

## Prospect Congregational Church

By Tim Beach

Even though summer time is pretty much over, there's no reason to worry. God will soon be coloring our world with the beautiful autumn colors that we enjoy here in New England. Come to our church to hear about and praise God for the infinite amount of gifts that we are blessed with every day. And beginning September 10, our Sunday morning worship services will again start at 10 a.m. The 5 p.m. Contemporary service remains another way to be spiritually nourished.

Rev. Phyllis Norman brought many lessons to the congregation last month. Her sermons continued to be from the New Testament letters from the Apostle Paul. One Sunday, she referenced Ephesians 4:1-16 when she preached about being united in Christ. She made it clear as she said, "What we should focus on is the 'unity of the spirit' that pushes the church outward and invites people to use their gifts, to engage in a great adventure serving God. It is God's Spirit, not our programs, that binds us together as the family of God. Focus on the spirit, on the common destination we have together in Christ, and upon making the church community a place where everyone is gifted, and everyone belongs. Focus on that and we will have an awesome journey of faith that cannot get blown off course.

Vacation Bible School this year took a different spin. The hope of this year's evening program was to attract a larger crowd. Well, it sure did. As many as 40 people attended some nights. Also, what was different, was the age range of the attendees, from under 7 to over 70. Everyone enjoyed this multi-generational affair exploring the Ten Commandments from different eras in time. The Time Stone Travelers traveled back to a Medieval castle, an Indian village, the Mayan jungle, an ancient laboratory and an active volcano. Participants had a lot of fun as they learned about the laws that our Lord gave to all of us.

Weddings are always special and the August wedding of Robert Kozlowski and Stacy Harkins was no exception. The congregation hopes you are

blessed with endless love and devotion to each other.

This past month's Game Night featured everyone playing Texas Hold 'Em. No real gambling went down, but it sure was fun as newcomers learned from some pros. Next month, Bunco comes back to town, floating in on little toy ducks. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a special night.

The monthly Healing Service will take place on Tuesday, September 5, at 7 p.m.

Additional activities are already planned for this month. Our annual Sundaes Sunday will take place on September 10, after service. Sunday School youngsters can sign-up at this time. Each registrant in the church's wonderful Sunday School program gets to enjoy an ice cream sundae. Also, come and learn about what other church committees are doing. A special 9/11 Remembrance Service will take place at 5 p.m. that same evening. And the aforementioned Bunco Game Night will happen on Friday, September 15, starting at 6:30 p.m.

The Senior Youth Fellowship will hold a Bottle and Can Drive on Saturday, September 16, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the church parking lot. And the Reminisce Club will also gather that day at 1:45 p.m. at the church, then travel down to the Village at East Farms to visit our member residents there.

Sunday School classes will start on Sunday, September 17. The High School class will meet on Tuesday, September 12 at 5:45 p.m.

The church will also be hosting a Fall Festival on Saturday, September 23 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The public is invited to this event on the Town Green, which is sure to be lots of fun for everyone.

If anyone would like any more information about our Church, please call the office at 758-4872. Don't forget that Sunday services will begin at 10 a.m. on September 10. Prayers go out for the safety of our school children as they return for the fall term. We all can do our part by driving carefully around our lovely town of Prospect. God bless you always.

## St. Anthony Religious Education News

Bible Camp was a great week for all participants. This year's theme was "Circus of the Stars." We learned about the virtue of balance, a very important quality for anyone, especially Circus performers. The children played, sang, and learned that, to God the Father, each of them is a "star." Thank you to all of the volunteers and to the children who always make this week a fun and special experience.

Summer is almost over and our school year is about to begin. Late registrations mean that children might not have a book for the first day of class, or that classes will be overcrowded. If you have not registered your child, please do so as soon as possible. Any questions will be answered by calling 758-4848; Katie or Lisa will return your call if you leave a message.

*Dates to mark in your calendar include:*

**September 9** - Parents' Meeting in Church Hall; K-3 parents at 9:15 a.m.; 4-6 parents at 10 a.m.; and 7-8 parents at 10:45 a.m.

**September 16** - Book Day in Church Hall, 9:15 to 11:30 a.m.

**September 23** - First day of class.

The parent meetings will be short. They are designed to explain any improvements or changes that the Religious Education Committee has made. They also explain the guidelines of our program, including what is expected of you as parents and what you can expect from our program. One parent/guardian must attend the meetings. If you have children in more than one age group, you can choose one meeting to attend.

The K-3 classes are held at Algonquin School each Saturday from 9:15 to 10:45 a.m.; the 4-6

classes are held at Long River Middle School each Saturday from 9:30 to 11 a.m.; and the 7-9 classes are held at the Church hall/Rectory and meet of varied weekdays and times.

Families of our ninth graders have received a packet explaining the new program and courses that are available this year. Course Intake evenings are September 17 and 18 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. As a reminder, spaces in each course are limited and open on a first come first serve basis. This is an exciting new program with lots of choices and flexibility.

The first large group activity for our high school students and a parent has been scheduled for September 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the church hall. At 7 p.m., we will proceed upstairs to hear our guest speaker, Frank Runyeon, who will speak to guests about "Hollywood versus Faith." This will definitely be an exciting beginning to a great year. The event is open to anyone in the parish and all are encouraged to attend this entertaining and insightful presentation. (See additional information elsewhere in this newspaper).

Don't forget to register for Abundant Harvest: Catholic to the Core. Our 7-12 grade students are invited to attend the Catholic Youth Spectacular at St. Thomas Seminary on Saturday, September 23. This will fulfill a one-day retreat requirement. Youth interested in attending should call the Religious Education office for more information. For students in our high school program, this will count as one retreat. We are inviting local parishes to join us on the bus, so please sign up now and reserve your seat.

## Prospect Board of Recreation Activities Scheduled

The Prospect Board of Recreation has been busy lining up a variety of programs and activities for all ages. A Ballroom Dance course will be offered starting September 19 through December 5. Lessons will be held at the Grange Hall building from 7 to 9 p.m. The cost for Prospect residents is \$35 per person, while non-residents will pay \$40 each.

The Board of Rec will also be offering Youth Fitness Classes. Children participating in this program will learn proper nutrition and exercise. These classes will also be held at the Grange Hall building from 3 to 4 p.m. starting September and running through November.

The Town of Prospect will be offering Foam Floor Hockey to town youth. Through this program, children will be guided in the proper techniques required to play the game. Once the children understand the concepts of the game, they will be able to participate in some non-competitive scrimmages. The program will cost \$15 for Prospect residents and \$20 for non-residents. This program is open to students in grades one through four and will be offered beginning September 12 through October 12.

Adults will be able to take advantage of Golf Lessons. This program will be held on September 6, 13, 20 and October 4. Held at the Prospect Golf Driving Range on Rt. 69, participants will pay \$25 per session. All aspects of the game of golf will be covered.

Art Classes, primarily painting and charcoal drawings, will be held at the Chapel Hall building for students between the ages of 7 and 12. Limited spots are available at a cost of \$10 for Prospect residents and \$15 for non-residents. The art classes will be held on Wednesdays, starting September 27 and running through November 1.

For more information or to register for any of these programs and/or activities, contact the Prospect Board of Recreation offices at the Prospect Town Hall at 758-4461.

### Residents Enjoy Evening Concert on Green



Photo by Veronica Boulden

It was a great night, ideal for families to gather on the Prospect Town Green and enjoy an outdoor evening concert. Among the many people in attendance that night were these Prospect residents, l. to r., Andrea Reilly, Brandon Reilly, Kayla Reilly, Taylor Lukeski, Kelly Lukeski, Alyssa Lukeski (sitting in lap), Nicole Lukeski and Carol Howson.

### St. Anthony Church Kids Enjoy Vacation Bible School

The week of August 7, children from St. Anthony's parish participated in Vacation Bible School. The children enjoyed a fun-filled week all based on the theme that they are part of God's "Circus of Stars." The week concluded with a prayer service with all the children wearing the tie dye shirts that they created during the week. Submitted photo

