

**VNS 2018 *TREE of LIGHT* Ceremonies  
Scheduled for Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**



Visiting Nurse Services of Connecticut's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual *Tree of Light* ceremonies will take place on Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> in 11 Fairfield County communities. The annual non-denominational service honors the memory of lost loved ones with a memorial roll call and ceremonial tree lighting. The traditional community gatherings were first held in 1991 as friends and families of hospice patients cared for by VNS' Hospice at Home gathered during the holiday season to remember their departed loved ones.

Tree of Light ceremonies will be held in Bridgeport, Fairfield, Easton, Huntington/Shelton, Milford, Monroe, Oxford, Stratford, Trumbull and Westport starting at 6:30 pm; the Southport Tree of Light will begin at 6:00 pm. Each Tree of Light ceremony includes a memorial roll reading of the names of the deceased, music, a brief inspirational reading, ceremonial tree lighting with memorial lights and a reception afterwards. Tree of Light ceremonies are usually concluded by 7:30 pm.

Many families mark the occasion by contributing a symbolic memorial light to their community's Tree of Light. These contributions benefit VNS' Hospice at Home program and enable VNS to provide compassionate care and comfort for individual families in need. The memorial green, blue, and white lights symbolize the comfort, dignity and peace provided by the professional staff and volunteers of VNS' Hospice at Home program.

Friends and relatives are invited to have the names of their family members and loved ones read during the memorial roll and to have a memorial light on their community's tree. For information on how you can participate in the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Tree of Light in your community, contact Bernie Lynch at 203-366-3821 Ext 1098 or by email at [blynch@vnsct.org](mailto:blynch@vnsct.org)

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***About VNS***

Visiting Nurse Services of Connecticut is a Medicare certified not-for-profit clinical home healthcare and hospice provider serving residents of 54 Connecticut communities in Fairfield, New Haven and Litchfield counties. Annually, VNS conducts 237,000 home health visits for 8,000 patients from clinically staffed offices in Bridgeport, Trumbull, Oxford and Torrington. VNS provides a comprehensive range of home healthcare services to meet patient needs and provides personal care services through its affiliate Partners in Care. For additional information, visit [www.vnsct.org](http://www.vnsct.org).

Bridgeport, September 25, 2018

