

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

Dear Members & Friends,

As you may know, both our Sunday School program and our worship services normally follow what is known as the Revised Common Lectionary. The Lectionary was an ecumenical effort of many different denominations and it suggests certain scriptures for each Sunday. The main benefit of the Lectionary is that it forces me to reflect and preach on scriptures that I might not personally select. The Lectionary also follows writers and books of the Bible rather than themes. For example, the Lectionary at a certain time will take us through the entire Gospel of Matthew, rather than just jumping between the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. That allows us to hear and experience the totality of each author's Book of the Bible. And it keeps me from preaching on themes or topics that are only near and dear to my heart....

Life is often like the Lectionary. We are taken to places we might not have thought about going. Or for that matter, places where we never ever wanted to go. Our recent Sunday scriptures have followed the journey of the Jewish people from Egypt toward the Promised Land. The clear message we hear as we read those passages is that even when traveling on a blessed journey (heading to a special place promised to them by God), the unexpected happens. At certain times, the people found themselves being pursued by enemies, hungry, and thirsty. But we also read that each time, God heard their prayers and provided them with what they needed. God gave them the strength to endure their challenges and provided them with what they needed to continue their journey. Interestingly enough, I haven't found passages where God explains WHY the challenges took place. God just confirmed his presence in the bad situations and gave them what they needed to overcome their challenges.

Human beings are very inquisitive. As the father of four daughters, I can guarantee you that the three most regularly used words of each when they were three years old was, "Why?", "Why?" and "Why?". We want to understand everything that happens in our world. As we all continue to mourn the loss of Owen Lovejoy, I hope that we can embrace the realization that God is with us in this time of challenge and that God will provide us what we need to overcome this challenge so that we can continue to do God's will. Owen touched the lives of so many by sharing his time, sense of humor, and concern. I don't recall Owen focusing on the "Why's" of life, but instead dedicating his efforts to meeting the needs of those around him. That's what God wants us to do.

Blessings,

Mike



OCTOBER 2014

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

Article Submission:
info@firstchurchofwinsted.org

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

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**Worship Services
Begin at 10:00 AM**

Bible Study at 9:00 AM

Church News...



CDC News

Melissa Lillie, Director

It has been a great start to the school year! We have spent most of the time learning about our school and new friends! We ended September learning all about Apples...we even enjoyed making our own Applesauce. October will be busy with Fire Safety, Pumpkins and Halloween! We are looking forward to our field trip to Ruwet Farm as well! Below is a picture of our MWF class enjoying our new climber!



Check us out on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Childrens-Discovery-Center/112035955474363>

OR on the web:
<http://www.childrensdiscoverywinsted.org>



COLEBROOK –LOVEJOY, OWEN

Owen Saunders Lovejoy, 18, lost his year-long battle with depression on Friday, September 19, 2014. He was born on August 20, 1996 in Bristol, CT; the son of Glen Lovejoy and Kathleen Riiska – Lovejoy. Owen was a lifelong resident of Colebrook graduating from Northwestern Regional #7 High School this year. He had a passion for history and music. He was a member of the high school band, high school jazz band, the Harmonious Brass band and the Litchfield County Choral Union. He was also a member of the First Church of Winsted. Owen achieved his black belt in Karate and worked at Camp Jewell. In addition to his parents, he is survived by his sister and soul-mate, Jane Austin Lovejoy of Colebrook; grandmother, Shirley Saunders Lovejoy of NJ; step-grandmother, Carmita Lovejoy of AZ; faithful friend, Sam Guglielmino of Colebrook; and a large extended family. He was predeceased by grandparents, Harry Lovejoy; and Austin and Audrey Riiska. The family would like to express their appreciation to friends, family, educators, mental health professionals and state police for their help during such a difficult time. A Celebration of his life will be held on Friday, October 3, 2014 at Colebrook Senior & Community Center, 2 School House Rd., Colebrook

from 6 – 8 PM. A Memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 4, 2014 at First Church of Winsted at 11 AM. Montano-Shea Funeral Home, 922 Main Street, Winsted has care of the arrangements. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Northwestern Music Parents Association, Northwestern Regional #7, 100 Battistoni Drive, Winsted, CT 06098 and/or per Owen's wishes to a charity for those who suffer in silence: NAMI/National Alliance on Mental Illness, PO Box 62596, Baltimore, Maryland 21264-2596. Visit an online guestbook at montano-shea.com.

There is Another Side of Grief

Where the tears still flow
Not as often

Where memories bring smiles
Not just sadness

Where blessings are recognized
Not just struggles

Where joy and peace are present
Not just sorrow

Where you are remembered
Not just Mourned

Property Maintenance Board

The Church Cabinet endorsed the mission project to build two bathrooms with handicap access at Joe's Place, a ministry for homeless men in Torrington. Until the bathrooms are built, no one is allowed to stay in the building overnight. Property Maintenance is coordinating our work there, and all are welcome to assist with the project! The water damage to the hall way ceiling will be repaired. They will be addressing some foundation leakage issues at CDC as well. Thankful for our helping hands!

Check us out online! www.firstchurchofwinsted.org

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

Connecticut Chapter

Family Training Seminar:

A four part training program for those affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.



Thursdays
10/9, 10/16, 10/23 & 10/30
6-8 pm

Winsted Health Center
115 Spencer Street
Winsted, CT

Please RSVP to Jennifer Labrie
Alzheimer's Association, CT Chapter
1-800-272-3000

- Oct 9: Alzheimer's Association Programs and Services
The Basics: Memory Loss, Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease
- Oct 16: Communication Techniques | Behavioral Challenges | Safety
- Oct 23: Family Dynamics | Community Resources | Keeping the Caregiver Healthy
- Oct 30: Legal and Financial Issues

Family Training Seminar



TAG SALE
DATE CHANGE!!!
SAT. Oct. 18th
8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

We need YOUR unwanted items to sell!

WE NEED YOUR HELP TOO!

Volunteers are needed to sort on drop off days and during the day of the Tag Sale. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Room during coffee hour, or see Lisa Nanni or Laura McCaw.

Drop off times:

Wed – Fri (Oct 15-17)

We would really appreciate if you could donate an hour or two of your time. Many hands make light work! ☺

"I know that in life there will be sickness, devastation, disappointments, heartache - it's a given. What's not a given is the way you choose to get through it all. If you look hard enough, you can always find the bright side."

– Rashida Jones



We are hoping that fellow parishioners can help join efforts with North Congregational Church in New Hartford with hosting their **Community Meal on October 24th**. We need prep staff, wait staff and clean-up crew. Please sign up in the Gathering Room if you are willing to donate an hour of your time for such a heartfelt need in the community. What a great way to combine spiritual efforts and meet fellow Christians doing God's work locally. See Lisa Nanni or Laura McCaw.

Baptisms on 9/14/14
Jordan Elizabeth Bourque
and
Jamie Olivie Bourque
Children of James Arne & Jill Bourque. God Parents: Megan Lazareski and Lisa Marie Stores.

RALLY DAY PICNIC 2014



Slow Cooker Apple Butter



Serves: 8

Quick and easy apple butter made in the crock pot.

Ingredients

- 6 apples of your choice- I used Gala but you can mix and match
- 1 tablespoon cinnamon
- squeeze of lemon juice
- ¼ cup water
- ¼ cup sugar
- ¼ cup brown sugar

Instructions

1. Core the apples and give them a rough chop.
2. Place in slow cooker.
3. Add cinnamon, water and both sugars.
4. Gently stir.
5. Close the lid and let this cook away for about 4½ hours on low.
6. Check it periodically to make sure it is still moist and the apples are not dried out. Add more water as needed.
7. Remove from Crock Pot after 4½ hours and place in a food processor or blender.
8. Add a squeeze of lemon juice if you like.
9. Puree until smooth.
10. If the apple butter looks more like applesauce and doesn't have the rich brown color, just place back in the crock pot and cook for another hour or so on high heat. Leave the Crock uncovered and check it often

OOPS... Apple Picking trip has been cancelled!! Oh well...still a nice recipe!

GO ZOE!!!

September's Steam Vent raised \$1,266 which was deposited into the Zoe Rose Fortier Fund. If you would like to donate, please mail checks to:

Zoe Rose Fortier Fund
Northwest Community Bank
416 Winsted Road
Torrington, CT 06790

A Thank You note from Gramma Donna Fortier:

On behalf of our family and of course Zoe, I would like to thank all of the people who came out to Steam Vent Coffee house at First Church of Winsted last night to show their support! To the talented musicians, the pastor who served up pizza, all the volunteers who worked so hard to put it together and to the folks from the community who showed up and supported us: THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!! A special thanks to Deborah Storrs and her family who have rallied around us and encouraged us in so many ways!



Baby Zoe happily kicking her feet!

Once again I sat through an early morning feeding thinking about Zoe and how different her life is compared to our first baby. How we delayed inoculations (much to the dismay of our pediatrician) because we didn't want to subject him to any discomfort as a newborn. Now we have our precious Zoe who has had so much pain and discomfort in her short time here, I was thinking about how we keep baby pain meds on hand for her, and how we have made the agonizing decision to subject her to necessary surgery on Monday so she can have a chance to live a normal life. It was a decision that weighs heavily on my heart and as I

pray for my baby, I also pray for the strength to get through it! Thank you for sharing this journey with us!

UPDATE:

Zoe is in recovery and very COMFORTABLE Thank God!! Surgery went well!! She is our amazing unbreakable spirit!

After a rough night, someone was very happily kicking her feet today! Zoe had her first Pamidronate Infusion last night and will have the second half dose tonight. We pray for a more restful night's sleep for her! GO ZOE!!!



Ann Jones 75th Birthday Gathering

Quips and Quotes

"Remember, a real decision is measured by the fact that you've taken new action. If there's no action, you haven't truly decided."

— **Tony Robbins**

Change your thoughts and you just might change your world.



"One of the things I learned the hard way was that it doesn't pay to get discouraged. Keeping busy and making optimism a way of life can restore your faith in yourself."

— **Lucille Ball**

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Upcoming Events

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 9:15 am	Rehearsal~Rock Starz 4 Jesus	Oct 18	Church Fall Tag-sale 8AM - 3 PM
Sunday - 9 am	Bible Study in the Parlor	Oct 18	Steam Vent
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	Oct 19	New Members Meeting
Tuesday - 5:30 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	Oct 24	Community Meal-North Congregational
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	Oct 25	Great Jack-o-Lantern Blaze Trip
Thursday - 6:00 – 9:00 pm	Rehearsal-Laurel City Singers	Nov 8	Steam Vent – Final Event of Season
		Dec 6	Christmas Fair
		Jan 10 & 11	Boar's Head Festival
		<i>Board Meetings</i>	
			
	PM Board	Oct 5	
	Stewardship Meeting	Oct 5 After Worship	
	Board of Christian Ed	Oct 14	
	Deacons	Oct 26 at 11:30	
	Cabinet Meeting	Oct 28	

★HAPPY BIRTHDAY!★

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

01 - Jean Richards
 11 - Steven Roberts
 18 - Amy Bensie
 18 - Richard Mazzei
 19 - Michael Marsh
 21 - Warren Hughes †
 22 - Rebecca Allen
 22 - Amanda McCaw
 26 - Griffin Roberts
 27 - Fred Storrs
 29 - Lynda Roberts
 31 - Natalie Roys

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

♥ 01 - Butch & Joan Eggering
 ♥ 01 - Mike & Dawn Cry
 ♥ 20 - Perry & Margaret Green
 ♥ 21 - Devin & Hannah McCaw
 ♥ 26 - Brett & Susan McAllister
 ♥ 27 - Derek & Jennifer Storrs

To add your birthdate or anniversary to the list, please email Deb Storrs at dstorrs@snet.net



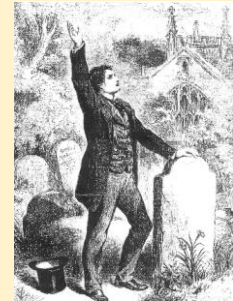
Union Agricultural Society of
 Barkhamsted, Colebrook & Hartland, Inc.
Friday • Saturday • Sunday
October 10 • 11 • 12, 2014



Winsted Civil War Soldiers Monument

CEMETERY WALK

Saturday, October 25 from 1 – 4 pm
 Old Burying Ground
 61 Park Place, Winsted
 (Last Tour Leaves at 3:30 PM)



Costumed interpreters representing residents from the past will await you at gravestones in the cemetery where they will tell you about their lives and the rich history of Winsted and Winchester.

\$5 Per Person – Children under 16 FREE

STEAM VENT Performers OCT 18th

Performers

6:00 - Open Mic
 6:30 - Mark Moriarty
 7:00 - Charles Knox
 7:30 - John Cooke
 8:00 - Jean Stokes Recchia
 8:30 - Mad River Crossing
 9:00 - Danny Reilert
 9:30 - Open Mic

Free Will Offering to Benefit Missions

STEAM VENT CAFÉ

Soup & Salad Night

MENU:

Beef Stew or Corn Chowder
 With Sops & Salad \$7.00
 Child Portion \$3.50
 Deserts \$1 - \$2
 Beverages \$1.00



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

Why Really, Really Pushing your Teen to Come to Church is a Good Thing

by Tracey Keenan, Covenant Presbyterian Church Location Columbus, Ohio

I understand that parenting teenagers is hard.

I helped raise two of them, and they survived to tell the tales. Which they do with relish. (Yes, being raised by two pastors has its own collection of horror stories.)

I understand that lives are busy and you have to pick and choose your battles wisely and that it's a crazy world out there with a bazillion demands on time and energy. I get that. And I *still* think that it's worth it to lean on your teenagers about the whole church thing.

Every year we get questions from parents about whether or not to insist on their kids attending church or confirmation class. Their concerns sound something like these;

1. ***I'm afraid if I insist that s/he go to church, it will turn him/her off of Christianity completely.***

Hm. Does that same kind of concern extend to other areas of life you think are important?

For example, do you think that insisting that they go to school will turn them off of education? That it might sour them on going to college or keep them from a lifelong love of learning?

Or do you worry that pushing them to eat healthily will turn them into the kind of adults who eat Oreo's for breakfast every day?

Probably not.

Parents insisting that their kids do things that are good for them is what parents do.

Besides, if your child was baptized as an infant, as many of ours are in the Presbyterian Church, then you promised to bring your child up to know the love of God, and the church promised to help you do that.

We can't help you much if your child isn't here.

2. ***S/he is too busy with sports/homework/lessons, and can't commit to another thing.***

I understand busy.

I understand pressure, stress, and overload.

We all need to prioritize, make room for the things we think are most important, both in terms of long-term investment and in immediate quality of life.

Faith is a long-term investment thing, and we do try and make church time meaningful, quality time.

We try to make it worth your while to be there.

3. ***I want him/her to make her/his own decision about what to believe.***

Absolutely.

But they need to know what they are choosing or rejecting.

If you don't take the lead on helping them understand the faith you claim as your own, they will "learn" about it from some dubious sources.

They might learn about it from the movies or TV shows or the internet.

Christianity is usually portrayed in movies and media as simplistic, naïve, bizarre or downright creepy.

Christianity only makes it into the news when there's pedophilia or gay-bashing involved.

Is THAT what you want them to learn that Jesus is about?

Or would you rather your child learn about the Christian faith as part of a mandatory Comparative Religions class in college?

Those classes often teach it as a backwater superstition that is full of inconsistencies and hypocrisy.

I'd steer clear of Jesus, too, if that's where I "learned" about it.

If you leave it up to some of those para-church organizations or TV/radio preachers, **they might just end up thinking that faith is neat and tidy and explains the world— until it doesn't - and then where does your youth go to make sense of the broken pieces?**

At an actual church, you have people who are all over the map: some have newly formed faith, some have a faith that has been split wide open, and others have a faith that is rising from the broken pieces, stronger and more alive than ever before.

We help one another through the broken places.

The way we believe makes sense until it doesn't, and then God allows it to break open so a new chapter of faith and understanding can take shape.

It's a kind of death and rebirth, and we may do it a number of times in our lives.

Death and resurrection is not just for Jesus, and it's not just about when we die.

It's about our own faith and life.

You learn that in community.

If you outgrow your current understanding of your faith outside of the church, you'll likely just chuck the whole thing and walk away, rather than seeing the new faith God may be fitting you out for.

I've seen enough kids drift away from what they THINK is the Christian faith because their concept of it is being formed outside of a loving and varied community that can hang in there with them all life long, if they'll let it.



October 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton	Oct Birthstone: Sapphire 	Oct Flower: Aster 	1 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm Jean Richards ♥ Joan & Butch Eggering ♥ Mike & Dawn Cyr	2 Laurel City Singers 7:00 pm	3 Yom Kippur	4 Owen Lovejoy Memorial Service 11:00 am
5 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am Worldwide Communion Day PM Board 11:30 Stewardship 11:30	6	7 Worship Choir 5:30	8 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	9 Laurel City Singers 7:00 pm	10	11 Steven Roberts
12 Worship Service 10:00 am Rock Star 9:15 am Open Mic Sunday	13 Columbus Day	14 Worship Choir 5:30 BOCE 6:45 PM	15 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm 	16 Laurel City Singers 7:00 pm	17	18 TAG SALE 8 AM - 3 PM  STEAM VENT Coffee House 6-10 PM Amy Bensle Richard Mazzei
19 Worship Service 10:00 am Rock Star 9:15 am Worship Choir 9:20 am Michael Marsh	20 ♥ Perry & Margaret Green	21 Worship Choir 5:30 † Warren Hughes † ♥ Devin & Hannah McCaw	22 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm Rebecca Allen Amanda McCaw	23 Laurel City Singers 7:00 pm	24	25 Leave Church at 4 PM Youth Trip 
26 Worship Service 10:00 am Rock Star 9:15 am Diaconate 11:30 Griffin Roberts ♥ Brett & Susan McAllister	27 Fred Storrs ♥ Derek & Jennifer Storrs	28 Worship Choir 5:30 Cabinet 7:00 pm	29 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm Lynda Roberts	30 Laurel City Singers 7:00 pm	31 Halloween  Natalie Roys	Astrological Signs Libra: Sept 23 – Oct 22 Scorpio: Oct 23 – Nov 21

**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 - Robert Adkins

Clerk - Allison Graboski

Board of Deacons - Co-chairs - Laura McCaw & Lisa Nanni

Property Maintenance - Frank Artruc

Treasurer - Debby Kane / Associate Treasurer - Joan Eggering

Financial Secretary - Tanya Mongitore

Christian Education Chair - Barbara Mazzei

Sunday School Director - Barbara Mazzei

Organist/Worship Choir Director - Tricia Wu

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

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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95 North Main Street
Winsted, CT 06098

BELLRINGER

