

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



**H**ere we are standing on the threshold of another new year. It stretches out before us with all the hope and promise that every new year brings. I am especially excited about this new year and our life and work together at First Church.

Do you know what a threshold is? It is a strip of wood, metal, or stone forming the bottom of a doorway and crossed in entering a house or room. A *threshold* takes you from one place into another, and when you're about to start something new, you're also on a *threshold*.

A threshold is a point of departure or transition, the starting point of an experience or adventure. That is where we are as 2017 begins! We are on the verge of an adventure!

Revitalizing First Church and taking it to the next level in growth and service is one of the charges I was given when I was called to be your pastor. Exciting work, I say. And 2016 found us getting busy with many things. (For more details see my annual report)

At we begin 2017, we will continue the challenge. We will seek to find a balance between that comfortable place that brings us peace of mind and spirit and the uncertainty of change and risk. And our guiding question: In Service of WHAT?

What a great question at the start of a new year.

As we seek to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ, as we search for ways to serve Him, we need to ask this question. Our answers will be unique and quite different depending on our generation and our age and our role in the church. For the younger generation, there is a quest for adventure and learning. For the next generation, the focus is family and building a life. For older generations, the focus is on relationships and connections and work.

*Continued page 2*



JANUARY 2017

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Check us out  
online!

[www.firstchurchof  
winsted.org](http://www.firstchurchofwinsted.org)

Like us on  
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### Pastor's Winter Office Hours

Due to cold Pastor Lisa will be in her church office  
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 to 1.  
Other days she will work from home.

## Church News...

### *Pastor's Word Continued*

We are called to ask this question in 2017, for ourselves as individuals and as a church. How we will we proceed to find the answers? First for us as individual people of faith we can follow the star! Last year I introduced to you the star guides. You select a paper star at random on Epiphany Sunday or any Sunday in January. That star contains a word to contemplate and guide you in 2017. My word last year was dignity. I didn't quite know what that meant so I used it in my prayers and meditations. I invite you to get a star and use it. The second step will come in February as the leadership of the church has its annual retreat. They will use this question to brainstorm and form an action plan for 2017.

As I drive around the area every day I am confronted with construction areas of all sorts. There is frustration and angst as I encounter detours and changes to my regular travel paths. I could stay home and not venture out until the work is complete. Not very practical or helpful. I could press on and step outside my comfort zone and learn new and alternative ways to travel. As a church, we are faced with the same sort of challenges. We can stay the course and continue on in the same familiar path or we can step out and find new paths to travel together.

Here is the sign for 2017 as we move forward:



Here is to a great new year! May God bless us as we work together to strengthen our church and serve our God.

Pastor Lisa

### **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE FIRST CHURCH OF WINSTED**

Sunday, January 22, 2017  
(Snow date: January 29, 2017)  
Immediately following the  
10:00 AM Worship Service

All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Lunch will be served!!

## **The Boar's Head Festival**



**January 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM**  
*Doors open 3:15 PM*



**FIRST CHURCH OF WINSTED**  
95 NORTH MAIN STREET, WINSTED, CONNECTICUT 06098

**Tickets: 860-921-8350**

Website: [www.firstchurchofwinsted.org](http://www.firstchurchofwinsted.org)

**\$15 Adult / \$12 Senior / \$9 Child 12 and under**

*"Humility has such power. Apologies can disarm arguments. Contrition can defuse rage. Olive branches do more good than battle axes ever will."*

**- Max Lucado**





### From Board of Christian Education

On behalf of the Board and our Youth Sunday School, I would like to thank all of our congregation for their most generous gifts throughout the Advent Season. We collected many wonderful items to bring to the Salvation Army so they can distribute to families in need this winter.

I wish to also thank our Sunday School teachers for their dedication and time to the Sunday School program. We could not do it without you!

A very special thank you to all the Sunday School students for their participation in the Christmas Pageant. It was so meaningful to use our memorial ornaments to tell the story of our Dear Savior's birth.

Here's hoping that you all enjoy some well-deserved time with your family and friends this Holiday Season. We will see you all in 2017! Happy New Year!

Sincerely

Barbara Mazzei



The Sale of Christmas Trees raised \$3,789!  
Congratulations to the all the salesmen  
braving the cold!

Caroling at Valarie Manor



### Boar's Head Festival Rehearsals

**January 1st**

**Costuming 11am – 1pm**

**Preshow choir at Noon**

**Dress Rehearsal 1:30**

**Additional Costuming  
AFTER Rehearsal.**

**January 5th**

**Brass & Small Choir at 6pm**

**Full Choir and Brass at 7pm**

**January 7 & 8**

**Doors open at 3:15**

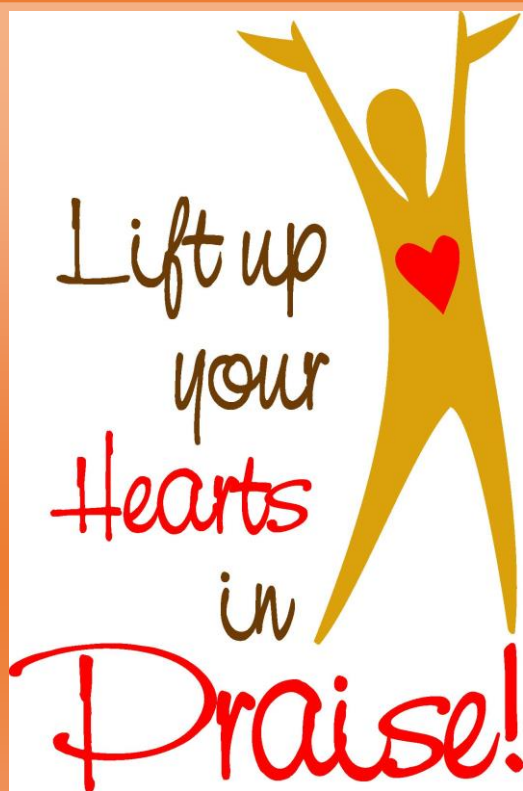
**Shows begin at 4pm**

## ***His Unfailing Presence***

*Author Unknown*

*Another year I enter  
Its history unknown;  
Oh, how my feet would tremble  
To tread its paths alone!  
But I have heard a whisper  
I know I shall be blest;  
"My presence shall go with thee,  
And I will give thee rest."*

*What will the New Year bring me?  
I may not, must not know;  
will it be love and rapture,  
Or loneliness and woe?  
Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper;  
It surely shall be blest;  
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**Midweek WRAP**  
(We Rejoice and Praise)  
Continues on  
**January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM**



## **NOTICE**

The election of officers and board/committee members will take place at the annual meeting in January. The following positions are elected annually:

Moderator	Auditing Committee
Vice-moderator	
Clerk	1/3 of the following:
Treasurer	Diaconate, Christian
Associate Treasurer	Education, Property
Financial Secretary	& Maintenance
Denominational	Boards and the
Representatives	Nominating Comm.

If you are interested in serving on a Board of Committee, please contact Ashley Jones or Debby Kane.





## **Calling all Confirmands!**

January Class will be held on  
**Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Right after Morning Worship.

Our topic: What do YOU believe about God?

Grab a snack and head up to the Youth Room!  
Pastor Lisa can't wait to get started!

## Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars!

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	January 01	New Year's Day
Tuesday - 5:30 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	January 01	Boar's Head Rehearsal 1:30
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	January 07	Boar's Head Fest 4:00
Thursday - 6:00 pm	Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers	January 08	Boar's Head Fest 4:00
		January 15	Reports due for Annual Report
		January 22	Annual Meeting after worship
		January 29	Snow Date for Annual Meeting
		<i>Board Meetings...</i>	
		No meetings scheduled In January	PM Board Board of Christian Ed. Deacons Cabinet Meeting
			



### January BIRTHDAYS

04 - Barbara Mazzei  
 04 - Brett Marvin  
 06 - Ryan Geddes Jr.  
 07 - Raymond Savoy  
 08 - Christian McAllister  
 09 - Susan Marsh  
 10 - Caryl Pizinger  
 11 - Maridel Frederickson  
 11 - Belinda Corey  
 12 - Andrea Ohotnicky  
 12 - Hope Carfiro  
 12 - Jeff Dorr  
 13 - Kathy Riiska-Lovejoy  
 13 - Judy Savoy  
 14 - Angela Graboski  
 15 - Cindy Roys  
 17 - Mary-Pat Frederickson  
 17 - Maggie McAllister  
 18 - Scott Graboski  
 20 - Kayla McCaw  
 22 - Kathy Weaving  
 22 - Joe Tatar  
 23 - Betty Greeley  
 24 - Cheryl Jones  
 26 - Victoria McAllister  
 26 - Diane Richards  
 27 - Kathryn McCusker  
 28 - Jayden Dileo

### January Anniversaires

♥ 22 - Ray & Judy Savoy

If you would have your birthday or anniversary added to our list, please email Deb Storrs: [dstorrs@snet.net](mailto:dstorrs@snet.net)

### His Unfailing Presence

*Author Unknown*

Another year I enter  
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What will the New Year bring me?  
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 Or loneliness and woe?  
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### ***We are all God's Children***

In Memory of those called home in 2016

*Gloria Lee  
Edna Lewis*

It's wonderful to climb the liquid  
 mountains of the sky. Behind me and  
 before me is God and I have no fears.






*Helen Keller*



**slow cooker  
stuffed pepper soup**  
 1 lb. ground turkey  
 1 cup chopped onion  
 1 teaspoon minced fresh garlic  
 1 can (28 oz.) diced tomatoes  
 with juice  
 1 can (6 oz.) tomato paste  
 4 cups low sodium chicken broth  
 3 cups chopped green pepper  
 2/3 cup uncooked rice (white or  
 brown)  
 2 Tablespoons brown sugar,  
 packed  
 1 teaspoon dried basil

In a large skillet, cook turkey,  
 onion and garlic over medium  
 heat until browned. Drain any  
 juices and transfer mixture to a  
 slow cooker. Add remaining  
 ingredients and stir gently to mix.  
 Cook on low for 8-9 hours, adding  
 more water if necessary.  
 Serves 6. 300 calories.  
 Serve with a side salad.

# January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton	<b>January Birthstone: Garnet</b> 	<b>January Flower: Red Carnation</b> 	<b>Astrological Signs</b>  <b>Capricorn:</b> Dec 22 – Jan 20 <b>Aquarius:</b> Jan 21 – Feb 19		<b>ANNUAL REPORTS Due JAN 15th</b>	
<b>1</b> Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:30  Property Maint Bd 11:15 am  Boar's Head Festival Dress Rehearsal 1:30 pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  Worship Choir 5:30 pm	<b>4</b>  AA/Alanon 7:30 pm  Barbara Mazzei Brett Marvin	<b>5</b>  Laurel City Singers 6:00	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>   <b>4:00 PM</b>  Raymond Savoy Jr.
<b>8</b>  Worship Service 10:00 am Muddy Boots 9:30   <b>4:00 PM</b> Christian McAllister	<b>9</b>  <b>Martin Luther King Day</b>  Susan Marsh	<b>10</b>  Worship Choir 5:30 pm  Caryl Pizinger	<b>11</b>  AA/Alanon 7:30 pm  Maridel Fredericksen Belinda Corey	<b>12</b>  Andrea Ohotnicky Hope Cafiro Jeff Dorr	<b>13</b>  Cathy Riiska-Lovejoy Judy Savoy	<b>14</b>  Angela Graboski
<b>15</b>  Worship Service 10:00 am  Worship Choir 9:30  Confirmation Class After Service Cindy Roys	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  Worship Choir 5:30 pm  Mary-Pat Fredericksen Maggie McAllister	<b>18</b>  AA/Alanon 7:30 pm  Midweek WRAP 7:00 PM Scott Graboski	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  Kayla McCaw
<b>22</b>  Worship Service 10:00 am <b>Annual Meeting</b>  Kathy Weaving Joe Tatar ♥ Ray & Judy Savoy	<b>23</b>  Betty Greeley	<b>24</b>  Worship Choir 5:30 pm  Cabinet 7:00 pm Cheryl Jones	<b>25</b>  AA/Alanon 7:30 pm  CDC Liason 7:00 pm	<b>26</b>  Victoria McAllister Diane Richards	<b>27</b>  Kathryn McCusker	<b>28</b>  Jayden Dileo
<b>29</b>  Worship Service 10:00 am  Worship Choir 9:20  <b>Snow Date for Annual Meeting</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  Worship Choir 5:30 pm				

**Come...be uplifted  
by the Spirit and  
strive to follow  
God's path for you!**



Artist: Karen Delton

**Pastor – The Rev. Lisabeth Gustafson**

Moderator - Dan Jones Vice-Moderator - Tom Mazzei  
Clerk - Allison Graboski  
Board of Deacons - Co-chairs - Laura McCaw & Lisa Nanni  
Property Maintenance - Frank Artruc  
Treasurer - Debby Kane / Associate Treasurer - Joan Eggering  
Financial Secretary -Tanya Mongitore  
Christian Education Chair/Sunday School Director - Barbara Mazzei  
Organist/Worship Choir Director - Tricia Wu  
Muddy Boots Praise Choir - Dan Jones Puddle Jumpers - Kat Timmeney  
Webmaster - John Eggering  
Newsletter 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](mailto:info@firstchurchofwinsted.org)

**Telephone** (860) 379-1778

**Church Web-Site** [www.firstchurchofwinsted.org](http://www.firstchurchofwinsted.org)

The CT Conference of the UCC  
Telephone (866) 367-2822 Toll Free  
Still Speaking Site [www.stillspeaking.com](http://www.stillspeaking.com)  
UCC Web-Site [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org) or [ctuucc.org](http://ctuucc.org)

American Baptist Churches of Connecticut - ABCCONN  
Executive Minister: The Rev. Dr. W. Kenneth Williams  
Telephone (860) 521-5421  
ABCCONN Web-Site [www.abcconn.org](http://www.abcconn.org)

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