

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

November 2, 2014

All Saints Day ~ Holy Communion

PRELUDE	“Finlandia”	Bish
	“Sonata”	Beethoven
	“Prelude in G”	J. S. Bach

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

*CALL to WORSHIP (*responsive*) Peg Leary

Leader: We remember, O God...

People: The countless saints of history who have blazed a trail of courage through time.

Leader: We remember, O God...

People: The women and men in our own lives who shined the light for us and led us to deeper faith and understanding.

Leader: We remember, O God...

People: The strong gentle ones, the generous hearts and genuine heroes who served as faithful examples for us along the way.

Leader: We remember, O God...

People: The love of Jesus Christ, the blessing of his Holy Spirit, the promise of God's redeeming grace.

Leader: Here at the table we remember that we are not alone, that a great crowd of witnesses gathers all around us.

People: Here at the table we gather in community with the saints of light and lift our hearts to God.

*OPENING HYMN #284 “Gather Us In”

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

Almighty God, you knit your people together into one holy church. You breathe your Spirit upon us and we come alive as the body of Christ. Breathe upon us now and lead us to live as your blessed saints, full of love for you and for one another. Teach us to give ourselves away as Jesus did, that we may know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

CALL to PRAYER

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

WORDS of INSTITUTION

BREAKING the BREAD and SHARING the CUP

(*Gluten-free bread is available. Please indicate your preference to a Deacon. Please hold the elements until all are served.*)

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

Loving God, we thank you for refreshing our souls with this remembrance of your love. By your Holy Spirit, strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another and send us out into the world to do your will, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

SCRIPTURE Revelations 7:9-10 Ephesians 1:11-18

SERMON

Rev. Meg Watson

RECOGNITION of LONG-TIME MEMBERS

RECEPTION of NEW MEMBERS

Congregational Response

We welcome you with joy into the life of this church. We promise our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

COVENANT of MEMBERSHIP

Leader: As members of the First Congregational Church of Vernon, we share in this covenant:

People: We believe in God, we hold a deep and abiding love for Jesus Christ, and we are willing to be guided by the Holy Spirit as revealed to us in Scripture and through prayerful discernment.

Leader: We are a faith community, part of the body of Christ,

People: Proclaiming the good news of Christ's resurrection and the freedom of new life for all who follow his ways, sharing God's love with others by reaching out to those in need, and continuing to deepen our knowledge and understanding of God's call in our lives.

Leader: With the help of God and the support of this body of Christ,

People: We covenant to do our best to follow Christ's example and embrace the great commandment, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself,” and his new commandment, “Love one another.”

Leader: As we journey together,

People: We promise to support and pray for one another, ever mindful that we are to lift up one another with dignity and Christian love.
Leader: We will support this Body of Christ to the best of our ability,
People: By participating in worship and sacraments, through our work and financial support, and in mission and fellowship, in order to strengthen its ministries and deepen our commitment as a faith community that is welcoming and accessible to all.

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY "How Beautiful" T. Paris

*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 #477 "Pass It On"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Saints March" Utterback

**All who are able are invited to stand.*

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

Welcome to our New Members Linda Chaloult, Donna Kaminsky and Beverly Munns and Sarah Summers. Please take a moment to welcome them downstairs in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour.

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

The **family of Walter Simmers** on his death; State Trooper Christopher Melanson injured in an on-duty accident; Debbie Chase; 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 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

Deacons assisting with Communion: Delythe Kracke (Deacon-in-charge), Marilyn Newton, Megan Hasty, Jan Muro, Bob Warner, Peg Leary, Cheryl Purnell

Coffee Hour: Stewardship and Evangelism Committee

TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

The **Script-Your-All** program has a special offer this week because of its 20th anniversary. We have a limited number of \$25 iTunes cards with a **20% bonus - FCCV will earn \$5 on each \$25 card!** Now's the time to buy iTunes gift cards for Christmas, birthday or "just because" gifts. Stop down during Coffee Hour to check out all your gift card options!

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Craft Group: Monday, November 3, 6:30-8:30 PM. We are finishing up crafts for the Fair.

Evening Circle: Monday, November 3, 7 PM in the Library for a Travelogue

Art Auction Meeting: Monday, November 3, 7 PM, Chapel

Bible Study: Tuesday, November 4, 11 AM, Library

Council: Wednesday, November 5, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Theology on Tap: Thursday, November 6, 6 PM, R House Restaurant

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, November 6, 7:30 PM

Support Group: Friday, November 7, 10:30 AM, Library

Holiday Fair: Friday, November 7, 5-8 PM and Saturday, November 8, 9 AM-2 PM

Service of Installation for Rev. Robin Bird: Sunday, November 9, 4 PM in the Sanctuary followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall

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.

Please Note! If you are planning on attending the dinner being served at the Holiday Fair on Friday, November 7, please sign up on the sheet provided in Fellowship Hall.

Cookie Bakers Needed for the Cookie Booth at the Holiday Fair! If you are willing to bake a couple of dozen cookies, please contact Delythe Kracke at 860-872-3004 or Delythek@yahoo.com.

Costume Jewelry Needed for the Jewelry Booth at the Holiday Fair. **Volunteers** are also **needed** to work at the booth on Friday and Saturday, November 7 and 8. Jewelry may be left in the Church Office. Interested volunteers should contact Gaile Dembeck or Valerie Sexton.



2015 GIVING CAMPAIGN

FCCV's Giving Campaign begins today! This year's theme is "Be a SPARK in the darkness...It only takes a SPARK to get a fire going!" Our goal is to continue to grow our church through programs within our church and our community. Our Boards and Committees have made budget recommendations for the coming year that comprise teaching ministries, including our Teaching Parish Student, outreach programs, support of our amazing ministers and continuing the upkeep of our beautiful church building - to name just a few! We have an aggressive goal this year of \$270,000 which will enable us to work towards a reduction in our deficit as we support our budget items. Keep your eye out for Sparky during the campaign for more information!

Anyone wishing to purchase **lights** for the **Memory Tree** in the Memorial Garden that is lit during the Christmas season may do so during Coffee Hour beginning next Sunday, November 9.

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**.

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.

ADOPT a FAMILY for THANKSGIVING



The Board of Missions and Outreach is sponsoring our annual "Adopt-a-Family for Thanksgiving" program where our church family provides Thanksgiving dinners for Vernon area families in need. **Those who wish to participate may sign up during Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall today or next Sunday, November 9.** The donated food will be collected on Sunday, November 16 from 12 - 3 PM in the FCCV parking lot. As a reminder, you may also contribute nonperishable foods to the shopping carts in the church Breezeway near the Missions Box. If you would like to help on Sunday, November 16 or if you have questions, please contact Kathleen Gallo at 860-930-5958 or Valerie Ellis at 860-205-0108.

Family of 3 or 4

Large turkey
Lg. box instant potatoes or 5 lbs. potatoes
Large box or bag of stuffing
2 cans gravy
2 sm. or 1 lg. can yams or sweet potatoes
1 can cranberry sauce
2 cans fruit
2 cans vegetables
Brownie or cookie mix or
Cake mix and frosting
1 pkg, dinner rolls
Breakfast bread or muffin mix
Disposable roasting pan

Family of 1 or 2

Small turkey, turkey breast or chicken
Sm. box instant potatoes or 2-3 lbs. potatoes
Sm. box or bag of stuffing
1 can gravy
1 can yams or sweet potatoes
1 can cranberry sauce
1 can fruit
1 can vegetables
Brownie or cookie mix
Breakfast bread or muffin mix
1 bottle apple or cranberry juice
Disposable roasting pan

**Hockanum Valley is also looking for volunteers for the holiday season.
Please contact Victoria at 860-872-7727, ext 2916 for more information.**



THANKSGIVING SERVICE

THANKSGIVING DAY BREAKFAST/SERVICE

On Thanksgiving morning, Thursday, **November 27**, join us for a hot buffet breakfast with your family and friends. Breakfast will be served in Fellowship Hall at 7:30 AM followed by a brief service in the Sanctuary at 8:20 AM. If you are interested in attending, please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board near the kitchen in Fellowship Hall with the number of people attending. If you are interested in helping that morning, please contact Michelle Bower, 872-7274.