



# The Witness

Fall 2014 Edition

WINTHROP CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

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## Open and Affirming

Minister: Rev. Dr. Alice Anderman

Music Director: Rosalea Kimball

Office Assistant: Cyndi Hall

## Pastor's Reflections

Friends and Members of Winthrop Congregational Church UCC, Towards the end of last summer, Tasha and I were sitting in our home in Illinois and I was very worried. By that point in the year, Tasha had accepted an offer to teach at Colby College and we were preparing to move to Maine. We were confident that the move was going to be a good one. We had researched the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ and felt like it would be a welcoming place for me to serve. The position at Colby was fantastic, and having visited Maine, we were sure that we would love the area. However, even with all of this excitement, sometimes, worry would waltz right in and mess up all of our optimistic planning.

What I would usually get most worried about was finding a job. I knew how hard it was to find a good and meaningful call. On that particular day last summer, in order to help manage my anxiety about my vocational future, Tasha and I took to looking through the websites of the local UCC churches, hoping to rekindle my optimism about the move. We clicked through the little map of local churches and I found one church that caught my eye. It was a small church in a small town, but it was Open and Affirming. This church was also involved in international as well as local missions. The people seemed to love the outdoors and love one another. They loved God, too, and wanted to share that love with all people. I looked at Tasha and said, "See. That's the kind of church I want to be a part of." Unfortunately, that church wasn't looking for a pastor at that time. So, we just continued to search through the other local churches.

Fast forward several months. As we grew ever closer to the time when we would move, I spoke with folks from the Maine Conference. Someone mentioned that a local church Winthrop would be beginning a search for a new pastor in January. Tasha and I quickly turned to the internet to learn more about the congregation. As we scrolled through the website, Tasha said, "Chrissy, that's the church. That's the church we talked about last summer." She was right. It was. This church which seemed so full of potential was actually in search of their next pastor. I am most fortunate that that very church where I saw so much potential also saw potential in me and invited me to come and serve.



As of now, I have been your pastor for two very full months. You, like me, are probably wondering what these next years will bring as we worship, pray, plan, and serve together. I don't know exactly how our new ministry together will unfold but I do know that the One who called us into relationship also travels with us along the way. I also know that as we seek to build relationships, the wisest and most faithful thing we can do is engage in sacred listening together. I will continue having Out-of-the-Office Office hours and am planning some other evening events in the coming months for gathering in small groups. I am also more than happy to meet with you on an individual basis. I firmly believe that we can best understand who we are and where we feel called by sharing our stories with one another. This deliberate approach, full of listening and reflecting, is not the fastest way to get things done, but it is rich with opportunity for deep connection and transformation.

As I said in my candidate sermon, I feel that Winthrop Congregational Church is a community ripe with possibility. We can build new things. I pray that we can share many blessings through all the coming construction.

Pastor Chrissy

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## Upcoming Events

- † **Aug 28 Ladies Guild Social & Pot Luck Supper at Whispering Pines**
- † **Aug 31 Rally Day:** Worship at 9:30 am beginning of this year's Sunday School classes
- † **Sep 7** Worship at 10:00 am. Roxanne French will lead the service
- † **Sep 12 Fish Chowder Luncheon**
- † **Sep 14** Worship. Margaret Imber will lead the service
- † **Sep 27** 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pie Sale
- † **World Communion Sunday and Deacons' Love Fund Collection:** Oct 5
- † **Oct 10 Fish Chowder Luncheon**
- † **Church Camp Close Up on Saturday, Oct 11 (tentative date):** 9 am- noon – help close up Whispering Pines for the winter.
- † **Oct 17-18: Maine Conference Annual Meeting** At South Parish in Augusta
- † **Nov 14 Fish Chowder Luncheon**




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## Pastor Chrissy is going to Morocco

Pastor Chrissy and Tasha will be away in Morocco from September 6 - 14. Joe Dressler has agreed to cover for pastoral emergencies while Chrissy is away.

## From the Treasurer

We had two very successful fund raisers this summer – the Summer Fair and the Art Show Luncheon on the lawn and Bake Sale. Hannaford Gift Card Sales also continue to bring funds into the church's treasury. I've been able to pay back the "loan" from Savings done in the spring to ease cash flow issues.



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### Hannaford Gift Cards Sales



This fundraiser began in May, 2011, and has provided a source income for the church for over three years. Eighty three card orders have been placed to date and have earned \$8,000. On average, it makes \$200 a month and goes into the general fund to help with the church's finances.

For every \$100 card purchased, the Church earns 5% or \$5. Those who consistently purchase cards are generating income for the church probably without realizing how quickly it has added up.

Cards are always available on Sundays after church and during the weekday if you want to call me. 377-6890

Carol Ellingwood

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### 3rd Annual Pie Sale Quickly Approaching!

On Saturday, September 27, pies of many flavors will be for sale on the front lawn of the church! This church fundraiser has become a great money maker and has been enjoyed by many bakers and buyers from our church family and the community!!

Fruit pies, meat pies, dessert pies, and quiches are some of the quick-selling offerings that have appeared at past SOLD OUT sales. We will be soliciting pies from bakers in our congregation and will provide all with uniform-sized pie plates, a label to adhere to the covered pies, and an information sheet about drop-off. Please mark **September 27 @ 10 A.M.** on your calendars for this mouth-watering event, and be thinking of how you can help out!



(\*\*Pie requests can be made by church members before September 20th by contacting either Carol Ellingwood, Linda Ruman, or Debbie Burns. Also, New This Year: Selected 'Half Pies' for sale! \*\*)

Debbie Burns

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### CE Matters

Sunday School starts on August 31 and nursery care is provided every week. As always, we need teachers and helpers in the Sunday School. Please let us know if there is a week that you are available to teach or help with the children.

Board of Christian Education

## Hospitality Plea

Thank you to those who answered to the plea for donations to the hospitality "bowl". The donations have been generous (\$10-\$17 on 4 Sundays!) which got me out of the red and paper plates, napkins and beverage mix have been replenished. There are crackers and cheese(top refrigerator draw) in stock and coffee cream is usually purchased weekly. Coffee and cream increased in price this week. Coffee by \$1.50!

And, thank you to those who take a turn hosting a Sunday and supplying baked goods and fruit for the social time after church. There is always a great spread!  
Carol Ellingwood

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## Board of Church and Community Concerns

After the summer hiatus, the BCCC will have their first meeting on Sunday, September 7th after church. Our first task will be to plan for our Stewardship drive in October. Then in November, we will sponsor our annual drive to collect food for the Winthrop Area Food Pantry. The spirit of giving continues in December with our much appreciated gifts for the Family Violence Project. We will miss Diane Richardson and her dedicated service on this board. We wish her well as she goes South for the winter.  
Carol Whittier

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## Women's Guild

The Women's Guild will meet at our camp "Whispering Pines" on Thursday, August 28th for an afternoon of canoeing, kayaking, playing outdoor games or just relaxing and visiting. Cyndi and Carol W. will be there at 1 pm to unlock the camp and set up. Please come anytime during the afternoon to share in the fun. If you are planning to stay for supper, please bring a salad, covered dish OR desert to share. If you are not in the Guild, please join us anyway!

The Guild will reconvene after the summer break on Thursday, September 26th with their first meeting at the home of Ronda Watson. We will continue to hold our monthly meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm with the exception of the months of November and December when there will be no meetings due to holidays.

On Saturday, October 11 the Guild will host the wedding reception of Susan Mauro and Michael Davenport after their marriage in our Sanctuary. Carol Ellingwood will be organizing this celebration, so if you can help in any way please let her know.

Carol Whittier

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**Wi-Fi available at WCC-** contact the church office for details

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## Sanctuary Renovations

The Trustees are in the midst of making arrangements to schedule the Sanctuary renovations this fall. The renovations will take 3 – 5 weeks and will commence in early September or more likely after October 11<sup>th</sup>. During the renovations Sunday Worship Services will take place in the Fellowship Hall

### Next Newsletter Deadline: November 18, 2014

September Birthdays		September Anniversaries	
4	Lauren Hastings Ann Dooling	9/13/97 9/14	Ted LaCrone & Amy Tague Eric & Martha Payne
6	Marie Pettengill	9/16/67	Doug & Carol Whittier
9	Peter Coulton	9/20/53	Don & Gerry Edgar
12	Sue Poole	9/22/51	Charlie & Mary Gove
17	Betty Evans Cyndi Hall	9/23/72 9/25	Jeff & Anna Brown Milton & Pamela Hadley
19	Marlene Douglas		
21	Bob Morgner		
October Birthdays		October Anniversaries	
1	Sonny Maxim Christopher Martin-McNaughton	10/11/86	Tom & Kathy Irwin
7	Kara Hiendlmayr		
11	Rick McNaughton		
16	Wendy Dennis Pamela Livingstone		
22	Joshua Martin-McNaughton		
24	Wendy Wagner		
26	Jamie Martin-McNaughton		
31	Ginger Smith		
November Birthdays			November Anniversaries
7	Roger Hanson	11/19/60	Alfred & Marie Pettengill
12	Pamela Hadley	11/12	Peter & Sharon Coulton
13	Ted LaCrone		
19	Sandra Smith		
22	Dana Hall		
25	Fred Douglas		
28	Melissa deWolfe		
29	Justin deWolfe Ginny Webb		

# Word Search Puzzle

From [www.geocities.com/lectionarypuzzles/](http://www.geocities.com/lectionarypuzzles/)  
Free to distribute for free with this notice

Words in a straight line left to right or top to bottom

P S A L M S N T  
N I S O N G R H  
E N P R A I S E  
W G H D T O V P  
F A I T H F U L  
A S S E M B L Y

**Psalms 149:1 (NRSV): *Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.***

## Word List

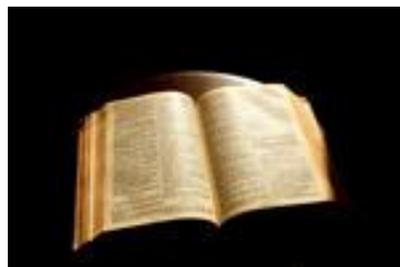
FAITHFUL  
SONG  
THE

ASSEMBLY  
SING  
NEW

PSALMS  
NRSV  
HIS

PRAISE  
LORD  
TO

OF



# Jokes

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely.

"The front row please." she answered.

"You really don't want to do that", the usher said. "The pastor is really boring."

"Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman inquired.

"No." he said.

"I'm the pastor's mother," she replied indignantly.

"Do you know who I am?" he asked.

"No." she said.

"Good", he answered.



~

A kindergarten teacher gave her class a "show and tell" assignment of bringing something to represent their religion.

The first boy got in front of the class and said, "My name is Benjamin and I am Jewish and this is the Star of David."

The second boy got in front of the class and said, "My name is Mark. I am Catholic and this is the Crucifix."

The third boy got in front of the class and said, "My name is Tommy and I am a Congregationalist and this is a casserole."

~

A minister was walking to church one morning when he passed one of his members working in his garden. "Can't you hear those bells calling you to church?" asked the minister.

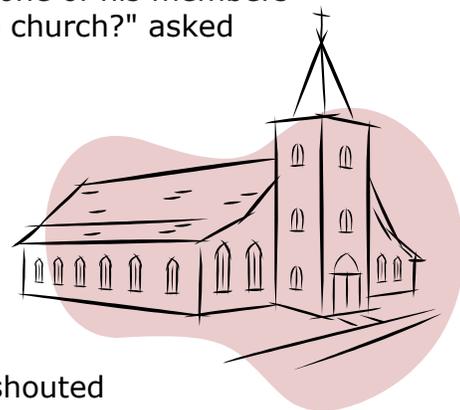
"Eh, what's that?" said the member.

"Can't you hear those bells calling you to church?"

"I'm afraid you'll have to speak a little louder!" said the member.

"CAN'T YOU HEAR THOSE BELLS CALLING YOU TO CHURCH?!" shouted the minister.

"I'm sorry," said the member, "I can't hear you because of those darned BELLS!"

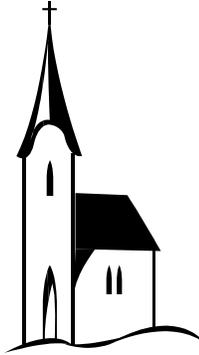


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