

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

February 24, 2013

Second Sunday in Lent

GATHERING MUSIC

“Medley of Spirituals”

arr. Atwood/Utterback

“When I Look Over Jordan”

arr. Rasley

“Lord, Lift Me Up and Let Me Stand”

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACOLYTES

PRELUDE

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

*CALL to WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Valerie Sexton

Leader: It is God who gathers us

People: In the shelter of God’s wings,

Leader: In the beauty of this new day,

People: In the arms of love.

Leader: It is Christ who meets us here

People: When our hearts are open to him,

Leader: When our minds are stayed upon him,

People: When we seek his face.

Leader: Let love come alive among us now

People: In songs of joyful praise.

*OPENING HYMN #623 “Woke Up This Morning”

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

Eternal God, we thank you for this hour of prayer. Help us worship you in spirit and in truth. Let our souls be quickened by your holiness, our minds nourished by your truth, our hearts opened to your love, and our wills surrendered to your purpose. May we be swept away in adoration as we sing and pray and give you honor in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING from Psalm 27

Leader: One thing I ask of the Lord, and only that do I seek:

People: To live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

Leader: To behold the power and beauty of the Lord,

People: And to inquire in God’s temple.

Leader: I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy!

People: I will sing to the Lord.

*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, 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.

ANTHEM

“Amazing Grace”

Traditional

SCRIPTURE

Luke 13: 31-35

SERMON

Rev. Meg Watson

*HYMN #344 “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

T. Dorsey

*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*)

Dear Heavenly Father, how you love us Lord! You guide us, forgive us, comfort us, heal us and teach us every day. Here is a token of gratitude for the blessings in our lives. Please, Lord, accept it and use it through this church family. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen

*CLOSING HYMN #673 “Down by the Riverside”

*BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

“Wings of Faith”

Broughton

**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!

The flowers on the Communion Table are given in loving memory of Ashlee Hazel Tomko with love from her Mom, Dad and family.

Greeters and Coffee Hour Preparation: Board of Missions

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

Arianna Saegaert, neighbor of Ann Harford in Boston Children's Hospital with multiple respiratory problems; **Libby Ann Parker**, great niece of Nancy and Richard Parker, born with epilepsy; Phyllis Chase recovering at home; the people of Syria, including the family of Tarek Eid, son-in-law of Cathy and Gary Foote; 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***

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Music @ First – Fanfare Brass Choir: 4 PM in the Sanctuary

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Men's Club: Tuesday, February 26, 6:30 AM at the Vernon Diner

Board of Music: Tuesday, February 26, 6:30 PM, Library

Trustees: Wednesday, February 27, 7 PM, Library

Bread and Broth Lenten Series: Thursday, February 28, 6 PM in the Pastor's Study

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, February 28, 7:30 PM

Support Group: Friday, March 1, 10:30 AM, Library

Sunday School Please Note: On Sunday, March 3 we will meet in Fellowship Hall for the Children's Message before going to our classrooms.

Youth Basketball (open to 5th -12th grade): March 2 and 16 from 6:30-8:30 PM at Wapping Church in South Windsor.

Youth Fellowship (6th-12th grade) Meeting: Sunday, March 3, 11:30 AM, Library. We'll be planning our summer mission project, 24-hour famine and other activities. Would love to have your input and suggestions. Bring a friend. Lunch will be provided.

Confirmation Class Mini Retreat: Sunday, March 10, 1- 7 PM at church. Bring a snack to share, your red folder and Bible. Parents are needed to provide dinner. Please contact Linda Shivers.

Please Note: Rev. Joanne Myer has accepted the position as our Interim Associate Pastor. Church Council will be forming a Search Committee for a settled Associate Pastor. We are looking for people willing to serve on this committee which will consist of one member from each of our 6 boards and 6 members at large. The Connecticut Conference suggests that we have different representation from those who served on the Search Committee for our Senior Pastor. Anyone interested should contact Tony Muro, 860-872-1757 or tonymuro@sbcglobal.net.

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.

Pay It Forward: In 2010, Pay It Forward (PIF) started as a temporary outreach to help those in our community. A person was selected to receive \$50. That person would then use the money to Pay It Forward. Due to the enormous support from the FCCV congregation, PIF continues 2½ years later and generates interest from other churches as well as our community, as seen by the visits to our church website. In recognition of this part of our ministry, our church is making PIF permanent. PIF recognition will be the fourth Sunday of each month when we will hear how the previous \$50 was used to pay it forward and a new PIF person will be chosen. If you would like to participate in PIF, write your name on an index card and place it in the PIF box in Fellowship Hall. Donations are also being accepted to ensure that the PIF program continues. If you choose to make any size donation, you can place a check in the offering plate, marked for PIF or give a donation downstairs in Fellowship Hall in the PIF box.

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 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.

2013 LENTEN SEASON

Music @ First Concert – Fanfare Brass Choir

Today, 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, March 28, 7 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

**MUSIC at FIRST
Fanfare Brass Choir
Today at 4 PM**

The choir performs music from the 16th century to the present and covers many styles of music including, classical, jazz and light popular. The program will include Purcell, Gershwin, Rodgers, Strauss, Sousa and many more. Come, join us to hear this 10-piece brass choir – 4 trumpets, 4 trombones, a tuba and French horn!

Suggested donation: \$7 adults/\$5 seniors and students
Proceeds benefit the Les Childs Music Scholarship