

Word from the Pastor

Well, dear First Church family, this is my last note to you. I have spent much time thinking about just what I should say. Finally, I chose to leave you with a blessing. It is one that I have used in my own devotions and comes from the pen of one of my most favorite devotional writers. I have quoted the words of The Rev. Jan Richardson many times over the last three years. Here is my final offering to you.

With love and blessings,
Pastor Lisa

Blessing for Knowing

To receive this blessing,
it may feel like
you are peeling back
every layer of flesh,
exposing every nerve,
baring each bone
that has kept you upright.

It may seem
every word is written
on the back of
something that your life
depends upon,
that to read this blessing
would mean tearing away
what has helped you
remain intact.

Be at peace.
It will not be
as painful as that,
though I cannot say
it will be easy
to accept this blessing,
written as it is
upon your true frame,
inscribed on the skin
you were born
to live in.

The habits that keep you
from yourself,
the misconceptions
others have of you,
the unquestioned limits

you have allowed,
the smallness you have
squeezed into:
these are not
who you are.
This blessing simply wants
all this to fall away.

This blessing—
and it is stubborn on this point,
I assure you—
desires you to know yourself
as it knows you,
to let go of every layer
that is not you,
to release each thing
that you hide behind,
to open your eyes
to see what it sees:

how this blessing
has blazed in you
since before you were born;
how it has sustained you
when you could not see it;
how it haunts you,
prickling beneath your skin
to let it shine forth
in full and unstinting
measure;
how it begins
and ends
with your true name.

~ written by Jan Richardson



JUNE 2018

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To request a copy
sent to your inbox
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Happy Father's Day!

NO CHANGE - Summer Hours for July and August! Worship Service at 10:00 AM!
Bible Study will begin at 9:00 AM as usual!

Church News...



Dear Church Family,
Three years ago, I came through these doors and became a member of the First Church of Winsted. I have felt God's love so deeply here – you know and follow the teachings of Jesus in a real and faithful way. You have helped me through my surgeries, you shared your gifts of friendship and have filled my life with beautiful music, joy, laughter and peace of mind. I shall never forget your kindnesses. Never stop believing that you can make a lasting difference in people's lives – you have had a profound effect on mine. As I join John in love and look forward to our marriage so much will change in my life, but what will no change is my gratitude for this congregation. Your joy at my announcement of our engagement warmed my heart. I will miss each and every one of you and will return to visit.

Love you forever and always,
Cindi Whipple

First Church Mexico Mission Trip 2018! By Debby Kane

Again this year we are headed to the Yucatan peninsula back to "Soly Luna" (which means the sun and the moon). This organization operates schools in two different locations of the City. The schools not only provide an education to its students, but the organization

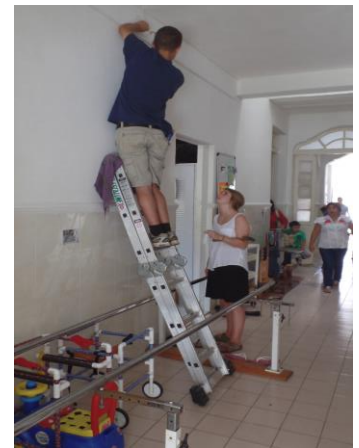
provides outpatient physical therapy to children with multiple, significant physical disabilities. The program was founded by a European woman who was visiting that region of Mexico. She was struck by the lack of services of disabled children, especially those from families with minimal financial resources. She had a brother with multiple disabilities, and fully understood the challenges faced by both the disabled person and his/her family, even when living in a country with sophisticated medical facilities and a good network of social services.

She quickly discovered that there were few, if any, resources available to disabled children in this region of Mexico. Doctors of the students in her program were given little chance of survival by their own doctors. Seeing such enormous challenges, she has since dedicated her life to serving those children. She has a small but very dedicated group of supports in Europe and in Mexico. Many of the therapists that provide physical therapy and classes are volunteers. The parents of the children receive training at the schools on caring for their disabled children, and they themselves work at the school. We are proud to be a part of that small network of volunteers who assist at the organization. Because of the work of Soly Luna, children who were diagnosed to live but a few years have learned to walk, feed themselves, read and write.

This year we will be helping with general repairs to the two schools which means a lot of painting,

repairing window screens, patching walls and working in the school yard. Because of the intense heat and humidity, our team works in the morning, retreats during the hottest part of the day, and returns to the facility in the evenings to work until 9 or 10 o'clock at night.

You can assist by contributing to the First Church of Winsted Mexico Mission Trip Fund. While each participant contributes what s/he is able, the majority of the costs for the Mission trip are covered by generous donations. If you have any question please contact Debby Kane at (860) 307-8554. Thank you for your generous support!



2018 Scholarship Recipients...



Alexandra Artruc will be attending UCONN as a biology major on a pre-med track. Her goal is to continue on to Medical School to become a pediatrician.



Nathan Blische is attending Naugatuck valley community College to pursue a degree in criminal justice in hopes to become a police officer and eventually a DEEP officer.



Duane Blische will be attending Bentley University in Waltham, Massachusetts. His goal is to obtain his master's degree in Corporate Finance/Accounting.



Kyle Jones will be completing his master's degree in Sports Leadership and Athletic Administration at Western New England University. He recently accepted a new coaching position at Stonehill College.



*You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself
in any direction you choose.
You're on your own.
And you know what you know.
You are the guy who'll decide
where to go.
~Dr. Seuss*

God is with you!

Scholarships Announced

First Church Board of Christian Education is pleased to announce scholarship recipients for the 2018-19 school year.

Alex and Elizabeth Smith Scholarship:

Alexandra Artruc
Kyle Jones

Jon Millard Scholarship:

Nathan Blische
Duane Blische

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!



Barry Longo will be joining the Marines!
Pictured here with Prom date Alexandra Artruc.





You're Invited!

On June 3rd the church will be having a "Service of Release" as we bid farewell to Pastor Lisa with a reception following. Both denominations will be joining us to share in our well wishes for Pastor Lisa on her next journey in life.

Please make a special effort to be here this Sunday as we celebrate her time with us.



Summer Sunday School



Summer Sunday School will be held on the following Sundays:

June 14, 21, & 28

July 26

Aug 2, 9, 16, & 23

We will use the
"Whole People of God"
curriculum.

All children will meet
in one group!

Rally Day
Sept 9, 2018



20 Towns in 21 Days! Left to right: Deb Storrs, John and Joan Eggering. Photo: Holly Cassaday



From this little
Steam Vent
hole...

To no hole!

Thanks Steve!!

No more holy
walls!



STEAM VENT

Coffee House

June 9, 2018

Featured Performers

6:00 – Open Mic – Sign-up night of event

6:30 – Jean Stokes Recchia

7:00 – Mary Kate Rogers

7:30 – Danny Reilert & Debra

8:00 – Michael Lovallo

8:30 – Betsy Glassman

9:00 – Danielle Emberly

9:30 – Jim Palermo

Free Will Offering
in support of
Children's Mission

Picnic Night!

In the Café

Serving Picnic Fare with choice of salads and chips . . . \$7.00

or Dinner Salad \$6.00

Side Salad \$3 ~ Desserts \$2.00 ~ Beverages \$1.00

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



Left to right: Debby Kane, Megan Kane, Grampa Boon and Courtney Kane, as Megan celebrates her graduation from Fordham University where she received her Bachelor of art in communication with minor business administration.



Children's Day – Readers and Dreamers...! Be a dreamer...

Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.

Harriet Tubman



It's not the size of the dreamer, it's the size of the dream.

Josh Ryan Evans



There are times in life when you meet people who you will never forget! Laura, Cindi & Lisa, as you begin your journey down your new paths, we wish you a cup of love, a pint of happiness, and tons of blessings along the way...with a reminder that you are always welcome! May you live the life of your dreams in each moment.

Upcoming Events

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 9 am	Bible Study	June 02	Tag Sale
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	June 03	Pastor Lisa's Farewell Party
Tuesday - 5:30 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	June 09	Steam Vent Coffee House
		June 10	Laurel Parade
		June 16	Mexico Mission Work-Thon
		June 17	Father's Day
		June 20	Walk-a-Thon for Mexico Mission
		<i>Board Meetings</i>	
		No June Meeting June 03 June 17 June 26	Board of Christian Ed. PM Board Deacons Cabinet Meeting
			

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

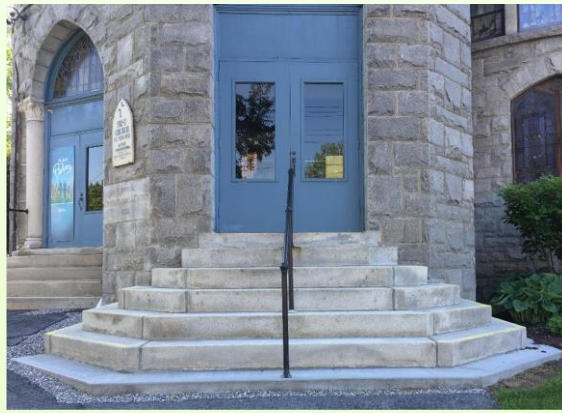
JUNE BIRTHDAYS

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

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

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

To add an anniversary or birthday information, please submit request to:
info@firstchurchofwinsted.org



Front stair renovation complete
thanks to Brian Chamberlin!



Rachel Seleman celebrates her graduation
from Messiah College
with fiancée Justin Takeman!

We are updating our Contact Information!

It has come to our attention that some folks are not receiving emails or even letters from the church. Please take a moment and update your contact information so that this can be corrected.

Name _____
Address _____

Phone: _____
Cell _____
Home _____
Email: _____

Best way to contact:
Text / Email /Phone Call

Would you like your information shared on the church directory?
Yes/No

Submit updates to:
info@firstchurchofwinsted.org



June 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton	June Birthstone: <i>Alexandrite</i> 	June Flower: <i>Rose</i> 	Astrological Signs <i>Gemini:</i> May 20 - Jun 20 <i>Cancer:</i> Jun 20 - Jul 22		1 Tag sale Drop off 5-8 PM	2  8 AM - 4 PM Courtney Kane
3 Bible Study 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:30 am Puddle Jumpers 9:30 am Property Maint. 11:15 am Farewell Pastor Lisa Reception ♥ Charles & Laura McCaw	4 Alexandra Artruc Rhonda LeKang	5 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Christian Ed 6:45 pm	6 AA/Alanon 8:00 pm	7 Overeaters Anonymous 10:00 am Girl Scouts 6:00 pm	8 Paul Richards	9  STEAM VENT Coffee House <i>Picnic Night</i> <i>in the Café!!</i> Serving 6-8 PM
10 Bible Study 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:30 am Laurel Parade Paul Richards, Jr. Samuel Stover	11 Cat Wu	12 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Patty McAllister ♥ Bud & Lynda Roberts	13 AA/Alanon 8:00 pm	14 Overeaters Anonymous 10:00 am Girl Scouts 6:00 pm Flag Day Martha Rein	15 Brittane Gilbert Sarah Stover ♥ Dan & Denise Jones	16 Bruce Sherman
17 Bible Study 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:30 am Father's Day Diaconate 11:30	18 Amethyst Steele	19 No Worship Choir Rehearsal	20 AA/Alanon 8:00 pm	21 Overeaters Anonymous 10:00 am Girl Scouts 6:00 pm Summer Begins	22 Brittane Gilbert Sarah Stover ♥ Dan & Denise Jones	23 ♥ Steve & Cindi Roys
24 Bible Study 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Muddy Boots 9:30 am	25 Amethyst Steele	26 Cabinet 7:00 pm ♥ Duane & Brandy Blische ♥ Skip & MaryPat Fredericksen	27 AA/Alanon 8:00 pm Bellringer Deadline July/August	28 Overeaters Anonymous 10:00 am Girl Scouts 5:00 pm Robin Hassig	29 Penelope Rein	30

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



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
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Winsted, CT 06098

BELLRINGER

