

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, he UCC

August 24, 2014

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL to WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Andy Myer

Leader: Make room for God's unfolding grace.

People: **Make time for holy things;**

Leader: A moment of kindness,

People: **An hour of blessing,**

Leader: A day of rest,

People: **A season of healing.**

Leader: Take time to linger awhile in God's love,

People: **That God's love may linger awhile in each of us.**

*OPENING HYMN #570 "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

Gracious God, we come seeking a fresh encounter with you. We long to love and be loved; to dare to hope again; to feel our hearts quicken and our souls expand in the shadow of your wings. Let your Holy Spirit linger in this place; Let your presence rest upon your people. Lead us in your ways of love, that we will bear the fruits of a life with you. In Jesus name we pray. 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.

PRAYER of BLESSING for STUDENTS and TEACHERS

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 "Abide with Me"

Gretchen Fisher Orr - soloist

W. H. Monk

SCRIPTURE Romans 12:1-3 – Be Renewed

SERMON

Rev. Meg Watson

*HYMN #575 "Come and Find the Quiet Center"

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Softly and Tenderly"

Traditional

*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 #439 "God, dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*All who are able are invited to stand.

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

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 worshiping 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.

The flowers on the Communion Table are given in memory of Norman Strong by Geraldine Strong.

Greeters and Coffee Hour: Library Committee and Board of Trustees

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

Barbara Nichols on the loss of her husband Charlie Nichols on August 9; Ryan Snyder (friend of Steve Westerberg) on the loss of his grandmother; Sandy, Dylan and Sage Pycz on the loss of Ed Pycz (Sandy is a friend of Candy Buswell); Heidi Howie; Marge Salmon; Joyce Smith; Steve Bright having chemo; Susan Ahrens; Amy Freisinger; Pat Melville; Philip Bogard; Wendy Parker; Isiah Fleeting; Helen Dyar; Rachel Andrews; Christa Hockenberry; Cindy Madden; Mary White; Eleanor Sweet; Jan Peacock; Julie Wrona; Bonnie Brenner; Carol Shea; Bobby Kelley; Will and Diane Livermore; Susan Shimer; Nancy Bailey; Lorrie Dobson; Ben Savage; Lillian Burnett; Debbie Chase; Will Fisher and Jessica Surratt; E.G. and Donna Harvin; Adeline McGee; Chantelle Fuller; Pat Lazeren; Kim Burnham; Betty Worden; Mason Bower; Debbie Marshall; Jeanine Uthgenannt; Michael Turner; Candy Buswell; Rachel Meneses; Lois Montlick; Donna Peacock; Deborah Costello; Richard Brooke; Ray Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Thelma Gifford; Cooper Doyle; Horst Pohlmann; John Kaminski; Bess Howe; Melissa Morse; Charlotte Driggs

New additions in bold print

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES:

Bell Workshop: Noon to 1 PM in Fellowship Hall with James Burr. Anyone interested in learning more about playing handbells is invited to join us.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES:

Board of Music: Monday, August 25, 7 PM, Library

Trustees: Wednesday, August 27, 6:30 PM, Library

Support Group: Friday, August 230, 10:30 AM, Library

Scrip-Your-All has earned approximately \$4,380 towards our August goal of \$4,400. Remember to check our church website (FirstChurchOfVernon.org) where there is a page dedicated to Scrip-Your-All. Twenty different gift cards are available each Sunday (and a large number of eCards) but you may also order gift cards for pick-up next Sunday.

Sunday School Teachers are still needed for the Fall. Contact any member of the Board of Christian Education if interested.

This year, **Confirmation Classes** will be offered for all students in the 7th-9th grades. Classes will be held during our regular Sunday School hour in the Chapel. The first class will be an introductory session on Rally Sunday, September 7. There will be a **Presentation** for **parents, confirmands** and **sponsors** on **Friday, September 12** at **7 PM** in Fellowship Hall. A brief "opening ceremony" will follow the presentation. All those participating in Confirmation should be in attendance.

School Store, Rally Sunday, September 7 during Coffee Hour: The Board of Missions has purchased school supplies that will be available for you to "buy" at our **School Store** 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.

Looking Ahead! The Ways & Means Committee is holding their **Shred Event/Book/Baked Goods/Mum** sale on **Saturday, September 13.** **Books are needed** and donations may be dropped off at church the week leading up to the sale. Ways & Means is also looking for **members** to join their committee. If interested contact Susan Pilkons.

Desperately Needed! Women's Fellowship needs baskets for the Holiday Fair. Donations may be left in the Women's Fellowship closet.

Please Note: 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.**

Greeter and Coffee Hour Summer Schedule

- August 31 Stewardship & Evangelism and flower Committees

Thank you to the Library Committee and the Board of Trustees for hosting today.