

That Penny in the Parking Lot

Remember this every time you pass that little penny in the parking lot.
I always thought that it was for good luck, but this version is better.

I found a penny today
Laying on the ground.
But it's not just a penny,
This little coin I've found.



Found pennies come from heaven,
that's what my Grandpa told me.
He said Angels toss them down.
Oh, how I loved that story.

He said when an Angel misses you,
They toss a penny down;
Sometimes just to cheer you up,
To make a smile out of your frown.



So, don't pass by that penny
When you're feeling blue.
It may be a penny from heaven
That an Angel's tossed to you.

So remember...
See a penny
Pick it up
All day long
You'll have good luck...



AND it seems some blessings too!



MARCH 2011

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To request a copy
sent to your inbox
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Happy
St. Patrick's
Day!



Happy Birthday First Church of Winsted!

In February 1778, the Assembly granted their request to form the Ecclesiastical Society of Winsted, the name "Winsted" being created from the first syllable of Winchester and the last syllable of Barkhamsted.

The newly formed Ecclesiastical Society held its first meeting on March 17, 1778 at the dwelling house of John Balcom. This year, First Church celebrates its 233rd birthday.

That's a lot of candles!



Sound System...

Our sound system, thanks to John Eggering and Bruce Sherman, is making great progress. We are once again able to use the Bose speakers on top of the columns! It has been a few months since they have been able to make things audible. Bruce rewired the sound closet and added a much needed light! No more clip on lights to see! John installed our new amp, and all of our wireless devices. The speakers behind the organ for the choir will be installed shortly, and has found a way to do this wirelessly, using one of our wireless headsets! The sound is really amazing...come to church and hear!!

Boards have elected Chairpersons...

Laura McCaw has accepted the position as chairperson for the Board of Deacons. The Board of Christian Education has elected a team! co-chairs will be Dan and Denise Jones. Bob Adkins is our new ABC Representative, and we are still looking for a UCC Representative. If you are interested in serving in this capacity,

please see a member of the Nominating Committee. Debby Kane will be continuing as chairperson for the Property Maintenance Board.

Electronic Bibles...

4 more Electronic Bibles have been donated, so there is one available in each classroom. Even the Bible has to keep up with the times!

Confirmation Classes...

Classes have begun with 7 of our eligible youth. Confirmation will take place on Palm Sunday, April 17. Confirmands will include Owen and Jane Lovejoy, Kayla McCaw, Natalie Majewski, Liam McAllister, Dan McAllister and Paxton Lewis-Franklin

Obituary

Nora Bacon, 89 passed away on February 18th at Laurel Hill Health Center. Reunited with her beloved sister Elsie Decker.

Local Musician Heads to Mexico

By Kristen Graves



Kristen Graves with some of the children from Santa Maria Tepexipana during a visit in July, 2010. For more information on Kristen Graves, visit: www.kristengraves.com. For more information on Simply Smiles, visit: www.simplysmiles.org.

"Taking these trips grounds me, and reminds me of why it's important to be a songwriter. Not only am I passionate about these people, but upon my return, it is always my job to tell their stories as often as possible." Graves made her first trip to Mexico with a group of college kids during her freshman year at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN. "I had wanted to go on a service trip to Costa Rica, but it conflicted with a choir tour I was participating in. I didn't think that Mexico would be as 'in need' but I figured I could at least go and help someone. After meeting the children and people of Mexico on that first trip, I couldn't stop going." Graves worked with St. Olaf to build a specific independent study and internship program so that she could return to Oaxaca during every break that she could.

"I would ask my family and friends to give me money to head to Mexico for my birthday and Christmas. It's all I wanted to do." In 2003, Graves met Bryan Numberger, president and founder of Simply Smiles, Inc., a Connecticut-based

charity that works in Oaxaca, Mexico and on the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota. He was just forming the organization. "I admired his approach to how he worked with people. There was no pity, and he didn't act like he was better than anyone. He just wanted to help his friends." The two got married in 2009, and Graves will now admit, "I thought he was cute too."

Graves has released four independent albums in the past 10 years, and is currently preparing to head to the studio to prepare for the release of a 3-song EP. How does she keep a balance? "The experiences in Mexico and South Dakota have definitely helped shape who I am, and how I write. After a trip, I'm always filled with stories that I then share on stage, whether it be a song inspired by someone I've met, or just a story that I tell between songs." This year's 2011 tour will head to over 25 cities bringing Graves as far west as Denver, CO. "Sharing stories of humanity, and reminding people that we're all connected is an important part of what I do. It's a gift to be able to write songs, and it's a gift to get to know the amazing people I've met around the world. It only makes sense to combine the two."

A fluent Spanish-speaker, Graves has gotten to connect over the years with people that she describes as 'awe-inspiring'. This upcoming trip in March will lead up to a food distribution, where Graves will be one of many passing out beans, rice and other staples to over 2,500 people from the area. Some recipients will travel as far as 10 hours on foot, just to receive the month's supply of food. "It's an incredible chance to be able to help someone else, but I always receive much more than I could ever give. I know it's sounds cliché, but I don't care. It's true!" And will her guitar make an appearance? "Of course! We spend nights sitting outside next to a fire. The starlight, the sweet-smelling jungle air, it's the best venue I've ever played!"



Sledding at Camp Jewell

Chilly fun for all!

Photos: Kim Janak

SNOW REPORT...

This year's snow fall, continuous snow fall, has truly affected our budget. We had \$1,500 in snow removal costs for the month of January and February, and a \$1,500 heating bill has taken a toll.

We can manage this together! We have kept up with our weekly giving toward the projected budget, with the exception of these items. If you are able, please consider making a little extra donation to help cover these unexpected bills.

EXCESS SNOW!



**Fun for some...
Costly for
others!
Snow removal
costs so far:
\$1,500**

STEAM VENT



Coffee House

Musician's Showcase

Every 2nd Saturday

6 - 10 PM

Open Mic/Jam at 9



LIVE MUSIC - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Folk - Country - Bluegrass - Jazz - Light Rock

For more information call 860-482-3491

Steam Vent Café - Open 6-8 pm

First Church of Winsted 95 North Main Street

Mexico Mission Trip News

Meeting Reminders:

Sun, March 6 - following worship service

Planning Meeting: Youth / Adults -

Time to start discussing fundraising for this year's trip.

Sun, March 13 - worship service & gathering afterward

Mexico Mission Trip Reunion Get-Together & Info

Meeting:

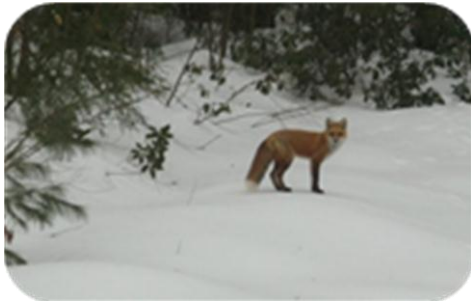
All mission trip travelers past, present, and future are invited to attend! Watch the slide show of past missions, and share memories and stories. If you are considering joining the journey to Mexico - come to the meeting with all your questions, and have them answered by those who have 'been there - done that"! Learn how a mission trip can change lives... including your own.

Note:

Commitment to Oaxaca trip, along with \$100 deposit, is due April 1.

**First Church Youth Mission Trip 2011 Oaxaca,
Mexico - August 13 - 21**

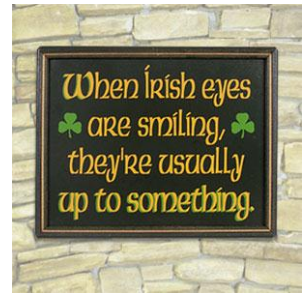
Just for Fun...



Sue Tripodina's Fox



Kristen Graves: Check out Cody, our new guard dog at the Center of Operations in Mexico...doesn't he look fierce?



A mom was concerned about her kindergarten son walking to school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence but yet know that he was safe. So she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbor if she could please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her.

She said that since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed.

The next school day, the neighbor and her little girl set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbor girl he knew. She did this for the whole week.

As the two walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally she said to Timmy, 'Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week?

Do you know her?'

Timmy nonchalantly replied, 'Yeah, I know who she is.'

The little girl said, 'Well, who is she?'

'That's just Shirley Goodnest,' Timmy replied, 'and her daughter Marcy.'

'Shirley Goodnest? Who is she and why is she following us?'

'Well,' Timmy explained, 'every night my Mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, 'cuz she worries about me so much.

And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life', so I guess I'll just have to get used to it!'

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

May Shirley Goodnest and Marcy be with you today and always !



Trip to the CT Whale
Hockey Game

Sat, March 12

Meeting in the church
parking lot
at 5:00 pm

STEAM VENT Performers MARCH 12th

PERFORMERS:

6:15 – Cherub Choir
6:25 – Rock Starz
(Alex Cassaday & Riley Storrs)
6:30 – Doug Mahard & Mark Miller
7:00 – Fortune's Gale - Gale Gardiner
7:30 – Don Jones
8:00 – Dark Horse
8:30 – Tom Sheeley
9:00 – Open Mic

STEAM VENT CAFÉ



Irish Chili Night

MENU:

Bowl o' Chili with Bread & Salad
\$7
Bowl o' Salad alone \$2.00
Hot Dogs \$2.00
Chili Dog \$3.50
Deserts \$2.00
Beverages \$1.00

Free Will Offering to Benefit Missions

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars!

Celebrate With Us...		Looking Forward		
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	March 9	Ash Wednesday	
Monday - 6 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	March 12	Steam Vent Coffee House	
Tuesday - 6 pm	Rehearsal~Cherub Choir	March 13	Day Light Savings Begins	
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	March 17	Happy Birthday First Church	
Thursday – 6:00 pm	Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers	March 17	St. Patrick’s Day	
		April 1	Mexico Mission Deposit Due	
		April 2	Beef Stew and Bingo	
		April 9	Steam Vent Coffee House	
		April 17	Palm Sunday-Confirmations!	
		April 22	Good Friday	
		April 24	Easter Sunday	
		April 30	Theme Dinner	
	Board Meetings...			
	March 01	7:00 pm		PM Board
	March 08	7:00 pm		Board of Christian Ed.
	March 15	6:30 pm		Deacons
	March 22	7:00 pm		Cabinet Meeting

Birthdays

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

01 - Peyton Storrs
 01 - Pat Wood
 04 - Aedan McAllister
 05 - Perry Green
 06 - Steve Cassaday
 06 - Roger Hurlbut
 17 - Terence O'Neil
 17 - **First Church of Winsted**
 22 - Brittany Smyth
 24 - Erik Janak
 25 - Brianna Sollito.
 28 - Laura McCaw
 28 - Brigitte Gilbert-Corey
 31 - Tamsin Pizinger



BEEF STEW & BINGO

April 2nd – Beef Stew and Bingo



Bring a pot of stew for sampling...

Get your Bingo cards...for a small fee (2/\$1.00)

Prizes too!!

Dinner and lots of fun!



THEME DINNER PLANNED FOR APRIL 30th

Last year's theme's included:




Not You're Every Day Italian ~ Holy Smokes Barbeque
 Disney Characters ~ Fingers Only – No Utensils
 New England Boilers ~ Russian Roulette

If you would like to host a table, please see Denise Jones.



March 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton		1 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm PM Board 7:00 pm	2	3 Laurel City Singers 6:00	4	5
6 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20	7 Worship Choir 6:00 pm	8 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Chris Ed 6:30	9 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm Ash Wednesday	10 Laurel City Singers 6:00	11	12  STEAM VENT Coffee House 6-10 PM Set your clocks ahead!
13 Worship Service 10:00 am Cherub Choir 9:30 Daylight Savings Begins	14 Worship Choir 6:00 pm	15 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Deacons 7:00 pm	16 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	17  Laurel City Singers 6:00 St Patrick's Day First Church's Birthday	18	19
20 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am	21 Worship Choir 6:00 pm	22 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Cabinet Meeting 7:00 pm	23 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	24 Laurel City Singers 6:00	25	26
27 Worship Service 10:00 am Open Mic Sunday	28 Worship Choir 6:00 pm	29 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm	30 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	31 Laurel City Singers 6:00	Apr 1 April Fool's Day	Apr 2
Apr 3 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am	Apr 4 Worship Choir 6:00 pm	Apr 5 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm	Apr 6 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	Apr 7 Laurel City Singers 6:00	Apr 8	Apr 9

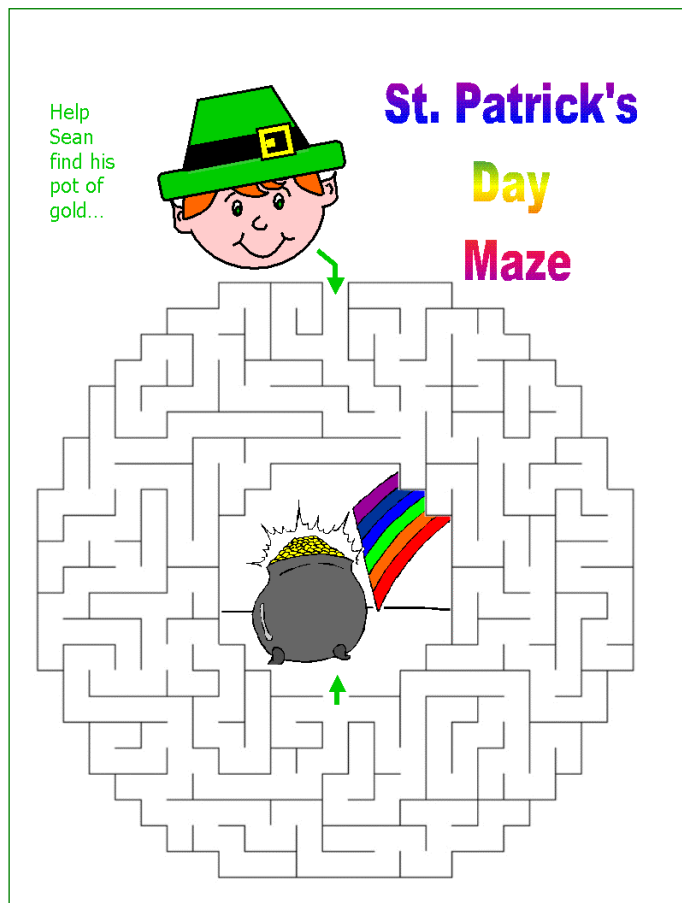
Kids Page



St. Patrick's Day

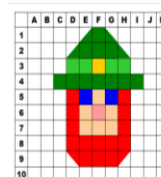
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luck parade pinch march green rainbow patrick shamrock irish snakes gold



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Gold F3 Pink F6 Blue E5, G5 Light Green D3, E3, G3, H3
 Flesh E6, E7, F5, F7, G6, G7 Red D9
 Dark Green D2, E1 H9
 G1, H2 D5, D6, D7, D8, E8, E9, F8, F9, G8, G9, H5, H6, H7, H8
 C4, D4, E2, E4, F1, F2, F4, G2, G4, H4, I4



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BELLRINGER

