

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

Holy Communion

July 3, 2016

WELCOME!

We're 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.

PRELUDE "The Cascades" Joplin
"Jazz and Blues Selections"
"My Country 'Tis of Thee" arr. Smith

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL to WORSHIP Pat Aldrich

Leader: Let us sing praises to God, all you faithful ones,

People: and give thanks to God's holy name.

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for all the blessings we experience – especially for the freedom to worship you without fear. Refresh us and renew us so we become faithful laborers for peace, justice and joy. We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** "All Creatures of Our God and King" (*insert*)

SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive communion.

PRAYER of BLESSING/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.

SHARING the BREAD and the CUP (*Intinction - gluten-free bread is available. Please indicate your preference to a Deacon. We will receive the elements when all are served.*)

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING (*unison*)

Generous God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace. 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 John 8:31-36

SERMON Rev. Robin Bird

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS/MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY "The Star Spangled Banner"
Lana Houlberg, euphonium

***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** "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory" (*insert*)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE "The Stars and Stripes Forever March" Sousa

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

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

In Our Ongoing Prayers

Margaret Klukas on the loss of her sister, Nancy Bailey; **Michael Doyle**, a West Haven police officer and his wife **Kathy** (friend of Kate Cima). Michael was seriously injured in a motorcycle training exercise; **Pat Lazeren** having knee replacement surgery on July 7; Jeff Wadsworth (colleague of Steve Westerberg) and family; Tom Rabideau and family, friend of Steve Westerberg; Dean Hockenberry, Dave Hockenberry's uncle; Helen Dahling; Dave Hollister, Candy Buswell's father; Ryan Meneses; Joyce Smith; John Arthur, Susan DeProspero's father; Brian, 11 years old, fighting cancer; Meg, Bill and Holly Boutwell's sister/sister-in-law; the homeless; the hungry; gun reform; acceptance of religious diversity/skin color/sexual orientation; Daniel Burnett-Pollack; Debbie Chase; Dick Myer; Margaret Klukas; Paul Westerberg; people struggling with mental illness, and their families; the people of Syria, Belgium & Pakistan; Heidi Howie; Mason Bower; Michael Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Cooper Doyle
New additions in bold print

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Independence Day: Monday, July 4. The Church Office is closed.

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

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

Donations Needed: In order to meet safety standards and the local health department, the stove in the church kitchen needs to be replaced. Much research has been done and we are ready to make a purchase. If anyone would like to make a donation toward the cost, it would be greatly appreciated. Please see Phyllis Chase if you have any questions.

Anyone interested in attending a Soulfest: For King & Country Concert on Saturday, September 24, please see Debi Hockenberry or sign up on the bulletin board down the hall from the Library. Tickets are \$20 for general admission.

In light of recent events, we'd like to be part of **The Concert Across America to End Gun Violence** on September 25 on the lawn in front of our church. This would be a peaceful sing-a-long and vigil. If you'd like to volunteer music, ideas, guitar or instrumental skills, please see Debi Hockenberry, Rev. Robin or Leanne Connolly.

Instrumentalists Wanted to accompany the choir and/or to play a solo. Anyone interested should contact Minister of Music Leanne Connolly at 860-462-4694 or lconnolly1825@gmail.com.

Please Note: In an effort to keep the Sabbath holy, we would like to refrain from talking with church leaders about church business before or after worship. If you need to speak with someone, please contact them later in the day or in the coming week.

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 at 872-1757 or jmoze@hotmail.com or Sue Pilkons at 860-875-4122.

To request a visit with the pastor, please contact the Church Office at 860-875-7580.

Church Office	860-875-7580
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