

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



Are you familiar with this expression: "Cool as a Cucumber?" Over the years it has been one of my personal mantras.

The expression "Cool as a Cucumber" refers to a person who can remain calm and collected in the heat of life's battles. The thing I love about this particular expression is that it actually is grounded in scientific fact.

As I was doing some research on the expression I was surprised to know that a cucumber lying in the sun on a hot day is cooler on the inside than the outside. In fact, the center of the cucumber can be as much as ten degrees cooler than its outside. Even if you don't have a thermometer, all you must do is touch it and you can feel the difference.

Oh, I should probably tell you that **there is a slight catch**. The difference in temperature between the inside and the outside of a cucumber can only exist as long as it is attached to the vine. Once the cucumber is severed from the vine, it loses its ability to "keep its cool."

There is change afoot for You and First Church and for me. I think being able to be like our friend Mr. Cucumber is going to be something we are going to need. We can keep our cool and thrive in the midst of this insane world we live in with all its changing circumstances. **But, there is a slight catch**. Like Mr. Cucumber, we have to stay attached to the Vine.

You may be sitting there wondering what I am talking about. I bet you can guess: Our vine is the fellowship of believers we belong to through our Lord Jesus Christ. There is power unleashed when we listen to the word of God proclaimed, when we gather in breaking bread together, when we read the Bible and when we lift one another up in prayer. It is that simple.

Are you attached to Vine? It's right there waiting for you!

Here it is in Jesus' own words from John 15:5.

*"I am the vine; you are the branches.
If you remain in me and I in you, you
will bear much fruit; apart from me
you can do nothing."*

Blessings,
Pastor Lisa



APRIL 2018

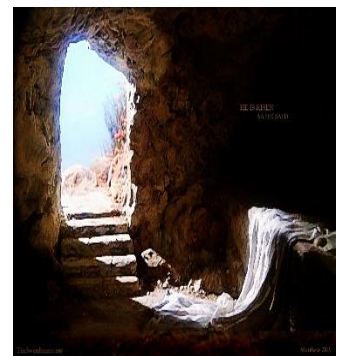
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Winsted, CT 06098
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Article Submission:
info@firstchurchofwinsted.org

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

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Church News...

First Church of Winsted
Contemporary Service
Blended Service

Love
Music
Prayer
W
R
A
P

Sunday April 29th
10 a.m.

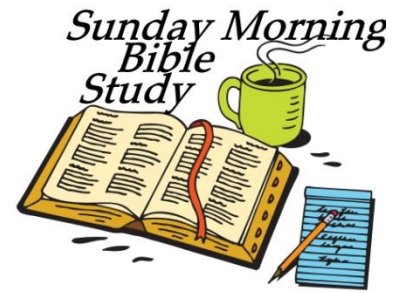
We Rejoice And Praise!



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The Board of Christian Education is accepting scholarship applications for those wishing to pursue higher education.

Applications can be obtained from any member of the BOCE and must be completed and returned by May 6, 2018.



The Adult Bible Study meets in the parlor on Sunday mornings at 9:00am. Note: We will not meet on Easter Sunday morning



Choir Notes

Worship Choir rehearsals on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 PM in the Sanctuary.
Sunday Services: April 1, 15, 29.

Muddy Boots Praise choir will be rehearsing at 9:30 AM on April 8 and singing as well.



Puddle Jumpers rehearse after services at 11:15 AM and sing on April 23 with warmup at 9:30 AM.



"Worship night in America"

First Church of Winsted will be purchasing group tickets for "Worship Night in America" on Saturday May 5th at 7PM at the XL Center in Harford, CT.

The seating will be in the 200 section as that is all that is left for group prices. The tickets are \$14 or \$15 and the Board of Christian Education will be covering a portion of the cost. Please note that it is the same night as the Harmony for Hunger concert at the Second Church in Winsted if you had planned on attending that.

If you are interested please contact Ashley Fontanez at ashleyleejones@gmail.com as soon as possible.

"Worship night in America"

Featuring Chris Tomlin, Kim Walker Smith of Jesus Culture, Matt Maher, Christine D'Clario, Tauren Wells, and Pat Barrett

GRAMMY® winner Chris Tomlin continues to bring the church together in unity and prayer with his 2018 Worship Night In America (WNIA) tour, kicking off April 5, 2018. Special guests include Kim Walker Smith of Jesus Culture, Matt Maher, Christine

D'Clario, Tauren Wells, and Pat Barrett. The tour will hit 24 markets across the U.S. including Chicago, Indianapolis, Atlanta, Philadelphia and more.

"It is powerful when all streams of the church come together in an act of unity to worship and pray...that's the heart behind 2018's 'WNIA Tour.' It's a picture of God's kingdom together, and the sound of thousands and thousands of voices pouring out His praise," says Tomlin. "I pray these nights are filled with revival and restoration as we all join together proclaiming one name. As the scriptures say, 'Lord I have heard of Your fame, I stand in awe of Your deeds...renew them in our day.'"

Chris Tomlin's 2018 "WNIA Tour" follows his 2017 "WNIA Tour" which made 24 stops in arenas with sellouts across the country, including Nashville, where Tomlin made history as the largest ticketed Christian concert at Bridgestone Arena to date.



"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

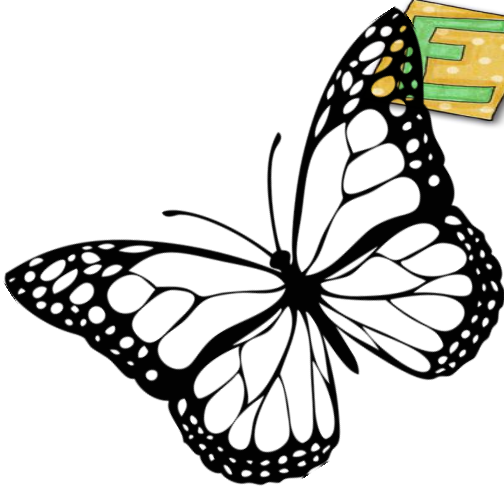


Thank you to all for the surprise celebration of my twenty years of being a part of your worship leadership team as organist and Worship Choir director, The flowers and gift certificate were appreciated.

Tricia

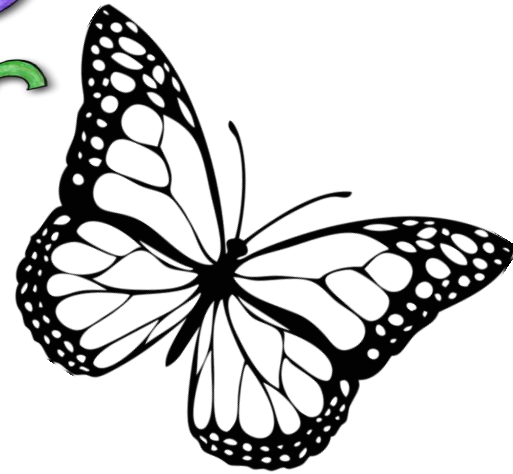


HAPPY Easter



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 that 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.



May 5, 2018
7:00 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 14, 2018

Featured Performers

6:00 - Open Mic - Sign-up night of event
6:30 - Salmon Eye - Sam Guglielmino
7:00 - Sweet Heart Mountain Bluegrass - Kevin Gallagher
7:30 - Addy Datzuk
8:00 - Stephen Prout
8:30 - Anders Johnson
9:00 - Joel Blumert
9:30 - Robert Alan Scalla

Free Will Offering
in support of
Children's Mission

Chinese Smorgasbord Night!

Chinese Sampler In the Café - Pick your favorites!

Veggie or Meat Dumplings, Vegetable or Roast Pork Lo Mein, Stir-fried Mixed Chinese Vegetables, Yang Chow Fried Rice (Chicken, Shrimp and Roast Pork) or Vegetable Fried Rice \$8.00

Side Salad \$2 ~ Desserts \$2.00 ~ Beverages \$1.00

Full Meal Deal \$10.00

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



POTLUCK POP-UP!

@ First Church on April 29th

Immediately following worship in the
Dining Hall.

Here's how it works: bring a dish to share and join our First Church community with food and your Spirit. Share stories, ideas, thoughts in general with your church family.



Laurel City Singers

Slightly-Off


BROADWAY

May 20th at 2 PM

First Church of Winsted

Tickets: Adult \$10/Senior \$8/Family \$20

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars!

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	April 1	EASTER!
Tuesday - 5:30 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	April 12	Holocaust Remembrance Day
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	April 14	Steam Vent Coffee House
Thursday - 6:00 pm	Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers	April 22	Earth Day
		April 25	Admin. Professionals Day
		April 29	Pop-up Pot Luck Luncheon
		May 5	Benefit Concert 2 nd Church 7PM
		May 20	Slightly-Off Broadway Concert
		<i>Board Meetings...</i>	
		April 01	PM Board
		April 10	Board of Christian Ed.
		April 05	Deacons
		April 24	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:
info@firstchurchofwinsted.org

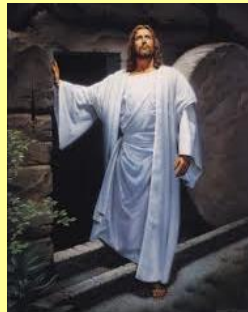


EASTER Services April 1st

Easter Sunrise Service

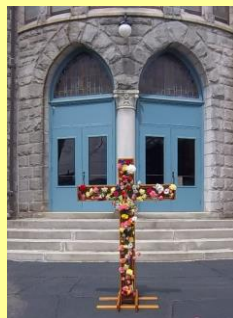
6:15 AM at Forest View Cemetery

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!

SPRING

Check us out online!

www.firstchurchofwinsted.org





Like us on Facebook!



April 2018

International Guitar Month



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Bible Study 9:00 am Worship Choir 9:30 am Worship Service 10:00 am EASTER Sunday Sunrise Service 6:30 am Andrew Hurlbut ♥ Jeff & Lisa Whipple	2	3 Worship Choir 5:30 pm	4 AA/Alanon 8:00 pm Robert Adkins	5 Overeaters Anonymous 10:00 am Girl Scouts 6:00 pm LCS 6:00 pm Robyn NeJaime	6	7
8 Bible Study 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Muddy Boots 9:30 am Puddle Jumpers 11:15 am Diaconate 11:30 Joseph Marsh Susan B. McAllister	9	10 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Christian Ed 6:45 pm	11 AA/Alanon 8:00 pm Ava Whipple	12 Overeaters Anonymous 10:00 am Girl Scouts 6:00 pm LCS 6:00 pm Holocaust Remembrance Day	13	14  STEAM VENT Coffee House 6-10 pm Mary McAllister Erik Gilbert-Corey
15 Bible Study 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:30 am Puddle Jumpers 11:15 am Ruth Rebillard	16	17 Worship Choir 5:30 pm	18 AA/Alanon 8:00 pm Carly Roberts	19 Overeaters Anonymous 10:00 am Girl Scouts 6:00 pm LCS 6:00 pm Nina Tripodina	20	21
22 Bible Study 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Puddle Jumpers 9:30 am Earth Day	23	24 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Cabinet 7:00 pm	25 AA/Alanon 8:00 pm Administrative Professionals Day Cinde Soldan	26 Overeaters Anonymous 10:00 am Girl Scouts 6:00 pm LCS 7:00 pm	27	28
29 Bible Study 9:00 am Puddle Jumpers 9:30 am Worship Service 10:00 am WRAP Pot Luck Pop-up Luncheon	30		 Artist: Karen Delton	April Birthstone: Diamond 	April Flower: Sweet Pea or Daisy 	Astrological Signs Aries: Mar 21 – Apr 19 Taurus: April 19 - May 20



Artist: Karen Delton

Pastor – The Rev. Lisabeth Gustafson

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

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. Harry L. Riggs, II
 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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