

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

February 16, 2014

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACOLYTES

*CALL to WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Dave Kemp

Leader: With open hands and open hearts,

People: **With open doors and open arms,**

Leader: The church of Jesus Christ is ready:

People: **Ready to welcome us,**

Leader: To gather us in,

People: **To lift our spirits**

Leader: and lighten our grief,

People: **To double our joy**

Leader: and deepen our awe.

People: **Welcome in!**

Leader: Welcome home!

*OPENING HYMN “All Are Welcome” (*insert*)

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

Precious God, surround us with your presence so we may breathe deeply of this moment and discover a fountain of joy, a river of light, a stream of new hope. Precious Jesus, come in word and silence, in song and prayer, and lead us to new life in you. Precious Spirit, visit us now with your peace and power and renew us by the touch of your loving grace. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit we pray. 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.

TIME with the CHILDREN

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.

ANTHEM “Wonderful, Merciful Savior”

Rodgers/Wyse

Contemporary Choir

SCRIPTURE Matthew 18:15-22

SERMON

Rev. Meg Watson

*HYMN #494 “They’ll Know We Are Christians”

RECEPTION of NEW MEMBERS

Congregational Response

We welcome you with joy into the life of this church. We promise our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God’s knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

COVENANT of MEMBERSHIP

Leader: As members of the First Congregational Church of Vernon, we share in this covenant:

People: **We believe in God, we hold a deep and abiding love for Jesus Christ, and we are willing to be guided by the Holy Spirit as revealed to us in Scripture and through prayerful discernment.**

Leader: We are a faith community, part of the body of Christ,

People: **Proclaiming the good news of Christ’s resurrection and the freedom of new life for all who follow his ways, sharing God’s love with others by reaching out to those in need, and continuing to deepen our knowledge and understanding of God’s call in our lives.**

Leader: With the help of God and the support of this body of Christ,

People: **We covenant to do our best to follow Christ’s example and embrace the great commandment, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself,” and his new commandment, “Love one another.”**

Leader: As we journey together,

People: **We promise to support and pray for one another, ever mindful that we are to lift up one another with dignity and Christian love.**

Leader: We will support this Body of Christ to the best of our ability,

People: **By participating in worship and sacraments, through our work and financial support, and in mission and fellowship, in order to strengthen its ministries and deepen our commitment as a faith community that is welcoming and accessible to all.**

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY “He’s Callin’ My Name”

P. F. Simms

*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

*CLOSING HYMN #619 “My Life Flows On”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**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. 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!

The flowers on the Communion Table are given in loving memory of Don Newton on his Valentine's Day birthday with love from Mom and Dad.

Welcome to our New Members Albert (Al) and Patricia (Pat) Navickas, Michael Leary, and Erica Mankus and Linda Dayton. Please take a moment to welcome them downstairs in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour.

Greeters and Coffee Hour: Board of Missions

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

Marge Salmon, dealing with multiple health issues; **Bev Duncan**, recovering from surgery; **Bobby Kelley**, Kathy Bainbridge's brother; Heather Lazeren (Pat Lazeren's niece) and family, on the death of her father, Stanley Lazeren; 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; 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

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Memorial Garden: 11:15 AM, Library

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Presidents' Day: Monday, February 17. The Church Office is closed.

Craft Group: Monday, February 17, 5:30 PM, Chapel. We'll be painting, so wear old clothing.

Men's Club: Tuesday, February 18, 6:30 AM at the Vernon Diner

Bible Study: Tuesday, February 18, 11 AM, Library

Furnishings & Memorials: Tuesday, February 18, 7 PM, Chapel

Library: Wednesday, February 19, 1 PM, Library

BCE: Wednesday, February 19, 7 PM, Chapel

Stewardship: Wednesday, February 19, 7 PM, Library

Theology on Tap: Thursday, February 20, 6 PM at R House Restaurant

Bell Choir: Thursday, February 20, 6:30 PM, PF Room

Sanctuary Choir: Thursday, February 20, 7:30 PM, Sanctuary

Support Group: Friday, February 21, 10:30 AM, Library

Thank You! On behalf of our friend, Valerie Flitcroft from Manchester, England, we want to thank FCCV for its prayers during Valerie's year-long battle with cancer. She had her last chemo pill recently and is slowly getting back into her regular routine. Marilyn and Allan Newton

On **Sunday, February 23**, the Ways & Means Committee will be selling their famous **Chili** and **Cornbread**. It will be available during Coffee Hour for just \$6 a pint.

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

Cancellation of Church Services or Activities Due to Inclement Weather:

Please watch WFSB Channel 3 or go to wfsb.com.

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**.

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).

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.

Scrip-Your-All Update

The Scrip-Your-All program has been in existence for 11 weeks. FCCV earns rebates on gift cards that the congregation purchases, where the full value of the card is given to the buyer and a rebate is given to FCCV. It is a win-win program, as you can help the church through purchases you make every day. On Sundays during Coffee Hour, cards for local grocery stores (Big Y, Price Chopper, and Shop & Stop) and pharmacies (CVS and Walgreens) are always available for purchase or you may place an order for more than 200 other gift cards.

To date, 35 families have participated in the Scrip-Your-All program, with 10 families participating in both Sunday sales and gift card orders, 13 families with Sunday sales and 12 families placing gift card orders.

FCCV has a budgeted goal of \$4,000 for 2014. After 11 weeks, our earnings include \$529.92 from Sunday sales and \$1,082.45 on gift card orders (including e-cards), totaling \$1,612.37.

Thank you to all you are participating! We hope that others will consider doing so. Visit www.ShopWithScrip.com (enrollment code **F2F1CF113843L**) or stop by the Scrip-Your-All table during coffee hour for more information.

Scrip-Your-All Schedule	
Order In By	Pick Up On
16 Feb	23 Feb
2 Mar	9 Mar
16 Mar	23 Mar
30 Mar	6 Apr
13 Apr	20 Apr