

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

August 30, 2015

Rally Sunday

**PRELUDE** “Lead On, O King Eternal” Smart  
“Sonata” Beethoven  
“Toccata” Maily

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PAY IT FORWARD**

**\*CALL to WORSHIP**

Bob Warner

Leader: Look to the mountains; look to the hills!

**People: Love comes to us with joy!**

Leader: The world is filled with beauty.

**People: Flowers appear on the earth, birdsong brightens the day.**

Leader: Crops yield their produce in abundance, the air is filled with sweetness.

**People: The summer of God’s love is with us.**

Leader: Let the oil of gladness anoint your souls.

**People: Arise and sing for joy!**

**\*OPENING HYMN #284 “Gather Us In”**

**PRAYER of INVOCATION**

**Creating God, you are the source of summer’s splendor - the beauty and fragrance of delicate flowers, and sweet sound of birdsong. We come to you this morning with delight and gladness, grateful for all of your wonders. As the fields produce their harvest, may your love grow within us, that we too may produce a harvest of love, hope, and joy. 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** “It Is No Secret What God Can Do” S. Hamblin  
Guitar – Jim Montlick, Steve Westerberg

**SCRIPTURE** James 1:17-27

**SERMON** Rev. Robin Bird

**\*HYMN #526 “The Gift of Love”**

**SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS**

**MORNING PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**CALL to OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** “Shout to the Lord” D. Zschech

**\*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 #86 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** “Sortie Toccata” Dubois

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

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

**In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .**

**Lillian Morse;** Becky and Ron Burr; Debbie Chase; Dick Myer, 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; 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*

**Greeters and Coffee Hour:** Women’s Fellowship

**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.

## TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

**Church Family Picnic:** 11:30 AM

### TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

**School Store:** 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.

**Name Tags:** If you ordered a name tag you may pick it up today. If you need one, 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

**Men’s Group:** Tuesday, September 1, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

**Council:** Wednesday, September 2, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

**Support Group:** Friday, September 4, 10:30 AM, Library

**Pairs and Spares:** Our kick-off was this past Friday. Stop by the Scrip-Your-All table during Coffee Hour to see pictures of the event. We have some new events planned - hiking, New Britain Museum, Game Night. If you have ideas or any questions, contact Kate Fowler at kfowler64@yahoo.com or 860-614-9747.

**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.

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.

## It Is No Secret What God Can Do

The chimes of time ring out the news,  
Another day is through.  
Someone slipped and fell.  
Was that someone you?

You may have longed for added strength,  
Your courage to renew.  
Do not be disheartened,  
For I have news for you.

It is no secret what God can do.  
What He’s done for others, He’ll do for you.  
With arms wide open, He’ll pardon you.  
It is no secret what God can do.

There is no night for in His light  
You never walk alone.  
Always feel at home,  
Wherever you may go.

There is no power can conquer you  
While God is on your side.  
Take Him at his promise,  
Don’t run away and hide.

It is no secret what God can do.  
What He’s done for others, He’ll do for you.  
With arms wide open, He’ll pardon you.  
It is no secret what God can do.

## Shout to the Lord

My Jesus, My Savior,  
Lord, there is none like You;  
All of my days  
I want to praise  
The wonders of Your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter,  
Tower of refuge and strength;  
Let Every breath, all that I am  
Never cease to worship You.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth,  
Let us sing  
Power and majesty, praise to the King;  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
At the sound of Your name.  
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,  
Forever I’ll love You, forever I’ll stand,  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

## Scrip-Your-All Update

To date we have earned \$2,818. Thank you to all who are participating! It makes a difference. Not participating? Take a look at our great FCCV website for complete information on how to sign up ([firstchurchofvernon.org/scrip-your-all](http://firstchurchofvernon.org/scrip-your-all)) or stop by the Scrip-Your-All table during Coffee Hour for more information.

Many people have asked what our top percentage cards are. Below is a list of those cards we sell during Coffee Hour and the percentage that FCCV earns.

Ninety Nine	13%	JC Penny's	5%
Bertucci's	10%	Price Chopper	5%
Macy's	10%	Home Depot	4%
Barnes N Noble	9%	Kohl's	4%
Fridays	9%	Lowes	4%
Long Horn	9%	Rave	4%
Panera	9%	Staples	4%
Papa Gino	9%	Stop & Shop	4%
Outback	8%	Amazon	3%
Bed Bath	7%	Dairy Queen	3%
Starbuck's	7%	Dunkin	3%
TJ Maxx	7%	Subway	3%
Big Y	6%	Shell	2.5%
CVS	6%	Target	2.5%
Walgreen's	6%	Walmart	2.5%
iTunes	5%	Sunoco	1%

**Are you interested in helping our churches open their hearts and doors to all those who have a disability**, whether it be physical, mental or developmental? A national conference with the theme "Widening the Welcome" sponsored by United Church of Christ Disabilities Ministries will be held in Hartford, September 14-16. You are welcome to get involved. For more information, go to "Widening the Welcome" on the internet or call Jim Silver at 860-632-7279.