

## Word from the Pastor...

Summer Greetings,

Once again I want to thank you all for the wonderful gifts that you gave me during the celebration of my 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary since my ordination. I have begun to use the iPad, but have to admit that I get dizzy because of the way the screen flips from portrait to landscape whenever you move the iPad from side to side. Some of us just are not accustomed to technology!

As I write this, we are enjoying a perfect summer day. The sun is shining, the temperature is in the low 80's, and the humidity is low. And just as you can't have the perfect summer day without a combination of sun, "just about right" temperatures, and the right amount of humidity, the ministry of the Church cannot be done without lots of different people all while discerning God's will. I'd like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the things that are made possible because we work together as a team and because we seek to implement God's will. And when I say "we", I am referring to both members and friends of the Church, along with people who are outside of the Church family.

In August, a group of Church members will again be traveling to southern Mexico to help build the center of operations for Simply Smiles (the non-profit organization we've worked with for the past 5 years) and to distribute over 10 tons of food to those in need in a mountainous, remote region of Oaxaca. The center of operations will one day house children from the mountainous region so that they can benefit from an education. The idea is to build a relationship with the parents so that they will trust Simply Smiles with their children. The children would be bused to the center of operations on Sunday afternoon, go to school from Monday through Friday, and then return home to be with their families Friday evening or Saturday morning. The food distribution will assist nearly 3,000 people whose livelihood was lost when they could not sell the small amounts of coffee they grow in the mountains because large corporations prefer to buy large quantities of coffee from a single source.

Our trip would never have been possible if it was not part of God's plan and without the help of so many people...the majority who are not going to Mexico with us. There is no way we could absorb the cost of the trip within our church budget, so we raise funds through the Steam Vent Coffee Houses, the walk-a-thon that took place, and numerous other events. Hundreds of people help make the trip possible. And this year, because of scheduling conflicts, many of our "usuals" will not be able to make the trip. We were really concerned about whether our smaller group could do all the physical labor required. So we have another four people, including a teenager from Mexico City, who will join our group and work with us to get the job done. The bottom line: The mission would not be possible without the help of all of you, along with many in our community and many who live in other states and even other countries as we seek to minister in God's name.

You'll also soon notice some changes to the building that houses our Children's Discovery Center. The steps outside the building will be repaired, and the trim on the building will be re-painted. A member of our congregation has faithfully repaired those steps many times, but the harsh winters crack the concrete quickly. This summer, with a gift from a member of our community who is not a member of our church, the steps will be re-done with NY thermal bluestones. We looked into replacing the steps with precast concrete steps, and it was just a bit more to have the steps covered with the bluestones. Also, if you look closely at the trim on the building, the paint is peeling in various places. So with the same gift, the trim will be repainted. The facilities are just one part of a successful ministry to children. May members invest hours of their time to make the program a success, and the majority of the staff are members of our church. CDC is another example of how different people, working to do God's work, can do far more than we ever imagine.

In today's world, it is so easy to separate ourselves from others and think that we are the only ones who "got it right." We are called to answer God's call to do ministry, and to work together with people from different walks of life to bring honor and glory to God's name. So instead of pointing out our differences, let's try to focus on what we have in common!

Blessings,  
*Mike*



JULY 2011

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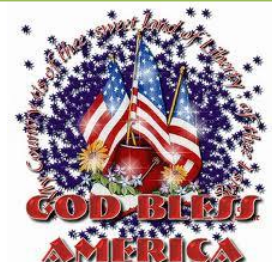
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## Summer Hours...

**Worship Service**  
**9:30 AM**  
**beginning**  
**July 10**



**Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July**

## Event Pics



Top left to right: Dark Horse, Cece & Ruth, Kath Bloom & Tom Hanford. Bottom left to right: Derek Storrs with Halo Drum, Flora Butterfield, Don Jones, Poet Allen...and mystery piano guy with John Eggering. June 11<sup>th</sup> Steam Vent performers.



## Summer Sunday School ...

**will begin on July 10 and run through Aug 28.**

**Teachers still needed for the Fall and anyone wanting to try out a summer Sunday.**

**Contact Barbara Mazzei!**



Mike accepts Rock Star Award  
From Cherub Choir



Our Superintendent  
Barbara Mazzei



Our Sunday School-Children's Sunday



## Mexico Mission Trip News

MUCHAS GRACIAS to all our Walk-A-Thon sponsors! Cool temperatures and lively steps best describes the June 25th Walk-a-Thon around Highland Lake by the participants and supporters of this summer's Mexico Mission Trip. Thank you to all the members of the congregation (and others!) who gave donations to the 7 plus mile walkers. For the third year, our group finished with a picnic lunch hosted by the Knox family of Burlington who shared their cottage on the Lake with the walkers and wLho shared their hospitality and goodwill to support our work in Mexico. We're still collecting (and it's not too late to give). Thus far, the walk-a-thon has raised over \$5,000.

- ✚ - **Sun, July 10, following worship service** - Mission Trip Planning Meeting
- ✚ - **Sun, July 31, following worship service** - Mission Trip Planning Meeting

**\*\*Mission Trip: Sat, August 13 - Sun, August 21\*\***

### FINANCIAL REPORTS – June Financial Reports

- \$ Weekly average pledge giving in May \$1,183.87
- \$ Weekly average plate giving in May \$49.50
- \$ Communion Offering \$514.00 for Heifer Project
- \$ Walk-a-thon receipts in June \$3,010.00
- \$ Little Caesar's Fundraiser \$532.50
- \$ Mexico Tee Shirt Sales \$285.00
- \$ Steam Vent Coffee House raised \$375.61 toward Mexico Mission in May, with the spring series raising a total of \$1,304 for the trip.
- \$ Stewardship is an ongoing thing! Share your time, talents and treasure!

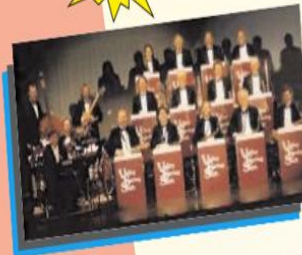
### Expenditures for June: \$9,093

- Salaries: \$5,037
- Insurance: \$2,668
- Building Expenses: \$615
- Other Expenses: \$773

## RIVERTON MUSIC FESTIVAL 2011

PRESENTED BY TOWN OF BARKHAMSTED DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION

**FREE** MUSICAL PERFORMANCES **JULY 2** FROM 11AM UNTIL 8PM



### VALLEY SWING SHIFT

bringing the big band sounds since 1977

### THE GIRLS OF MAD RIVER CROSSING

Bluegrass & Folk Classics



### AL FENTON BIG BAND

20-piece big band playing swing and jazz standards

### THE RIVERTONES

Close-harmony a cappella singing



### VINYL VORTEX™

Rock, funk and disco favorites of the '60s, '70s, & '80s



Sir Ivan Says:

Bring your lawn chair and enjoy the music

July 2 in Riverton!



Performances will be held on **The Green**

For a complete listing of all performing artists visit: [www.RivertonCt.com](http://www.RivertonCt.com)

### Artist Schedule"

- 11-12:45 Valley Swing Shift
- 1:15-2 Girls of Mad River Crossing
- 2:45-4:30 Al Fenton Big Band
- 5-5:30 The Rivertones
- 6:15-8 Vinyl Vortex

## Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars!

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	July 2 11 am – 8 pm	Riverton Music Festival
Monday - 6 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	July 4	Independence Day
Tuesday - 6 pm	Rehearsal~Cherub Choir	July 10	Mexico Meeting
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	July 10 7 PM	Church in the Wild Wood – Pastor Wu-guest pastor.
Thursday - 6:00 pm	Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers		
		<i>Board Meetings...</i>	
		<p style="text-align: center;">Board Meetings suspended for the month of July! Have a great summer!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has plenty; not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some." - Charles Dickens</p>	
			



### JULY BIRTHDAYS

03 – Justin Richards  
 04 – JR McCaw  
 05 – Derek Storrs  
 06 – Bill Hassig  
 06 – Gail Roberts  
 07 – Christine Smith  
 10 – Ash NeJaime  
 10 – Brenda Sherman  
 12 – Kristine Ohotnicky  
 14 – Adam Bensle  
 14 – Chaz McCaw III  
 19 – Kendra McCaw  
 20 – Ken Storrs  
 20 – Peter Toomey  
 21 – Gary Storrs  
 23 – Barbara Woodard  
 25 – Denise Jones  
 29 – Gretchen Fredericksen  
 31 – Meghan Kane



### JULY ANNIVERSARIES

19 – Jay & Lisa Nanni  
 29 – Mike & Tricia Wu



Kristen  
 Graves  
 mobile  
 uploads of  
 Oaxaxa...

This week...  
 A serious  
 game of  
 Go Fish!



### July 4th Poem - The Cost of Freedom

We owe much to our ancestors, who either were living here already, or who came from different countries to settle this one.

Native Americans, pioneers, settlers, who helped start a new way of life in a new country.

Besides having to work so hard, many times they had to fight for their freedoms.

We owe much to those who established our country and fought - and many died fighting - for the freedoms we enjoy today.

American poets, authors, and historians have left us a legacy of freedom poems, songs and stories to remind us of our rich American heritage.



## ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING...

There once was a woman who woke up one morning,  
looked in the mirror,  
and noticed she had only three hairs on her head.  
"Well," she said, "I think I'll braid my hair today."  
So she did and she had a wonderful day.

The next day she woke up,  
looked in the mirror  
and saw that she had only two hairs on her head..  
"H-M-M," she said,  
"I think I'll part my hair down the middle today."  
So she did and she had a grand day.

The next day she woke up,  
looked in the mirror and noticed  
that she had only one hair on her head.  
"Well," she said, "today I'm going  
to wear my hair in a pony tail."  
So she did, and she had a fun, fun day.

The next day she woke up,  
looked in the mirror and noticed  
that there wasn't a single hair on her head.  
"YAY!" she exclaimed.  
"I don't have to fix my hair today!"

Attitude IS everything!

## OF LOCKS, SHELVES AND SINK HOLES...

The Shelves in the library will be relocated downstairs.  
Thanks to Dawn and Tim for packing up all the books.  
The Library will now be a music equipment room,  
including the stage extension so it doesn't have to be  
carried upstairs!

There is a new lock on the dumpster...but not so that  
people can't steal our good junk...!  
People from outside of the church have been using our  
dumpster, and we are liable for what goes in  
there...so...a lock has become necessary. A big yellow #1  
keyring will be hanging by each of the outside back  
doors with the key...so that church folks will be able to  
use it.

The sinkhole in the parking lot has been filled, and once  
it is totally settled will be repaved! Please don't park in

## How Blest We Are

*by Paul Berchtold, June, 2011*

How blest we are today,  
To live in this our land.  
Our wish to God we pray,  
Long may Freedom stand!

See our flag now flying,  
So many their lives gave,  
Hear their final crying,  
Long may Freedom wave!

How blest our heritage,  
Up mountain down to plain,  
From mansion to cottage,  
Long may Freedom reign!

What fortune we inherit,  
Our ancestors did bring!  
They are so full of merit,  
Long may Freedom ring!

How blest we are today,  
To live in this our land,  
Our wish to God we pray,  
Long may Freedom stand!



## CDC News...

Fall Registrations are now open...

New trim colors have been chosen  
for the CDC building. They will  
include a Linnen color that will  
replace the white, and an Autumn  
Brown that will be replacing the  
salmon color.

The concrete stairs will be faced  
with blue stone.

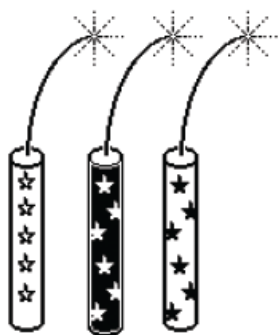
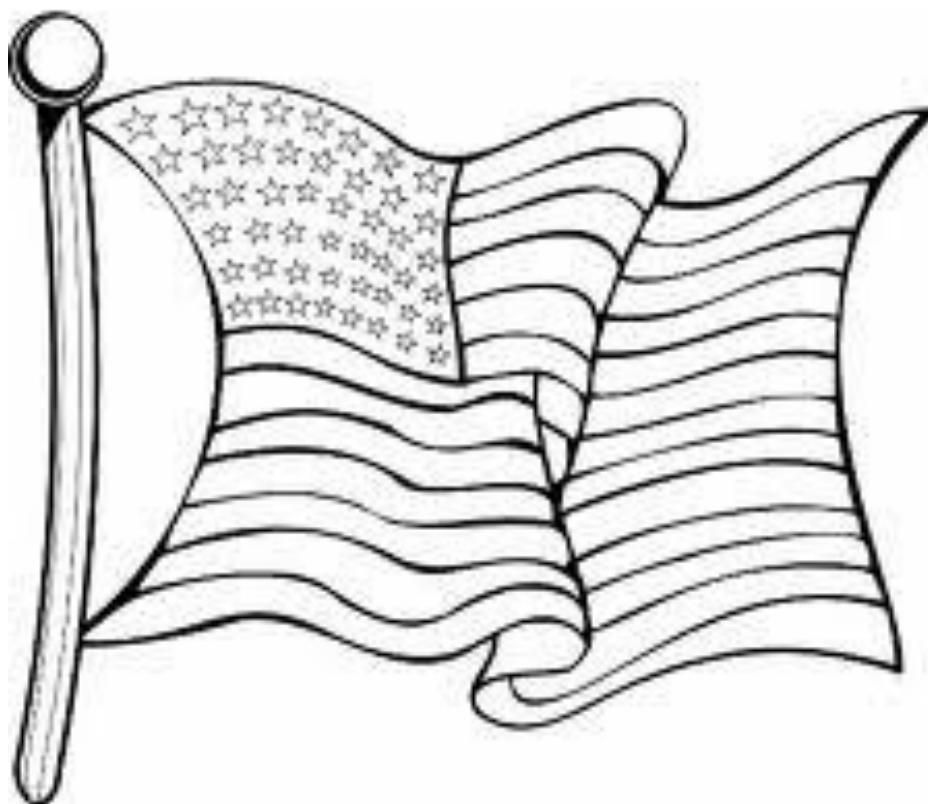
Window frames on church building in  
CDC playground have been replaced  
thanks to Bud Roberts.



# July 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton	<b>July Birthstone:</b> <b>Ruby</b> 	<b>July Flower:</b> <b>Larkspur</b> 			1	2
3 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20	4 	5	6 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	7	8	9
10 Worship Service 10:00 am	11	12	13 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	14	15	16
17 Worship Service 10:00 am	18	19	20 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	21	22	23
24 Worship Service 10:00 am	25	26	27 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	28	29	30
31 Worship Service 10:00 am	Aug 1	Aug 2	Aug 3 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	Aug 4	Aug 5	Aug 6 <b>July Astrological Signs</b> Cancer: June 21-July 22 Leo: July 23-Aug 21



## 4th of July Word Search

BLUE  
CONGRESS  
ENGLAND  
FIREWORKS  
FLAG  
FREEDOM  
JULY  
KING  
LIBERTY  
PARADE  
RED  
STATES  
TAXES  
UNITED  
WAR  
WHITE

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



## **Summer Hours...**

**Worship Services  
begin at 9:30 AM  
beginning July 10<sup>th</sup>  
through the end of  
August.**

**Summer Sunday School  
will be available  
At that time as well!**

**July 10...**

**Church in the Wildwood  
Pastor Mike  
will be  
Guest Minister**

**7:00 PM in Colebrook  
Route 183 North**

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

# **BELLRINGER**

