

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

BELLRINGER

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

Word from the Pastor

The month of April begins. And this year it moves quite quickly from joyful proclamations, to the power and poignancy of the Last Supper, then on to betraying, abandonment, prayer, violence, and a feeling of hopelessness at the end of Holy Week.

Then, "After the Sabbath, as the first light of the new week dawned, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to keep vigil at the tomb. Matthew 28:1

I love the variety of details of the Easter story that we encounter in the gospels. The number of women, the presence of the burial spices or not, angels, guards, gardeners and disciples. All those details fall away for me this year as I consider the women. It is all about what they do. Here is a list one of the commentators provides: "They follow, they provide, they watch, and they wait, and they go in order to see. And when they are told to go tell the disciples, wherever they have been hiding, that they must go back to Galilee where they will see Jesus, the women depart quickly to carry out the task."

This month we will live through this transforming story once more and like the women we will follow and provide and watch and wait. And we come together in worship and praise, we will indeed see Jesus! We will see him in the faces of those we meet. The colors and sweet scents of the flowers and candles that decorate our sanctuary will call him to our minds. And he will be present with us at that table where we will break bread and read the passion story as the light goes out. And we will see him spring into life as, on Easter morning, we light the Paschal candle once more.

*Get out of bed, Jerusalem!
Wake up. Put your face in the sunlight...
The whole earth is wrapped in darkness,
all people sunk in deep darkness,
But God rises on you
God's sunrise glory breaks over you.
Isaiah 60:1-6*

Blessings,
Pastor Lisa



APRIL 2017

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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Check us out online!
www.firstchurchofwinsted.org
Like us on Facebook!

Church News...

COME JOIN OUR BIBLE Study

The Adult Bible Study meets in the parlor on Sunday mornings at 9:00am. Note: We will not meet on Easter Sunday morning. We are reading and discussing the Letter of James during April. It is widely thought that James is the half-brother of Jesus and that he became an apostle as one who had seen and believed in the Lord after His resurrection. He was one of the leaders of the church of Jerusalem and Paul called him one of the pillars of that church. This letter looks a bit like the Old Testament book of Proverbs dressed up in New Testament clothes. James encourages practical action for those who want to live a faithful life - it's imperative that we act like God's people. He puts forward direct commands that remind us that accepting Christ should produce real life changes. He admonishes men and women to stop being hypocritical and to "walk the walk"! He asks that we examine how we speak and relate to others, treat the less fortunate and face hardships and challenges. Each Sunday we are learning together, asking questions and sharing ideas that help us use scripture as a guide for our lives today! Join us - you are always welcome!!



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

Choir Notes

Worship Choir rehearsals on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 PM in the Sanctuary. Sunday Services: April 2, 9, 16 and 30.

Muddy Boots Praise choir will be rehearsing at 9:00 AM on April 9, and singing as well.

Women's Bible Studies

Women's Bible Study will be held each Monday at 5 PM at Pastor's Lisa's house, except for the Monday after Easter.

Inspiring Quotes:

"I sit beside the fire and think
Of all that I have seen
Of meadow flowers and butterflies
In summers that have been
Of yellow leaves and gossamer
In autumns that there were
With morning mist and silver sun
And wind upon my hair
I sit beside the fire and think
Of how the world will be
When winter comes without a spring
That I shall ever see
For still there are so many things
That I have never seen
In every wood in every spring
There is a different green
I sit beside the fire and think
Of people long ago
And people that will see a world
That I shall never know
But all the while I sit and think
Of times there were before
I listen for returning feet
And voices at the door"
— J.R.R. Tolkien

**First Church
of Winsted**

**Monthly
Contemporary
Service!**

April 18th 2017
7 p.m.

We Rejoice And Praise!



"Easter is..."

Joining in a birdsong,
Eying an early sunrise,
Smelling yellow daffodils,
Unbolting windows and doors,
Skipping through meadows,
Cuddling newborns,
Hoping, believing,
Reviving spent life,
Inhaling fresh air,
Sprinkling seeds along furrows,
Tracking in the mud.

Easter is the soul's first taste of spring."

— **Richelle E. Goodrich**



The Parable of the Butterfly

by

Dr. Ralph F. Wilson



As a butterfly soared overhead, one caterpillar said to the other, "You'll never get me up in one of those things."

Yet for every caterpillar the time comes when the urge to eat and grow subsides and he instinctively begins to form a chrysalis around himself. The chrysalis hardens and you'd think for all the world that the caterpillar is dead.

But one spring morning the life inside the chrysalis begins to writhe, the top cracks open, and a beautifully-formed butterfly emerges. For hours it will stand stretching and drying its wings, moving them slowly up and down, up and down. And then, before you know it, the butterfly glides aloft, effortlessly riding the currents of the air, alighting on flower after gorgeous flower, as if to show off its vivid colors to the bright blossoms. .

Somehow, the miracle of the butterfly never loses its fascination for us. Perhaps because the butterfly is a living parable of the promise of resurrection.

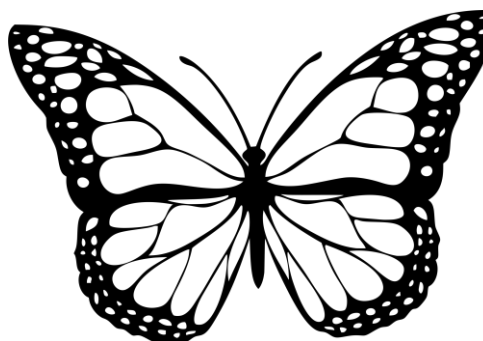
On Easter morning the disciples saw Jesus' grave clothes lying on the cold slab still wrapped round and round the corpse. Only the corpse was gone, much like an empty chrysalis deserted by a butterfly who has left to soar free. "He is risen as He said," an angel told the incredulous disciples. Later that day he appeared to the disciples, and then, over the

course of the next few weeks, to as many as five hundred people at one time. Even "Doubting Thomas" didn't doubt for long that Jesus was really risen from the dead.

What do we Christians say in the face of death? There are many mysteries. But two things we know for sure. First, death is an enemy. Away with the sentimentality that vainly seeks to disguise death's insult! But second, and more important, Jesus' resurrection from the grave is God's proof to us that death is not the end. The empty tomb and Jesus' Spirit within us testify that Easter morning is God's triumph over death. And ultimately, Jesus promised, God will raise from the dead us who believe in His Son.

Why do Christians gather on Easter morning? To show off their fine clothes or give a ritual tip of the hat to religion? God forbid! Rather we gather to celebrate Jesus' victory over death itself. For since He is our Lord and our Savior, His victory is our victory. In celebrating His resurrection we celebrate our own assurance of ultimate triumph over death.

Join us this Easter as we celebrate Life! And if you look closely Easter morning, you might even see a butterfly alight on the lilies.



Spring Clean-UP Day...



APRIL 8th
8 AM until Noon

***Come on down and
lend a hand!***
FREE coffee and donuts!



Superman

*For a lot of people, Superman
is and always has been, an
American Hero.
He stands for what we believe
is the best within us: limitless
strength tempered by
compassion that can bear
adversity and emerge stronger
on the other side.
He stands for what we all feel
we would like to
be able to stand for,
when standing is the hardest.*
-J. Michael Straczynski

Remind you of anyone?



Easter Flower
Order Form
2017



Easter Flowers are placed on the altar Easter Sunday and may be purchased in memory or honor of family, friends and loved ones.

All flowers are in 6" pots for \$8.00/each Name/Family purchasing _____
Number of pots _____

Dedications: In Memory or In Honor

Tulip

Daffodil

Lily

Hyacinth

Whom: _____

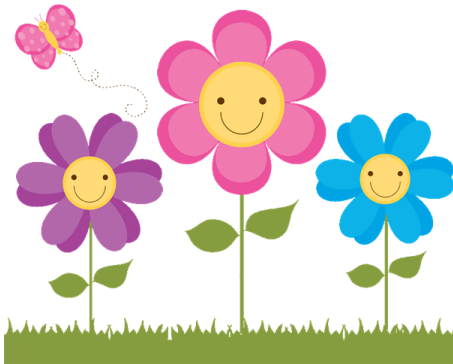
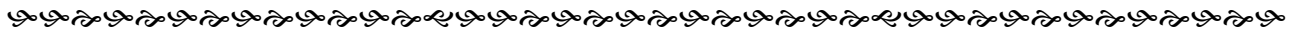
Given by: _____

Whom: _____

Given by: _____

Whom: _____

Given by: _____



HAPPY
Easter

Easter Flower Sale!



**Easter Flowers are placed on the altar on
Easter Sunday morning**

Flowers in 6" pots / \$8 each

Choice of:

Tulip, Daffodil, Lily or Hyacinth

****Dedicate flowers in memory of or in
honor of a family member or friend****

ORDERS DUE BY THIS SUNDAY

APRIL 2ND!

**April 29, 2017
6:00 pm**

**For tickets, call
860-379-4766**

HARMONY FOR HUNGER

Second Congregational
Church of Winsted
800 Main St.
Winsted

Featuring a
wide variety
of music
performed
by your
friends &
neighbors

Refreshments
following concert

Sponsored by the Second Congregational Church of Winsted Music Committee

All proceeds to
be donated to
the Open Door
Soup Kitchen &
Salvation Army
Food Bank

**Adults: \$10
Children &
Seniors: \$5
Family: \$20**

Non-perishable
food items will
also be collected



STEAM VENT Coffee House



April 8, 2017

Featured Performers

6:00 – Open Mic – Sign-up night of event
7:00 – Howie B. Baldwin
7:30 – Steve Prout
8:00 – Joel Blumert
8:30 – Silk-n-Steel
9:00 – Corey Michael Rieman
9:30 – Jim Palermo

*Free Will Offering
to support
Children's Mission Activity!*

Mexican Night!

In the Café

Choice of Flour or Corn Tortilla with choice of
fillings and fixings served with Spanish Rice, salad and
nachos (Vegetarian Options) \$7.00
Desserts \$1.00-\$2.00
Beverages \$1.00

Steam Vent Coffee House – giving musicians a relaxed and friendly place to share their talents with friends and neighbors. Our extended mission is to promote and encourage local musicians and provide entertainment to the Northwest Corner while raising funds in support of our children's mission activities.

FIRST CHURCH OF WINSTED

95 NORTH MAIN STREET

AN EVENING OF PATRIOTIC PRAYER AND SONG

**THURSDAY – MAY 4
6:00 PM**

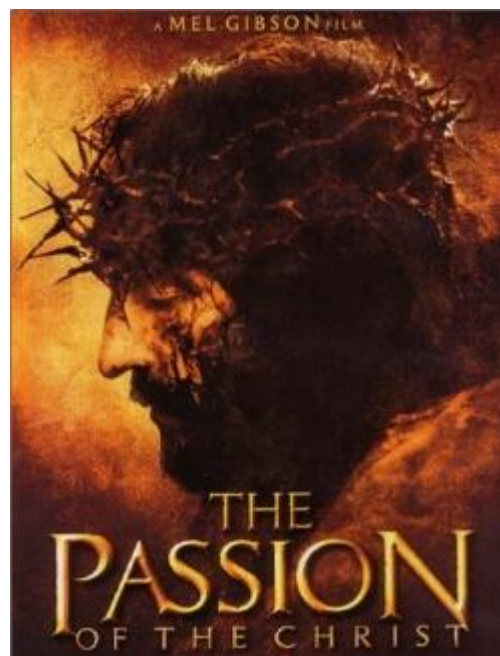
**SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
800 MAIN ST, WINSTED CT**

Join us for this evening of Christian prayer and traditional
hymns as we pray for our government officials,
communities, churches, families, military, vets and
emergency personnel.

For more information: (860) 379-4766

www.sccwinsted.org

www.nationaldayofbprayer.org



On Good Friday, April 14th for a 7:00 viewing
Mel Gibson's Passion of the Christ.

Warning: May not be appropriate for young viewers.
Rated R for sequences of graphic violence

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars!

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	April 1	April Fool's Day
Monday - 5:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	April 08	Spring Clean-up 8 am-Noon
Tuesday - 5:30 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	April 08	Steam Vent Coffee House
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	April 21-22	Leaders' Retreat
Thursday - 6:00 pm	Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers	April 22	Earth Day
		April 26	Admin. Professionals Day
		April 29	Benefit Concert 2 nd Church 7PM
		<i>Board Meetings...</i>	
		April 02	PM Board
		April 04	Board of Christian Ed.
		April 23	Deacons
		April 25	Cabinet Meeting
			

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

April Birthdays

02 - Andrew Hurlbut
 03 - Rob Rein
 04 - Robert Adkins
 05 - Robyn NeJaime
 08 - Susan B. McAllister
 10 - Mike Cyr
 11 - Ava Whipple
 14 - Mary McAllister
 14 - Erik Gilbert-Corey
 15 - Ruth Rebillard
 17 - Robert Jones
 17 - Annalee Marvin
 17 - Tony Mongitore
 18 - Carly Roberts
 19 - Nina Tripodina
 21 - Tricia Wu
 25 - Cinde Soldan
 27 - Pearl Dondero
 28 - Edward Weaving
 30 - Jack Valickis

April Anniversaries

♥02 - Lisa & Jeff Whipple

If you would have your birthday or
 anniversary added to our list,
 please email Deb Storrs:
dstorrs@snet.net



Palm Sunday Services April 9th

Prepare ye the way of the Lord! Come join in the celebration of the beginning of Holy Week as we remember Jesus Christ's entry into Jerusalem!

Maundy Thursday Service April 13th

To be held at 7:30 PM. Come to remember the events leading up to and following the last supper of our Lord.

EASTER Services April 16th

Easter Sunrise Service

6:15 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...

10:00 AM Worship Service

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!

Flower Cross

Add your flowers to our Flower Cross...bring your own or use ours. Bud Roberts built this beautiful wooden cross, which we fill with flowers, which has been our tradition for several years. The empty cross filled with flowers is such a powerful image. Come be part of the resurrection celebration...death has lost its sting!



April 2017

International Guitar Month



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton		April Birthstone: Diamond 	April Flower: Sweet Pea or Daisy 	CONFIRMATION/ YOUTH CLASS CONCERT OUTING  SUNDAY . APRIL 2 ND 2017 6:30 PM . XL CENTER . HARTFORD		1 April Fools Day National Humor Month!
2 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:30 am PM Board 11:15 am Toby Mack 6:30 pm Andrew Hurlbut ♥ Jeff & Lisa Whipple	3 Women's Bible Study 5 pm Rob Rein	4 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Christian Ed 6:45 pm Robert Adkins	5 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm Robyn NeJaime	6 LCS 7:00 pm	7	8  STEAM VENT Coffee House 6-10 pm Joseph Marsh Susan B. McAllister
9 Palm Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am Muddy Boots 9 am Worship Choir 9:30 am Mike Cyr	10 Passover Begins at Sundown Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm	11 Worship Choir 5:30 pm  Full Pink Moon Ava Whipple	12 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	13 Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm NO LCS	14 Good Friday Passion of the Christ 7:00 pm Mary McAllister Erik Gilbert-Corey	15 Ruth Rebillard
16 Easter Sunday Sunrise Service 6:15 am No Bible Study Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:30 am Liam Cyr	17 No Women's Bible Study Joann Gray Robert Jones Annalee Marvin Tony Mongitore	18 Worship Choir 5:30 pm  7:00 pm Carly Roberts	19 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm Nina Tripodina	20 LCS 7:00 pm	21 Leadership Retreat 5-9 pm Tricia Wu	22 Earth Day Leadership Retreat 8 am - 4 pm
23 Worship Service 10:00 am Deacons 11:45 am Open Mic Ted Sherman	24 Holocaust Remembrance Day Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm	25 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Cabinet 7:00 pm Cinde Soldan	26 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm Administrative Professionals Day	27 LCS 7:00 pm Pearl Dondero	28 Edward Weaving	29 Harmony for Hunger Benefit Concert 2 nd Church 6:00 pm
30 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:30 am Jack Valickis	May 1 Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm	May 2	May 3	May 4 Patriotic Prayer & Song 2 nd Church 6:00 pm	May 5	Astrological Signs Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19 Taurus: April 20 - May 20



Artist: Karen Delton

The Reverend Lisabeth Gustafson

Moderator - Dan Jones ~ Vice-Moderator - Frank Artruc
 Clerk - Laura McCaw
 Treasurer - Debby Kane ~ Associate Treasurer - John Eggering
 Financial Secretary - Joan Eggering
 Board of Deacons - Kathy Garneau
 Property Maintenance Chair - Frank Artruc
 Christian Education Chair / Sunday School Director - Barbara Mazzei
 Organist/Worship Choir Director - Tricia Wu
 Muddy Boots Praise Choir Director - Dan Jones
 Youth Choir Director - Katherine Timmeney
 Editor: Debbie Storrs ~ Webmaster - John Eggering

FIRST CHURCH OF WINSTED

95 North Main Street, Winsted, CT

ALL ARE WELCOME

Sunday Worship - 10:00 AM

Communion - 1st Sunday of Every Month
 Sunday School - Nursery Care - During Worship
 Coffee Hour - Following Worship

E-Mail / Office – info@firstchurchofwinsted.org

Telephone (860) 379-1778

Church Web-Site www.firstchurchofwinsted.org

The CT Conference of the UCC
 Telephone (866) 367-2822 Toll Free
 Still Speaking Site www.stillspeaking.com
 UCC Web-Site www.ucc.org or ctuucc.org

American Baptist Churches of Connecticut - ABCCONN
 Executive Minister: The Rev. Dr. W Kenneth Williams
 Telephone (860) 521-5421
 ABCCONN Web-Site www.abcconn.org

First Church of Winsted
 95 North Main Street
 Winsted, CT 06098

BELLRINGER



	
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