

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

July 29, 2012

GATHERING MUSIC "Barcarolle No. 6" Fauré
"I Need Thee Every Hour" Scott/Lowry
"We Believe in One True God" Mansfield/Monk

CHIMING of the HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACOLYTES

"Who one believes God to be is most accurately revealed not in any creed, but in the way that one speaks to God when no one else is listening." Nancy Mair

PRELUDE "Preamble" (c. 1670) anonymous

*RESPONSIVE CALL to WORSHIP Michelle Bower

Leader: With the rising of the sun, a new day dawns for us; the promises of God continue.

People: Bless us to live into these promises, growing in faith and faithful in service.

Leader: May time spent together this day empower us to richer life in the days to come.

People: May this be a time of refreshment, renewal and redemption.

Leader: And as this hour concludes, may we each be eager to serve the Lord with gladness.

People: As now, we come into God's presence with singing.

*OPENING HYMN #100 "When Morning Gilds the Skies"

PRAYER of INVOCATION (unison)

Holy God, we trust in you and believe that you have set the world into being. The world you create is good and you entrust it to us in the hopes that we will glory in its wonder and majesty; that we will treat creation responsibly and pass it onto our children with care. Bless us to do your will responsibly and in faith. Guide us as we seek to be your servant people, gifted and empowered by you, challenged by the ways of the world, blessed with the community of one another. Help us to discern your call to us in this new day. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

LITANY for a GREAT TRAGEDY

(by the Rev. David Hicks, written in 2007 in response to the shooting on the campus of Va Tech University, copyrighted and used with permission.)

Leader: Lord, we come to you stunned, shocked, grieving ... our hearts linked to those for whom this tragedy shall veil their hearts for a long time to come.

People: Lord, come to comfort us, and come to offer healing and hope to those whose spirits are wounded by the sudden death of ones they love.

Leader: God, where can we turn when the senselessness of hatred and violence rips apart our complacency, save to you? Where is our peace, save in your arms of mercy?

People: Lord, we cry, Abba, Father! Comfort these your children, you who lost your only child. Embrace the ones among us for whom grief is so raw and fresh today.

Leader: We confess our sin, the violence that lurks in us all. We call it anger, hatred, revenge ... whatever its name, it is a compelling power within us.

People: Lord, pull the root of bitterness, the whirlwind of anger, the deadened heart of hatred out of us and restore to us a heart of flesh. Refill us with your peace. Let your love be a lamp to light the way that leads us home.

Leader: When all else is stripped away, when all that the world offers us for meaning and purpose is removed, still you, your word, your will, your grace, your holy presence will remain.

All: Lord, we place our trust in you. We find our comfort in you. We find meaning that defeats random and chaotic violence in you. For you will wipe away every tear from our eyes and the eyes of our sisters and brothers, and we will be your people, and you will be our God. In the power of the Resurrection, we pray. Amen.

(David Hicks is pastor of Summerville First United Methodist Church, Summerville, Georgia.)

*GLORIA PATRI (#35 in hymnal)

A TIME with the CHILDREN

The LORD'S PRAYER (unison... "debts")

(Children ages 3 years – 3rd grade may leave for Summer Sunday School.)

ANTHEM "Standing on the Promises" R. K. Carter

Ye Olde Tyme Gospel Quartet

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE

*SERMON HYMN #566 "Be Still, My Soul"

SERMON

The Rev. David Minnick

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Precious Memories"

J. B. F. Wright

*DOXOLOGY (#46 in hymnal)

*PRAYER of DEDICATION (unison)

Wondrous God, in times of loss and such great uncertainty, we grow ever mindful of the blessings we have and for these we give you thanks. Help us to never take for granted the blessings we have, including one another. Receive these our gifts, that the good news of your love and presence may be known far and wide. We offer these in Jesus' name. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #254 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "The Glory of the Spirit"

L. Smith

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

Ye Olde Tyme Gospel Quartet: Harry Croye, Russ Kunz, Paul Shimer, Dick Wurst

The flowers on the Communion Table are given in memory of Nancy Kunz by the Kunz family.

The flowers on the Piano are given in loving memory of Merritt Salmon by Marge Salmon and family.

Greeters and Coffee Hour: Boards of Finance and Missions

WELCOME TO FCCV!

If you are a guest, 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.

Guests are encouraged to use the Pew Cards to request information about our church, to provide addresses/emails for communication purposes or to ask for a pastoral visit. The Pew Cards can be placed in the plates with the offering.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Craft Group: Monday, July 30, 6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall. Bead Ornaments and Charm Bookmarks - make 4 and take one out the door! Beaded icicles, snowflakes and candy cane ornaments. Have a teen or tween? Bring them and their friends!

Search Committee: Monday, July 30, 7 PM, Library

Men's Club: Tuesday, July 31, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Support Group: Friday, August 3, 10:30 AM, Library

Needed for the Fall... A Sunday School teacher for grades 6-8. Contact Linda Shivers or Cindy Madden if interested.

Summer Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM. The office is closed on Fridays.

Summer Sunday School: If interested in teaching (one week or more) please sign up on bulletin board near the Library or contact Victoria Madden.

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** is open all summer for **children 12 months - 5 years old**.

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.

Wanted! Knitters and Crocheters: We are looking for people who would be willing to knit or crochet a shawl to help build up our supply. Please join us on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1 PM in the Library or feel free to make one at home. Questions? Contact Joan Apel, 860-875-7239 or Nancy Parker, 860-872-9069 or quiltblockcreations@yahoo.com.

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).

In Our Ongoing Prayers... **Allan Chesterton; Dick Saich** (car accident); **Debbie Marshall** (broken wrist); **Claudette and Art Weingart; Bill Harford**, Ann's husband; **Peggy Ellis** (broken hip); **Nicole Cartier**, Jim and Nancy Wilson's granddaughter (major pelvis/hip surgery); **Pat Lazeren; Dale Whitney** (hip replacement); **Abby Harlow** (broken arm); **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, (breast cancer); **Richard Brooke**, Betsy Gerakaris' brother; **Stephen Volovski; 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 (stroke); **Judy Quinn**, friend of Tony and Jan Muro, (cancer); the **Boutwell family; Martha Fowler** (cancer); **Michael Bebrin**; the **leaders, members and friends of Somers Congregational Church; Ellie Cantlin**, Mary Wheeler's sister-in-law, (cancer); **FCCV Search Committee; Mike Swan** (cancer); **Donna Peacock; Joyce Smith; Thelma Gifford; 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**

In Our Global Prayers... Engaging kids in the community with arts and music was how Kidz BEAT was born at Trinity UCC in Canton, Ohio. A local elementary school donated use of musical instruments and busing for the students while community members volunteer time to teach art classes. Kidz BEAT now attracts around eighty children and has helped the church grow as well.