

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

November 4, 2012

Holy Communion

GATHERING MUSIC “Sonata” Clementi
“I Sing a Song of the Saints of God” Hopkins

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. David Minnick

SEASON of GIVING MOMENT

CHIMING of the HOUR

ACOLYTES

WORDS of REFLECTION

“Where you go, I will go; and where you live, I’ll live. Your people are my people, your God is my god; where you die, I’ll die, and that’s where I’ll be buried, so help me God---not even death itself is going to come between us!”

Ruth to Naomi, Ruth 1:16-17

PRELUDE “Rise Up, O Saints of God” Walter
*RESPONSIVE CALL to WORSHIP Debbie Marshall

Leader: We have encountered the Word, calling us into communion with God and with each other,

People: **And calling us into discipleship to carry on Christ’s work in our world.**

Leader: So we come together here, joining hands in the great quest:

People: **To worship God, to love each other, and to serve the world.**

*OPENING HYMN #637 “For All the Saints”

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

Holy Spirit, fill this place. May you be our guide as we worship, our voice as we sing, our hearts as we pray, our ears as we listen. Please clear our minds and hearts of the distractions of daily life, of thoughts about tomorrow’s responsibilities, of anxiety about yesterday’s mistakes and of dread over a sense of our unworthiness. Instead, fill us with only you. You are the reason we come together and we invite you to be the center of all that happens in this place. Thank you for your presence among us. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 146 p. 766

*GLORIA PATRI (#35 in hymnal)

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS – Joan McMahon having hip replacement surgery on November 7

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

PRAYER RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE Ruth 1: 1-8; Mark 12: 28-34

COMMUNION MEDITATION

Rev. Cynthia Carr

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Heaven’s Choir” Choplin

*DOXOLOGY (#46 in hymnal)

PRAYER of DEDICATION

SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and follow in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.

AFFIRMATION of FORGIVENESS

*COMMUNION HYMN #395 “Seed, Scattered and Sown”

SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER and WORDS of INSTITUTION

SERVING of the SUPPER

(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.)

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

*CLOSING HYMN #86 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “Festal Postlude” Handel

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

Greeters: Deacons

Coffee Hour: Stewardship Committee

Deacons assisting with Communion: Pam Lyons (Deacon-in-charge), Debbie Marshall, Mike Swan, Jim Wilson, Mary Wheeler, Bob Warner, Jan Muro

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 especially 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.

Emergency Relief envelopes can be found in the pews for anyone wishing to donate to emergency relief efforts for those impacted by Hurricane Sandy this past week. Funds received will be passed on to the CT Conference and dispersed through Church World Service.

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 next Sunday, November 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 for Hockanum Valley. They 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.

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Please Note: Today in Fellowship Hall immediately following the worship service, the Board of Finance will present an overview of the 2013 Church Budget based on submissions from the boards, committees and staff. While this is not a formal church meeting, your attendance is encouraged as we think you will gain insights into the financial consequences surrounding the events taking place in the church and a better understanding of the challenges we face in 2013.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Ways & Means: Monday, November 5, 7 PM, Library

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

Evening Circle: November 6, 7 PM at Betty Ann Wurst's home in Vernon for a fun-filled Movie Night. Come join us. Contact Pat Lazeren, (860) 644-0475 so we can have enough snacks and beverages.

Church Council: Wednesday, November 7, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall. All agenda items should be submitted to Moderator Tony Muro no later than today.

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, November 8, 7:30 PM

Support Group: Friday, November 9, 10:30 AM, Library

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.

THANKSGIVING DAY BREAKFAST/SERVICE

On Thanksgiving morning, 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 in Fellowship Hall with the number of people attending so we can prepare the right amount of food. If you are interested in helping that morning, please contact Michelle Bower, 872-7274.

Coat Drive for Button Up CT: The 3rd-5th grade Sunday School class will be collecting coats for men, women and children on November 11 and 18. Please drop them off in the breezeway on those Sundays.

Please Note: The Stewardship and Evangelism Committee's term starts in January of each year. With 2013 just around the corner, we are in need of people willing to serve on this committee. 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.

In Our Ongoing Prayers. . . Dick Saich; Nancy Shoemaker and family on the loss of her father; **George and Joan Apel; 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**

SEASON of GIVING

Today, as we continue to explore the Gallery of Faith that is our church during our Season of Giving, we highlight a “Gallery of Life”... sharing the spirit. Last week you were invited to share the spirit in the Gallery of Faith by bringing in an object (photo, poem, painting, etc.) that helps you center God in your life. These objects will be on display in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour today where we will gather and share in the spirit of God.

PICK UP YOUR 2013 SEASON OF GIVING PLEDGE PACKET TODAY!

To help defray the cost of postage, we encourage everyone to pick up their packet from the Narthex before the worship service or in Fellowship Hall after. All pledges will be collected on Stewardship Sunday, November 11 when we will celebrate a Gallery of Thanks.

If you do not see your pledge packet, need one or have any questions, please contact the Church Office.

CELEBRATION!

Stewardship Sunday is Next Sunday, November 11

We will be celebrating a Gallery of Thanks as pledges are received that day. You will also receive a special gift from FCCV – our Gallery of Thanks for your Time, Talent and Treasure.

FCCV's Gallery of Faith

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.