

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

February 5, 2012

Holy Communion

GATHERING MUSIC "Tonstuck No. 1" Gade
"Love Lifted Me" Pethel/Smith

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. David Minnick
(Please sign the Friendship Register before passing it down the pew.)

PAY IT FORWARD

CHIMING of the HOUR

ACOLYTES

WORDS of REFLECTION

He sat down at the table with them. Taking the bread, he blessed and broke and gave it to them. At that moment, open-eyed, wide-eyed, they recognized him. And then he disappeared.
Luke 24: 30, 31

PRELUDE "Prelude" Freyer
*CALL to WORSHIP Debbie Marshall

Leader: We worship a God who says, "Yes!"

People: Yes to life and love and all that is good and true!

Leader: We worship a God who says, "Go!"

People: Go to the highways and byways, inviting everyone we can find.

Leader: Inviting them to that great banquet that has been prepared for us.

People: A feast full of grace and power.

Leader: Let us go with open hearts and minds to wherever God leads us.

People: Amen and Amen.

*OPENING HYMN #78 "The Lord's My Shepherd"

PRAYER of INVOCATION (unison)

Holy Spirit, fill this place. May you be our guide as we worship, our voice as we sing, our hearts as we pray, our ears as we listen. Please clear our minds and hearts of the distractions of daily life, of thoughts about tomorrow's responsibilities, of anxiety about yesterday's mistakes and of dread over a sense of our unworthiness. Instead, fill us with only you. You are the reason we come together and we invite you to be the center of all that happens in this place. Thank you for your presence among us. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 147: 1-6 p. 767

*GLORIA PATRI (#35 in hymnal)

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS Joseph Tobin

MORNING PRAYER and the LORD'S PRAYER (unison..."debts")

PRAYER RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 40: 21-31

COMMUNION MEDITATION Rev. Cynthia Carr

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Benediction" Anglea

*DOXOLOGY (#46 in hymnal)

*PRAYER of DEDICATION

SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER of CONFESSION (unison)

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and follow in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.

AFFIRMATION of FORGIVENESS

*COMMUNION HYMN #395 "Seed, Scattered and Sown"

SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Communion Prayer and Words of Institution

Serving of the Supper

(Gluten-free bread is available. Please indicate your preference to a Deacon serving communion. Please wait until all are served before eating the bread and drinking the cup.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*CLOSING HYMN #605 "For Each Day of Life We Thank You"

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE "The Heavens Are Telling" Haydn

*All who are able are invited to stand.

Greeters: Board of Deacons

Coffee Hour: Board of Trustees

Deacons assisting with Communion: Mike Swan (Deacon-in-charge), Cheryl Purnell, Larry Bates, Mary Wheeler, Pam Lyons, Jon Dunlap, Pat Lazeren

WELCOME TO FCCV!

If you are a first time visitor, please take a moment after the worship service and sign our Guest Book located in the Narthex on the Welcome Table.

There you will also find a special Welcome Bag just for you.

Pay It Forward: Last week, Lily Westerberg shared with us the heartfelt story of her gift to the Danbury Animal Welfare Society where her family adopted their dog Daisy ten years ago. Lily's gift is being used to help a dog named Rosebud who needs surgery as she waits to find a home with a loving person. This week we feature Donald Montgomery, last week's winner. The blessings of those who have benefited because of you are on display in Fellowship Hall. Take a moment to reflect during Coffee Hour.

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Communications Committee: 11:15 AM, Library. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

Prospective Members Class: 11:30 AM, PF Room in Kellogg Hall

Transformers: 11:30 AM, Choir Room

Youth Fellowship (6th -12th grade): Laser Quest - leaving the church at 12:10 PM and returning at 3:30 PM. Cost - \$16 per person. Permission slip needed.

TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

Don't forget to pick up your Super Bowl Grinders.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Search Committee: Monday, February 6, 7 PM, Library

Evening Circle, Monday, February 6, 7 PM at Marilyn Newton's home
We will be making cookies and decorating the packages for delivery to the homebound. All women of the church are welcome. If you are on the call list, you will be contacted. Otherwise, please contact Pat Lazeren, 860-644-0475, for directions and more information.

Crafts Group: Monday, February 6, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Prayer Shawl Group: Wednesday, February 8, 1 PM, Library

Missions: Wednesday, February 8, 7 PM, Library

BCE: Wednesday, February 8, 7 PM, Chapel

S & E: Wednesday, February 8, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Bell Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, February 9, 6:30 PM, PF Room

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, February 9, 7:30 3, 10:30 AM, Library

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

Youth Basketball: February 11 from 6:30-8:30 PM at Wapping Community Church, South Windsor

Give the Gift of Love this Valentine's Day: To help support our neighbor, the Somers Congregational Church, the Board of Missions will be taking a special offering on Sunday, February 12. As you know, the Somers Church suffered a tragic fire just as we did many years ago. Your gift of love will help the Somers Congregational Church rebuild. Thank you for your support.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

Sing Praise, March 4: with Tolland Congregational Church (during our worship service). More info to follow.

Sleepover/Mission Work, March 16: 7 PM- 9 AM at church. Bring a friend. We will be doing mission work for "Crayons for Cancer," working with "Taking Care of Our Own" – Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Minneapolis Children's Hospital and Hasbro Children's Hospital

Tag Sale, April 28: Please save items you no longer want and donate them to us.

Giv2, May 6: "Taking Care of Our Own." We are offering our services, free of charge, to those who, because of limited mobility, need assistance with yard work. Contact Debi or Dave Hockenberry, Sadie Bennett-Pollack, Beth Fowler, Kathleen McClure, Halene Fujimoto or Linda Shivers.

Summer Mission Trip-"Taking Care of Our Own:" We will be working in our community. Possible date, July 23-27

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

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, please contact Margaret Klukas (643-0710) or Jan Muro (872-1757 or jmoze@hotmail.com). **Volunteers Needed!** The Care Network is looking for volunteers to help with driving. Recently, we have had requests for rides to church as well as doctors' appointments. We are aware that volunteers will not always be available when a ride is needed, so we need to add more names to our list of drivers. If this request touches your heart, please contact Jan or Margaret or find us on Sundays at Coffee Hour.

Search Committee Members: Sue Mias (chairperson), Serena Volovski (secretary), Tom Sweet (corresponding secretary), Mike Swan, Steve Boucher, Gaile Dembeck, Bess Howe, Karen Prewo, Nick Bartos, Deb Hockenberry, Bob O'Gara, Cheryl Turner, Emily Westerberg. **Please Note:** Any written correspondence to the Pastoral Search Committee can be left in the Vice Moderator's mailbox.

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 for children 12-36 months** old is located downstairs with the classrooms. Donations are gratefully accepted in the free-will offering box.

In Our Ongoing Prayers... the **Ferguson family** on the loss of Olive Ferguson; **Maggie Minnick; Flora Batz**, friend of Jan Peacock, dealing with pancreatic cancer; **Marge Salmon** recovering from eye surgery; **Helen Dyer** recovering from a compressive fracture of her lower spine; **Martha Fowler** dealing with cancer; **Ann Garrison; Michael Bebrin;** the **leaders, members and friends of Somers Congregational Church;** **Todd Lentocha and family** (Todd is the East Hartford police officer recently injured in an auto accident); **Ellie Cantlin** (Mary Wheeler's sister-in-law) dealing with stomach cancer; **FCCV Search Committee; Mike Swan** undergoing chemo for a recurrence of cancer; **Kathy Fuller**, Barbara Evensen's sister; **Caleb**, son of Jessica Gwara (friend of Annie Longo); **Donna Peacock; Carol Whitney; Kyle**, son of Rob Czaplicki (friend of Rob Horton); **Joyce Smith; Dolores Tomolonis**, friend of Mary and Jim White, (cancer); **Thelma Gifford; Kaylin Gifford; Rick Gagnon**, brother-in-law of Michelle Bower (cancer); **Warren Clay; Gary Edwards**, friend of Serena Volovski; **Cooper Doyle**, Al and Marilyn Newton's grandson; **Paul and Susan Shimer; Candy Buswell** (heart); **Mary Jo Simonds-Huneger; Horst Pohlmann**, friend of the Gerakaris'; **John Mayhew; John Kaminski**, Susan Moreau's father; **Bess Howe; Jane Morse; Melissa Morse; Charlotte Driggs; Aaron Huneger; Stephen Volovski; Donald Chase; Audrey Clay** (breast cancer)