



# THE PROSPECT TOWER

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Prospect United Methodist Church

*A Growing Christian Community of Faith in Action*

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January 2010

Vol. 71, No. 1

## From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

I imagine that your like or dislike for the month of January has to do with how much you love snow. Skiers, children, folks who get “snow days” probably enjoy the month very much. The rest of us – not so much. February will surely be better.



I'm about to tell you of the sermon series I'm planning for the last four weeks of the month of January. I'm guessing that as you read it you're going to feel it fits right in with the majority of personal assessments about the month of January – February will surely be better.

The title of the series is “Did I Say That?” Now, that probably sounds inviting enough, right? I mean, if you can't wow people with substance try to hook them with style. That's Preaching 101.

The substance, though, is important. When each of us joined the Methodist or United Methodist Church we promised to support the church by our prayers, presence, gifts and service. Since 2008 our General Conference has required us to add “witness” to our promises. You may have noticed that when you reaffirm your vows whenever we baptize someone that I've slipped in the word “witness” to what you promise. No one has complained.

I've already begun working on these sermons. I think they'll be very easy to listen to, if not a bit challenging to respond to. The driving energy behind them has to do with shoring up our Prospect team. As we go into the future, we need to know who wants to really be on the team and how much they're willing to commit to Prospect's success. One way to help folks decide is to make clear what the expectations are – after all, you did promise them! (Lest you think this is a sneaky way to get you to give more money, it's not. Money actually comes last. If we're being the church Christ calls us to be the money flows naturally and easily.)

So, what do I expect the end result of January's sermons to be? How about several hundred folks begging to be part of “A New Prospect.” No, not really – that's just my dream. For now I'll settle for no one saying, “February will surely be better.”

See you at 99 Summer Street,

*Pastor Dennis*

# Prospect United Methodist Church

Founded 1834  
99 Summer St., Bristol, CT 06010

The Rev. Dr. Dennis Winkleblack  
Transitional Interim Pastor

Rev. William S. Barnes,  
Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. George E. Harris  
The Rev. Alan J. Krauss  
Ministers in Residence

Heidi Flower,  
Director of Music & Organist  
Emily Flower,  
Associate Music Director  
and Chapel Organist.

Phone: (860) 582-3443  
Fax: (860) 582-9224

E-Mail Addresses:  
pastorpumc@snet.net  
(information meant only for the pastor)  
prospectoffice@snet.net  
(all general information as well as information necessary for the Church Secretary.)

Website:  
<http://www.anewprospect.org>

## ■ A NOTE FROM OUR NEW ASSOCIATE MUSIC MINISTER

Dear Sunday School Children and  
Parents,

I hope you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Now that the holidays are over, I am hoping to resume doing music during Sunday School and performing during the service on a more regular basis. It is my goal to have the children sing in church on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, beginning on January 8th. It would be wonderful if you could bring your children to Room 208 for a quick run-through on the Sundays that we are going to perform. I am looking forward to a great year with lots of fun music and good times with all of you!

Best Wishes,  
Emily Flower, Associate Music Director

## ■ CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

### *IN MEMORIAM:*

Georgine Cawley – December 2  
Theodore Beers – December 13

### *BAPTISM*

On November 15 Rose Ella Pomeroy, daughter of Emily Flower Pomeroy and Eric Pomeroy, was welcomed into the church family. Rose Ella was born September 19 and is the granddaughter of Heidi and Bill Flower and great granddaughter of Marge Herold.

## ■ ADULT BIBLE STUDY —JOIN IN

The Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study meets in the parlor between the early chapel service and the sanctuary worship service. It begins shortly after 9 a.m. and ends at 10:50 a.m. so that people who attend either service will have the opportunity to participate. The structure of the group and the study material used will allow you to participate when you are able; it is not necessary that you commit to being present every week. Even if you've never been in a Bible study before, you'll find this to be a rich experience for involving faith in your daily life. The group will be led by rotating volunteers beginning with Linda Ice and Barry Nolan. Let them know if you're interested!

"Beginnings" – a Thursday Evening Adult Study Group will resume meeting on January 7 at 7 p.m. in the parlor. This will be a time to explore our faith in a small group setting. "Beginnings" is a spiritual journey for seekers, new believers, and long-time Christians who want to explore the basics of Christianity in a relaxed, nurturing atmosphere. Participants can bring questions, gain knowledge, and form or deepen their Christian faith. Each session will be from 7-8:30 p.m. with a refreshment break. The group is led by Tim Krauss and Janice Moore.

## ■ SEEKING USHERS

Be a member of the usher gang.

- Where: 10 a.m. service
- Who: Women, men, youth
- When: One Sunday a month, or whenever you're available
- What: Be the first to greet newcomers; help collect money; assist with the service.

Please contact the church office to join. Usher instructions will be provided.

*Our steps are made firm by the Lord, when he delights in our way; though we stumble, we shall not fall headlong, for the Lord holds us by the hand. - Psalm 37:23-24*

## ■ HOLD THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE

Prospect's annual Charge Conference will be held on Tuesday, January 26, at 7 p.m. It is a time for us to review the accomplishments of our church. Among the agenda items that will be discussed are committee reports, budget, and nominations to committees. All documents are compiled into a "Report to the Annual Church Conference," which will be available in the church office.

**All members are invited and encouraged to attend.**

# Not the Last Straw

Prospect's Sunday School Christmas Pageant  
Photos - Laura Taylor



With the birth of Jesus, God forever changed the world! For all, there would never be a last straw - an end. The children of Prospect prepared a place in the manger for Mary and Joseph to lay Baby Jesus.





# LIVING GREEN

## MAIL BAG



### ***Save your planet- Save your wallet!!! - by Carll Pallok***

Purchase a 1/3-watt LED nightlight from IKEA for \$2.99 and run it for 12 hours a day - 365 days a year - and it will cost you only .26 cents.

You can replace a 4-watt night light incandescent bulb- This one uses \$3.51 per year.

A 7-watt nightlight incandescent bulb uses \$6.12 per year.

If you have 4 or 5 nightlights in you house, you can give yourself a substantial savings over a short period of time by replacing them with LED's. The other plus is you will most likely not have to replace them as they last very long.

Thank you to all of the volunteer workers who set up, moved furniture, decorated, cleaned up, worked with the children and foster parents and for the donations of juice boxes and cupcakes, and paper goods for this year's annual Covenant to Care DCF Foster Children's Christmas Party. You all are a generous group of people who enjoy helping others in need. The children and the DCF workers appreciate all you did!" ~ Susan Lee

Special Thanks to all who purchased Poinsettia plants to decorate our church sanctuary for the Christmas season. Your generosity is very much appreciated!! ~ PUMC

### ***Start the new year with prayer***

***As we begin the new year, loving Creator, give us guidance and the willingness to follow where you lead.***

# SUNDAY SCHEDULE

## **8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion**

A shorter version of the Sunday Service, with Holy Communion, in the Chapel, south side of Sessions Hall.

## **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.

# JANUARY 2010



*Epiphany - January 6*

## **Meeting Schedule**

|            |                    |
|------------|--------------------|
| January 10 | Worship 11:30 a.m. |
| January 12 | Finance 7 p.m.     |

## **Events**

|            |                   |
|------------|-------------------|
| January 26 | Charge Conference |
|------------|-------------------|

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

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