



The Witness

Spring 2012 Edition
April/May/June



WINTHROP CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

10 Bowdoin Street, Winthrop, ME 04364

Tel: (207) 377-2063

E-mail: wccucc@fairpoint.net

Webpage: www.wccucc.org

Minister: Rev. Dr. Alice Anderman

Music Director: Rosalea Kimball

Office Assistant: Debbie Burns

Pastor's Article

Dear friends,

We are about to enter Holy Week and walk with Jesus through his passion. We walk with him as he enters into Jerusalem riding on a donkey while the crowd throws garments on the ground in front of him, waves palm branches above him and shouts, "Hosanna, blessed is the who comes in the name of the Lord." We are there on the porch of the temple as he turns over the tables of the moneylenders, scatters their coins all over, and shouts, "You have made my Father's temple a den of thieves." Then we join him at the Passover feast. He washes our feet and the feet of his other disciples and wipes them dry with a towel. At the table, after we have eaten the traditional Passover food, he takes bread and breaks it and shares it with us and says, "This is my body broken for you, eat of it." And then he passed the cup of wine around and says, "This cup is the cup of salvation given for you, drink of it." We are startled when Judas runs out from the supper leaving Jesus and all of us. After the meal we follow Jesus to the garden of Gethsemane where Jesus prays, "Abba, Father, for you, all things are possible: remove this cup from me; yet not what I want, but what you want." We all fall asleep for Jesus prays a long time. Jesus wakes us up and says the hour has come. "Get up, let us be going. See my betrayer is at hand." And Judas comes and with him a crowd. We are startled. Judas kisses Jesus and then Jesus is arrested. We with the rest of the disciples run away and desert him.



On Friday we hear that the chief priests, scribes Pharisees handed Jesus over to Pilate, the Roman prefect of Judea. After the crowd yelled, "Crucify him", Pilate hands Jesus over to be crucified. We watch the ugly scene unfold from a far-away place. We see Jesus, who cared for all those he met, who taught us how to be loving, who listened, touched, healed, broke bread with us, say "Father forgive them for they know not what they do," and then die on the cross. We walk away afraid, sad, confused. All this does not make sense.



Three days later, Mary, James' mother and Mary Magdalene and other women go to Jesus' tomb to put spices on this body; they enter the tomb and Jesus' body is not there. Instead they see two men in dazzling clothes. The women are terrified. The men say to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, he is risen." You see the women running from the garden and follow them to where the disciples were gathered together. You hear them shout the good news. Jesus Christ is risen. Starting next Sunday and during Holy Week you will walk from hosannas to alleluias, through death to resurrection and new life.



I share a poem for you to meditate on as you continue your walk with Jesus after the Resurrection. The poem by Victoria Weinstein is *Being the Resurrection*.

The stone has got to be rolled back from the tomb again and again every year.

Roll up your sleeves.

He is not coming back, you know. he is not coming back unless it is we who rise with him

We who lay healing hands on the reviled and rejected like he did

On his behalf – we who rage for righteousness in his insistent voice

We who love the sinner, even knowing that "the sinner" is no farther off than our heartbeat

He will not be back to join us at the table to share God's extravagant banquet

God's love feast, all are invited, come as you are

And so it is you and I who must feast for him

Must say the grace and break the bread and pass it to the left

And dish up the broiled fish (or pour the wine) and pass it to the right.

And treat each one so tenderly as though just this morning she or he made the personal effort

To make it back from heaven or from hell but certainly from death to be by our side.

Because if by some miracle (and why not a miracle?) He did come back

Wouldn't he want to see us like this?

Wouldn't it be a miracle to live just one day so that if he did, by some amazing feat

Come riding into town He could take a look around and say

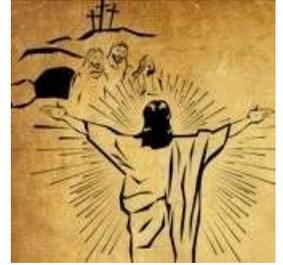
"This is what I meant!"

And we could say It took us a long time . . .

But we finally figured it out.

Oh, let us live to make it so.

You are the resurrection and the life.



Resurrection blessings,
Alice

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 1, 10:00 am – Palm Sunday Worship

We will remember Jesus' joyful entry into Jerusalem at the beginning of Holy Week. During Worship there will be a Baptism and a Reception of New Members. After Worship, join us for soup and bread at the Lenten "Spiritual Practices" Study after worship in the Vestry.

April 5, 7:00 pm – Maundy Thursday Tennabrae Service with Holy Communion – Winthrop Methodist Church.

April 6, 7:00pm – Good Friday Service -Winthrop Methodist Church

April 8, 10:00 am - Easter Sunday Service of the Resurrection

Join us for Easter Service at Winthrop Congregational Church, UCC. Pick up your Easter plants after service.

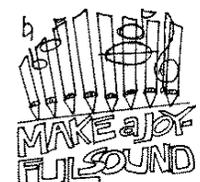


April 22, 11:00 am - Chapel Dedication

At the end of Worship, we'll gather in the redecorated Chapel for a dedication and blessing of the chapel

May 24, 10:00 am – Camp Hymn and Rocks Dedication

Jeff Dennis has put the words on the Camp Hymn rocks to music



From the Deacons

We have a need for 20 to 30 New Century Hymnals (The Black Hymnals). We are looking for sponsors. Use the form below if you would like to help with the purchase.

Winthrop Congregational Church, UCC Sponsor a New Century Hymnal!

I would like to sponsor purchase of New Century Hymnals for the Church.
I'm enclosing \$_____ for the purchase of ____ hymnal(s) at \$15 per hymnal.

Name: _____

I would like to dedicate the Hymnal(s) to:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

From the Trustees

The Trustees continue to work to keep our Church building (including the camp) in good shape. There are a number of chores that have been tackled, planned, and considered over the past few months. Among them are:

- Painting the Sanctuary ceiling. One bid has been received of approximately \$6,000. We are considering the best way to raise the necessary funds. If anyone has any suggestion we would be glad to hear from you.
- The splinters in several pews have been sanded and stained. If anyone discovers more splinters please let a Trustee know.
- The congregation approved the hiring of janitorial services at the rate of \$10.00 per hour for two hours per week on a contract basis. The duties would be for vacuuming and floor washing only. If you know of someone or of a service that may be interested, please let a Trustee know.
- A Bulletin Board will be placed in the Narthex.
- We continue to look at fixing one of the lights in the chapel.
- An alternate source of electricity is being investigated to see if we may be able to reduce this cost.
- Camp cleanup will be Saturday, May 5 from 9:00 to noon.
- A sign for the camp is being planned.
- A discussion was had regarding parking spaces at the camp and the Trustees will be looking into making more spaces available.
- The old dock at camp has been cut up and will be removed when the road has firmed up.
- The pipes under the right side kitchen sink have been leaking and will be repaired.
- Despite servicing we continue to have some problems with the pilot light going out on the right side oven. A solution is being investigated.



If anyone has suggestions on caring for our church or camp, please let any member of the Trustees know.

Joe Dressler, Chair

From the Board of Church and Community Concerns

Members for 2012 are Barbara Enman, Lee Gilman, Rita Ladd, Margaret Imber, Diane Richardson and Carol Whittier. Carol Whittier and Diane Richardson are Co-Chairs.

BCCC is responsible for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering held on March 18th. Carol Whittier and Margaret Imber spoke about the great need for this fund, which is used not just in the United States, but in areas around the globe where there is a need. For example, your donation will be used in times of tragedy such as the tsunami in Japan or hurricanes in the Gulf Coast. If you would like to have more information as to how this money is used, please let someone on BCCC know. On March 18, Conference Minister David Gaewski's sermon gave personalized illustrations of how OGHS helps.

Another offering for which the BCCC is responsible is the Blanket Sunday offering, which will be held on Mother's Day. For a few dollars a blanket can be purchased, which will bring comfort perhaps to a mother with small children. A blanket can be used for protection during the day from the sun, or to keep warm in the cold. It can keep off the rain by using it as a small tent. When you have nothing, a small item like a blanket may bring hopefulness instead of hopelessness.

We cannot stress too strongly how important these projects are to humanity. We understand that these are difficult economic times and it seems there is a request for donations every month. We appreciate any contribution that you can make. Thank you.



Submitted by Carol Whittier and Diane Richardson

CE MATTERS

Winthrop UCC would like to hire a Nursery Attendant to take care of our young children every Sunday between 9:30 and 11:30. This position may be shared between two people if both applicants meet our criteria and they are able to share the position on a 50/50 basis, or close to that. If applicants wish to job-share this position, they must work their schedule out on their own and they must be available to cover for each other in case of illness or scheduling conflicts. These requirements are based on our desire to provide our children with consistent caretakers in the Nursery.



Primary Responsibilities

1. Warmly welcomes children and families into the nursery.
2. Attends to each child's physical needs with warmth, kindness, and consideration.
3. Plays developmentally appropriate games and reads developmentally appropriate books to the children.
4. Maintains a clean, safe, orderly environment for the children, minimizing the spreading of germs to the extent possible.
5. If no children attend nursery on any given day, helps out at CE with the older children.
6. Keeps Minister and CE Board up to date on needs of the children and the Nursery and any potential problems they might be seeing.
7. Other related duties as appropriate.

Job Requirements:

Must enjoy young children and have experience caring for them. Must be very reliable and have a clean and neat appearance. Must be able to care for one to five children at the same time. Must be able to apply alternative approaches to working with different

children based on individual needs. CPR, Red Cross, First Aid certifications preferred.
Pay: \$20 per week payable on the 1st and 15th of each month.

From the Treasurer

In February we approved a balanced budget for 2012 which included provisions for part-time assistance for the nursery and for cleaning of the church.

Income		Expenses	
Pledges & Offerings	\$64,730	Pastoral Direct Compensation	\$29,732
Fund Raisers	\$13,000	Pastoral Indirect Compensation	\$13,000
Other Income including Building Use	\$3,070	Pastoral Expenses	\$2,500
Investment Income	\$3,600	Operations and Maintenance	\$19,878
Total	\$84,400	Administration	\$7,247
		Christian Education	\$1,633
		Music & Worship	\$8,310
		Missions	\$2,100
		Total	\$84,400

To date, income and expenses appear to be tracking well with our budget projections.

Hannaford Gift Cards Sales

Hannaford gift cards sales began in May of 2011 at our church. To date, 22 card orders have been placed and \$1,875 has been earned. This fundraiser provides income for the church which helps pay the bills. It is not designated to a special project.

Card purchases of \$2,000 usually sell out in a couple of weeks. They are always available on Sundays at church and can be purchased anytime during the week if needed - just call me at 377-6890.

Thanks to all the members who continually support this fund.

Carol Ellingwood

Honduras Mission Trip News

The Winthrop Congregational Church still has a small group preparing to travel to Honduras on Jun 20th to Jun 30th as part our church's wider missions. Those people representing the church are Rev Alice, her sister Nancy, Wendy Dennis, Debbie Burns, Linda Ruman, Dr Jonathan Gasper, and I.

Pastor Camilo Bueso and the Reformed Evangelical Church in El Progreso will be our host church. We are one of many churches participating in the Maine Conference Honduras Partnership. As part of the mission trip, we are expected to provide \$3,500 towards a building project. To date, we, at the Winthrop Congregational Church have raised \$1,862, which is 53% of this goal. The El Progreso church needs additional rooms added on to their Sunday School. We will be assisting a work crew from El Progreso in mixing cement and building cement walls for the addition.

We also plan to provide medical supplies and host a medical clinic plus host an event geared towards children and/or a nursing home. So, as you can see, our little group has lots to focus on. We have booked our flights and made lodging arrangements, obtained passports and necessary immunizations. We are getting excited about the upcoming trip

and would appreciate your prayers and support.

Prior fundraising has been through the sale of eggs, soaps, pottery, fishing flies, vegetables/fruit, redemption of returnable bottles/cans, and general donations. We are currently raising awareness of life in Honduras through our Lenten calendar. Contributions are appreciated if you wish to participate. Our other fundraiser is an E-Waste Recycling Day to be scheduled in August. Free-will donations are collected for this charity as part of the day-long recycling effort. Watch for more information on that event as we finalize the details.

On behalf of the mission team,
Cyndi

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild cordially invites all women of the church to attend our annual Ladies Night dinner out on May 24th. We will meet at Pepper's Restaurant at 5:30 PM. Please join us!

Church World Service kits are being assembled in April to be delivered on May 3rd to Woodfords church in Portland. We already have 5 clean-up buckets, 26 school kits, and at least 15 health kits. Thanks for all your help in making it happen!

President Cyndi

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

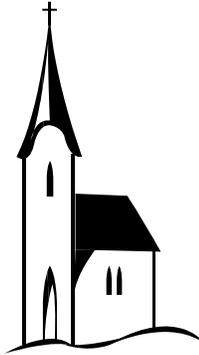
April Birthdays			
1	Eric Conrad		
3	Joan Barnes		
7	Matthew Dennis		
8	Corinna Coulton		
9	Julia LaCrone		
13	Peter Hatfield		
15	Nick Burns Carol Whittier Jeff Brown		
17	Sharon Coulton		
19	Mike Mayette		
27	Brian Adams		
May Birthdays		May Anniversaries	
3	Felicia Ridley Alice Darlington	5/17/80	Jeff & Wendy Dennis
4	Jean Doughty		
5	Connie Mayette		
7	Barbara Pray		
9	Becky Gillespie Shirley Rollins		
10	Linda Rollins		

20	Emma Conrad		
21	Kelly Dooling		
22	Jeff Dennis		
26	Linda Adams		
31	William Maxim		
June Birthdays		June Anniversaries	
1	Alfred Pettengill	6/15/53	George & Ethel Maxim
4	Jared Hanson	6/24/	John & Ann Mitchell
6	Marty Hensen	6/22/72	Hariph & Ginger Smith
16	Marie Hatfield		
17	Andy Burns		
19	Larry Ridley		
21	Nancy Ponzetti-Dyer		
	Mark Dennis		
25	Joe Emerson		
29	Sean Putman-Labbe		
30	Ethel Maxim		

WCC is now on Facebook

Visit us at

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=lf#!/pages/Winthrop-Congregational-Church/146739145356709>



Winthrop Congregational Church, UCC
10 Bowdoin Street
Winthrop, Maine 04364