

Word from the Pastor

The other day I read a blog and was brought up short. After a very nice introduction about the church as family, the author said, "Quit calling the church a family!" OUTRAGEOUS! I cried!

I immediately ran for the dictionary to check out what the word meant:

fam·i·ly

'fam(ə)lē/

noun

1. a group consisting of parents and children living together in a household.
2. all the descendants of a common ancestor

Well, I thought, we are a group of parents and children living out our faith together.

AND if we take an open view, we are indeed all descendants of a common ancestor.

We are the children of GOD! So I say we are a family.

The blogger continued: "The purpose of the church is to transform both society and individuals to be more Christ-like. This concept goes way beyond family." Okay. That is a good point. As a congregation our purpose is larger. It is about nurture and growing deeper in faith.

So I moved on to "fellowship". That is a group of people who share interests. That is also true. But something kept working on me. And the words of Paul popped into my head: "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." 1 Corinthians 12: 27.

I went back to the purpose of the church: to transform society and individuals to be more Christ-like. Yup! Growing people of faith...helping people and community to move from despair to hope. Family...Fellowship...Body of Christ

So I here's my definition:

Adopted into a family

Joined together into a fellowship

A body, bound together by the person and work of Christ

Wherever you are in your understanding, know that you are welcome!
Come and join us as we learn and grow in faith, serving our Lord.

Blessings
Pastor Lisa



SEPTEMBER 2016

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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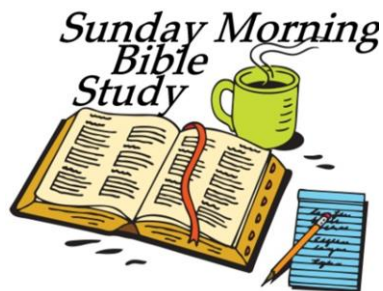


September

Worship Services
Begin at 10:00 AM

Bible Study at 9:00 AM

Church News...



All are welcome to join the Adult Bible Study this fall as we continue our journey through the New Testament. We meet in the church parlor at 9:00 am and follow a study guide that presents questions that form the basis for our discussions. We are beginning to read Paul's letters to Timothy and Titus. Taken together these letters are usually called the "Pastoral Letters" partly because Paul is acting as a pastor to Timothy and Titus and partly because he is writing to instruct them in their own pastoral ministries- like a "teacher's manual" for the early church. Paul tells Timothy and Titus to get right to the point! Paul wants the new Christians to know that the gospel of Jesus Christ will transform their lives in a very deep and personal way. Paul sums up this way of life in 1st Timothy 1:5 as one of love, which comes from a pure heart, a good conscience and a sincere faith! Bring a cup of coffee or tea and join as we think about ways that the teachings of Paul apply to our own church and our own lives!

News from ABCCONN

ABCCONN's Executive Committee affirmed the recommendation of the Personnel Committee for Rev. Dr. William (Ken) Williams as the Interim Executive Minister. He will begin his

ministry in early October.

Currently residing in Durham NC, Rev. Dr. Williams was the Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church in Rochester NY before retiring in 2011 and Executive Minister of the ABC Rochester Genesee region from 1995 - 2000. He served as Senior Pastor of two churches - Baptist Temple in Rochester NY for almost 11 years and Hyde Park Union Church in Chicago, IL for 3 years - and as Associate Pastor at First Baptist Church in Waukesha WI for almost 4 years. He was ordained at the Church in Waukesha and has extensive service on various Boards of Directors in Rochester NY and Brighton NY, among them is Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School.

He has the following academic credentials: DMin from McCormick Theological Seminary did post graduate at Emory University and received his MDiv from Colgate Rochester Divinity School and his BS from Campbell University from Buies Creek NC.

He is the father of 2 children and grandfather of three children and, has two children and 2 grandchildren by marriage to the Rev. Peggy Jones Williams.

Property Maintenance

Sidewalk repairs are being done in sections. Eventually the entire sidewalk on North Main Street side will be replaced! This is for safety and for aesthetics. Dan Jones and Tom Mazzei have gotten things off to a great start.

Fall Clean-UP scheduled for Saturday, November 5th.

Excerpt from Pastor Lisa's Aug 21 Sermon:

Stand up straight!

There is nothing that can completely bend you over or knock you down, because you are a child of God!

Satan cannot bind you,

Sin cannot hold you,

Death cannot destroy you.

Stand up straight! You have a name!

You are a child of God!

You are free from all that enslaves you!

You are empowered to live abundantly, to live a life of praise and service to God!

Ladies' Day Out...

Watch Hill, RI

Come enjoy a "last" summer-y leisurely outing!

Stroll the beach, sight-seeing, shopping, lunch...

Thursday September 8th 9AM-4PM

Carpool from church parking lot.

Sandy Thibault:

rubys-mom@live.com;

978-322-0423

Allison Graboski:

athall37@yahoo.com;

860-294-6790

Call, text or IM Facebook

RSVP by September 7 please.

Check us out online! www.firstchurchofwinsted.org

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



FIRST CHURCH OF WINSTED
95 North Main Street
Winsted, CT



Homecoming Weekend ~ Sept 10 - 11



Performers:

6:00 Kids Open Mic
7:00 Evan Gottfried
7:45 Melanie Michaud
8:15 Salmon Eye
8:45 Corey Rieman

SEPT 10th – KIDS ROCK! OPEN MIC 6-7 PM All Ages Welcome!

KID'S OPEN MIC – on a real stage, with real equipment. All participants will receive a musical medalion! Open mic sign-up at 5:30. Singers can bring karaoke track, or an accompanist! Acoustic players can plug in or use their own amp!

EVAN GOTTFRIED'S Family Music Extravaganza! our featured performer from 7 – 7:45 PM. Evan is truly a great performer, and his music inspires kids to be creative and silly, to have fun and to learn cool things! Not to be missed!

Then at 7:45 some of our favorite Steam Vent Youthful characters will join in the fun. Melanie Michaud is an amazing musical talent, Salmon Eye (formerly Chronic Rhythm) will play some pretty fishy selections...wear your swim trunks and flippers! Corey will rock out the rest of the evening...so many styles, you never know whose music he'll play!

PIZZA NIGHT in the Café! Have dinner while you listen...served with a side of salad. Lots of desserts and beverages.

Music is FREE, Dinner will cost you, kid portions available! Donations accepted toward Missions.

Face Painting ~ Make your own Shaker ~ Coloring Contest!

SEPT 11th – KIDS ROCK Continued – Rally Day & Picnic!

Join us as we kickoff the Sunday School Year
Complete with streamers, music and percussion!

*Hallelujah, we sing your praises, all our hearts are
filled with Gladness, as we are marching in the
Light of God's Amazing Grace!*

Re-covenanting Sunday Worship

Following the service...

Family Friendly Activities and Picnic!

Hot Dogs and Beverages provided...

Pot luck sides – Bring a dish to share!

**Bounce House, Face Painting, Three Legged Race,
Water Balloon Toss, Sack Race and other games.**



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, and sings on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays.

If you have questions about joining worship choirs, please don't hesitate to contact Tricia Wu, Worship Choir Director.

**Worship Choir Rehearsals will resume at 5:30 pm on
Tuesday's, September 6, 13 and 20**

Sunday's, September 4, 11 (at 9:00) and 18 @ 9:30 am

Laurel City Singers

Open to New Members...

Laurel City Singers will begin rehearsals on Thursday, Sept. 8th, 7pm at 1st Church. If you can carry a tune, we will provide a bucket...ability to read music is not required.

Fall Concert Nov 20 at 2 PM...



The Monster Mash, Theme from the Addams Family, The Munsters' Theme, The Lake, and of course Nightmare before Christmas, and more!

Come and join us if you're not afraid!

To Join LCS, please email Denise: denisetorson@hotmail.com. Or call Deb Storrs 860-482-3491.

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

The Ziti Supper & Silent Auction

September 24, 5pm – 7pm

Ticket Prices: Adult ~ \$10 Youth 5-12 ~ \$5
Children under 5 ~ free A family of 4 ~ \$25

*Meal: Ziti and Sauce, Salad,
rolls, assorted desserts and
coffee, tea or punch.*



The Ziti Supper is a fund raiser organized by our Board of Christian Education Board to fund our Alex and Elizabeth Smith and Jon Millard College Scholarship Funds awarded to both the youth and adults in our church who are furthering their education. Food items are donated, by parishioners and friends in order to make the fund raiser a great success. Cyndi Whipple is organizing food donations. Those who would like to receive a scholarship are urged to help with the dinner if possible. Scholarship applications are available through the Board of Christian Education and will be available in May of 2016. Please contact Barbara Mazzei for more information at: 860-379-2900 or e-mail bjmazzei@charter.net

Donations needed for auction items, donations of time can be offered as well, make a cake, shovel snow, the possibilities are endless!

Deadline for Donations is 9/18 please contact Tanya Mongitore. Email: tmongitore2144@charter.net

2016 Mexico Mission

Continuing a First Church of Winsted tradition that has been on-going for over a decade, a team of volunteers traveled to Mexico in July to work in two very distinct locations. The team consisted of people from age 14 through "too old to admit our age." Some were previous Mission Trip participants, and others experienced it for the first time.

In Oaxaca, we had a short but meaningful visit to Casa Hogar. We had the opportunity to see many who we've known since they were children. Nacho, the blind boy who first dazzled us with his ability to ride a bicycle through the complex without hitting anyone or anything, is completing his second year of law school. Angel, another blind boy who was dropped off at Casa Hogar by his mother during one of our first mission trips to Casa Hogar, has learned to be very independent and easily navigates his way around Casa Hogar without the need of assistance. Betsy, who with her twin brother, was one of the most affectionate children of Casa Hogar in years past, is now a young lady who is a bit shy and coy. Many of the adults, including Anna and Vicky (both wheelchair bound) were in good spirits although a bit worn because everyone is helping to care for Carol Marin, the director of Casa Hogar, who was hospitalized.

From Oaxaca, we journeyed across Mexico to the Yucatan peninsula to the city of Merida to work at a school for children with multiple disabilities. The weather was totally different from Oaxaca. Every day, the temperature soared above 100 degrees and the humidity was always above 80%. The team was incredibly adaptable. The facility did not have a single air conditioner, so we worked in the morning until the hottest part of the day, rested for a few hours, and then worked in the evening from 5pm until 9:30 or 10:00pm. Solyluna, the school, had just recently moved to this new facility, and did not have the funds to do any improvements to the building. The team did a makeover of the interior and exterior of the building. We painted the entire exterior, including the wall between the sidewalk and the building. We replaced the screens in the windows, scrapped and repainted many interior walls damaged

because of the high humidity, installed new lighting, and even installed a Smart Board that sat in a closet since the move because of a lack of funds to pay someone to mount it to the wall. The grass in the front and back of the building was knee high, so we contracted with a passerby with a machete to cut it down. The team bagged the cut grass and cleaned up the front yard for an upcoming graduation ceremony and the backyard so the students and their families could play. We collected so many large bags of trash that the trash collectors refused to take them until we negotiated a "supplemental fee" for their removal.

The nine team members accomplished a tremendous amount in a week, but it would not have been possible without the prayers and support of our "silent partners" who generously support the Mission Trip year after year. Thank you for making the Trip possible for over a decade through your time, efforts, and contributions!



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

We have a limited number of tickets available.

Please sign up in the gathering room or email:

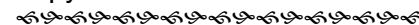
tmongitore2144@charter.net

Sunday, October 9th

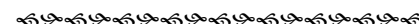
Leaving church parking lot at 4:00

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.



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



Upcoming Events

<i>Celebrate With Us...</i>		<i>Looking Forward</i>	
Sunday - 9 am	Bible Study in the Parlor	Sept 5	Labor Day
Sunday - 10 am	Worship	Sept 10	Steam Vent - KIDS OPEN MIC!
Monday - 5:00 pm at Pastor Lisa's	Women's Bible Study	Sept 11	RALLY DAY – Re-Covenanting Sun.
Tuesday - 5:30 pm	Rehearsal~Worship Choir	Sept 18	Confirmation Meeting
Wednesday - 7:30 pm	AA / Alanon Meetings	Sept 24	Ziti Supper / Auction
Thursday - 6:00 – 9:00 pm	Rehearsal-Laurel City Singers	Oct 2	Judy Albee Retirement Celebration
		Oct 8	Tag Sale
		Oct 9	The Great Jack-o-Lantern Blaze
		Oct 15	Steam Vent
		<i>Board Meetings</i>	
		PM Board	Sept 4 at 11:15
		Board of Christian Ed	Sept 13 at 6:45
		Deacons	Sept 25 at 11:15
		Cabinet Meeting	Sept 27 at 7:00
			

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

*Karl Janak
 *Nika Benson
 03 - Brittany Blische
 08 - Duane Blische
 08 - Susannah Hall
 09 - Owen Marvin
 10 - Beth McCusker
 11 - Kelly McAllister
 13 - Lisa Relihan
 14 - Alec Marvin
 20 - John Eggering
 20 - Liam McAllister
 20 - Danny McAllister
 21 - Ann Jones
 22 - Timothy Hughes
 23 - Melissa McCusker
 26 - Michael Wu
 27 - Chelsea Jarboe
 27 - Wade Roberts
 29 - Mel Lee
 30 - Pam Allen
 30 - Shirley Calkins
 30 - Lisabeth Gustafson
 30 - Sierra McCaw

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

♥ 06 - Bill & Constance Bastenbeck
 ♥ 08 - Bob & Carol Miles
 ♥ 12 - Tony & Tanya Mongitore
 ♥ 20 - Ed & Kathy Weaving
 ♥ 21 - Devin & Hannah McCaw
 ♥ 26 - Brett & Susan McAllister

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

tag sale

OCTOBER 8th ~ 8:00am – 4:00pm

Volunteers are needed to sort on drop off days and during the day of the Tag Sale. Please or see Lisa Nanni or Laura McCaw. We would really appreciate if you could donate an hour or two of your time. Many hands make light work! ☺

***DROP OFF TIMES: Thurs & Fri 10/1-10/2 from 5-8pm
In the Church Dining Room!***

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 for the fair!
 See Lisa or Laura
 Hold this date!*





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>Artist: Karen Delton</p>	<p>Sept Birthstone: Sapphire</p> 	<p>Sept Flower: Aster</p> 	<p>Astrological Signs</p> <p>Virgo: Aug 23 – Sept 22 Libra: Sept 23 – Oct 22</p>	1	2	3
<p>4</p> <p>Worship Service 10:00 am</p> <p>Worship Choir 9:30 am</p> <p>Worldwide Communion Day</p> <p>PM Board 11:30</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Labor Day</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Worship Choir 5:30</p> <p>♥ Bill & Constance Bastenbeck</p>	<p>7</p> <p>AA/Alanon 7:30 pm</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Laurel City Singers 7:00 pm</p> <p>Duane Blische Susannah Hall ♥ Bob & Carol Miles</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Owen Marvin</p>	<p>10</p>  <p>STEAM VENT Coffee House 6-10 PM Kids Open Mic 6 – 7 PM Evan Gottfried 7 PM Beth McCusker</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Worship Service 10:00 am</p> <p>Worship Choir 9:00 All others 9:30</p> <p>RALLY DAY Re-Covenanting Sunday Worship</p> <p>Picnic after Service Hotdogs & beverages provided Bring a dish to share</p> <p>Kelly McAllister</p>	<p>12</p> <p>♥ Tony & Tanya Mongitore</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Worship Choir 5:30</p> <p>BOCE 6:45 PM</p> <p>Lisa Relihan</p>	<p>14</p> <p>AA/Alanon 7:30 pm</p> <p>Alec Marvin</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Laurel City Singers 7:00 pm</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p> <p>Worship Service 10:00 am</p> <p>Worship Choir 9:30 am</p> <p>Confirmation Meeting with Parents after Service</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Worship Choir 5:30</p> <p>John Eggering Liam McAllister Danny McAllister ♥ Ed & Kathy Weaving</p>	<p>21</p> <p>AA/Alanon 7:30 pm</p> <p>Ann Jones ♥ Devin & Hannah McCaw</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Laurel City Singers 7:00 pm</p> <p>Autumn Begins</p> <p>Timothy Hughes</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Melissa McCusker</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Ziti Super 5-7 PM</p>  <p>& Silent Auction</p>
<p>25</p> <p>Worship Service 10:00 am</p> <p>Open Mic Sunday Diaconate 11:30</p> <p>A Prayer for Peace</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Bellringer Article Deadline</p> <p>Michael Wu ♥ Brett & Susan McAllister</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Worship Choir No Rehearsal Cabinet 7:00 pm</p> <p>Chelsea Jarboe Wade Roberts</p>	<p>28</p> <p>AA/Alanon 7:30 pm</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Laurel City Singers 7:00 pm</p> <p>Mel Lee</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Pam Allen Shirley Calkins Lisabeth Gustafson Sierra McCaw</p>	<p>31</p>

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



Artist: Karen Delton

Pastor - 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

Praise Choir Director - 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

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

