

## Word from the Pastor

Ponder Anew....

I love to sing! That is fairly obvious if you spend any time with me at all. My brain contains my own little jukebox that plays music of all sorts any time of the day or night. And it is set on random play although I do have some favorites that come out. One of those favorites, oddly enough, is a Christmas tune, Good King Wenceslaus.

I especially love hymns. These are songs that I have learned over my lifetime and I find great comfort and inspiration from them. They also help express what I believe in a beautiful poetic way. Here are my all-time favorites: *Be Thou My Vision*, *O Master Let Me Walk with Thee*, *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* and *Let Us Break Bread Together On Our Knees*.

When I arrived at First Church I was introduced to The New Century Hymnal. I was not immediately thrilled with this new song book. The compilers of this hymnal set out to make a contemporary hymnal that included hymns old and new and from around the world. They also endeavored to make the language of the hymns inclusive and less archaic.

I wasn't overly thrilled to lose Thee and Thou and to take away the masculine words like Lord and King. When I first encountered my most favorite hymns I found these titles looking back at me: *Dear God, Embracing Humankind* and *O Savior, Let Me Walk with You*. EEEK! was my first reaction. Then I looked more closely at the words. The gender specific words that had bothered me were gone. So were the militaristic language of battle and conquest. On our Peace Sabbath in September we sang "Lead on eternal Sovereign, we follow in your way, loud rings your cry for justice, your call for peace this day" instead of "Lead on, O King Eternal, the day of march has come. Henceforth in fields of conquest they tents shall be our home." It shook me out of my complacency and made me look at the words I was singing with fresh eyes. I found myself thinking and praying in a new way.

Since I arrived last summer, we have been talking about growing the church and reaching out in new and different ways. Our favorite traditional hymns are revitalized and can speak to us in new ways and take us in the new directions we want to travel. We want to be able to speak to folks in new and fresh and relevant ways

Our faith should radically impact the way we relate to the world around us. The traditional hymns of Isaac Watts, Charles Wesley, and Fanny Crosby have inspired us and spoken to us and the generations that went before us. Modern hymn-writers, like Fred Pratt Green, Brian Wren, Thomas Troeger and Ruth Duck, have given us a renewed focus on singing about our faith.

"If the songs we sing don't inform, enrich, or edify our faith and mission, they simply aren't worth singing." These are the words of Jonathan Aigner in his blog on church music. I would agree 100 %! If we are to be the face of the 21<sup>st</sup> century church, we need to shake ourselves out of our comfort zone and look for new ways to sing and proclaim the gospel of our Savior.

New days call for new ways. I decided to step out of my box and explore these new ways of proclamation and bring them into my skill set of traditional ways. I am not throwing out the great old ways I have learned and used in the past, just stepping out and learning some new things in the hope that I can meet some new seekers in the Kingdom of God. I hope you will join me!

Blessings,  
Pastor Lisa



**OCTOBER 2016**

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## Church News...

### THE ZITI SUPPER

The dinner took in a total of \$644, plus an additional \$250 in donations for a total of \$894!

Silent auction took in \$754.

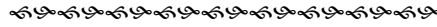
Many thanks to all who donated menu items, or auction items, and to all the cooks, servers and especially the ziti eaters! The food was yummy and the auction was great fun. Over 60 tickets were sold for the Quilt Raffle!



### PROPERTY MAINTENANCE NEWS...

Property Maintenance is looking into new ways of winterizing the building to cut down on heating costs.

**Fall Clean-UP** is scheduled for Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>.



### QUILT RAFFLE

FIRST CHURCH OF  
WINSTED

Sponsored by Board of Christian  
Education

Benefit Scholarship Funds



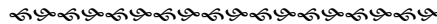
Cost: \$5.00/per ticket

Drawing December 3,

2016, 3:00 pm

Benefit Millard and Smith  
Scholarship Funds

Quilt hand made by Ann Jones  
Machine quilted by:  
Susan Cane



**All Church Trip to The  
Great Jack O' Lantern  
Blaze** at Van Cortlandt Manor in  
the village of Croton-on-Hudson,  
New York

**SIX TICKETS LEFT!!**

Please sign up in the gathering  
room or email:

tmongitore2144@charter.net

**Sunday, October 9th**

Leaving church parking lot at 4:00

See more than 5,000 individually  
hand-carved, illuminated jack o'  
lanterns in this elaborate  
walkthrough experience. Meander  
through an historic, 18th-century  
riverside landscape and discover a  
breathtaking display — all made of  
jack o' lanterns!

Walk through a covered bridge  
adorned with Jack-O-Lanterns on  
all sides — even the ceiling! — and  
emerge to the sight of Sleepy  
Hollow Country's most iconic  
inhabitant, the Headless Horseman!

Oooh and ahh at intricate pumpkin  
portraits of characters from  
Washington Irving's famous tale,  
The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.

Check us out online! [www.firstchurchofwinsted.org](http://www.firstchurchofwinsted.org)

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

## Homecoming / Re-covenanting Weekend!

Debbie Storrs - Editor

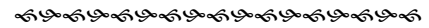
Homecoming Weekend started with a Kids Rock version of Steam Vent Coffee House. AND STEAM VENT...it was! Hot hot hot...! But that did not deter our young singers! There were 15 wee people who were brave enough to get up on stage and sing, 14 little folk and Mariah Roberto, a teenager who joined us from LaSalle's Open Mic in Collinsville. Mariah was short in stature, her guitar was almost bigger than she, but when she opened her mouth, a great big beautiful voice filled the sanctuary. She has some serious talent! We gave out 15 musical medallions for their efforts. Aiden, Kai and Cameron sang the "ABC Song." We had two or three versions of "Twinkle, Twinkle", one by Peyton and Victoria with Sierra on percussion, and one by newcomers Roman, Sophie and their cousin Tommy (big sister Isabella also received a medallion) also "Twinkled" with the help of Deb Storrs. Riley and Ethan sang "Once I was 7 Years Old," in honor of Ethan's 7<sup>th</sup> birthday, and finally, Sarah and her friend sang about their Kitties. Mariah was the final recipient of the Golden Medallion...which Tommy was convinced was really Gold! Cyndi Whipple and Rose Timmeney painted faces (we had lots of puppies and some were even howling at the moon!). Kids and some adults painted shakers and there was some coloring as well.

When the Bubblicious Evan Gottfried arrived kids and adults alike were brought to their feet for dancing and singing! He and his lovely wife Margie kept the crowd involved with streamers, and a parachute allowed us all to bounce the world around a bit, and finally not one but two bubble machines...filled the sanctuary with millions of candy flavored bubbles all in iridescent pink and blue and green...which had all chasing, catching and some even eating bubbles. When he was done he was drenched but in a good way...!

Poor Melanie Michaud got lost, and Mariah breezed (they call the wind Mariah...right) her way back up onto the stage and played a half hour set with not difficulty. Sam Guglielmino's band Salmon Eye with Andrew Farkas and a new face to which I do not have a name for, were simply amazing. The youth part of the show continued with Corey Michael Rieman who is a new student at NCCC and a new reporter for the Winsted Journal (be sure to check out his upcoming article in the Winsted Journal). Corey sang a lot of originals songs, which demonstrated a side of Corey we have not yet seen. He was quiet...and sang in falsetto...yes we were amazed. He has quite the range that boy, and after his set he was snapping pictures all over the place in his new role as reporter. Congratulate him if you see him wandering around at area events!

Melanie finally found her way to Winsted from Bristol...and she took the last set, which we had left empty. But she made it, so we had to let her sing!

So, Joan, John, Cherrie, Fran (who was waiting for a ride because her truck died!) and I together reset the altar for worship, brought benches back for the choir for the morning and cleaned up the parlor. Cherrie ran the vacuum. The tables and chairs were put away; money was counted (\$567.12) and finally left at 11:30!



## Rally Day / Re-covenanting Sunday

Sunday was Rally Day! The entire service was full of the Holy Spirit. The combined choirs (12 adults and 8 kids) with the congregation sang our "Homecoming Trilogy." Taking a cue from Paul Halley's "Freedom Trilogy", we combined 3 songs, 2 from South Africa and one traditional hymn. "Hallelujah, Pelo Tsa Rona," (Translations: Hallelujah we sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness. Christ the Lord to us said, "I am wine, I am bread. Give to all who thirst and hunger."), followed by "Siyahamba/We are Marching in the Light of God." And then Amazing Grace sung over top of Hallelujah, Pelo Tsa Rona. Aiden Picard had a solo on tone blocks and he nailed it! Justin Takeman and myself on Guitar, John Eggering on Djembe and the whole congregation on shakers, clickers, clackers, and lots of noisemakers! The spirit loudly filled the room...! It was GREAT!!

Then the choir under the direction of Tricia Wu, followed up with "We Have Gathered Here," which was a bit of a tongue twister, but had great up-beat music and a fabulous message that God is always with us.

Dan Jones gave witness as to why First Church of Winsted...what makes it special for him. Check out his message on our Facebook page!

Pastor Lisa had us all of us building with Legos in small groups and then putting all of the small bits together into one great big Lego building, representing the fact that we are always growing and changing, and through it all God is always with us...seemed to be a theme!

And as if that wasn't enough, then we had a picnic with hamburgers and hotdogs, salads, pasta and desserts! The kids enjoyed the bounce house, which we were not sure was going to make an appearance. It POURED early in the morning, but by the time church was over, it was beautiful outside, and the bounce house was a big hit. There were sack races and three-legged races. We had to skip the hula hoop toss because the wind came up and we were afraid someone would chase it into the streets!

First Church is a great place to be...here for each other, here for the community and for the world too! Through God's Amazing Grace and his Steadfast Love...we have accomplished many things...with many more on the horizon! Onward and upward...Pictures on next page.





**KIDS ROCK & RALLY Day**  
**Evan Gottfried at Steam Vent**  
**More pics on Website!**



*Homecoming Trilogy Choir*

## **STEAM VENT** **Coffee House**

### **Chinese Smorgasbord Nite!**

**OCTOBER 15<sup>th</sup> ~ Serving 6-8 PM**

**Boneless Spare Ribs OR Chicken Fingers**

**Served with: Vegetarian Dumplings; Roast Pork Lo Mein;  
 Sir-fried Vegetables; and/or Vegetable Lo Mein.**

**Salad also available!**

**Desserts, coffee, and other soft drinks sold separately.**

**Adult portions \$7 ~ Child Portions \$5**

**Performers: Eric Paradine, Bill Morrell, Bill Benson,  
 Keyborgg Sound, Matchstick Architects and 5am  
 Pharos**

***OPEN MIC 6 – 7 PM***





&



**October 8, 8am -3pm**

**Drop off Oct. 6 & 7, 5pm-8pm**

**Furniture - gathering room  
All other items - dining room  
Baked items Fri. or Sat. morning**

### **Volunteers Needed**

**October, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> for sorting items  
October 8<sup>th</sup>, help at sale itself  
(Unloading boxes and organizing tables)  
Clean up at 3pm**

**Working for God, for community and  
fellowship**

**Questions: Laura McCaw or Lisa Nanni**

### **CHRISTMAS FAIR**

**December 3rd 8:00am - 3:00pm**



**Vendors  
Wreathes  
Luncheon  
Poinsettias  
Christmas Trees  
Themed Basket Raffle  
Christmas Arts & Crafts  
Boar's Head Festival Tickets  
First Church  
Of Winsted**

*Never too early to plan your booth  
or volunteer for the fair!*

*See Lisa or Laura  
Hold this date!*



*...Take hold of the life that is truly life. 1 Timothy 6:19(NIV)*

This October will be a month of conversation about Generosity! Our worship will center on living simply and the scripture from Paul's letter to Timothy.

Here are the 4 weeks of GENEROSITY!

**Week 1: Live Simply: Follow Jesus  
Week 2: Live Simply: Face the Truth  
Week 3: Live Simply: Act Together  
Week 4: Live Simply: Share Enough**

*Through the*

*The songs that we sing • The words we Proclaim • The worship we share*

## Upcoming Events

| <i>Celebrate With Us...</i>   |                               | <i>Looking Forward</i>  |   |
|---|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Sunday - 9 am   | Bible Study in the Parlor     | Oct 04  | World Wide Communion  |
| Sunday - 10 am  | Worship                       | Oct 04  | New Members Meeting   |
| Monday - 5:00 pm 10/3, 10/17, 10/24   | Bible Study at Pastor Lisa's  | Oct 8   | Church Fall Tag-sale 8AM - 3 PM   |
| Tuesday - 5:30 pm   | Rehearsal~Worship Choir       | Oct 9   | Great Jack-o-Lantern Blaze Trip   |
| Wednesday - 7:30 pm   | AA / Alanon Meetings          | Oct 15  | Steam Vent  |
| Thursday - 6:00 - 9:00 pm   | Rehearsal-Laurel City Singers | Oct 16  | Pumpkin Carving after Worship Service   |
|   |                               | Nov 12  | Steam Vent – Final Event of Season  |
|   |                               | Nov 20  | Nightmare Before Boar's Head Concert  |
|   |                               | Dec 03  | Christmas Fair  |
|   |                               | Jan 09 & 10   | Boar's Head Festival  |
|  |                               | <i>Board Meetings</i>   |   |
|   |                               | PM Board<br>Board of Christian Ed<br>Deacons<br>Cabinet Meeting |  |
|   |                               | Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup> at 11:30                                    |   |
|   |                               | Oct 11 <sup>th</sup> at 6:45                                    |   |
|   |                               | Oct 23 <sup>rd</sup> at 11:30                                   |   |
|   |                               | Oct 25 <sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM                                 |   |

## ★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

01 - Jean Richards  
 11 - Steven Roberts  
 18 - Amy Bensle  
 18 - Richard Mazzei  
 19 - Michael Marsh  
 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

To add your birthdate or anniversary to the list, please email Deb Storrs at [info@firstchurchofwinsted.org](mailto:info@firstchurchofwinsted.org)



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

  
*Historic  
 Florence Griswold House  
 Wee Faery Village  
 'A Flutter in Time'  
 Saturday, Oct 22nd, 1-5 pm  
 \$10 adult / \$9 senior  
 \$8 student  
 under 12 free (\$1 off coupon)  
 96 Lyme St., Old Lyme, CT  
 \*\*\*\*  
 Meet in church parking lot  
 at 11 am, carpool.  
 Please RVP by Oct 20th  
 rubys-mom@live.com  
 978-322-0423 lv msg  
 (Sandy Thibault)*

The **October Cabinet Meeting** will be held Tuesday October 25 a 1/2 hour earlier than usual in order for Cabinet to be updated on our investment funds. Please plan on meeting by 6:30pm. The regular meeting will begin at 7:00pm.

## Poinsettia Memorials

Poinsettia Orders are being taken through the month of October. Order deadline is November 1<sup>st</sup>.

\_\_\_\_\_ Single \$10.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Triple \$15.00

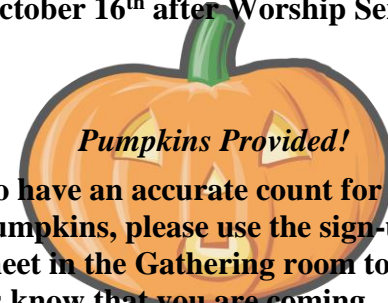
In Honor of:

In Memory of:

Given By

Please give your orders to:  
 Lisa Nanni or Laura McCaw.  
 Make Check payable to:  
 First Church of Winsted.

## PUMPKIN DECORATING October 16<sup>th</sup> after Worship Service



*Pumpkins Provided!*

To have an accurate count for pumpkins, please use the sign-up sheet in the Gathering room to let us know that you are coming. For more info, please contact Lisa Nanni or Laura MaCaw.



# October 2016



| Sun  | Mon  | Tue  | Wed  | Thu  | Fri   | Sat  |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| <br>Artist: Karen Delton                         | <b>Oct Birthstone:</b><br><b>Sapphire</b><br>     | <b>Oct Flower:</b><br><b>Aster</b><br>  | <b>Astrological Signs</b><br><br><b>Libra:</b><br>Sept 23 – Oct 22<br><br><b>Scorpio:</b><br>Oct 23 – Nov 21 | “The two most important days in your life are the day you are born, and the day you find out why.” —<br><b>Mark Twain</b>  | <b>1</b><br><br>Jean Richards<br>♥ Joan & Butch Eggering<br>♥ Mike & Dawn Cyr |  |
| <b>2</b><br>Worship Service<br>10:00 am<br>Worship Choir<br>9:30 am<br>Worldwide Communion Day<br>PM Board 11:30                 | <b>3</b><br>Women's Bible Study<br>5:00 PM<br>At Pastor Lisa's   | <b>4</b><br>Worship Choir<br>5:30  | <b>5</b><br>AA/Alanon<br>7:30 pm   | <b>6</b><br>Laurel City Singers<br>6:00 pm<br><br>Tag Sale Drop off<br>5-8 PM in Dining Room   | <b>7</b><br>Tag Sale Drop off 5-8 PM in Dining Room                           | <b>8</b><br><br>8 AM - 3 PM<br>Riverton Fair            |
| <b>9</b><br>Worship Service<br>10:00 am<br>Muddy Boots<br>Riverton Fair  | <b>10</b><br><b>Columbus Day</b><br>No Bible Study   | <b>11</b><br>Worship Choir<br>5:30<br><br>BOCE<br>6:45 PM<br>Steven Roberts  | <b>12</b><br>AA/Alanon<br>7:30 pm  | <b>13</b><br>Laurel City Singers<br>6:00 pm  | <b>14</b>   | <b>15</b><br><br>STEAM VENT<br>Coffee House<br>6-10 PM |
| <b>16</b><br>Worship Service<br>10:00 am<br>Worship Choir<br>9:30 am<br>Diaconate 11:30<br><b>Pumpkin Painting after Service</b> | <b>17</b><br>Women's Bible Study<br>5:00 PM<br>At Pastor Lisa's  | <b>18</b><br>Worship Choir<br>5:30<br><br>Amy Bensle<br>Richard Mazzei   | <b>19</b><br>AA/Alanon<br>7:30 pm<br>Michael Marsh   | <b>20</b><br>Laurel City Singers<br>6:00 pm<br>♥ Perry & Margaret Green  | <b>21</b><br>♥ Devin & Hannah McCaw   | <b>22</b><br>Bellringer Article Deadline<br><br>Rebecca Allen<br>Amanda McCaw  |
| <b>23</b><br>Worship Service<br>10:00 am<br><b>Open Mic Sunday</b>   | <b>24</b><br>Women's Bible Study<br>5:00 PM<br>At Pastor Lisa's  | <b>25</b><br>Worship Choir<br>5:30<br><br>Cabinet<br>6:30 PM   | <b>26</b><br>AA/Alanon<br>7:30 pm<br>Griffin Roberts<br>♥ Brett & Susan McAlliste                            | <b>27</b><br>Laurel City Singers<br>6:00 pm<br>Fred Storrs   | <b>28</b>   | <b>29</b><br>Prayer Shall Ministry<br>10-Noon<br>Lynda Roberts   |
| <b>30</b><br>Worship Service<br>10:00 am<br>Worship Choir<br>9:30 am   | <b>31</b><br><br>No Bible Study<br>Natalie Roys | <b>Sunday Morning Bible Study</b><br> |  | Bible Study will delve into the Lectionary Scriptures this fall! We meet in the parlor at 9 a.m.<br><br>Ladies, can't make that one? Monday afternoon at 5:00 p.m. at Pastor Lisa's Home, Bible Study for Women. |   |  |



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



Artist: Karen Delton

**Pastor – The Rev. Lisabeth Gustafson**

Moderator - Dan Jones Vice-Moderator - Tom Mazzei

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

Muddy Boots - Dan Jones / Puddle Jumpers - Kat Timmeney

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

# BELLRINGER



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