

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

January 26, 2014

Celebration of Children

PRELUDE "Six Pieces for Children" Mendelssohn
"One Heart, One Mind" Strauss
"Joseph's Song" M. Card
Solo - Steve Westerberg

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Linda Shivers

PAY IT FORWARD

ACOLYTES Kyle Muns, Mariah Shivers

***CALL to WORSHIP** (*responsive*) 3rd/4th/5th Grade

Leader: Here we are, Lord, Your creatures standing before You.

All: Gathered together to praise You and worship You.

Leader: This is Your day Father and we thank you for giving this day to all of us.

All: Help us to always remember that each day is a blessing and a gift from You for we are not owed anything from You.

Leader: Be with us in our midst and let us feel Your breath upon our faces.

All: And hold us close to You each day of our lives. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** #113 "Jesus Loves Me!"

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*) 1st/2nd Grade

Lord, each of us is a fragile miracle, evidence of God's creative hands, and amazing grace. We are each special, each of us different gifts to the world. We are proof of God's love. You have made me who I am – inside and out. You watch as I grow each day. Because of you I am wonderfully made. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

CELEBRATION in SONG "I Am Special"
"From My Head Down to My Toes" arr. Mollohan
Cherubs – 3/4/5 year olds/Kindergarten

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER 3rd/4th/5th Grade

The LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S BELLS "This Little Light of Mine" H. D. Loes

SCRIPTURE Psalm 139:14 3rd/4th/5th Grade
Romans 12:6-8
1 Timothy 4:14
1 Peter 4:10

SERMON "What God Sees" 6th/7th/8th Grade

CALL to OFFERING 1st/2nd Grade

OFFERTORY "Standing in the Need of Prayer" Spiritual
Transformers

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER of DEDICATION** 1st/2nd Grade

***CLOSING HYMN** #442 "We Are Walking"

***BENEDICTION** 6th/7th/8th Grade

POSTLUDE "Russlan and Ludmilla Overture" Glinka

**All who are able are invited to stand.*

Join us for coffee and conversation after the service in Fellowship Hall.

The flowers on the Communion Table are given by the Ferguson family in fond remembrance of Olive B. Ferguson (18 Dec. 1922 - 24 Jan. 2012), loyal and loving wife and devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Bulletin Cover Design and Greeters: 3/4/5 year olds/Kindergarten

Coffee Hour: Board of Trustees

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

Stephen Kasevich, brother of Louise Theriault, dealing with cancer; Will and Diane Livermore, brother and sister-in-law of Pat Lazeren; Bonnie Brenner; Susan Shimer; Nancy Bailey; Joyce Smith; Sonja (Marlene) Mayhew; Lorrie Dobson; Ben Savage, Sharon Christman's brother, dealing with cancer; Lillian Burnett, Halene Fujimoto's mother; Dick Myer, Andy Myer's brother; Debbie Chase; Will Fisher and Jessica Surratt; E.G. and Donna Harvin; Adeline McGee; Chantelle Fuller; Sharon Dombek; Rev. Charlie Nichol's granddaughter Devon; Pat Lazeren; Gail Occhialini; Kim Burnham; Cheryl Adams; Alan and Jayne Chesterton; Betty Worden; Mason Bower; Debbie Marshall; Jeanine Uthgenannt; Michael Turner; Claudette Weingart; Valerie Flitcroft; Jan Peacock; Candy Buswell; Rachel Meneses; Lois Montlick; Donna Peacock; Arianna Saegaert; the people of Syria, including the family of Tarek Eid; Ruth Woodcock and her daughter Sarah; Mike Swan; Deborah Costello; Richard Brooke; Stephen Volovski; Ray Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Thelma Gifford; Cooper Doyle; Horst Pohlmann; John Kaminski; Bess Howe; Melissa Morse; Charlotte Driggs.

New additions in bold print

WELCOME to FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH of VERNON!

We are glad you are here. It is our hope that you will encounter God here, experience the love God showed the world in Jesus, and be inspired to share that love with the world. If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please stop by our Welcome Table. There you will find a guestbook to sign and a welcome gift to take home with you. Let us know if we can be of service to you in any way, and come back again soon!

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

ANNUAL FISCAL MEETING

following the Worship Service

Child care will be provided.

Confirmation Class: 11:30 AM, Library

TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

The Ways and Means Committee will be taking orders for **Super Bowl Grinders** today. You may choose roast beef, turkey, ham, a combo of all three and your toppings. Grinders will be available for pick up next Sunday, February 2. Any questions, contact Michelle Bower at 860-872-7274.

Scrip-Your-All: If you placed an order on January 19 or earlier, your gift card(s) are available for pick up today at the Scrip-Your-All table.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Bylaws Committee: Monday, January 27, 7 PM, Library

Men's Club: Tuesday, January 28, 6:30 AM at the Vernon Diner

Bible Study: Tuesday, January 28, 11 AM, Library

Theology on Tap: Thursday, January 30 from 6 PM at R House Restaurant

Sanctuary Choir: Thursday, January 30, 7:30 PM, Sanctuary

Support Group: Friday, January 31, 10:30 AM, Library

Craft Group: Saturday, February 1, 10 AM – 1 PM, Library

FCCV Ministries: Our Tuesday Morning Bible Study has launched its second 10-week series (a biblical look at friendship). We meet at 11 AM in the Library.

"Theology on Tap" (an informal and informative discussion group) meets at the R House Restaurant on Thursday evenings at 6 PM.

New Members Class: Tuesday, February 4 at 7 PM in the Library

Electronic Giving at FCCV starts this month. For those who are participating, if you would like, small Giving Cards for electronic givers are available to place in the offering plate. They can be found in a basket as you enter the Sanctuary.

Name Tags: If you ordered a name tag on or before January 19, it may be picked up today during Coffee Hour at the "Scrip Your All" table. If you would like to order a new name tag, you can do so any Sunday during Coffee Hour or by contacting Jim Montlick at jamontlik@aol.com. You may choose a pin, magnet or clip. A donation of \$3-\$5 is suggested.

Volunteers Still Needed for Reading Buddies: Anyone interested should contact Millie Oliphant at 860-87872-7106.

Youth Fellowship Activities (grades 6-12)

Meeting, Sunday, February 2, 5 PM, Fellowship Hall

Nomads, Sunday, February 16, 5-8 PM (**please note time change**). We will meet at Nomads in South Windsor (parents, please drop off and pick up there. If a ride is needed, please contact Greg Mias, Debi Hockenberry or Linda Shivers). Group cards at \$15 each will be purchased. Youth Fellowship will pay \$10 but you will need to bring \$5 minimum. This allows you unlimited time (over 3 hours) for Laser Tag, bumper cars, wall climbing and other activities. If you want to play arcade games, you will need to purchase a card and add points (50 cents each with games costing 2-6 points). Food will also be available at additional cost. If cost is an issue, please contact Linda Shivers or Pastor Robin. Invite your friends to join us. You may just show up that day, but to give us a general idea of how many are attending, we ask that you sign up on the bulletin board down the hall from the Library.

Summer Mission Trips

"Hands on Hartford" from July 14-18 (no sleepover), open to youth 10 years and older

"Next Step Ministries" (working to repair homes damaged during Super Storm Sandy) from July 20-26 in Long Island, NY, open to youth in grades 6-12

If you are interested in participating in either or both missions, you must let Linda Shivers know ASAP - planning is based on the number of participants. Chaperones are needed. Any questions, contact Linda.

Tag Sale, May 3: Volunteers will be needed. Please save your unwanted items. They can be dropped off at church the last week of April.

Stewardship & Evangelism Committee: Looking for a way to become more involved at FCCV? The Stewardship and Evangelism Committee (S&E) is looking for new members. Membership runs from January through December. We are more than just the Giving Campaign! Our evangelism work has included the new FCCV sign, name tags, gift bags, Pay It Forward and pew cards, just to name a few. For more information, see any Stewardship member (Kate Fowler, Chair; Jim Montlick, Stephen Repetto, Louise Theriault, Bob Warner, Jim Wilson) or contact Kate at 860-614-9747 or kfowler64@yahoo.com.

Scrip-Your-All: Looking for a fun way to be involved at FCCV with minimal commitment? Consider helping out at the Scrip-Your-All table during Coffee Hour on Sunday mornings. A veteran Scrip-Your-All person will be working every week and will give you all the information you need. Sign up for one week or once a month, whatever fits your schedule. Sign up at the Scrip-Your-All table.

A **Crib Room** is available upstairs near the balcony for **parents with infants up to 12 months of age** where the worship service can be heard via intercom. A staffed **Toddler Room** located downstairs in the Kellogg wing is open for **children 12 months to 3 years old**.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Forty-nine years ago this very weekend our church suffered a devastating blow. On Saturday, January 23, 1965 the church burned to the ground. Here are a few words from an eyewitness account...“Everyone was nearly frozen by this time, but no one could leave and a great cry of despair arose as the historic spire fell with a crash backwards into the flaming building...People from miles around saw the fire and crash of the steeple and soon offers of help came in with everyone offering their churches. Before the evening was over, the minister, Mr. Lacey, and the church leaders had met at the parsonage and it was decided to meet at the Vernon Elementary School where classes could be held in the school rooms and the gym used for a sanctuary. An organ was loaned, hymn books were given and other essentials and the very next day the first service was held there... We should be the most thankful of people, for this tragic event united all the people of the community and gave us a new, beautiful church in keeping with the best New England tradition.” (Mildred Willes, Church Historian at the time of the fire).
There are people worshipping with us this morning who were church members or youth during this time. Please share your memories!

Reminder: FCCV records its Sunday worship services. These services are available for viewing on a one-week delay on Comcast Community Voice Channel 5, Sunday mornings at 10 AM and Monday evenings at 6 PM. Check your local listings or go to www.CVCCT.org for the dates and times of showings of other FCCV events. Full length DVDs of the services are also available for borrowing in the Library.

The **Care Network** is offered by the Deacons as a helping hand during difficult times. If you are in need of a ride to church, the doctor, hospital, grocery store, etc., in need of meals or a visit, contact Jan Muro (872-1757 or jmoze@hotmail.com) or Jon Dunlap (875-7254).

Cancellation of Church Services or Activities Due to Inclement Weather:
Please watch WFSB Channel 3 or go to wfsb.com.

Acolytes Needed! To all parents of Sunday School children...if your child would like to be an acolyte, please contact Delythe Kracke at DelytheK@yahoo.com or (860) 872-3004.

“What God Sees” 6th/7th/8th Grade Class

Inspiration

Psalm 139:14

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Your works are wonderful. I know that full well.

1 Peter 4:10

Each one, as a good manager of God’s different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God.

Synopsis

“What God Sees” is a skit is about acceptance, appearance, and identity. You will meet four people getting ready to take on the day. They complain about their “imperfect” appearance and shortcomings. God speaks words of encouragement and love to each of them. But only one is listening.

Cherub Director: Gaile Dembeck

Transformers Director: Leanne Connolly

Bells Director: Steve Westerberg

Bells Assistant: Hannah Ramsdell

Teachers and Shepherds

3/4/5 Years/K: Jena Maki, Jaclyn Leonard, Kelsey Wilson
Suzanne Maki, Haley Hasty, Megan Hasty

1st/2nd Grade: Cheryl Turner, Jennifer Jensen
Hannah Ramsdell, Sophie Becker

3rd/4th/5th Grade: Debbie Bartos, Jacquelyn Mead
Nick Bartos, Diane Mead

6th/7th/8th Grade: Greg Mias, Valerie Ellis