

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

May 19, 2013

Confirmation ~ Pentecost Sunday

GATHERING MUSIC "Holy Spirit, Faithful Guide" R. Hughes
"A Simple Confession" F. Thome
"Holy Spirit, Fill Me Now" L. Smith

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER YOUTH MISSION TRIPS Martha Fowler

ACOLYTES Ricky Clay, GloryAnna Hockenberry

PRELUDE "Spirit of Life, In This New Dawn" L. Warriner

*CALL to WORSHIP (responsive) Julia Assard

Leader: As Children of God, we gather together because God has called us!

People: We come alive to the Holy Spirit's energy here among us.

Leader: On the first Christian Pentecost, there were surprises: the rush of a violent wind and tongues of fire. What will happen if we let the Holy Spirit fill us inside and out?

People: The power of the Holy Spirit will call us to new ventures, to new risks. The Holy Spirit invites us to a higher quality of life!

All: On this Pentecost and always, we know God will guide our search for truth. We can receive God's surprises; we can be moved to speak and act in new ways. We welcome the Holy Spirit and will prayerfully step into God's vision for us!

*OPENING HYMN #75 "I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"

PRAYER of INVOCATION (unison) Brianna Markunas

Loving Shepherd, you draw us together and call us, individually and in community, to new ventures. We ask for strength and courage to draw any fragments of our lives together into a meaningful whole. Please help us deal with present concerns in constructive ways and yet point us beyond ourselves to engage with you in larger issues. We welcome the help of your Holy Spirit at all times in our lives, and prayerfully step into your vision for us. Your will be done, Loving God. In Christ's name we pray. Amen

UNISON READING UCC Statement of Faith (insert) Kevin Mead

*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 Acts 2: 1-21 Sarah Kline

MEDITATION Rev. Joanne Myer

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS Kevin Mead

MORNING PRAYER

The LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

Julia Assard

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

THE RITE of CONFIRMATION

Linda Shivers and Joanne Myer

AFFIRMATION of BAPTISM

PRESENTATION of BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES by PARENTS

CONFIRMATION of CANDIDATES

CONFIRMATION PRAYER

WELCOME and CHURCH COVENANT (insert)

CALL to OFFERING

Sarah Kline

OFFERTORY "Come, Holy Spirit, Like the Wind" Beall/Carter

*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 (unison)

Brianna Markunas

Eternal God, we come with assurance because you do not leave us on our own but are with us always. Your presence continues to help us and guide us. As we offer our gifts to you, please accept them as signs of our commitment to Christ Jesus. May all that we do be in praise of your love. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #356 "We, Your People, God Confessing" (vs. 1, 2 & 4)

ACOLYTES

Ryan Moreau, Ashley Markunas

BENEDICTION

Our Newest Members

(These young adults are an example for all of us to take the Light of Christ out into the world to continue God's vision of shalom for the world. May God bless and keep them.)

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

"The Glory of the Spirit"

L. Smith

*All who are able are invited to stand.

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!

Sunday School students start in their classrooms today.

When a child is baptized, the parents, with the support of the church, make a promise to do their best to raise their son/daughter in the Christian faith. The handing of the baptismal certificate to their son/daughter symbolizes the diminishing role of the parents as the youth now takes on the responsibility of his/her faith journey.

The Confirmation Sponsor's role is to mentor, support and aid the Confirmand during the Confirmation program.

The red rose given by the Sponsors to the Confirmands symbolizes the Holy Spirit descending on the Disciples with flames of fire alighting above their head. This is a sign to the Disciples to spread the Christian message throughout the world.

The pink rose given by the Confirmands to their Sponsors symbolizes their gratitude and appreciation for their role during this past year.

The yellow roses on the piano are given in loving memory and in honor of those who could not be with us at this milestone in our faith journey...

James Dolan, *grandpa of Julia Assard*

David Frank Hockenberry, *grandpa of GloryAnna Hockenberry*

Raymond Markunas, *grandpa of Brianna Markunas*

Kenneth Mead, *uncle of Kevin Mead*

Gilmay Dubois, *grandma of Brianna Markunas, too ill to attend today*

“Those we love don't go away, They walk beside us every day, Unseen, unheard, but always near, Still loved, still missed and very dear.”

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

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

The people of Boston and West, Texas; the Search Committee; Margaret Klukas' sister, Roberta; Steve Bright; Rachel Meneses, cousin of the Hockenberrys; Jim Anderson, friend of Bob Shoemaker; Lois Montlick; Janet Boucher; Marine Corps Lance Corporal Steven Carr and his wife, Angel Hockenberry Carr; Donna Peacock; Arianna Saegaert; Libby Ann Parker; the people of Syria, including the family of Tarek Eid; Ruth Woodcock and her daughter Sarah; Will Livermore; Dick Saich; Mike Swan; Claudette and Art Weingart; Pat Lazeren; Meredith Ross; Deborah Costello; Richard Brooke; Stephen Volovski; Ray Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Joyce Smith; Thelma Gifford; Cooper Doyle; Paul and Susan Shimer; Candy Buswell; Mary Jo Simonds-Huneger; Horst Pohlmann; John Mayhew; John Kaminski; Bess Howe; Jane Morse; Melissa Morse; Charlotte Driggs; Aaron Huneger; Donald Chase

New additions in bold print

TODAY DURING COFFE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

Munson Candy and Mission Stock for sale. Help support our Youth Mission projects.

Golf Tournament Silent Auction: Place your bids today and next Sunday or at the Golf Tournament on June 1.

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Memorial Garden: 11:15 AM, Library

Music @ First – James Burr, organist: 4 PM in the Sanctuary

Youth Fellowship: 5-6:30 PM, Library

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Men's Club: Tuesday, May 21, 6:30 AM at the Vernon Diner

Craft Group: Tuesday, May 21, 6 PM, Fellowship Hall

Finance: Tuesday, May 21, 7 PM, Library

Furnishings & Memorials: Tuesday, May 21, 7 PM, Chapel

Search Committee: Wednesday, May 22, 6:30 PM, Chapel

Trustees: Wednesday, May 22, 7 PM, Library

Stewardship & Evangelism: Wednesday, May 22, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Sanctuary Choir: Thursday, May 23, 7:30 PM, Sanctuary

Support Group: Friday, May 24, 10:30 AM, Library

There is no Sunday School next Sunday, May 26 but the Toddler Room will be open and staffed.

Associate Pastor Position On-line: To view the listing for our Associate Pastor, go to www.UCC.org, then click on the topics below. Quick links >> Ministerial Resources>>UCC Employment Opportunities >> UCC Ministry Opportunities On-line. You can then search by location (CT), find our listing and click View Details.

Congratulations to Michael Leonard, the newest Eagle Scout of Boy Scout Troop 86! Michael is the son of Brad and Laurie Leonard and a member of our church.

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. Deadline for applying is May 31.

Summer Sunday School is in need of teachers and assistants. It is one class for ages 3 years-5th grade. A sign-up sheet will be posted by the Library. Curriculum will be provided.

Vacation Bible School, June 24-28: There are still openings for children ages 3 years-5th grade. Registration forms are available on the bulletin board in the hallway near the Library, from the Church Office or contact Linda Shivers or Debi Hockenberry.

Please Note: Our Interim Associate Pastor Rev. Joanne Myer's office hours will vary week to week and she will be covering for Rev. Meg Watson during her time away. If you cannot reach Joanne at the Church Office, you may always reach her at home, 860-872-9222.

Can and Bottle Fundraiser: June 1, sponsored by the Youth Mission Group. Please drop donations off at the FCCV parking lot (Center Road side) between 9:30 AM-12 noon that day.

TODAY

during Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall

SILENT AUCTION

Place your bids today and next Sunday, May 26
or at the **Golf Tournament** on June 1

Zulu Nyala – 6-day photo Safari in South Africa

2-day stay at Breakfast on the Connecticut Inn in Lyme, NH
(owned and donated by Donna and John Anderson)

Several Spectacular Quilts

(handmade by church member, Nancy Parker)

Dinner at Katie's Café, Ogunquit, ME

(owned and donated by Donna and John Anderson)

2 Water Color Paintings

(by church member Fran Discount)

Truro Wine Collection

Photos by Paul Shimer

RAFFLE

Buy your tickets in advance of the Golf Tournament

For more information on the Silent Auction and Raffle,
see Holly Boutwell

Music at First
presents
James Burr, organist

TODAY
4 PM

Sunday Matinee: Classical Goes to the Movies
featuring the William Tell Overture, Scheherazade,
variations on the Star Spangled Banner
and many more great and familiar pieces

Suggested Donation: \$7 adults/\$5 seniors and students
Proceeds benefit the Les Childs Memorial Scholarship

UCC STATEMENT of FAITH

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify. You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in Holy love to save all the people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles. In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior.

You have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself. You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joys of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others. To proclaim your gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm, which has no end. Blessings and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

CHURCH COVENANT

We believe in God and hold a deep and abiding love for Our Savior, Jesus Christ. We are willing to be guided by the Holy Spirit as it is revealed to us in Scripture and through prayerful discernment.

We are a faith community. As members of this Body of Christ, we

- proclaim the good news of Christ's resurrection and the freedom of new life for all who follow in his ways;
- share God's love with others by reaching out to those in need; and
- continue to deepen our knowledge and understanding of God's call in our lives.

With the help of God and this Body of Christ, we covenant to do our best to follow Christ's example and embrace the Great Commandment, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself," and his new Commandment, "Love one another." As we journey together, we promise to care and pray for one another, ever mindful that we are to lift up one another with dignity and Christian love.

We will support this Body of Christ to the best of our ability, through participation in worship, sacraments, work, programs and events, financial commitment, mission and fellowship. We promise to work together to strengthen the ministries of First Congregational Church of Vernon, United Church of Christ, and deepen our commitment as a faith community that is welcoming and accessible to all.

The **By-Laws Revision Committee** needs your input! FCCV members Tony Muro, Karl Prewo, Hal Cummings and Tom Sweet have begun to review the church by-laws to determine what changes or corrections need to be made to insure our church organizational guideline is current as we move forward. To complete this process, we need input from each Board/Committee. July 1 ushers in our new organizational year with new Board/Committee members. We ask each Board/Committee to look at the section of the by-laws that pertains to them so we can have further discussion this fall. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Tom Sweet, 860-875-3172 or tsweetasc@aol.com.

Women's Fellowship Retreat: Just a reminder that the first payment of \$56.50 is due June 1. Please make your check payable to Women's Fellowship and mail to Millie Oliphant, 30 Crestridge Dr. Vernon, CT 06066. If you have not signed up yet there is still time to do so on the Women's Fellowship bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Come join us for the fun.

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.

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).

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.

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**.

Acolytes Needed! To all parents of Sunday School children...if your child would like to be an acolyte, please contact Delythe Kracke at DelytheK@yahoo.com or (860) 872-3004.

Reminder: FCCV has been video recording its complete Sunday services since 2004. These worship services, edited to 58 minutes, 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 concerts and events. Full length DVDs of the services are also available for borrowing in the Library