

The Prospectus

MAY 2009



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The Rev. Doreen Horstman, Minister of Visitation
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Articles can be left in the mailbox in the coatroom or e-mailed to rickliz@aol.com or pccucc@snet.net. Deadline for the newsletter is the third Wednesday of the month.

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The Pastor's Page

*Jesus looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts
Into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two
Small copper coins. He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor
Widow had put in more than all of them; for all of them
Have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of
Her poverty has put in all she had." --Luke 21:1-2*

Spring? I guess it is. The daffodils say so, and the birds joyfully chirp its arrival every morning at 5:00 AM! Even though I love the season of winter, I look forward to getting outside to fill my lungs with fresh air, walk in the park, and rake up the dead grass and leaves. I can hardly wait to see the tiny green leaves burst on branches. Already the forsythia is yellowing. The streets are being swept of winter's sand. And, according to our By-laws, it is time to prepare our church budget for 2009/2010.

Does this mean it is time for stewardship? Not in past understanding of stewardship. Stewardship is discipleship, something we do all year long. We worship, teach, learn, serve our brothers and sisters in many ways, care for the church and parsonage, financially support the staff and programs, maintain our grounds, pray with each other and for each other, and play. This means there is no particular "season" set aside for "stewardship".

However, in order to keep our staff, provide programs, offer worship, and maintain our physical properties, we need a budget, and income to support it. Read the Scripture I included at the beginning of this message: it is the story of a Synagogue and its congregation. The Jews of Jesus' time would place their gifts (offering) in the treasury (offering plate) as they entered the Temple to worship. Jesus watched one particular day. Many people gave generously because they could. Then Jesus saw a widow woman place 2 coins in the treasury. He commented to those standing around, "she put in more than all who contributed."

My first thought is of the generous sacrifice of the widow who only had those 2 coins, nothing more. She had a spirit of sacrifice. I pondered these verses for more than a year before I came to the realization that this idea of sacrifice is a negative one—sacrificial giving is a glass-half-empty action. There is no joy in it, no matter how generous. I believe the widow's generosity was praise-filled, an act of joyful worship as she entered her beloved Temple to praise God. There is no indication the widow's action was sacrificial—the story leads us to believe her giving was a result of her relationship with God. The widow dearly loved God and she gave in response to that love.

There is nothing joyful or praise-worthy about sacrifices. The dictionary tells us the act of sacrifice is to publicly appease a deity; a forfeiture of something valued highly—nothing praise-worthy there!

Many years ago my grandmother Nichols generously gave up purchasing for herself a winter coat, so her three children could have new ones. She did it joyfully—Grandma was happy she could purchase new coats for her growing children. She never begrudged the opportunity she had to provide what was needed even when it meant she could not have a new coat for herself. Grandma never thought her action was sacrificial. Grandma loved her children—she had a beautiful relationship with them. She provided because she could, and because she could, she was happy.

Soon (if you have not already) you will receive a letter from the church along with a picture narrative telling the story of the wonderful ministries you provide here. The envelope will contain a Covenant of Generosity, one for you to make with God and this church. As you consider how you will covenant to continue the programs, staff and building maintenance, I ask you to prayerfully explore your relationship with God. Look at the ways in which God covenants with us and how you covenant with God. If you have not made a financial covenant with God in the past, consider entering into one this year. This is a time when we, like the widow, can give in response to God's love for us, with joy and praise. God needs you. The church needs you. And, we need one another.

In Christ,

Phyllis

Let Us Experience our Covenant Relationship With God Through the Season of Easter

Worship

May 3, 10:00 AM Worship and Communion
5:00 PM Contemporary Worship and Communion
May 10, 10:00 AM Worship
5:00 PM Contemporary Worship and Communion
May 17, 10:00 AM Worship
5:00 PM Contemporary Worship and Communion
May 24, 10:00 AM Worship
5:00 PM Contemporary Worship and Communion
May 31, 10:00 AM Worship and Confirmation
NO 5:00 PM Contemporary Worship and Communion

Fellowship and Celebration

Cinco de Mayo Dinner, 5:00 PM Tuesday, May 5
Coffee House for Habitat Saturday, May 9
Breakfast Hosted by the Men's Assoc., 8:30 AM May 10
Our Church's 211th Anniversary Fun-Raiser, Thurs, May 14, 6-7:30 PM
Evening Women's Assoc., 6:30 PM May 20
2nd Annual American Girl Tea Saturday, May 30, 2-5:00 PM

Children's Chapel

Communion Sunday May 3 during Worship

Spiritual Enrichment During Easter Season

Confirmation Retreat Friday, 6:00 PM May 15 to Sunday, May 17, 6:00 PM

Mission Opportunities

Adopt-a-Grandparent program @ Marathon Healthcare Center May 3
Casserole Sunday May 17 during Coffee Hour

Christian Education

Confirmation March 12, 3:00 - 5:00 PM
Confirmands and Mentors to B'nai Israel (Bridgeport) March 20, 4:00 PM
Confirmands and Mentors to St Michael's (New Haven) March 22, 8:40 AM

Discipleship

EVERYDAY!

"Called to Care" Chronicles

Health Concerns

Gloria Benson
Louise Beach
Carmen Cavallaro
Jane Chatfield
Ruby DeCosta
Helen Donovan
Shoshe Drapin
Gayle Gourley
Ruth Hansen
Rev. Doreen Horstman
Philip Jeannin
Joyce Kathan
Alfred Peach, Jr.
Ann Raven
Tina Sierra
Joan Slapikas
Linda Stewart
Andrew Vilardo
Kim Wadhams
Bernice Wilson
Margaret Worden

Prayers for our Military, including

Gerard Boulay, England
A1C Joshua Campbell, Nebraska
Christopher Chucta, Biloxi, Mississippi
A1C Johnny De, Germany
Darren Hale, Jr., Korea
Edward Hall, Iraq
Robert Holley, Iran
Jim Jackson, Marines
PFC James Kabusk, Cherry Point, NC
Lcpl Alex Theil, Ft. Leonardwood, MO
Robert Tuohy, Bagdad

The Village at East Farms

Roy Schellhardt
Myrtle Hintz

Highlands Healthcare Center

Nancy Robinson

Glendale

Jo Collins

Elim Park

Arrol Drew

Prayers of Concern for our Extended Family

Kevin (Donna Dzubak's son)
Leah Soliel Abildgaard (Sue Ostuno's granddaughter)
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 (Peter Creasey's Sister)
Alyssa Casson (young girl in town)
Joe Cavallaro (father of Carmen Cavallaro)
Arthur Compton (Alice Palen's brother)
John Curtis (Dave Curtis' brother)
Beth Creasey (Peter Creasey's sister)

Judy Czarkowsky (neighbor of Charles Peach)
Arlene DeCosta (Ruby DeCosta's daughter-in-law)
Kevin Delaney (Bev Allen's Son-in-law)
Lena Mary Dontas (Edie Sherwood's baby cousin)
Dean Charles Drapin (Shoshe Drapin's brother-in-law)
Harry Gamradt (Arlene Hughes' brother-in-law)
Lloyd Hannula (Diana Trumbley's father)
Sean Healy (Ruby DeCosta's step-grandson)
Karl Herbort (Laurie Herbort's brother-in-law)
Betty Hotaling (Linda Theriault's Mom)
Paul Hudson (John and Susan Hudson's Dad)
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)
Benjamin LeBlanc (Edna Talmadge's grandson/Gwenn & Brad Fischer's nephew)
Lois Lukeski (Taylor, Nicole and Alyssa Lukeski's Grandma)
Jeff Malm (Sue Wilson's brother)
Benny Mazzucco (Kelly Shaffer's dad)
Carmel Mazzucco (Kelly Shaffer's aunt)
Beth Osborne (Peter Creasey's sister)
Hank Pavlowski (Sandy Pavlowski's dad)
Dorothy Plankey (mother of Paul Plankey)
Jared Price (Peter 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)
Yvon Theriault (Linda Theriault's father-in-law)
Arthur Wood (Christine Creasey's father)
Betsey Wypychuski (Mary Ellen Pearce's cousin)

LECTIONARY READING FOR MAY, 2009

May 3

Psalm 23

Acts 4:5-12

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

Theme: Enfolded by Love

May 24

Psalm 1

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

1 John 5:9-13

John 17:6-19

Theme: Guided in Prayer

May 10

Psalm 22

Acts 8:26-40

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

Theme: Abiding in Love

May 31

Psalm 104

Acts 2:1-21

Romans 8:22-27

John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

Theme: Spirit for All

May 17

Psalm 98

Acts 10:44-48

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

Theme: Friends Together

What's Going on at GWIM?

(Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries)

March, 2009

FOOD PANTRY

During the month of March John West, Food Pantry Coordinator, picked up goods from 20 food drives, many of them faith-based, but some from the greater Waterbury community as well. John tells us during March he gave out enough groceries to provide 6,822 meals. Of that number 1,472 were unduplicated. 65% of the food provided came from sources other than a food bank. The numbers are increasing dramatically!

SOUP KITCHEN REPORT FOR FEBRUARY, 2009

5,634 meals (an increase of 858 over February's numbers) were provided for an average of 210 people per day (an increase of 10/day from last month) for the 27 days the soup kitchen was open. 70% of the food provided came from sources other than a food bank (a decrease of 9%). (Barbara Dublin, Executive Director)

RESOURCE CENTER

Food stamp applications continue to be offered. Case management was provided for 14 new individuals looking for housing.



Cinco de Mayo Fiesta



Prospect Congregational

Church Hall

Tuesday May 5th 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Full menu of: Fajitas, Burritos, Taquitos
Spanish Rice, Refried Beans
and much more.

Come on out and let us cook for you!!

Tickets ... \$12.00 at the door or call
758-4872 for reservations.



Birthdays for May

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|------------------------|
| 4 | Rick Normand | 23 | Lou VanderEyk |
| 5 | Dana Krofssik | 24 | Jean Barnes |
| 12 | Kim Palmerie | | Betty Lou Foley |
| 14 | Diana Trumbley | | Henrietta McClung |
| | Brandon Peach | 25 | Zachary Sweet |
| | Megan Minkara | 27 | Jonathan Krofssik, Jr. |
| 16 | Arliene Hamilton | 28 | Ruth Hansen |
| 18 | DJ Hale | | Judy Zhitomi |
| | Judy Niatopsky | | |
| 20 | Richard Kuhn | | |
| 21 | Carl Norman | | |
| | Charles Barnes | | |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 6 | Carl & Phyllis Norman |
| 14 | Rev. Doreen & John Horstman |
| 15 | Louis & Judy Zhitomi |

Benefit Coffee House to Support Habitat for Humanity

The Prospect Congregational Church Music Committee will be holding a "Family Evening Coffee House" on Saturday, May 9th in Fellowship Hall. The doors will open at 6:30pm. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Waterbury Chapter of Habitat for Humanity. The Coffee House will include local performers and musicians along with audience participation, a salad bar, different selections of coffee and tea, and a silent auction. There is no ticket charge to the event, but a free will donation will be held during the Coffee House. Information regarding Habitat for Humanity will be available throughout the event. For more information, contact Erik Soderberg at (203) 525-7190, or the Church Office at (203) 758-4872.

Historian's Corner

FRED SHATTUCK ELECTED DEACON EMERITUS

(This is the second 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.*)

At the 2009 annual meeting in February, the church voted to make Fred Shattuck a Deacon Emeritus, a much deserved but, some would say, long-overdue honor. Fred was a Deacon of the church from 1963 to 1981 and served as chairman for some of those years. In addition, he was the longest-serving member of the Board of Religious Education, which had been established as a result of the By Laws revision of 1954. Some others on the Board were Margaret Merriman, Helen Cole, Carl Benson, Ruth Plumb, Blanche Voegeli, Jane Chatfield, Bernice Milton, Althea Hubbell, Lou Vander Eyk, and Charles Kathan. Fred also was President of the Men's Fellowship, chaired the House Committee, and was Chairman of the Pulpit Committee, when the Rev. Gregory Errgong-Weider was called as the Pastor. He was also a leader of Scouting in the community and was responsible for raising the American flag at the annual Memorial Day exercises in Prospect.

Fred Shattuck was born on April 26, 1924 in Waterbury and graduated from Crosby High School in 1942. After serving in the U.S. Army in World War II, he went to college on the GI Bill and graduated from the University of Vermont in 1950. He taught in Ansonia, Rockville, the Porter School in Waterbury, and then returned to Crosby on the faculty for 25 years until he retired in 1980. He and Phyllis were married in 1946 and they had five children, one of whom, Dennis, died in 1983. His wife died two years ago after 61 years of marriage, and the Shattuck Fund at the church is in memory of both Dennis and Phyllis. Fred has ten grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.

A tour of the Prospect church building with Fred would reveal his thoughtful care and attention; although he is quick to point out that it was not he but his brother Albert who was on the canvassing group in 1948 to raise money for the building. His handiwork is everywhere. For example, he built the book shelves for the church library in the Parlor. He was in charge of putting aluminum siding on the building. He has worked on the roof and on the steeple. As Chairman of the House Committee, he was the "go-to" person when it came to repairs and maintenance.

The Shattucks had moved to Florida after his retirement in 1980, but lived not far from other family members. They have made many trips back to Prospect through the years, often at the time of the church picnic. Fred has even served as a Deacon at his church in Florida. Congratulations and best wishes, Fred!



RED Envelopes: At the last special meeting of the Prospect Congregational Church, the membership present voted to use a line of credit to upgrade our fire protection system. Those funds are over and above what has been budgeted for church expenses. In each pew are "RED" envelopes you can use to make a targeted donation to help cover the cost of this upgrade. PLEASE don't seal the envelopes so they can be reused. Thank you!

PROSPECT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH T-SHIRTS ARE HERE!
(SHORT SLEEVE WHITE SHIRT WITH BLACK PRINT ON FRONT)

THE SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP
WILL BE SELLING T-SHIRTS TO HELP WITH THE COST OF
THEIR MISSION TRIP THIS SUMMER.

THE DESIGN REFLECTS THE UCC FOCUS AT THE
NATIONAL YOUTH EVENT LAST SUMMER.

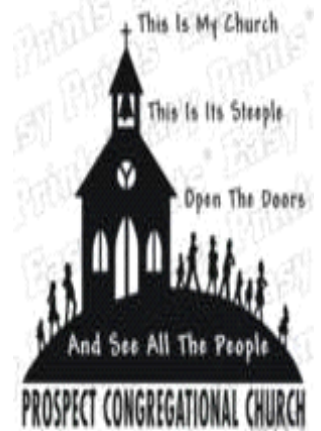
OUR GROUP WAS PART OF A PROMOTIONAL PIECE
RECORDED FOR THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST.

BE PROUD OF YOUR CHURCH!

BUY A SHIRT FOR JUST \$10.00

SUPPORT THE YOUTH!

PLACE ORDERS WITH KATHY PATRICK AT 758.0045



Antique Appraisal Show

On Friday, June 19, 2009 at 7 pm. in Fellowship Hall we will hold our Original Antique Appraisal Show with Wayne Mattox and Carl Hotkowski doing the appraisals. Clean out your attics, closets, basements, etc and bring it all down to be appraised. 1 item appraised - \$3.00; 2 items appraised - \$5.00. Homemade Strawberry Short cake is available for \$4.00/serving. Come and Enjoy!

A Note from Jan Snyder

I have a medical condition called Sjoren's Syndrome. Our local organization is sponsoring our First Annual Walkabout to raise funds for research for this auto-immune disease. I will be walking for this, it will be held at the Westfield Mall, Meriden, on Saturday June 13, 2009. If anyone is interested in sponsoring me and/or walking, please see me during coffee hour or call me at 754-0133. Thank you for your generosity.



A mother's prayer

Make me a wise mother, O Lord. Keep me calm and give me patience to bear the small, irritating things in the daily routine of life. Give me tolerance and understanding to bridge the gulf between my generation and that of my children.

Let me not be too ready to guide my children's stumbling feet, but allow me to be ever near to bind their bruises. Give me a sense of humor that I may laugh with them but never at them. Let me refrain from preaching with words; let me show by example instead.

Keep me from forcing their confidences, but give me a sympathetic ear when my children come to me. Make me humble. Keep my children close to me, O Lord, though miles may

A Great Big Thank you to everyone who helped make the Seder Dinner a success, with special thanks to Shoshe Drapin, Liz Normand and Louise Beach for organizing it.; to Shoshe and all those that helped with the preparation and the cooking (thanks Rick). A thank you to all the youth that helped set up, make crosses, served and/or helped with clean-up. And to all those on the Board of Christian Education who had a hand in making this all possible.

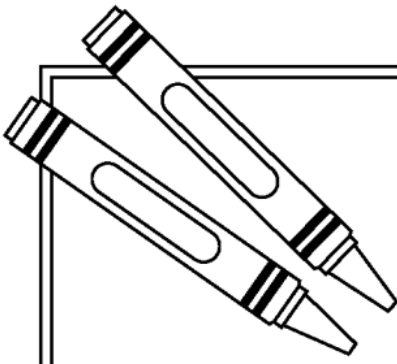


CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

Children's Sunday will be held on June 7 during the Worship Service (11 am) at our Church's Annual Picnic, Volmar's Grove. Come one and all to celebrate our Sunday School Classes.



Vacation Bible School 2009 will be held from Monday, August 10 - Friday, August 14. Save the date. Theme to be announced. Watch for more details in an upcoming Prospectus.



Just for **KIDS**

A legacy of faith

You're blessed when you have a mother, a grandmother or any relative or friend who passes down a strong faith to you. In the Bible, Timothy was influenced by his grandmother and mother.

Complete 2 Timothy 1:5 (NIV) below by filling in the blanks with the correct vowel.

VOWELS: 1 = a 2 = e 3 = i 4 = o 5 = u

"_ h _ v _ b _ _ n r _ m _ nd _ d _ f
3 1 2 2 2 3 2 4

y _ _ r s _ nc _ r _ f _ _ th, wh _ ch
4 5 3 2 2 1 3 3

f _ rst l _ v _ d _ n y _ _ r gr _ ndm _ th _ r
3 3 2 3 4 5 1 4 2

L _ _ s _ nd _ n y _ _ r m _ th _ r
4 3 1 3 4 5 4 2

_ _ n _ c _ _ nd, _ m p _ rs _ _ d _ d,
2 5 3 2 1 3 1 2 5 1 2

n _ w l _ v _ s _ n y _ _ _ ls _ ."
4 3 2 3 4 5 1 4

2 TIMOTHY 1:5 (NIV)

Answer: "I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also."

May 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>Deacon On Call: Marge Biercevicz</i>				1	2
3 10a Worship 11a Coffee Hour 5p Contemporary Service	4 7p Deacon's Mtg	5 5:00 p <i>Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Dinner</i>	6 10:30p Memorial Service - Marathon Health Cntr	7 3p Confirmation Class 7:30p Sr Choir	8	9 <i>CT Conference Annual Meeting</i> 6:30 <i>Coffee House</i>
10 8:30a Pancake Brkfst 10a Worship 11a Coffee Hour 5p Contemporary Service	11 7p Committee Night	12 7p Healing Service 7p BOT Mtg	13	14 5:30p <i>Church's Anniversary Dinner</i> 7:30p Sr Choir	15 6p <i>Leave for Confirmation Retreat</i>	16
17 10a Worship 11a Coffee Hour/ Casseroles 5p Contemporary Service 6p Confirmands return	18 11a Worship - Village at East Farms 7p Council Mtg	19	20	21 10:30a Worship - Marathon Health Cntr 7:30p Sr Choir	22	23
24 10a Worship 11a Coffee Hour 5p Contemporary Service	25 <i>Office Closed</i> Memorial Day 1p Parade	26 6p GWIM Annual Meeting	27	28 7:30p Sr Choir	29	30 2-5p <i>American Girl Tea Party</i>
31 <i>Confirmation Sunday</i> 10a Worship 11a Coffee Hour 3p Joyce Crutchfield's Ordination—Bunker Hill Congregational Church No Contemporary Service						