

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

**March 17, 2013**

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ACOLYTES**

**PRELUDE**

**INTROIT-Cherub Choir** “Jesus Loves Me”  
“I’ve Got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy Down in My Heart”

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

Leader: Listen for the call of the birds,

**People: Singing songs of praise.**

Leader: Watch for the warm rays of sunshine,

**People: Reaching through the clouds.**

Leader: The blessings of a loving God,

**People: Fresh with each new morning.**

Leader: All around us and within us,

**People: The promise of new life.**

**\*OPENING HYMN** #638 “In the Bulb There Is a Flower”

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

As the first day of spring approaches, God, we are mindful that we do not know what the future holds, but we do know that you will be with us. Therefore we acknowledge your love, your leadership, your power and your grace, which are ours in every season, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**RESPONSIVE READING** from Psalm 126

Leader: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

**People: Then our mouths were filled with laughter, and our tongues with shouts of joy.**

Leader: Then it was said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.”

**People: The Lord has done great things for us, and we shall rejoice.**

Leader: May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

**People: For those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying the sheaves.**

**\*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-Contemporary Choir** “In Christ Alone” Getty/Townend

**SCRIPTURE** John 12: 1-8

**SERMON** Rev. Meg Watson

**\*HYMN** #527 “More Love to Thee, O Christ”

**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*)

Dear Wondrous and Giving Father, you have given us all that we have, Lord. You give to us every day and in many ways. Our offering is one small way we can give something to you. Please accept these gifts from our hearts and continue to open doors to us to give gratefully from the bounty you have bestowed on us. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

**\*CLOSING HYMN** #477 “Pass It On”

**\*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 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!

**Cherub Choir** (Sunday School children ages 3-5): Sienna Santiago, Jameson Leary, Julieann Bradford, Garrett Jensen, Thomas J. Shivers III, Brian Knauss, Avery Prewo, Gabby Santiago, Michael Turner, Paul Westerberg, Joclyn Leary, Brady Ramsdell. They are learning about God through song.

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

### In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

**Janet Boucher**, diagnosed with breast cancer; Marine Corps Lance Corporal Steven Carr and his wife, Angel Hockenberry Carr – he has deployed to the Middle East; 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 Kermod; 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

**Memorial Garden Committee:** 11:15 AM, Library

**Youth Mission Meeting:** 11:30 AM, Fellowship Hall

**Agape Dinner**

5 PM

Fellowship Hall

### TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

**Today** is the **deadline** for ordering lilies and daffodils to be placed in the Sanctuary on Easter.

### THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES

**Men’s Club:** Tuesday, March 19, 6:30 AM at the Vernon Diner

**Finance:** Tuesday, March 19, 7 PM, Library

**Furnishings & Memorials:** Tuesday, March 19, 7 PM, Chapel

**Library Committee:** Wednesday, March 20, 1 PM, Library

**HR:** Wednesday, March 20, 7 PM, Library

**Stewardship & Evangelism:** Wednesday, March 20, 7 PM, Chapel

**Trustees:** Wednesday, March 20, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

**Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal:** Thursday, March 21, 7:30 PM

**Support Group:** Friday, March 22, 10:30 AM, Library

### HOLY WEEK SERVICES

#### 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

Last Sunday Dr. Adam Daniels spoke to our congregation about our Church’s Wider Mission project in Guatemala. Your outpouring of generosity has us off to a great start. We have already raised enough money to purchase 14 stoves which is approximately halfway towards our goal.

In addition to the Onil cooking stoves, the Board of Missions is selling dental kits during Coffee Hour. All proceeds will go towards the Onil cooking stoves. The dental kits will be sent to Guatemalan families. We would like to thank the following dentists for their generous donations of the dental kits - Dr. Adam Daniels, Dr. Michael Serow and Dr. Daryl Simms of Vernon, Dr. Frederick Daniels of Tolland and Dr. Mark DiLoreto of New Britain.

If you are interested in doing missions work in Guatemala, Dr. Daniels has offered to help organize a Mission trip in October or any other time you would like to go. Sign up at our table downstairs in Fellowship hall during Coffee Hour. Thank you for your ongoing support. Together we can make a difference.

MUSIC at FIRST

presents

“Irish to the Last Drop”

Sunday, March 24

4 PM

Refreshments to follow

Suggested donation: \$7 adults/\$5 seniors and students

Proceeds benefit the Les Childs Music Scholarship