

Word from the Pastor

Greetings in the Name of Christ,

It's 5am and I'm in a taxi from the hotel to the airport. As we journey out of Casablanca into the countryside, I notice that the sun is about to rise. There is not a cloud in the sky, and the moon is still brightly shining above us.

While much more modern than I anticipated, the differences between Casablanca and Winsted are striking. All the buildings are made of concrete. The architecture has a Moorish flair. All the signs are in Arabic. And instead of oak and maples, there are palm trees lining the streets. As expected, the majority of the people in Morocco dress in Middle Eastern garb. Although the sun is about to rise here, it's midnight in Connecticut. Yes, the differences are striking.

But no matter where you are in the world, the moon may be in a different stage, but it is still the moon.

What's the point? We are all different. We live in different places. We speak different languages, and have different customs. But irrespective of our differences, when we look up at the sky and see the moon, it is the same for all of us. After I returned from my first trip to Mexico when I was 13 years old, some new friends from Mexico and I had a silly tradition. At the same hour of the night on a selected day of the month, we would go outside and look at the moon. We were thousands of miles apart living in different places, but we were "together" looking at the same moon.

We will always have our differences, but the moon is much like God. God are in different places, but our God is the same. We have the opportunity to bridge our differences by focusing on God.

Blessings,

Mike

One Great Hour of Sharing INFORMATION

When Hurricane Sandy hit the Northeast last fall, we had several churches as well as our camp that had experienced damage. The American Baptist Churches of Connecticut received \$20,000 to assist our churches. That money came from churches all over the country to help us in our time of need. Now the good folks in Moore, Oklahoma are in need and the One Great Hour of Sharing is our way of making a difference. See page 4 for more information...and to donate!



JUNE 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

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Happy Father's Day!

New Summer Hours for July and August! Worship Service at 9:30 AM!
Come early or arrive in time for coffee!

Church News...

HELP WANTED

First Church of Winsted is seeking an enthusiastic, art/music oriented Head Teacher (HT) and an organized and detail oriented Administrative Coordinator (AC) for its Children's Discovery Center Nursery School (CDC). CDC operates a half day, Monday through Friday academic year program for children ages 3 and 4.

Complete job descriptions are available at on-line at:
www.firstchurchofwinsted.org.

For further info or to submit resumes contact 1st Church of Winsted, 95 N Main St, Winsted, CT 06098, (860) 379-1778 or
info@firstchurchofwinsted.org

First Church is an equal opportunity employer.

Check us out online!

www.firstchurchofwinsted.org

Like us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Church-of-Winsted/189629511047827>



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

STEWARDSHIP

A word commonly used within the Church, "Stewardship" can best be defined as behaving responsibly with the things that you have been given. Whether it be money, time or talents, stewardship is a recognition that they are all gifts to us from God. It is also the obligation to seek the best uses for those resources, both in our personal lives, in our communities, in our Church, and in our world. Stewardship, even when we don't use that exact word, has always been part of the foundation of First Church. Our members and friends regularly go beyond the call to dedicate a portion of their available resources to a good cause.

This is best illustrated in the month of May. It seems to be the busiest month when it comes to sharing time and labors at the Church. This year, many spent weeks preparing for the Annual Spring Tag Sale. The next weekend people were hard at work doing Spring cleaning inside and out. We hosted a Steam Vent Coffee House, and then the next Saturday was the Scholarship Ziti Supper and Silent Auction. It makes for a very busy month, but the funds we raise from those various events close the gap between what the Church receives from offerings and financial donations and the cost to conduct our ministry. In fact, about one-fifth of the budgeted expenses of our Church are covered by our fundraising efforts.

But there is far more than a financial benefit from these activities. The tag-sales requires us to look at our homes and garages to see what we no longer need that might be a treasure for someone else. Then we work together to sort, price, carry the items out the day of the sale, and work during the sale. This year, while the Tag Sale was taking place, others were washing cars and selling breakfast and lunch at the Grace Grill to help fund trips for the youth.

The Spring cleaning takes many hands to make light work from the inside to the out. We accomplished many things, including dusting the pews, emptying the dead flies from lights, cleaning the flower beds outside, mulching and

even giving the kitchen a good scrub down. We accomplished far more as a team than we could have individually done.

Coffee Houses have a hard working team who pull it all together, From organizing the volunteer musicians to setting up to preparing and serving good, for 10 months of the year we witness the success of this team and we get to listen to the world talent that comes to share their music. This all supports the Mexico Mission Trip. The Ziti Supper and Silent Auction is a collaborative effort which directly benefits the Millard and Smith Scholarship Funds along with the campership fund. Volunteers prepare the entire meal from donations. And so many members and friends contribute the items for the auction, as well as attend the event and bid in the auction. This event wouldn't happen without the collaborative effort by many. It makes possible numerous scholarships to members of our church who are attending college or who wish to enjoy the summer camping programs of our denominations.

May is definitely full of activities and First Church depends on the funds raised in those activities to support the missions that are important to us. The Stewardship Committee thanks each of you for the time and dedication that you show through volunteering and donating to each of these events.

SUMMER HOURS...

The votes have been counted...and it was a virtual tie between 9:00 and 10:00...so the cabinet decided to split the difference and hold summer worship services in July and August at 9:30 AM!

You must get good at one of two things: planting in the spring...or begging in the fall!

~Jim Rohn

All Church Picnic!

June 2nd

Right after 10:00 Worship



Hamburgers, Hotdogs,
Condiments and Plates, etc.

All provided by Board of Christian Education

Please bring a dish to share:
Snack/Appetizer ~ Salad ~ Dessert

Questions: Allison Graboski

860-238-7484; athall37@yahoo.com

Laurel City Singers

Present

Feel the Spirit!

Spiritual & Gospel Selections

Saturday, JUNE 15th at 4 PM

FIRST CHURCH OF WINSTED
95 NORTH MAIN STREET

TICKETS: Adults \$10, Senior/Student \$8, Family \$20

Give Generously, Love Endlessly, and Judge Sparingly



Open wide your heart & hands in Christ's name!

Doing what GOD has called us to do from within
our community to those across the globe.



Stewardship Thought to Ponder.....

Question:

What is the largest source of funds to support our Church's ministries?

Answer:

The members of the congregation! Individuals contribute anywhere from a few quarters (in the children's offering envelopes) to a few hundred dollars a week.

Scholarships Announced

First Church Board of Christian Education is pleased to announce scholarship recipients for the 2013-2014 school year.

Alex and Elizabeth Smith Scholarship:

- **Kyle Jones**, Junior at Western New England University, MBA
- **Katerina Roys**, Senior at Mount Ida College, Bachelor's Degree in Fashion Design
- **Natalie Roys**, Sophomore at Northwestern CT Community College, Associates in Veterinary Technology

Jon Millard Scholarship:

- **Charles Mc Caw III**, Sophomore at Northwestern CT Community College, Associates in Engineering Technology
- **Brandy Blische**, Naugatuck Valley Community College, RN
- **Andrew Hurlburt**, Sophomore at University of Utah, Bachelor in Mechanical Engineering.

Sharon Lewis Scholarship (Boar's Head Festival)

- **Matthew Waldron**

The purpose of the scholarship is to provide monetary assistance to the young people of our church who have shared in the life of First Church through Sunday School, and other related Christian activities. The monies given are raised by the Sunday School, the Board of Christian Education, and others who want to encourage our young people in their academic pursuits. It is hoped that the scholarship will assist in the purchase of items such as textbooks for the coming year. Age is not a limitation--anyone who is a member of First Church who is venturing into continuing education and or professional training is welcome to apply. Scholarships are traditionally awarded at Children's Sunday each year in June, but applications are welcome any time.

Congratulations!

MOORE, OKLAHOMA supported by One Great Hour of Sharing...donations welcome!

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 5/21/13)—A massive tornado tore through Moore, Okla., and surrounding suburbs of Oklahoma City on Monday, damaging homes, businesses and elementary schools. American Baptists are joining with others to respond to this disaster. Church World Service has issued an appeal, and \$5,000 in One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) domestic emergency disaster-relief funds have been released in response to the appeal.

Victoria Goff, national coordinator for volunteer ministries, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), continues to monitor the situation and is in communication with local partners.

John Williams, executive minister of American Baptist Churches of the Central Region, reports that no American Baptist churches are in affected areas. Two Cooperative Baptist Fellowship churches in Oklahoma City and another in Norman, Okla., may need assistance.

"Our hearts go out to the members of the Moore community who have experienced such a devastating loss of life as their town was struck by a ferocious tornado. We pray especially for those families who lost their children in this tragedy," says the Rev. Dr. A. Roy Medley, general secretary of American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA). "Already, our American Baptist churches are joining with others to organize relief efforts. Our hands follow our hearts in reaching out in solidarity with those who have lost so much. May they find comfort and strength in the love and support of others."

ABHMS Executive Director Dr. Aidsand F. Wright-Riggins III: "Our hearts are heavy with sadness and grief for the victims of the tornado in Moore, Oklahoma. While our first instinct is to ask, 'Why?' perhaps the next question that comes to mind is more important: 'How?' American Baptists consistently answer that question over and over again in the same way. We will respond with compassion. We will respond with our prayers, our resources and with our volunteer efforts to help the people of Moore on their journey toward wholeness. Already, our Volunteer Ministries and Disaster Relief programs are mobilizing to put American Baptist compassion into constructive and long-term action."

Your gifts designated to "OGHS Oklahoma Tornadoes" will help affected areas at this time. If you wish to make a donation, please visit www.abc-usa.org and click "Give Online" at the top right of the page. In the "Comments" section, type "OGHS Oklahoma Tornadoes."

OGHS is administered by the World Relief Committee of the Board of General Ministries. The committee facilitates American Baptist emergency relief, disaster rehabilitation, refugee work and development assistance by establishing policy guidelines and overseeing distribution of the annual OGHS offering. One hundred percent of donations go to relief efforts; no dollars are retained for administrative costs.

American Baptist Churches USA is one of the most diverse Christian denominations today, with over 5,200 local congregations comprised of 1.3 million members, across the United States and Puerto Rico, all engaged in God's mission around the world.



Youth Events

Children's Sunday

June 2 with a picnic after the service.
Scholarships to be awarded.

Nursery – 6th grade Pizza Party

June 9th during Sunday School time

Youth Trip to Lancaster, PA for grades 7-12+

June 7-9
Amish Country, Hershey Park, and beyond!

Middler's Youth Group Meeting

June 9th and June 16th

Walk-a-thon for Mission Trip

June 15th around Highland Lake

Middler's Youth EMPOWER Outing

June 22nd at 8:30 a.m.



Rock Starz 4 Jesus...

Will meet during the Sunday School time during the summer to work on all things ukulele.

We will also be working on some music theory...sight singing...and other fun things.

Always singing God's praises!

If you wish to have your young person join us...

open to age 3 to high school.

Music has no age limit...and we will mentor each other.

Needed: empty plastic coffee cans!

If you would rinse out and bring to church...that would be great!!

The five components of success according to motivational speaker Jim Rohn:

- Philosophy - how you think
- Attitude - how you feel
- Action - what you do
- Results - measure often to see if you are making progress
- Lifestyle - the kind of life you can make for yourself out of the first four pieces.

The Five Major Pieces to the Life Puzzle...on Amazon \$9.18
Knowing Jesus is with you every step of the way...priceless!

STEAM VENT Coffee House Welcomes... June 8th 6-10 PM



Eric Paradine is a Connecticut singer songwriter who has been writing and performing in the New England area for the last 10 years. His appearances are marked by top notch musicianship and singing that has given him the reputation of being a player's player. He has been nominated for best solo performer by the Hartford Advocate, performed in Club Passim's Best New Faces show and Cheney Halls Folk on Friday concerts. From Hard Rock to Country with a stop for the blues along the way. Eric has been asked to write and perform music for independent documentaries, regional political causes and cable access shows as well as playing on other artists recording sessions. He has one released CD "From There to Here" with a second CD now in production. Check him out of Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/eric.paradine?fref=ts>



Jim Moore: Lives in Winsted. He's been playing guitar for a couple of years...and it has been a blessing in his life. Music has always been a joy for Jim, and now he gets to play and sing all my favorites. Jim is a big fan of the 60's and 70's, and some top favorites include: Donovan, Beatles, Bread, America, The Eagles, Simon and Garfunkel to name a few. And of course he's a huge Hank Williams Sr. fan! Singing and playing in front of an audience is still new to Jim, but he loves a good challenge....



A.J. Rubino Few musicians have had as varied a career, that has been filled with so many accomplishments, as A. J. Rubino. Long known as a singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, and sensitive interpreter of other artists' songs, "Fast A.J." has opened shows for, accompanied, and recorded with some of the most famous names in folk, bluegrass and country music and songs he has written have been performed and recorded by several major artists. He began his performing career as a folk singer and guitarist, playing the Boston-New York-Philadelphia college and coffeehouse circuit and during this period he worked with the likes of Joan Baez, Judy Collins, Jim Croce, Tim Hardin, Joni Mitchell, Gordon Lightfoot, Linda Ronstadt, Jimmy Buffett, Arlo Guthrie and Bonnie Raitt. During his Nashville period, as a pedal steel player and lead guitarist, he accompanied such country stars as Ferlin Husky, Yodelin' Kenny Roberts, Moe Bandy, Mel Street, Margo Smith, Dick Curless, Red Sovine, Barbie Benton, Freddy Fender, and Dave "Six Days on the Road" Dudley, and appeared on WWVA in Wheeling, West Virginia, The Grand Olde Opry, and the Austin City Limits television show, traveling extensively throughout the U.S. and Canada.

A.J. is widely respected as a session musician playing guitar, bass guitar, mandolin, dobro, 5-string banjo, harmonica, keyboards and the pedal steel guitar, and he has recorded with many of the previously mentioned artists, as well as with John Hartford, Ramblin' Jack Elliot, Ricky Scaggs, J. Geils, and bluegrass legends The Seldom Scene, in all, has appeared in over 100 recordings. <http://www.ajrubino.com/>



Dark Horse Bluegrass comes from the northwestern corner of Connecticut and began their musical journey together after independently searching for venues. Once united, it quickly became obvious that their individual personalities and quirkiness well complimented their musical talents. Beginning in Dave Godding's living room and then with local jams and coffee houses they expanded to fund raisers, specialty gatherings and country fairs. Originally Dave Godding (bass) stalked, pleaded and cajoled Lisa Clarke (banjo, drums and bass) out of her house and into adventure. Once that was accomplished they lured Brad DuBow (guitar, resonator, mandolin) with one phone call and soon created Dark Horse Bluegrass. Not long after Todd Stoughton (mandolin, guitar) joined the herd and now they produce their own unique style of contemporary bluegrass flavored originals and covers. Listening to Dark Horse is like sitting on a front porch swing with a drink and a smile. If you get the chance to hear them, sit back, relax and enjoy !



Anthony Rivera is new to Steam Vent...came to an open mic...and we talked him into doing a set! Anthony is a 16 year old singer/songwriter and has been performing his entire life. His style reflects that of his influences such as John Mayer, Jason Mraz, Eric Hutchinson, Ed Sheeran and more! Anthony wishes to become a famous musician through the gift of his gifted acoustic guitar and natural singing voice. You are going to like what you hear...!



Michael Orlen is a singer songwriter with roots in the Boston music scene of the late sixties and early seventies, a frequent performer at legendary Boston venues including the Sword in the Stone and Turk's Head. He performed alone and as a member of folk pop duo "Orlen and Gabriel", as well as the popular seventies acoustic rock trio "Home Free". His songs are confident expressions of optimism with a dose of irony thrown in. He also draws on an extensive knowledge of twentieth century folk, blues, and ragtime music to choose songs that resonate in today's world.

<http://www.reverbNation.com/michaelorlen>

STEAM VENT CAFÉ

Build Your own Burrito

Choice of fillings
Chips & Salsa
Salad

Adult portion
\$7.00

Child portion
\$3.50

Deserts \$1 - \$2
Beverages
\$1.00

STEAM VENT Coffee House Musicians Showcase

6:00 ~ Open Mic

6:30 Eric Paradine

7:00 Jim Moore

7:30 A J Rubino

8:00 Dark Horse



8:30 Anthony Rivera

9:00 Michael Orlen

9:30 ~ Open Mic

Music is free...Dinner'll cost ya...and donations go to Missions!
Come on down...kick your shoes off ...set a spell, you'll be happy you did!!
Benefit Missions ~ Donations are tax deductible!

Upcoming Events

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	June 2	Children's Sunday
Tuesday - 5:30 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	June 8	Laurel Parade
Sunday - 9:15	Rehearsal~Rock Starz 4 Jesus	June 8	Steam Vent Coffee House
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	June 15	Walk-a-Thon for Mexico Mission
Thursday - 6:00 pm	Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers	June 15	LCS-Feel The Spirit Concert
		June 16	Father's Day
		<i>Board Meetings</i>	
		June 11	Board of Christian Ed.
		June 2	PM Board
		June 18	Deacons
		June 24	Stewardship Committee
		June 25	Cabinet Meeting
			

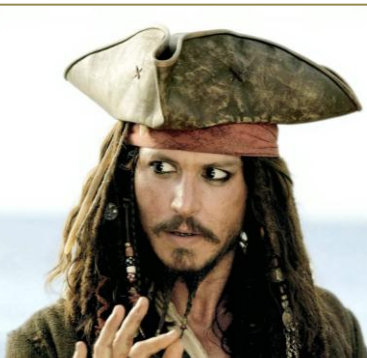
★ **HAPPY** ★
BIRTHDAY!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

02 - Courtney Kane
 06 - Ronda LeKang
 06 - Alexandra Artruc
 08 - Paul Richards
 10 - Paul Richards, Jr.
 11 - Cat Wu
 12 - Patty McAllister
 16 - Bruce Sherman
 20 - Sarah Majewski
 22 - Brittaney Gilbert
 25 - Amethyst Steele
 27 - Alannah Callahan
 28 - Robin Hassig

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

♥ 03 - Charles & Laura McCaw
 ♥ 12 - Bud & Lynda Roberts
 ♥ 22 - Dan & Denise Jones
 ♥ 23 - Cindy & Steve Roys
 ♥ 26 - MaryPat & Skip Fredericksen



The problem is not the problem; the problem is your attitude about the problem. ~Captain Jack Sparrow

First Church of Winsted Financial Information for April 2013

Income

Contributions	\$8,655
Holiday Offerings	\$30
Fund Raisers	\$848
Rental Income	\$35
Misc. Income	\$409
Total Income	\$9,977

Expense

Worship Ministry	\$289
Adult Ministry	\$714
Children and Youth Ministry	\$352
Communicating with Ourselves and Others	\$314
Providing a Place for God's Work	\$4,966
Supporting God's Ministry - Salaries	\$6,035
Supporting God's Work Locally	\$1,853
Misc. Expense	\$192
Total Expense	\$14,715

Overage/(shortage) **(\$4,738)**

(Further information can be obtained from the church Treasurer, Debby Kane)



God's Wings

After a forest fire in Yellowstone National Park, forest rangers began their trek up a mountain to assess the inferno's damage. One ranger found a bird literally petrified in ashes, perched statuesquely on the ground at the base of a tree. Somewhat sickened by the eerie sight, he knocked over the bird with a stick. When he gently struck it, three tiny chicks scurried from under their dead mother's wings. The loving mother, keenly aware of impending disaster, had carried her offspring to the base of the tree and had gathered them under her wings, instinctively knowing that the toxic smoke would rise. She could have flown to safety but had refused to abandon her babies. Then the blaze had arrived and the heat had scorched her small body, the mother had remained steadfast, because she had been willing to die, so those under the cover of her wings would live.

'He will cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you will find refuge.' (Psalm 91:4)

If someone is going down the wrong road, he doesn't need motivation to speed him up. What he needs is education to turn him around.

The few who do are the envy of the many who only watch. ~Jim Rohn



June 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton	June Birthstone: Alexandrite 	June Flower: Rose 	Astrological Signs Gemini: May 21 - Jun 20 Cancer: Jun 21 - Jul 22			1
2 Worship Service 10:00 am RS4J 9:15 am Property Maint After Service Children's Day & Picnic Courtney Kane	3 ♥ Charles & Laura McCaw	4 No Worship Choir Christian Ed 7:00 pm	5 AA/Alanon 8:00 pm	6 Laurel City Singers 6:00 pm Alexandra Artruc Rhonda LeKang	7	8  STEAM VENT Coffee House Build your own Burrito in the Café Serving 6-8 PM Paul Richards
9 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am RS4J 9:15 am	10 Paul Richards, Jr.	11 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Deacons 7:00 pm Cat Wu	12 AA/Alanon 8:00 pm ♥ Bud & Lynda Roberts Patty McAllister	13 Laurel City Singers 6:00 pm	14	15
16 Worship Service 10:00 am Open Mic Sunday RS4J 9:15 am Father's Day Bruce Sherman	17	18 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Cabinet 7:00 pm	19 AA/Alanon 8:00 pm	20 Laurel City Singers 6:00 pm	21	22 Prayer Shall Ministry 10 am - noon ♥ Dan & Denise Jones Brittaney Gilbert
23 Worship Service 10:00 am RS4J 9:15 am ♥ Cindy & Steve Roys	24 Stewardship Committee Meeting	25 No Worship Choir Amethyst Steele	26 AA/Alanon 8:00 pm ♥ MaryPat & Skip Fredericksen	27 Alannah Callahan	28 Robin Hassig	29
30 Worship Service 10:00 am RS4J 9:15 am Open Mic Sunday						

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



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

Youth 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

