



# THE PROSPECT TOWER

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Prospect United Methodist Church

*A Growing Christian Community of Faith in Action*

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Summer 2014

Vol. 75, No. 6

## **Pastor's Page**

### **Summer Fellowship**



Well, the temperature has risen up into the ninety's and we have had the ceremonial placing of the air conditioning units into the windows of the church — thank you to everyone who helped getting the AC set up! All this means only one thing: we are now in the summer season. I would like to share a few things with you regarding this very warm and humid season.

First of all, I would like to share some exciting news about summer worship. I know that our sanctuary can be rather warm during the summer months. Because of this, we will shorten our ten o'clock service just a bit for summer. We will still keep our traditional three hymns and other essential parts (I'm still going to preach a sermon, but I promise not to get too carried away) which we expect from worship. We will just try to move it along so you'll have plenty of time for all your fun summer activities. And, please remember that our eight-thirty service in the chapel is air-conditioned! So, you have no excuse to miss our summer worship services!

Related to this, Sunday, July 20th, is Hawaiian Shirt Sunday — please wear your boldest Hawaiian shirt to worship. August 17th is "Make a Statement Sunday" — please wear or bring something to church about a cause (like stand up to cancer, or ending malaria) which you deeply believe in and support. On August 3rd, we will welcome back an old friend to our church. The Rev. Bill Barnes will lead worship and share communion with us. Please plan to come out and worship with him.

Finally, I will be away on vacation from July 21st through August 3rd. I am still (at the time of writing this article) looking for someone to be available for emergencies. Look for an update in the weekly bulletin.

Summer is a time when we go in many different directions. No matter where you are traveling, make your first stop at a church.

Grace and Peace

*Bob Sorozan*

# Prospect United Methodist Church

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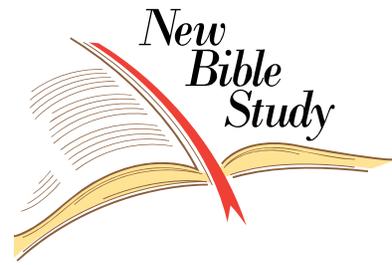
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## ■ Book Study

Pastor Bob  
will be  
leading a  
study of  
the book,  
*Making*



*Sense of the Bible*, by Adam Hamilton, this coming September. Rev. Hamilton is a United Methodist pastor and author and according to him, "I love the Bible ... and I wrestle with it. There are portions, if I'm honest, that I have questions about." He does a masterful job looking at those questions which stir up passionate feelings from committed Christians and casual observers. You are invited to wrestle with Rev. Hamilton, and with your brothers and sisters in the faith, as we look at what the Bible really says about many of the hot button issues of our day.

The book is available through Cokesbury and Christian Book Distributors. We will also have a sign-up sheet in Sessions Hall. We will hold our discussions in the fall, but it is never too soon to start reading to get the most out of this interesting and provocative book.

## ■ Bridal Show Postponed

The bridal show scheduled for June 21st was postponed. Watch for information from the co-sponsors, the Middle Ages Group and the History Committee, in the Fall on a new date for the show.

## ■ Help This Mission Trip

Rev. Anne Brackett of the Yalesville UMC is leading a group of volunteers on a mission trip to Nicaragua in September. The group is seeking donations of soft toothbrushes and toothpaste to bring to a dental clinic overseen by Dr. Belinda Forbes, a United Methodist missionary at Accion Medica Cristiana (Christian Medical Action) based in Managua, Nicaragua. Prospect's Church Council approved this mission trip assistance opportunity. Please place your donations in the box marked NICARAGUA DONATIONS on a table in Sessions Hall. The goal is to fill the box with donations by the end of August.

See Sue Powers if you have questions.

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



It may be difficult to comprehend that help continues to be needed in areas affected by Hurricane Sandy in 2012. THE NEED DOES EXIST! Prospect members and friends will be traveling to that affected area from October 9th to 13th. The work is now in the recovery phase and teams assist with the rebuilding process — including the installation of insulation, wallboard, taping and mudding and other work as determined appropriate for the location, skill set of the team and local regulations.

This is an exciting mission opportunity for God to work through us! Would you consider becoming a member of PUMC's team? What skills are needed, you might ask? Willing hands, a loving heart and a desire to serve others as they strive to rebuild.

If you are not able to travel as a member of the team, you can still help the team's efforts. There will be several fund raising activities in September at which you can assist the team to raise the funds needed purchase the construction materials that will be used to assist the homeowners. Watch for announcements about those upcoming activities.

If you have any questions about becoming a team member or helping the team with their fund-raising efforts, please contact Sue Powers (860-589-6214 or [susanlpowers@att.net](mailto:susanlpowers@att.net)).

## ■ What is a Covenant Relationship?

The General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church has missionaries all over the world! It could be a bustling eastern European city, or grassy plains of central Africa, or the central American coastal plains, but Methodist missionaries are there. There are over 300 Global Ministry missionaries in 60 countries!

When a congregation enters into a Covenant Relationship in support of a Missionary's journey, that church experiences God's call to mission. Everyone is a missionary, the only difference is that they are in the field. God has everyone participate. In a Covenant Relationship a church pledges to support a missionary with just \$5 a year from each church member. It all adds up to a dynamic relationship in which church members and missionaries pray for one another and communicate regularly. There is a real connection. The partnership goes beyond one church and one missionary. Each dollar given enables more missionaries to be in service around the world. A Covenant Relationship ensures that Christian outreach through the United Methodist Church is experienced around the world. By doing so we love, empower, heal, and serve in Christ's name.

## ■ Meet our Missionary!

In June, the Church Council voted for an exciting new journey. We are entering into a Covenant Relationship with a missionary in Cambodia. A Covenant Relationship is when a congregation partners with a missionary and provides financial, spiritual, and emotional support.

We are beginning our Covenant Relationship by establishing a financial goal of \$5 per year from each church member. We are pledging \$500 for one year.

We have the exciting opportunity to meet her IN PERSON on July 15th! We will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a light (pizza) supper, followed by time for Helen to share her work!

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Children will gather separately for a mission program for children.

Please sign up in Sessions Hall, or call the church office, so we know how to plan for food.

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### **Helen De Leon Camarce**

Helen has been a missionary since 2000 but was called to serve in Cambodia in 2011 as treasurer to the Cambodia and Southeast Asia Missions. The latter covers Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. Helen provides support services for the missionary community, local church partners, episcopal leaders, an expanding number of clergy and denominational interests.



## ■ UNVIM Info

UMVIM — What's that, you ask? It stands for United Methodist Volunteer in Mission. This coming October, Jill Wilson will be taking a 12-day UMVIM journey to Ghana. She is joining a team lead by Rev. Woody Eddins. The team consists of members from Simsbury UMC, Asbury UMC, and others. She will be putting her nursing skills to use, as well as providing labor to renovate two classrooms. The team is taking some medical supplies with them.

A collection box for over-the-counter medicine is set up in Sessions Hall. The list of medicine includes: Multivitamins (adult, child, prenatal, infant), Ibuprofen (Advil); Acetaminophen (Tylenol), Aspirin, Eye Drops (Visine), Iron tablets, Zinc tablets, Pedialyte Powder packs, Stool Softener and Laxative tablets, Benadryl tablets, Tums, Pepcid (or similar), Antifungal/anti-inflammatory Skin Cream.

If you'd rather make a donation to purchase medicine in Ghana, see Jill. Thank you for your support and contribution!



***Enable us to learn to love and obey you, Lord, so that we may fulfill whatever mission you have for each of us.***

## 'GLOCAL' CHRISTIANS



Often when we talk about living as a missionary, debate arises about whether we are to minister locally or go globally. The phrase glocal Christians means we're to be both local and global in our mission. Jesus lays down a challenge that isn't either/or but both/and.

Being glocal involves being aware of your surrounding community as well as your larger world, and then entering into it with the love of Jesus. God is already at work out there. Our job is simply to have our eyes open to see him and join in that labor.

As you and your church decide what part in God's story you're being asked to play, don't fall into the debate about whether it's in local ministry or global ministry. Be radical followers of Jesus in both.

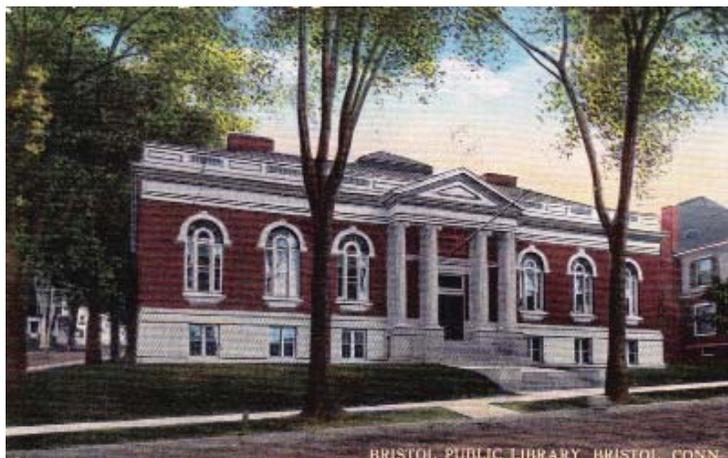
—Rev. Mike Paulson

# PROSPECT IN EARLIER DAYS

- Kathy Dube

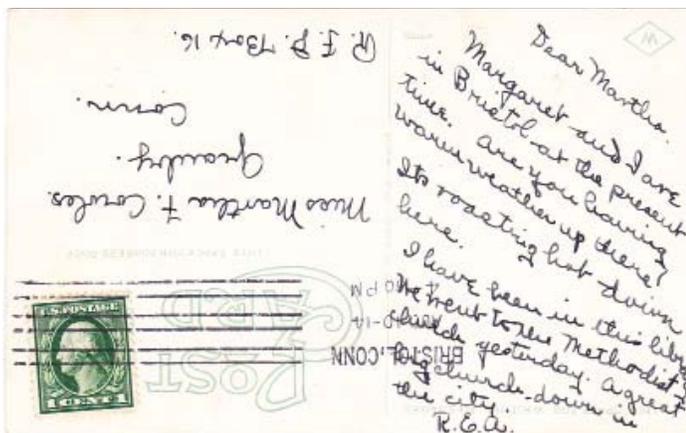
A fellow member of an organization I belong to, knowing I collect old postcards and live in Bristol, gave me the only postcard from Bristol she found in a collection she bought to sell through her antique business. This was from the heyday of the penny postcard, a common way to communicate with friends and relatives in the late 1800s and early 1900s. This practice more or less died with the advent of World War I, as the best postcards were produced by German printers, and business with Germany was halted once the war dawned.

The front depicts a fairly common view of Bristol's then new Public Library. The date postmarked on the card is Bristol, Conn., Aug. 10, 1914, so the postcard is almost 100 years old. The front depicts a fairly common penny postcard image of the Bristol Public Library, and was sent to a Miss Martha F. Cowles of Granby, Conn., from a R.E.A., or R.G.A.



The message is noteworthy to members interested in Prospect's past:

***"Dear Martha,  
Margaret and I are in Bristol  
at the present time. Are you  
having warm weather there?  
It's roasting hot down here.  
I have been in this library. We  
went to the Methodist Church  
yesterday. A great big church  
down in the city."***



Images of Prospect and other churches and schools in Bristol were commonly used as penny postcards, too. Some were colored, others black and white or sepia.

# Youth Corner

## ■ Children's Day

Our Sunday School completed another successful school year, which culminated with Children's Day on June 8th. The children presented skits and facts about our United Methodist History, including John and Charles Wesley, Thomas Coke, Francis Asbury, circuit riders, and covenant groups.



Our Pre- K-2nd graders greeted parishioners as they arrived at church and our 3rd-12th graders were ushers for the day! Children's voices filled our sanctuary with "Let all the Children," "Sing to God," and "Lord, I want to be a Christian."

The congregation participated in singing some of Charles Wesley's famous hymns and speaking John Wesley's words: *"Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can!"*

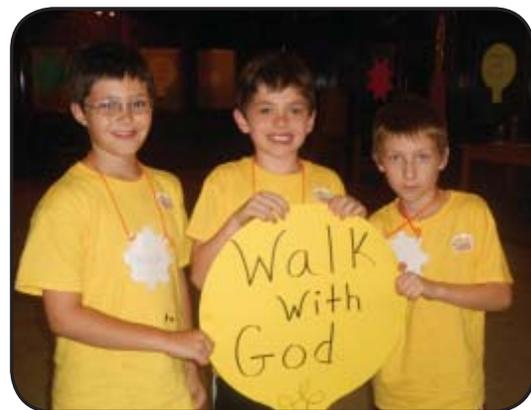
## ■ Summer Sunday School Teachers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to teach Summer Sunday School to Pre-K-5th grade during our 10 a.m. worship service. No experience necessary, just a love of children and desire to share the love of God with them! All curriculum materials will be provided. Please consider signing up for one or more Sundays starting June 15th! We need two adults per Sunday throughout the summer. Please contact Christa Zaldivar at 860-845-2016 or [cjw02@hotmail.com](mailto:cjw02@hotmail.com) to sign up or for more information.



## ■ VBS, Workshop of Wonders

PUMC's 2014 VBS, Workshop of Wonders, was a great week for children and leaders. Many thanks to all those who gave of their time directing, teaching, planning, decorating, preparing snacks – all areas made the week a big success!



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