

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

April 27, 2014

PRELUDE "In a Peaceful Glen" Birchwood
"Wildflowers Are Blooming" Moore
"Woodland Meditation" Nolte
"Psalm XX" Young

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PAY IT FORWARD

ACOLYTES

*CALL to WORSHIP *(responsive)* Jim Wilson

Leader: Praise be to God,

People: **Who rescues us from the power of darkness;
who redeems us, and sets us free!**

Leader: Praise be to Jesus Christ, the first born of all creation,

People: **Through whom all things were made, in heaven and on the earth.**

Leader: Praise be to the Spirit of God,

People: **Whose presence sustains us, and whose breath renews all creation.**

Leader: Behold! I am making all things new!

People: **Come, O God, and make your home among us.**

Pour out your spirit and renew the face of the earth.

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

PRAYER of INVOCATION *(unison)*

How very good and pleasant it is, O God, to be drawn together by you as brothers and sisters in Christ on this day. Pour your empowering Spirit upon us, that the message we proclaim may become more than words upon a page. Help us this hour to listen for and lean toward your voice which speaks beyond the words we utter. Move us past our doubts that we might step forward with a faith that does not end when we leave this place. This we pray in the name of the One for whom you rolled away the stone. 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

The LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

Our Father, who 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 "For the Beauty of the Earth" J. Rutter

SCRIPTURE 1 Peter 1:3-9

SERMON

Rev. Robin Bird

*HYMN #529 "I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me"

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY "How Great Thou Art" S. Hine

*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

*CLOSING HYMN #218 "Thine Is the Glory"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Praise to the Living God" Ritter

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

Join us for coffee and conversation after the service in Fellowship Hall.

The flowers on the Communion Table are given in celebration of Madeline Condry's 12th birthday by Jen and Tim Condry.

Greeters and Coffee Hour: Board of Finance

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

Eleanor Sweet; Gerry Dyar; Jan Peacock; Julie, ex-daughter-in-law of Joanne and Andy Myer, suffering from stage 4 cancer; Nicole Cartier; Bob O'Gara; Bonnie Brenner; Carol Shea; Marge Salmon; Bobby Kelley, Kathy Bainbridge's brother; Stephen Kasevich; Will and Diane Livermore; Susan Shimer; Nancy Bailey; Sonja (Marlene) Mayhew; Lorrie Dobson; Ben Savage; Lillian Burnett; Debbie Chase; Will Fisher and Jessica Surratt; E.G. and Donna Harvin; Adeline McGee; Chantelle Fuller; Pat Lazeren; Gail Occhialini; Kim Burnham; Alan and Jayne Chesterton; Betty Worden; Mason Bower; Debbie Marshall; Jeanine Uthgenannt; Michael Turner; Candy Buswell; Rachel Meneses; Lois Montlick; Donna Peacock; Arianna Saegaert; the people of Syria, including the family of Tarek Eid; Ruth Woodcock and her daughter Sarah; Deborah Costello; Richard Brooke; Ray Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Thelma Gifford; Cooper Doyle; Horst Pohlmann; John Kaminski; Bess Howe; Melissa Morse; Charlotte Driggs.

New additions in bold print

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

TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

Blanket Sunday, Mother's Day, May 11: Purchase a blanket "in honor" or "in memory" of a special woman in your life. Just \$5 will purchase a sturdy, wool blanket through Church World Services. These blankets are used in the United States and abroad in times of need and disaster. **Place your order during Coffee Hour today or next Sunday, May 4.**

If you ordered **Gift Cards** you may pick them up at the Scrip-Your-All table.

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Memorial Garden Committee: 11:15 AM, PF Room

Confirmation Class: 11:30 AM, Library

Audit Committee: 11:30 AM, Quilters' Corner

Nominating Committee: 11:30 AM, Sanctuary

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Board of Music: Monday, April 28, 7 PM, Library

Golf Committee: Monday, April 28, 7 PM, Chapel

Bible Study: Tuesday, April 29, 11 AM, Library

Finance: Wednesday, April 30, 7 PM, Library

Theology on Tap: Thursday, May 1, 6 PM at R House Restaurant

Sanctuary Choir: Thursday, May 1, 7:30 PM, Sanctuary

Support Group: Friday, May 2, 10:30 AM, Library

Vacation Bible School, June 23-27 from 9 AM-noon at Rockville United Methodist Church, Grove Street, Vernon with Family Night held here on Thursday, June 26.

This year's theme is "Workshop of Wonders, Imagine & Build with God."

Registration forms are available by contacting Linda Shivers or Deb Hockenberry or by stopping by the Church Office. **VBS volunteers are needed** to teach and assist in all areas. Are you retired, a teacher on summer break, working part-time, a grandparent, aunt, uncle, mom or dad? Do you want to do something that is extraordinarily rewarding and will only take a week of your time (about 4 hours a day)? Training will be provided. All volunteers will need to fill out a volunteer form and those over 18 years of age are required to have a background check. Please consider joining us and supporting our children in their Christian faith. Contact Linda Shivers- 860-871-9164 or necsvga@aol.com, if interested or with any questions.

Women's Fellowship Scholarship: This \$500 scholarship is available to any church member who is continuing their education. Applications may be picked up

in the Church Office and should be returned to the Women's Fellowship mailbox by May 31.

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,** located downstairs in the Kellogg wing, is open for **children 12 months to 3 years old.**

Our **Pictorial Directory** is here! If you participated in the Directory, your free copy has been reserved and can be picked up during Coffee Hour. If you did not participate, you can still receive a Pictorial Directory for a \$5 donation. There is a limited number of extra directories available, so pick up yours today before they disappear!

Raffle Prizes needed for FCCV's 6th Annual Golf Tournament on June 7

The success of this event is an integral part of our 2014 operating budget, not to mention that it is certain to be a fun day for all! We are counting 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 help is by donating a raffle prize. Raffle prize ideas can include: gift certificates/cards to local restaurants and businesses, theme gift baskets, tickets to athletic events, a weekend getaway, golf-related items, etc. Consider, perhaps, purchasing a gift card from our Scrip-Your-All table to donate. FCCV benefits from the original purchase, as well as the donated card!

The **Scrip-Your-All** program has added additional gift cards for purchase during Coffee Hour. Spring is here! You can help FCCV while sprucing up your yard, gardens or house as we now have Lowe's or Home Depot gift cards on hand at the Scrip-Your-All table! We also have iTunes, Rave movie theater, Ninety-Nine Restaurants, Dunkin Donuts and Panera cards, along with the standard grocery and pharmacy cards! Thank you to all you are participating, and we hope that others will consider doing so! Visit ShopWithScrip.com (enrollment code F2F1CF113843L) or stop by the Scrip-Your-All table during coffee hour for more information.

Reminder: FCCV records its Sunday worship services. These services are available for viewing on a one-week delay on Comcast Community Voice Channel 5, Sunday mornings at 10 AM and Monday evenings at 6 PM. Check your local listings or go to www.CVCCT.org for the dates and times of showings of other FCCV events. Full length DVDs of the services are also available for borrowing in the Library.

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, contact Jan Muro (872-1757 or jmoze@hotmail.com) or Jon Dunlap (875-7254).

Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus discount tickets are available for church groups for selected shows at the XL Center in Hartford. See the poster on the bulletin board across from the Church Office for more information. If interested, please contact Rev. Robin Bird before May 1.

2014 FCCV Golf Event



Be a Player! June 7

Willow Brook Golf Course
South Windsor

- You and three friends
- You, your spouse and another couple
- You by yourself (we'll match you with other singles)

\$95 per golfer
(\$100 after June 1)

Please contact any Golf Committee member:
Paul & Sue Shimer, Mike & Elly Swan, Harmon Howe, Holly
Boutwell, Phyllis Chase