

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

Springtime Greetings!

Last week, I had the opportunity to sneak off to Mexico for the baptism of my "Mexican granddaughter." While I was spending some time with Mia before her baptism, her older cousin stopped by to visit. Sofia is in first grade, and I've known her since she was a newborn. So in addition to having some gifts for Mia, I had a few gifts for Sofia. We sat on the couch and the three of us went through my bag.

Mia, as I expected, seemed to have more fun playing with the boxes than with the toys that came in the boxes. She also took every piece of clothing that I brought her and scattered them across the floor. Lesson learned: For a one year old, just bring some empty boxes. They have a great time with the simplest of things. I can relate to a one year old.

Sofia was a totally different story. She was really appreciative of everything I found for her on the clearance rack at Kohl's. Sofia carefully studied each piece of clothing, matching tops with pants, and commenting on different styles and what colors she liked most. This is a child who doesn't have much. When her father passed away, our Church created a scholarship fund to enable her to continue her nursery school education. She didn't have much, but the influence of the world around her had its impact on her way of thinking. Unlike me, she knew what went together and what wouldn't.

But the most amazing thing was to watch her reaction to the final thing I took out of my bag....an iPod. She knew what it was, and she glowed as she hugged the package. Although I'm not even sure there is a video game (much less a Wii) in her home, once unwrapped, she demonstrated an amazing ability to comfortably use the contraption. Whereas I struggle to play the 3 songs stored on my iPod, she was adeptly manipulating the iPod in minutes without the benefit of having other technological gadgets in her life. It was all second nature to her, and she was having a great time (as opposed to my constant frustration with high technology!).

In the same way that Mia and Sofia found happiness in different ways, so God speaks to all of us in different ways. And in the same way that Mia and Sofia could co-exist happily side by side in the living room while enjoying totally different things, so is our congregation: different people with different interests and varied perspectives joining together to be First Church of Winsted. There were moments when Mia and Sofia each put down what they were playing with and enjoyed a few moments together. Just as we do when we join together to work on common projects and ministries.

God speaks to different people in different ways, and at the end of the day, we are equals in the eyes of God whether we are more comfortable with the empty boxes or with the iPods of the world. The fact that we can be different and yet be part of the same family is both a blessing from God and a strength of our Church. I hope that you will continue to celebrate our differences and use our different perspectives, talents and interests to strengthen the effectiveness of our Church's work and ministries.

Blessings,

Pastor Mike



MAY 2012

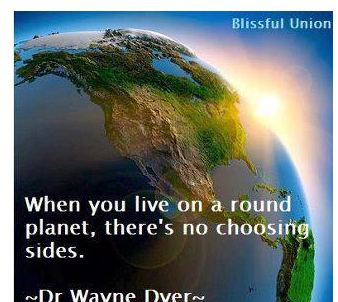
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Article Submission:
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To request a copy
sent to your inbox
send an email to:
dstorrs@snet.net

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Check us out online! www.firstchurchofwinsted.org

Like us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Church-of-Winsted/189629511047827>

Church News...



CDC News...

RAFFLE!

to benefit

CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY CENTER

**Edna & Paul Lewis
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Three Prizes to be Awarded

1st Prize:

*iPAD 4G LTE with 32 GB of
memory with both Wi-Fi and
4G capability*

2nd Prize:

*Samsung Galaxy Tablet 8.9
with 16 GB of memory*

3rd Prize:

Kindle Fire

Drawing to be Held:

MAY 20, 2012 at 2:00 pm

Discovery Graduation

FIRST CHURCH

95 N. Main Street, Winsted

**ONLY 200 TICKETS WILL BE
SOLD / Ticket Price: \$20.00**



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

Property Maintenance Board

Roger Hurlbut & Julie Davy have been trimming the hedges and trees, and they look great! Thanks Roger!!

CDC Parking Lot sign needs repairing. If you are willing to share your talents by working on this project, see Debby Kane.

The step down into the Sanctuary from the Gathering Room needs a better sign. People step off step thinking it is the same level.

Louvers are on hold...waiting for kiln dried hemlock. Once available, Bud Roberts will complete.

Board of Christian Education

Pasta Supper/Silent Auction May 19th, requests for food donations will be announced at church. Tanya Mongitore is organizing items for Silent Auction. Scholarship applicants and youth group will help. Tickets: \$10 Adult, \$8 Senior, \$5 child 12 and under. Preview 4:45, Serving 5-7 PM. To volunteer or donate food please call or email Allison Graboski 860-238-7484 or email: athall37@yahoo.com

Youth Carwash and Grace Grille during the Tag Sale, May 5th, all youth are requested to help with fundraiser for mission trip fund.

Youth trip to Montreal, May 31 – June 3, about 13 youth have signed up, about 20 will be traveling.

Walk-a-thon around Highland Lake will take place June 16 at 8:00 am as a fundraiser for the Mexico Mission. Mexico Mission trip July 28 – Aug. 5

Scholarship Applications DUE!

Applications for scholarships are available. Our scholarships are given in memory of Alex and Elizabeth Smith or Jon Millard. Please see Allison Graboski for your forms. **Forms should be submitted to the Chris Ed Board by May 15, 2012.**

CDC Graduation

CDC Class of 2012 hold its graduation on May 20th at 2:00 PM. BOCE will host the reception, with a possible return of the "Ice Cream Truck." Graduation Class of 14 children!

Board of Deacons

Mother's Day brunch will be served after service.

Cherub Choir will sing on Mother's Day, and because they don't sing on Father's Day, they will present a Parent's Day theme, good for Mom's and Dads!

CHURCH DIRECTORY...we are still working on finishing our church directory. If you have not yet completed your form, please email the following info to Laura McCaw lmccaw@comcast.net or Lisa Nanni lsnarrard@snet.net by May 6th.

Information needed for each family:

Name(s)

Birthday(s)

Anniversary

Children's Names & Birthdays

Mailing Address

Email Address (es)

Phone

Cell Phone

Please indicate whether or not you wish to be included in the Voicent Automatic Calling system...for event reminders and bad weather closings

Old information from past directories will not be included...as we are trying to update all of our information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS...

Two new Sunday School teachers are needed for the fall, and subs. Please prayerfully consider helping out in this area. See Barbara Mazzei for more info.

"Forgiveness is a funny thing. It warms the heart and cools the sting." – William Arthur Ward

Laurel City Singers

PROUDLY PRESENT

GOD & COUNTRY

A PATRIOTIC CONCERT

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

CT 102nd ARMY BAND BRASS PACK

SUNDAY, MAY 27 AT 3 PM

FIRST CHURCH OF WINSTED
95 NORTH MAIN STREET

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

PLEASE BRING A NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM FOR THE LOCAL FOOD BANK

Tag Sale



Tag Sale to
be held on
May 5th

Time to clean out your attics and cellars!

If you have any good junk...
please consider donating it to the church's

Drop offs will be accepted evenings the week before!

*"Perseverance is not a long race;
it is many short races one after the other."*
— Walter Elliot

Harmonious Brass Choir Concert

Second Congregational ~ May 6th at 3 PM

Community music ensemble directed by Willard Minton.

Selections include ope... opera, classical, traditional,
Broadway, hymns and marches

Cost: Free will offering



Listen to and buy Gale B Gardiner music on CD Baby. Download or buy the CD Welcome Home on the independent record store by musicians for musicians.

www.cdbaby.com

100% of CD sales goes to 3 summer music camps: Mostar orphans (Bosnia/Croatia), St. Vincent's orphans (Port au Prince, Haiti) and Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation impoverished Lakota Indians (SD)

Happy Mother's Day!

The beauty of a woman isn't in the clothes she wears, the figure that she carries or the way she combs her hair. The beauty of a woman is seen in her eyes, because that's where love resides. The true beauty of a woman is reflected by her soul. It's the caring that she gives and the passion that she shows. And the beauty of a woman, with passing years, only grows!

Did you
find 'em?

In the paragraph below there are the names of 16 books of the Bible. See how many you can find.

God's Boxes

*I have in my hands two boxes,
Which God gave me to hold.
He said, "Put all your sorrows in the black box,
And all your joys in the gold."*

*I heeded His words, and in the two boxes,
Both my joys and sorrows I stored,
But though the gold became heavier each day,
The black was as light as before.*

*With curiosity, I opened the black,
I wanted to find out why,
And I saw, in the base of the box, a hole,
Which my sorrows had fallen out by.*

*I showed the hole to God, and mused,
"I wonder where my sorrows could be!"
He smiled a gentle smile and said,
"My child, they're all here with me."*

*I asked God, why He gave me the boxes,
Why the gold and the black with the hole?
"My child, the gold is for you to count your blessings,
The black is for you to let go."*

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu; kept people looking so hard for facts...and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so that she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen names of books of the Bible in this paragraph.

Answer: (Winner – Perry Green!)

Mark, Luke, Kings, Acts, Revelation, James, Ruth, Numbers, Job, Amos, Esther, Judges, Titus, Lamentations, Hebrews, Peter

STEAM VENT Coffee House Welcomes... MAY 12th 6-10 PM



Don Lowe explores life as he sees it with songs that are at turns witty, arcane, profane, sad, and sometimes, downright silly. After 15 years in New York City and Los Angeles as an actor, Don moved to Connecticut where he enjoys a freelance writing career, teaches college writing, and is featured in music venues throughout the Northeast and upper-Midwest. He's opened for Kenny White, Toby Walker, Danielle Miraglia, David Jacobs-Strain, Johnny A, The Dana Fuchs Band, and Maria Sebastian among others and has been featured in venues throughout Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, Minnesota and North Dakota. His CD, "Dogs, Clowns and Belles" is available on CDBABY.com or at venues where he's playing.



Keyborgg Sounds: From his first gig at age 12, Don Jones has enjoyed playing for countless weddings, dances, fund raisers, and park concerts. Hear his versatility in his unique song styling on keyboard and vocals as he performs his renditions of Beatles classics, Kenny Rogers, classics of the 50's to the 80's, and beyond..

Randy Donaghy started in his first band at 13. Guitar and vocals are his first love to which he loves many styles of music from Hank Williams, Johnny Cash, Elvis Presley, Elton John and even to Slipknot.

Don and Randy are enjoying their current project together hoping to bring their songs, styling, and talents together to all who want to have fun and enjoyment through music.



Longtime favorite in the New Haven and Southern New England area, **Ron Anthony** cites Tom Rush, Ian Tyson, Joni Mitchell, Gordon Lightfoot, Bob Dylan, and John Hammond, among others as seminal influences in developing his own style. Ron's performances rely heavily on his original songs delivered in a smooth baritone, backed up by an acoustic guitar style that simultaneously combines flat picking and finger picking. His songs reflect a mixture of folk, country, blues, and jazz with lyrics that "tell a good story without being trite."

Ron has performed extensively in the Southern New England area at songwriters' showcases and as a featured performer at area open mics. He has appeared frequently on local radio stations and has opened for or shared the stage with many national caliber folk acts. He's played to audiences as far north as Hallowell, Maine, where his CD, *Live at Slaters* was recorded, and as far south as Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, where he has been featured in several shows at the Godfrey Daniels Coffeehouse. Recently, Ron represented Connecticut at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, Tennessee, after winning the Connecticut Blues Society competition for Best Solo Blues Artist.

"This musician's favorite has opened for Chris Smither and John Hammond, proving he's the real deal with driving guitar and vocals..."

- Stan Sullivan, Roaring Brook Concerts

Contact Information phone and fax: 203-484-4738 email: rvanthony@att.net



Buffalo Bill Morrell Started playing with friends in the late 60s & early 70s the likes of The Beatles, Dylan, Elvis, Cat Stevens & more. He grew up with Hank Williams and Johnny Cash in the House, so in the late 70s formed a country band and sang Hank Sr., Hank Jr., Ricky Scaggs, Alan Jackson, George Jones, George Strait and more. Then in the mid 80's he took some time off,,,,, 25years,,,, later this thing called open mic blossomed and here we are again. Lots of great players and singers and listeners and Bill is very glad to know everyone and to do his small part to entertain all who will listen.



Dark Horse Bluegrass comes from the north western 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 quirks well complimented their musical talents. Beginning in Dave Goddings' 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 !

First Church of Winsted – 95 North Main Street

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!

STEAM VENT CAFÉ GRINDER NITE

Build your own
Grinder \$7.00

*With your choice of
any of the following
on a hard roll...*

*Turkey, Ham, RB,
Zucchini, choice of
cheeses AND
tomatoes, onions
lettuce, peppers,
shredded carrots,
cukes, or
chopped olives*

*Served with Pineapple
Cole Slaw, Potato
Salad, Macaroni Salad
or Fruit Salad!*

Child portion \$3.50
Deserts \$1 - \$2
Beverages \$1.00

STEAM VENT Coffee House Musicians Showcase

6:00 ~ Open Mic

6:30 Don Lowe

**7:00 Keyborgg
Sounds**

**7:30 Ron Anthony
with Denny Collin**


8:00 Bill Morrell

8:30 Jim Moore

**9:00 Dark Horse
Bluegrass**

9:30 ~ Open Mic

Upcoming Events

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	May 5	Tag Sale
Tuesday - 5:30 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	May 12	Steam Vent Coffee House
Wednesday - 6 pm	Rehearsal~Cherub Choir	May 15	Scholarship Applications due
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	May 19 5:45 - 7 PM	Pasta Supper with Silent Auction
Thursday - 6:00 pm	Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers	May 20	CDC Graduation
		May 20	CDC Raffle Drawing
		May 27	LCS God & Country Concert
		May 28	Memorial Day
		May 31-Jun3	Youth Montreal Trip
		June 9	Steam Vent Coffee House
		June 16	Walk-a-Thon for Mexico Mission
FREEDOM ISN'T FREE 	<i>Board Meetings</i>		REMEMBERING OUR LOST
			Memorial Day is observed annually on the last Monday of May. Formerly known as Decoration Day , it originated after the American Civil War to commemorate the fallen Union soldiers of the Civil War. By the 20th century Memorial Day had been extended to honor all Americans who have died in all wars.
	May 8	Board of Christian Ed.	
	May 8	PM Board	
	May 15	Deacons	
	May 22	Cabinet Meeting	



Montreal Trip



CALLING ALL CHURCH YOUTH (GRADES 7-12)!!! Have you ever spent a spring weekend in Montreal? Maybe so, but have you ever toured Montreal by bike?!? Dust off your passport and join us on a visit to Old Montreal, the Latin Quarter, the St. Lawrence River, and many other interesting places...on a bike! We will leave Winsted on Thursday, May 31st and return on Sunday, June 3rd.



First Church of Winsted
PASTA SUPPER
MAY 19th 4:45 - 7PM

\$10 Adult ~ \$8 Senior ~ \$5 Child
Benefit: Scholarships
SILENT AUCTION TOO!

★HAPPY BIRTHDAY!★

MAY BIRTHDAYS

05 - Lillian Hamilton
08 - Joan Eggering
09 - Christina Wu
11 - Debby Kane
11 - Lina Smith
13 - Philip Smith
14 - Brianna Smyth
16 - Skip Fredericksen
19 - Michael Doyle
23 - Peggy Hamilton-Rathbone
25 - Butch Eggering
25 - Chelsea Swanson
26 - David LeKang
30 - Emily Michelle Wu

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

♥ 12 - Bruce & Brenda Sherman
♥ 16 - Lorraine & Joe Tatar
♥ 21 - Kelvin & Christine Smith
♥ 24 - Terry & Becky Smyth
♥ 26 - Christina Wu & David Ryu

WINSTED THROUGH THE YEARS





Date: May 19, 2012

Time: 5:00-7:00

Annual Pasta Dinner

with Silent Auction added this year.

Funds raised at this event directly support the

Alex and Elizabeth Smith Scholarship,

Jon Millard Scholarship and Marion Bensie Campership.

The scholarship funds provide a \$500 scholarship to high school graduates and post graduates who will be attending college the fall semester.

The campership fund enables youth within our church to attend Silver Lake and/or Camp Wightman by helping offset the cost to their families by fifty percent (50%).



A few of the silent auction items that will be up for bid that evening:

- Nook Simple Touch with Glow Lite
- Coffee Lover's Basket with Keurig
- Family Night-In Basket with games, movies, pizza gift certificate
- I'm a Chocoholic Basket with fine chocolates, cookbooks and coffee
- Various gift certificates to restaurants and retail stores.

First Church of Winsted

95 North Main Street - Dining Room

Winsted

First Church of Winsted Upcoming Youth Activities



Sat. May 5 - Canada/Mexico Trip Fundraising

Tag Sale Day:

Youth Car Wash - 9:00 - 1:00

Youth Grace Grille - 11:00 - 2:00

Help needed for any and all activities!

Sun. May 6 - Mexico Mission Meeting

Meeting with Pastor Wu following worship service for mission trip participants.

Trip dates: July 28 - Aug 5.

Sat. May 12 - Steam Vent Coffeehouse

Mexico Trip Fundraiser - 6:00-9:00pm

Sun. May 13 - Canada Trip Meeting

Meeting with Pastor Wu following worship service for trip participants.

Tues. May 15 - Scholarship Applications Due

Submit to any BOCE member.

Sat. May 19 - Pasta Supper Fundraiser/Silent Auction

Scholarship fundraiser 4:45-7 pm - all youth, (especially scholarship applicants), are asked to help with set up, service, clean-up.

Sun. May 27 - Canada Trip Fundraiser

Laurel City Singers Concert - Trip participants to sell refreshments 3:30-5pm after LCS concert.

Thurs. May 31 - Sun, June 3 - Montreal Trip

Tour of Montreal, Canada by bicycle. Depart Winsted Thurs 3:00pm, return Sun evening.

Sat. June 9 - Steam Vent Coffeehouse

Mexico Trip Fundraiser - 6:00-9:00pm

Sat, June 16 - Mexico Trip Fundraiser

Walk-a-Thon around Highland Lake.

Start @ 8:00am

Exhibition opening for Norfolk photographer
Katherine Griswold



Cocktail reception on Saturday, May 12th from 4-7pm
The exhibition will continue through May.



indulgence
without excess

2nd Fl, The Royal Arcanum Building, 3 Station Place, Norfolk, CT 06058
t: 860 542 7031 e: bella@aijadesigns.com www.indulgencewithoutexcess.com



I JUST FEEL SO IRRELEPHANT

Spring Pledge Drive - Just Do It! Fill in that pledge card!

JUST... make a commitment to financially support your church.

DO... Prayerfully consider filling out a pledge card, when they are sent out...

IT... is between you and God...so no amount is too small...and all are kept in strict confidentiality.

JUST DO IT!...you'll be glad you did...**YOU ARE RELEPHANT!**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton	May Birthstone: Emerald 	May Flower: Lily of the Valley 	Astrological Signs Taurus: April 20 - May 20 Gemini: May 21 - Jun 21			
		1 Worship Choir 5:30 Men's Fellowship 6:30 pm May Day	2 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	3 Laurel City Singers 6:00 pm	4	5 Cinco de Mayo  Grace Gill Car Wash
6 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am	7	8 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Christian Ed 7:00 pm National Teacher Day	9 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Property Maint 7:00 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	10 Laurel City Singers 6:00 pm	11	12  STEAM VENT Coffee House Grinder Nite in the Café Serving 6-8 PM
13 Worship Service 10:00 am Cherub Choir 9:45 am Mother's Day	14	15 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Deacons 7:00 pm	16 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	17 Laurel City Singers 6:00 pm Ascension	18	19 Armed Forces Day Pet Parade 2 PM  PASTA SUPPER SILENT AUCTION 4:45-7 PM
20 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am CDC Graduation.	21 Victoria Day Canada	22 Worship Choir 5:30 pm Cabinet 7:00 pm	23 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	24 Laurel City Singers 6:00 pm	25	26 Prayer Shall Ministry 10 am - noon
27 Worship Service 10:00 am Open Mic Sunday Laurel City Singers GOD & COUNTRY Concert 3:00PM FREE	28 MEMORIAL DAY	29	30 Cherub Choir 6:00 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	31		

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



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

Cherub 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

