

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

Greetings in the Name of Our Risen Lord!

In addition to demonstrating God's love for all of us and the forgiveness of any mistakes me might make in our lives, Easter is a time when we are reminded that transition is both challenging and exciting at the same time. The eleven disciples suddenly found themselves without the physical presence of their leader. Although they were well trained, they weren't expecting to have to carry on the ministry "on their own" so quickly. There were many challenges, but as we read from the scriptures, they were also filled with the Holy Spirit and new found excitement about the ministry entrusted to them.

As many of you know, just a few weeks ago, I transitioned from a 27 year career at Otis and other business units of United Technologies to working in my oldest brother's law firm. While there are obvious challenges as I learn to do things that I hadn't done before, I find myself excited about having the opportunity to appear in court once again, to meet clients, and to focus on providing legal services to individuals rather than a company.

I had concerns about many of the decisions I had made leading up to the transition, not the least of which was my decision to purchase an electric vehicle. Days before the transition was to take place, I was dreading the thought of having to commute to my brother's office in Danbury. According to my logic, the distance was way beyond the range of the battery in my car. And using gasoline (which happens automatically when I run out of battery power) would just ruin my efficiency (mpg) numbers. God knows that I could have been easily figured this all out when deciding on the vehicle to purchase. I made a stupid mistake which I would have to live with for a long time.

But as I was forced to make the commute, I learned that if I used gas at certain times (for example, when going up hills) and the battery power at other times (like when I go down hills or when stuck in traffic), I could get an average of 86 miles per gallon on each trip to Danbury. Granted that it's not the 250+ miles per gallon that I get when I run the vehicle solely on electric power, it still is better than the efficiency of any other kind of vehicle on the road, including a hybrid.

So what's this got to do with our you and our Church? We all face change and transition. And we usually don't like it! But I've learned a few things about having to change and having to live with my own decisions. First, with God's help, we can weather transitions better than we first think or imagine. Second, as we venture forward into the unknown, God will make his presence know in surprising ways. I learned after a few commutes that within a short distance (a five to ten minute walk) from my brother's office is an electric car charging station where I plug my car in and get a free charge while I'm working. Finally, as did the disciples, I learned that once we poke our heads out of the hole, we are often surprised at how well things actually turn out.

So while it seems to be human nature to fear change and transition, with God's help, it is positive and we adapt much more quickly than we expected. As we face transition and change both personally and as a Church family, I hope we'll keep those three points in mind!

Blessings,

Mike



May 2014

**95 North Main Street
Winsted, CT 06098
860-379-1778**

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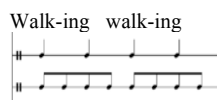
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Church Events

2014 Mexico Mission Trip

For the eighth consecutive year, First Church will be sponsoring a mission trip to Oaxaca, Mexico. Our work over the years has been varied and challenging: the mission trip participants built homes at the local dump for families that collect plastic bottles for a living, distributed food to thousands of needy people in the mountains, and last year did major infrastructure repairs at the Casa Hogar children's home. Those repairs included replacing roofs on the classroom buildings, rewiring the electrical system of two thirds of the facility, and of course, spending time with the nearly 70 residents of the home. This year we will again be returning to Casa Hogar, and once again, our mission team will include both members of our congregation and friends from Saltillo, Mexico (a city over a thousand miles north of Oaxaca). If you are interested in being a member of the mission trip team, please contact Pastor Mike for more information. Even if you can't travel to Mexico to work with the team, there will be many opportunities for you to be part of the endeavor and support this year's team.



Running, running,
Running, running

Hey do you feel
the rhythm?



Rock Starz 4 Jesus will begin to explore rhythms and some stringed instruments. Guitars proved a bit large for small fingers...so we are also going to start some Hawaiian fun with Ukeleles! Perhaps a little Somewhere Over the Rainbow...Israel Kamakawiwo 'Ole style...! Oddly enough, it seems almost everyone has one...hum...? I know...funny...huh? We could use a couple of more. If you have one, that is sitting around collecting dust somewhere...and are willing to donate it, you can even take it as a tax deduction...! Rhythm is everywhere...and we will even find it in our names! And other silly things! Rehearsing Sunday mornings at 9:15!

May 2014

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
 <i>Artist: Karen Delton</i>				1	2	3 Ziti Supper 4 to 7 pm
4 Rock Starz 4 Jesus 9:15 am Worship Service 10:00 am	5	6 Worship Choir 5:30 pm	7 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	8	9	10 TAG SALE 8am – 3 pm Steam Vent 6 pm
11 Mother's Day Brunch Rock Starz 4 Jesus 9:15 am Worship Service 10:00 am	12	13 Worship Choir 5:30 pm	14 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	15	16	17 Memorial Service for Marion Chapin
18 Worship Service 10:00 am	19	20 Worship Choir 5:30 pm	21 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	22	23	24
25 Worship Service 10:00 am  Rock Starz 4 Jesus 9:15 am	26 Memorial Day	27 Worship Choir 5:30 pm	28 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	29	30	31

Send a little Sunshine - If there is someone in need of a "Thinking of You", "Get Well Soon" or "Prayers are with you in this time of Need" please let our Sunshine Girl know by emailing her at bonniegeddes@aol.com

Upcoming Events... Mark your calendar!

Sunday - 10 am	Worship	May 3	Ziti Supper w/Silent Auction 4 pm
Sunday - 9:15 am	Rehearsal~Rock Starz 4 Jesus	May 4	Worship Choir 9:20 am
Tuesday - 5:30 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	May 4	Property Maintenance Mtg 11 am
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	May 10	Tag Sale 8 am – 3 pm
Thursday - 7:00 pm	Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers	May 10	Steam Vent 6 pm
		May 11	Mother's Day Brunch
		May 17	Memorial Service for Marion Chapin
		May 18	Worship Choir 9:20 am
		May 18	Confirmation Class
		May 25	Confirmation Class
		May 26	Memorial Day
	<i>Board Meetings...</i>		
	May 4	PM Board	

FIRST CHURCH KITCHEN BAND

Thank you to the following members of the congregation who joined the Worship Choir in presenting the Anthem "Dry Bones" on April 6th: Aiden, Alex, Kim, Makayla, Michael, Peyton, Riley, and Sandra

Also, thank you to all the Worship Choir members who put in extra time to stay after the worship services on several Sundays in order to practice with those who joined us for this special anthem.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Artruc, Frank	5/5
Blische, MaKenna	5/5
Eggering, Butch	5/25
Eggering, Joan	5/8
Janak, Krystal	
Kane, Deborah	5/11
Marchand, Peter	5/22
Martin, Sarah	5/13
Nanni, Jay	5/4
Nanni, Lia	5/4
Smyth, Brianna	5/14
Stover, Rose	5/25
Stover, Russ	5/25
Whipple, Jeff	5/5
Wu, Christina	5/9
Wu, Emily Michelle	5/30

Anniversary List

Kathy & Don Garneau	25-May
Bonnie & Ryan Geddes	6-May
Samantha & Rick Rice	17-May
Brenda & Bruce Sherman	12-May
Korie & Gary Valickis	14-May

FIRST CHURCH of WINSTED
95 North Main Street
Winsted, CT 06098

Ziti Supper
And
Silent Auction

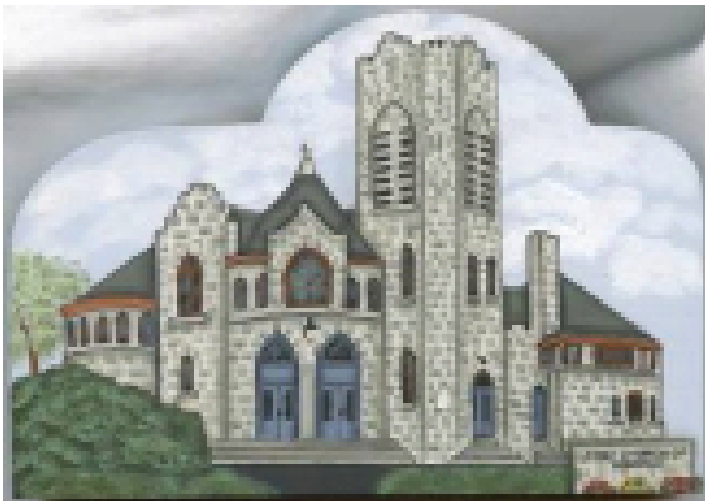


To Benefit the Youth Scholarship Fund

Saturday May 3rd
4pm-7pm

\$10 adult, \$8 senior or student, \$5 children
under 12,
\$25 family of 4+

Check us out online! www.firstchurchofwinsted.org



Artist: Karen Delton

Pastor - Rev. Michael Wu

Moderator - Dan Jones

Vice-Moderator – Richard Mazzei

Clerk – Sandy Thibault

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

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BELLRINGER



	
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