

First Church of Winsted
Come as you are...
Leave transformed!

BELL RINGER

Come...be uplifted by the
Spirit and strive to follow
God's path for you!

Word from the Pastor

Easter Greetings to All!

As I write this note, Easter Sunday is just a few days away. With Easter coming earlier than normal this year, it really feels like we've just finished celebrating Christmas!

On the surface, the two holidays don't seem to have much in common. Christmas is a celebration of the birth of Christ, while Lent and Easter focus on the death and resurrection of Christ. Although the two different holidays celebrate very different aspects of Christ's earthly life, they both focus on the one central theme of Christ's earthly ministry: That there is hope and a new beginning every time we think we have reached a dead end. As Christians, we are not exempt from life's trials and tribulations. But we do have the assurance that each time we stumble and fall, God will be there to help us get back on our feet. And each time we mess up and do the wrong thing, we are forgiven for our mistakes and given the opportunity to try again.

While we continually talk about how much the world has changed and how different people are nowadays, one thing doesn't seem to have changed. We still get trapped by our own guilt. At a recent Bible study, we talked about how negative reinforcement seems to be a much greater motivator than we realize. We learn from our mistakes. In our childhood and adolescence, it wasn't logical explanations from our parents that motivated us to do better...it was usually guilt that got us to do the right thing.

Christmas and Easter challenge the whole concept of guilt. The message is that we are forgiven and don't have to put up with guilt any more. But we kind of ignore that message and instead focus on buying gifts, filling baskets with candy, and commercializing these holidays. I'm not saying that we shouldn't buy Christmas gifts and that we can't color Easter eggs or eat lots of chocolate. You just thought I was going to say that because you feel guilty....

Until we shed the guilt, we cannot become the people that God wants us to be, hence the invitation to be forgiven and to be loved for who you are.

May hope and peace fill your hearts during this Easter season,

Pastor Mike



APRIL 2012

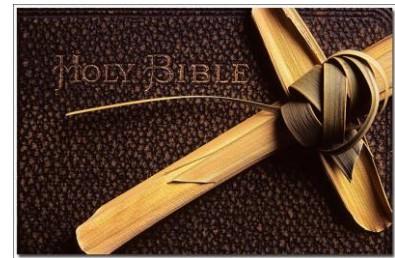
95 North Main Street
Winsted, CT 06098
860-379-1778

Article Submission:
info@firstchurchofwinsted.org

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

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*The spring has come
full of miracles.
Easter has come full of
blessings!*

Check us out online! www.firstchurchofwinsted.org

Like us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Church-of-Winsted/189629511047827>

People in the news...

Steven Roys will receive his 35 year service pin from Frederick Franklin Masonic Lodge in Plainville, CT on April 24th. Congratulations to Steven!

Church News...



CDC News...



A day with creepy, crawly critters...



Meeting the 4th Saturday each month from 10 AM until Noon. Call Barb Mazzei for info: 860-379-2900

Board of Christian Education

There was lots of splashing and 10 pizzas...and a good time had by all at the February Swim/Pizza party.

Scholarship Applications

Applications for scholarships are available. Our scholarships are given in memory of Alex and Elizabeth Smith or Jon Millard. Please see Allison Graboski for your forms. Forms should be submitted to the Chris Ed Board by May 15, 2012.

Property Maintenance Board

Our Gethsemane Window is now illuminated nicely at night, thanks to Bruce Sherman's installation of a new light. The temporary lighting will be returned to Bud Roberts with our thanks. Check it out when you drive by at night!

The Earl Brace memorial wall is in need of repair, and plans are under way to repair the loose and missing mortar.

A gas line shutoff is needed for the old gas fireplace in the parlor. Bruce is getting a price quote.

Forms are being completed for the Town of Winchester property re-evaluations.

Weigold's will be coming out to replair the seam in the kitchen flooring.

Mulch is being purchased to redress the flower beds.

Eggs-perience an egg- cited and egg-cellent Easter!



Join the
Easter Egg
Hunt after the
Easter Service!

Nursery Care needed during Bible study Sunday morning at 9:00, as a backup for Mary McAllister.

Volunteers please see Pastor!

Diaconate Board News...

Diaconate/Social Committee Upcoming Events...

April 21-Theme Dinner
May 12-Steam Vent Coffee House
May 13-Mother's Day Brunch
June 17-Father's Day Brunch
June 23-Dessert and Bingo
August 26-Make your own Sundae
Sunday-during fellowship hour.
September 26-tentative date for Apple Picking at March Farm
October 20-Harvest dinner with Tea-cup Auction
December 1-Christmas Fair

LAUREL HILL SERVICE

Palm Sunday Services were held at Laurel Hill for the residents. A brief service included hymn singing and a service of communion. Palms were handed out to the residents, and John Eggering and Debbie Storrs folded them into crosses for those interested.

It was followed by a birthday party for a resident who was turning 99. In attendance were Pauline Fancher, 102; and another lady who was 100...and many others who enjoyed cake and ice-cream.

The joyful news that he is risen does not change the contemporary world. Still before us lie work, discipline, and sacrifice. But the fact of Easter gives us the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline, and make the sacrifice.

~ Henry Knox Sherrill

Services

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

6:30 AM at Forest View Cemetery.

Meet us at the top of the hill to greet the sun and celebrate the renewal of life!
Bring some white carnations...as a sign of hope...to put on graves of loved ones...



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.

Church Etiquette

A Sunday school teacher asked her little children, as they were on the way to church service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?"

One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."

Can you find 'em?

In the paragraph below there are the names of 16 books of the Bible. See how many you can find.

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu; kept people looking so hard for facts...and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so that she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen names of books of the Bible in this paragraph.

Who can find all of them? If you can...email

info@firstchurchofwinsted.org

Answers next month!

Tag Sale



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

**Time to clean out your attics and cellars!
If you have any good junk...please consider
donating it to the church's
Tag Sale to be held on May 5th.**

**Drop offs will be accepted
evenings the week before!**

THEME DINNER PLANNED FOR APRIL 21st

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**

STEAM VENT Coffee House Welcomes...



Lisa Martin is a Western MA native. She has performed regionally in the northeast and in parts of the mid-west. She has opened for many nationally touring artists including Vonda Shephard, Patty Larkin, Steve Forbert, Livingston Taylor, Aztec Two-Step, Ellis Paul, Vance Gilbert, Toshi Reagon and others and has headlined at the legendary Iron Horse Music Hall in her home territory of Northampton, MA.

Emotionally charged acoustic folk rock is Lisa Martin's hallmark sound. Drawing on diverse influences spanning the last three decades, Martin's music bridges the elements of folk and rock, with her pop sensibilities always highly evident in the mix. Whether performing solo or with a full band, she is always well received and captivates the audience with her powerful vocals, guitar prowess, heartfelt delivery and quick wit. Her live performances, which run the gamut from heartfelt songs of love and loss to her rollicking takes on life's lessons are steadily earning her a following of passionately loyal fans throughout the northeast.

Her debut CD, "Set Me On Fire", garnered 2 nominations in the Just Plain Folks Music Awards in 2001 and was also recognized in 2003, earning a Live Wire Award from the Springfield Republican.

"Lisa Martin writes songs that are so melodic and catchy, that it's impossible to get them out of your head. Fortunately, you'd never want them to leave anyway!" - Mark Erelli, Signature Sounds Recording Artist



Rupert Wates was born in London. He has been a full-timer singer/songwriter since 1992, and has been based in the USA since 2006, where he has received over 25 songwriting awards! Rupert plays between 120 and 150 live shows a year, and he has performed in every state in America. Audiences everywhere respond to his brand of acoustic, melodic art/folk: haunting songs that ring true. Wates' albums 'Coast To Coast' (2007) and 'Dear Life' (2008) have gained outstanding reviews and both continue to be aired on college and mainstream radio all over the world.

In 2010 he released 'Joe's Café,' an album of 15 original songs based on true stories, each interpreted by a different vocalist, retelling the stories of ordinary American people. Through them we trace the story of America itself: through two world wars, the Dust Bowl depression, Vietnam and the struggle for Civil Rights, all the way to the present day.

"What a privilege to explore the musical and poetic mind of this profound songwriter... He's a wonderful guitarist and singer, and presents an immensely appealing repertoire. But his songs are not merely beautiful -- they also satisfy on a deep, authentic level, as only the best material can. These songs will go straight to your heart." (M. McLeod, [Concerts In Your Home reviews](#), January 2012)



Jeanne McMillan is from Ganby, CT and has been on the folk music scene since the 70's. She signed a recording contract with Motown in the 80's...but at that point, Motown didn't really know what to do with folk singers, because if they did, she may have been very famous today! These days singing, songwriting, arranging and playing continue to dominate her creative life. A Hawaiian flavor and ukulele have been added (influenced by a dozen annual trips to Maui), along with many other instruments, but her '67 Martin D-28 remains the guitar of choice. A profound love and influence is harmony - certainly in music, but also in life. Music has been a mainstay, tremendous joy, and continuing thread throughout the many changes that have come along over the years. **Ken Sills**, is a fine guitarist and singer in his own right. They have been playing together for over a year, perfecting originals and covers of songs they love from the wealth of wonderful music out there, with much attention to Ken's leads and the vocal harmonies...The pup is Sammy!



Bill Benson started his musical journey as a drummer...but got tired of being in the back. He hails from Unionville, CT. He has been writing music since he was 16...and can find a song in almost any situation! He has a very comfortable, easy listening folk/acoustic rock style...and is sometimes a little bit country! He is a frequent attraction at LaSalle's Market in Collinsville, during open mic nights on Friday evenings, and has performed on Better Connecticut, The Bitter End in NYC, Blue Back Square in Hartford, Jitters in Southington and Cheney Hall in Manchester. Bill is a favorite at Steam Vent Coffee House too! His original tune, "Porch Time" has two videos on Youtube, search Porch Time Bill Benson...and Porch Time 2 Bill Benson. His extensive song list can be sampled on Reverb Nation <http://www.reverbnation.com/billbenson>



Hanna Martocchio lives in West Hartland and is 14 years old! She is a student at the Greater Hartford Arts Academy, and plays piano, guitar and sings. Hanna has a very contemporary sound, and performs covers, and has also written some original songs. Hanna is in the process of recording a demo, perhaps CD's will be following shortly? Hanna is an amazing young musician...and there are great things to come in her future! Look out American Idol...give a listen and see what you think??



Chronic Rhythm is a rock band from Northwestern Connecticut featuring **Sam Guglielmino** on rhythm guitar and vocals, **Andrew Farkas** on lead guitar, **Trent Smith** on bass guitar, and **Owen Lovejoy** on drums.

The members of Chronic Rhythm perform covers of The Beatles, TheTroggs, and other favorites of yester-year...you will be amazed by these young musicians!

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

Beverages \$1.00

STEAM VENT Coffee House Musicians Showcase

6:00 ~ Open Mic

6:30

Hanna Martocchio

7:00

Lisa Martin

7:30

Rupert Wates

8:00

Jeanne McMillan

8:30



Bill Benson

9:00

**Chronic Rhythm
Owen Lovejoy**

9:30 ~ Open Mic

Upcoming Events

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	April 1	Palm Sunday
Tuesday - 5:30 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	April 05	Maundy Thursday Service 7:30
Wednesday - 6 pm	Rehearsal~Cherub Choir	April 06	Good Friday
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	April 08	Easter Sunrise Service 6:30 AM
Thursday - 6:00 pm	Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers	April 08	Easter Sunday
		April 14	Steam Vent Coffee House
		April 21	Theme Dinner
		April 22 after worship	Montreal Trip Meeing
		May 5	Tag Sale
		May 12	Steam Vent Coffee House
		May 15	Scholarship Applications due
		May 19	Ziti Supper
		May 20	CDC Graduation
		May 27	LCS God & Country Concert
		May 31-Jun3	Youth Montreal Trip
		<i>Board Meetings</i>	
		April 10 April 11 April 17 April 24	Board of Christian Ed. PM Board Deacons Cabinet Meeting
			



MONTREAL TRIP...



CALLING ALL CHURCH YOUTH (GRADES 7-12)!!!

Have you ever spent a spring weekend in Montreal? Maybe so, but have you ever toured Montreal by bike?!? Dust off your passport and join us on a visit to Old Montreal, the Latin Quarter, the St. Lawrence River, and many other interesting places...on a bike! We will leave Winsted on Thursday, May 31st and return on Sunday, June 3rd.



Rare photo...train leaving the station in Winsted. The train station was on the corner of Willow Street and Bridge Street. Building on the right is Sterling Name Tape...and the old Winsted Furniture is beyond the train station.

★HAPPY BIRTHDAY!★

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

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

CDC SPRING RAFFLE...

Plans underway,
stay tuned for details!



Kids this generation probably don't know what this is.

EASTER WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

FIND 20 WORDS HIDDEN IN THIS PUZZLE

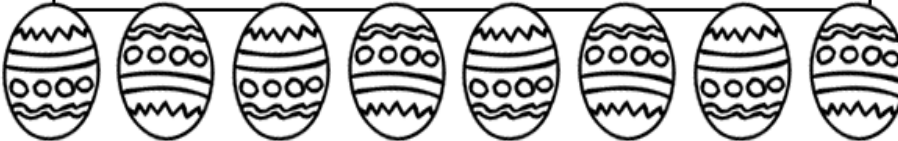


Word List

BASKET
BUNNY
CANDY
CHOCOLATE
EASTER
EGG
FUN
HUNT
SUNDAY
RABBIT
SPRING
DAFFODIL
JELLYBEAN
PARADE
BONNET
CHICKS
SEARCH
FIND
DECORATED
PAINT

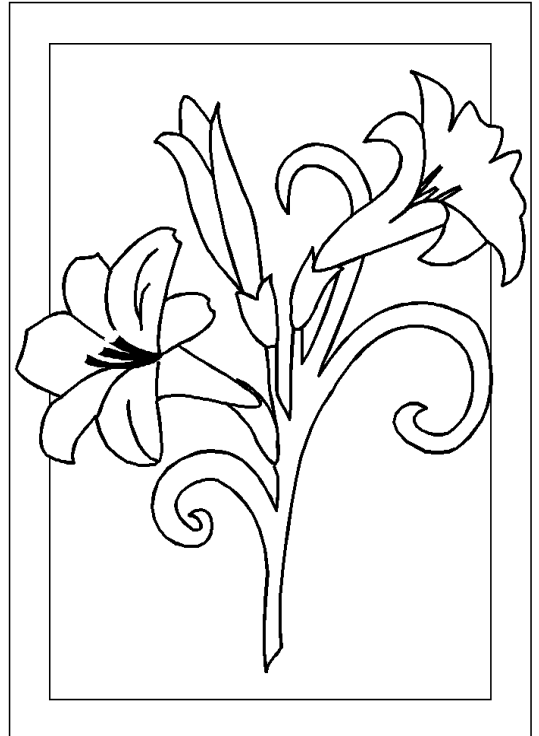
S G S E A R C H S R J K J G E
S Y A B D A F F O D I L E C C
R Q R H W U H F S J F X L H H
T P A I N T B A S K E T L O I
H O O V F P I A H W K E Y C C
L S D I W D O J U P Q A B O K
A U E S M H O W X P A S E L S
F N C U I Q G F U N M T A A G
B D O I E G G D G X S E N T Z
U A R N P B O N N E T R P E I
N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

Search the puzzle for the words shown in the word list. Circle each word that you find until you find all of the words in the whole puzzle!



The Easter Lily. For many, the beautiful trumpet-shaped white flowers symbolize purity, virtue, innocence, hope and life—the spiritual essence of Easter.

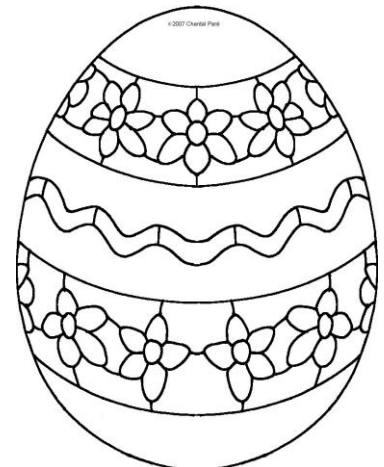
History, mythology, literature, poetry and the world of art are rife with stories and images that speak of the beauty and majesty of the elegant white flowers. Often called the “white-robed apostles of hope,” lilies were found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane after Christ’s agony. Tradition has it that the beautiful white lilies sprung up where drops of Christ’s sweat fell to the ground in his final hours of sorrow and deep distress. Churches continue this tradition at Easter time by banking their altars and surrounding their crosses with masses of Easter Lilies, to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and hope of life everlasting.



The Easter Lily...continued

The pure white lily has long been closely associated with the Virgin Mary. In early paintings, the Angel Gabriel is pictured extending to the Virgin Mary a branch of pure white lilies, announcing that she is to be the mother of the Christ Child. In other paintings, saints are pictured bringing vases full of white lilies to Mary and the infant Jesus. St. Joseph is depicted holding a lily-branch in his hand, indicating that his wife Mary was a virgin.

The legend is told that when the Virgin Mary’s tomb was visited three days after her burial, it was found empty save for bunches of majestic white lilies. Early writers and artists made the lily the emblem of the Annunciation, the Resurrection of the Virgin: the pure white petals signifying her spotless body and the golden anthers her soul glowing with heavenly light....





April 2012



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			
1 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am Cherub Choir 11:10 pm PALM SUNDAY	2	3 Worship Choir 5:30 Men's Fellowship 6:30 pm	4 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm PM Board 7:00 pm	5 Maundy Thursday Service 7:30 pm NO LCS Rehearsal	6	7 Good Friday
8 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am Cherub Choir 9:45 am EASTER Sunrise Service 6:30 am	9	10 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Christian Ed 7:00 pm	11 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Property Maint 7:00 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	12 Laurel City Singers 6:00 pm	13	14  STEAM VENT Coffee House Mexican Night in the Café Serving 6-8 PM
15 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am Cherub Choir 11:10 pm	16	17 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Deacons 7:00 pm	18 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	19 Laurel City Singers 6:00 pm	20	21 Theme Dinner
22 Worship Service 10:00 am  Open Mic Sunday	23	24 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Cabinet 7:00 pm	25 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	26 Laurel City Singers 6:00 pm	27	28 Prayer Shall Ministry 10 am - noon
29 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am	30					

STEAM VENT



Coffee House

April 14th - Featured Performers

6:00 Open Mic

6:30 Hanna Martocchio

7:00 Lisa Martin

7:30 Rupert Watts

8:00 Jeanne McMillan

8:30 Bill Benson

9:00 Chronic Rhythm

9:30 Open Mic

Menu for April 14th ~ Mexican Night!!

Build your own Burrito \$7.00 / Child portion ... \$3.50

With your choice of any of the following in a flour tortilla:

Grilled Steak, Grilled Chicken Breast, Refried Beans, Sautéed Onions and Peppers, Lettuce, Tomato, Shredded Cheese, Sour Cream, Salsa, Pico de Gallo, Jalapenos

Served with Green Salad and Fruit Salad!

Desserts ... \$2.00 Beverages \$1.00

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Winsted, CT 06098

BELLRINGER

