

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

April 22, 2012

GATHERING MUSIC "Organ Concerto, I, IV" Handel
"Park Street" Ashford

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Joseph Tobin
(Please sign the Friendship Register before passing it down the pew.)

PAY IT FORWARD
CHIMING of the HOUR
ACOLYTES
WORDS of REFLECTION

"Indeed, a quick glance around this broken world makes it painfully obvious that we don't need more arguments on behalf of God; we need more people who live as if they are in covenant with Unconditional Love, which is our best definition of God." Robin R. Meyers, *Saving Jesus from the Church: How to Stop Worshiping Christ and Start Following Jesus*

PRELUDE "All Glory to the Sun" Tchaikovsky
*CALL to WORSHIP Jan Muro

Leader: Let all in this place be filled with joy for you are loved by God!

People: No one here will be left out---God's love is for everyone!

Leader: Come now and worship. Let nothing hinder you.

People: God sees us and loves us just as we are. Let us worship God now together.

*OPENING HYMN #517 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

PRAYER of INVOCATION (unison)

Holy God, it is a privilege to be gathered in this place for no other purpose than to worship you. We honor you as Creator, and thus remember that we are part of your story and your history. We praise you as Sustainer, and thus renew our gratitude for all you provide and the abundance of blessings you give, as well as recall our responsibility to share generously and joyfully with others. We bless you as Redeemer, and thus rejoice that we live as forgiven people. Thank you that you continue to speak, to make yourself known to us and to reveal your purpose for this world. Thank you for inviting us to be part of what you are doing, and as we encounter you this morning, impress upon our hearts the response you desire from us. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 4

*GLORIA PATRI I (#35 in hymnal)

ANTHEM "Glorious Risen Christ!" M. Hayes

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Deacons Larry Bares and Mary Wheeler
Parental and Sponsors' Vows
Congregational Vow

Leader: (Question ends with "faithful service in Christ's Church?")

People: We will with joy.

Baptism of Oliver Wilhelm Beermann and Dominick David Lisowski
Baptismal prayer and giving of gifts

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS – Dayle Marshall, mother of Debbie Marshall, in the hospital in Tennessee; the firstborn son of Anna and John Henderson (first grandchild of Richard Bryant's nephew)

PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER (unison... "debts")

PRAYER RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE Gospel Reading Luke 24: 36b-48

Epistle Reading 1 John 3: 1-7

*HYMN #582 "Come Down, O Love Divine"

SERMON Rev. Cynthia Carr

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Serena Volovski, soloist

*DOXOLOGY (#46 in hymnal)

*PRAYER of DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN #585 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

BENEDICTION (unison)

We are a chosen people, called for the purpose of being sent. Go, therefore, to shine the light of Christ into the darkness, to speak truth to falsehood, to love in the midst of hatred and to live as those who belong to another. In the power and promise of the Triune God, Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE "March of Victory" G. Blake

*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.

We rejoice in the baptism of Oliver Wilhelm Beermann, son of Mariah and Adam Beermann and Dominick David Lisowski, son of Sadie Burnett-Pollack and Nicholas Lisowski. Welcome to Oliver's sponsors, Melissa Basch and Bill Basch and to Dominick's sponsors, Marissa Fujimoto and Philip Gorski.

Greeters and Coffee Hour: Women's Fellowship and the Ushering Committee

Pay It Forward: Today we feature Ron Burr. The blessings that have benefited because of you are on display in Fellowship Hall.

TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

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

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Sunday School - Earth Day Today. There will be no Children's Message. All children will meet in Fellowship Hall. Classes will be split up to work on the church grounds. If it's raining, we have an inside project for the children.

Transformers Rehearsal: 11:30 AM, Choir Room

Confirmation Class and Sponsors: We will meet at 11:15 AM in Kellogg Hall for lunch and discussion on funerals and death before going to Ladd Turkington Funeral Home. We'll return to FCCV around 1:15-1:30 PM.

**"LETTERS FROM LIZZIE"
TODAY
2 PM in the Sanctuary
Refreshments to follow
FREE!**

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Crafts Group: Monday, April 23, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Men's Club: Tuesday, April 24, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Board of Music: Tuesday, April 24, 6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

Trustees: Wednesday, April 25, 7 PM, Library

Bell Choir: Thursday, April 26, 6:30 PM, PF Room

Sanctuary Choir: Thursday, April 26, 7:30 PM, Choir Room

Support Group: Friday, April 27, 10:30 AM, Library

Broadway Rehearsal: Saturday, April 28, 9:30 AM - 1PM, Sanctuary

Youth Fellowship Tag Sale, April 28: Items can now be dropped off in Fellowship Hall behind the yellow/white wall when the church is open. Youth are needed Friday night, April 27 at 5:30 PM to help sort and set up items and on April 28 to help at the Tag Sale from 8:30 AM-2:30 PM.

Teacher/Shepherd/ Youth Advisor Appreciation Breakfast: This breakfast provides us an opportunity to thank those who have worked with our children and youth throughout the year. Breakfast items are needed. Sign up in Fellowship Hall today or next Sunday, April 29. Questions? Contact Debbie Bartos at ctdebbie@sbcglobal.net.

Giv2 (youth in 6th-12th grade): May 6 from 1-4 PM at FCCV. We'll be doing yard work. Bring work gloves, rakes, flowers, etc.

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.

Evening Circle: Monday, May 7, 7 PM in Fellowship Hall. We are holding an "Awful, Awful Auction." For those who have not attended before, you bring an item (in good condition) that you do not want and we auction it off. If you place the winning bid, you pay for it with play money that is given to you prior to the auction, plus you can earn more. Come, join us for a FUN evening. Call Pat Lazeran, 860-644-0475, if you have any questions and to let us know you are coming so we can plan for refreshments.

Reminder: Agenda items for the May 2 Council meeting should be submitted to Moderator Tony Muro no later than Sunday, April 29.

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.

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.

Please Wear Your Name Tag! Reach out in fellowship by wearing your name tag. If you need one, please contact the Church Office, fccv@snet.net or (860)875-7580.

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . . Stephen Volovski at Foxhill with a broken knee; **Jim White**, Linda Shivers' father; **Ann Garrison**; **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; **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**; **Donald Chase**; **Audrey Clay** (breast cancer)

WANT to PARTICIPATE in PAY IT FORWARD?

Here's how it works. This is strictly voluntary.

- Write your name on a blank index card or a piece of paper and place it in the offering basket or the Pay It Forward box located on the table in Fellowship Hall. Index cards are located on the table at the back of the Sanctuary or on the table in Fellowship Hall.
- Each week a winner is selected. You must be in attendance during the worship service to receive the Pay It Forward gift. The winner receives a \$50 bill that they may do with as they wish, as long as the money is given to a worthy charity, cause, family or person in need in the community.

The winner returns the following week to share with the congregation what they chose to do with the \$50 gift. The winner then selects a person who will have the opportunity to share a blessing next week

Broadway at First and Death by Chocolate

Saturday, April 28 at 7 PM

Broadway Musicals
*South Pacific, Les Misérables, Showboat
Lion King, The King and I and more!*

Performed by
the Sanctuary Choir, the Carillon Singers and Soloists

Concert Followed by

Delicious, Decadent, Chocolate Desserts
(other goodies will be available for those who can't eat chocolate)

Save The Date!

**FCCV Golf Event
Saturday, June 2**

Willow Brook Golf Course in South Windsor

**Be a player: \$80 per person if you register by June 1
\$95 per person after June 1**

Donate an item for raffle, silent auction or live auction

Be a sponsor:

Hole Sponsors	\$50
Contest Sponsors	\$100
Greens Flags Sponsors	\$150
Lunch Sponsors	\$200 and up
Advertising	\$25

Spread the word. Plan to attend. Tell a friend.

**For information on sponsorship opportunities
contact Paul Shimer and Harmon Howe.**

Visit with us during Coffee Hour and try out your putting skills.

RAFFLE PRIZES Needed!

The success of our Golf Event is an integral part of our 2012 operating budget, not to mention that it is certain to be a fun day for all! We count on the support of church members, friends of the church and the community at large to make this event a huge success. One way you can assist is by donating a raffle prize. Raffle prize ideas include: gift certificates/cards to local restaurants and businesses, theme gift baskets, tickets to athletic events, a weekend getaway, golf-related items, etc. We are also looking for a few "show stopper" items, such as a handmade quilt or a week's vacation at a golfing location.

How can you help?

- Personally donate a prize
- Arrange for your business to donate a prize
- Solicit a business you frequent to donate a prize

If you have any questions or wish to make a donation, please contact Holly Boutwell at 872-6359 (evenings) or hollyboutwell@comcast.net. Many thanks!