

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

Greetings in the name of Christ!

Last week I had to make a last minute trip for my "attorney" job to Dallas. I booked my air travel on Thursday for a Sunday departure. The cost for the round trip plane ride was outrageous, especially if I wanted to go on the non-stop flight and save time. To get the cost as low as possible, I made a stop in Atlanta on the way there and stopped in Detroit on the way back. That extended the trip by 3-4 hours in each direction, and the cost was still over \$600. Just for an overnight trip!

A few moments ago, I heard on TV that television ads during the Super Bowl are priced the same way. If you want a 30 second slot and waited until today to have your commercial aired, you are going to have to pay a cool \$4 million. That's a premium of nearly \$400,000 for waiting until the last minute! It's hard to think of why someone would wait until the last minute to place an ad on TV during the Super Bowl, but people do that.

The lesson is very clear... Try to plan ahead! Whether it is for air travel, television commercials, or for so many other things in life, we need to find time in our busy lives to plan ahead. That is equally true in the life of our Church. Although we don't charge extra for those who enter the sanctuary just as the worship service begins on Sunday morning (we may need to bring that idea to the Church Cabinet!), being more intentional and by planning ahead, there are many benefits. We can involve more people in the planning (enhance teamwork), we can provide more notice of the event so that people can put it in their busy calendars (improve communication), we can save a little money by purchasing supplies while they are on sale rather than paying whatever the price is on the day we need those supplies (be better stewards), all leading to a more successful ministry (more glory to God).

As we begin 2013, we've been doing that. The Church Cabinet met in January for the first time in many years. We usually wait until February. We are implementing a new church software program that will help us to do better financial tracking and planning in the future (along with lots of other neat things that will help us improve communications, reports, etc.). We're planning a youth trip in the Northeast and exploring our options for a mission trip this summer. While we always move with God's Spirit, we are also being more intentional in the ways that we serve God.

This is going to be an exciting year in the life of First Church, and we're glad to have you be a part of it.

Blessings,

Mike



FEBRUARY 2013

**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**

Inside this issue:

Church News	2
Scholarship Raffle	
RS4J	
Ads and things...	3
Upcoming Events	
Birthdays	
February Calendar	4



Check us out online! www.firstchurchofwinsted.org

Like us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/6914938457/>

Church News...

Scholarship Raffle Winners Announced

Congratulations...to our lucky winners!

1st Prize

Winner: Tony Mongitore

2nd Prize

Winner: Ann Jones

3rd Prize

Winner: Angelina McKeown



**PIZZA & POOL
PARTY**

Tentatively set for Feb 16th at the Winsted YMCA...details will be announced as they are still being firmed up...stay tuned!

WISDOM HOUSE FEBRUARY PROGRAMING

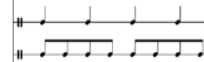
1.) Sound, Music and Healing – Presented by Melinda Gardiner Friday, February 15, 6 PM dinner to Sunday lunch. Explore the therapeutic power of the elements of music and our voice for self-care through the use of simple melody, song and chant. No musical experience required. For fees and more information call Wisdom House at: (860)-567-3163

e-mail: programs@wisomhouse.org or
visit: www.wisdomhouse.org/program/calendar.html

2.) Through the Paramis - Artwork by Lisie Orjuela, February 16-March 30, 2013. The Marie Louise Trichet Art Gallery at Wisdom House Retreat and Conference Center. Opening: Saturday, February 16 3:30 – 5:30 PM. Artist's Talk: 3:45 PM followed by a reception. Gallery hours: Monday through Saturday 10 AM-4 PM. For more information call Wisdom House at (860) 567-3163 e-mail: programs@wisomhouse.org or visit: www.wisdomhouse.org/program/calendar.html



Walk-ing walk-ing



Running, running,
Running, running

Hey do you feel
the rhythm?

Rock Starz 4 Jesus will begin to explore rhythms and some stringed instruments. Guitars proved a bit large for small fingers...so we are also going to start some Hawaiian fun with Ukeleles! Perhaps a little Somewhere Over the Rainbow...Israel Kamakawiwo 'Ole style...! Oddly enough, it seems almost everyone has one...hum...? I know...funny...huh? We could use a couple of more. If you have one, that is sitting around collecting dust somewhere...and are willing to donate it, you can even take it as a tax deduction...! Rhythm is everywhere...and we will even find it in our names! And other silly things! Rehearsing Sunday mornings at 9:15!

And for the month of Love...

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways.

For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.



And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

There is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."

**JUST
FOR
FUN!**

"Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning."

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars!

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 10 am Sunday - 9:15 am Tuesday - 5:30 pm Wednesday - 7:30 pm Thursday - 7:00 pm	Worship Rehearsal~Rock Starz 4 Jesus Rehearsal~Worship Choir AA / Alanon Meetings Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers	February 2 February 3 February 12 February 13 February 14 February 16 February 18	Ground Hog Day Super Bowl Sunday – Grinders!! Fat Tuesday – Mardi Gras Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day Pool & Pizza Party President's Day
	<i>Board Meetings...</i>		
	February 3 February 12 February 19 February 26	PM Board Board of Christian Ed. Deacons Cabinet Meeting	

★HAPPY BIRTHDAY!★

February Birthdays

01 - Elexys Savoy
02 - Susan Tripodina
03 - Sabrina McAllister
03 - Bailey McCaw
03 - Julie Davy
03 - Laura Day
04 - Paul Hamilton
05 - Daniel Hall
06 - Kate Roys
07 - Lorraine Tatar
11 - Bonnie Geddes
11 - Dan Jones
12 - Jessica Toomey
14 - Mildred Barshaw
14 - Mathew Marvin
14 - Korie Valickis
15 - Heather Richardson
16 - Holly Cassaday
16 - Devan McCaw
18 - Dilshan Gunawardena
18 - Virginia Hughes
18 - Eric Smith
18 - Jes Wu
20 - Will Hurlbut
20 - Carol Miles
20 - Debbie Storrs
21 - Curtis Blische
21 - George Majewski
22 - Bill Calkins
22 - Sharon Doyle
25 - Helen Nye
26 - Bud Roberts
26 - Kelvin Smith
27 - Alexandra Cassaday
28 - Jamie McAllister
28 - Eileen Bensle
28 - Rick Rice
29 - Peyton Storrs

February Anniversaries

♥ 13 - Ted & Donna Sherman
♥ 15 - Robert & Ann Jones
♥ 19 - Paul & Diane Richards

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

What Did Jesus Say About Love...

John 15:9-17 *As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another.*



TAX TIME IS HERE!

Most of us will need to file our tax returns by mid-April.

Did you know that one of the many changes to the Federal Tax laws this year is the reinstatement of the IRA charitable deduction? That means that if you are required to withdraw money from your IRA each year (take what is known as an "RMD," or Required Minimum Distribution), you can donate all or part of your RMD to the Church or other charities and not have to pay income taxes on the RMD. If you itemize your deductions, you also still get the charitable deduction for the donation. This is a significant tax savings. If you are over 70 years old, you can take advantage of the IRA charitable deduction until April 15th for your 2012 taxes. This benefit will also be available for 2013 taxes.

Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, Nobody

This is a little story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job.

Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.



February 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton	February Birthstone: Amethyst 	February Flower: Violet 	Astrological Signs Aquarius: Jan 21 – Feb 18 Pisces: Feb 19 – Mar 20		1	2  Ground Hog Day
3 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am PM Board 11:15 Super Bowl Sunday  Pick up Grinders!	4	5 Worship Choir 5:30 pm	6 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	7	8	9
10 Worship Service 10:00 am Open Mic Sunday	11 Laurel City Singers Board Meeting 6:00 pm	12 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Chris Ed Bd 7:00  Mardi Gras	13 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm  ASH WEDNESDAY Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 pm	14  Happy Valentine's Day	15	16  WINSTED YMCA
17 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20	18  President's Day	19 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Deacons 7:00 pm	20 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	21	22	23
24 Worship Service 10:00 am  Rock Starz 4 Jesus 9:15 am	25	26 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Cabinet 7:00 pm	27 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	28	Mar 1	Mar 2



Artist: Karen Delton

Pastor - Rev. Michael Wu

Moderator - Dan Jones

Vice-Moderator – Richard Mazzei

Clerk - Debbie Storrs

Board of Deacons - Co-chairs

Laura McCaw & Lisa Nanni

Treasurer – Debby Kane

Christian Education Chair - Allison Graboski

Sunday School Director - Barbara Mazzei

Organist/Worship Choir Director - Tricia Wu

Cherub Choir Director - 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. Judy G. Allbee

Telephone (860) 521-5421

ABCCONN Web-Site www.abcconn.org

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

BELLRINGER

