

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 Christ,

I hope and pray that you were able to weather the very unusual October snow storm with the least possible amount of damage and discomfort given the seriousness of the storm. The storm was another reminder of how the unexpected regularly occurs in our lives. And notwithstanding all of the modern technology that exists, it was also a reminder that we are not in total control of our world.

Speaking of unexpected events, I was flying this week from Oaxaca to Mexico City after leaving our daughter Jessica at Casa Hogar to continue her work with the children there. The plane out of Oaxaca was delayed, and as I waited in the departure gate area, a woman walked up to me and asked if I worked for Otis Elevator Company. The logo on my shirt was a dead giveaway, but I was still shocked to be asked the question in English. As it turned out the woman was an Otis sales rep in Seattle, Washington. When we finally arrived to Mexico City, we spoke again while waiting for luggage to be delivered. Turned out she had a connecting flight in the other terminal (a couple of miles away by car). She was not familiar with the airport, and was at risk of missing her next flight due to the late arrival of the first. So I offered to give her a ride in my rental car. On the way over we talked about our respective connections to Oaxaca, and it turns out that she and her daughter are interested in participating in any future mission work our Church may do at Casa Hogar or with Simply Smiles.

This chance encounter illustrates the fact that when we have the opportunity to give a helping hand to someone, we never know what might result from our efforts. A simple ride which really wasn't far out of my way resulted in additional support for two ministries that we have supported in significant ways in recent years.

As the holiday season rapidly approaches, we have the opportunity to reach out to many people we may not know. For example, this year, we will have two Christmas families. One will be local to the Winsted area. The other "family" will be the children at Casa Hogar in Oaxaca, Mexico. The temperature in Oaxaca goes down into the 50's in the evening and night during fall and winter. The buildings at Casa Hogar are not heated, and the children rely on hooded sweatshirts to stay warm. Jes, while working there, noticed that each child only has one sweatshirt. Once a week, they have to wash their sweatshirt early in the morning, hang it on the clothesline, and hope it dries before the temperature drops in the evening. She also noticed that almost all of the zippers on the hoodies are broken because of use and age.

We've been able to find hooded sweatshirts for the residents of Casa Hogar for an average price of \$12 each. Most have zippers, and no two are exactly alike. In the coming weeks, there will be a bulletin board with the photos (and names) of most of the 55 children and teens who live at Casa Hogar. Everyone is welcome to "adopt" one or more of them by taking their photo (or photos) and making a \$12 donation to the Church for each child/teen you wish to support. (Please note "Christmas Hoodies" on your check.)

Blessings,

Mike



NOVEMBER 2011

95 North Main Street
Winsted, CT 06098
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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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The incredible floral artwork of Nancy Herzig...who also plays flute in our Boar's Head Festival...! Nancy is a floral arranger par excellence! Or pumpkin/gourd arranger in this case!

Check us out online! www.firstchurchofwinsted.org

Church News...

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Alexandra Cassaday (right) helping out in the garden during a recent trip to Old Sturbridge Village.



## NEW LOUVERS!

The Louvers in our tower have not fared well over time. They have rotted and worn so badly, they allow water to come into the tower...and then into the church walls.

Bud Roberts and Steve Roys have taken on the task of replacing them...not a small task. A sample was brought to the cabinet meeting...with 60 more to be made. Once they are built and painted, they will be installed in the spring! Restoration...under way!

*Also thanks to the angels who have been working on the Narthex to repair water damage...you know who you are!*

## Church Directory...

Anyone wishing to have a picture in the directory, who has not already had photo's done with Life Touch, there will be a photo make-up day, Sunday after church. Lisa Nanni will be taking pictures, for FREE...so that photo's may be included. You may also submit a photo of your own!

So...get pretty...comb your hair...and say cheese, so we can add your smiling face to our Directory along with contact information.

Directories will be made available to those who have entered information.

So...as my grandkids say...bring your "cheese face"...it's time for your closeup!

## ANNUAL HOLIDAY CHURCH FAIR IS COMING!

Saturday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Would you like to sign up for a basket of goodies to donate for the basket raffle? (See Barbara Mazzei)

Do you run a business or have a special craft to sell at the fair?

Be a part of the fun: help the kitchen chili cook off staff or help with set up/clean up.

See Laura McCaw/Lisa Nanni for vendor/volunteer info.

Dan Jones received a Distinguished Alumni award from the Gilbert School for Outstanding Achievement in Athletics!



Left to Right: Robin Taillie (sister) and Dan Jones



Left to Right: Ashley, Denise, Dan & Kyle Jones

## Building Restoration Fund To Get 10%

As we explore the growing repair needs, the Cabinet voted to add 10% of all fundraising activity to the building restoration fund, beginning with the October Tag Sale. So out of our \$2, 036 proceeds, \$203.60 will be added to the fund! 10% for the House of God...90% for his work!



Car washers...Erik, Karl, Kayla & Krystal...is youth group getting younger? Great Weekend!



Tag Sale raised: \$2,036.00!! Car Wash: \$170  
Grace Grille: \$160.40 Bake Sale: \$108.08



Mark your calendars!

Saturday, November 12  
8 AM - Noon!

*Many hands make light work!*

**CHURCH  
CLEAN-UP  
DAY!**







Allison Hall and Scott Graboski  
Were married on August 17, 2011

Mr & Mrs Scott Graboski  
323 Winchester Rd  
Winsted, CT 06098

*Congratulations to the happy couple!*

### Kristen Graves Christmas CD to support Native American Mission...

Kristen will have CD's on sale at our Christmas Fair on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, and will also join us to sing during the worship service on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds of CD sales will go to support a Guitar Camp she is running on the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Reservation in South Dakota. The level of poverty is staggering in this community, and Simply Smiles is committed to a vision to curtail suicides, to provide basic needs, to give children an alternative to the dangers of the streets, to preserve and cultivate the rich Lakota Culture, and to provide bright futures for *these* impoverished children.

### Give Thanks...

<sup>11-13</sup>It happened that as he made his way toward Jerusalem, he crossed over the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten men, all lepers, met him. They kept their distance but raised their voices, calling out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" <sup>14-16</sup>Taking a good look at them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests."

They went, and while still on their way, became clean. One of them, when he realized that he was healed, turned around and came back, shouting his gratitude, glorifying God. He kneeled at Jesus' feet, so grateful. He couldn't thank him enough" and he was a Samaritan.

<sup>17-19</sup>Jesus said, "Were not ten healed? Where are the nine? Can none be found to come back and give glory to God except this outsider?" Then he said to him, "Get up. On your way. Your faith has healed and saved you." (Luke 17:11-19, The Message)

This is not a difficult passage of Scripture to understand. Ten lepers come to Jesus seeking to be healed. Jesus tells them to go show themselves to the priest, and as they do as Jesus said they are healed. All ten are healed, but only one comes back to thank Jesus. If returning thanks glorifies God, should we not make thanksgiving a year-round event?

Let us all join together to thank God for what we have received from him. Share with us what you are thankful to God for. *Let us all glorify God together for the great things he has done.*



### Church Family Thanksgiving Dinner....



*Join us...give thanks!*

Our youth *will* be serving a Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> after the worship service. Join us for the annual celebration of Thanksgiving with a turkey dinner with all the fixins!



### The Boar's Head Festival



January 7<sup>th</sup> at 4 & 7 PM  
January 8<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM

**Sign-up for the Boar's Head Festival!**

There is a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Room, or you can email Debbie Storrs at [dstorrs@snet.net](mailto:dstorrs@snet.net).

Please volunteer in whatever way you are able...so we can once again tell the story of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ!

**COSTUME FITTINGS NOVEMBER 12, 19, 26 AND  
DECEMBER 3 FROM 9 AM UNTIL NOON!!!**





Messiah Community Sing-a-long  
sponsored by  
Second Congregational Church  
December 10<sup>th</sup>  
Call 860-379-4766 for more info



**Laurel City Singers**

**Once upon a Christmas Concert**

**Sunday ~ December 4<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM**  
**First Church of Winsted 95 North Main Street**  
**Tickets: \$10 Adult ~ \$8 Senior ~ \$20 Family**

*Church Family tickets half price! See Deb Storrs*

## Harmony for Hunger

**benefit concert raised \$1000 for the Open Door Soup Kitchen and the Food Bank!**

**Hats off to musicians, organizers and those who attended!**



Meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday each month from 9 AM until Noon. Call Barb Mazzei for info: 860-379-2900



CABIF investment group under ABCONN will be dissolving. As a result, First Church will be moving our investments into the Barcomb group, which is the new investment group under ABCONN.

# Mission:1

11.1.11-11.11.11

That they may all be 1

ONE UNITED CHURCH on a shared mission for 11 powerful days to feed the hungry and confront food-related injustice



[ucc.org/mission1](http://ucc.org/mission1)

Nov. 1-11, 2011

God is still speaking,  **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

## Mission:1

11.1.11 - 11.11.11

Nov. 1-11, 2011 ... ONE UNITED CHURCH on a shared mission for 11 powerful days to feed the hungry and confront food-related injustice.

This is Mission: 1

- ✓ In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will collect more than 1 MILLION ITEMS OF HEALTHY FOOD and other household items for local food banks and outreach services.
- ✓ In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will make an extra-special push to gather online contributions of more than \$111,111 FOR NEIGHBORS IN NEED, offerings that will be shared for hunger-action purposes with agencies of justice and compassion throughout the United States; and \$111,111 FOR EAST AFRICA FAMINE RELIEF that will be shared through the UCC's disaster relief ministries.
- ✓ In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will offer more than 11,111 LETTERS TO CONGRESS asking our government to reform U.S. foreign assistance in a way that more effectively benefits hungry and poor people worldwide, helping to provide a major final push to Bread for the World's 2011 "Offering of Letters" campaign.

Start planning now to learn about food-related issues, advocate and raise money on behalf of the hungry, and share bread — and tuna, and peanut butter, and vegetables, and cereal — with our neighbors in need at home and abroad in order to more fully realize our UCC motto and Jesus' prayer, "That they may all be 1."

Organize your church's victory strategy. And plan to join in a national celebration of our campaign's success on Sunday, Nov. 13, in your church.

From Nov. 1-11, an online tote board at [ucc.org](http://ucc.org) will tally our collective count of foodstuffs, donations and letters — information we'll update and celebrate in real time together.

The world needs the distinct values, vision and voice of the United Church of Christ — Continuing Testament. Extravagant Welcome. Changing Lives.

This is Mission: 1

This is the United Church of Christ  
[ucc.org/mission1](http://ucc.org/mission1)

God is still speaking,  
**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**





Thanksgiving Offering will be split between Open Door Soup Kitchen, Salvation Army Food Bank & Capital Fund!

## Sometimes

I want to ask God why He allows poverty, famine and injustice in the world when He could do something about it, but I'm afraid He might just ask me the same question



## Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars!

| <i>Celebrate With Us...</i>                                                       |                               | <i>Looking Forward</i>                                                              |                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sunday - 10 am                                                                    | Worship                       | November 6                                                                          | Bring a Friend Sunday         |
| Monday - 6 pm                                                                     | Rehearsal~Worship Choir       | November 11                                                                         | Veterans Day                  |
| Tuesday - 6 pm Sept 20th                                                          | Rehearsal~Cherub Choir        | November 12 8 am - noon                                                             | Church Clean-up               |
| Wednesday - 7:30 pm                                                               | AA / Alanon Meetings          | November 12                                                                         | Steam Vent Coffee House       |
| Thursday - 6:00 pm                                                                | Rehearsal~Laurel City Singers | November 13                                                                         | Stewardship Sunday            |
|                                                                                   |                               | November 24                                                                         | Thanksgiving                  |
|                                                                                   |                               | November 26 9 am - noon                                                             | Prayer Shall Ministry         |
|                                                                                   |                               | December 3                                                                          | Christmas Fair                |
|                                                                                   |                               | December 4                                                                          | Once Upon a Christmas Concert |
|  |                               | <i>Board Meetings...</i>                                                            |                               |
|                                                                                   |                               | November 01 7:00 pm                                                                 | PM Board                      |
|                                                                                   |                               | November 08 7:00 pm                                                                 | Board of Christian Ed.        |
|                                                                                   |                               | November 15 7:00 pm                                                                 | Deacons                       |
|                                                                                   |                               | November 29 7:00 pm                                                                 | Cabinet Meeting               |
|                                                                                   |                               |  |                               |



### November BIRTHDAYS

03 - Gloria Lee  
 04 - Steve Roy  
 08 - Robert O'Connor  
 17 - Aaron Schames  
 18 - Ayriana Marie Jarboe  
 27 - Lisa Toomey  
 27 - Bob Miles  
 29 - Abigail Beaulieu

### November Anniversaries

♥ None

## STEAM VENT Performers November 12th

### Performers

6:00 Dark Horse  
 6:30 Joel Blumert  
 7:00 Shishkabob – jug band!  
 7:30 Jeanne McMillan Duo  
 8:00 Andrea Paquin  
 8:30 Con & the Taine Mtn Coyotes  
 9:00 Don Jones  
 9:30 Tom Sheeley

### Final Show of 2011!!

Free Will Offering to Benefit Missions

### STEAM VENT CAFÉ

#### *Spanish Nite!*

*Pork Kabobs or Spanish Torte (Quiche). . . . . \$8.00*  
*With a side of Traditional Spanish Rice &*  
*Beans with side of fruit salad*  
*Side of Spanish Rice & Beans . . . . . \$3.00*  
*Side of Fruit Salad . . . . . \$2.00*  
*Deserts . . . . . \$1 - \$2*  
*Beverages . . . . . \$1.00*

*Serving from 6 until 8 PM*



Answer: Riverton General Store 1906



♥ Not every person knows how to love a dog,  
 but every dog knows how to love a person ♥

BE THE KIND OF  
 WOMAN  
 THAT WHEN YOUR  
 FEET HIT  
 THE FLOOR EACH  
 MORNING  
 THE DEVIL SAYS  
 "OH CRAP, SHE'S UP."

*Enjoy the little things in life...  
 For one day you will look back  
 and realize they were the  
 big things!*



Connecticut Magazine Fall Classics cover is graced with the photography of Katherine Griswold of Norfolk. Kathy (one of my best friends from high school) has had many successful art showings, and her artwork may be viewed or purchased at [www.katherinegriswoldphotography.com](http://www.katherinegriswoldphotography.com)



First Church of Winsted  
*Not a type-o!*  
*Someone needed our sign letters more than we did...but  
 we are looking into replacements...just Fi!*





Grinnin' & Grillin'  
Pastor Wu



Shopping!



Rich Mazzei



Shopping!



Lisa Nanni: Don't take my picture...too late!



Knott Brothers  
Bill Morrell  
Scott Camara



Birch Creek



Bluebyrd



Jim Paradis



Dark Horse



Robert Alan Scalla





# November 2011



| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                           | Mon                                                                                                                                    | Tue                                                                                                                        | Wed                                                                                                          | Thu                                                                                                                            | Fri                                                                                                                                                            | Sat                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <br>Artist: Karen Delton                                                                                      | <b>November Birthstone: Topaz</b><br>                 | <b>November Flower: Chrysanthemum</b><br> | <b>Astrological Signs</b><br><br><b>Scorpio:</b><br>Nov 23- Nov 21<br><b>Sagittarius:</b><br>Nov 22 – Dec 21 |                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Oct 30</b><br><br>Worship Service<br><b>10:00 am</b><br><br>Worship Choir<br>9:30                                                                                                          | <b>Oct 31</b><br>No<br>Worship Choir<br>Rehearsal<br> | <b>1</b><br><b>All Saints Day</b><br><br>Property<br>Maintenance<br>Board<br>7:00                                          | <b>2</b><br><br>Cherub Choir<br>6:00 pm<br><br>AA/Alanon<br>7:30 pm                                          | <b>3</b><br><br>Laurel City<br>Singers<br>6:00                                                                                 | <b>4</b><br><br><br><br><b>Change the Batteries in you Smoke Detectors!</b> | <b>5</b><br><br><br><br><b>Change the Batteries in you Smoke Detectors!</b>                                            |
| <b>6</b><br><br>Worship Service<br><b>10:00 am</b><br><br>Worship Choir<br>9:30<br><br><b>Daylight Savings ENDS!</b><br><br>Bring a Friend<br>Sunday                                          | <b>7</b><br><br>Worship Choir<br>6:00 pm                                                                                               | <b>8</b><br><br>Chris Ed<br>7:00                                                                                           | <b>9</b><br><br>Cherub Choir<br>6:00 pm<br><br>AA/Alanon<br>7:30 pm                                          | <b>10</b><br><br>Laurel City<br>Singers<br>6:00                                                                                | <b>11</b><br><br><b>Veterans Day</b><br>                                   | <b>12</b> <u>Clean Up Day</u><br><br><br><b>STEAM VENT</b><br>Coffee House<br>6-10 PM<br>Spanish Night in<br>the Café! |
| <b>13</b><br><br>Worship Service<br>10:00 am<br><br>Cherub Choir<br>9:30<br><br>Stewardship<br>Sunday                                                                                         | <b>14</b><br><br>Worship Choir<br>6:00 pm                                                                                              | <b>15</b><br><br>Deacons<br>7:00 pm                                                                                        | <b>16</b><br><br>Cherub Choir<br>6:00 pm<br><br>AA/Alanon<br>7:30 pm                                         | <b>17</b><br><br>Laurel City<br>Singers<br>6:00                                                                                | <b>18</b><br><br>                                                                                                                                              | <b>19</b><br><br>Costume Fittings<br>9 til noon                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>20</b><br><br>Worship Service<br>10:00 am<br><br>Worship Choir<br>9:30 am<br><br>Thanksgiving<br>Dinner                                                                                    | <b>21</b><br><br>Worship Choir<br>6:00 pm                                                                                              | <b>22</b><br><br>                                                                                                          | <b>23</b><br><br>No<br>Cherub Choir<br><br>AA/Alanon<br>7:30 pm                                              | <b>24</b><br><br>Happy<br><br>Thanksgiving | <b>25</b><br><br>                                                                                                                                              | <b>26</b><br><br>Costume Fittings<br>9 til noon<br><br><b>Prayer Shall Ministry 9-Noon</b>                                                                                                                |
| <b>27</b><br><br>Worship Service<br>10:00 am<br><br>Open Mic Sunday<br><b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday-Advent</b> | <b>28</b><br><br>Worship Choir<br>6:00 pm                                                                                              | <b>28</b><br><br>Cabinet Meeting<br>7:00 pm                                                                                | <b>28</b><br><br>Cherub Choir<br>6:00 pm<br><br>AA/Alanon<br>7:30 pm                                         | <b>Dec 1</b><br><br>Laurel City<br>Singers<br>6:00                                                                             | <b>Dec 2</b><br><br>                                                                                                                                           | <b>Dec3</b><br><br><b>Christmas Fair</b><br>9 til 3<br><br><b>Discounted Boar's Head Fest Tickets</b><br><br>Costume Fittings<br>9 til noon                                                               |

# 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**

**NOV 12<sup>th</sup> PERFORMERS:**

**6:00 - Open Mic – 5:30 sign-up**  
**6:30 Joel Blumert**  
**7:00 Shishkabob – jug band!**  
**7:30 Jeanne McMillan Duo**  
**8:00 Andrea Paquin**  
**8:30 Coyote – Con Dote**  
**9:00 Don Jones**  
**9:30 Tom Sheeley**

**STEAM VENT CAFÉ**

**Spanish Night!**

**Free Will Offering to Benefit Missions**

# BELLRINGER

