

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC
August 12, 2012

GATHERING MUSIC

CHIMING of the HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. David Minnick

ACOLYTES

WORDS of REFLECTION

What you are is God's gift to you; what you do with yourself is your gift to God.
Danish Proverb

PRELUDE

***CALL to WORSHIP**

Harmon Howe

Leader: We are God's work of art – each one of us a precious gem, a marvelous melody, a potter's delight.

People: We are God's handiwork – woven together in love, shaped with infinite compassion, painted with incredible beauty.

Leader: We are the church of Jesus Christ, diverse in human qualities, but united in our call to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength, and our neighbor as ourself.

People: We are the Body of Christ – living in his truth, sharing his peace, carrying his hope, embodying his love, in the world he loved so much.

Leader: We are here to be reminded once more who we are and what our lives are about.

People: We are here to be lifted, renewed, and empowered to live out the miracle of who we are, by the power of God working among us.

Leader: Together let us worship the living God.

People: We open ourselves to God, who makes all things new.

David Inglis

***OPENING HYMN #274 "I Love Your Church, O God"**

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

Holy God, we meet you in this hour to encounter our Creator, Sustainer and Redeemer, for the love of Christ urges us on. We meet you to be renewed in faith, to trust that which we cannot see and often do not understand, because the love of Christ urges us on. We worship you in order to be immersed in mystery, to be reminded that you are at work in our lives and in our world, that you are sovereign and good, because the love of Christ urges us on. We gather as your people to share together the fellowship of your Spirit, to bear one another's burdens and celebrate one another's joys, because the love of Christ urges us on. We thank you for that love and welcome you here. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 95: 1-7 p. 747

***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.)

SOLO "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked" G. O'Hara

Serena Volovski

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

SCRIPTURE I Corinthians 2: 6-16

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

SERMON "Why Am I Here?""* Joseph Tobin

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Until Then" S. Hamblen

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

***PRAYER of DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN #452 "Here I Am, Lord"**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

**Based on *The Purpose Driven Life* by Rick Warren (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002)*

Welcome to our guest organist Jim Purnell.

The flowers on the Communion Table are given in loving memory of Daniel Wheeler who died 3 years ago today by his family, Mary Wheeler, Mark Wheeler and Lynn Wheeler Denning.

Greeters and Coffee Hour: Ways and Means and Flower Committees

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

Country Craft Monday: August 13, 6:30-8:30 PM

Join us as we make some crafts for the fair that have a country flavor. We will be decorating rustic stars and bells as well as trying some needle felting. All are welcome. Some kits are also available to work on at home. Contact Jayne Gunther, 860-872-4110, for details.

September CARILLON Deadline
Tuesday, August 14

Men's Club: Tuesday, August 14, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

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

Anniversary Committee: Friday, August 17, 2 PM, Library

Field of Flags: At FCCV on Friday, August 24 starting at 8AM, a flag will be placed for each soldier who has lost his/her life in the Iraq/Afghanistan conflict, to remember each individual as well as their families and friends in prayer. Field of Flags will be dedicated on August 26 at the 10 AM worship service and will be on display until September 13. Volunteers are needed to help place the flags which should take about 4-6 hours. If you can help out, even if it's only for an hour, please contact Brad Leonard, 860-402-0434 or 860 871-1980. Thanks!

2 Teachers Needed for September-May... one for grade 3 yr/4 yr/K and one for grade 6-8. Contact Linda Shivers or Cindy Madden if interested.

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; 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 Lazeran; Meredith Ross, 3 year old daughter of Megan and Eli (friends of Emily Westerberg), diagnosed with T-cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL); Deborah Costello, friend of Angel Hockenberry, (breast cancer); Richard Brooke, Betsy Gerakaris' brother; Stephen Volovski; Ann Garrison; Corey Glidden, son of Debbie Marshall; Ray Turner, father-in-law of Cheryl Turner (stroke); Judy Quinn, friend of Tony and Jan Muro, (cancer); Martha Fowler (cancer); Michael Bebrin; the leaders, members and friends of Somers Congregational Church; FCCV Search Committee; 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

"SEEKING FCCV AMBASSADORS"



The Stewardship and Evangelism Committee is seeking FCCV members, family or friends who love to interact with people...folks who would enjoy putting themselves "out there" to connect with all who attend church on Sunday with special emphasis on noticing "guests" or people who seem to be visiting and wondering where something is...etc.

Would **you** like to be an FCCV Ambassador? Do you know of someone who might **really like** to do this? As you sit in church during these coming weeks, look around. Who do you see who might make a great ambassador?

We are hoping for a large group so that ambassador "teams" can rotate weekly or monthly for maximum effectiveness and with no "burnout." This can be a joy-filled opportunity! Remember... growing our church begins with a smile!

To volunteer or to suggest someone, please contact Charles Markunas at oilcancharlie@gmail.com or call the Church Office (860-875-7580) if you don't use email.