

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

May 3, 2015

Holy Communion

PRELUDE “Jesus Is All the World to Me” Broughton
 “O How I Love Jesus” Rasley
 “Fill Our Hearts with Wondrous Love” Moore

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL to WORSHIP**

Ann Harford

Leader: In the presence of God,

People: We are filled with hope,

Leader: We are overwhelmed by love,

People: We sense a holy mystery.

Leader: In the presence of the God,

People: We stand in awe,

Leader: We fall on our knees,

People: We are made new.

Leader: In the presence of God,

People: We lift our voices in songs of joyful praise.

***OPENING HYMN #420** “I Come with Joy”

PRAYER of INVOCATION

God of love and life, speak to us today in word and silence, in song and prayer. Lead us to a greater awareness of your presence. Fill us with your peace and power, and touch us with your grace, so we may know your life-giving love and share it with the world. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

CALL to PRAYER

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

WORDS of INSTITUTION

BREAKING the BREAD and SHARING the CUP

(Gluten-free bread is available. Please indicate your preference to a Deacon. Please hold the elements until all are served.)

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

Loving God, we thank you for refreshing our souls with this remembrance of your love. By your Holy Spirit, strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another and send us out into the world to do your will, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

SCRIPTURE 1 John 4:7-21

SERMON

Rev. Meg Watson

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“How Beautiful”

Twila Paris

***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 #494** “They’ll Know We Are Christians”

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Allegro and Fugue”

Mendelssohn

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

The flowers on the Communion Table are given in honor of Hannah Ramsdell’s 16th birthday by her dad, Randy Ramsdell.

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.

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

Lillian Morse, daughter of Jim and Heidi Morse, recovering from eye surgery; the **family of Hal Cummings** on his death; Rachel Meneses, Debi Hockenberry's cousin; Irene Mias, Greg's mother, in rehab; Joyce Smith; Debbie Chase; Phyllis Chase; Mike Lazeren; Becky Burr; Deborah Liebl; Gilmay Markunas and family; Pat Lazeren; Margaret Klukas; Karen Rowell; Gail Brewer; David and Elizabeth Hollister; Jack Allen; Bobby Dwire; Warren Little; Frederick Burgess; Tom Fitzgerald; Melinda Singh; Bess Howe; Paul Westerberg; people struggling with mental illness; Sharon Lacey; Ed Rockland, Bettye Kramer's brother-in-law; Maggie and David Minnick; the people of Syria, including the family of Tarek Eid; Heidi Howie; Steve Bright; Pat Melville; Wendy Parker; Rachel Andrews; Cindy Madden; Carol Shea; Bobby Kelley; Susan Shimer; Nancy Bailey; Lillian Burnett; Will Fisher and Jessica Surratt; E.G. and Donna Harvin; Adeline McGee; Kim Burnham; Mason Bower; Debbie Marshall; Jeanine Uthgenannt; Michael Turner; Candy Buswell; Donna Peacock; Richard Brooke; Ray Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Thelma Gifford; Cooper Doyle; Horst Pohlmann; John Kaminski

New additions in bold print

Greeters and Coffee Hour: Board of Christian Education and Teaching Parish Committee

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

The **Nominating Committee** will be meeting after church today. Grab a cup of coffee and meet us in the Library around 11:20 AM. Additional meetings are planned for Sunday, May 17 in the Quilters' Corner and Sunday, May 24 in the Library also at 11:20 AM. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Sweet at 860-875-3172 or tsweetasc@aol.com.

J*Walkrz: 3:30 PM, PF Room

TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

Blanket Sunday, Mother's Day, May 10: Today is the **last day** to 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.

The **Silent Auction**, which is a part of the Golf Event to benefit FCCV starts today before and after the worship service in Fellowship Hall and will continue each Sunday through June 7 (except for May 24). Check out all the offerings and place a bid. **We need items for the auction and the raffle.** Please consider donating a service or item (i.e. babysitting, yardwork, dinner, a solo, gift certificate, day with the mayor). Any questions, contact Gaile Dembeck at 860-871-1265 or kurtgaile@sbcglobal.net.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

The **deadline** for Boards and Committees to submit reports for the **Annual Report** for the Annual Organizational Meeting in June is **Monday, May 4** - no exceptions, please. Reports should be turned in to Nancy in the Church Office. Thank you!

Men's Group: Tuesday, May 5, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Bible Study: Tuesday, May 5, 11 AM, Library

Council: Wednesday, May 6, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Theology on Tap: Thursday, May 7, 6 PM, R House Restaurant

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

Support Group: Friday, May 8, 10:30 AM, Library

Plant Sale: Saturday, May 9, FCCV parking lot, sponsored by Ways & Means

Ham Dinner: Friday, May 29, 5:30-7:30 PM, sponsored by the Ways & Means Committee. Menu: ham, baked beans, cole slaw, scalloped corn (Geraldine Strong's recipe), dessert and beverage. Cost - \$10. An alternate children's menu will be available.

Vacation Bible School will be held here at FCCV July 6-10 from 9 AM to 12 PM. Cost is \$20 per child, \$40 max per family. Registration forms are available in the Church Office, DCE Office and on the Sunday School bulletin board. Deadline for sign up is May 30! If you have questions, contact Debi Hockenberry at 860-712-6466 or dir.christian.ed@firstchurchofvernon.org.

The Nominating Committee is responsible for helping our Boards and Committees find members to fill any open positions that may exist year-to-year. If you would like to serve on any Board or Committee, please contact Tom Sweet, Moderator, at 860-875-3172.

Ongoing Sunday School Mission: We're collecting pre-packaged, non-perishable snacks and juice boxes for kids in Vernon who may not have a snack when they get home from school. Donations may be left in the box outside the DCE Office door.

Play Ball! Fore!

Today we kick off our 2015 FCCV Golf Event.

Please join us in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour.

- Participate in the 50/50 putting contest
- Preview and purchase tickets for Raffle prizes
- Place bids on Silent Auction items
- Sign up your foursome (or just yourself) to play on June 13
- Sponsor a tee sign and/or the luncheon
- Donate an item for the Raffle and/or the Silent Auction
- Volunteer to help!