

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

August 7, 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

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL to WORSHIP

Peg Leary

Leader: Come, let us celebrate the One who calls us to love and speak truth to power:

People: No one can stop us from speaking the truth.

Leader: We are called to love and defend our brothers and sisters who suffer in silence:

People: No one can stop us from speaking the truth.

Leader: We must rise up, stand up, and speak up for righteousness:

People: No one can stop us from speaking the truth.

Leader: Come, let us celebrate together the power to love and to speak truth:

People: We are ready to worship our God who is still speaking!

PRAYER of INVOCATION *(unison)*

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh upon us; allow your presence to fill us with power from on high. Come, Holy One, and dwell among us. We need your authority to love our neighbor and speak to the powers of this world. Come into this place and make us one with each other. It is in your name we pray. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** "Fill My Cup, Lord" *(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

Colossians 2:2-10

SERMON

Rev. Robin Bird

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS/MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"
Sarah Turner, viola

***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**

"Day by Day" *(insert)*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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

Welcome to our guest organist Adrienne Brown.

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

Please Note: Sunday School starts at 9 AM. Any children still in church who would like to attend may join them in the educational wing.

In Our Ongoing Prayers

Helen Dyar; Bill Bennison, friend of Ann Harford; Michael Doyle and his wife Kathy (friend of Kate Cima); 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***

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Open and Affirming: 12 PM, Library

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Deacons: Tuesday, August 9, 7 PM, Library

Council: Wednesday, August 10, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Support Group: Friday, August 12, 10:30 AM, Library

Missions: Saturday, August 13, 10 AM, Library

Clean-up has begun in the hall and rooms previously occupied by the Day Care. Many thanks to those who have washed walls and windows, stripped and cleaned floors, removed carpet and bulletin boards as well as "decades old" baseboards and made trips to the dump. Much more work needs to be completed by Rally Sunday and this weekend we will begin painting the hall. This is a very exciting time for our church as we "re-claim" this space. If you would like to be involved in this project, please contact Millie Oliphant, 860-872-7106. **We are also in need** of "gently used" toddler toys for our Child Care Room. Please see Debi Hockenberry if you have any to donate.

Donations Needed: If anyone would like to make a donation toward the cost of a new stove for the kitchen, it would be greatly appreciated. Please see Phyllis Chase if you have any questions.

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 Cheryl Purnell, 860-712-8124 or Sue Pilkons, 860-875-4122.

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

Church Office	860-875-7580
Email	church.secretary@firstchurchofvernon.org
Website	www.firstchurchofvernon.org