

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC
March 25, 2012

GATHERING MUSIC "Go Down, Moses" (#663)
"When Will People Cease Their Fighting?" (#675)
Cherry/Parry

CHIMING of the HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. David Minnick
(Please sign the Friendship Register before passing it down the pew.)

BAPTISMAL INTRODUCTIONS – Oliver Wilhelm Beermann and his
parents, Mariah and Adam Beermann; Dominick David Lisowski and his
parents, Sadie Burnett-Pollock and Nicholas Lisowski

PAY IT FORWARD

ACOLYTES Hannah Ramsdell, Nathan Giordano

WORDS OF REFLECTION

Christ Has No Body

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

PRELUDE "Marching to Zion" (#707) Watts/Lowry
INTROIT "Down by the Riverside" Transformers
*CALL to WORSHIP Brianna Markunas

Leader: Welcome all! We gather as our Lenten journey nears its end.

People: Jerusalem is in our sight.

Leader: Start preparing to welcome anew our Savior.

People: Who next week enters the holy city Jerusalem.

Leader: Strengthen us as we walk with Him through the time of trial.

People: So we can glory together in the triumph of Jerusalem.

*OPENING HYMN #705 "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory"

HISTORICAL MOMENT Lynn Sweet

PRAYER of INVOCATION (unison) Kevin Mead

O Redeeming Christ, as in your presence we have gathered to seek your
direction, prepare us to receive your guidance. Open our ears, that we
might distinguish the sound of your call to us. Open our eyes, that we
might see you reaching out to us in love. Loosen our tongues, that we
might proclaim the good news of your grace and speak your truth to the

world. Guide us in the concluding days of Lent that we might know the
trials of holy week and the glory of Easter in the weeks to come. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI (#35 in hymnal)

OFFERTORY "Battle Hymn of the Republic" Howe/Wilhousky

*DOXOLOGY (#46 in hymnal)

*PRAYER of DEDICATION/DEDICATION of MISSION PROJECT (unison)

Bless these gifts O Lord and those who have offered them. We offer them
in anticipation of meeting again as we journey closer to Jerusalem. May
these gifts touch those in need and help your church. We offer them in
the name of the One who journeys before us and continues to walk with
us, Jesus Christ. Amen.

A TIME with the CHILDREN

The LORD'S PRAYER (unison... "debts")

(Children may leave for Sunday School after the Lord's Prayer.)

RESPONSIVE READING Jeremiah 31: 31-34 Lydia Pettigrew

Leader: God says, "The time is coming when I will make a brand-new
covenant with Israel and Judah."

People: "It won't be a repeat of the covenant I made with their
ancestors when I took their hand to lead them out of the land of
Egypt.

Leader: "They broke that covenant even though I did my part as their
Master."

People: "This is the brand new covenant that I will make with Israel
when the time comes."

Leader: "I will put my law within them, I will write it on their hearts, and I
will be their God."

People: And we will be God's people. And all the world will know in a
new way about the wonder and promises of God's love and
grace.

Leader: And God says, "I will wipe the slate clean for all. I'll forget they
ever sinned."

People: And the people of God will know life in new ways-full, abundant
and eternal.

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

Joseph Tobin

Corey Glidden, son of Debbie Marshall

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

ANTHEM "Let This Mind Be in You" Courtney

SCRIPTURE Philippians 2: 5-11

SERMON

*CLOSING HYMN #207 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE "Dona nobis pacem, (Give us peace) from Mass No. 16"
Mozart

*All who are able are invited to stand.

WELCOME TO FCCV!

If you are a first time visitor, please take a moment after the worship service and sign our Guest Book located in the Narthex on the Welcome Table. There you will also find a special Welcome Bag just for you.

Today during **Three Minutes of History**, Lynn Sweet will speak about the Civil War era and the music will be appropriate to that time. Please join us during Coffee Hour where Frank Niederwerfer will be our special guest.

The flowers on the Communion Table are given by the Flower Committee.

Greeters: 7th/8th Grade Sunday School Class

Coffee Hour: Ways & Means Committee

Pay It Forward: What began as a two-week journey in October, 2010 has continued for 18 months! Thanks to generous contributions from members and friends of FCCV, the Pay It Forward program has supported over fifty charities, organizations and individual families in our local community and beyond. Two weeks of funding remains for this short-term effort that **took wings...and flew beyond our expectations!** It is time to say a heartfelt THANK YOU to those who donated, to those whose cards were drawn and thoughtfully accepted the challenge to "pay it forward" (and then share with us the details) and to the congregation who listened and acknowledged the joys of paying it forward. Much has been accomplished and we are thankful. Please know that if additional contributions are made to the program, Pay It Forward can continue or begin again in the not too distant future. Thank You!

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Confirmation Class: 11:30 AM, Library

Communications Committee: 11:30 AM, PF Room

Music @ First Concert -The Rosewood Chamber Ensemble: 4 PM, Sanctuary

TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

Have your **blood pressure checked** by one of our Parish Nurses.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Crafts Group: Monday, March 26, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Golf Committee: Monday, March 26, 7 PM, Library

Men's Club: Tuesday, March 27, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Soup & Scripture: Tuesday, March 27, 6 PM, Chapel

Board of Music: Tuesday, March 27, 6:30 PM, Library

Board of Trustees: Wednesday, March 28, 7 PM, Library

Bell Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, March 29, 6:30 PM, PF Room

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, March 29, 7:30, Choir Room

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

Anniversary Committee: Friday, March 30, 2 PM, Library

One Great Hour of Sharing, the refugee, relief and development offering of the United Church of Christ, transforms lives through health, education, agricultural and emergency relief initiatives in 138 countries. OGHS is the offering that makes real the love of Christ through mission activities in the United States and around the world. An information flyer is included in today's bulletin. A collection will be taken next Sunday, April 1.

Please Note: New "Visitor Parking" signs have been installed in both church parking lots. As a way of welcoming visitors to our church, we ask that you not park in these spots, but leave them for our Sunday morning visitors. Thank you for your cooperation.

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. The award can be used for music lessons, music education or toward the purchase of a musical instrument. Applications may be picked up in the Church Office. Completed applications must be submitted to the Board of Music no later than May 10, 2012. For more information contact musicatfirstfccv@gmail.com.

It's that time of year again when the Nominating Committee is asking church members to give serious thought as to how and where you can offer your services. Many Boards and Committees have vacancies to be filled for the coming year. Anyone with questions or interest should contact Moderator, Tony Muro.

2012 LENTEN SEASON

Music @ First Concert – The Rosewood

Chamber Ensemble

Today, 4 PM in the Sanctuary



Soup and Scripture

Tuesday, March 27, 6-7 PM in the Library, led by Joseph Tobin

Join us for a light meal and scripture.

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 1, 10 AM worship service (no Communion)

Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion and Office of Tenebrae

Thursday, April 5, 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday, April 8

Sunrise Service, 6:15 AM in the Memorial Garden

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

Worship Services at 9 AM and 11 AM

Tag Sale, April 28, sponsored by Youth Fellowship. Please save items you no longer want and donate them to us.

Dear Church Friends, I have appreciated all your good wishes and prayers as I have gone through a hard time since last fall. Today I am happy to say that I feel in control once more. I thank God for his many blessings. I wish you all a very Happy Easter. Love and thanks, Carol Whitney

The **Care Network** is offered by the Deacons as a helping hand during difficult times. If you are in need of a ride to church, the doctor, hospital, grocery store, etc., in need of meals or a visit, please contact Margaret Klukas (643-0710) or Jan Muro (872-1757 or jmoze@hotmail.com). **Volunteers Needed!** The Care Network is looking for volunteers to help with driving. We have had requests for rides to church as well as doctors' appointments. We know that volunteers are not always available when needed, so we need to add more names to our list of drivers. If interested, please contact Jan or Margaret or find us on Sundays at Coffee Hour.

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 for children 12-36 months** old is located downstairs with the classrooms. Donations are gratefully accepted in the free-will offering box.

In Our Ongoing Prayers... Hudson Prewo, son of Erin and Christopher Prewo and grandson of Karen and Karl Prewo; **Ray Turner**, father-in-law of Cheryl Turner recovering from a stroke; **Leanne Connolly; Judy Quinn**, friend of Tony and Jan Muro, diagnosed with breast cancer; **the Boutwell family; Helen Dyar** recovering from a compressive fracture of her lower spine; **Martha Fowler** dealing with cancer; **Ann Garrison; Michael Bebrin**; the **leaders, members and friends of Somers Congregational Church; Todd Lentocho and family** (Todd is the East Hartford police officer injured in an auto accident); **Ellie Cantlin** (Mary Wheeler's sister-in-law) dealing with stomach cancer; **FCCV Search Committee; Mike Swan** undergoing chemo for a reoccurrence of cancer; **Caleb**, son of Jessica Gwara (friend of Annie Longo); **Donna Peacock; Kyle**, son of Rob Czaplicki (friend of Rob Horton); **Joyce Smith; Dolores Tomolonis**, friend of Mary and Jim White, (cancer); **Thelma Gifford; Kaylin Gifford; Rick Gagnon**, brother-in-law of Michelle Bower (cancer); **Warren Clay; Gary Edwards**, friend of Serena Volovski; **Cooper Doyle**, Al and Marilyn Newton's grandson; **Paul and Susan Shimer; Candy Buswell** (heart); **Mary Jo Simonds-Huneger; Horst Pohlmann**, friend of the Gerakaris'; **John Mayhew; John Kaminski**, Susan Moreau's father; **Bess Howe; Jane Morse; Melissa Morse; Charlotte Driggs; Aaron Huneger; Stephen Volovski; Donald Chase; Audrey Clay** (breast cancer)

**2012 FCCV Church-wide Mission Project
MARCH OUT HUNGER
"Neighbors Helping Neighbors in Need"**

Today we conclude our Church-wide Mission Project with a special offering. Envelopes labeled "**Special Offering**" are provided in today's bulletin for your donation. Funds collected will allow the Hockanum Valley Community Council Food Pantry to further meet the needs of the local community.

There is still time to volunteer.

HVCC will be holding Food Drives on April 14 and 15 at Stop & Shop in Vernon and Highland Park Market in Coventry. Sign up during Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall.

The Board of Missions thanks you for your donations and support in helping our neighbors in need.

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Music @ First Concert

The Rosewood Chamber Ensemble
premieres

"The Romantic Generations: Flute and Guitar Music in Europe and America"

Today at 4 PM

A reception will follow the concert.

The members of the Rosewood Chamber Ensemble are Barbara Hopkins, flute and Judy Handler, guitar. This concert will contrast nineteenth century music from both sides of the Atlantic: Diabelli's "Beethoven Potpourri," Paganini, and Schubert versus dance music from the gold mining towns of the American West and our country's first "classical" composers, including Scott Joplin.

A feature of Rosewood concerts is their use of historical instruments and their joy at showing them to the audience.

At this concert, Barbara will play her antique Connecticut-made early American flutes, a European "Romantic" flute, and modern flute.

Judy will play a nineteenth century guitar and a modern classical guitar. More information is available at <http://firstchurchofvernon.org/music.html> or www.BarbaraHopkins.com/Rosewood.htm.

Suggested donation - \$7, \$5 for students and seniors

SPECIAL OFFERING