

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

May 27, 2012

Confirmation

GATHERING MUSIC "The Sycamore" Joplin
"Take the Name of Jesus with You" W. Doane
"Faith of Our Fathers" Hegerty

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. David Minnick
(Please sign the Friendship Register before passing it down the pew.)

CHIMING of the HOUR

ACOLYTES Jena Maki, Alec Montgomery

PRELUDE

*CALL to WORSHIP Nicholas Bartos

Leader: Come, great Spirit. Come here now to your people.

People: **Come, Spirit. Be here with us. May we feel your presence within, strengthening and renewing our spirits.**

Leader: Come, Spirit of God. Come here now and enliven our spirits as we join in songs of joy and praise.

People: **Come, Spirit. Renew us and renew your church. May your presence be a source of strength for our lives and for your church.**

Leader: Come, Spirit. Come now and show us your way and will.

People: **Come, Spirit. Renew our minds, transform our hearts, fill us with resolve and direct our energies to greater actions of ministry and service.**

Leader: Come, Spirit. Come and lift our spirits so that our lives will help renew and redeem all the earth.

*OPENING HYMN #175 "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"

RESPONSIVE READING UCC Statement of Faith (insert)

Elaina Marcotte
Michael Calvelli

*GLORIA PATRI (#35 in hymnal)

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS Haley Hasty

Ginny Hrabica, grandmother of Aarika Hrabica-Mallory, dealing with pneumonia and unable to attend Confirmation today; friends and family of Krisann Pouliot, friend and colleague of Candace Buswell, who was killed this week in East Hartford

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

Tyler Johnson, Aarika Hrabica-Mallory

PRAYER RESPONSE

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM

Parental and Sponsors' Vows

Congregational Vow

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

People: **We will with joy.**

Baptism of Brianna Suzanne Tedford

ANTHEM "The Rose" Annie Longo, Avery Kinney

THE RITE of CONFIRMATION

AFFIRMATION of BAPTISM

PRESENTATION of BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES by PARENTS

CONFIRMATION of CANDIDATES

CONFIRMATION PRAYER

*WELCOME and CHURCH COVENANT (insert)

CALL to OFFERING

Jaclyn Leonard

OFFERTORY "Go Not Far from Me, O God" Zingarelli

*DOXOLOGY (#46 in hymnal)

*PRAYER of DEDICATION (unison)

Brianna Tedford

Loving God, thank you for the generous gifts you bestow upon us daily. Make us aware of each blessing that comes our way and create in us the constant desire to be a blessing for others. Bless what we bring before you and multiply it so that as it is used within the church and beyond, your Word is heard, your work is done, and your love is made known to all who have ears to hear. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Mark 1: 4-11

Aarika Hrabica-Mallory

Acts 2: 36-42

Joshua Tourtellotte

MEDITATION

Rev. Cynthia Carr

*CLOSING HYMN "Great Work Has God Begun in You" (insert)

BENEDICTION (unison)

Avery Kinney

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, as we depart from one another, May the Lord bless us each one. May we find greater strength to bear Christ in this world. May we be known by our faith and our actions. And may we be blessed in the living of our faith. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

"The High School Cadets March"

Sousa

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

The flowers on the Communion Table are given to honor and remember all our service men and women on Memorial Day by Dave and Michelle Bower.

There is no Sunday School today but the Toddler Room is open and staffed for children up to 5 years old.

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 of those who could not be with us at this milestone in our faith journey...

Sam Frost, *cousin of Jena Maki*

W. Roland and Cera Leonard, *grandparents of Jaclyn Leonard*

Roy Hasty Jr, Elaine Possell, *grandparents of Haley Hasty*

Rollie Gifford, *uncle of Josh Tourtellotte*

Elsie McCaw, *grandmother of Aarika Hrabica-Mallory*

Betty Tedford, *grandmother of Brianna Tedford*

"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."

We rejoice in the baptism of Brianna Suzanne Tedford, daughter of Sook and James Tedford.

Ushers: Jena Maki, Alec Montgomery, Haley Hasty, Nicholas Bartos

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

Memorial Day: Monday, May 28. The Church Office is closed.

Search Committee: Monday, May 28, 7 PM, Library

Men's Club: Tuesday, May 29, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Bell Choir: Thursday, May 31, 6:30 PM, PF Room

Sanctuary Choir: Thursday, May 31, 7:30 PM, Choir Room

Support Group: Friday, June 1, 10:30 AM, Library

Golf Tournament: Saturday, June 2, Willow Brook Golf Course. See insert for more info.

Please Note: 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

Reminder: Agenda items for the Church Council meeting on June 6 should be turned in to Moderator Tony Muro no later than Sunday, June 3.

Evening Circle: Monday, June 4, 6:30 PM at Pam Lyons' home for a POTLUCK PICNIC. Join us for a fun evening and bring your favorite picnic dish. Call Pat Lazeren, 860-644-0475, for directions (if needed) and to let us know you are coming so we can have an accurate head count for beverages.

Pay It Forward: What began as a two-week journey on October 10, 2010 has continued for 20 months! Thanks to the generous contributions from members and friends of FCCV, the **Pay It Forward** program has supported over 60 charities, organizations and individual families in our local community and beyond.

As we approach the summer season, we are taking a break as funding has run out for this short-term effort that **took wings...and flew beyond our expectations!** It is time to say a heartfelt "Thank You" to those who donated, to those whose cards were drawn and who thoughtfully accepted the challenge to "Pay It Forward" (and then give us the details) and to the congregation who listened and clapped to acknowledge the joys of Paying It Forward. If additional contributions are gifted to the program, we can begin again in the not too distant future. If you wish to donate, please make your check payable to FCCV and note in the memo that it's for the PIF program and drop in the Assistant Treasurer or Treasurer's mailbox.

Hockanum Valley Community Council's Food Pantry that assists families throughout our area, is asking our local faith-based groups to respond to an urgent need for food to carry them through the summer. During the summer, children are not in school and are not receiving free or reduced price breakfasts and lunches. The demand on the pantry is increases significantly, particularly for food items that children usually enjoy. They believe they will not have enough food to meet the needs of our community this summer without your help. From **June 1-10**, Hockanum Valley will have their second annual **Feed the Hungry** faith-based food drive. This year they are targeting specific foods for each faith-based group, based on food that appeals especially to children and food that will be in short supply in the pantry. They are asking our congregation to donate chicken noodle soup, ramen noodles, crackers and tuna. Please place your donations in the Mission Box in the Breezeway. Thank you for your ongoing support. Together we can make a difference.

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.

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

FCCV Golf Event

Saturday, June 2

Willow Brook Golf Course
South Windsor



**Drop by our table in Fellowship Hall
today during Coffee Hour**

**Be a Player
Sponsor a Tee
Buy Raffle Tickets
50/50 Putting Contest**

HELP MAKE 2012 A SUCCESS!

UCC STATEMENT of FAITH

All: We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify.

Leader 1: You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

Leader 2: 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.

All: In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior.

Leader 1: You have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

Leader 2: 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.

All: You call us into your church to accept the cost and joys of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others.

Leader 1: 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.

Leader 2: 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.

All: 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.