

Angels at the Post Office

Author Unknown

We don't know who replied, but there is a beautiful soul working in the dead letter office of the US postal service.

Our 14-year-old dog Abbey died last month. The day after she passed away my 4-year-old daughter Meredith was crying and talking about how much she missed Abbey. She asked if we could write a letter to God so that when Abbey got to heaven, God would recognize her. I told her that I thought we could so, and she dictated these words:



Dear God,
Will you please take care of my dog? She died yesterday and is with you in heaven. I miss her very much. I am happy that you let me have her as my dog even though she got sick.
I hope you will play with her. She likes to swim and play with balls. I am sending a picture of her so when you see her you will know that she is my dog. I really miss her.
Love, Meredith

We put the letter in an envelope with a picture of Abbey and Meredith and addressed it to God/Heaven. We put our return address on it. Then Meredith pasted several stamps on the front of the envelope because she said it would take lots of stamps to get the letter all the way to heaven. That afternoon she dropped it into the letter box at the post office. A few days later, she asked if God had gotten the letter yet. I told her that I thought He had.

Yesterday, there was a package wrapped in gold paper on our front porch addressed, 'To Meredith' in an unfamiliar hand. Meredith opened it. Inside was a book by Mr. Rogers called, 'When a Pet Dies.' Taped to the inside front cover was the letter we had written to God in its opened envelope. On the opposite page was the picture of Abbey & Meredith and this note:

Dear Meredith,
Abbey arrived safely in heaven. Having the picture was a big help and I recognized her right away.
Abbey isn't sick anymore. Her spirit is here with me just like it stays in your heart. Abbey loved being your dog. Since we don't need our bodies in heaven, I don't have any pockets to keep your picture in so I am sending it back to you in this little book for you to keep and have something to remember Abbey by.
Thank you for the beautiful letter and thank your mother for helping you write it and sending it to me. What a wonderful mother you have. I picked her especially for you. I send my blessings every day and remember that I love you very much. By the way, I'm easy to find. I am wherever there is love.

Love, God

He knows our needs!



APRIL 2011

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Winsted, CT 06098
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Article Submission:
info@firstchurchofwinsted.org

To request a copy
sent to your inbox
send an email to:
dstorrs@snet.net

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Easter Offering

The Easter Offering will be split between Scholarships and the Open Door Soup Kitchen. The need is great in both areas. We have 10 students eligible for scholarships! And the funds were depleted last year.

Services

Palm Sunday Service & Confirmation



Palm Sunday is April 17, and during the service, we will celebrate the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem in the days before his Passion.

Confirmation of our youth will also be part of this service. Please come out and support this statement of faith by our youth.

Maundy Thursday Service

To be held on April 21st at 7:30 PM. Come to remember the events

leading up to and following the last supper of our Lord.



Easter Sunrise Service

6:00 AM at Forest View Cemetery.



Meet us at the top of the hill to greet the sun and celebrate the renewal of life!



Easter Services

As is our tradition, the Alleluia Ball will come back into the sanctuary on Easter Sunday morning! All of our choirs will take part in the service, as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ! Come celebrate the good news...Christ is Risen!

Add your flowers to our Flower Cross...bring your own or use ours.

*Spring Clean-up Day
Sat. April 9, 2010
From 8am until noon!*

Many hands make light work😊



*We have inside and outside
projects, something for everyone!
Bringing your own tools and or
cleaning supplies will help!*

God Sings in Every Language Sunday, April 3rd - 3:30 PM

Tom Bates will return to Church of Christ Congregational, Norfolk, on Sunday, April 3rd, at 3:30 PM with a surround sound presentation. Tom has been a recording engineer for 40 years and has won nine Grammy awards. He has travelled across the globe recording music of many countries. Much of this music is an expression of the spiritual values and rituals intrinsic to these cultures. Tom will take us a musical journey around the world - gloriously recorded in 5.1 surround sound! The presentation will take place in the church.

All are welcome to attend this free presentation



EASTER FLOWER SALE

Tulips, Daffodils & Hyacinths \$9
Easter Lilies \$10

Given by: _____

In ___ Memory ___ Honor of:

____ Tulips (6" pot) ____ Hyacinths (6" pot)
Easter Lilies (8" pot)

Please give completed form to
Denise Jones by April 17th

SNOW REPORT...

This year's snow fall, continuous snow fall, has truly affected our budget. Exceeded our budget by \$1,500 in extra snow removal costs for the month of January and February, and a \$1,500 heating bill has taken a toll.

We can manage this together! We have kept up with our weekly giving toward the projected budget, with the exception of these items. **If you are able, please consider making a little extra donation to help cover these unexpected bills.**

EXCESS SNOW!



**Fun for some...
Costly for others!**
**Snow removal
costs so far:
\$1,500**
**Donations so
far...\$500**
Thank you!

Tag Sale



*One Man's Junk
Is
Another Man's
Treasure*

Time to clean out your attic's
and slightly damp cellars!
If you have any good junk...please consider donating
it to the church's Tag Sale to be held on May 14th.

Drop offs will be accepted evenings the week before!

Mexico Mission Trip News

Meeting Reminders:

Sun, March 27 - following worship service

All those interested in attending this year's trip, please attend this meeting.

Note:

**Commitment to Oaxaca trip, along with \$100 deposit,
is due April 1.**

**First Church Youth Mission Trip 2011
Oaxaca, Mexico - August 13 - 21**

BEEF STEW & BINGO

April 2nd – Beef Stew and Bingo



Bring a pot of stew
for sampling...

Get your Bingo
cards...for a small
fee (2/\$1.00)

Prizes too!!

Dinner and lots of



Just for Fun...

Why do we love children?

Perspective on death...

While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his 5-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cotton batting, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased.

The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his version of what he thought his father always said: 'Glory be unto the Faaather, and unto the Sonnn, and into the hole he gooos.' (*I want this line used at my funeral!*)

Perspective on school...

A little girl had just finished her first week of school. 'I'm just wasting my time,' she said to her mother. 'I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk!'

Understanding the bible...

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages.

'Mama, look what I found,' the boy called out. 'What have you got there, dear?'

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, 'I think it's Adam's underwear!'

Perspective on the elderly...

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

RAFFLE

Sponsored by First Church
CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY CENTER

To benefit

CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY CENTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

TWENTY ONE (21) PRIZES to be AWARDED

- 1st PRIZE: \$195.00 Gift Certificate for a scenic Berkshire flight service, for 3 people for ½ hour, includes picnic basket lunch, redeemable at **Berkshire Aviation**
- 2nd PRIZE: Week of Day Camp for one child to Colebrook, CT (Mon.-Fri. 9am-4pm; includes lunch and activities—basketball, arts & crafts, canoeing and fishing) at **Camp Jewell**
- 3rd PRIZE: 4 Season Tickets redeemable at **Norfolk Chamber Music Festival**
- 4th PRIZE: 2 Standard Season Tickets redeemable at **Tri Arts Sharon Playhouse**
- 5th PRIZE: 2 Weekend Tickets redeemable at **Lime Rock Park**
- 6th PRIZE: \$100.00 Gift Certificate redeemable at **Getting Off**
- 7th PRIZE: 4 Tickets to a performance of Peter Yarrow redeemable at the **Mahaiwe Theater**
- 8th PRIZE: 4 Tickets redeemable at **Essex Steam Train and Riverboat**
- 9th PRIZE: Tickets for 2 adults and all household members under age 18 redeemable at **Hancock Shaker Village**
- 10th PRIZE: 2 Tickets to a performance of Tracii Guns redeemable at **Infinity Hall**
- 11th PRIZE: \$50.00 Gift Card redeemable at **Home Depot**
- 12th PRIZE: 8 Tickets redeemable at **R & B Sport's World**
- 13th PRIZE: 4 Tickets redeemable at **The Children's Museum**
- 14th PRIZE: \$50.00 Gift Certificate for a Birthday Party Storytelling service for up to 16 children for ½ hour, redeemable with **Mary-Elin Renzullo**
- 15th PRIZE: 4 Tickets redeemable at **Jump Zone**
- 16th PRIZE: 4 Movie tickets redeemable at **Mallory Brook Cinema 9**
- 17th PRIZE: 2 Tickets redeemable at the **Connecticut Science Center**
- 18th PRIZE: Monogrammed Towel Set
- 19th PRIZE: \$20 Gift Certificate redeemable at **North End Two Guys Pizza**
- 20th PRIZE: 2 Tickets redeemable at the **New England Air Museum**
- 21st PRIZE: 2 Tickets redeemable at **Quassy Amusement Park**

DRAWING TO BE HELD: May 22, 2011 at 12:00 pm
First Church, 95 N. Main Street, Winsted, CT 06098

Ticket holders need not be present to win







PRIZES NOT REDEEMABLE FOR CASH AND EXCLUDE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

PRICE: \$5.00 per ticket!

To order Tickets ~ please call Children's Discover Center
860-379-4838

Or see Debby Kane

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars!

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	April 1	Mexico Mission Deposit Due
Monday - 6 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	April 1	Passion of Christ Movie
Tuesday - 6 pm	Rehearsal~Cherub Choir	April 2	Beef Stew and Bingo
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	April 9	Steam Vent Coffee House
Thursday - 6:00 pm	Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers	April 17	Palm Sunday-Confirmations!
		April 21	Maundy Thursday Service 7:30
		April 22	Good Friday
		April 24	Easter Sunrise Service 6:00 AM
		April 24	Easter Sunday
		April 30	Theme Dinner
		May 14	Tag Sale
		May 14	Steam Vent Coffee House
		May 21	Ziti Supper
		May 22 - Noon	CDC Graduation
		May 22 - 4 PM	LCS Mozart to Motown Concert
<i>Board Meetings...</i>			
  		April 04	7:00 pm
		April 08	7:00 pm
		April 19	7:00 pm
		April 26	7:00 pm
		PM Board	
		Board of Christian Ed.	
		Deacons	
		Cabinet Meeting	
		  	

Birthdays

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

02 - Andrew Hurlbut
 05 - Robyn NeJaime
 08 - Susan B. McAllister
 14 - Mary McAllister
 14 - Erik Gilbert-Corey
 15 - Ruth Rebillard
 15 - Dot O'Connor
 16 - Marion Chapin
 17 - Robert Jones
 18 - Carly Roberts
 19 - Nina Tripodina
 21 - Tricia Wu
 27 - Pearl Dondero
 28 - Edward Weaving



Jesus Christ Superstar...

**At the Warner
May 20th**

**\$10 per person
group rate...**

**Deadline to
order tickets is
April 17**

**See Dan or
Denise Jones to
reserve yours
today!**

**Or call and
leave a
message at the
church!
860-379-1778**

STEAM VENT Performers APRIL 9th

PERFORMERS:

6:30 - Tom Hanford
 7:00 - Jim Palermo
 7:30 - William Benson
 8:00 - Robert Allen Scala
 8:30 - Anthony Troy
 9:00 - Open Mic

Free Will Offering
to Benefit Missions

STEAM VENT CAFÉ

MEXICAN NIGHT

MENU:

**Bowl of Chicken Fajita Chowder
with tortilla chips \$4**
Add Salad for \$1
Bowl of Salad alone \$2
Chicken, Beef or Bean Taco
Salad with tortilla chips \$4
Deserts \$1 - \$2

THEME DINNER PLANNED FOR APRIL 30th

Last year's theme's included:

Not Your Every Day Italian ~ Holy Smokes Barbeque
Disney Characters ~ Fingers Only - No Utensils
New England Boilers ~ Russian Roulette

\$15 per person

**If you would like to host a table, or make
reservations, please see Laura McCaw
or call: 860-379-1778**



April 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton	April Birthstone: Diamond 	April Flower: Sweet Pea or Daisy 	Astrological Signs Aries: Mar 21 – Apr 19 Taurus: April 20 - May 20	Deposit for Mission Trip Du April 1st	1 April Fool's Day Passion of Christ showing at 6:30	2 Beef Stew & Bingo 
3 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 Service at Laurel Hill	4 Worship Choir 6:00 pm Property Maintenance Board 7:00	5 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Chris Ed 6:30	6 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	7 Laurel City Singers 6:00	8	9  STEAM VENT Coffee House 6-10 PM Spring Clean-up 8 AM-Noon
10 Worship Service 10:00 am Cherub Choir 9:30	11 Worship Choir 6:00 pm	12 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Deacons 7:00 pm	13 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	14 Laurel City Singers 6:00	15	16
17 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am Palm Sunday	18 Worship Choir 6:00 pm 	19 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Deacons 7:00 pm Passover	20 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	21 Laurel City Singers 6:00 Maundy Thursday Service 7:30	22 Good Friday	23
24 Worship Service 10:00 am Open Mic Sunday Easter	25 Worship Choir 6:00 pm	26 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Cabinet Meeting 7:00 pm	27 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm Administrative Professionals Day	28 Laurel City Singers 6:00	29	30 Themed Dinner
May 1 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am	May 2 Worship Choir 6:00 pm	May 3 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm	May 4 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	May 5 Laurel City Singers 6:00	May 6	May 7

Name: _____

Date: _____

Easter Word Search

Find the Easter words.

He's Risen!

S	N	H	L	B	R	R	L	G	Z	Z	H	P	E	M
D	B	Y	Z	E	M	C	E	P	B	J	K	C	S	H
D	E	P	T	U	M	Q	N	F	X	M	I	W	Y	T
X	X	S	A	P	X	L	J	H	W	V	S	N	A	A
G	A	E	L	L	U	R	R	T	R	Q	C	Z	D	N
E	L	N	L	B	M	J	G	E	X	A	N	W	I	A
W	Q	Z	Q	K	E	S	S	X	K	V	V	O	R	Z
T	U	Z	X	N	X	E	U	Q	J	C	M	R	F	G
S	S	U	W	M	S	E	Q	N	Z	M	E	D	D	A
H	M	U	K	I	E	R	U	A	D	N	Z	T	O	H
H	B	E	R	M	V	L	J	C	N	A	K	M	O	T
J	L	N	B	M	F	H	Q	I	Q	M	Y	K	G	V
W	U	T	D	G	W	D	D	G	N	M	J	L	K	V
S	R	E	S	U	R	R	E	C	T	I	O	N	K	B
L	X	V	L	T	Z	V	Y	X	W	K	S	H	Y	S

Sunrise Service

Dinner

Resurrection

Palm Sunday

Good Friday

Easter



STEAM VENT



Coffee House

Musician's Showcase
Every 2nd Saturday
6 - 10 PM
Open Mic/Jam at 9



LIVE MUSIC - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!
Folk - Country - Bluegrass - Jazz - Light Rock
For more information call 860-482-3491

Steam Vent Café - Open 6-8 pm

First Church of Winsted 95 North Main Street

April 9th PERFORMERS:

6:30 – Tom Hanford
7:00 – Jim Palermo
7:30 – William Benson
8:00 – Robert Allen Scala
8:30 – Anthony Troy
9:00 – Open Mic

STEAM VENT CAFÉ

**SERVING
MEXICAN
FOOD!**

Free Will Offering to Benefit Missions

BELLRINGER

