

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC
August 23, 2015

PRELUDE "God Be with You" Tomer
"Take the Name of Jesus with You" Doane
"Vaya con Dios" Russel

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL to WORSHIP** Gretchen Fisher Orr

Leader: Like trees planted by the river,

People: We have sunk our roots deep in God's love.

Leader: Like leaves bouncing on the summer breeze,

People: We have danced in the breath of the Spirit.

Leader: Like nestlings settled in the crook of a branch,

People: We have found shelter in the arms of God.

Leader: Like songbirds greeting the morning sun with melodies,

People: We lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving for all the Lord has done.

***OPENING HYMN** #480 "I Love to Tell the Story"

PRAYER of INVOCATION

God, we are warmed by your sun, encircled by your love, blessed by your presence, and sustained by your Spirit. With trust in your great love and mercy, we open ourselves to your touch. Move in us and through us, we pray. In Jesus' name. 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 "He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought" J. H. Gilmore
Gretchen Fisher Orr, soloist

SCRIPTURE Matthew 22:34-40

SERMON Rev. Meg Watson

***HYMN** #467 "Fill the World with Love"

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Why We Sing" K. Franklin

***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**

LITURGY of FAREWELL (*insert*)

***CLOSING HYMN** #477 "Pass It On"

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE "Trumpet Air" Purcell/Smith

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

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

The flowers on the Communion Table are given to Pastor Meg by the Deacons with love, thanks and appreciation for her spiritual leadership.

The flowers on the Marbletop Table are given to Meg by the staff with love and grateful thanks for her love, support and guidance and with best wishes as she starts the next chapter of her journey. Aloha!

Greeters and Coffee Hour: Board of Trustees/Ways and Means Committee

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

Carl and April Gothberg on the death of their nephew, Brandon; Dick Myer, Andy's brother, in ICU in Georgia; Debbie Chase; Margaret Klukas; Janita Majkowski, mother-in-law of Pat Lazeren; Candy, Lynette Melanson's sister; Dave Boucher, brother-in-law of Jen and Tim Condry; Greg Moffatt; Lillian Burnett; Becky and Ron Burr; Carol Mento; Paula Dascomb; Rachel Meneses; Joyce Smith; Mike Lazeren; Deborah Liebl; Gilmay Markunas and family; Pat Lazeren; Gail Brewer; David and Elizabeth Hollister; Bobby Dwire; Warren Little; Frederick Burgess; Tom Fitzgerald; Melinda Singh; Bess Howe; Paul Westerberg; people struggling with mental illness; Ed Rockland, Bettye Kramer's brother-in-law; the people of Syria, including the family of Tarek Eid; Heidi Howie; Steve Bright; Pat Melville; Wendy Parker; Rachel Andrews; Cindy Madden; Carol Shea; Bobby Kelley; Nancy Bailey; Lillian Burnett; Will Fisher and Jessica Surratt; Adeline McGee; Kim Burnham; Mason Bower; Debbie Marshall; Jeanine Uthgenannt; Michael Turner; Candy Buswell; Richard Brooke; Ray Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Thelma Gifford; Cooper Doyle; Horst Pohlmann; John Kaminski

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.

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Board of Missions: 11:30 AM in the Library

TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

FCCV Mugs are back! Only \$10 each and the money goes towards supporting our outreach efforts. Purchase a mug and receive a recipe for a Five-Minute Chocolate Mug Cake (if you've previously purchased a mug, you can pick up the recipe).

Name Tags: If you ordered a name tag you may pick it up today. If you need one and would like to have it before Rally Sunday you may order it today or contact Jim Montlick (jamontlik@aol.com). You have a choice of a pin, magnet or clip. A donation of \$3-\$5 is suggested.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Mind and Spirit Support Group: Monday, August 24, 7 PM, Library

Men's Group: Tuesday, August 25, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Ladies Luncheon: Tuesday, August 25, noon at Mitchell's on Route 30. Sponsored by the Care Network and open to all women of the church. We will meet at noon on the 4th Tuesday of every month. We are in the process of finding a permanent place to accommodate us. If anyone needs a ride, we are happy to provide you with one. Please call Jan Muro at 860-872-1757. We hope you will join us on Tuesday for a social hour or two with your sisters of FCCV!

Board of Trustees: Wednesday, August 26, 6:30 PM, Library

Come, Join Us In Singing On Rally Sunday! Anyone is invited to join us in singing "There Is No Secret What God Can Do" and a revival of "We Are One Body." We will practice on Thursday, August 27 at 6:30 in the Sanctuary. Please help us make this Rally Sunday a joyous time, with all of us joining together to praise God! Questions? Contact Leanne at lconnolly1825@gmail.com or 860-462-4694.

Support Group: Friday, August 28, 10:30 AM, Library

Pairs and Spares: Friday, August 28 from 6-8 PM at Cassidy Hills (cassidyhillvineyard.com/events) to enjoy live music. Bring a picnic supper, lawn chair and your friends. There will be a sign or marker at the vineyard to let you know where we are meeting up. Any questions, contact Kate Fowler at 860-614-9747 or kfowler64@yahoo.com.

Sunday School registration forms are now available. Please complete a form if you have children who will be attending Sunday School.

RALLY SUNDAY ~ CHURCH PICNIC

August 30

Join us for the beginning of our church program year followed by a time of fun, fellowship and games! Bring a picnic lunch. Dessert and beverage will be provided.

Please Note: Beginning on Rally Sunday, August 30, Sunday School will end at 11:15 AM instead of when the worship service is over. Due to this change, we ask that no after church meetings be scheduled until 11:30 AM.

School Store - Rally Sunday, August 30: The Board of Missions has purchased school supplies that will be available for you to "buy" by making a donation to cover the cost of the item(s). Supplies have already been taken to the Hockanum Valley Community Council for distribution to local children in need to insure they start the new school year with needed school supplies. Please consider supporting this worthy cause in making a difference in a child's life.

Calling All Women... Did you know that you are automatically a member of Women's Fellowship? Check out the poster in the Narthex for interesting facts about Women's Fellowship over the years and watch for a schedule of events for the coming year that will be available on Rally Sunday, August 30.

Please Note: To request a visit with one of the pastors, please contact the Church Office at 860-875-7580.

Two volunteers with music experience needed to work with a children's music program. This program will include Sunday performances. If interested, please contact Michelle Giordano (mgiordano2@gmail.com) or Leanne Connolly (lconnolly1825@gmail.com) for details.

Scrip-Your-All Update: To date, we have earned \$2730. Thank you for participating! We hope you continue to do so. Visit our church website (firstchurchofvernon.org/scrip-your-all) for information on how to sign up or stop by the Scrip-Your-All table during Coffee Hour.

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. Anyone with concerns about the Crib Room should contact Sally Sullivan, 871-1473. A staffed **Toddler Room**, located downstairs in the Kellogg wing, is open for **children 12 months to 3 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 at jmoze@hotmail.com or 872-1757 or Sue Pilkons at 860-875-4122.

Reminder: FCCV records its Sunday worship services. These services are available for viewing on a one-week delay on Comcast Community Voice Channel 5, Sunday mornings at 10 AM and Monday evenings at 6 PM. Full length DVDs of the services are also available for borrowing in the Library.