

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

Lenten Greetings,

The objective of most Lenten traditions and observations is to strengthen our relationship with God by learning something new about ourselves.

I'm writing this message in England. Michelle, our youngest, is spending a week here in Oxford as part of one of her courses during the final semester of her graduate studies. We were last together here over 10 years ago, when she spent a semester abroad on the southern coast of England. I flew across the Atlantic to get her settled for the five month stay. We spent two or three days shopping for everything she needed for her stay. I drove and walked her around the City of Brighton so that she would be familiar with her new surroundings. When we parted, I felt comfortable that my mission, preparing her for the lengthy stay at a new school in a foreign country, was accomplished.

Ten years later I find myself doing the same, except that in my heart I knew that she didn't need me to bring her to Oxford. She could have easily gotten here on her own. But I needed to make the trip with her so that I myself could comfortable that she would be fine! As the day went by, I realized that things changed dramatically since our last visit together to England. Michelle knew exactly what train we needed to take from London to Oxford. She led me through the train stations to find the correct trains. Even though she had not been to Oxford before, she knew exactly how to get from the train station to the hotel where her class would be based. When I suggested we walk up a certain observation tower overlooking the city, she told me that there was another tower a block away where the admission price was half of what was being charged where we were. At the end of the day, she took me back to the train station using a short cut she had figured out during our walk through the city.

What did I learn about myself through this experience? Although I still cling to the illusion that my children need me, it was Michelle who guided us through our excursion to a new city.

Sometimes we live in the past when God is calling us to the future. Often, there is a time when the job we were called to do has been completed but we would prefer to be in our past role. During this Lenten season, I hope that we all can come to accept that God often calls us to move forward when we'd rather live in the past.

Blessings,

Mike



**MARCH 2015**

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# Church News...



## **CDC News**

Melissa Lillie, Director

We have been pretty busy at CDC! The year is just flying by! We had a very special guest, Jack the Llama, come in for a visit again this year! Debbie Elias (from Country Quilt Llama Farm) shared a story and many pictures of Llama's with the children. The highlight was when all the children were able to pet Jack!



We also had Paul Cryan back in for class photos. It is such a wonderful tradition and Paul takes beautiful photos. We can't wait to see them.

Graduation is scheduled for Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.

In the next few months we will begin the enrollment process for the 2015-2016 preschool year. Please help spread the word! If you know of anyone that may be interested in our program or looking for a preschool, please have them call CDC at (860) 379-4838.

## **Board of Christian Education**

At the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Christian Education, Barbara Mazzei agreed to once again act as Chairperson. The board welcomed new member Aiden Callahan.

A Wolfpac Hockey trip was scheduled for March 7. Leaving the parking lot at 12:15 for the 3:30 game.

Confirmation is being planned for 7<sup>th</sup> graders.

There is a need for Sunday School Teachers for the next school year. The Board is short members, and would be happy to welcome those willing to serve.

## **Scholarship Applications**

If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, please see Barbara Mazzei for a form.

## **Property Maintenance Board**

March 1<sup>st</sup> meeting will discuss the following:

A new padlock for the dumpster with five keys.

Replacement of some ceiling tiles, just outside the furnace room in the basement due to water damage.

A heating tape may need to be installed on some of the pipes. In addition, a slightly major pipe replacement has been suggested.

The restoration of some of the wood above the balcony around the ropes to the church bell.

When the weather eventually gets warmer:

The CDC foundation repair needs some finishing touches.

Numerous areas of the church need painting (mostly stemming from windows).

Some windows need resealing.

The glass in one of the front doors as well as a window in the CDC needs replacement.

## **Diaconate Board News**

At the February 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Diaconate Board, Laura McCaw and Lisa Nanni agreed to serve as Co-Chairs and Joan Eggering agreed to be secretary for 2015. Bonnie Geddes will continue as the Sunshine Committee, and Kim Janak and Frank Artruc will on the Music Sub Committee. Kathy Garneau and Kat Timmeney were welcomed as our newest members of the board.

## **Diaconate/Fellowship Committee**

### **Upcoming Events...**

#### **3/21 - Beef Stew and Bingo**

Will be held at 5:30 pm in the dining room. If you are planning to attend, please bring a dessert or some stew to sample! Bingo Prizes will be provided by the Fellowship Committee, and Bingo Cards can be purchased for 25 cents each or a whole pack for \$5.

Dates and tentative dates of other fellowship events:

April or Oct – theme dinner

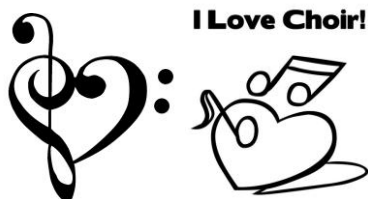
5/10 Mother's Day Brunch

6/21 Father's Day Brunch

6/27 dessert and bingo

8/22 make your own sundaes

12/5 Christmas Fair



**I Love Choir!**

**For the month of March:**

**Worship Choir**

**Trisha Wu, Director**

Sundays March 1, 22, 29 @ 9:20 am - Worship Choir

Sunday March 8 - @ 9:20 am – Muddy Boots Praise Choir

Sunday @ 11:15

Tuesday March 17 - NO Worship Choir Rehearsal

Tuesdays March 3, 10, 24, 31 @ 5:30 pm - Worship Choir Rehearsal



**Rock Starz 4 Jesus** (formerly the Cherub Choir)

**Debbie Storrs, Director**

RS4J meets on Sunday mornings at 11:15 downstairs in the “music room” outside of the side door to the nursery. Rock Starz age 3 & up are welcome.

Sunday, March 15 RS4J will provide Worship Music, and should be at church by 9:20 AM to practice.

Jesus Rocks! Thanks to the Father for the glorious gift of music!



### **UCC Upcoming Dates**

March 9: Stepping Stones: Radical Hospitality with Youth  
<http://www.ctucc.org/events.php?event=3836>

March 13: Clergy Ethics: A Discussion with Don Clark, UCC General Counsel  
<http://www.ctucc.org/events.php?event=4091>

March 13: Clergy Ethics: The Musical  
<http://www.ctucc.org/events.php?event=4093>

March 13-15: Counselor-in-Training Conference at SLCC  
<http://www.ctucc.org/events.php?event=3810>

March 14: Governing Boards and Safe Conduct Policies  
<http://www.ctucc.org/events.php?event=4092>

March 21: Super Saturday  
<http://www.ctucc.org/events.php?event=3849>

March 27-29: Women's Yoga and Music Spirit Retreat  
<http://www.ctucc.org/events.php?event=4070>

March 27-29: Maple Sugaring at Silver Lake  
<http://www.ctucc.org/events.php?event=3847>

You'll find more details about these and lots of other events at:

<http://www.ctucc.org/events/>



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

### **Updates from ABCCONN**

#### **Camp Wightman**

ABCCONN's Annual **Women's Retreat** will be held at Camp Wightman on March 13-15, 2015. Join us for this time to walk with God and explore the many seasons of our faith journey. Led by the Rev. Lisa Gustafson and Cyndi Whipple, the retreat will include worship, Bible study, and time for laughter and quiet reflection. Program details and registration information are available on-line at [www.campwightman.org](http://www.campwightman.org) or by calling 860-376-2179.

Get ready for a **Summer Like No Other...** Get ready for Camp Wightman 2015! With programs for boys and girls ages 6-18, families, and adults, camp is a place where Real Friends, Real Life, & Real Faith Meet. The summer schedule and registration information at [www.campwightman.org](http://www.campwightman.org) or by calling 860-376-2179. Register by March 15 to take advantage of our lowest rates. We look forward to having you at camp this summer!

**Help wanted!** Camp Wightman is recruiting men and women to serve on our summer staff. Energetic? Enthusiastic? Creative? Interested in helping children grow in their faith? Want to make an eternal difference in the lives of children? If so, please contact us at 860-376-2179 or [wightman@abcconn.org](mailto:wightman@abcconn.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

If you can't spend the entire summer at camp, then you might consider spending a week or more as a **volunteer**. We have opportunities for people to serve as counselors, chaplains, program specialists, village “grandparents,” maintenance assistants, and lots more. Please contact us for more information.

**Annual Gathering registration is now on line. Go to [www.abcconn.org](http://www.abcconn.org).**



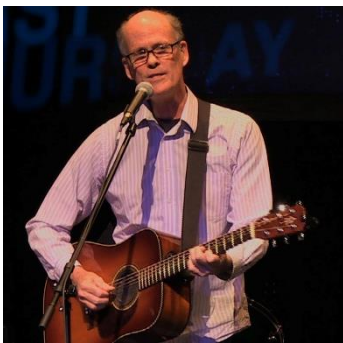
## STEAM VENT Performers March 14th



**Muddy Boots Praise Choir** was started in 2014 by Dan Jones. The choir sings songs of Christian Renewal...! Great way to begin the Spring season of Steam Vent.



**The Alternates Duo** is a two-piece rock band from Southington Connecticut that performs and records original music and covers. The band is composed of Julian Sherwood (drums, vocals, djembe) and Zack Skarzynski (electric/acoustic guitar, vocals). They perform at bars, competitions, coffee houses, and other events with a full drum set and electric guitar. However, they also have a full acoustic set, which includes acoustic versions of their latest originals and acoustic covers. Some of the artists that influence them and make it into their set lists are The Beatles, Buddy Holly, Jack White, and The Ramones. Their sound, while refined and unique, is remnant of old Beatles music with a delivery that kicks like The White Stripes. Their youthful vigor and energetic performances make them a fun band to see no matter where they are.



**Eric Paradine** 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.



**Robert C. Fullerton** is a self-taught musician, whose musical journey has taken him through blues, folk, rock, gospel, jazz and even choral music. This journey has brought him to a place of seeing other people's music through his own eyes and ears, resulting in interpretations that are faithful to the original, yet often quite unique. With a repertoire that includes original songs as well as songs from the 30's, 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s, everything is "looked at through blue eyes" - a touch of jazz, blues, a little bit of soul. In the words of one venue manager, "Robert has shown an ability to cater to the multiple tastes that show up at our place. But with his deep, gravelly voice, and amazing blues chops, there rarely is a need for him to stray from what's familiar."



**The Planets** is a new local band featuring Ally Hall on Vocals, Chris Sacco on Bass, Chris Baez on Drums, Justin Karwowski on Guitar and Aaron Montiel on Guitar/Keyboard.



**The CRB** is the premier teenage rock band from Southern New England. The band plays with a spectacular energy and classic Rock 'n' Roll sound. The CRB's members all have a background that started off with a love for Rock 'n' Roll, thanks to the Beatles, whose roots were very similar to their own. Beside the Fab Four, The CRB's sound has been influenced by the songs and records of The Rolling Stones, Neil Young+ Crazy Horse, The Doors, Cream, along with the musical influence of visionaries like Jimi Hendrix, Bruce Springsteen, The Velvet Underground, and The Allman Brothers. The Band's inspiration to play comes from the wanting to make other people happy through the spirit of Rock 'n' Roll. The group combines great original songs with unique arrangements of classic rock numbers. Each of the Group's members is multi-talented, and are well versed in all aspects of music.

# STEAM VENT Coffee House First Church of Winsted

**SATURDAY**  
**March 14TH**  
**6 – 10 PM**

*Free Will Offering to support Missions!*

## SCHEDULED PERFORMERS

6:00 Open Mic  
6:30 Muddy Boots PC  
7:00 The Alternates Duo  
7:30 Eric Paradine  
8:00 Robert C Fullerton  
8:30 The CRB  
9:00 The Planets  
9:30 Open Mic

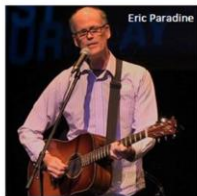


## STEAM VENT CAFÉ Hearty Soup & Salad Night

*Choice of Chili, Wonton Soup,  
Pancit, Zucchini Tomato  
and more...  
served with  
Salad and Rolls.*

Adult portions / Child Portions  
Beverages  
Yummy Desserts

Serving 6 - 8 PM  
During the Show!



Easter flowers will again be available through the  
Board of Christian Education: Please use this  
bulletin insert or call Allison Graboski at  
860 238-7484 for more information.

All flowers are (6") pots.

Tulips	\$8.50	Lilies	\$9.00
Hyacinths	\$8.50	Daffodils	\$8.50

In Memory or Honor of:

Given by:

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**  
**First Church of Winsted**

All requests and payments are due MARCH 22nd



**BEEF  
STEW &  
GO!**

**Saturday,**  
**March 21st**  
**5:30 P.M.**



First Church Dining Hall

Here's how it works: Just bring  
your favorite beef stew to share.

Bingo games are .25 per sheet or  
\$5.00 for a booklet of games.

Bingo winners can choose from a  
variety of prizes!

Fellowship and fun for all ☺  
Any questions, see Laura McCaw  
or Lisa Nanni ☺

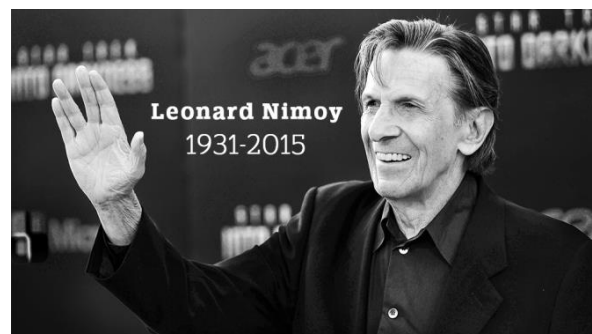
## Clarification/Correction!!

The Pastor sincerely apologizes for listing his daughter Jessica's name as "Jessica Wu Gaspar" in the last edition of the Bellringer! In Mexico, people use both their paternal surname and their maternal last name. So when a student in Mexico, the Pastor was legally known as Michael Wu Lee. Back in the days of the Pastor's youth, when a woman in Mexico married, she would swap out her maternal surname with her husband's paternal surname. Hence his reference to Jessica Wu Gaspar. He did not realize that Jess has decided not to use a second surname, so she'll continue to be "Jessica Wu".

Live Long  
and Prosper!

It's only logical!

RIP Mr. Spock!



**Leonard Nimoy**  
1931-2015



## Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars!

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	March 14 – 6-10 PM	Steam Vent
Sunday – 11:15 am	Rehearsal~RS4J	March 7	Set your clocks ahead!
Tuesday - 5:30 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	March 8	Daylight Savings begins
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	March 17	St Patrick's Day
Thursday - 6:00 pm	Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers	March 20	Spring Begins
		March 21	Beef Stew & Bingo
		March 29	Palm Sunday
		April 2	Maundy Thursday 7:30
		April 3	Good Friday
		April 5	Easter 6:30 & 10:00
<b>Happy Birthday First Church</b>	<i>Board Meetings...</i>		<i>Your mind is a garden... Your thoughts are the seeds. You can grow flowers or You can grow weeds! -Ritu Ghatourey</i>
	March 01	PM Board	
	March 10	Board of Christian Ed.	
	March 15	Deacons	
	March 24	Cabinet Meeting	

# ★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

No Date Listed

Erik Janak

Elisabeth Streeter

01 - Peyton Storrs  
 01 - Pat Wood  
 01 - Stephen Vaill  
 01 - Katherine Timmeney  
 04 - Aedan McAllister  
 05 - Perry Green  
 06 - Steve Cassaday  
 06 - Roger Hurlbut  
 07 - Morgan Blische  
 14 - Brandy Blische  
 17 - Henry Benge  
 17 - Terence O'Neil  
 17 - Keith Rellihan  
 17 - First Church of Winsted  
 21 - Jeff Smeland  
 22 - Brittany Smyth  
 23 - Kurt Timmeney  
 24 - Gretel Eddy  
 25 - Brianna Sollito  
 26 - Carlton (Bud) Roberts  
 28 - Laura McCaw  
 28 - Brigitte Gilbert-Corey  
 31 - Tamsin Pizinger

### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

None

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



### Palm Sunday Services March 29th

Prepare ye...the way of the Lord! Come join in the celebration of the beginning of Holy Week as we remember Jesus Christ's entry into Jerusalem!

### Maundy Thursday Service April 2nd

To be held at 7:30 PM. Come to remember the events leading up to and following the last supper of our Lord.

### EASTER Services

#### Easter Sunrise Service April 5th

**6:30 AM at Forest View Cemetery on April 5th**

Meet us at the top of the hill to greet the sun and celebrate the renewal of life! Bring some white carnations...as a sign of hope...to put on graves of loved ones...

#### 10:00 AM Worship Service April 5th

As is our tradition, the Alleluia Ball will come back into the sanctuary on Easter Sunday morning! All of our choirs will take part in the service, as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ! Come celebrate the good news...Christ is Risen!

### Flower Cross

Add your flowers to our Flower Cross...bring your own or use ours. Bud Roberts built this beautiful wooden cross, which we fill with flowers, which has been our tradition for several years. The empty cross filled with flowers is such a powerful image. Come be part of the resurrection celebration...death has lost its sting!

*"One's philosophy is not best expressed in words; it is expressed in the choices one makes... and the choices we make are ultimately our responsibility."* **Eleanore Roosevelt**



# March 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <b>Artist: Karen Delton</b>	<b>March Birthstone: Aquamarine</b> 	<b>March Flower: Daffodil</b> 	<b>Astrological Signs</b> <b>Mar 1-20 Pisces</b> <b>Mar 21-31 Aries</b>	<b>March Birthdays</b> <i>No Date Listed</i> <i>Elisabeth Streeter</i> <i>Erik Janak</i>	<p>“Keep love in your heart. A life without it is like a sunless garden when the flowers are dead.”</p> <p>— <b>Oscar Wilde</b></p>	
<b>1</b> <b>Worship Service</b> 10:00 am <b>Worship Choir</b> 9:20 am <b>RS4J</b> 11:15 am <i>Peyton Storrs</i> <i>Katherine Timmeney</i> <i>Pat Wood</i> <i>Stephen Vaill</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Worship Choir</b> 5:30 pm	<b>4</b> <b>AA/Alanon</b> 7:30 pm <b>PM Board</b> 7:00 pm  <i>Aedan McAllister</i>	<b>5</b> <b>LCS</b> 7:00 PM  <i>Perry Green</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Wolfpac Hockey Trip</b>  <i>Morgan Blische</i>
<b>8</b> <b>Worship Service</b> 10:00 am <b>RS4J</b> 11:15 am <b>Muddy Boots</b> <b>Daylight Savings Begins</b> <b>Set Clocks Ahead</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Worship Choir</b> 5:30 pm	<b>11</b> <b>AA/Alanon</b> 7:30 pm	<b>12</b> <b>LCS</b> 7:00 PM <b>Small Groups</b> 6:00 PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  <b>STEAM VENT Coffee House</b> <i>Brandy Blischi</i>
<b>15</b> <b>Worship Service</b> 10:00 am <b>RS4J</b> 9:30 am	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>NO Worship Choir</b> <b>Happy St. Patrick's Day!</b> <i>Henry Benge</i> <i>Terence O'Neil</i> <i>Keith Rellihan</i> <i>First Church of Winsted</i>	<b>18</b> <b>AA/Alanon</b> 7:30 pm <b>Spring Begins</b>	<b>19</b> <b>LCS</b> 7:00 PM <b>Small Groups</b> 6:00 PM	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Prayer Shall Ministry</b> 10 am - noon <b>Beef Stew &amp; Bingo</b>  <i>Brittany Smyth</i> <i>Jeff Smeland</i>
<b>22</b> <b>Worship Service</b> 10:00 am <b>Worship Choir</b> 9:20 am <b>RS4J</b> 11:15 am	<b>23</b>  <i>Kurt Timmeney</i>	<b>24</b> <b>Worship Choir</b> 5:30 pm <b>Cabinet</b> 7:00 PM  <i>Gretel Eddy</i>	<b>25</b> <b>AA/Alanon</b> 7:30 pm  <i>Brianna Sollito.</i>	<b>26</b> <b>LCS</b> 7:00 PM <b>Small Groups</b> 6:00 PM  <i>Carlton (Bud) Roberts</i>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>   <i>Laura McCaw</i> <i>Brigitte Gilbert-Corey</i>
<b>29</b> <b>Worship Service</b> 10:00 am <b>Worship Choir</b> 9:20 am <b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>  <i>Tamsin Pizinger</i>	<p>“Fear can be good when you're walking past an alley at night or when you need to check the locks on your doors before you go to bed, but it's not good when you have a goal and you're fearful of obstacles. We often get trapped by our fears, but anyone who has had success has failed before.”</p> <p><b>Queen Latifah</b></p>			



Artist: Karen Delton

### **Pastor - Rev. Michael Wu**

Moderator - Dan Jones ~ Vice-Moderator – Bob Adkins  
 Clerk - Allison Graboski  
 Treasurer - Debby Kane ~ Associate Treasurer - Joan Eggering  
 Financial Secretary - Tanya Mongitore  
 Board of Deacons Co-chairs - Laura McCaw & Lisa Nanni  
 Property Maintenance Chair - Frank Artruc  
 Christian Education Chair / Sunday School Director - Barbara Mazzei  
 Organist/Worship Choir Director - Tricia Wu  
 Muddy Boots Praise Choir Director – Dan Jones  
 Youth Choir Director - Debbie Storrs  
 Webmaster - John Eggering

## **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. Judy G. Allbee

Telephone (860) 521-5421

ABCCONN Web-Site [www.abcconn.org](http://www.abcconn.org)

First Church of Winsted  
 95 North Main Street  
 Winsted, CT 06098

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