

Second Congregational Church of Winsted

**Second Congregational Church
of Winsted
(Baptist & Congregational)
Bible-focused & Christ-centered**

**800 Main Street
Winsted CT 06098-1014**

Phone: 860 379-4766

Website: sccwinsted.org

Email: info@sccwinsted.org

**Rev. Dr. Daniel Cote
Senior Pastor**

**John Costa
Director of Youth & Families**

**Kathy Craig
Office Administrator &
Diaper Bank Coordinator**

**Christopher King
Organist**

**Tom Doney &
Cassie Riberdy
Sextons**

Sunday Morning Adult Study

Led by Pastor Dan
9:00-9:45 AM

Sunday Service Schedule

Worship Service 10:00 AM
(9:30 AM July and August)

Sunday School 9:00 AM

(No Sunday School
during July & August.)

Youth Group (grades 5-8)

Meet on 2nd & 4th Sunday
each month – 11:15 AM

Wed. Night Prayer Group

Led by Pastor Dan
Wednesdays 5:30-6:00 PM

Wed. Night Study

Led by Pastor Dan
Wednesdays 6:00-7:15 PM

Diaper Bank Hours

1st Wednesday of each month
5:00 – 6:30 PM



March 20, 2025

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**New Prayer Group Meeting Starts
Wednesday, March 5th @ 5:30 PM**

Please see Pastor Dan's article on the new initiatives for 2025.
Contact him directly if you would like to lead or be a part of these
groups.

A Message from Pastor Dan:

“Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:46–47)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As brothers and sisters in Christ, we will spend eternity together after, in many cases, we spend our lives together. The reality that we who gather to worship our God in Winsted have a bond and connection that will carry into eternity challenges the mind, but it is one day what we will experience. On this earth, we must love God and others and make disciples of Jesus. The early apostolic church is described in Acts 2:42-47. It is marked by devotion to the Scriptures, fellowship, worship, the Lord’s supper, prayer, self-sacrifice for others, sharing meals together, and growing as disciples of Christ.

The first-century Apostolic Church is the true church, and we must emulate it. To that end, I would like us to launch three groups in 2025 that will enhance our fellowship and help us grow as Jesus’ disciples. I am seeking your help to establish a men’s and a women’s fellowship, which will help us grow beyond our friend groups. I would like to see each of these groups meet 4 to 6 times per year for a variety of events (fellowship, discipleship, and outreach), including one event for the whole church. I am looking for men and women who will step up to lead these two vital ministries and help us grow as the body of Christ in Winsted. In addition, I will lead the prayer group, which will meet each Wednesday at 5:30 pm in the music room, followed by Bible Study at 6:00 pm. If you cannot attend the prayer group in person, you can join on Zoom. Just let me know, and I will send you the link.

In 1 Corinthians 1:10, Paul writes, “Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.” In my estimation, the successful long-term establishment of the groups described above will help us all develop Christian character and become the Bible-focused and Christ-centered church, united in Christ, that God would have us be.

Blessing in Jesus’ Name,

Pastor Dan

Group Initiative for 2025

To aid us in becoming like the church we find in Acts 2, Pastor Dan is looking for help in forming three new groups in the church aimed at growing our fellowship with each other and as disciples of Jesus:

- **Women's Fellowship**

Leadership: 1-2 leaders needed (Please see Pastor Dan if you can help)

Purpose: fellowship/discipleship

Schedule: 4-6 events per year, including one event for the whole church

Activities: gatherings, service projects, gospel outreach, discipleship, book discussions, seminar attendance, dinners, concerts, movie nights, etc.

- **Men's Fellowship**

Leadership: 1-2 leaders needed (Please see Pastor Dan if you can help)

Purpose: fellowship/discipleship

Schedule: 4-6 events per year, including one event for the whole church

Activities: gatherings, service projects, gospel outreach, discipleship, book discussions, seminar attendance, dinners, concerts, movie nights, etc.

- **Prayer Group** (Zoom or In-person—please sign up in the fellowship hall)

Leader: Pastor Dan

Purpose: to pray for our church, individuals, our community, and nation

Schedule: 20-30 minutes weekly on a schedule that works for those interested

Christian Education Updates

Souper Bowl of Caring: Thank you to everyone who made donations to support the local soup kitchen through the Souper Bowl Pots. We collected a total of \$92.85 which will be delivered to the local soup kitchen, which provides countless meals for the community including take out meals and to-go supplies. Thank you all for helping us aim to be a blessing to our community.

Operation Christmas Child: This is an important month for OCC donations, as the theme is “WOW toys.” When you think of that special present as your “wow” gift on Christmas, this is what that will likely be for the kids in their box. Some ideas: stuffed animals, dolls, Lego or Duplo, soccer balls with pump, larger toy cars/trucks, skipping ropes, larger toy dinos or action figures etc.). All donations are collected in the OCC box in the fellowship hall. As always, any donations will be accepted at any time. Thank you all for your continued support for this mission!

Student Scholarship: It's that time of the year that we are awarding students a scholarship to aid in their education. Applications will be accepted from 3/6-4/6. Individuals who are part of SCCW and are in, or entering, college will be eligible to submit a time one application.

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It should be submitted to the Director of Youth & Families, who will review with the CE Board and later award students. Please speak with John Costa if you or someone you know in the church is interested.

Blessings!

John

Vanco Information

You can make your tithes, offerings, and donations online. For those individuals that would like to give to the church online, simply go to the front page of our [church website](#) and click the link “Support Our Church and Ministries” or tap the tile shown to the left.



You may also download the Vanco mobile app on your smartphone. Be sure to select the app with the logo to the right. Search for churches in your area, and you will find “Second Congregational Church of Winsted.” For more information on Vanco, visit their website: vancopayments.com See Paul Okraska for more information.

News from Building & Grounds

Cleaning Party – Coming Soon.... Once the work in the sanctuary is completed, we would like to host a cleaning party but need your help. We’ll be looking for people to help with dusting, vacuuming and reassembling the pews with cushions and books. We will begin on Saturday (date to be determined) at 9:00 AM until completed. There will be coffee, in the AM, pizza for lunch. If you feel you can help, please list your name on the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. We thank you in advance for your participation.

Ceiling Repairs – The repairs to the ceiling in the sanctuary are progressing nicely. The total cost of the repairs will come in at around \$50,000. To date, members of the congregation have donated roughly \$22,000. If you feel you can give towards this expense, you can simply place your donation in an envelope into the Sunday collection plate or put in the basket on Kathy’s door. Please be sure to mark your donation as “ceiling repair donation”. Thank you in advance for any consideration you can afford.

Fellowship Hour for Sunday Mornings

The **Fellowship Coffee Hour chart** is posted for 2025. Please feel free to volunteer for any listed openings. We invite any new members that have joined the church to speak to Kathy Craig if you would like to volunteer for an open slot in 2025. This is truly a great way to begin volunteering with your church family. You don’t have to do it alone either – other “seasoned” members are willing to help. Just let us know if you are interested.

Reminder from the Diaconate

Last Chance to Sign Up

IRON SHARPENS IRON MEN'S CONFERENCE

25th Anniversary - March 22, 2025, 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Rehoboth Church of God in Bloomfield

16 Different Seminars to attend - \$59.00 per person group rate

We will register and travel together as a group

There is a sign-up sheet on the board in the Fellowship Hall

Payment to SCCW by **March 9** - See Jeff Liskin, Sr. with questions.



News from the Diaper Bank

As the month of February approached, there were a few concerns that there would not be enough supplies for certain family necessities. We serviced fourteen families (one was new to us) and fifteen clients, which was down a bit from January, but we were fighting that cold, freezing rain and a fire alarm just before we opened the building, which might have scared a few away.

I received an email from our new friends at the *CT Diaper Bank* in North Haven to inform us there was a "blessing" waiting for us to pick up. A blessing in the form of 9,637 total items (diapers, pull-ups, wipes) with a value of \$1,136.45 that has given us the peace of mind that we are all set for a few months with our inventory to service all our families.

Below is a picture to give you a better idea of what that blessing looked like. Along with that, I want to recognize the volunteers that came to the rescue that day; *John and Carol Young* to drive to North Haven and pick up the items, to the unloading and stocking crew of *Andi Craig, Dave Markey, Amber Craig, Hector Cruz-Craig* and I would be remiss if I didn't recognize our monthly volunteers that show up without even being called; *Eileen Davis, Denise and Anaya Killiany, Amy Robinson, Nancy and Kristin Schneller*. These individuals take on this time at the diaper bank like a true mission of their heart. We could not remain open to serving the community if it were not for people like them. When you see them again, please take a moment and thank them for representing the Second Congregational Church of Winsted with love in their hearts. There's always room for more volunteers, so if you feel compelled to help, just let us know.



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We will continue to accept donations for future needs and watch for more news from the Missions Ministry about a special event you can be a part of in April.

Unfortunately, we did not get a picture this time of the Young's "loaded truck" because their first granddaughter was born earlier that morning so, they dropped the boxes and ran! Once again, talk about commitment to the Diaper Bank! Thanks Grandpa and Grandma!!!

Bountiful Blessings to our Diaper Bank - Kathy Craig

Birth Announcement of Mya Jane Young

Born to parents: William & Regina Young

Born on February 18, 2025 @ 4:19 AM @ Charlotte Hungerford Hospital

Weight: 8 lbs. 3 ozs. --- Height: 21.5 inches long



1st Grandchild of John & Carol Young

Congratulations to all!!!

Please join us in honoring some of our church family in birthday celebration announcements.



March – Happy Birthday to...

- 01.....Michael Killiany
- 03.....Pastor Dan & Mark Torson
- 10..... Deb Schoenherr
- 13..... Colleen Gundlach
- 17..... Patty Minton &
Alivia Craig-Markey
- 20..... John Young
- 23..... Cassie Riberdy
- 26Ellianna Andrews
- 30..... Elaine Giarnese

SCC Email Prayer Team???

Did you know that we have an active email prayer team that is available to our church family?

If you or someone you know needs prayer during an illness, life difficulties, etc. we have a very special group of people who will take the time to pray for you. You are welcome to join us any time by sending a request to Kathy Craig at: info@sccwinsted.org.

***Faith Over Fear – Psalm 56:3 states,
“When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.”
This verse emphasizes the importance of
trusting in God during times of fear and
uncertainty.***

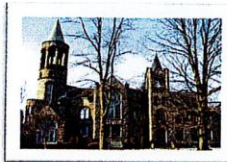
Help Wanted Section:

Do you enjoy singing? Have you ever thought about singing in a choir? We are recruiting anyone who would like to be a part of a dedicated group of people who like to sing onto the Lord!

Please consider joining us. Rehearsal is from 8:30 - 9:30 am and a brief time of fellowship with coffee and a snack is enjoyed by the choir before service begins at 10:00 am. We will be singing in the service three times a month unless otherwise noted. For more information, please see Denise Torson.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. **We believe there is only one living and true God, Creator of all things, infinite in wisdom, goodness, and love, eternally existing in three persons, The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit.**
(Ex. 20:1-6; Deut. 6:4; Ps. 96:4-5; Mt. 28:19; Jn. 1:1; 2 Cor. 13:14)
2. **We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired Word of God and that they are the supreme authority in faith and life and absolutely trustworthy.**
(Ps. 119; Mk. 13:31; Jn. 10:35, 17:17; 2 Pet. 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 1Thess. 2:13)
3. **We believe that God, in His goodness, created only two distinct and complementary genders, male and female, which is defined by one's biological sex at birth. These two genders together reflect the image and nature of God, and rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of God's created order and the image of God within that person.**
(Gen. 1:26-28,31; 2:2-24; Lev 18:22-23; 20:10-21; Deut 22:5; Is3:12; Rom 1:24-27; 1Cor 6-9; 11:7; 1Tim 2:11-15)
4. **We believe that man and woman sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God, and that we are all born with a sinful nature that mars God's image in us.**
(Gen 1:26-27; 2:7; 3:1-24; Ezek 13:23; Rom 5:12; Eph 2:1-3; James 3:9)
5. **We believe that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is truly God and Man.**
(Is 7:14; Matt 1:18,23; Luke 1:30-35; 2:6-7,40; John 1:14; Phil 2:6-7; Heb 1:2-5; 2:14)
6. **We believe that, out of love for us, the Lord Jesus Christ died to atone for our sins according to the Scriptures and that all who repent of sin and place their faith in Him alone are reconciled to God by His shed blood.**
(Is 53:4-6; Mark 1:14-15; John 14:6; Rom 5:8; 8:3; 1John 4:10; 1Pet 2:24-25)
7. **We believe that Christ rose from the dead and ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father to reign over all things.**
(Luke 24:1-7; John 2:19-21; Acts 1:9; Heb 4:14,10:11-13; Rev 1:17-18)
8. **We believe that all who repent of sin and receive the Lord Jesus Christ, which is by grace alone through faith alone, are born of the Holy Spirit and thereby become the children of God and shall not come into condemnation and that the Lord Jesus Christ gives them everlasting life.**
(John 1:12-13; 3:16-18,36; 5:24-29; 10:27-29; Acts 4:12; Rom 8:1,9-12,15-17; 10:9-11; Gal 4:24-29; Eph 1:5; 1 John 5:12-13)
9. **We believe that Christ has called all Christians into universal fellowship in His church. This church is made up of local congregations where members worship through Word and sacrament, are trained in discipleship and are called to evangelize the world in charity.**
(Matt 16:18-19; 18:17; John 17; Acts 2:42; 6:1-6; 20:28-32; 1Cor 10:1-14:40; Eph 5:21-32; 1Thes 5:12-13; 1Tim 3:1-16; 5:17-22; Heb 10:25; 1Pet 5:1-4)
10. **We believe that God created marriage to be a holy and lifelong covenant union, which can only be between one man and one woman who are not closely related, and that the only lawful place for intimate relations is marriage.**
(Gen 2:22-24; Ex 22:16-17; Deut 22:14; Mal 2:16; Matt 19:4-6; Eph 5:5,21-6:4; Col 3:18-21; 1Tim 1:8-10; Heb 13:4)
11. **We believe that at The Last Day, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will return according to His promise and that He will judge the world, and the saved will receive the blessing of life in His eternal kingdom and that the lost will be eternally separated from God.**
(Matt 25:31-46; Rom 8:35-39; 1Thes 4:13-17; Rev 20:12-15, 21-27)



Second Congregational Church March 2025



Church Office Hours: Monday – closed, Tuesday-Thurs 8:30am-4pm
(12-12:30 closed for lunch), Friday 8:30am-12noon only

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
 Daylight-Saving Time Begins!	<p style="background-color: yellow; margin: 0;">Daylight Saving Time Begins . . . Sunday, March 9th</p> <p>Don't forget to turn your clocks "ahead" one hour before bed on Saturday, March 8th</p> <p>Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conference – Saturday, March 22nd, 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM – Rehoboth Church of God in Bloomfield, CT – March 8th is deadline to pay. See Jeff Liskin if you have any questions.</p>					1	
2 Food Bank Sunday Adult & Children's Sunday School 9-9:45 AM Church Worship @ 10:00 AM	3	4	5 Diaper Bank 5-6:30 pm Prayer Group Led by Pastor Dan 5:30 PM Bible Study Led by Pastor Dan 6-7:15 PM	6 No Home School today! Mission Board Meeting – 4PM	7	8	
9 Adult & Children's Sunday School 9-9:45 AM Church Worship @ 10:00 AM Diaconate Mtg 11:30 AM Youth Group 11:30-12:30 PM	10	11	12 Prayer Group Led by Pastor Dan 5:30 PM Bible Study Led by Pastor Dan 6-7:15 PM	13  10 AM – 2 PM	14	15 Private B-day Party downstairs 2-5 PM	
16 Adult & Children's Sunday School 9-9:45 AM Church Worship @ 10:00 AM New member class 11:45 AM	17 	18 Church Council Meeting 7:00 PM	19 Prayer Group Led by Pastor Dan 5:30 PM Bible Study Led by Pastor Dan 6-7:15 PM	20  10 AM – 2 PM	21 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: small;"> Deadline to submit info for Contact newsletter April 2025 edition </div>	22 Iron Sharpens Iron Conference	
23rd Adult & Children's Sunday School 9-9:45 AM Church Worship @ 10:00 AM Youth Group 11:30-12:30 PM New member class 11:45 AM	24	25	26 Prayer Group Led by Pastor Dan 5:30 PM Bible Study Led by Pastor Dan 6-7:15 PM	27  10 AM – 2 PM CE Board Meeting (via zoom) 7:00 PM	28	29	
30 Adult & Children's Sunday School 9-9:45 AM Church Worship @ 10:00 AM New Member Installation & Pastor Appreciation Day	31	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Student Scholarship: It's that time of the year that we are awarding students a scholarship to aid in their education. Applications will be accepted from 3/6-4/6. Individuals who are part of SCCW and are in, or entering, college will be eligible to submit a time one application. Please speak with John Costa if you or someone you know in the church is interested.</p> </div>					

Got an event or something you want advertised in the April edition of the "Contact Newsletter?"
Deadline for submission is March 21st