# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UC September 27, 2015

PRELUDE "Reverie" Ackenhusen

"Pastorale" Zipoli

"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" Barr

"Come, Ye Faithful" Hughes

#### WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*CALL to WORSHIP Phyllis Chase

Leader: Blessed be the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth!

People: Praise be to God, the Giver of many gifts!

Leader: Our help is in God's name, the One who calls us here.

People: We come with songs of praise, with prayers too deep for words.

Leader: Blessed be the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth!

People: Blessed be the Lord!

\*OPENING HYMN #622 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

#### PRAYER of INVOCATION

O God, we come into your presence from many different places. We come with songs of joy and shouts of gratitude. We come carrying heavy burdens and sighs of suffering. As you welcome us into your house, lift our burdens and receive our praise. Remind us of your grace and your mercy. Bind us together, that we may be at peace with one another and be strengthened to go forth in service to the world. In your holy 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.

#### 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** "Poor Wayfaring Stranger" Folk Hymn

Stan Possell, soloist

**SCRIPTURE** Esther 7:1-3

**SERMON** Rev. Robin Bird

\*HYMN #545 "He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought"

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

**CALL to OFFERING** 

**OFFERTORY** "Amazing Grace" Newton

\*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 #631 "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

\*BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** "Postlude and Toccata on Hymn to Joy" Fedak/Beethoven

\*All who are able are invited to stand.

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

# In Our Ongoing Prayers...

Emmalee Watkins, 12-year-old friend of Peg and Steve Leary; Bess Howe; Tim Madigan, Althea's husband; Fred Kracke; Philip Bogard, Cathy Foote's brother; Debbie Barney; Barbara Evensen; Dave Toolan; Lillian Morse; Debbie Chase; Dick Myer, Margaret Klukas; Janita Majkowski; Candy, Lynette Melanson's sister; Dave Boucher; Greg Moffatt; Lillian Burnett; Carol Mento; Paula Dascomb; Rachel Meneses; Joyce Smith; Mike Lazeren; Gilmay Markunas and family; Pat Lazeren; Gail Brewer; David and Elizabeth Hollister; Bobby Dwire; Warren Little; Frederick Burgess; Tom Fitzgerald; Melinda Singh; Paul Westerberg; people struggling with mental illness; Ed Rockland; 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; 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

**Board of Music:** 11:30 AM, Library

# THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Bible Study: Monday, September 28, 11 AM, Library

Mind and Spirit Support Group: Monday, September 28, 7 PM, Library Men's Breakfast Group: Tuesday, September 29, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner Ladies Lunch: Tuesday, September 29, noon at Mitchell's. Anyone needing a ride should call Jan Muro at 860-872-1757. So we can have a head count, please sign up on the sheet posted in Fellowship Hall. We meet monthly on the last Tuesday. Theology on Tap: Thursday, October 1, 6 PM at Mitchell's Restaurant Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, October 1, 7:30 PM, Sanctuary

Support Group: Friday, October 2, 10:30 AM, Library

Aid for Syrian Refugees: We have the opportunity to work with the organization NuDay Syria which funds many programs to aid those still living in war-torn Syria and those who have been displaced to refugee camps in surrounding countries. These people are in desperate need, most having fled with nothing. For the next month, we will be collecting new and gently-used clothing, bedding and other items to be delivered directly to those in need by NuDay Syria. Please see Cathy Foote after church in Fellowship Hall for more information.

<u>Pairs and Spares</u> - Line Dancing on Saturday, October 3 at the TKB. Doors open at 6:15 PM with music starting at 6:30 PM. Admission is \$10. BYOB, snacks and food. Come and dance or just enjoy the music and company. Also, mark your calendars for a **Bring-Your-Own Picnic Dinner** and **Fire Pit** event on Saturday, October 17 at 6 PM, location TBD and **Apple** and **Pumpkin Picking** on Saturday, October 24, location and time TBD (prior to noon with a picnic lunch.) If you have ideas for future events or any questions, contact Kate Fowler at 860-614-9747 or kfowler64@yahoo.com.

**<u>Bloodmobile</u>**: Friday, October 9 from 1:30-6:15 PM. Volunteers are needed to give blood, to help out that day and/or provide goodies. For more information, contact Doe Simmonds, 860-872-0841.

<u>Trustees Work Party</u>: Saturday, October 17 from 9:00 AM-2 PM. We will be cleaning and fixing things around the church, inside and out, depending on the weather, so come and join the fun. Lend a hand in making the church facility look its best. Be sure to bring your tools. Contact Sue Mias if interested.

**Reading Buddies Volunteers Needed!** Every Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 3-5:15 PM, volunteers are needed to read to students at Maple Street School. This program is run by the YMCA. If interested, **please sign up** on the sheet posted on the bulletin board opposite the coat room downstairs. For more information call Millie Oliphant at 860-872-7106.

<u>Sunday School Volunteers Still Needed</u> - one Primary teacher and one Pre-K Assistant. If you love children and can spare a Sunday or two a month, please talk to Deb Hampton or Debi Hockenberry. You do not need to be a parent of a child in Sunday School. All are welcome. Thank you!