

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, he UCC

August 31, 2014

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL to WORSHIP (*responsive*) Joan Apel

Leader: God calls us to bless those who persecute us;

People: to pray for them rather than curse them.

Leader: God calls us to do what is right and honourable at all times - to live as peace-makers,

People: never retaliating with evil or seeking revenge no matter what has been done to us.

Leader: God calls us to treat our enemies with love and kindness,

People: and in this way, overpower evil with good.

Leader: God calls us to love one another;

People: seeing one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.

*OPENING HYMN #241 "Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

O God, you call us into a life that others have told us is easy, but it is not. Grant us the patience and endurance to journey with you, to allow ourselves at times to stumble, to live the hard way so that we might fully experience your love, grace and peace in this world, by becoming a people full of love and grace; and forgiving others. Let your Holy Spirit gently speak to us today as we worship you with one another. 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.

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 "I'll Fly Away" A. E. Brumley
Joanne Myer - soloist

SCRIPTURE Romans 12: 9-21

SERMON Rev. Robin Bird

*HYMN #527 "More Love to Thee, O Christ"

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Old Irish Blessing" Traditional/D. Agay

*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 #610 "Living for Jesus"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**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 from the wedding of Doe Simmonds and Bill Adams.

Greeters and Coffee Hour: Stewardship & Evangelism and Flower Committees

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

The family of Milton Tedford on his death; Sharon Christman on the death of her brother, Ben Savage – Sharon thanks the congregation for keeping Ben in their prayers during his battle with pancreatic cancer; the family of Marge Salmon on her death; 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; Joyce Smith; Steve Bright; 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; 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

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES:

Labor Day: Monday, September 1. The Church Office is closed.

Council: Wednesday, September 3, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Support Group: Friday, September 5, 10:30 AM, Library

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.

Sunday School Teachers are still needed. Each class needs two teachers who work as a team, alternating each week so the commitment is only for 2 or 3 weeks each month. Contact any member of the Board of Christian Education if interested.

This year, **Confirmation Classes** will be offered for all students in the 7th to 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.

J-WALKRZ...Join us for our first gathering on **Sunday, September 14** from **3:30-5 PM** in Kellogg Hall for the most thrilling 90 minutes of your life! (Okay...it may not be the MOST thrilling, but it's gonna be good...and you're gonna want to be here to experience it!)

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.

Craft Circle, Mondays from 6:30-8:30 PM. The Holiday Fair is rapidly approaching. Starting after Labor Day, we will be meeting each Monday evening to finish up crafts for the Fair. Feel free to stop in any time to help. All skill levels are welcome. Show us some ideas for different projects or pick up a craft kit to work on at home. For more info, contact Daryl, 871-8594. Thanks!

Acolytes Needed! To all parents of Sunday School children...if your child would like to be an acolyte, please contact Delythe Kracke at DelytheK@yahoo.com or (860) 872-3004.

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**.

A **CPR/AED Class**, sponsored by the Parish Nurses, will be scheduled in November. This class is offered to all members of the congregation. It is vital that we maintain trained individuals who can assist in case of an emergency during a church event. More information to follow. Anyone with questions should contact Delythe Kracke at Delythek@yahoo.com.

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. Check your local listings or go to CVCCT.org for the dates and times of showings of other FCCV events. Full length DVDs of the services are also available for borrowing in the Library.

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) or Sue Pilkons, 860-875-4122.

The **Somers Congregational Church** has recovered from the fire of January 1, 2012. They have built a new sanctuary with special attention to its acoustics. On Sunday, **September 7** at 4 PM, there will be an **Organ Dedication Concert** to dedicate our new Richards, Fowkes organ. Anyone interested is invited to attend this special event. It will feature organist Christa Rakich who will be accompanied on several works by flutist Greig Shearer and cellist Kathleen Schiano. The concert will conclude with a congregational singing of "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise." A reception will follow the concert. Free will donations will be accepted.