

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

August 19, 2012

GATHERING MUSIC

CHIMING of the HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACOLYTES

WORDS of REFLECTION

There is a power in the universe forever on the side of those brave enough to trust it.

Michel de Montaigne, 18th century French essayist

PRELUDE

***CALL to WORSHIP**

Dave Bower

Leader: The Word of God awaits us here, and we come to worship. The Holy Spirit welcomes us as we gather to pray.

People: **We have come to praise the God of endless love.**

Leader: Rejoice, people of God! Celebrate the life within you; God is waiting to offer us a new transformed life every day.

People: **In faith we seek God's caring presence and trust in God's steadfast love.**

Leader: God has promised to strengthen us and help us to grow in the wisdom of God's ways; we know God is faithful in all things.

All: **We rejoice in God and for Christ's presence in our midst.**

***OPENING HYMN #558 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"**

PRAYER of INVOCATION (unison)

God of life, God of Love, you are indeed our God of greatness and compassion. We ask you to be here with us as we gather in worship and praise. Look within our hearts and souls and find there the deep desire to draw near to your Spirit. Please grant us the courage to follow the path which has been set before us by your son, our beloved Jesus Christ. Empower us to offer our praises and our worship in a spirit of joy and hope. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 111

Leader: Praise God! I will give thanks to God with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

People: **Great are the works of God, studied by all who delight in them.**

Leader: Full of honor and majesty is God's work, and God's righteousness endures forever.

People: **God has gained renown by wonderful deeds; God is gracious and merciful.**

Leader: God provides food for those who fear God; God is ever mindful of God's covenant.

People: **God has shown God's people the power of God's works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.**

Leader: The works of God's hands are faithful and just; all God's precepts are trustworthy.

People: **They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

Leader: God sent redemption to God's people; God has commanded God's covenant forever. Holy and awesome is God's name.

All: **The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.**

***GLORIA PATRI (#35 in hymnal)**

A TIME with the CHILDREN

The Rev. David Minnick

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

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

MUSIC "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

Mary Jo Simonds-Huneger

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

MUSIC RESPONSE

"Were You There?"

***SERMON HYMN #76 "The Care the Eagle Gives Her Young"**

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 34: 1-14, cantored

1 Kings 3: 4-15; Ephesians 5: 15-20

SERMON

"A God-listening Heart"

Rev. Joanne Myer

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Gentle Shepherd"

Gaither

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

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

***CLOSING HYMN #442 "We Are Walking"**

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATION CLOSING SONG "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

"Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth; the peace that was meant to be. With God as Creator, family all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me. Let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow: to take each moment, and live each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me."

POSTLUDE

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

Welcome to our guest organist Jim Purnell.

Greeters and Coffee Hour: Women's Fellowship

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

Deacons: Monday, August 20, 7 PM, Chapel

Men's Club: Tuesday, August 21, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Trustees: Wednesday, August 22, 7 PM, Library

Support Group: Friday, August 24, 10:30 AM, 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!

The Board of Christian Education **invites all families** and **teachers** of **Sunday School** to a **Continental Breakfast** on **Sunday, September 23** at **9 AM** in Fellowship Hall. This is an opportunity for parents to meet their child's teachers and board members. We will be reviewing our new curriculum, learning about mission projects for the coming year and discussing why Christian education is important to your child and family. You will also be able to ask any questions you have about our Christian Education program. Hope to see you there!

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**.

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 Lazeren; 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