

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

October 19, 2014

Laity Sunday

PRELUDE "Cantabile" Widor
"Garden Song" Lichner
"March" Valenti

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Ann Harford

*CALL to WORSHIP (*responsive*) Bob Martel

Leader: We have been called here to face into God's gracious way of living. We are to leave the past behind us and walk into these new days of our ministry.

People: Sometimes we'd rather remember how things used to be. Sometimes we are afraid to be disciples.

Leader: But this is a new day, and Christ is sharing freedom with us. It is a day to put aside all fear, to leave doubting behind, and to take courage in God's loving call.

People: We will look to the new day, and we will set ourselves on the Jerusalem road. We will strive for faithfulness, even at the cost of popularity, and we will be disciples of Christ, renewing and healing the world around us.

*OPENING HYMN #280 "God Is Here!"

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

God, who has promised eternal life to all, we come before you as humble people. You give us many opportunities to serve, but we turn away. Sometimes we think of ourselves before we think of others. We take paths that lead away from you not toward you. We need you, God! Be with us on our journey. Help us grow closer to you and to reach out to those in need. Through God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, 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 Lynn Sweet

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'm Gonna Sing, Sing, Sing"
Transformers

SCRIPTURE 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Dick Wurst

SERMON "P. S. I Love You" Barbara Hesse

*HYMN #452 "Here I Am, Lord"

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS Ron Burr

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING Kathleen McClure

OFFERTORY "Empty Hands, Open Arms" L. Larson

*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 #431 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

*BENEDICTION Ryan Moreau

POSTLUDE "Presto" Kabalevsky

**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 given in celebration of the birthdays of Melissa and Grandma Rydberg by the Kracke family.

The flowers on the Marbletop Table are given in memory of Eleanor Sweet, Tom's mother, by the Sweet Family.

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

State Trooper Christopher Melanson, son of Rey and Lynette Melanson, injured in an on-duty accident; **Debbie Chase** having surgery Tuesday; Ibbey Cummings, Hal Cummings' wife; John McCormick, friend of Tony Muro; Karen Prewo; Pat Lazeren; Sharon Lacey; Ed Rockland, Bettye Kramer's brother-in-law; Maggie and David Minnick; Joyce Smith; Mike Swan; Becky Burr; the people of Syria, including the family of Tarek Eid; Heidi Howie; Steve Bright; Pat Melville; Philip Bogard; Wendy Parker; Rachel Andrews; Christa Hockenberry; Cindy Madden; Mary White; Jan Peacock; Julie Wrona; Carol Shea; Bobby Kelley; Will and Diane Livermore; Susan Shimer; Nancy Bailey; Lorrie Dobson; Lillian Burnett; Will Fisher and Jessica Surratt; E.G. and Donna Harvin; Adeline McGee; Chantelle Fuller; Kim Burnham; Betty Worden; Mason Bower; Debbie Marshall; Jeanine Uthgenannt; Michael Turner; Candy Buswell; 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

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 worshipping 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

Greeters: Beth Hermann and Peg Leary

Coffee Hour: Ways and Means Committee

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Proposed 2015 Budget Informational Meeting following the worship service. The proposed budget is based on input from our boards and committees and is informational only.

Memorial Garden Committee: 11:15 AM, Library

Board of Music: 11:45 AM, PF Room

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Craft Group: Monday, October 20, 6:30-8:30 PM. We are finishing up crafts for the Fair. Feel free to stop in any time to help. All skill levels are welcome. For more information, contact Daryl, 871-8594. Thanks!

Evening Circle: Monday, October 20, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Bible Study: Tuesday, October 21, 11 AM, Library

BCE: Tuesday, October 21, 7 PM, Library

Trustees: Wednesday, October 22, 6:30 PM, Library

New Members Class: Wednesday, October 22, 7 PM, PF Room. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

S & E: Wednesday, October 22, 7 PM, Chapel

Theology on Tap: Thursday, October 23, 6 PM, R House Restaurant

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, October 23, 7:30 PM

Support Group: Friday, October 24, 10:30 AM, Library

Variety Show: Friday, October 24, 7PM in the Sanctuary. Suggested Donation: \$10 adults/\$7 students and seniors. All proceeds will benefit the Les Childs Music Scholarship. Refreshments to follow.

2nd Annual Trunk or Treat: Sunday, October 26 after the Worship Service. Children are encouraged to wear their costumes to Sunday School. We will be collecting treats from the trunks of our parishioners' cars on the Center Road side of the church...you don't want to miss this! Sign up in the Breezeway or in Fellowship Hall.

J*WALKRZ: On **October 26**, we will be going to the **Haunted Graveyard** at Lake Compounce. Bring your friends! We will go as a group. Any adults who would like to chaperone are welcome. If we have a group of 25, the cost will be \$27 (fewer than 25 will cost \$31). A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board down the hall from the Library. Please sign up and give your check to Debi Hockenberry as soon as possible.

The J*WALKRZ are also planning a **trip to St. John the Divine Cathedral** in New York City on January 23-24 for an "Interspiritual Nightwatch" program where we will sleep over at the Cathedral. To hold your spot, we need a \$50 deposit by the end of October. We're hoping to do fundraising to cover the additional cost. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway by the Library. If you have any questions, please contact Debi Hockenberry.

Singers! Anyone interested in singing the Christmas Cantata, "Holy Night of Miracles" by Lloyd Larson, please contact Leanne Connolly. The Cantata will be sung during the worship service on December 7.

Wanted to Borrow - Christmas garlands, standing indoor and outdoor Christmas figures (at least 3 feet tall), and lighted trees (3 - 4 feet tall) for the Holiday Fair. If you have some we can borrow, please call Joanne Myer, 872-9222. Thank you.

Have you walked through FCCV's **Memorial Garden**? No matter the time of year, it makes for a very spiritual walk. The Memorial Garden Committee is always looking for new members to help care for the Garden. We need volunteers to help with planting and weeding; to help families choose a site and then prepare interment sites; to handle the paperwork and finances and manual labor for care of the garden. Any questions or to volunteer, please contact Chairman Jane Morse.

Name Tags: If you ordered a name tag it is available for pick-up at the Scrip-Your-All table during Coffee Hour. If you need a name tag you can order it any Sunday during Coffee Hour or contact Jim Montlick (jamontlik@aol.com). You can choose a pin, magnet or clip. A donation of \$3-\$5 is suggested.

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**.

Acolytes Needed! To all parents of Sunday School children...if your child would like to be an acolyte, please contact Delythe Kracke at 860-872-1757 or 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 at jmoze@hotmail.com or 872-1757 or Sue Pilkons at 860-875-4122.