

# The Prospectus

FEBRUARY 2010



## **CHURCH STAFF**

The Rev. Phyllis A. Norman, Pastor  
The Rev. Doreen Horstman, Minister of Visitation  
Stewart W. Crouse, Director Of Music Ministry  
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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

## ***Prospectus Editors, Rick and Liz Normand***

*Articles can be left in the mailbox in the coatroom or e-mailed to [rickliz@aol.com](mailto:rickliz@aol.com) or [pccucc@snet.net](mailto:pccucc@snet.net). Deadline for the newsletter is the third Wednesday of the month.*

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Office Hours Monday-Thursday 8:30-1:30

# The Pastor's Page

Each one should use whatever gift he/she has received to  
serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."  
--1 Peter 4:10

We worked together (congregation and pastor) from September, 2008 through May, 2009 to better understand stewardship/discipleship. It took us all those months to deeply dig into its substance because there is so much to stewardship: covenant; relationship; generosity of time, talent and treasure; and last but certainly not least, all accomplished with praise to God. The project may have ended; however, discipleship is an ongoing process. Stewardship/discipleship is a journey we begin in covenant relationship with God and one another. Along the way we realize there is a lot more to being stewards of God's resources than putting money in the offering plate. There is responsibility through covenant to support our programs, staff, and buildings and grounds, yes. There is also responsibility to serve "the least of these" with God's gift(s) of talent and time.

January 24 I began a sermon series using the Apostle Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 12:12ff. Paraphrased, Paul told the congregation in Corinth that all of them were given talents by God to use to build up the body of Christ, the church. No one talent is more important than another. When one talent is not used, the body suffers.

This is part of stewardship. When our gifts are used the church becomes more effective in its mission to reach and transform the world. When we covenant with God through baptism, confirmation, and church membership, God commits to our care some special gift(s): an ability, a talent, or a quality of personality to be used in God's service.

This congregation is a gifted congregation. You will see that clearly when the work of this church is celebrated at our Annual Meeting February 21. I am truly overwhelmed by the many ministries you are involved in.

That being said, there are many parts of this one body but not all the parts are being used. I understand the fear that comes over a person when God calls. "I can't do that! I'm too young, too old, too busy, too frail. I don't have the resources. I don't have the time. I'm not good enough, etc." In fact if my memory serves me correctly, there was only one person in the Bible who volunteered to serve God and that was Isaiah. All the rest including Moses, Jeremiah, and Jonah were terrified.

Jeremiah responded by saying he was too young and inexperienced to speak to those God asked him to speak to. Notice Jeremiah did not say, "Here I am, God, send me." Also notice God did not tell Jeremiah he was off the hook because he did not want to do the work—God did not look for someone else to take Jeremiah's place. God expected Jeremiah to do what God commanded. However, God was sensitive to Jeremiah's fear and God reassured him, "Do not be afraid, for I am with you..."

Throughout Scripture we hear reassuring words, encouraging words that God speaks to the people who are overwhelmed by God's call. The fact that God reassures us when we are afraid should not be taken lightly—God invites us to believe that Jesus Christ walks with us amid our fears to the other side of the task.

My sermon series and this letter to the congregation are in response to observations I have made in recent years. Twenty-five percent of the congregation responds to God's call by using their talents to build up this one body. The few support the One. This does not make up the whole body. We are missing the gifts of so many of this congregation to support the body of Christ. Scripture tells us the many should support the One. Let us work in this direction. Is there fear? Certainly. Can you imagine God calling a little boy to do the job we would consider to be for adults only? Yet that is our God—God works in mysterious ways—and God reminds us God is in the midst of our fears leading us to do what God wants done.

Nearly everyone initially resists God's initial call. Scripture supports that. We were all called here to this church. History supports that. We come here with talents. Scripture supports that. We do not all use our talents in this one body. History supports that. Let's change history. This year on our calendars over the month of February let us all write: "I will not be afraid. God is with me. I hear God calling me to serve at the Prospect Congregational Church, UCC as \_\_\_\_\_. I will answer."

I hope to see all of you at the Annual Meeting.

*In Christ,  
Phyllis*

**Experience The Power  
Of  
God During Lent**

**Worship**

February 7, 10:00 AM Worship and Communion  
**NO** 5:00 PM Informal Worship

February 14, 10:00 AM Worship  
**4:00 PM Ordination of Kim Wadhams**

February 17, 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service

February 21, 10:00 AM Worship  
5:00 PM Informal Worship and Communion

February 28, 10:00 AM Worship  
5:00 PM Informal Worship and Communion

Fellowship and Celebration  
Fat Tuesday, February 16, 6:30 PM  
Valentine's Day Dinner February 20, 6-8:30 PM

**Spiritual Enrichment During Epiphany and Lent**

Ordination Service of Kim Wadhams February 14, 4:00 PM  
Ash Wednesday Service February 17, 7:00 PM  
Morning Prayer Wednesday February 24, 8:00 AM @ St. Anthony's  
"Confronting Death" Lenten Series February 21 and 28, 6:00 PM in the Parlor  
Choral Concert Celebrating Black History Month February 27, 7:30 PM

**Mission Opportunities**

Casserole Sunday February 28 during Coffee Hour  
Health Kits - the whole month

**Christian Education**

Confirmation Classes Wed., Feb. 3 & 17, 6:30 PM

## **"Called to Care" Chronicles**

### **Health Concerns      Prayers for our Military, including**

Gloria Benson                                  Gerard Boulay, England  
Louise Beach      Thomas Brunetti, Jr., Iraq  
Carmen Cavallaro      Christopher Chucta, Biloxi, Mississippi  
Ruby DeCosta      A1C Johnny Dee, Germany  
Helen Donovan      Darren Hale, Jr., Italy  
Shoshe Drapin      Edward Hall, Iraq  
Jake Dzubak      Robert Holley, Iran  
Gayle Gourley      Jim Jackson, Marines  
Ruth Hansen      PFC James Kabusk, Cherry Point, NC  
Althea Hubbell      Lcpl Alex Theil, Ft. Leonardwood, MO  
Joyce Kathan      Robert Tuohy, Bagdad  
Tina Sierra      Michael Worden, Infantry in Afghan.  
Joan Slapikas      Zac Favocia, Ft. Leonardwood, MO  
Dave Stewart      Jon Conlon, Iraq  
Andrew Vilaro      SFC Steven Norekia, Baghdad  
Bernice Wilson

### **Sherie Wilson                                  The Village at East Farms**

Myrtle Hintz

### **Highlands Healthcare Center**

Nancy Robinson

### **Glendale**

Jo Collins

Roy Schellhardt

### **Elim Park**

Arrol Drew

**Congratulations to:** Sue White and John Cochran on their marriage, January 30, 2010.

**Condolences to:** Dave Stewart and the Stewart family on the death of his brother Harry on January 4, 2010.

### **Prayers of Concern for our Extended Family**

Barbara Andrews (daughter of Eileen Flanagan)  
Bonnie (dear friend of Shoshe Drapin)  
Kevin Ackerman (nephew of Judy and Martin Niatopsky)  
Yves Allard (Erik Soderberg's Uncle)  
Norman Anderson (Babette Strumpf's brother)  
Edna Beach (Tim Beach's mother)  
Harriet Blakeslee (Charlie Blakeslee's sister-in-law)  
Susan Boyle (Pete Creasey's sister)  
Joe Cavallaro (father of Carmen Cavallaro)  
Arthur Compton (Alice Palen's brother)

Judy Czarkowsky (neighbor of Charles Peach)  
Marcia Curtis (Dave Curtis' cousin)  
John Curtis (Dave Curtis' brother)  
Dean Charles Drapin (Shoshe Drapin's brother-in-law)  
Christine Edmondson (friend of Bernice Wilson)  
Gary Esposito (friend of Rick and Liz Normand)  
Justin Fortin (grandson of Alan and Charlotte Geary)  
Lloyd Hannula (Diana Trumbley's father)  
Dane Hassan, Sr. (dear friend of the Slapikas family)  
Sean Healy (Ruby DeCosta's step-grandson)  
Beth Hochman (Shoshe Drapin's daughter)  
David Nathan Hochman (Shoshe Drapin's grandson)  
Peter Horsky (Shoshe Drapin's brother)  
Conall Hurley (Howie Steeves' nephew)  
Earl Iffland (Kathy Vander Eyk's brother)  
Irene Kamila (Diana Trumbley's grandmother)  
Robert Kathan (son of Joyce and Barney Kathan)  
Nick LaTorraca (former classmate of Alison Reilly)  
Benjamin LeBlanc (Edna Talmadge's grandson and Gwenn Fischer's nephew)  
Heather Mallon (friend of Bernice Wilson)  
Jeff Malm (Sue Wilson's brother)  
Benny Mazzucco (Kelly Shaffer's dad)  
Carmel Mazzucco (Kelly Shaffer's aunt)  
Beth Osborn (Pete Creasey's sister)  
Hank Pavlowski (Sandi Pavolwski's Dad)  
Dorothy Plankey (mother of Paul Plankey)  
Jared Price (Pete and Chris Creasey's nephew)  
Marion Raven (Kim Palmerie's sister-in-law)  
Hulda Risdon (mother of Marge Biercevicz)  
Sally Dunnigan Scott (Joan Slapikas' sister-in-law)  
Grace Sederquest (mother of Barbara Rowe)  
Yvonne Theriault (Linda Theriault's father-in-law)  
Nancy West (dear friend of Joan Slapikas)  
Arthur Wood (Christine Creasey's Dad)  
Betsey Wypychuski (Mary Ellen Pearce's cousin)

## LENTEN SERIES: "Confronting Death"

### A Christian Approach to the End of Life

Most of us do not want to think about death. Sometimes we go out of our way to avoid the topic. This Lenten study, developed by Walter Wangerin, invites us to lay aside our reservations and fears, and see the adventure in exploring a Christian approach to death.

This series is designed for ALL ages, for anyone who wishes to grow in awareness of how Jesus meets us in our weakness and mortality. We have the power and ability to look death straight in the eye and understand it.

We will meet in the parlor for ninety minutes Sundays February 21 and 28, and March 6 and 14.

## EVENING WOMEN'S CRAFT NIGHTS

Evening Women will be starting up with our craft nights again on Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm - ? These craft nights are open to anyone wishing to help out making items for our Christmas Bazaar in the fall (you do not have to be a member of the Evening Women's group). If you cannot attend on this date, we will have others scheduled every month (dates to be determined) until the Bazaar.

This first craft night we will be making angels and trees. If you have colored glitter, modge podge, hat pins, rhinestones, beads, please bring them to use.

Come join us for a 'Crafty Evening' with the women, we would love to have you join us.

Thank you  
Sheri Budnik 758-0279  
Vice President,  
Evening Women's

Please Join the Youth Group

at

**Friendly's**

for a

Family Fun Night

in

Naugatuck

on

Monday, February 1st

from

5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

The group is raising money for the  
Summer 2010 Mission Trip  
to Providence Rhode Island

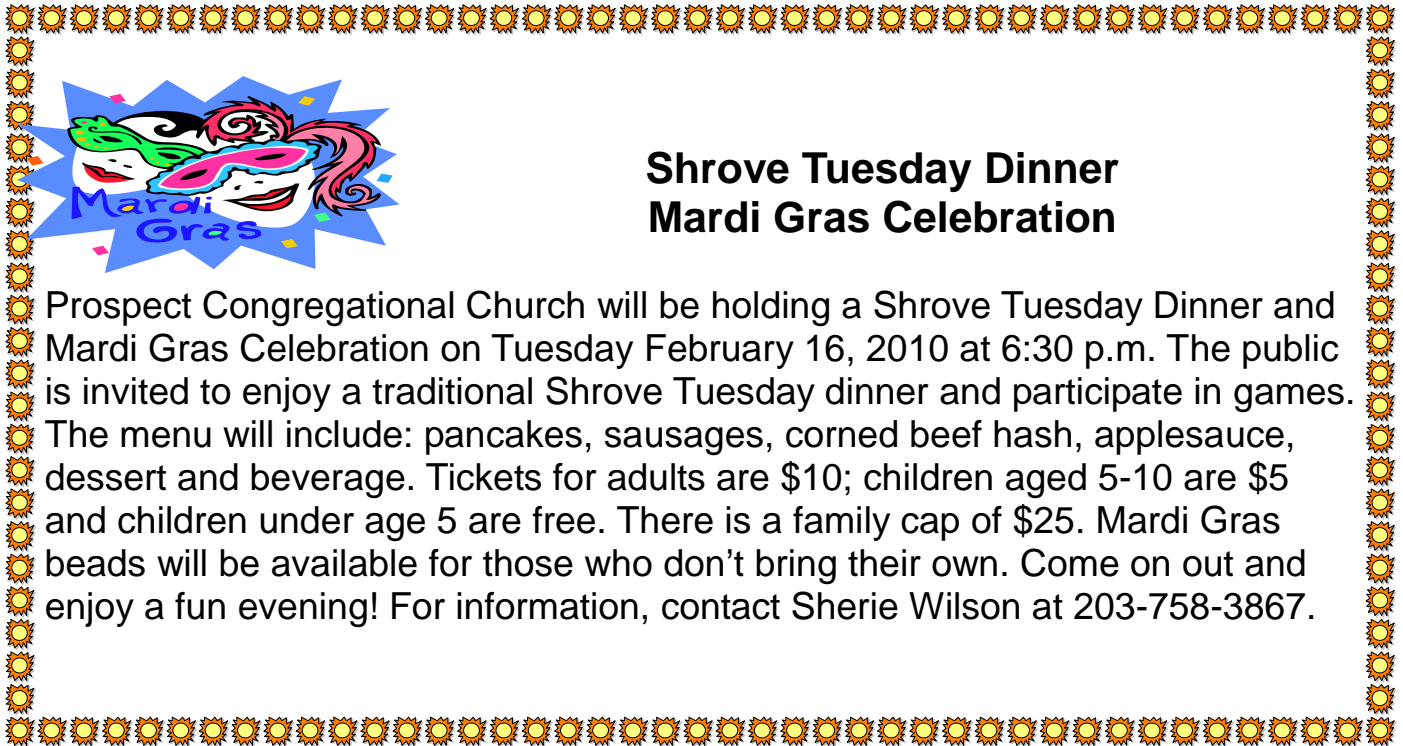


**ANNUAL SILVER LAKE AUCTION-** This is to benefit our fund which helps to send our children and youth for a week of fun and fellowship at a Silver Lake Summer Conference. We are looking for donations of items and/or services to auction off at the March 6 Dinner/Auction. Please see Mark Wilson or any member of our Board of Christian Ed with your donations. You can also drop off your donation to the church office during regular office hours (Monday-Thursday 8:30-1:30).

Join us on March 6 for a fun-packed evening. A picnic style dinner is provided by our wonderful Men's Club. Watch our bulletin announcements and website for the time.







## Shrove Tuesday Dinner Mardi Gras Celebration

Prospect Congregational Church will be holding a Shrove Tuesday Dinner and Mardi Gras Celebration on Tuesday February 16, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited to enjoy a traditional Shrove Tuesday dinner and participate in games. The menu will include: pancakes, sausages, corned beef hash, applesauce, dessert and beverage. Tickets for adults are \$10; children aged 5-10 are \$5 and children under age 5 are free. There is a family cap of \$25. Mardi Gras beads will be available for those who don't bring their own. Come on out and enjoy a fun evening! For information, contact Sherie Wilson at 203-758-3867.

### GIFT POLICY

The Board of Trustees has many ongoing projects that could be funded with memorial donations or outright gifts. As this board is responsible for the building and grounds of the church, we respectfully ask that any physical donations or gifts be brought to the Board's attention in advance of purchase to ensure no duplication of efforts, and ensure that the items meet the needs of the church and comply with any local ordinances and or other building codes. The Board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Your contributions and cooperation, as always, are greatly appreciated.

### What's Going on at GWIM?

(Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries)

From the January, 2010 Board of Directors Meeting Barbara Dublin, Executive Director, reports: a total of 6,258 meals were served in the month of December at our Soup Kitchen and 21,996 meals were provided through the Emergency Food Pantry to 1,280 unduplicated individuals. 65% of the food came from sources other than the Food Bank. Sadly the numbers of people assisted are comprised of the following:

- 66%, or 4,142 of the people eating in the dining hall are men
- 28 % or 1,766 are women
- 6%, or 350 of these people are children

These end of the year numbers show an increase from the previous month:

2,933 people seeking food from the panty



## CALLING ALL COOKS!

Calling all Cooks ... and everyone else! Anyone that puts a pan on the stove or pot in the oven we are in need of your recipes. Starting in February and continuing until Children's Day in June, members of the Evening Women's Association will be collecting recipes to put into a new cookbook we will be producing.

It would be terrific to have a men's section, kid-friendly and vegetarian section, along with the standard sections we would normally print. We will also have a selection of recipes from years past submitted by members who are no longer with us; we did have a number of great cooks over the years.

There will be a basket in the narthex that you can drop your recipes into on your way into church each Sunday morning, or give it to any member of the Evening Women's Association. You can also e-mail recipes to either

[sueostuno@aol.com](mailto:sueostuno@aol.com) or [prospectpages@aol.com](mailto:prospectpages@aol.com)

Hope you can help support this fun and yummy fundraiser for our church.



## February Birthdays

1 Doug Patrick

22 George Arndt

3 Deborah Doody

Scott Arndt

4 Amanda Linsley

25 Louise Stamat

7 Mary Koch

T.J. Snyder

14 Bill Brown

26 Erica (Milton) LaFrance

15 Kathy Arndt

27 Dave Holley

19 Katie Greatorex

28 Katie Tajmajer

## CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate acknowledges the valuable support provided by:

**Prospect Pages**

**FOR THE HOLY JOE'S COFFEE HOUSE MINISTRY**

Thank you for aiding the work of our chaplains in the United States military who are on the front lines.

**Holy Joe's  
Cafe**  
COFFEE FOR THE TROOPS

*Deane Wamburton*  
Signature

12-10-09  
Date

*Thomas Jostley*  
Signature

12-10-09  
Date



First Congregational Church  
Wallingford, Connecticut

"The Prospect Pages and Gwenn Fischer would like to thank everyone who has thus far supported the coffee collection for Holy Joe's Coffee House Ministry. Our office has collected well over 300 bags of coffee which has been sent to our troops thanks to the generosity of many. We plan to continue this ministry until the wars are over and will gratefully accept any further donations that you feel you can contribute. Our military is thankful that we have not forgotten them and if we can come to their aid with a cup of coffee, we have touched their hearts.

You can leave coffee in the coat room of the church, making sure that the coffee is in bags, NOT decaffeinated, and NOT flavored .... they like the "high-test" stuff! Again, thank you all for your contributions. Gwenn"

## THE WIVES OF TWO FORMER PASTORS DIED IN 2009

(This is the tenth in a series of articles by the Church Historian in order to expand on or, in some cases, to correct narratives told in the 200-year history of the Prospect Congregational Church, *A Church Set Upon a Hill*.)

The wives of two former pastors of the Prospect Congregational Church died this past year, in 2009. One was Mildred Willis Senior, wife of the Rev. Robert Senior, who served from 1947 to 1956. The other was Joan Elizabeth Errgong-Weider, wife of the Rev. Gregory Errgong-Weider, who served from 1976 to 1987. Both were outstanding and talented women, who contributed much to the life and work of this church.

**Mildred Senior** died on August 9 at Concord Hospital, New Hampshire, at the age of 97. Six years ago she had moved with her husband to Havenwood-Heritage Heights, a UCC facility, in Concord; her husband died in 2004. Mildred was born in Hamilton, Texas, and received a 2-year degree from John Tarleton State College. She worked as a church secretary in San Angelo and Amarillo and met her husband when he was stationed in Texas as a chaplain in the U.S. Army Air Corps. They were married in 1946 in Sudbury, Massachusetts, and they served churches in Northfield and Prospect, and then moved to Hawaii, where Robert taught at the Iolani school in Honolulu. They lived many years in Wayland, MA, when her husband was a professor at Newton Jr. College.

Mildred worked for LaSalle Jr. College and GTE Sylvania when they lived in Massachusetts. The Seniors spent their summers in Peacham, Vermont and they moved to Manchester, NH in 1997. Mildred is survived by two daughters, Harriet Hart of Arlington, MA, and Rebecca Bukowski of Concord, two granddaughters and a great granddaughter who was born last September. A letter from her daughter, Rebecca, on January 10 informed us of Mildred's death. She wrote: "My parents both had wonderful lives, filled with meaningful relationships."

**Joan Errgong-Weider** died on November 16 at Yale-New Haven Hospital at the age of 65. She had been a member of the lung cancer support group at the Yale Cancer Center. Joan grew up in New Milford, CT and received the BA degree from Wagner College on Staten Island, NYC, and a Masters in Library Science from Southern Conn. State University. She served as a school librarian in Carmel, NY, and as librarian in Prospect and Bethlehem. In addition she was a trained musician and played the organ at the South Congregational Church in Waterbury. She met her husband while serving as librarian in Prospect and they were married on January 14, 1979 at the Congregational Church in New Milford.

Joan served as a part-time secretary in the Prospect Church and had been a volunteer secretary at the United Congregational Church in Norwalk, where Gregory was the pastor. In between Prospect and Norwalk they were at the Plymouth United Church in Spring, Texas. Joan was involved in the Girl Scout organization throughout her life and a member of the San Jacinto Girl Scout Council of Texas. In addition to her husband Joan is survived by two daughters, Megan Rooney of Haverhill, MA, and Jenna Heller of Christchurch, New Zealand, and two grandsons. Gregory has reported that he is putting together a notebook of stories about Joan to be called "Remembering Joan," and stories can be E-mailed to him at [RevGregEW@aol.com](mailto:RevGregEW@aol.com), or sent in a handwritten note to him.

# February 2010

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue   | Wed  | Thu   | Fri | Sat   |
|--|--|---|--|---|-----|---|
|  | 1<br><br>7p Deacon's Mtg                                     | 2<br><br>9:30a Bible Stdy   | 3<br><br>6:30 Confirmation Class   | 4<br><br>7:30 Sr. Choir   | 5   | 6   |
| 7<br>10 a Worship<br>11a Coffee Hour<br><br><b>NO CONTEMPORARY SERVICE</b>   | 8<br><br>7p Finance Comm.<br>7p Committee Night              | 9<br><br>9:30a Bible Stdy<br><br>7pm BOT Mtg                                      | 10   | 11<br><br>7:30 Sr. Choir  | 12  | 13  |
| 14<br>8:30 Pancake Brkfst<br>10a Worship<br>11a Coffee Hour<br>4p Ordination of Kim Wadhams (tentative)<br><br><b>NO CONTEMPORARY SERVICE (also tentative)</b> | 15<br><br>11a Worship - Village at E Farms<br>7p Council Mtg | 16<br><br>9:30a Bible Stdy<br><br><b>6:30p Mardi Gras (Shrove Tuesday Dinner)</b> | 17 <i>Ash Wednesday</i><br><br>6:30 Confirmation Class<br>7p Ash Wednesday Service   | 18<br><br>10:30a Worship - Paradigm Health Cntr<br><br>7:30 Sr. Choir | 19  | 20<br><br><b>6pm Valentine's Dinner/Dance</b> |
| 21<br><br>10a Worship<br>11a Coffee Hour<br><b>11:30 Annual Meeting</b><br>5p Contemporary Service   | 22   | 23<br><br>9:30a Bible Stdy  | 24<br><br>8a Morning Prayer Service at St. Anthony's Church<br><br>7p Vesper Service | 25<br><br>6p Evening Women's Craft Night<br><br>7:30 Sr. Choir        | 26  | 27  |
| 28<br><br>10a Worship<br>11a Coffee Hour/<br>Casseroles<br>5p Contemporary Service   |  |   |  |   |     |   |