

The Pastor's Page

"And God said to him (Jacob), 'I am God Almighty; be fruitful and increase in number'" (Genesis 35:11a).

It is now January, 2009—a new year with new resolve and many new things happening. One thing that will not be new this year is our focus on discipleship (stewardship). We began this journey last September when I dragged the old chair from the youth room to the Sanctuary for worship. I talked about the dilapidated condition of the chair: the seat's springs and metal webbing were all but gone. I equated the chair's seat to our lack of understanding of biblical discipleship (stewardship), and spoke of how we will reinforce the chair while we reinforce discipleship.

During the winter months we will focus on small group gatherings to talk about money, and discuss questions such as: What would happen if God was in charge of my time, my talent, and my treasure? Would I use my time differently? Would I use my money differently? Am I content with what I have? What does it mean to be a "faithful steward"?

Money has always been a "tough issue" to talk about in the church. Rev. Stephen Gray, Indiana-Kentucky Conference Minister spoke of this very thing at our October Conference Annual Meeting. He told this story: "From time to time when I am teaching or consulting I will have someone say to me, 'All the church ever does is ask for money!' Have you ever heard that? My response is to say back to the person, 'You are 100% correct! And let me tell you why! Until the day comes that there are no children being abused in this community—until the day that there are no families in turmoil—until the day that no elders are being taken advantage of—there is work for the church to do. And the fuel for that work is money. And, by the way, I have a pledge card and I do have a great opportunity for you!"

This winter and spring and approaching summer we will seriously look at how we can nurture generosity in a culture of fearful scarcity. Our God is a God of abundance and generosity as seen in the first book of the Bible. Genesis records three separate times God tells individuals to be fruitful. To be fruitful means to bear fruit, to be abundantly productive. We are a people driven by fear there will not be enough, but God reminds us, "I am the God who promises enough for all." Several thousand years later Ghandi reminds us, "God cannot provide enough for human greed, only human need."

Let us make 2009 a year of faith-raising, not fundraising. I look forward to seeing you in the pews on Sundays and at the cottage meetings coming soon.

In Christ,

Phyllis

Come Worship God Through the Season of Epiphany

Worship

January 4, 10:00 AM Epiphany Worship and Communion

5:00 PM Contemporary Worship and Communion

January 11, 10:00 AM Worship, Mission and Baptism Renewal

5:00 PM Contemporary Worship and Communion

January 18, 10:00 AM Worship and Special Offering

5:00 PM Contemporary Worship and Communion

January 25, 10:00 AM Worship and Baptism

5:00 PM Contemporary Worship and Communion

Fellowship

Breakfast Hosted by the Men's Assoc., 8:30 AM January 11

Evening Women's Assoc., 6:30 PM January 21

Children's Chapel

Communion Sunday January 4 during Worship

Mission Opportunities

Adopt-a-Grandparent program @ Marathon Healthcare Center Jan. 4

Healthcare Rally, Union Station, Hartford January 13, 5:30 PM

Neighbors In Need Special Offering January 18

Christian Education

Confirmation January 8 and 22, 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Discipleship

EVERYDAY!

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, 2009

January 4 Psalm 147
Jeremiah 31:7-14
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:1-18
Theme: Another Road

January 18 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Samuel 3:1-20
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51
Theme: Known and Loved

January 11 Psalm 29
Genesis 1:1-5
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11
Theme: Defining Moments

January 25 Psalm 62
Jonah 3:1-5, 10
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20
Theme: Follow Me

February 1 Psalm 111
Deuteronomy 18:15-20
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28
Theme: Power to Do

February 15 Psalm 30
2 Kings 5:1-14
1 Corinthians 9:24-27
Mark 1:40-45
Theme: Compassionate Community

February 8 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
Isaiah 40:21-31
1 Corinthians 9:24-27
Mark 1:29-39
Theme: Source of Strength

February 22 Psalm 50
2 Kings 2:1-12
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Mark 9:2-9
Theme: Sense of the Sacred

"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
Kim Palmerie
Ann Raven
Tina Sierra
Joan Slapikas
Linda Stewart
Sandi Stewart
Edna Talmadge
Andrew Vilardo
Ruth Voegeli
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, Parris Island
Jim Jackson, Marines
PFC James Kabusk, Cherry Point, NC
Lcpl Alex Theil, Ft. Leonardwood, MO
PFC Victor Tomaino, Iraq
Robert Tuohy, Bagdad

The Village at East Farms

Roy Schellhardt
Myrtle Hintz

Highlands Healthcare Center

Nancy Robinson

Glendale

Jo Collins

Condolences to

the Robinson family on the recent death of Donald Robinson.
to the Harvey family and friends on the death of Evelyn Laliberte December 22nd.
to the Slapikas family on the recent death of their grandmother Lorraine Gray.
to Sandy Pavlowski on the death of her Uncle Stanley December 28th.

Prayers of Concern for our Extended Family

Kevin (Donna Dzubak's son)
Leah Soliel Abildgaard (Sue Ostuno's new granddaughter)
Yves Allard (Erik Soderberg's Uncle)
Frank Anderson (Babette Strumpf's brother)
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)
Alyssa Casson (young Prospect girl)
June Chucta (Tom Chucta's Mom)
Edna Clock (Ruby DeCosta's sister)
Arthur Compton (Alice Palen's brother)
Rev. Dr. Davida Foy Crabtree (CT UCC Conference Minister)
Beth Creasey (Peter Creasey's sister)
Judy Czarkowsky (neighbor of Charles Peach)
Marcia Dingle (Louise Beach's Sister)
Arlene DeCosta (Ruby DeCosta's daughter-in-law)
Lloyd Hannula (Diana Trumbley's father)
Karl Herbort (Laurie Herbort's brother-in-law)
Paul Hudson (John and Susan Hudson's Dad)
Robert Kathan (son of Joyce and Barney Kathan)
Benjamin LeBlanc (Edna Talmadge's grandson and Gwenn Fischer's nephew)
Jeff Malm (Sue Wilson's brother)
Benny Mazzucco (Kelly Shaffer's dad)
Hank Pavlowski (Sandy Pavolwski's Dad)
Dorothy Plankey (mother of Paul Plankey)
Jared Price (Pete and Chris Creasey's nephew)
Hulda Risdon (mother of Marge Biercevicz)
Sally Dunnigan Scott (Joan Slapikas' sister-in-law)
Grace Sederquest (mother of Barbara Rowe)
Kathy Sigetti (Friend of Ron Peach)
Yvonne Theriault (Linda Theriault's father-in-law)

Healing Service

The Healing Services will begin again on Tuesday, January 13 at 7:00 pm and be held on the second Tuesday of each month.

January Birthdays

1	Katie (Blakeslee) Cyr	21	Kristy Holley
2	Linda Theriault		Elaine Steeves
4	Amy (Greatorex) Corvino	24	Gary Arndt
7	Arrol McGarvey		Peg Goddard
	Darlyne Wadhams	26	Christopher Mattice
11	Nicholas Dirga		Robin Wright
	Ruth Voegeli	29	Megan Wester
12	Loriessa Holley	31	Al Hamilton
13	Dayna Chucta		
14	Craig Mann		

What's Going on at GWIM?

(Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries)

SOCIAL SERVICE REPORT

"Homeless outreach visits to the woods continue once or twice a week depending on the weather. Supplies from GWIM donations and others are brought on each visit. Now that the weather has turned colder, gloves, hats and extra large hoodies are in demand. We continue to work on candidates to fill the 10 beds for the next project on East Main which is almost ready but not complete to date....The Homeless POINT IN TIME count will be done nationwide the end of January...Ten new clients were managed this month (November) and there were 90 client encounters. (Rick Povilaitis MSW, LCSW)

Inspirations: The 3rd Annual Concert of Inspirations will be held on Saturday, February 28th at 7 p.m. Anyone who is interested in participating with the event, please contact Erik Soderberg at (203)525-7190, or email him at eriksbarmusic@yahoo.com, for more information. All aspiring singers, artists, and poets are encouraged to join and share their talents.

Lost & Found

FOUND – A pair of winter gloves on Thanksgiving Sunday (in the pews). If you are missing a pair, please call the office to claim them at 758-4872.

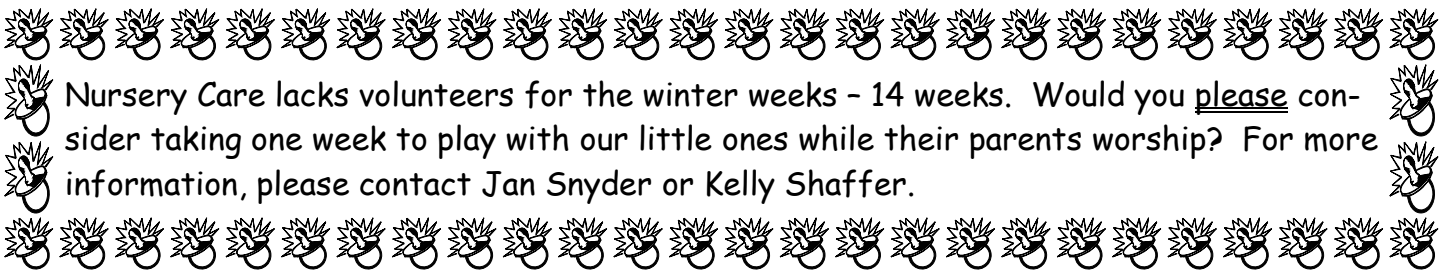


Our Next Monthly Dinner will be served on Saturday, January 17 from 5-7 pm, featuring Chicken Francaise, oven roasted potatoes, fresh mixed vegetables, toss salad and homemade desserts. \$12.00 for Adults, \$5.00 for children ages 6-12, children under 6 are free. For tickets or more information, please call Linda Stewart at 758-4613.



UNDERSTANDING ISLAM

November, '08 promised an opportunity to meet Majeed Sharif, President of United Muslim Mosque of Waterbury, and learn about the Islamic faith. Unfortunately we had to postpone the event. Majeed and I have rescheduled to Sunday, January 25, 2009 at 11:30 AM following worship. The Board of Deacons will serve a lite fare of sandwiches. Please let us know if you plan to attend—we want to have enough space and food for this event.


 Nursery Care lacks volunteers for the winter weeks - 14 weeks. Would you please consider taking one week to play with our little ones while their parents worship? For more information, please contact Jan Snyder or Kelly Shaffer.

Hospitality and Fellowship Committee Notes

Happy New Year everyone! I hope everyone has some nice resolutions that they are planning to stick to.

The H & F Committee hopes that all the folks who attended any of the last four annual Valentines Day Dinner Dances will help spread the word this year, that it's a wonderful time for everyone. The Fifth Annual is going to happen! We're just not sure when. We are trying to schedule it so it doesn't conflict with other Valentines celebrations. We will know for sure after our January committee meeting and announce it at church and in the February Prospectus.

Since I haven't met a Prospectus deadline in a while, I didn't get the word out to everyone about what a great time we had at the Family Halloween party back in October. The kids had a blast playing games and some adults were included too, especially in the over under game. The big fun for the adults was the Gilligan's Island Trivia game, as our committee had dressed up as members of the cast. It was a lot of fun and we made \$135 too, that went to the Church Vitality Fund. Try to make plans to make it next year, the more the merrier.

Chairman Tim Beach

Church (Budget) Vitality Ad Hoc Committee Notes

It's been a while since I could make the Prospectus deadline with an update, so you haven't gotten the news that our Church Vitality Fund has continued to grow. It's up to \$7,260 now thanks to many donations in October and more since the calls started in early November.

We still are in desperate need of volunteer callers to make the remaining calls. Now that the holidays are over, our committee will regroup once again to organize how to get the rest of the calls made. If you signed up to be a caller and haven't reported your results back to Mike Powe, then please do so as soon as you can. That will be valuable input for going forward as we continue to strive for the goal of balancing the budget for 2008-2009 with this \$20,000 challenge. The next update will include all the names of the folks that have made donations toward the Church Vitality Fund so far. Fortunately it is a long list. Our church just needs it to be longer to help us do God's work in this community and for our neighbors, wherever in the world they are.

Tim Beach, Chairman along with
Michael Powe

Prospect Congregational Church Runners Club & Walkers Auxiliary

That aah!, heard from the runners as the summer heat turned to less humid, cool fall weather, turns to Brrr! as the real cold winter weather kicks in. Bob and Tim will face temperatures in the teens on New Year's Day and considering wind chill, well, let's not! Before it got that cold, there was plenty of good racing during the fall including the initiation of a new runner in the club. Melissa Saxton gave this running thing a try at the Cow Chip Cross Country Run in Trumbull. She didn't sugar coat how she felt in the end, as she exclaimed, "Never Again!" She'll gladly stay with the Walkers' Auxiliary. Speaking of walkers, Linda Theriault and Tim had a nice 2 mile walk at the Annual Dyslexia Awareness Walk in Waterbury. It helps support the 32 deg. Masonic Learning Centers for Children.

Back to running, in September, I missed the update from the Trumbleys about Rob setting a new 10K record, breaking his old record by close to a minute. Our friend Teri from New York also set a 10K record in September by over 2 minutes as she completed the 6.2 mile course in under an hour. Bob wrapped up September with his 4th race of the month, a 5K in Southport to benefit the Wakeman Boys and Girls Club. Bob got things started right away in October as he got his first taste of off road racing and he loved it. Then on October 19, it was a big day for three of us in three different states. Bob supported Trumbull High School by running in the Great Pumpkin Classic 4 Miler. Teri ran a marathon in Detroit, Michigan, her eighth different state. Tim ran a marathon in Lowell, Massachusetts, his eleventh overall and also his eighth different state. His goal of qualifying for the Boston Marathon still is yet to be achieved, but he's getting closer.

In November, the team finally got back together and actually ran together at the same race. The Cow Chip Cross Country race, which this year supported the High School Girls Cross Country Team, included Adam and Bill Trumbley and Tim and Melissa, in that order.

In December, our club by law of at least one member of the team participating in at least one race each month was in jeopardy. After 17 races this year, Bob was either tired or his wife said do some running around the house for once. Rob had signed up for a 10 mile race in Norfolk, but it was postponed until January. Tim was busy finishing up school, but when that ended, he couldn't let the streak that goes back to beginning of the club four years ago go down the drain. So on December 27th, it was out to Colchester to run in a 5K and pay a visit to our friend Mary Horan while he was out there. The streak continues!

Besides the January 1 run, Tim has his crazy sights set on another run up to Castle Craig in Meriden in the 40th annual Tradition Run. Hopefully someone decides to join him this year. It's the most brutal 5K around, not only for its obvious atrocious vertical climb, but the weather on the third Sunday in January is rarely too pleasant.

As always, please pray for our health, good weather and for others to get the bug (a healthy one) to join us running. It really is fun, even in the cold. Thanks!

Tim Beach, President

January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>Deacon On Call:</i> <i>Deb Colaci</i>			<i>1</i> 7:30 p Sr. Choir	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>4—Epiphany</i> 10 am Worship 11 am Coffee Hour 5 pm Contemporary Ser-vice	<i>5</i> 7 pm Deacons' Mtg	<i>6</i> 5:45 pm HS Sunday School	<i>7</i> 10:30am Memorial Service—Marathon Health Center	<i>8</i> 3 pm Confirmation Class 7:30 p Sr. Choir	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>11</i> 8:30 Pancake Brkfst 10 am Worship 11 am Coffee Hour 5 pm Contemporary Ser-vice 6 pm Sr High Youth Group	<i>12</i> 7 pm Committee Night	<i>13</i> 5:45 pm HS Sunday School 7 pm Healing Service 7 pm BOT Mtg	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> 10:30am Worship - Marathon Health Cntr 7:30 p Sr. Choir	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> <i>5-7 Monthly Dinner</i>
<i>18</i> 10 am Worship 11 am Coffee Hour/ Casserole Sunday 5 pm Contemporary Ser-vice	<i>19</i> 11 am Worship at The Village at East Farms 7 pm Council Meeting	<i>20</i> 5:45 pm HS Sunday School	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> 3 pm Confirmation Class 7:30 p Sr. Choir	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>25</i> 10 am Worship Baptism 11 am Coffee Hour 11:30 Understanding Islam 5 pm Contemporary Ser-vice 6 pm Sr High Youth Group	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> 5:45 pm HS Sunday School	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> 7:30 p Sr. Choir	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>

The Prospectus

JANUARY 2009



CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Phyllis A. Norman, Pastor

The Rev. Doreen Horstman, Minister of Visitation

Stewart W. Crouse, Director Of Music Ministry

Mark Wilson, Sunday School Administrator

Tina Soderberg, Office Administrator

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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 or pccucc@snet.net. Deadline for the newsletter is the third Wednesday of the month.

Prospect Congregational Church

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