

Winsted United Methodist Church

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Pastor: Rev. Florence Eddins

May, 2016

Secretary: Issy Skilton

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THANK YOU!!

Special thanks to those of you who help out in unseen ways and who may not ever get mentioned. You make a huge difference in our church family!

- Warren & Corky, for continued work on the back door, as well as several other projects;
- Stephanie and Candy and helpers on the April dinner, including Norma Jarvis, Patty Stark, Warren, Arlene, Georgette, others who baked and helped out; Samantha Vienneau (kitchen) and Neigha Daniels, who read out the raffle ticket numbers.
- Jean Rebillard, for managing the Thrift Shop these past two years and doing a great job of re-organizing it; and Georgette Benson for taking over for. Thanks also to those who are volunteering to help with the Thrift Shop on Saturdays (sign up in social hall!).
- Bob Zuchegna, for offering some solos for our worship services.
- Ron Bessette, for replacing a dying light fixture down in the dining room and replaced it with LED lighting! Talk about BRIGHT lights! Yea!!
- Patty and Corky, for helping Barbara V deliver food from the Simsbury UMC to our food pantry. And Patty, for providing monthly birthday cakes!
- Nancy Frink (Jeanne's daughter-in-law), for being the force/inspiration behind the church's receipt of \$43,000 from our insurance company to help with the roof!!
- Sandy Taylor, Nancy & Richard Coon, and Brian and Brandy, for help with the Coffee Hour set up.
- Mark Tacinelli, for wonderful messages for our children, and for help with the video camera, ECT!!
- Norma Jones and all who worked so hard to make the Spring Fair a great day, including: Norma Jarvis, Jo-Elin Williams, Barbara Hawley, Patty & Corky Stark, Theresa Stark, Peg Palmer, Sue Bessette, Thelma and Warren Shaw, Sheila Shea, Sandy Taylor, Georgette Benson, Pastor Florence and Issy Skilton. Plus the ones who baked delicious goodies!! We made \$934.+
- Jill Jacobs, for getting breads, etc, from Stop & Shop for the food pantry while Norma has been ill.
- Perry G, for thoughtful newsletter articles!

Happy Birthday!

*(If YOUR birthday is not listed and you would like it to be, please call the church office. If some are listed that should **not** be, let us know.)*

May Birthdays

- 1 Richard Coon (the boy)
- 3 Joel Jarvis
- 5 Vicki Brown
- 5 Logan Tabak
- 7 Shirley Pixley
- 9 Nicholas Tabak
- 13 Tyler Grant
- 14 - Bill Meeker
- 15 Pastor Al Miller
- 17 Susan Caufield
- 28 Brianna Tabak
- 29 Marion Ramsey Miller
- 29 Christina Sogliuzzi
- 31 Samantha Jacobs



May God bless you on your birthday and throughout the coming year!

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Roast Beef Dinner

Thursday, May 19th 6:00 p.m.
Eat in or take out. \$11/adult, \$6/under 12
Reservations are needed.

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Prayers and Sympathy

Our prayers and sympathy go out to Steve Palmer, Doris Marino, and their family. Steve's niece, Doris' grand-daughter, Lea Altieri, died at the age of 34 on 3/21.

Bill Perry's sister, Dotty, died in early April. After a graveside service, the Perry family had a reception at our church. Prayers for comfort and strength.

Perry's & Carol H's friend, Gloria, died late April; Sandy Taylor's "second mom," Ellen Mattson, died in NY on 4/25. Carol H's sister-in-law, Janice Kelsey, died late April. Sympathy to Perry, Carol, and Sandy.

Trustees Corner, May 2016 – At the suggestion of a parishioner, we are starting a column from the Board of Trustees. Our members include: Sue Bessette (Co-chair), Barb Hawley (Co-chair), Darlene Grant (Treasurer), Perry Green, Debbie Kerr, Joel Gannon, Jerry Hamilton, Joan Capitanio, and Cliff Hoxie. Issy Skilton will serve as secretary and moderator.

If you see something that needs addressing regarding the care and upkeep of the church building, please inform one of the members with a written note. Be aware that if you tell us in person at coffee hour, we may not remember. Check out the exit door by the sacristy...great job Warren & Corky!! Check out the downstairs lights - thanks, Ron!

Update on the roof: insurance money (\$43,000) has been received to help defray expenses on the rest of the roof and inside damage. We are going ahead with the project later this spring/summer. When that is completed, we can start the interior repairs.

We are honored to be called to serve the Lord in this capacity. With your help, together, we can make a difference!
- Barb Hawley+

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Communion

by Bob Zuchegna

Communion to me is my connection

To God above who is perfection.

And Christ the Lord our Right Direction.

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From the Pastor

Three times, Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?" This was after the Crucifixion and after Easter. I have always marveled at the way the risen Jesus let Peter, who had denied even knowing Jesus three times, have three chances to affirm his love for Jesus. And I have always appreciated how Jesus, each time, gave Peter an assignment as part of Jesus' church: "Feed my lambs, tend my sheep, feed my sheep." (John 21:15-17) There was a satisfying symmetry in the whole thing that made me feel good.

But the other morning, as I was having devotional time, I felt myself hearing Jesus ask me: "Florence, do you love me?" A couple of things troubled me about this. One, I could not point (at least not easily) to a place where I had denied knowing Jesus... And two, I could not easily point to proof showing my love for Jesus!

"Florence, do you love me?" And my answer had to be, "You know, Lord, how and where I do, and how and where I do not. You know how easily I try not to hear or notice the needs of others; you understand how much I try to protect myself. So you know how I love you and how I do not."

And then something else hit. All of us, and even our church, are asked the same question by the One we claim to follow when we say we're Christian: "Church, do you love me? Christian, if you love me, feed my sheep, not with junk food but with food that will give hope and healing to the soul. Bind up the brokenhearted, lift up those who have fallen, welcome those others reject, give living water to the thirsty; help those who are imprisoned by life become free. Feed my sheep."

If that's not enough of an assignment, for me and for you and for all of us, we can turn to Matthew 25, verses 31 through 46, and hear more about what Jesus asks from the people who claim him as Lord and Savior. May each of us hear and learn to live out our answer to our Lord when he asks us: "Do you love me?" Amen. - Florence Eddins

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Scrip Cards

Yes, I'm going to write about Scrip again! Just want to remind you that I now have extra Gift Cards for Stop and Shop and Walmart. The cards are \$25.00 each and just in case you are wondering, if you have a \$25.00 card and you only spend \$10.00 the remainder of the money is still on the card and you use it again on your next purchase also, there are no expiration dates. M So if you decide you are going to run to Stop & Shop or Walmart to get gas, pills or food, stop and get a card. For your \$25.00 you get a card for \$25.00 and the church gets a dollar. - Issy

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"Come and See" John 1:43-51 By Perry Green
To his friends, he was probably known as Nate, even though his name was Nathaniel. Most of the guys living in that region knew one another, just as we in the greater Winsted know one another as we may work, and live and go to church. It is probably likely that Nate also knew Phil before he had asked him that crucial question that would change his life forever, as well as ours.

?So when Jesus, having just been baptized, still "wet behind the ears" (so to speak) directly invited Phil to follow him, it was not a completely new idea.

Immediately, Phil shared that "good news" with Nate, telling him that? we have found him about who Moses and the Law and also of the prophets wrote – Jesus, son of Joseph of Nazareth!

Nate was a bit cautious, after all a lot of strange folk came from Nazareth in those days; much like we might figure on folk coming from Berkeley, California. ?Additionally, Nazareth was despised by the Jews because of a Roman Garrison was located there. Some have speculated an detached attitude for its poor reputation and morale. So Nate exclaimed fervently, "Can anything good come out of Nazereth? " But surprisingly, Jesus knew about Nathaniel before the two ever met, just as we know that Jesus also knows who and what we are! Nate was

surprised, and skeptical, Phillip responded to Nate with a simple "Come and see". Nate came, saw and became a follower! For Nate, that seeing was believing!

Today, as well as back then, we should not let people's stereotypes about Christ cause them to miss the power and love within His kingdom or realm. Today, 2016, we need to invite people to "come and see".

?Can we at this small community church in Winsted, ask folk to "come and see" Jesus and His Ministry at our church? Can we also be like the early disciples, who first learned to follow, then invite others to be disciples?

Let's take a further peek into the scriptures. Jesus chose as his closest cadre, twelve disciples. Yet these dozen men were a real odd lot. None were wealthy or influential; or rich and famous. A quarter of them we know almost nothing about: Andrew, Jude, Thaddeus and even old Nate or Nathaniel. Seven, a simple majority, were common fishermen. For the remainder of this gang, we discover Peter, who denied who Jesus was, "doubting Thomas," and the hot-headed Zebedee brothers, James and John. Let's not forget Matthew, a Jew despised by his own people for collaborating with the oppressive Roman government a tax collector. Should we not forget the problematic "Simon the Zealot"? Last, but certainly not least, was Judas Iscariot, who put his disagreements with Jesus into action. Who can we identify in Jesus' closest "executive cabinet" - the people who will be instrumental in inviting others to "come and see".

As followers of Christ, we need not be anything but ordinary, fallible, fragile people in order to be called by God to be his adopted sons and daughters through his invitation. We have come and seen, and we're here at the Winsted United Methodist Church. Some of us are members, and some are just loyal friends who also contribute to the Church's ministry and well-being.

We do need to do more in the "come and see" department. There are just too many good things going on that need to be shared. Chances are that someone in your life, who cared for you, once invited you to "come and see"!

"Come and see" weekly worship services and sermons packed with relevant, scriptural truths on being followers of Jesus, the Christ.

"Come and see" a family of faith that takes God's Word, and Christ's mission seriously, lovingly and responsibly.

"Come and see" a people struggling in the face of huge bills to just to keep a roof over our heads, for the present and future ministry - and slowly succeeding. "Come and see" needy people in our community visit "Marilyn's Pantry", our food bank, as well as in need of anything

from a tank of gas to medicine, or prayer.

"Come and see" a prayer ministry, including a Prayer Chain, and pastoral prayers that go out all over our world, and sometimes we get to realize the effect of those prayers. "Come and see" a caring pastoral hospital and home visitation program, allowing for the faith family members who are ill to receive that caring ministry.

"Come and see" a dynamic weekly Bible study, addressing the scriptures and applying them to our lives, through both pastoral instruction and shared conversations.

"Come and see" a well-managed church organization, staffed with volunteers of all age groups. "Come and see" the generous giving of time and talent to our church projects and money-raising activities, local and world mission projects and the fellowship dinners.

"Come, see and hear" our beautiful pipe organ and our small choir with great voices and qualified leadership.

"Come and see" a well organized and staffed Thrift Shop, with almost unseen ministries.

"Come and see" a revitalization crew tirelessly restoring restrooms, doors and making the building interior safe, clean and comfortable.

Can we practice a "come and see" for what is true; a "come and see" what the world needs, and cannot give.

Can we "come and see" what we have accomplished as a people in Christian faith, working and playing together. many different ways, striving for the common good and commitment to follow Christ, and honor the Mission Statement of the United Methodist Church - to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world

Can anything good come out of Nazareth? Can anything good come out of the Winsted United Methodist Church? Come and see! Amen! - Perry Green

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Directory - Check the "revised" version of the directory, which is in the Social hall. Look it over, tell Issy of any changes, and VERY SOON copies will be available!

Prayer Chain - In addition to the prayer list in the bulletins, we have a prayer chain, for immediate prayer needs. Carol Hague initiates; then members continue, calling others and praying for the person having trouble. If you have a need, or if you want to be part of this prayer ministry, contact Carol at 860-489-9059.