

Word from the Pastor

Time to Rest on Our Laurels

(Pastor's note: I acknowledge that this piece was inspired by an article from Ministry Matters by Rebekah Simon-Peter. I thank her for her words!)

In Ancient Greece, victorious athletes were presented with laurel wreaths to wear. They were, and still are, signs of great accomplishment, unless you start resting on them. To 'rest on your laurels' means that you get lazy or complacent about what you could achieve because you're too busy basking in the memories of former glories. – Rebekah Simon-Peter



I would like to make a case for the practice of resting on our laurels here at First Church this summer. How can we truly know what's been accomplished if we don't pause, communicate and celebrate what has taken place in the past year?

We can't know these things unless we make space for collecting and telling these stories. That means taking time to rest on our laurels. Not for a long time. Just long enough to actually take in and celebrate all that has been gained. When Jesus went into the wilderness to pray, we have no idea what he prayed. But we do know that he paused.

I would like to suggest that as a body, this summer we stop and reflect. Then take it one step further: Celebrate! What do we celebrate? Think about the things we are doing well: Steam Vent, Mexico Missions, Outreach Boar's Head, Bible Study and Sunday School. Worship Choir, Muddy Boots and Puddle Jumpers! Perspectives shift when we focus on what is going well. Think about the milestone we celebrated with the Children's Discovery Center at 40 years.

I wonder what will happen if we stop and take a breath of fresh air this summer?

I am inviting us to pause and savor our accomplishments this summer. It isn't going to resolve all our challenges. But I believe it just might energize us to carry on creatively — conscious of the positive impact we are having on the world around us, and proud of the gains we are making. Here is to SUMMER and a time to rest on our laurels!



Check us out online! www.firstchurchofwinsted.org

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



JULY-AUG 2016

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Church News...

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

If you shop using Amazon will you consider using the following link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/06-0996424> which can be bookmarked and the donations the church receives from this program will be used to support the various ministries at First Church of Winsted.

NEW SUMMER HOURS

Worship services from July 3rd through August 28th at 9:30 AM!

DEACON NEWS

Summer Bible Study

The Sunday Morning Bible Study will continue through the summer! Beginning on July 3 we will meet in the parlor at 8:30am. We start our journey through First Thessalonians on June 26th. This epistle was probably Paul's first and shows his concern for the young church that was started there. It is his attempt to offer encouragement and answer some questions. How can I be sure that I will be with Jesus after death? How can I be sure that Jesus is coming again? How can I be sure that Jesus hasn't forgotten me when I am suffering persecution? How can I be sure that my life is pleasing to God? Come join our group for a guided discussion of this interesting and inspiring scripture! Please feel free to bring whatever caffeinated beverages that you may need!

MEXICO MISSION TRIP

July 9th - 17th

Remember our mission group in your prayers as they travel to Casa Hogar to be reunited with the kids...and work schedule...! A true mission of love, sharing time to help others less fortunate, that's what it's all about!



Confirmation

COMING THIS FALL:

Confirmation/Baptism Preparation

A Year of Opportunities to AFFIRM YOUR FAITH.

Changing of the Guard

Many thanks to Kim Janak for preparing the Sunday Bulletin for the past year.

Welcome to Sandy Thibeault who takes over this job for July 10th!

Ice Cream Sundae!!



August 28th after worship!
Absolutely FREE!



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

STEAM VENT



Coffee House



FIRST CHURCH OF WINSTED
95 North Main Street
Winsted, CT

Homecoming Weekend ~ Sept 10 - 11

A weekend full of *Kid-friendly activities...*

Beginning at **STEAM VENT – SEPT 10th**
Featuring the Bubblicious Music of Evan
Gottfried at 7:00 – fun for kids of all ages...!!



Evan Gottfried

Kid friendly food in the Café...

YES it's PIZZA Night!

Open Mic for Kids with Prizes!

6:00 **Little Rock Star** ~ Kids up to age 9

6:30 **So You Think You Can Sing?**

For Kids 10 and up

7:00 Evan Gottfried

There will be BUBBLES...and DANCING!!

7:45 Salmon Eye

8:15 Melanie Michaud

And More TBA

To sign kids up for open mic 860-482-3491

Coloring Contest too!



Salmon Eye



Melanie Michaud



SUNDAY, SEPT 11th

*Join us as we kickoff the Sunday School Year,
with streamers, music, percussion & dance!
Family Friendly Activities and Refreshments.*

We are going to get Happy!

Come and See!!





Calling all Children to Cool Summer Sunday School!

Come on Sunday mornings to have some fun while together in the coolness of the downstairs gathering room. Barbara Mazzei will be teaching all children as a group June 26, July 10 & 17, Aug. 7, 14, 21, & 28. The theme is “God’s World, Our World”, with interesting and creative activities planned. Stay cool on Sundays.

Mark your calendar: full time Sunday School will resume in the fall on Rally Day, September 11th.

Scholarship Awards from members of the church who value youth and education As an encouraging support for education to our youth of the church, (and adults), nine students received awards from our church’s Alex & Elizabeth Smith Scholarship, and Jon Millard Scholarship funds. The recipients are Andrew Hurlbut, Meghan Kane, Kendra McCaw, DJ Sherman, Isabelle Rein, Sandi Benge, Rebecca Allen, Justin Takeman, and Katherine Timmeney. The Sharon Lewis Memorial Music Scholarship for a student studying music was awarded to Faith Middlebrook. First Church congratulates, supports, and is thinking of the students as they continue to achieve their educational goals.

To help replenish those funds, the Board of Christian Education will sponsor the famous Ziti Supper, Raffle, and Silent Auction. For the raffle, you will have the months of August and September to purchase raffle tickets for three enticing items. There will be a limited number of tickets to be sold thus increasing your chances to win! Then on Saturday, September 24, come to dinner at the ziti supper where the winning ticket will be drawn. Also offered at the dinner is a silent auction with smaller prizes. The congregation is encouraged to show support with a donation of food, donation of auction items, and purchase of tickets. Either way you have chances to win something fun and enjoy great fellowship.



Evan Gottfried at CDC Celebration! Bubbles!!



Faith Middlebrook receiving Sharon Lewis Scholarship. Other scholarship and Children’s day pics on Facebook



*There is a saying,
“He who sings once,
prays twice.”*


Choir participation is more than just singing and practicing. It is also a fellowship group where members share in life together. Please consider joining in this experience, no matter what your age is, what part you sing, or how well you read music—or don’t read music. (It’s not a requirement!) The Worship Choir, intended for Youths and Adults (grades 6 and up) rehearses on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 pm, and sings on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays.

If you have questions about joining worship choirs, please don’t hesitate to contact Tricia Wu, Worship Choir Director.

Worship Choir takes a summer break!

**Worship Choir Rehearsals will resume at 5:30 pm on
Tuesday’s, August 23 and 30, September 6, 13, 20, 27
Sunday’s, September 4 and 18 @ 9:20 am**

Upcoming Events

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 9:30 am	Worship	July 4	Independence Day
Tuesday - 5:30 pm (see calendar)	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	July 9-17	Mexico Mission
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	Aug 28	Ice Cream Sundae!!
Summer Hiatus - See you in September	Laurel City Singers	Sept 5	Labor Day
		Sept 11	Patriot Day
		Sept 10	Steam Vent Coffee House
		Sept 11	Sunday School Rally Day
		Sept 24 5-8 PM	Ziti Supper
	<i>Board Meetings</i>		<p><i>For most people, we often marvel at the beauty of a sunrise or the magnificence of a full moon, but it is impossible to fathom the magnitude of the universe that</i></p>
	Aug 9 th at 6:45 PM Aug 7 th at 10:30 AM Aug 21 st at 10:30 AM Aug 23 rd at 7:00 PM	Board of Christian Ed. PM Board Deacons Cabinet Meeting	

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

JULY BIRTHDAYS

*Georgette Benson

02 - Riley Geddes
 03 - Justin Richards
 04 - J R McCaw
 05 - Derek Storrs
 06 - Bill Hassig
 06 - Gail Roberts
 08 - Amelia Roberts
 08 - Dawn Cyr
 09 - Donna Sherman
 09 - James Relihan
 10 - Ash NeJaime
 10 - Brenda Sherman
 12 - Kristine Ohotnicky
 12 - Kyle Valickis
 14 - Adam Bensle
 14 - Charles McCaw III
 17 - Dawn Hughes
 17 - Aiden Callahan
 19 - Kendra McCaw
 20 - Donald Bunel
 20 - Ken Storrs
 20 - Peter Toomey
 21 - Gary Storrs
 23 - Barbara Woodard
 23 - Gary Valickis
 25 - Denise Jones
 29 - Gretchen Fredericksen
 31 - Meghan Kane

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

♥ 03 - Erik & Ashley Fontanez
 ♥ 19 - Jay & Lisa Nanni
 ♥ 29 - Mike & Tricia Wu

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

*Samantha Ostrander

02 - Zachary Sibbach
 05 - Cam Picard
 05 - Kai Picard
 07 - Pauline Fancher
 09 - Brandi Gilbert-Corey
 10 - Jane Lovejoy
 10 - Jennifer Marsh
 12 - Chuck McCaw
 14 - Brett McAllister
 14 - Nadya Roys
 17 - Richard Relihan
 18 - Allison Graboski
 20 - Reece Geddes
 20 - Tanya Mongitore
 20 - Jaron Morris
 22 - SaraLee Relihan
 22 - Aleigh Valickis
 23 - Brigitte Smyth
 24 - Erik Fontanez
 25 - Kyle Jones
 25 - Deb Majewski
 27 - Nicole Martin
 29 - Ashley Jones
 29 - Aiden Picard
 30 - Ben McCaw
 30 - Christine Steele

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

♥ 02 - Timothy & Dawn Hughes
 ♥ 09 - David & Rhonda LeKang
 ♥ 17 - Scott & Allison Graboski
 ♥ 18 - Gary & Debbie Storrs
 ♥ 18 - Roger Hurlbut & Julie Davy
 ♥ 31 - Richard & Barbara Mazzei

Introducing...



*Mr. & Mrs. Erik Fontanez
 with their proud parents!
 Sunday, July 3, 2016*






*From this day forward, laugh and plan
 together. Find favorite places and go
 together. Enjoy the sunshine and rain and
 being alone or in crowds together. From
 this day forward...together in love!*



July 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton	July Birthstone: Ruby 	July Flower: Larkspur 	Astrological Signs Cancer: June 22 – July 22 Leo July 23 – Aug 22		1	2 Riley Geddes
3 Worship Service 9:30 AM PM Board 10:30 AM Justin Richards ♥ Erik & Ashley Fontanez	4 Independence Day J R McCaw	5 Derek Storrs	6 AA/Alanon 8:00 PM Bill Hassig Gail Roberts	7	8 Amelia Roberts Dawn Sherman	9 Donna Sherman
10 Worship Service 9:30 AM Ash NeJaime Brenda Sherman	11	12 Kristine Ohotnicky Kyle Valickis	13 AA/Alanon 8:00 PM	14 Adam Bensle Charles McCaw III	15	16
17 Worship Service 9:30 AM Dawn Hughes Aiden Callahan	18	19 Kendra McCaw	20 AA/Alanon 8:00 PM Ken Storrs Peter Toomey	21 Gary Storrs	22	23 Barbara Woodard Gary Valickis
24 Worship Service 9:30 AM	25 Denise Jones	26 ♥ Mike & Tricia Wu	27 AA/Alanon 8:00 PM	28	29 Gretchen Fredericksen	30
31 Worship Service 9:30 AM Meghan Kane						



August 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton	August Birthstone: Peridot 	August Flower Gladiola 	Astrological Signs Leo July 23 – Aug 23 Virgo Aug 24 - Sept 23			
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Zachary Sibbach ♥ Tim & Dawn Hughes	AA/Alanon 8:00 PM			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Worship Service 9:30 AM PM Board 10:30 AM Pauline Fancher		Chris Ed 6:45 PM Brandi Gilbert-Corey ♥ Dave & Rhonda LeKang	AA/Alanon 8:00 PM Jane Lovejoy		Chuck McCaw	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Worship Service 9:30 AM Brett McAllister Nadya Roys			AA/Alanon 8:00 PM ♥ Scott & Allison Graboski ♥ Warren & Virginia Hughes	Allison Graboski ♥ Roger Hurlbut & Julie Davy ♥ Gary & Debbie Storrs		Rebecca Geddes †Owen Lovejoy Tanya Mongitore Jaron Morris
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Worship Service 9:30 AM Deacons 10:30 AM	Aleigh Valickis	Worship Choir 5:30 PM Cabinet 7:00 Brigitte Smyth	AA/Alanon 8:00 PM	Kyle Jones		Nicole Martin †George Stickles
28	29	30	31			
Worship Service 9:30 AM	Ashley Jones	Worship Choir 5:30 PM Ben McCaw Christine Steele ♥ Rich & Barb Mazzei	AA/Alanon 8:00 PM			

**Christ First!
Everyone coming
together to do
God's work!**



Artist: Karen Delton

Pastors - Rev. Lisabeth Gustafson

Moderator - Dan Jones

Vice-Moderator - Tom Jones

Clerk - Allison Graboski

Treasurer - Debby Kane ~ Associate Treasurer - Joan Eggering

Financial Secretary - Tanya Mongitore

Board of Deacons Co-chairs - Laura McCaw & Lisa Nanni

Property Maintenance Chair - Frank Artruc

Christian Ed Chair / Sunday School Director - Barbara Mazzei

Organist/Worship Choir Director - Tricia Wu

Muddy Boots Praise Choir Director - Dan Jones

Youth Choir - Katherine Timmeney

Webmaster - John Eggering

FIRST CHURCH OF WINSTED



95 North Main Street, Winsted, CT



ALL ARE WELCOME

Sunday Worship – 9:30 AM

(Summer Hours – July and August)

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. Judy G. Allbee

Telephone (860) 521-5421

ABCCONN Web-Site www.abcconn.org

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BELLRINGER

