



THE PROSPECT TOWER

Prospect United Methodist Church

A Growing Christian Community of Faith in Action

June 2010

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From the Pastor's Pen

It was first uttered by Cain in the first book of the Bible, Genesis: "Am I my brother's keeper?" Although not in the context of Genesis (a murder defense), the question applies to us in the church today: Am I my sister's/brother's keeper when it comes to church participation? Answer: yes.



How so? If you notice that a regular worship attendee hasn't been in their usual place for a few Sundays, give them a call. Maybe they're ill. Maybe they're having a rough time. Worst scenario is that they've just been lazy. Believe me, they'll appreciate your concern.

One of the worst parts about being a part-time pastor is that I'm not able to live and breathe Prospect UMC 24-7. As a result, I don't know people like I want to and thus often don't miss folks when they've gone missing. I hate this part of our arrangement!

Too often, by the time I become aware that someone hasn't been around, their feelings are hurt because no one seemed to care. True, we're supposed to be adults and able to speak up for ourselves when we need something or when we're hurting, but most of us so-called adults have times when our feelings take precedence over rationality.

In any case, to paraphrase the New York City slogan, "If you don't see someone, say something." Call them. Or let me know if you feel awkward contacting them.

Better someone says, "I've just been lazy" than "No one cared."

See you at 99 Summer Street where the people of Prospect gather to hear God's marching orders.

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
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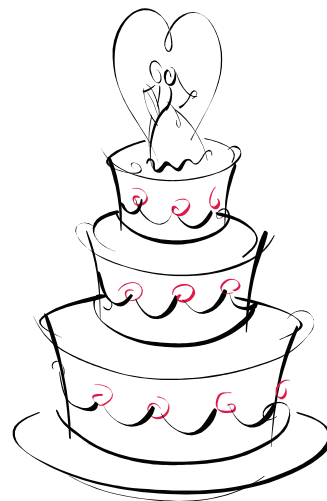
CHURCH FAMILY

■ FIVE CONFIRMED AT PROSPECT

Five young people were confirmed at Prospect on May 16. The confirmands are: Victoria Paulette, daughter of Jeff and Shirley Paulette, mentored by Jeanette Baker; Rachel McConnell, daughter of Allen and Naomi McConnell, mentored by Tammy Pelletier; Stephanie DiMauro, niece of Gary Schaffrick, mentored by Jackie Palance; Kayla Rozanski, daughter of Richard and Lynn Rozanski, mentored by Diane Ashworth; and Estelle Ashworth, daughter of Lang and Diane Ashworth, mentored by Luisa Gladu. Diane Ashworth and Jackie Palance taught the four-month-long class.

■ WEDDING

Lisa Marie Branca and Gregory Justin-James Jefferson were joined in marriage by Pastor Dennis on May 15. We pray God's richest blessings upon the Jeffersons! Several church members had parts in the ceremony including Luisa Gladu who sang "Ave Maria," and Amy Kelley who was the organist.



■ PASTOR EMERITUS BILL BARNES NAMED INTERIM PASTOR AT WETHERSFIELD

The Rev. William Barnes, Pastor Emeritus of Prospect, has accepted a position as Interim Pastor of the Wethersfield United Methodist Church. The appointment, which began on May 1, is for six months while their pastor is on a leave of absence. Bill, who is working with the church's associate pastor, will be conducting worship and preaching at the Wethersfield church's two Sunday services most weeks and fulfilling other pastor responsibilities as needed.

After retiring from full-time ministry at Prospect in 2002, Bill took on a part-time ministry as pastor of the Lakeville United Methodist Church from 2003-2008. "I guess I'm flunking retirement again," he said of the Wethersfield assignment, "but since this one is short-term I can look forward to returning to a more active role at Prospect later in the year."



■ CONGRATULATIONS. GRADUATES

Debra Franck-Ashworth, daughter of Lang and Diane Ashworth, was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree, with distinction, from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA, in May.

John Dube, husband of Kathy Dube, earned his Master of Arts degree, with distinction, from Trinity College, Hartford, in May.

Kyle Pelletier will graduate from Plainville High School this June. He is the son of Earl and Tammy Pelletier, and will attend Central Connecticut State University.

Kristin Williams, niece of Jeanette Baker, earned a Masters of Arts in Law and Diplomacy from The Fletcher School at Tufts University in Medford, MA.

(If we've missed anyone, please let us know so we can report it when the next Tower comes out later this summer.)

PROSPECT IN EARLIER DAYS

Remembering Deaconess Carrie Reynolds

The last two Towers introduced the life and deaconess training of the late Carrie (Hutchinson) Reynolds, former deaconess of Prospect Church. She served Prospect for 26 years, beginning in 1911. Upon her death on Jan. 21, 1950, the late Clarkson S. Barnes wrote the following testimonial in the Bristol Press:



Carrie Reynolds

“The death Friday of Mrs. Carrie H. Reynolds, deaconess emeritus of Prospect Methodist Church, brought sadness to many Bristol people, not only to the members ... but also to members of other churches, both Protestant and Catholic alike. For Mrs. Reynolds did not confine her work as deaconess to Methodists alone. She served wherever a helping hand was necessary, and many families who never stepped foot inside Prospect Methodist Church found her to be a friend upon whom they could call in time of need. No doubt one reason why Mrs. Reynolds could help out so sympathetically when sorrow came to a family was because her own life was touched with sadness when she was yet a young woman. Married at the age of 24 to a Methodist minister she became a widow at age 27. Carrie Reynolds is gone, but her work in this city will long be remembered, and those who were privileged to know her will revere her memory for many years to come.”

Virginia Wall and Lorraine Bulluss remember Carrie Reynolds as a charming woman always dressed in black, with a cap on her head, because that was what deaconesses wore. “She was a lovely woman, very friendly, and was a helper to the minister,” Virginia recalls. Lorraine remembers that Carrie Reynolds lived near the church. Her office was in space off Sessions Hall where the chapel is located today.

Carrie Reynolds was proclaimed Deaconess Emeritus of Prospect upon her retirement due to physical disabilities in 1937. Nevertheless, she remained a member of the Official Board of Prospect until her death. She resided in Brooklyn for 10 years followed by three years at the old West Haven Methodist Home. She is buried in West Cemetery.

IMAGINE IF....

- *we could stamp out malaria...*
- *if all children had the opportunity to grow to adulthood . . .*
- *if we could change millions of lives for generations to come.*



■ IMAGINE NO MALARIA CONCERT

Imagine a world without malaria—a preventable disease that kills one child in Africa every 30 seconds, more than 1 million children every year. Imagine the lives changed, the futures created.

Imagine No Malaria is United Methodism’s church-wide effort to overcome malaria in Africa. On June 19, Prospect United Methodist church will help raise awareness and money for the fight by hosting a free-will offering concert in the parking lot from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Rock band Sideswipe will headline the festivities, which are open to the public.

We are looking for support from our own members to bring a lawn chair , to sit back and relax and listen to some music while PUMC raises awareness and money for this United Methodist mission. Invite your friends and neighbors. If you can help out in any way, contact Jeanette Baker or the church office.

If it rains, the event will be inside. For information about Imagine No Malaria go to anewprospect.org.

PRAYER

Oh God we have heard the cries of children and families as they seek to be free of malaria. Please guide our hearts as we step forward in the fight against this preventable and treatable disease. Help us not to be afraid. Help us to keep our focus on you and the direction you are leading us by the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

**IMAGINE
NO
MALARIA**

■ BE A PARTNER IN MISSION

Each of us has received an invitation from the Bishop. He invites each of us to become a Partner in Mission. He has received gifts from pastors, laity, children, youth, UMW Unites, Sunday school classes, etc. With these gifts we have followed Jesus all around the world as well as across the street being God's instruments of compassion, healing and hope meeting the physical, spiritual, educational and leadership needs of God's people. By becoming a partner you will bring hope to those who desperately need your love and support. With your partnership we will feed the hungry, house the homeless, rescue the perishing, and comfort the wounded soul. If you wish to become a Bishop's Partner in Mission, you can send \$100 a year (or any amount you are able to give). Make checks payable to the New York Annual Conference, with a note: Bishop's Partners in Mission. Mail checks to Bishop's Partner in Mission, New York Annual Conference, 20 Soundview Ave., White Plains, NY 10606. Include the name of your church and pastor.

PICNIC TABLE NEEDED:

Starting in June, the Parking Lot Ministry is looking for a picnic table. If you would like to donate one or give the money to buy one, please see or call Chris Wilson at 860-681-8274 as soon as possible.



■ H. S. LIEDERKRANZ CONCERT

The dinner/concert held on May 22nd was a HUGE success! We served approximately 135 dinners and the concert was very favorably received. The H. S. Liederkrantz put on a wonderful program. This was truly a team effort! Thanks to everyone who helped make this such a great night! Our profit from the dinner was \$2,000, which will make a nice addition to the Organ Restoration Fund.

■ SCHOLARSHIP FUND "BAKELESS BAKE SALE"

Do you want to help some of our members who want to further their education next fall? In lieu of baking a cake or cookies, won't you please give the equivalent of what it would cost you in materials and time? Please make checks payable to PUMC Scholarship Fund and send to the church office by June 13. Thank you.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**Remember, Worship Schedule
Remains Unchanged for Summer**



**DON'T TAKE A
VACATION
FROM CHURCH**

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.

■ **A MORNING RESOLVE**

I will try this day to live a simple, sincere and serene life, repelling promptly every thought of discontent, anxiety, discouragement, impurity, and self-seeking; cultivating cheerfulness, magnanimity, charity, and the habit of holy silence; exercising economy in expenditure, generosity in giving, carefulness in conversation, diligence in appointed service, fidelity to every trust, and a childlike faith in God.

In particular I will try to be faithful in those habits of prayer, work, study, physical exercise, eating, and sleep which I believe the Holy Spirit has shown me to be right.

And as I cannot in my own strength do this, nor even with a hope of success attempt it, I look to thee, O Lord God my Father, in Jesus my Savior, and ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit. (*From Forward in Faith, a devotional ministry of the Episcopal Church*)

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

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