

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

August 26, 2012

GATHERING MUSIC "Leola Two-Step" Joplin
"The High School Cadets March" Sousa

CHIMING of the HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Cynthia Carr

ACOLYTES

WORDS of REFLECTION

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

John 15:13

PRELUDE "Fugue on the Star Spangled Banner" J. K. Paine

*CALL to WORSHIP Carl Slicer

Leader: O God, who called all life into Being,

People: The earth, the sea and the sky are yours.

Leader: Your presence is all around us,

People: Every atom is full of your energy.

Leader: Your Spirit enlivens all who walk on the earth,

People: With the Spirit, we yearn for justice to be done.

Leader: For creation to be freed from bondage,

People: For the hungry to be fed,

Leader: For the captives to be released,

People: For your realm of peace to come on earth.

*OPENING HYMN #725 "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"

UNISON PRAYER of INVOCATION

As on the first day of the week, You began the work of creating us; as on the first day of the week, You raised Jesus from the dead; so on this first day of the week, good God, refresh and remake us. Bless us with your grace that we might begin our lives anew. And as this day and this week are new, empty our minds of all sin, regret, sorrow, pain and distraction, that our focus might be on You, your love, and your call to us in Jesus to live our lives, full and abundant. We ask this in his name. Amen.

DEDICATION of the FIELD of FLAGS The Rev. David Minnick

RESPONSIVE READING Lincoln's Gettysburg Address

Leader: Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

People: Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as the final resting place for those who gave their lives that this nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

Leader: But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate, we can not consecrate, we can not hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead,

who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract.

People: The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who found here have thus far so nobly advanced.

Leader: It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain;

All: That this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

REMARKS

Ms. Linda Shivers

Mr. George Apel, Mayor of Vernon

READING of NAMES of those WHO HAVE DIED from CONNECTICUT

SOLO "Field of Flags" Ms. Luanne Crosby

PRAYER of DEDICATION of the FIELD of FLAGS

A TIME with the CHILDREN Ms. Linda Shivers

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

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

SOLO

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

MUSIC RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY (#46 in hymnal)

*PRAYER of DEDICATION

SCRIPTURE Judges 11: 29-40

SERMON

The Rev. David Minnick

*CLOSING HYMN #722 "This Is My Song"

(*At the end of the closing hymn, the clergy will lead a procession out the front doors onto the steps of the church. Please gather there for the Benediction.*)

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

WELCOME TO FCCV!

If you are a guest, please take a moment after the worship service to 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.

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

Greeters and Coffee Hour: Memorial Garden and Furnishings and Memorials Committees

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Teachers/Shepherds Meeting: 11:30 AM, Library

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Crafts Group: Monday, August 27, 6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

BCE: Monday, August 27, 7 PM, Chapel

Men's Club: Tuesday, August 28, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Board of Music: Tuesday, August 28, 6:30 PM, Library

Support Group: Friday, August 31, 10:30 AM, Library

RALLY SUNDAY

September 9

the start of the Sunday School Program year

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!

In Our Ongoing Prayers... the family of **Jim Christensen**, nephew of Jan Peacock, on his death; **Mike Swan; Allan Chesterton; Claudette and Art Weingart; Bill Harford**, Ann's husband; **Peggy Ellis** (broken hip); **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; 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; 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**