

# 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](http://sccwinsted.org)  
Email: [info@sccwinsted.org](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
each month – 11:30 AM

**Celebrate Recovery**  
Mondays 7:00-8:30 PM

**Wed. Night Study**  
Led by Pastor Dan  
Wednesdays 6:00-7:15 PM

**Diaper Bank Hours**  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month  
5:00 – 6:30 PM



**Inside:**

- Page 2** Words from Pastor Dan
- Page 3** Bible Study & Iron Sharpens Iron Info
- Page 4** Women's Fellowship
- Page 5** Christian Education News
- Page 6** Vanco Information, Celebrate Recovery & Celebrations at SCC
- Page 7** Easter Flower Form
- Page 8** Statement of Faith
- Page 9** Monthly Calendar – April 2026

**Second Congregational Church**  
800 Main Street Winsted, CT

Questions? Contact us  
[info@sccwinsted.org](mailto:info@sccwinsted.org)  
[sccwinsted.org](http://sccwinsted.org)

**You're invited!**  
*Please join us for  
Easter Worship!*



- **Palm Sunday Service** 3/29 10:00 am  
*-Hymn Sing, Potluck Lunch*
- **Maundy Thursday Service** 4/2 6:00 pm
- **Easter Sunrise Service** 4/5 6:30 am  
*-Soldiers' Monument, Winsted*
- **Easter Worship** 4/5 10:00 am

*A Message from Pastor Dan...*

***“I tell you that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.” (Luke 15:7)***

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I came across this true story of the power of the gospel to transform hardened hearts through the Christ-like examples of ordinary people like you and me.

Mitsuo Fuchida was a Japanese naval aviator who led the first wave of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Fiercely loyal to Japan and hardened by war, he initially rejected Christianity. After the war, however, he encountered the testimony of former American prisoners who spoke not of revenge, but forgiveness rooted in Christ’s sacrifice.

What deeply affected him was the story of a young woman who cared for Japanese POWs with compassion because of her faith in Jesus. Fuchida was struck by a love that defied logic. Curious, he obtained a Bible and read about the cross—how Christ willingly suffered even for His enemies. The idea shattered his worldview. Could such grace apply even to him—a man who had led a devastating attack? Over time, he became convinced it did.

In 1950, Fuchida publicly professed faith in Christ. He later became a traveling evangelist, sharing how the message of the cross had transformed him from a man of war into a messenger of peace. His life stands as a quiet but powerful reminder: the cross provides forgiveness and transforms enemies into ambassadors of reconciliation with God, available to all people by faith in Christ. The message of the cross can soften the hardest hearts and fill them with unexpected truth and joy.

During this Easter season, and throughout the year, God can use the light that we shine through simple acts of kindness and love, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to save the lost for all eternity!

***Blessings in Jesus’ Name,***

***Pastor Dan***

### *Bible Studies Updated Schedules*

*Note: No Prayer Group or Bible Study on Wednesday, April 1st*

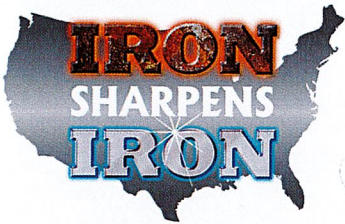
**Adult Sunday School Class**—Every Sunday, 9:00-9:45 am (in the parlor led by Pastor Dan and open to all)— **Note:** We will continue working through the Book of Romans.

**Wednesday Bible Study**—Every Wednesday from 6:00 pm-7:15 pm in the Music room, led by Pastor Dan. We will be studying 1 & 2 Thessalonians.

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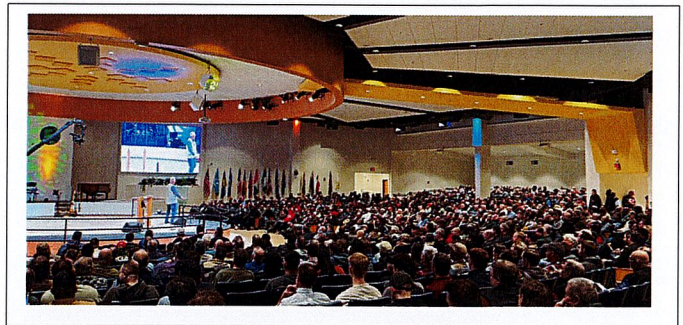
**Men's Fellowship**--Save the date and join us as we grow as brothers in Christ.

- April 18-Mystic Aquarium – more information to follow
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### IRON SHARPENS IRON '26 CONFERENCE

Men from Second Congregational Church of Winsted joined over 1,200 Christian men from 149 churches from southern New England and New York at the 25th Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conference on Saturday March 21.



A blessed day for all!

**Women's Fellowship:**

The Women's Fellowship Group gathered after church on March 22 to plan out some activities for the spring. It is always such a blessing to gather with all of you. You are all greatly loved and appreciated. We shared a devotion and had some prayer time before planning some activities. Please consider joining us for one or all of the activities listed below – there are so many wonderful opportunities for us to connect!

- **Women's Fellowship Breakfast** - Saturday, April 11 (9-11:30 a.m.). Please join us at the church as we come together for prayer, devotion and a few light activities designed to get us moving and talking. We will then share a wonderful breakfast together while we spend time in fellowship. Please see the sign-up sheet posted in the fellowship hall and bring a dish to share if you are able (if not, just please join us as there will be plenty to eat). Organized by Sharon Okraska and Cassie Riberdy.
- **Cochren and Company Christian Concert** - Sunday, May 3, 2026, from 6-8 p.m. (doors open at 5:15). It is open seating so we can all sit together (providing we find seats together). LOCATION: Valley Community Baptist Church, 590 W Avon Rd, Avon, CT. COST: \$28.30 per ticket. There is a sign up in the fellowship Hall. Please see Bonnie if you need guidance on purchasing a ticket.
- **Girls Gone Bible Tour** – May 28 – on hold pending additional research. The information is posted on the bulletin board, and you can speak with Bonnie Sterpka for more information.
- **Church Grounds Beautification**: Saturday, May 30, 2026 from 9-11:30 a.m. Please join us as we plant some flowers around the church. If you are able to pick up a few annuals, please bring them with you. Other items to consider: gloves, a rake, a trowel or other gardening tools, water bottle. If you are unable to bring plants, please just come anyway as we look forward to connecting!
- **Women's Fellowship Mini Retreat and Picnic**: Saturday, June 6, 2026 from 10-1:30 p.m. People's State Forest, Barkhamsted CT. Please bring a bag lunch and join us for a fun-filled opportunity to come together in God's great outdoors. We will spend time in prayer, devotion, and discussion while enjoying the State Park and enjoying time with each other. Items to bring: Bag lunch, water bottle or other hydration, camp or beach chair (if you want). Picnic tables and rest rooms are available. If you have mobility issues and would like to attend, please speak to Bonnie in advance and we will make sure you have the support necessary to join us. Organized by Marilyn Gagner and Bonnie Sterpka.

Please watch for additional opportunities to be involved as we may offer a prayer walk, or other impromptu gathering. Thanks to all the women of the church for your investment in our Fellowship Group. I look forward to connecting with you all as we support each other in our faith journey.

Blessings, Bonnie

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**Fellowship Hour for Sunday Mornings**

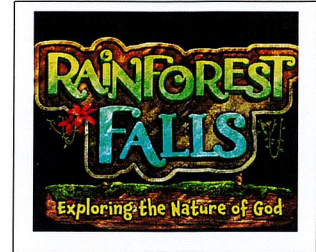
The 2026 chart for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of requesting help with fellowship is posted. Thank you to all that continually volunteer as well.

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***Christian Education Updates***

**No Sunday School on Easter 4/5:** We look forward to seeing everyone for Easter and when we pick up classes on 4/12, as we shift into Spring.

**VBS Planning:** How you can PLAY a SMALL PART and make a BIG DIFFERENCE! As we look forward to our Rain Forest theme 2026, we are seeking volunteers to play a part in bringing this adventure to the kids. Please consider and pray about how you can answer the call of the Great Commission through this special ministry.



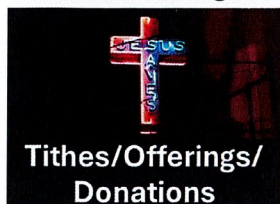
**SCCW Student Scholarship Application:** Student scholarship applications deadline is 4/5.

**VBS 2026:** We are seeking volunteers to help with preparing for our VBS Rain Forest Falls this July 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>. Please see John C to see how you can be a part of spreading the gospel and the joy of Christ to our children and the community!

Youth Group Calendar — April - May			
Youth Group is open to grades 6 + —We Welcome you to Join Us!			
<i>Meetings typically include Bible lessons, games, activities, &amp; snacks</i>			
Day	Date	Time	Event
			<b>Student Scholarship Applications</b> (deadline April 5 <sup>th</sup> )
Sunday	April 5	Happy Easter Resurrection Day!	<b>No Sunday School</b> (we'll see you on 4/12)
Sunday	April 12	11:30am - 12:45pm	<b>Youth Group</b> – VBS Leadership Training
Sunday	April 19	9:00am – 9:45am	<b>Highschool Class</b> – Teacher Appreciation (project planning for 5/3)
Sunday	April 26	11:30am - 12:45pm	<b>Youth Group</b> – Bible lesson, games, snacks
Sunday	May 3 May 10	9:00am – 9:45am 11:30am - 12:45pm	<b>Youth &amp; Kids</b> – Teacher Appreciation  <b>Youth Group</b> – Bible verse/Mother's Day project
Sunday	May 24	11:30am - 12:45pm	<b>Youth Group</b> – VBS Outreach Projects Hot Snacks!

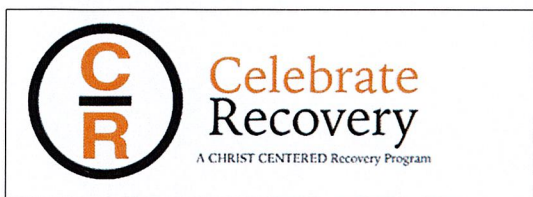
**Electronic Way to Contribute**

**Tithes, Offerings, and Donations may now be made online.** While we recognize that most people will



continue to present their offerings during the Sunday worship service, giving to the church and its ministries may now be done online for those who prefer to give that way. 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 will be directed to Vanco, a secure online payment system used by thousands of

churches across the country. 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](http://vancopayments.com) See Paul Okraska for more information.



**CELEBRATE RECOVERY**

Dealing with life's hurts, habits, and hang ups is not a solo endeavor. Celebrate Recovery is the Christ centered 12-Step program to help you heal from the things that life has put you through in a safe and confidential environment. Whether it is

substance abuse, procrastination, mental and physical abuse, overeating, fear, anxiety or any other issue, Celebrate Recovery is for you. The Winsted chapter meets every Monday at 7, (doors open at 6:30) right in our church. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Dan or the CR Ministry Leader Jeff Liskin, Sr.

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

**April – Happy Birthday to . . .**

- 01 ..... Rebecca Mochak
- 04 ..... Don Goetz
- 05 ..... Abigayle Negron
- 08 ..... Alicia & Russ Shput
- 09 ..... Amanda Schaefer
- 10 ..... Jesse Nicholls
- 11..... Eric Schaefer
- 14..... Cindy Distin
- 23..... Bob Lovendale
- 24..... Virginia Oates
- 28..... Bonnie Sterpka



***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](mailto:info@sccwinsted.org).

*I can do all things through him who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13*



If you would like to provide a spring plant in memory or honor of a loved one to decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office no later than Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> so that the information can be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

- Plants may be dropped off on Wednesday night between the hours of 5:00-6:30 PM, Thursday morning between the hours of 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon or Saturday between the hours of 9:00 AM – noon. If you bring them in on Wednesday or Thursday, simply leave them on the table in Fellowship Hall. Vicki Atkins will be in on Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 10am-1pm.

See Kathy Craig in the church office if you have any questions.

Phone: 860-379-4766 Email: info@sccwinsted.org

## Flowers for Easter

PLEASE PRINT

Donor's

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory/celebration of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Following Easter Service:

Deliver my plant to a shut-in

I will pick up my plant

**Please return this form to the church office by Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**

## 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 April 2026



### NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Closed on Monday & Tuesday  
Wed & Thurs 9am-4pm, Fri. 9am-3pm  
(12-12:30 closed for lunch)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Easter Sunrise Service to be held at 6:30 AM at Soldier's Monument Winsted, CT</b> 			<b>1</b> <b>Diaper Bank</b> 5-6:30 pm ----- NO Prayer Group or Bible Study this week	<b>2</b> No Home School Today ----- Mission Mtg 4:00 PM ----- Maundy Thursday Service – 6:00 PM	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Final Time To drop off Easter Flowers 9:00 AM to Noon
<b>5</b> Easter Sunrise Service 6:30 AM at Soldier's Monument Easter Church Worship @ 10:00 AM	<b>6</b> <b>Celebrate Recovery 7PM</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Mid-Week Prayer Group 5:30 PM Bible Study Led by Pastor Dan 6-7:15 PM	<b>9</b>  10AM-2PM	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Women's Fellowship Breakfast 9-11:30 AM
<b>12</b> Morning Study & Sunday School 9:00 AM Church Worship @ 10:00 AM Diaconate Mtg 11:30 AM Youth Group 11:30 AM	<b>13</b> <b>Celebrate Recovery 7PM</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Mid-Week Prayer Group 5:30 PM Bible Study Led by Pastor Dan 6-7:15 PM	<b>16</b>  10AM-2PM	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Men's Group</b> Mystic Aquarium
<b>19</b> Morning Study & Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship @ 10:00 AM	<b>20</b> <b>Celebrate Recovery 7PM</b>	<b>21</b> Church Council Mtg 7 PM	<b>22</b> Mid-Week Prayer Group 5:30 PM Bible Study Led by Pastor Dan 6-7:15 PM	<b>23</b>  10AM-2PM	<b>24</b> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">                         Deadline for                          Contact                          submission                     </div>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Morning Study & Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship @ 10:00 AM Youth Group 11:30 AM	<b>27</b> <b>Celebrate Recovery 7PM</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Mid-Week Prayer Group 5:30 PM Bible Study Led by Pastor Dan 6-7:15 PM	<b>30</b>  10AM-2PM		

Got an event or something you want advertised in the  
May edition of the "Contact Newsletter?"

**Deadline for submission is April 24<sup>th</sup>**