

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!

Where did the summer go? Just about every student started classes a week ago. Although the weather has been incredibly variable during the last few months changing from hot and uncomfortably humid to cool and dry, you can smell fall in the evening air.

For our Church, the answer to the question is simple. We used the summer months just as we do in the winter, spring and fall. Various leaders hosted numerous activities for our middle youth including zip lining, canoeing down the Farmington River, and other events to build confidence and team work amongst the participants. The older youth visited Amish Country in central Pennsylvania. Sunday School classes continued, and our children's choir, the Rock Starz for Jesus, met regularly to learn to play new musical instruments. And a team of Church members spent a week at Casa Hogar in Oaxaca, Mexico doing major renovations including roof replacements and the rewiring of the electrical system of over half of the facility.

We usually think of summer as a time to kick back and relax, and I hope you did find some time for recreation. However, our Church is active year round, in the same way that God's love for us never stops!

We have numerous special activities planned for the fall. The academic year Sunday School program starts with Rally Day on Sunday, September 8. Everyone (no matter what your age!) is welcome to join us for the Rally Day picnic that follows the worship service that day at the Town Little League field. There will be a friendly game of kickball after the picnic, and those who don't want to play are welcome to watch the game.

Adult Bible Study takes place every Sunday morning from 9:00am to 9:30am. Two new ministries are being started....one that will include fellowship and activities during the day for adults and an outreach (care packages) to our youth who are attending college.

We are excited that there are various people who would like to join the Church, and we will have a new member's class soon. And there will be some more baptisms of our infants. Our fall tag sale will be taking place before we know it, and all of our Boards and Committees are planning many other activities.

There are many exciting things happening at First Church, and we look forward to having you take part in them!

Blessings,

Mike



SEPTEMBER 2013

**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

The Children's Discovery Center is happy to announce that Melissa Lillie has been hired as the new Head Teacher/Director. Please join us in welcoming her. Pam Allen will also be back this year so we are looking forward to a wonderful year!

We had a wonderful first day of Open House! It was so great to see everyone.

We are still accepting enrollment applications for our T/TH class. Please contact the center if you are interested. Looking forward to the new school year! Please call for more info: 860-379-4838.

Check us out on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Childrens-Discovery-Center/112035955474363>

OR on the web:

<http://www.childrensdiscoverywinsted.org>



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



Rally Day!
Sunday
September 8, 2013

Sunday School Kick-off
10AM



All Church Picnic
Dodge Field Winsted
Immediately following Worship
Kick-Ball Game
following picnic!



Operation Care Package

A little extra time on you hands?

A lot of love in your heart?

BOCE has immediate opening for an individual or group to take charge of a fun and exciting new ministry!

See Allison Graboski if you are interested:

Athall37@yahoo.com

860-238-7484



Property Maintenance News...

At a special meeting of the Property Maintenance Board, Frank Artruc was nominated chairperson, and he accepted the position.

New speakers have been wired in behind the organ façade to enable the choir to hear Pastor Mike's messages. A 'thumbs up' from Carol Miles, let us know they were working as planned! Thanks to John Eggering for wiring them in...and the rest of the board for fishing the wires through so that could be accomplished.

Bud Roberts and Scott Graboski have been looking at the roof over the back door entrance, where water has been leaking in, causing some wall damage inside the sanctuary. Plans under way to repaint the wall, once the leak is addressed.

The organ was having some issues because a plastic bag was sucked into the blowers...Richard Hamar was called, and it has been corrected! The area around the blower motor will be cleared out, so that this does not happen again. An emergency shut-off will also be installed. Frank will build a filter to cover the blower.

A new permanent banner will be affixed to the rounded wall behind the garden...just behind the Earl Bracey Memorial Wall. Placement will be determined by the size of the banner.



SAFETY FIRST

A two-part Safety Policy is in the process of being developed.

1. Abuse Prevention
2. Physical Safety

The Cabinet will be working with the Board of Christian Education on this project, in the aftermath of the Sandy Hook tragedy. The CDC has updated their safety policy, and the church intends to follow suit.

We want to be sure to make church a safe and healthy environment for all our members and visitors alike!



Check us out online! www.firstchurchofwinsted.org

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

Middler's Group – Canoe Trip...Row Row Row your boat!



Middlers Group...

The newly formed group is open to 4th – 8th graders.

Over the summer the group has had a few outings, including a Rock Cats game, with 23 in attendance.

Two campfire/swim gatherings were held at Tanya Mongitore's house. Both events were well attended and enjoyed by all.

Finally, on August 24th a picturesque Canoe Trip with Huck Finn Adventures (pictures at left) was enjoyed. Thanks to Emma Hennig for delivering lunches for the group to Simsbury.

The group is now planning an art work fundraiser for sometime in September, details to be announced.

During the October 5th Tag Sale, the Middlers Group will be working on the Grace Grille and the Youth Car Wash.



Apple picking trip...

September 28th...

Details to follow!!



LADIES NIGHT OUT!!

Keep your calendars open for Friday the 4th of October at 6 pm SHARP!

Venue is Gilson theatre for dinner and movie (to be announced week of...let's hope for a good chick flick!) and after party to be announced (either Mario's or Noli's...depending upon consensus).

Please RSVP to Kim Janak kjanak@att.net or phone 860 733-5200 by Sept. 30th so I can reserve our total group.

Next outing will be in Jan or Feb.

Laurel City Singers Open to New Singers...

Laurel City Singers will begin rehearsals on Thursday, Sept. 12th, 7 pm at First Church. We are repeating the concert *Feel the Spirit*. The concert date is planned for Sunday, October 20 at 3 pm. It will be performed at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 30 Prospect Street, New Hartford. This is a benefit for the church's outreach mission *Hands of Grace*. We will not be selling tickets but rather have a goodwill offering and canned food drive to go directly to *Hands of Grace*. For those who are not familiar with this outreach, *Hands of Grace* assists families and individuals within our local communities who are experiencing financial difficulties. They provide food, clothing and household items free of charge. Non-perishable food is their biggest expense.

To find out more go to: www.handsofgracect.org.

To Join LCS, please email Denise: denisetorson@hotmail.com



ABCCONN

World Mission Conference - 2013

BEGIN WHERE YOU ARE, GO WHERE YOU CAN!



September 27-28, 2013

Immanuel Baptist Church, New Haven

The American Baptist Churches of Connecticut World Mission Conference

featuring



The Rev. Glynis LaBarre

On Friday Glynis will help us envision doing ministry in our local areas.

Glynis is a Transformation Strategist for congregations for the American Baptist Home Mission Society.



The Rev. Dr. Lauran Bethell

On Saturday Lauran will guide us toward doing ministry internationally as individual and partner congregations.

Lauren is a Global Consultant for International Ministries, and highly regarded for her work on issues related to human trafficking.

ABCCONN World Mission Conference Plan to attend the World Mission Conference on September 27-28 at Immanuel Missionary Baptist Church in New Haven. Dr. Anita Gutierrez will be one of the workshop leaders. She and her husband Rick serve in South Africa at the Bethel Health Builders. To see more about their ministry, go to the ABCCONN website: www.abcconn.org and scroll down to "American Baptist Mission Work" where you will see their most recent DVD explaining their ministry efforts. We look forward to welcoming Anita to Connecticut in September. While you are on the ABCCONN website, why not get yourself registered. You may register on line or print out a registration form to send in. Remember there is a discount if you bring 7 or more people from one church.

New Event Coming...

Social Hour!

Idea Meeting: **September 22, 2013**

After Sunday Service In the Parlor

Proposed activities are: card groups, dominoes, small day trips and informal lunches at area restaurants or pot luck meals.

Hope to see many interested people on September 22nd.



This could be us!



There is a saying, "He who sings once, prays twice." How correct this is, if one truly thinks and feels what one is singing! This is what the members of the church choirs experience as they prepare to sing during the Worship Services. The anthem you hear on Sunday morning is the culmination of much practice, dedication, and commitment from each choir member. Choir members show their dedication to Christ, Church, and fellow members through their attendance on Sundays and at the weekly practices.

Choir participation is more than just singing and practicing. It is also a fellowship group where members share in life together. Please consider joining in this experience, no matter what your age is, what part you sing, or how well you read music—or don't read music. (It's not a requirement!) The Worship Choir, intended for Youths and Adults (grades 6 and up) rehearses on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 pm. The Cherub Choir, aka Rock Starz 4 Jesus, is for younger children, and rehearses on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am. Rock Starz will be working on tin whistle/singing/ukulele and rhythm instruments.

If singing is not your "thing", perhaps you could support the choirs through other methods, such as providing transportation for children in the Cherub Choir or babysitting for their younger siblings while a parent drives to choir, or by letting the choir members know when you enjoy a particular piece, or find some special meaning in one.

If you have questions about joining one of the choirs, please don't hesitate to contact their leaders: Tricia Wu, Worship Choir; and Deborah Storrs, Rock Starz 4 Jesus (860-482-3491)



Music in the soul can be heard by the universe. ~Lao Tzu



First Church of Winsted Financial Information as of 8/30/13:	
Income	
Contributions	\$5,718
United Way donation	\$190
Scholarship Fund donation	\$388
Rental Income	\$250
Total Income	\$6,546
Expense	
Worship Ministry	\$300
Adult Ministry	\$19
Communicating with Ourselves and Others	\$242
Providing a Place for God's Work	\$1,818
Supporting God's Ministry - Salaries	\$5,423
Supporting God's Work Nationally	\$1,336
Total Expense	\$9,138
Overage/(shortage)	(\$2,592)
(Further information can be obtained from the church Treasurer, Debby Kane)	

Deadline for UCC General Association Registration Ends September 13th!



***Free Refills! A real day off with Kirk Byron Jones
(General Association)***

Join your colleagues
September 22-24 at Silver Lake
for a fun and spirit-filled retreat.

TO REGISTER: <http://www.regonline.com/generalassociation2013>



THE PASTOR

After a few of the usual Sunday evening hymns, the church's pastor slowly stood up, walked over to the pulpit and, before he gave his sermon for the evening, he briefly introduced a guest minister who was in the service that evening.

In the introduction, the pastor told the congregation that the guest minister was one of his dearest childhood friends and that he wanted him to have a few moments to greet the church and share whatever he felt would be appropriate for the service.... With that, an elderly man stepped up to the pulpit and began to speak.

'A father, his son, and a friend of his son were sailing off the Pacific Coast,' he began. 'When a fast approaching storm blocked any attempt to get back to the shore. The waves were so high, that even though the father was an experienced sailor, he could not keep the boat upright and the three were

swept into the ocean as the boat capsized.'

The old man hesitated for a moment, making eye contact with two teenagers who were, for the first time since the service began, looking somewhat interested in his story..

The aged minister continued with his story, 'grabbing a rescue line, the father had to make the most excruciating decision of his life: to which boy would he throw the other end of the life line.

He only had seconds to make the decision. The father knew that his son was a Christian and he, also, knew that his son's friend was not...

The agony of his decision could not be matched by the torrent of waves. As the father yelled out, 'I love you, son!' He threw out the life line to his son's friend.

By the time the father had pulled the friend back to the capsized boat, his son had disappeared beneath the raging swells into the black of night.

His body was never recovered.

By this time, the two teenagers were sitting up straight in the pew, anxiously waiting for the next words to come out of the old minister's mouth.

'The father,' he continued, 'knew his son would step into eternity with Jesus and he could not bear the thought of his son's friend stepping into an eternity without Jesus..

Therefore, he sacrificed his son to save the son's friend.'

How great is the love of God that he should do the same for us. Our heavenly father sacrificed

his only begotten son that we could be saved. I urge you to accept his offer to rescue you and take a hold of the life line he is throwing out to you in this service.'

With that, the old man turned and sat back down in his chair as silence filled the room.

The pastor again walked slowly to the pulpit and delivered a brief sermon with an invitation at the end.


However, no one responded to the appeal. Within minutes after the service ended, the two teenagers were at the old man's side.

'That was a nice story,' politely stated one of them, 'but i don't think it was very realistic for a father to give up his only son's life in hopes that the other boy would become a Christian.'

'Well, you've got a point there,' the old man replied, glancing down at his worn bible. A big smile broadened his narrow face. He once again looked up at the boys and said, 'It sure isn't very realistic, is it? But, I'm standing here today to tell you that story gives me a glimpse of what it must have been like for God to give up his son for me. You see...I was that father and your pastor is my son's friend.'



Upcoming Events

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Wednesday – 6:00 pm	Rehearsal~Rock Starz 4 Jesus	Sept 8	Rally Day & Picnic
Sunday - 9 am	Bible Study in the Parlor	Sept 14	Steam Vent Coffee House
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	Sept 15	Stewardship Campaign Begins
Tuesday - 5:30 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	Sept 15	Long Range Planning 11:30 am
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	Sept 22	Adult Social Hour Start-up Meeting
Thursday - 7:00 – 9:00 pm	Rehearsal-Laurel City Singers	Sept 22	Baptism
		Oct 5	Church Fall Tag-sale
		Dec 7	Christmas Fair
		<i>Board Meetings</i>	
		Sept 01 11:30 am	PM Board
		Sept 10 7:00 pm	Board of Christian Ed.
		Sept 17 7:00 pm	Deacons
		Sept 23 7:00 pm	Stewardship Meeting
		Sept 24 7:00 pm	Cabinet Meeting
		Sept 25 7:00 pm	CDC Liason Meeting
		Sept 29 7:00 pm	Cabinet Security Meeting
			

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

03 - Brittany Blische
 08 - Duane Blische
 08 - Susannah Hall
 09 - Owen Marvin
 10 - Beth McCusker
 11 - Kelly McAllister
 14 - Alec Marvin
 20 - Liam McAllister
 20 - Danny McAllister
 20 - John Eggering
 21 - Ann Jones
 22 - Timothy Hughes
 23 - Melissa McCusker
 26 - Pastor Michael Wu
 27 - Chelsea Jarboe
 27 - Wade Roberts
 29 - Mel Lee
 30 - Pam Allen
 30 - Shirley Calkin

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

♥ 08 - Bob & Carol Miles
 ♥ 12 - Tony & Tanya Mongitore
 ♥ 13 - John & Pearl Dondero
 ♥ 20 - Ed & Kathy Weaving
 ♥ 26 - Brett & Susan McAllister

**Coincidence
 is when God
 chooses to
 remain
 anonymous.**

Pleasant Valley UMC is currently seeking a music director/organist for full time employment. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please have them contact:

Pam Crosby
 Office Admin Assistant, PVUMC
 860-379-2157

STEAM VENT Performers SEPT 14th

Performers

6:00 - Open Mic
 6:30 - Keyborgg Sounds
 7:00 - Kirk Sinclair
 7:30 - John Cooke
 8:00 - Ron Blake
 8:30 - Silk-n-Steel Patti Wilion & Con Doty
 9:00 - Tricia Blechich Dobie
 9:30 - Open Mic

Free Will Offering to Benefit Missions

STEAM VENT CAFÉ

Pizza Night!

MENU:

Pizza

Choice of toppings \$7.00

Child Portion \$3.50

Served with Salad

Deserts \$1 - \$2

Beverages \$1.00



You've GOT to try this banana bread recipe! It uses honey and applesauce instead of sugar and oil.

Ingredients

2 cups whole wheat flour
 1 teaspoon baking soda
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 1/2 cup unsweetened applesauce
 3/4 cup honey

2 eggs, beaten
 3 mashed overripe bananas

Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Lightly grease a 9x5 inch loaf pan. In a large bowl, combine flour, baking soda and salt.

In a separate bowl, mix together applesauce and honey. Stir in eggs




and mashed bananas until well moisten. Pour batter into prepared loaf pan.

Bake in preheated oven for 60 to 65 minutes, until a toothpick inserted into center of the loaf comes out clean. Let bread cool in pan for 10 minutes, then turn out onto a wire rack.



September 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton	Sept Birthstone: Sapphire 	Sept Flower: Aster 	Astrological Signs Virgo: Aug 23 – Sept 22 Libra: Sept 23 – Oct 22		Other September Birthdays Karl Janak Nika Benson	
1 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am Property Maint After service	2 Labor Day	3 Worship Choir 5:30 Brittany Blische	4 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	5	6	7
8 Worship Service 10:00 am Worship Choir 9:20 am RALLY DAY Picnic to Follow With Kickball! Duane Blische Susannah Hall ♥ Bob & Carol Miles	9 Owen Marvin	10 Worship Choir 5:30 Christian Ed 7:00 pm Beth McCusker	11 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm Patriot Day Kelly McAllister	12 Laurel City Singers 7:00 pm Rehearsals begin for Feel the Spirit Part 2 ♥ Tony & Tanya Mongitore	13 ♥ John & Pearl Dondero	14  STEAM VENT Coffee House 6-10 PM Pizza Night! Alec Marvin
15 Worship Service 10:00 am Rock Star 9:15 am Worship Choir 9:20 am	16	17 Worship Choir 5:30 Deacons 7:00 pm	18 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	19 Laurel City Singers 7:00 pm	20 John Eggering Danny McAllister Liam McAllister ♥ Ed & Kathy Weaving	21 Ann Jones
22 Worship Service 10:00 am Rock Star 9:15 am Open Mic Sunday Autumnal Equinox Timothy Hughes	23 Melissa McCusker	24 Worship Choir 5:30 Cabinet 7:00 pm	25	26 Laurel City Singers 7:00 pm Michael Wu ♥ Brett & Susan McAllister	27 Chelsea Jarboe Wade Roberts	28
29 Worship Service 10:00 am Rock Star 9:15 am Worship Choir 9:20 am Mel Lee	30 Pam Allen Shirley Calkin		We don't change the message... The message changes us!			

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 – Richard Mazzei

Clerk - Debbie Storrs

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

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

BELLRINGER



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