

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

October 7, 2012

Holy Communion

GATHERING MUSIC

“Communion Hymn Suite” R. Warner
“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands” Traditional

CHIMING of the HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Cynthia Carr
(Please sign the Friendship Register before passing it down the pew.)

PAY IT FORWARD

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

ACOLYTES

PRELUDE “O Thou Loving Savior” R. Wilson

WORDS OF REFLECTION

We are all one family. (English)

Somos todos una familia. (Spanish)

Nous sommes tous une famille. (French)

*CALL to WORSHIP Debbie Marshall

Leader: Here in this place, with these people, we come to worship the living God.

People: In you, O God, we hope; in you, Creator of love, we live.

Leader: Here in this sacred space, in these very moments, we are invited to the Table of Joy.

People: In you, Christ of the Way, we rejoice; in you, dear Brother, grace is as near as your heart.

Leader: Here on this day of gentleness and beauty, we are filled with the peace of God.

People: In you, O Spirit, we find our path; in you, Teacher of hope, we learn to serve.

*OPENING HYMN #277 “Christians, We Have Met to Worship”

UNISON PRAYER of CONFESSION

As we gather before You this day, O God, we acknowledge that we have not been the people you have called us to become. Rather than searching for Jesus in others, we have focused on what sets us apart; dwelling on that which frightens or annoys us, rather than on the blessedness of every child in your creation. Rather than building bridges or seeking reconciliation, we have nurtured resentments and clung to old hurts. Bless us by your grace to live anew. Soften our hardened hearts with your mercy. Help us to find our place as your children within the wider community of the faithful. We ask this in the name of Christ our Redeemer.

ASSURANCE of PARDON

Leader: The greatness and glory of God, the saving love of Christ, and the power of the Spirit take form in forgiveness.

People: Receiving forgiveness, we experience closeness with God. Acknowledging it, we offer words of praise.

All: Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI (#35 in hymnal)

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS – Ann Harford and family on the loss of her husband William

MORNING PRAYER and the LORD’S PRAYER (*unison...“debts”*)

PRAYER RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 25: 6-10a

SERMON

The Rev. David Minnick

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Bread of the World” D. Eliot

*DOXOLOGY (#46 in hymnal)

*PRAYER of DEDICATION (*unison*)

O God, you provide what we cannot purchase or possess, unlimited resources of forgiveness and freedom. These are your gifts of love to us, and it is through their wise use that our faith finds expression. As people forgiven and free, as people afforded an opportunity to serve, we respond with these offerings and with an abiding thanks. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

CALL to CHRIST’S TABLE

RESPONSIVE INVITATION

Leader: Throughout God’s world today, Christians are celebrating as one family dining together in one room under one roof.

People: Our sisters and brothers in Asia, Africa, Europe, the other Americas and Australia join us in lifting the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

Leader: In Christ’s love, there is no East or West, no North or South, but only one Spirit of hope, love and peace for all.

People: Let us praise Christ! May this holy meal empower each of us to be people of grace and hope in a time of uncertainty and strife.

*COMMUNION HYMN #422 “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

PRAYER of CONSECRATION

BREAKING of the BREAD

(*Gluten-free bread is available. Please indicate your preference to a Deacon serving communion. Please wait until all are served before eating the bread and drinking the cup.*)

SHARING of the CUP

UNISON PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

Wondrous and ever-present God, today throughout your creation, your children gather as one about your table. We give thanks for the rich diversity gathered in your name. For different skin colors, various accents, distinct languages and an assortment of sacred places where we gather, we praise your name. Just as many grains make up one loaf and a variety of grapes are blended to fill one cup, so too are we one people. May the sacrifice of Jesus inspire us to look for common ground and shared interests. Giving thanks for our worship together and this sacred

meal, bless us to live into the fullness of new life which comes to us in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #566 "Be Still, My Soul"

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE "Ye Are the Light of the World" E. Broughton

*All who are able are invited to stand.

The flowers on the Communion Table are given in memory of Vera Osborn by her nephew and his wife, Bruce and Linda Downing.

Deacons assisting with Communion: Delythe Kracke (Deacon-in-charge), Bill Kerr, Jim Wilson, Pam Lyons, Larry Bates, Debbie Marshall, Don Peacock

Greeters: Board of Deacons

Coffee Hour: Ways and Means Committee

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.

Please Note: The 3rd-5th grade Sunday School class will now be meeting in Kellogg Hall.

Included in today's bulletin are inserts that support Neighbors in Need and an envelope for a collection that will be taken today. Imagine a world without hunger, violence, discrimination, oppression and poverty. Please find it in your heart to help support these ministries.

Pay It Forward: Today we feature Annie Longo and another name will be drawn for our next Pay It Forward gift. If you wish to donate to the Pay It Forward Ministry, please make your check payable to FCCV, noting "PIF Ministry" in the memo and leave it in the Assistant Treasurer or Treasurer's mailbox. Pay It Forward is now on the FCCV website. Check us out!

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Transformers: 11:30 AM, Choir Room

Youth Mission: We will meet at church at 2:45 PM to go to Peter's Retreat. We should return to church around 7 PM but will call on our way back. We will be cooking for the residents. A hat, closed-toe shoes, short sleeve shirt and long to below knee length pants are required. If you are interested in attending, please let Linda Shivers, Dave or Debi Hockenberry, Halene Fujimoto, Beth Fowler or Sadie Pollack know. Permission slips (available from Linda) are also needed.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Ways and Means Committee: Monday, October 8, 7 PM, Library

Men's Club: Tuesday, October 9, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Laity Committee: Tuesday, October 9, 7 PM, Library

Prayer Shawl Group: Wednesday, October 10, 1 PM, Library

BCE: Wednesday, October 10, 7 PM, Library

Missions: Wednesday, October 10, 7 PM, Chapel

Stewardship and Evangelism: Wednesday, October 10, 7 PM, Quilters' Corner

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, October 11, 7:30 PM

Support Group: Friday, October 12, 10:30 AM, Library

Anniversary Committee: Friday, October 12, 2 PM, Library

A Sunday School teacher is still needed for 6th-8th grade. Contact Linda Shivers.

Please Note: The Audit, Safe Church and Stewardship and Evangelism Committees' terms start in January of each year. With 2013 just around the corner, we are in need of people willing to serve on these committees. If interested, please contact Tony Muro at 860-872-1757 (home), 860-875-9498 (work) or tonymuro@sbcglobal.net.

The loose offering collected today is placed in the Deacons' Fund for aid, in time of emergency, to people within the congregation.

AED/CPR Class, Saturday, November 10 at 9 AM. The class usually lasts from 2-3 hours and will cover the basics of CPR and usage of the AED. Since we have an AED on the church property, we, as a congregation, are required to have members, who in the event of an emergency, would be qualified to perform CPR and use the AED properly. The class will be given by CPROHeart and should be attended by those who were certified two years ago and by anyone interested in learning this life-saving skill. The class is being sponsored by the Parish Nurses who will pay half the cost (the more attending, the less the cost will be). Contact Delythe Kracke (DelytheK@yahoo.com or (860) 872-3004) with questions or to sign up for the class.

Non-Perishable Food items are still being collected in the Mission Boxes located in the Breezeway and routinely delivered to the Food Pantry. Donations are greatly appreciated. The HVCC Food Pantry is currently in **urgent need** of the following: canned vegetables and fruit, pork and beans or baked beans, canned spaghetti or ravioli, instant potatoes, canned gravy (turkey or chicken), soup (canned or dry), rice or noodle side dishes, canned tomatoes (stewed, diced, etc.), brownie or cookie mixes, cake mixes and frosting, pudding or jello, canned tuna, peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, boxed macaroni and cheese. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Furnishings and Memorials keeps a record of donations and items acquired in the Memory books. Take a look when you have a minute! The most up-to-date one is beautifully done and can be found in the cabinet in the Breezeway where the Memorial Garden books are kept. The other books are in the Sanctuary on the Bible Stand under the restored Bible.

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. This is a great way for your child to be involved in the church service with minimal commitment.

Youth Fellowship is in need of personal items (deodorant, razors, soap, tooth brushes, etc) for our monthly mission service to Peter's Retreat. Please put items in bag in the Breezeway.

Please Wear Your Name Tag! Reach out in fellowship by wearing your name tag. If you need one, please contact the Church Office, fccv@snet.net or (860)875-7580.

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. 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 (872-1757 or jmoze@hotmail.com) or Jon Dunlap (875-7254).

Want to Meet New People? Volunteer to Serve! Whether it's welcoming others at the door before the Worship Service or providing a baked good or snack, making coffee or setting up and cleaning up after Coffee Hour, volunteers are needed. A sign up sheet is posted on the refrigerator in the kitchen. All help is welcome.

In Our Ongoing Prayers... Alec Montgomery having wrist surgery on September 26;

Mike Kermode deployed in Afghanistan; Mike Swan; Allan Chesterton; Claudette and Art Weingart; Pat Lazeren; 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); 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