



**SERMON**

Rev. Robin Bird

\*HYMN #16 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

**SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS**

**MORNING PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**CALL to OFFERING**

OFFERTORY "Wonderful, Merciful Savior" Rodgers/Wyse

**\*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)**

**Faithful God, we bring these gifts before you in response to your generosity toward us. Help us to be worthy of your trust as we use these gifts to promote the good news. Let us be imitators of you in our giving, in our living and in our loving others. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

\*CLOSING HYMN #610 "Living for Jesus"

**\*BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE "Postlude in F Major" Guilmant

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon us, because he has anointed us to bring good news to the poor. He has sent us to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.*

~based on Luke 4:18-19

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

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

**In Our Ongoing Prayers**

Dan Bradford and family on the loss of his mother, Janet; Bob Langone's (Karen Bradford's father) recent PET scan is clear of cancer; Meg (Bill and Holly Boutwell's sister and sister-in-law) on the aggressive return of a tumor; the people of Flint, MI; the homeless; the hungry; Linda Vogt, friend of Marilyn Newton, diagnosed with kidney cancer; Linda Rentler; gun reform; acceptance of religious diversity/skin color/sexual orientation; Terri Karr; Daniel Burnett-Pollack; Debbie Chase; Dick Myer; Margaret Klukas; Gilmay Markunas and family; Paul Westerberg; people struggling with mental illness; Ed Rockland; the people of Syria, including the family of Tarek Eid; Heidi Howie; Mason Bower; Michael Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Cooper Doyle

**Greeters and Coffee Hour: Board of Missions**

**~ANNOUNCEMENTS~**

*Greet your neighbor with a hug or handshake, whichever is most comfortable for the two of you.*

++In an effort to keep the Sabbath holy, we would like to refrain from talking with church leaders about church business before or after worship. If you need to speak with someone, please contact them late in the day or in the coming week.++

**If you would like to become a member of FCCV**, please speak with Rev. Robin, Rev. Suz or one of our Deacons. We'd like to schedule a New Member Class soon, as well as a New Member Sunday in which we receive new members! Thank you.

**TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall**  
**Name Tags:** If you ordered one, you can pick it up today from the Scrip-Your-All table. If you'd like to order one, three options are available – magnet, pin or clip. You can also include a hang tag should you belong to a board/committee. A \$3 to \$5 donation is requested, but not required. Order today or contact Kate Fowler at kfowler64@yahoo.com.

The J\*Walkrz are taking orders for **FCCV sweatshirts** and **polos** (\$25 each) and **tee shirts** in green or gray (\$20). They are also selling **FCCV pens** for only \$1. Proceeds will help us attend the National Youth Event in July.

**TODAY'S ACTIVITIES**

**Informational Meeting on Staff Reconfiguration:** 11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Child care will be provided. For those unable to attend there will be a second staff reconfiguration informational meeting on Monday, February 29 at 6 PM in Fellowship Hall. The early time is to accommodate younger families with children. Child care and pizza will be provided for any children who accompany their parents. A congregational meeting will be held on March 13 in Fellowship Hall following the church service to vote on the reconfiguration.

**Junior Choir Rehearsal:** 11:30 AM, PF Room

**J\*Walkrz:** 3:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

**THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES**

**Bible Study:** Monday, February 22, 11 AM, Library

**Mind and Spirit Support Group:** Monday, February 22, 7 PM, Library

**Search Committee:** Monday, February 22, 7 PM, Chapel

**Men's Breakfast Group:** Tuesday, February 23, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner  
**Ladies Luncheon:** Tuesday, February 23, noon at Mitchell's Restaurant  
**Trustees:** Wednesday, February 24, 6:30 PM, Library  
**Theology on Tap:** Thursday, February 25, 6 PM, Mitchell's Restaurant  
**Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal:** February 25, 7:30 PM, Sanctuary  
**Support Group:** Friday, February 26, 10:30 AM, Library  
**Lenten Bible Study:** Friday, February 26, 6:30 PM, Library  
**Line Dancing:** Friday, February 26, 7:30 PM, Fellowship Hall. A \$2 donation goes to support Pay It Forward. **Only 2 weeks left!**

### **Pairs and Spares Upcoming Events**

**Willimantic Orchestra Winter Concert,** Saturday, February 27, 7:30 PM at the Fine Arts Instructional Center (FAIC) building at Eastern CT State University, Willimantic. Stop by the Scrip-Your-All table if interested in carpooling.

**All Request Line Dancing,** March 5, 6:30-11 PM at TKB, Vernon Ave., Vernon. \$10 per person.

**The Ten Commandments** shown on the big screen at Rave Theater at Buckland Hills on Sunday, March 20 at 2 PM. Cost - \$8.50. Stop by the Scrip-Your-All table if interested.

The **R. Leslie Childs Memorial Scholarship** is a \$500 scholarship awarded each year to an FCCV church member or child of a member to provide assistance with musical training. The award can be used for music lessons, music education or toward the purchase of a musical instrument. An application must be completed and submitted to the Board of Music no later than April 15. Applications may be picked up in the Church Office. Questions? Contact any Board of Music member.

### **FCCV FUN-FILLED FESTIVAL, Sunday, May 22, 2 PM, Fellowship Hall**

This fundraiser for the Les Childs Scholarship, sponsored by the Board of Music and Leanne Connolly, will offer light snacks and finger foods while our FCCV family and friends present their talents for us to enjoy.

Members and friends (all ages), including their talented pets, are invited to share their talents (singing, playing an instrument, reading, telling jokes, dancing, etc.). If you wish to participate or have any questions, please contact Leanne at lconnolly1825@gmail.com or 860-462-4694.

The youth will be having a **Tag Sale** on April 23. Donations may be dropped off the week of the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please keep us in mind while doing your spring cleaning! Thank you!

The **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering will be collected on March 6. Twenty-nine denominations will participate in this offering on that day. It benefits individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disaster, conflict or severe economic hardship. If you would like to donate, please make your check out to FCCV with "OGHS" in the memo. There will be a special offering envelope in the church bulletin on March 6. Thank you for your donation.

**Pay It Forward:** Last month, Al Newton shared with us his Pay It Forward moment, in which he supported Evening Circle's sponsorship of a family in the Vernon area. If you are interested, there is a box for collecting items and gift cards for this great cause set up near the Scrip-Your-All table. Next week, Lynn Sweet will share with us her Pay It Forward moment. If you would like to participate in Pay It Forward, fill out a card and place it in the PIF box in the Narthex or by the PIF sign near the Scrip-Your-All table. If you would like to make a donation of any size, checks may be placed in the offering basket (marked PIF in the memo) or in the PIF box in the Narthex near the stairs to Fellowship Hall.

**Scrip-Your-All Update:** to date, approximately \$615 has been earned towards our \$5,500 goal for 2016. Remember, you get the **full value** for any cards purchased, so it is win-win all around. Please take a look at our FCCV website for complete information on how to sign up ([firstchurchofvernon.org/scrip-your-all](http://firstchurchofvernon.org/scrip-your-all)) or stop by the Scrip-Your-All table during Coffee Hour for more information.

The **AED** located in Fellowship Hall needs to be replaced. The cost can run from \$800-\$2,000 depending on the model and warranty chosen. We are asking the congregation to fund this as they did in the past. Questions? Contact any of the Parish Nurses.

**Needed!** Our shopping carts (located in the Narthex and Breezeway) are running low. Each month Board of Missions members alternate taking non-perishable food to the Soup Kitchen in Rockville and to the Hockanum Valley Community Council. Folks are also need to help prepare meals at the Soup Kitchen. A sign-up sheet is posted in fellowship Hall.

**Please Note:** To request a visit with one of the pastors, please contact the Church Office at 860-875-7580.

Evening Circle is **collecting items for a Center Road family**. Items needed are pull-ups for a 4-year-old boy, winter boots for a 6-year-old girl, mittens for all three children aged 4 (boy), 6 and 9 (girls), any food items, children's toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrush)) and gift cards for Target or Walmart.

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# LENTEN *Schedule*

The **Lenten Series**, led by our seminarian, Barbara Hesse, is based on the movie "Conversations with God." The series continues on **Fridays, February 26 and March 11 and 18** at 6:30 PM in the Library. Dessert and beverages will be served at all sessions and childcare will be available.

The **Agape Dinner** (Agape Love: selfless, unconditional love) will be held on **Sunday, March 6** at 5 PM in Fellowship Hall. This dinner, provided and served by the Deacons, has been a tradition in our church since the early 1990's. The elements of the Jewish Passover meal, the Seder, are offered to taste and are explained by the Pastor. There will be a game for the children before dinner. There is no charge but please bring a non-perishable food item to put in the shopping carts for the pantry/soup kitchen. All are welcome!

**Easter Cantata**, Sunday, March 13 during the Worship Service

**Palm Sunday**, March 20

**Maundy Thursday Service**, March 24, 7 PM in the Sanctuary

**Easter Sunrise Service**, Sunday, March 27, 6:30 AM in the Memorial Garden

**Easter Worship Service**, Sunday March 27, 10 AM in the Sanctuary