

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

April 8, 2012

Easter Sunday

GATHERING MUSIC “Finale from Organ Symphony No. 1” Vierne
“Were You There?” arr. Kinyon
“All Glory, Laud and Honor” arr. Kinyon
Joyful Noise Bell Choir

CHIMING of the HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please sign the Friendship Register before passing it down the pew.)

ACOLYTES

PRELUDE “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” Kinyon

WORDS of REFLECTION

The proof that God raised Jesus from the dead is not the empty tomb, but the *full hearts of his transformed disciples*. The crowning evidence that he lives is not a vacant grave, but a *spirit-filled fellowship*. Not a rolled-away stone, but a *carried-away church*. Clarence Jordan

*CALL to WORSHIP 9 AM Debbie Marshall
11 AM Jim Wilson

Leader: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed, alleluia!

Leader: Because the story must be shared,

People: We gather together on this day of resurrection.

Leader: Because Christ lives,

People: We offer our thanks on this day of resurrection.

Leader: Because the love of God knows no limits,

People: We voice our praise on this day of resurrection.

Leader: Because joy fills our spirits,

People: We celebrate this day of resurrection.

All: By the grace and power of God, Christ is risen, and we are set free to live life, full and abundant.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #216 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

O God, we gather to worship this morning because Jesus Christ is risen! Christ lives as our teacher, companion and Savior. We give thanks for your overwhelming love that has conquered death once and for all. It is your love that allows us to live life fully. On this holy day, we give thanks for the lessons of Jesus, who teaches us how to live a risky and unselfish love. We give thanks for the risen Christ, who makes us one with You and one another. And we praise your name for the summoning Christ, who calls us out of the graves of sin to new and eternal life. In the living of our days, may the wonders of the resurrection touch and transform us all. We ask this in the name of Jesus our risen Savior. Amen.

A TIME with the CHILDREN

Rev. Cynthia Carr

The LORD’S PRAYER (*unison*... “debts”)

ANTHEM “See, What a Morning”

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS – the birth of Luke Ulysses Zemek, son of Molly and Alex Zemek and grandson of Frank and Ginny Zemek; Amy Shannon and family on the loss of her father, Don Shannon

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE Matthew 28: 1-10

SERMON HYMN #638 “In the Bulb There Is a Flower”

SERMON The Rev. David Minnick

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Christ Is Risen! Alleluia” Hayes

*EASTER DOXOLOGY

O Jesus, risen now to bless,

Do thou thyself our hearts possess,

That we may give you all our days,

The willing tribute of our praise! Amen

Latin, 5th century, translated by John Neale

*PRAYER of DEDICATION (*unison*)

May these gifts bear witness to our faith in You and our confidence in your forgiving love for all. Thank you for answering our prayers and providing for our salvation. With these gifts, we hope to extend the good news of Easter beyond the walls for all to glory in. We offer these in the name of our risen Savior. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #218 “Thine Is the Glory”

EASTER COMMISSION

Pastor: Take the good news of Easter into your everyday world.

People: Christ is risen. In Christ, life triumphs over death.

Pastor: May this special day make all your days special from now on.

People: All our days are God’s gifts to us; we will rejoice and be glad in them.

Pastor: The first disciples saw and believed; let us, like them, carry the message to others.

People: By God’s grace and power, life eternal begins today. Alleluia!

BENEDICTION “Hallelujah Chorus” Handel

POSTLUDE “Festival Toccata” P. Fletcher

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

The lilies and daffodils are given by the church family and arranged by the Flower Committee.

Joyful Noise Bell Choir: Dave Bower, Michelle Bower, Jane Burr, Erin Diette, Kate Fowler, Margaret Klukas, Serena Volovski

The Carillon Singers are joining with the Sanctuary Choir in singing the Offertory and Hallelujah Chorus.

Brass Trio: Jim Montlick, Erin Diette, Peter Melander

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.

Greeters: Women's Fellowship and the Ushering Committee

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Book Signing: Monday, April 9, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall. Rev. Peter Brenner will be talking about and signing his book Behind the Smile: Orphaned by Hitler's Madness.

May CARILLON Deadline Tuesday, April 10

Men's Club: Tuesday, April 10, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Golf Committee: Tuesday, April 10, 6:30 PM, Library

Prayer Shawl Group: Wednesday, April 11, 1 PM, Library

Council: Wednesday, April 11, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall. Agenda items should be submitted to Moderator Tony Muro no later than today.

Missions: Wednesday, April 11, 7 PM, Library

BCE: Wednesday, April 11, 7 PM, Chapel

S & E: Wednesday, April 11, 7 PM, Quilters' Corner

Bell Choir: Thursday, April 12, 6:30 PM, PF Room

Sanctuary Choir: Thursday, April 12, 7:30 PM, Choir Room

Support Group: Friday, April 13, 10:30 AM, Library

Craft Central: Saturday, April 14, 9 AM-1PM, 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. 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.

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

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.

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.

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.

Wanted! Knitters and Crocheters: We are looking for people who would be willing to knit or crochet a shawl to help build up our supply. Please join us on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1 PM in the Library or feel free to make one at home. Questions? Contact Joan Apel, 860-875-7239 or Nancy Parker, 860-872-9069 or quiltblockcreations@yahoo.com.

Want to Meet New People? Volunteer to Serve! Whether it's welcoming others at the door before the Worship Service or providing a baked good or snack, making coffee or setting up and cleaning up after Coffee Hour, volunteers are needed. A sign up sheet is posted on the refrigerator in the kitchen. All help is welcome.

In Our Ongoing Prayers... the **Fagan family** on the death of Martin Fagan; **Corey Glidden**, son of Debbie Marshall; **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 Lentocha 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** dealing with 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**; **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)