

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC
May 20, 2012

GATHERING MUSIC

“Prayer from Christ Ascending to His Father” from The Ascension

Messiaen

“It Is Well with My Soul”

Ritter/Bliss

“Built on a Rock”

Broughton

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Cynthia Carr

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

CHIMING of the HOUR

ACOLYTES

WORDS of REFLECTION

“Don’t ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive and then go do that. Because what the world needs is people who come alive.”

- Howard Thurman

PRELUDE “A Joyous Air”

Purcell/Spong

***CALL to WORSHIP**

Barb Melander

Leader: We gather today to remember our history and heritage,

People: To take our place in the long line of history.

Leader: Remembering the vision and sacrifices of our ancestors,

People: That we would have a sacred home to gather in and a mission to pursue.

Leader: May our worship today inspire and guide us to a new vision for the days to come,

People: So that our children and our grandchildren will look at our efforts with pride and thanksgiving.

Leader: Embolden us good God, to be ever faithful in our pursuits of discipleship.

People: And bless us to leave a legacy of faith, hope and love by the living of our days.

***OPENING HYMN #272 “The Church’s One Foundation”**

PRAYER of INVOCATION (unison)

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come. To you, we offer praise and thanksgiving for the blessings of the years gone by, for the wonder of this new day when your children gather together, and for the days still yet to come, full of wonder and possibility. Open our minds and hearts in worship today, to learn the lessons of history so that we can grow in life and faith. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 107: 1-9; 33-43 pgs. 755-756

***GLORIA PATRI (#35 in hymnal)**

A TIME with the CHILDREN

The LORD’S PRAYER (unison... “debts”)

(Children may leave for Sunday School after the Lord’s Prayer.)

HISTORICAL MOMENT “Building Kellogg Hall” Joan Apel

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

The Rev. David Minnick

Meredith Ross, 3 year old daughter of Megan and Eli (friends of Emily Westerberg), diagnosed with T-cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL)

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”

***DOXOLOGY (#46 in hymnal)**

***PRAYER of DEDICATION**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

II Kings 7: 3-9

I Corinthians 1: 18-31

John 12: 20-26 (KJV)

***SERMON HYMN**

“God of the Prophets” (insert)

SERMON

“Sir, we would see Jesus”

The Rev. George Higgins

(After the sermon, the congregation will exit the Sanctuary and together journey to the Memorial Garden. Once there, we will join with the children and teachers from the Sunday School.)

In the MEMORIAL GARDEN

LITANY PRAYER of DEDICATION

Leader: Trees have long been a visible and enduring symbol of life. On this special day and in this sacred ground, today, we dedicate this tree as a symbol of thanksgiving and hope.

People: May our lives be rooted in God as this tree’s roots are grounded in God’s holy creation.

Leader: In the living of our days, may our lives grow strong as the trunk of this tree strengthens with each passing day and season.

People: May we extend our outreach to all the world as the branches of this tree grow higher and wider.

Leader: Bless us, O God, to always keep here a sacred place where people can find peace and hope in the course of their days.

People: As the leaves of this tree will provide shade on sunny days, so too may we together provide a place of respite and renewal in the days to come.

Leader: For 250 years, the sacred space of this church has been holy and inviting to all God’s people.

People: May this tree serve as a symbol to all who pass by of our history and our hope for the future.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” (insert)

***BENEDICTION**

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

At the conclusion of the service, all are invited to attend a church-wide picnic in Fellowship Hall and on the church grounds.

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

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.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Deacons: Monday, May 21, 7 PM, Chapel

Search Committee: Monday, May 21, 7 PM, Library

Crafts Group: Monday, May 21, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Men's Club: Tuesday, May 22, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Board of Music: Tuesday, May 22, 6:30 PM, Library

Trustees: Wednesday, May 23, 7 PM, Library

S & E: Wednesday, May 23, 7 PM, Chapel

Bell Choir: Thursday, May 24, 6:30 PM, PF Room

Sanctuary Choir: Thursday, May 24, 7:30 PM, Choir Room

Support Group: Friday, May 25, 10:30 AM, Library

Confirmation Sunday, May 27: Confirmation youth, sponsors and parents, please meet in Fellowship Hall at 9 AM for pictures and worship service review.

Please Note: There will be no Sunday School on May 27 (Memorial Day weekend). The Toddler Room will be open and staffed for children up to 5 years old. There will be no Children's Message on June 3. All children will meet downstairs in Fellowship Hall for Children's Sunday (June 10) rehearsal.

ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, June 3

Following the Worship Service

Pay It Forward - We are now on the FCCV website...check us out!

Last week we featured Bob Warner and Bill Kerr. Bob gave his gift to the Memorial Garden in memory of Wright Gifford and Paul Leonard. Bill, a Hartford Firefighter, gave his gift to the Demonds Children Fund, a fund established to support Ben Demonds' two young boys, Alex and Cole, who were severely injured in a car accident caused by a drunk driver that killed their father, a Norwich firefighter in March. To support his family, visit www.local892.org. We also paid tribute to all mothers on Mother's Day and honored Joe Tobin who has finished his stay here as a field placement student with a gift to pay it forward in his next journey in ministry. The blessings of those who have benefited because of you are on display in Fellowship Hall. Take a moment to reflect during Coffee Hour.

Youth Fellowship: Mission week July 23- 27. If interested, sign up on the bulletin board. We will be working in our community and other towns in the state, returning home each night.

Vacation Bible School, June 25-29: Registration forms are available in the Church Office or see Linda Shivers. Volunteers are still needed. Contact Linda Shivers or Debi Hockenberry if interested. **Registration closes on May 31.**

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.

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). interested, please contact Jan or Margaret or find us on Sundays at Coffee Hour.

Reminder: Our Sunday morning worship services (on a one week delay) are available for viewing on Comcast Community Voice Channel 5 Sunday mornings at 10 AM and Monday evenings at 6 PM. Uncut DVD's (DVD's submitted for viewing on Comcast are edited to fit a 60 minute format) of the services are also available for borrowing in the Library. Check your local listings or go to CVCCCT.org for the dates and times of showings of other FCCV concerts and events.

In Our Ongoing Prayers... Hal Cummings; Deborah Costello, friend of Angel Hockenberry, undergoing surgery for breast cancer; Richard Brooke, Betsy Gerakaris' brother; Debbie Marshall and family on the loss of her mother, Dayle Marshall; the firstborn son of Anna and John Henderson (first grandchild of Richard Bryant's nephew); 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; Martha Fowler dealing with cancer; Michael Bebrin; the leaders, members and friends of Somers Congregational Church; Todd Lentocho 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 recurrence 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)



FCCV Golf Event

Saturday, June 2

**Willow Brook Golf Course
South Windsor**

\$80 per person if registered by June 1

\$95 per person after June 1

PLAYERS and RAFFLE DONATIONS NEEDED

Be a Player

Sponsor a Tee

Sponsor the Luncheon

Bid on Silent Auction Items

Buy Raffle Tickets

***Try your putting skills in Fellowship Hall
during Coffee Hour***

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

If you wish to donate Raffle items, please contact
Holly Boutwell at 872-6359 (evenings)
or hollyboutwell@comcast.net.