

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

February 3, 2013

Holy Communion

GATHERING MUSIC “Andante Grazioso” Haydn
“The Lost Chord” Sullivan/Johnson
“Processional and Trumpet Tune” Wetherill

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACOLYTES

PRELUDE “The Regal Trumpet” Paxton

WORDS of REFLECTION

“May the spiritual seeds planted in you along the way unfurl into trunk and branch, blossom and fruit. May you be a song of love in God’s mouth.”

The Rev. Andrea LaSonde Anastos

INTROIT “I Love You, Lord”

***CALL to WORSHIP** (*responsive*) Debbie Marshall

Leader: Let us open our hearts and minds to feel God’s encompassing love.

People: **We lift our voices to worship you and we rejoice!**

Leader: God’s Spirit, through Christ, gives us good and diverse gifts.

People: **We praise God for Christ’s example and for the gift of being in Communion and community together.**

Leader: We praise God who calls each one of us to share the gift of self as prophet and disciple. We praise God who calls us to bring brightness to the face of this world with truth and beauty.

All: **We give thanks that we are a part of the Body of Christ and with God’s guidance, able to accomplish much together. May we be songs of love in God’s mouth.**

***OPENING HYMN #283 “Jesus, Stand Among Us”** (*sung twice through*)

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

Eternal God and Holy Spirit, come to us and reside among us; come as the wind and cleanse us; come as the fire, and burn; come as the potter and shape and re-shape us; come as the dew, and refresh us. We ask that you convert, consecrate, and nourish our hearts and lives to our great good and your greater glory. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING from Psalm 18

Leader: We love you, God – you make us strong!

People: **God is bedrock under our feet, the castle in which we live, our rescuing knight.**

Leader: God will make our lives complete when we place all the pieces before God.

People: **Every day we will review the ways God works; we will try not to miss anything.**

Leader: We will be alert to God’s ways; we won’t take God for granted.

All: **When we open our eyes and hearts to God, we know that God will gladly rewrite the text of our lives. We love you, God – you make us strong!**

***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.

SCRIPTURE Old Testament – Jeremiah 1: 4-10

New Testament – Luke 4: 21-30

COMMUNION MEDITATION

Rev. Joanne Myer

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

Phyllis Chase recovering at home; the family of Elizabeth Sayles on her death

MORNING PRAYER

The LORD’S PRAYER (*unison*)

Our Father, which 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Here I Am Lord” C. Courtney

***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** (*unison*)

Loving God, we return to you, through the ministry and outreach of this church, a portion of all you have entrusted to us. We do this lovingly and we promise that these offerings will not be the end of our giving. We will also invest our time and abilities to your work of healing, comforting, teaching, guiding and proclaiming in prophecy and discipleship the Good News of Your love. Bless each gift, whatever its size, and multiply the good to be done through our time, talents, and treasure. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER of CONFESSION (*unison*)

Loving God, Source of life and grace, we are aware that we are, at times, prisoners of fear and habit. Through the healing touch of Christ, please set us free to live and love, let us be re-shaped over and over again so that we may be the people you have created us to be. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

AFFIRMATION of FORGIVENESS (*unison*)

God was and is in Christ reconciling the world, satisfying our hunger and thirst after righteousness. Jesus is the Bread of Life. When we come to Jesus and humbly confess our sins, we will be filled with God's mercy and sustained by God's love. So let us taste the sacred meal, and see how God cares for us. Let us know and believe the Good News of God's love. Amen.

*COMMUNION HYMN #357 "We Call Ourselves Disciples"

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SERVING of the LORD'S SUPPER

(Gluten-free bread is available. Please indicate your preference to a Deacon. Please hold the elements until all are served.)

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING (*unison*)

Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west, north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will and your ways. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #64 "We Sing Your Mighty Power, O God"

*BENEDICTION (*unison*)

As pilgrims on our journey of discipleship, we will keep the light of Christ around us, in us, and before us. From quiet meditation and joyous hymns of praise, we go forth empowered to do God's mission! Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE "Postlude on a theme by Haydn" J. Carriere

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

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

WELCOME TO FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON!

We are glad you are here. 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 worshiping 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!

In Our Ongoing Prayers...

Charlie Nichols (former FCCV Field Placement Student) and his **family** on the loss of his daughter, Jackie; the people of Syria, including the family of Tarek Eid, son-in-law of Cathy and Gary Foote; David Nelson, former FCCV Field Placement student and current Pastor of West Haven Baptist Church, on the loss of his father, Leo Nelson; Ruth Woodcock and her daughter Sarah; Will Livermore; Dick Saich; Mike Kermode; Mike Swan; Claudette and Art Weingart; Pat Lazeren; Meredith Ross; Deborah Costello; Richard Brooke; Stephen Volovski; Ann Garrison; Ray Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Joyce Smith; Thelma Gifford; Cooper Doyle; Paul and Susan Shimer; Candy Buswell; Mary Jo Simonds-Huneger; Horst Pohlmann; John Mayhew; John Kaminski; Bess Howe; Jane Morse; Melissa Morse; Charlotte Driggs; Aaron Huneger; Donald Chase

New additions in bold print

Deacons assisting with Communion: Jon Dunlap (Deacon-in-charge), Sue Pilkons, Don Peacock, Bob Warner, Jim Wilson, Mary Wheeler, Debbie Marshall

Greeters: Board of Deacons

Coffee Hour Preparation: Board of Missions

Please Note: There is no Children's Message today. All Sunday School children will gather in Fellowship Hall before going to their classes.

TODAY during COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

If you had ordered **Super Bowl Grinders**, don't forget to pick them up today.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Men's Club: Tuesday, February 5, 6:30 AM at the Vernon Diner

Council: Wednesday, February 6, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall. Agenda items should be turned in to Moderator Tony Muro no later than today.

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, February 7, 7:30 PM

Support Group: Friday, February 8, 10:30 AM, Library

Women's Fellowship Fall Retreat: Women's Fellowship is planning another retreat in September. Any woman interested in being part of the Planning Committee for the retreat should contact Millie Oliphant, 860-872-7106.

Confirmation Class: On Sunday, February 10, we will be going to First Cathedral. Meet in the Breezeway at 8:45 AM and invite your sponsor to attend with you.

Evening Circle: Monday, February 11, 7 PM at Betty Ann Wurst's home. Please bring one roll of sugar cookie dough as we will be making Valentine cookies for the homebound. Call Pat Lazeren (860-644-0475) or Candace Buswell (860-869-2470) with any questions.

Thank you to those who attended and donated to the Women's Fellowship Clothes Exchange. It was a fun evening of fellowship and 95 articles of clothing, 11 purses and 10 pairs of shoes were donated to HVCC's Good Cents Thrift Shop.

Youth Group Girls (6th-12th grade): The Revolve Tour 2013, March 2 at First Cathedral in Bloomfield. We'll leave the FCCV parking lot at 9 AM. Cost - \$59 (does not include \$2 service fee). For more information and to register, go online at revolvetour2013.com. If cost is an issue, please contact Linda Shivers. Debi Hockenberry will be the lead advisor for this event. Please sign up on the CE bulletin board so we know how many chaperones/drivers are needed.

The loose offering collected today is placed in the Deacons' Fund for aid, in time of emergency, to people within the congregation.

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**.

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).

Reminder: FCCV has been video recording its complete Sunday services since 2004. These worship services, edited to 58 minutes, 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 concerts and events. Full length DVDs of the services are also available for borrowing in the Library.

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.

Please Wear Your Name Tag! Reach out in fellowship by wearing your name tag. If you need one, please contact the Church Office, fccv@snet.net or (860)875-7580.

Want to Meet New People? Volunteer to Serve! Whether it's welcoming others at the door before the Worship Service or providing a baked good or snack, making coffee or setting up and cleaning up after Coffee Hour, volunteers are needed. A sign up sheet is posted on the refrigerator in the kitchen. All help is welcome.

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

Sponsored by the Ways and Means Committee

Tuesday, February 12

5:30-7 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Menu

Plain, Blueberry or Chocolate Chip Pancakes

Sausage

Fruit

Beverage

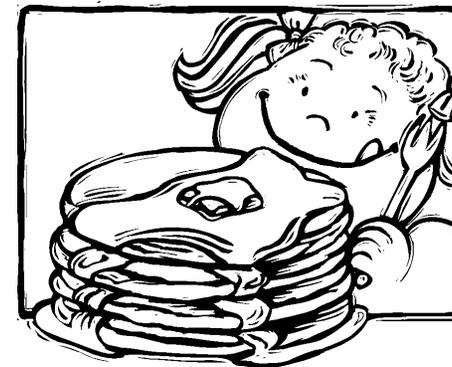
Cost

\$7 adults

\$3 children under 12

Please sign upon the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

PANCAKE SUPPER



2013 LENTEN SEASON



Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

*Tuesday, February 12, 5:30-7 PM,
Fellowship Hall*

Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, February 13, 7 PM in the Sanctuary

Music @ First Concert – Fanfare Brass Choir

Sunday, February 24, 4 PM in the Sanctuary

Bread and Broth Lenten Series

*Thursdays, February 28, March 7 and 14, 6-7 PM in the Pastor's
Study*

Nourish your body and soul this holy season with an overview of classic spiritual disciplines while enjoying homemade soup and bread. We will cover the topics of prayer, worship, Sabbath-keeping, scripture reading, Christian hospitality and more. Please sign up by sending an email to RevMeg@yahoo.com or by calling the Church Office.

Agape Dinner

Sunday, March 17, 5-7 PM in Fellowship Hall

Dinner and activities related to Lent

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24, 10 AM worship service

Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion and Office of Tenebrae

Thursday, April 5, 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday, March 31

Sunrise Service, 6:30 AM in the Memorial Garden

Coffee, juice, muffins, etc. following in Fellowship Hall

Worship Service, 10 AM