

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

March 9, 2014

First Sunday in Lent ~ Scout Sunday

PRELUDE “Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder and Fugue” Pachelbel
“Preludio Religioso” Beethoven
“Theme from ‘Finlandia’” Sibelius

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT Cathy Foote

ACOLYTES Alexis Hayes, Mariah Shivers

***PRESENTATION of COLORS**

***PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE** (*unison*) Nathan Michaud

***POSTING of COLORS**

SCOUT REPRESENTATIVES Mark Kalina, Boy Scouts
Emily Westerberg, Girl Scouts

***CALL to WORSHIP** (*responsive*) Zack Kline

Leader: Amazing grace,

People: Lifting us up when we have fallen,

Leader: Bringing us hope when we despair,

People: Healing our hearts when they are broken.

Leader: Amazing grace,

People: Making a way in the wilderness,

Leader: Shining a light on our path,

People: Leading us back to joy and peace.

***OPENING HYMN** #546 “Amazing Grace”

LENTEN WREATH LITURGY Maddy Condry, Zack Kline

Reader 1: This is the sacred center of our faith—the truth made manifest in Jesus Christ—that God is in each and every one of us, quietly transforming us and the world. In his pain and suffering, Jesus speaks to every pain and loss you have endured and offers you the promise of transformation.

Reader 2: It’s an old story, but it still has the power to reveal, to heal, and to redeem. Jesus is at the heart of our faith, in the depth of our souls. He is waiting for us, inviting us to leave ordinary time and follow along with him on the journey that brought him to the Cross. Listen in silence, for Jesus is calling you.
(*Silent time.*)

Reader 1: As we extinguish this light, we acknowledge the darkness and pain of injustice and oppression in the world.
(*A candle is extinguished.*)

Reader 2: Let us pray:

ALL: Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, give us strength and courage to make the changes that are needed in our lives. Open our hearts and minds to your steadfast presence and help us to put our trust in you. 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 “Kumbaya”
Little Bells

SCRIPTURE Matthew 4:1-11

SERMON Rev. Robin Bird

***HYMN** #180 “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)” Newton/Tomlin

***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** #585 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE “Marche” Gounod

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

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

The flowers on the Communion Table are given by the Ferguson family in honor and loving memory of our son and brother, Whitney T. Ferguson, III, who was mortally wounded in action in Vietnam on 11 March 1969, serving with the 30th Arty. Reg., 1st Cav. Div., awarded the Order of the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star medal with citation for valor in combat. May you rest in eternal peace, “Tack.”

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!

Greeters: Scouts

Scouts assisting with the offering: Lily Westerberg, Melina Toolan, Alex Dimetro, Thomas Rivet, Joshua Kalina

Flag Bearers: Scott Blanchard, Zack Kline

Coffee Hour: Board of Music

Boy Scout Troop 86 is now in its 49th year with FCCV as its sponsor (since December 1965). The troop remains very active in service initiatives: FCCV leaf raking /spring sand sweep and town-wide organizer for "Scouting for Food" collection. Monthly campouts such as AP trail, skiing, summer camp, urban navigation, and a major event every two years for older scouts (such as Florida Keys Sea Base). Last Thursday, Nick Murray passed his Eagle Scout board of review. Only 4% of all scouts ever earn the Eagle Rank. Our troop has exceeded that percentage.

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

Carol Shea dealing with a recent illness and depression due to a temporary stay at Avery Heights, Hartford; Marge Salmon dealing with multiple health issues; Bev Duncan, recovering from surgery; Bobby Kelley, Kathy Bainbridge's brother; 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; Rev. Charlie Nichol's granddaughter Devon; Pat Lazeren; Gail Occhialini; Kim Burnham; 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

Transformers Rehearsal: 11:25 AM, Sanctuary

Confirmation Class: 11:30 AM, Library

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Ways & Means: Monday, March 10, 7 PM, Library

April CARILLON Deadline

Tuesday, March 11

Men's Group: Tuesday, March 11, 6:30 AM at the Vernon Diner

Bible Study: Tuesday, March 11, 11 AM, Library

Deacons: Tuesday, March 11, 7 PM, Library

Prayer Shawl: Wednesday, March 12, 1 PM, Library

Church Council: Wednesday, March 12, 7 PM, Choir Room

Missions: Wednesday, March 12, 7 PM, Chapel

Theology on Tap: Thursday, March 13, 6 PM at R House Restaurant

Sanctuary Choir: Thursday, March 13, 7:30 PM, Sanctuary

Support Group: Friday, March 14, 10:30 AM, Library

Contemporary Choir Rehearsal: Saturday, March 15, 10 AM, Sanctuary

The **Card Ministry** volunteers have been busy sending "Thinking of You," "Get Well," "Coping," "Welcome" and "We Miss You" cards to many of our church family. To help cut costs to the volunteers, donations of these types of greeting cards or blank cards are needed. Cards may be left in the designated basket in Fellowship Hall. The Care Network and the Card Ministry appreciate your contribution to this cause. Thanks!

Please Note: Mariah Shivers' Girl Scout Troop #10137 is collecting soda can flip tops for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. A donation bucket is located in Fellowship Hall.

The **R. Leslie Childs Scholarship** is a \$500 scholarship awarded each year to an FCCV church member or child of a member to provide assistance with musical training. Applications may be picked up in the Church Office. Completed applications must be submitted to the Board of Music no later than April 15.

Please Note: The Tag Sale to benefit the Youth Mission Trips has been re-scheduled to Saturday, April 26. Donations will only be accepted at the church the week before the sale (April 21-25).

Memorial Garden Committee Members Needed: Have you had an opportunity to walk through FCCV's Memorial Garden? No matter the time of year, it makes for a very spiritual walk. In spring, flowers and bushes are in bloom; in summer, the grass is so green and the birds are singing; in fall, the autumn colors are spectacular; and in winter the Memory Tree glitters with a promise in the winter darkness. The Memorial Garden Committee is always looking for new members to help care for the Garden. We need volunteers who love to get their hands dirty with planting and weeding; people to walk the Garden with families, helping them choose a site and then preparing internment sites; someone to handle the paperwork and finances and manual labor for care of the total landscape. If you would like to learn more about the Memorial Garden Committee and would like to help with the work of the Committee, please contact Chairman Jane Morse. Take a moment to walk the Garden and feel how special it is.

Job Descriptions for Mission of Mercy Community Volunteers

Crowd Control: Ensure orderliness of patients waiting in line at the event and direct the flow of patients into the building as capacity allows

Data Entry: Enter dental treatment performed into data base (data entry experience required)

Food Service: Serve and clean-up food service areas for the volunteers/patients

Parking: Direct volunteers and patients to the proper parking areas, and help direct individuals to the clinic

Patient Escorts: Escort patients between various departments ensuring that no one is ever left alone on the clinic floor

Patient Registration: Greet and explain how the program works; register patient in the data base system (data entry experience required)

Set-up: Individuals will set up tables, chairs, dental units, supplies, signs, registration areas, food service areas etc.

Tear Down: Disassemble equipment, pack equipment and supplies, inventory, general clean-up etc.

Translator/Interpreters: Translate for patients, all languages especially Spanish, Polish, Portuguese and Italian. Signers are needed for our hearing impaired patients

Volunteer Registration: Greet and check-in volunteers

Waste Management: Empty waste, general clean-up

What to Wear: All volunteers will be given a CTMOM t-shirt and are encouraged to wear it during the clinic. Dress is casual-everything from scrubs to shorts-whatever is most comfortable for you. Supportive closed toe shoes are required!

A volunteer lounge will be available for breaks. Breakfast, lunch, snacks and beverages will be provided. Massage Therapists will be available in the lounge area to provide free massages to any volunteer. Please note: There are no secure areas for your personal belongings.

Clinic dates: Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26

Set-up and Breakdown Dates: Wednesday, April 23-Thursdays April 24, Sunday April 27

Registration is now open! For information and online registration: www.cfdo.org or www.ctmom.org

Patient and Volunteer Parking will be available FREE of charge at the Morgan Street Garage, 155 Morgan St, Hartford, CT

Please use the envelopes provided in today's bulletin for donations. If paying by check, please make it payable to FCCV with "Missions of Mercy" noted in the memo. Thank you for your support, the Board of Missions.

Josephine Bicknell, Coordinator for Connecticut Dental Outreach will be our guest speaker on Sunday, March 16.

2014 LENTEN SEASON

Bible Study

Tuesdays, 11 AM in the Library

Our focus during Lent will be Faith Practices.

Theology on Tap

Thursdays, 6 PM at the R House Restaurant

Our focus during Lent will be Faith Practices.

Agape Dinner

Sunday, March 30, 5-7 PM in Fellowship Hall

Potluck Dinner and activities related to Lent

Palm Sunday

April 13, 10 AM Worship Service

Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion and Office of Tenebrae

Thursday, April 17, 7 PM in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday

April 20

Sunrise Service, 6 AM in the Memorial Garden

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

Worship Service, 10 AM

