

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

November 11, 2012

Stewardship Sunday

GATHERING MUSIC “Starry Night” Concone
 “Prelude and Fugue” Mendelssohn

CHIMING of the HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. David Minnick

PAY IT FORWARD

SEASON of GIVING MOMENT

ACOLYTES

PRELUDE “Prayer” Beethoven

WORDS of REFLECTION

“For all that has been-thanks. For all that will be-Yes!” Dag Hammarskjold

***RESPONSIVE CALL to WORSHIP**

Leader: Come, let us worship God. What shall we bring before the God of compassion?

People: We bring our bodies and our spirits - broken and in need of healing.

Leader: What shall we bring before the God of eternal vision?

People: We bring our dreams and our hopes to be fulfilled.

Leader: What shall we bring before the God of everlasting love?

People: We bring our gratitude and possessions.

Leader: What shall we bring before the God of all good gifts?

People: We bring ourselves. May our offerings be holy and acceptable to God.

***OPENING HYMN #606 “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”**

UNISON PRAYER of INVOCATION

Wondrous and holy God, on this day when we remember the sacrifices of others who have served to make our nation great and keep us strong, bless us to look within our lives. May we grow to be people of concern and caring. Move us to live lives worthy of the sacrifices made for us that we might be eager to create a good future for others. As we give thanks for those in our nation who gave such noble service, bless us to live as humble servants to one another. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

LITANY of GIVING

Leader: Because you gave us the very breath of life,

All: We give our thanks to you, O Lord, with every breath.

Leader: Because you nurtured life with human love,

All: We bring you all of our relationships for your blessings.

Leader: Because you gave the right and living earth,

All: We offer you, our Maker, the first fruits of our fields.

Leader: Because you gifted us with time to be,

All: We bring our moments and our days as gifts again to you.

Leader: Because you gave us skills to work and create;

All: We bring you what we make with our hands and the money we earn with our skills.

Leader: Because each one of us has gifts and skills, some recognized, some talents hidden;

All: We offer you what each of us can see, and make, and do. Enable us to see more clearly what these gifts may be.

Leader: Because you have offered us redeeming love,

All: We bring the gift of love in gratitude to you.

All: From gift to gift, from grace to grace, our gifts are only gifts of yours returned. Receive them in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI (#35 in hymnal)**

A TIME with the CHILDREN

Linda Shivers

The LORD’S PRAYER (unison... “debts”)

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

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE Matthew 6: 19-21

***SERMON HYMN #588 “Have Thine Own Way, Lord!”**

SERMON

The Rev. David Minnick

INGATHERING of 2012 PLEDGES

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY “The First Fruits” **R. Schram**

***DOXOLOGY (#46 in hymnal)**

LITANY PRAYER of DEDICATION

Leader: Bless, O God, all the financial resources that will pass through our hands in the year to come. May our planning be wise, our spending be faithful, our giving be joyful and our saving offer peace of mind. Keep us from waste, worry and regret, remind us always to be sensitive to the needs of those who have less than we do, and let justice and compassion guide our earnings and our investing.

People: God, we have received grace upon grace. It is grace to experience the joy of giving, and it is grace to participate in the ministry of this community of faith here and elsewhere. Help us to keep these promises of support, but may grace abound if circumstances should arise that requires us to do otherwise.

Leader: We give thanks for the work of those who have prepared our budget and ask your blessing upon its structure and its flexibility. We give thanks for those who accept the responsibility to manage our church’s finances in the year to come.

People: We also lift before you this morning the grace we receive and give in time, prayer, skill, energy and participation. Each of us pledges these efforts as part of our living our lives fully as Christ’s disciples.

All: **Amazing grace, as we give, we are not less, but blessed.
Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN #459 "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"**

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

"Moment Musical"

Scharwenka

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

Greeter s and Coffee Hour: Stewardship Committee

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.

Pay It Forward: On October 28, Sara Koziol shared her heartwarming story of her gift to a dear friend, allowing her to do something nice for herself. Today we feature Julia Assard. 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. There is still time to sign up today. **Thanksgiving baskets will be collected tomorrow, 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.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Trustees: Monday, November 12, 7 PM, Library

December CARILLON Deadline

Tuesday, November 13

Men's Club: Tuesday, November 13, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

Prayer Shawl Group: Wednesday, November 14, 1 PM, Library

BCE: Wednesday, November 14, 7 PM, Library

Missions: Wednesday, November 14, 7 PM, Chapel

HR: Thursday, November 15, 7 PM, Library

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, November 15, 7:30 PM

Support Group: Friday, November 16, 10:30 AM, Library

Youth Fellowship (6th - 12th grade) Sleepover: Friday, November 16, 7 PM- Saturday, November 17, 9 AM. Bring sleeping bag, pillow, personal items, movies, games, snacks and a friend!

Anniversary Dinner: Saturday, November 17. Please sign up on the sheet posted on the Women's Fellowship bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

250th Anniversary Worship Service: Sunday, November 18 at 10 AM in the Sanctuary.

Coat Drive for Button Up CT: The 3rd-5th grade Sunday School class is collecting coats for men, women and children today and next Sunday, November 18. Please drop them off in the breezeway.

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.

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.**

In Our Ongoing Prayers. . . Shirley Bryant; Joan McMahon recovering from hip replacement surgery; **Dick Saich; George and Joan Apel; Mike Kermode** deployed in Afghanistan; **Mike Swan; 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; 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**

Welcome to Stewardship Sunday

Today we celebrate a “Gallery of Thanks”
as we receive your pledges
during a special collection.

You will all receive a special gift from FCCV
as our “Thank You”
for your Time, Talent and Treasure.

If you did not bring your pledge today,
we encourage you to get it to the church
as soon as possible.

Your pledge is vital to the planning
of our 2013 budget.

NEED a PLEDGE PACKET?

Packets will be available during Coffee Hour in
Fellowship Hall through November
or by contacting the Church Office.

If you have questions concerning Stewardship,
contact any member of the Stewardship Committee.