dinners, scheduled for May 2nd and May 9th.

Other fundraisers scheduled for 2015 are a Pirate And Princess Breakfast on May 16th, the Annual Victorian Tea on May 12th, and next year’s Breakfast With Santa on December 19th.

Middle Ages thanks the Century Spring Manufacturing for the donation of food and supplies for the lunch kit project during July. The Middle Ages Group also helped spur the collection of backpacks and school supplies, another fund-raising project, this summer.

■ Guest Motorman for The Day

On July 19th, Prospect Pastor Robert “Bob” Sorozan donned the clothing of his part time volunteer job — motorman for the New England Trolley Museum, aka The Connecticut Electric Railway Association, Inc., in East Windsor — to tutor Prospect’s Pastor Emeritus, Rev. William “Bill” Barnes, in the Guest Motorman Program.



This program provides an opportunity to learn how to operate a 20-ton, 110- year-old trolley car. Pastor Bill, the neophyte, says he “drove” a historic New Orleans street car, like the one in “A Streetcar Named Desire,” four times up and down the one-mile-restored track for a total of just over four miles.

He effectively learned braking and stopping the car each time before coming to the end of the track, operating the whistle properly at grade crossings so as not to run into any automobiles, and in general accelerating and decelerating smoothly enough to keep all the passengers — wife, daughter- in-law, grandkids and long-time friend with life insurance paid up — safe in their seats throughout.

The neophyte said of Head Motorman R. D. “Bob” Sorozan, aka the Rev. Dr. Robert D. Sorozan, pastor of Prospect UMC: “If he runs Prospect as well as he runs trolley cars, the church is in good hands, indeed. What a great teacher! It was an awesome experience.”

According to Pastor Bob, “Bill was a natural born Motorman. He operated it smoothly and stopped safely and efficiently.” Well done Pastor Bill!

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.

Youth Corner

■ Rally Day Is Nearly Here!

The beginning of the new Sunday School year is nearly here! Sunday September 14th 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 United Methodist Church will begin on Sunday September 21st and will take place during the 10 a.m. 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 for children in grades: Pre-K/K, 1st /2nd, 3rd/4th/5th, and 6th-12th.

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.

Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass like an abundant rain on tender plants. ~ Deuteronomy 32:2

■ Vacation Bible School a Hit

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who helped at Vacation Bible School (VBS) this summer! It was such a great week and it couldn't have happened without all of our volunteers pitching in to make it wonderful! Many PUMC members went above and beyond...and the children really benefited from our dedicated and caring staff! ~ Christa Zaldivar ~ Christa Zaldivar

Parent feedback:

- My children have been singing the songs every day all the time. I can hear them upstairs at night singing them together. I love it!
- Excellent program! Excellent format. The kids can come home retelling the verses and songs. This is our 2nd year and we would definitely love to come back. Thank you for having us!
- Loved the theme! Snacks were healthy and very creative/well-organized.
- Kids had such a great time!! Looking forward to next year already!
- Our kids truly enjoy coming to VBS!
- Great Job! Can't wait for next year!
- Kids were delighted with all the daily activities and teachers and staff. We appreciated very much what you continuously do for our kids.

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