

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC  
August 18, 2013

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE Bill Boutwell

ACOLYTES

PRELUDE

CALL to WORSHIP (*responsive*) Andy Myer

Leader: We come seeking God,

**People: With our hearts and minds wide open,**

Leader: With our spirits ready to receive,

**People: With a sense of expectation.**

Leader: We come seeking God,

**People: Hoping for a glimpse of holy love.**

Leader: With eyes and ears of faith, and with our hearts turned toward the Son,

**People: We come seeking God.**

\*OPENING HYMN #586 "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

God, whose creative word called all creation into being, speak again to us that we may be made anew. Whisper forgiveness, sing of peace, shout the good news, and tell us again how much you love the sons and daughters of your heart. Still speaking God, create in us the desire to speak words of love and life, that we may more fully resemble your Son, Jesus. 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.

TIME with the CHILDREN

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.

ANTHEM Mary Ann Lippincott, soloist

SCRIPTURE James 3: 1-12

SERMON Rev. Meg Watson

\*HYMN #323 "Wonderful Words of Life"

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY

\*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 #543 "Blessed Assurance"

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

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

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

Welcome to our guest organist Jim Purnell.

The flowers on the Communion Table are given by Dick and Jane Saich in celebration of their 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Greeters and Coffee Hour Preparation: Board of Christian Education and Teaching Parish Committee

**In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .**

Kim Burnham dealing with breast cancer; Cheryl Adams; Women's Fellowship Retreat Committee as they continue to work on their upcoming fall retreat; Bert Dahling; Alan and Jayne Chesterton; Dick Parker; Dick and Jane Saich; Joyce Smith; Betty Worden; Mason Bower; Debbie Marshall; Jeanine Uthgenannt; Michael Turner; Claudette Weingart; Valerie Flitcroft; Irene Wasco; Jan Peacock; Candy Buswell; Donald Chase; the Search Committee; Margaret Klukas' sister, Roberta; Steve Bright; Rachel Meneses; Jim Anderson; Lois Montlick; Janet Boucher; Marine Corps Lance Corporal Steven Carr and his wife, Angel Hockenberry Carr; Donna Peacock; Arianna Saegaert; the people of Syria, including the family of Tarek Eid; Ruth Woodcock and her daughter Sarah; Will Livermore; Mike Swan; Pat Lazeren; Meredith Ross; Deborah Costello; Richard Brooke; Stephen Volovski; Ray Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Thelma Gifford; Cooper Doyle; Paul and Susan Shimer; Mary Jo Simonds-Huneger; Horst Pohlmann; John Kaminski; Bess Howe; Jane Morse; Melissa Morse; Charlotte Driggs; Aaron Huneger

*New additions in bold print*

**WELCOME to FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH of VERNON!**

We are 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.

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please stop by our Welcome Table.  
There you will find a guestbook to sign and a welcome gift to take home with you.  
Let us know if we can be of service to you in any way, and come back again soon!

**THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES**

**Craft Group:** Monday, August 19, 10 AM, Fellowship Hall

**Trustees:** Monday, August 19, 6:30 PM, Library

**Men's Club:** Tuesday, August 20, 6:30 AM at the Vernon Diner

**Search Committee:** Wednesday, August 21, 6:30 PM, Library

**S & E:** Wednesday, August 21, 7 PM, Chapel

**BCE:** Wednesday, August 21, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

**Support Group:** Friday, August 23, 10:30 AM, Library

**Summer Coffee Hour Schedule**

Aug 25 Flower and Ushering Committees

Sept 1 Board of Finance

**Thank You!** On behalf of the Caring and Sharing Bereavement Group, I would like to express our sincere "THANK YOU" to Doe Simmonds, Phyllis Chase and First Congregational Church of Vernon for all they have done to make our loss a little bit easier to understand. The Group was started in the fall of 2009 by Doe and Phyllis and has blossomed into a close-knit group of 22 strong. Each and every one of us, whether our loss was as recent as 2 months ago or as long as 7 years ago, has experienced a very noticeable transformation in our lives due to this group. Without the church's sponsorship, this would not have been possible. A hearty "thank you" goes out to the Church for making this all possible...Stanley Cohen  
*(Check the September Carillon - available later this month - for testimonials from some of the group members.)*

**Needed!** A shepherd for the 3 year old-kindergarten Sunday School class and a Bell Choir Director for the Sunday School children. Contact Steve Westerberg or Linda Shivers, 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** located downstairs in the Kellogg wing is open for **children 12 months to 3 years old**.

There is space available on the **Flower Chart** for anyone wishing to have flowers in the Sanctuary on a Sunday morning. Consider sharing flowers from your garden. Please sign up on the chart located in the Narthex.

**Acolytes Needed!** To all parents of Sunday School children...if your child would like to be an acolyte, please contact Delythe Kracke at DelytheK@yahoo.com or (860) 872-3004.