

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

October 21, 2012

Laity Sunday

GATHERING MUSIC "We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit" Buxtehude
"Trumpet Concerto" Telemann

CHIMING of the HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jim Wilson

PAY IT FORWARD

Mary Wheeler

GALLERY of FAITH MOMENT

ACOLYTES

Paul Denning, Arielle Shivers

PRELUDE "Little Prelude in B-flat"

J. S. Bach

WORDS of REFLECTION

"The greatest thing a person can do for our heavenly Creator is to be kind to some of God's other children."

*RESPONSIVE CALL to WORSHIP

Bob Warner

Leader: Sisters and brothers, as we gather in the welcome of God's love, as we gather in the joy of our unity in Christ, as we gather in the power of the Spirit, let us listen for the voice of God!

People: Let us worship God, who has spoken and still speaks to those who attend to the roar or the whisper of the Holy One. Amen!

*OPENING HYMN #607 "In All the Seasons Seeking God"

UNISON PRAYER of INVOCATION

Surprising and persistent God, you never give up on us. You seek us, follow us, call us. We cannot escape from your yearning for us, and only when we turn to you do we find the sweetness of life, the reason for living, an ever flowing fountain of joy. Thank you for your amazing grace that surprises us, comforts us and renews us. Give us hearts of gratitude, and forever let us sing your praise. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 104: 1-13 p. 754

*GLORIA PATRI (#35 in hymnal)

A TIME with the CHILDREN

Cherish Hockenberry

The LORD'S PRAYER (unison... "debts")

(Children may leave for Sunday School after the Lord's Prayer.)

ANTHEM "With a Voice of Singing"

M. Shaw

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

Deb Bartos

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE Mark 10: 35-45

Larry Heebner

*SERMON HYMN #452 "Here I Am, Lord"

SERMON

Jan Muro

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Hallelujah, Amen!"

G. F. Handel

*DOXOLOGY (#46 in hymnal)

PRAYER of DEDICATION (unison)

Gracious, loving, merciful God, bless and multiply these gifts we have returned to you. Freely we have received, freely we give back. It is our

hope and our prayer that our gifts will be used as a means of extending God's plan for our lives, our community, our nation and our world.

May they create a spark of awareness, in the lives touched by our offerings, of Your love, Your forgiveness, Your comfort and the joy of Your presence. Enlarge our generosity and reveal to each of us ways that we can be of service. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #490 "Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant"

BENEDICTION

Claudette Weingart

Leader: When you leave this gathering, sing Hosannas. Carry their glad cry into this new week.

People: However popular or unpopular the cause, we wish to follow Jesus Christ.

Leader: God overlooks our past and sends us into the world as representatives of the good news.

People: God in Christ is bringing wholeness to our lives and giving us opportunities to minister to others.

Leader: We have been commissioned and empowered to make a difference in the quality of life around us.

People: Hosanna!! Blessed are all who go forth to serve. Glory to God in the highest!

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE "Christ Has Triumphed, Alleluia!"

E. Broughton

*All who are able are invited to stand.

Ushers: Ricky Clay, Sarah Kline, Nick Bartos, April Calvelli

Greeters: Nancy Wilson, Marilyn Newton

Coffee Hour: Ways and Means Committee

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

To commemorate the 225th Anniversary of FCCV in November 1987, a chest was beautifully constructed and filled with mementos of the church at that time.

This "time capsule" has been hidden away, untouched, for the last 25 years. The intent at the time was that this capsule be opened during our 250th Anniversary year. The day has arrived and the capsule will be opened as part of the Children's Sermon this morning. It will accompany our children as they head downstairs to Sunday School. Be sure to join the fun in Fellowship Hall after the worship service. We can all take a look at the objects that have been standing the test of time in the church vault...another milestone on our journey to November 18, 2012!

Season of Giving

"For a crowd is not company; and faces are but a gallery of pictures; talk but a tinkling symbol where there is no love." We hope you took notice of this quote in the October Carillon. We chose the theme "FCCV's GALLERY of FAITH" for this year's Season of Giving, because we believe we can think of our church as a gallery (a place where people may gather). However, our church is not merely a gallery of pictures. It is a gallery filled with love...love of God through Christ and love for each other. We exhibit this love through the many opportunities

provided at FCCV...opportunities for worship, service and fellowship that are a blessing to each of us. This week our "Season of Giving Moment" features "Gallery of the Church" as we spotlight the Boards and Committees that nourish the ministry of FCCV. Come to Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour this morning, and take a look at a wonderful display of posters provided by many of the groups of dedicated volunteers who give of their time to benefit our church and our community.

Transformers: 11:30 AM, Choir Room

Memorial Garden: 11:15 AM, Library

Music at First Presents

**Sweet Adelines
Millennium Magic Chorus
Double Trouble Quartet
Voice Activated Quartet**

TODAY at 4 PM

Join us for a terrific afternoon of barbershop harmony.
Suggested donation - \$7 adults/\$5 seniors and students

Pay It Forward: Last week we heard the heartfelt story of Annie Longo's gift to help a good friend, a single mom of four children, who has been affected by the weak economy. Today we feature Ken Morgan. 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 our FCCV website. Check us out!

TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

The Board of Missions and Outreach is again sponsoring our annual "**Adopt-a-Family for Thanksgiving**" program where our church family provides Thanksgiving dinners for families in need in the Vernon area. Those who wish to participate may **sign up today** or on Sundays, October 28, November 4 and 11. Thanksgiving baskets will be collected on Monday, November 12 between 6:30 and 9 AM in the FCCV parking lot. We are also collecting non-perishable food items to drop off at Hockanum Valley on November 12. These can be left in the Missions Box in the Breezeway. If you would like to help on Monday, November 12 or have questions, please contact Sandra O'Gara, 872-6649 or Deb Cutting, 875-2291. Hockanum Valley is also looking for volunteers for the holiday season. Please contact Joan, 872-9825, for more information.

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS! A book sale will be part of the Holiday Fair on November 2 and 3. Proceeds will benefit the Library as we try to make it a more modern media center. If you have books to donate, please leave them in boxes or bags in the Library. If you have any questions or need books picked up from your home, please call Daryl at 860-871-8594.

WELCOME TO FCCV!

If you are a guest, please take a moment to sign our Guest Book (on the table in the Narthex) and help yourself to a Welcome Bag made specially 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.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Craft Group: Monday, October 22, 6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

Men's Club: Tuesday, October 23, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Board of Music: Tuesday, October 23, 6:30 PM, Library

Trustees: Wednesday, October 24, 7 PM, Library

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, October 25, 7:30 PM

Support Group: Friday, October 26, 10:30 AM, Library

CANDIDATE WEEKEND

Come and meet the final candidate for Senior Pastor, Rev. Meg Watson and her husband Dean, on **Saturday, October 27** from 9 to 11 AM in Fellowship Hall. Grab a cup of coffee and a donut, have a chat with Meg and find out more about her and her family. Meg will also be conducting the church service on **Sunday, October 28**. We encourage you to attend and hear her preach and take advantage of these opportunities to meet Meg.

Please Note: On October 28, in order to give everyone a chance to hear the candidate's sermon, there will be no Sunday School (the Toddler Room will be open for children 5 years and younger). Babysitting will be available after the service for the congregational vote.

Confirmation Class, Sunday, October 28 will be a regular class. We will go to First Cathedral at a later date.

Youth Fellowship (6th-12th grade), Sunday, October 28, 5 PM. We are having our own meet and greet with the candidate for Senior Pastor. Pizza, soda and dessert will be provided. This is a great opportunity to introduce ourselves and plan some November/December activities.

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.

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.

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.

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).

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.**

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.

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... Nancy Shoemaker and family on the loss of her father; Sandy Blair (Hockanum Valley Day Care Director) on the loss of her mother, Bertha Bray; George and Joan Apel; Ann Harford and family on the loss of her husband William; Alec Montgomery recovering from wrist surgery; 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