

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC**

**March 10, 2013**

*Fourth Sunday in Lent ~ Mission Sunday*

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ACOLYTES**

**PRELUDE**

**INTROIT-TNSFORMERS** "Hush" Traditional

**\*CALL to WORSHIP** (*responsive*) Dave Bower

Leader: Deep is God's love;

**People: Wide is God's care.**

Leader: God's peace echoes through the canyons;

**People: God's warmth rests upon the mountaintops.**

Leader: God's faithfulness reaches to the heavens;

**People: God's mercy is deeper than the ocean.**

Leader: How good is our God, whose loving hands have formed us!

**People: How great is our God!**

**\*OPENING HYMN** #33 "How Great Thou Art"

**PRAYER of INVOCATION** (*unison*)

**Creator God, you formed us from the dust of the ground and breathed into us the breath of life. May we once again yield to the working of your finely skilled hands, that we may be molded and formed into instruments of your holy love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

**RESPONSIVE READING** from: Psalm 41

Leader: Happy are those who consider the poor;

**People: The Lord delivers them in the day of trouble.**

Leader: The Lord protects them and keeps them alive;

**People: They are called happy in the land.**

Leader: Blessed be the Lord, the God of all nations,

**People: From everlasting to everlasting. 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** Brianna and Ashley Markunas

**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**

**SCRIPTURE** Matthew 25: 34-40

Proverbs 19:17

**MESSAGE**

Dr. Adam Daniels

**\*HYMN** #465 "We Are Called to Follow Jesus"

**SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS**

**MORNING PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**CALL to OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*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 Lord, you always help us find a way to keep going. Your love for us is so evident in our history and in our future. Thank you, Lord, for guiding us forward and for loving us endlessly. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** #467 "Fill the World with Love"

**\*BENEDICTION**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

**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!

**Welcome to our guest speaker Dr. Adam Daniels.**

**The flowers on the Communion Table** are given by the Ferguson family in loving memory of Whitney T. Ferguson III, son and brother (Vietnam, 11 March 1969).

**Greeters and Coffee Hour Preparation:** Board of Music

**Transformers:** Nicholas Giordano, Jack Longo, Avery Prewo, Arielle Shivers, Mariah Shivers, Tommy Shivers, Sarah Turner, Lillian Westerberg, Paul Westerberg

### In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

Marine Corps **Lance Corporal Steven Carr** and his wife, **Angel Hockenberry Carr** – he is being deployed to the Middle East this week; Donna Peacock; 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

**Nominating Committee:** 11:20 AM, Library

**Confirmation Class Mini Retreat:** 1-7 PM at church. Bring your folder, Bible and a snack to share.

### TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

The Ways and Means Committee is **selling corn chowder** for \$6 a quart. Save yourself an hour's time by taking home a quart and you will never miss the daylight saving time change.

The Flower Committee is **taking orders today** and next Sunday, March 17 for **lilies** and **daffodils** to be placed in the Sanctuary on Easter.

### THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

**Ways & Means:** Monday, March 11, 7 PM, Library

### APRIL CARILLON DEADLINE

**Tuesday, March 12**

**Men's Club:** Tuesday, March 12, 6:30 AM at the Vernon Diner

**PMS (Prepare Meals Simply):** Tuesday, March 12, 6 PM, sponsored by Women's Fellowship. We will prepare and enjoy three simple meals, including turkey sausage pizza, a pasta dish and vegetarian quinoa. Try some new recipes, meet some new friends and re-connect with some old ones. Please sign up on the Women's Fellowship bulletin board.

**Deacons:** Tuesday, March 12, 7 PM, Library

**Prayer Shawl:** Wednesday, March 13, 1 PM, Library

**BCE:** Wednesday, March 13, 7 PM, Library

**Missions:** Wednesday, March 13, 7 PM, Chapel

**Bread and Broth Lenten Series:** Thursday, March 14, 6 PM in the PF Room

**Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal:** Thursday, March 14, 7:30 PM

**Support Group:** Friday, March 15, 10:30 AM, Library

**Contemporary Choir Rehearsal:** Saturday, March 16, 10 AM, Sanctuary

**Youth Basketball (open to 5<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade):** March 16 from 6:30-8:30 PM at Wapping Church in South Windsor. Join us for our last game this season. Pizza and snacks will be provided.

There will be two opportunities for **Youth Mission** this summer. Youth aged 12 years-12<sup>th</sup> grade will be going to Newark, NY the week of July 21-26, staying over the whole week. The cost for the week is \$350 per person with **\$50 due today** and \$110 due on March 15. A Youth Mission for ages preteen (10 years) - high school, working with Hands on Hartford is also being organized. Hands on Hartford is an opportunity for our preteens to get involved in mission and while giving our older youth a chance to mentor while serving others. They will be home every evening. The date and work planned has not been set yet. To determine interest and help in planning, there will be a meeting on March 17 at 11:30 AM in the Library. Three adult advisors/chaperones will be needed for the Hartford Mission (background checks will be done).

## 2013 LENTEN SEASON



### Bread and Broth Lenten Series

**Thursdays, March 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**

## **2013 FCCV Wider Mission**

### **Our Hearts Will Build New Hearths**

This year Our Church's Wider Mission Project is International. We are pleased to welcome guest speaker **Dr. Adam Daniels** of Vernon. For the past four years Dr. Adams has worked with Missions in Guatemala to offer dentistry and Onil cooking stoves to the families in several communities of Guatemala.

One of the biggest problems in Guatemala today is their current cooking methods. Unsafe cooking stoves are the leading cause of death in children under the age of 5 in Guatemala. Traditional cooking stoves are flat sheet metal or barrels that ventilate the smoke directly into the family's homes. Carbon monoxide levels are twice the level considered dangerous in homes. Inhaling noxious fumes without the ventilation leads to acute respiratory problems. Children are falling into the fires when walking or playing near the open flame. House fires are relatively common and often cause death.

Our FCCV Mission Goal is to purchase 30 stoves for the communities in Guatemala costing approximately \$100 each. This small change will drastically alter a family's lifestyle. It will provide them with a safe alternative to cooking their food as well as a more sanitary means that will allow them to create more nutritional meals. The impoverished homes that these people live in are not made of materials that are conducive to an open flame. Along with improving their immediate lives, the cook stoves will have an important impact on the environment. These stoves require only 1/3 of the typical wood burned in an open fire, which results in 2/3 less time gathering the wood needed.

Please join us today in Fellowship Hall and on Sundays, March 17 and the 24 to find out more about the Guatemala culture and this important Mission Project. Envelopes labeled "**SPECIAL OFFERING**" are included in today's bulletin. Your donation will clearly benefit many families who are living in a very different world from the majority of Americans in the United States.