

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

November 24, 2013

Thanksgiving Sunday

PRELUDE “Largo from the New World Symphony” Dvorak
“Now Thank We All Our God” Kauffmann/Hughes
“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” arr. Raney/Sherman
Joyful Noise Bell Choir

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT “Simple Gifts” Kinyon

ACOLYTES

***CALL to WORSHIP** (*responsive*) Christa Hockenberry

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

People: God’s steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Give thanks to the God of gods,

People: God’s loving kindness knows no end.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord of lords,

People: God’s mercy is everlasting.

Leader: Give thanks to the Holy One,

All: For God has done great things for us!

***OPENING HYMN** #528 “Give Thanks” (*sing twice*)

PRAYER of INVOCATION (*unison*)

Generous God, you have given us so much! We would live each moment in thanksgiving. We are grateful for the material things you provide to meet our needs and the invaluable blessings of our families, our friends, and this community of faithful people. Hear our whispered prayers of gratitude today, deepen the grace around our tables this Thanksgiving, help us to recognize your many gifts and share them freely, that we may sow abundant blessings in your name. 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.

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM – Marleigh Susan Emma Levine

Congregational Response (*unison*)

We promise our love, support, and care to this child and her family as she grows in faith and faithfulness. With God’s help, we promise to guide and encourage her, by counsel and example, in prayer and with love, to follow the way of Jesus Christ.

***BAPTISM HYMN** #75 “I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry”

TIME with the CHILDREN

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 “Blessings” Story
Contemporary Choir

SCRIPTURE Psalm 126
Mark 4:26-29

SERMON Rev. Meg Watson

HARVEST of GIFTS #381 “Take My Gifts”

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY “First Fruits” Schram

***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** #715 “Now Thank We All Our God”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “All People That on Earth Do Dwell” Hughes

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

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

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!

We rejoice in the baptism of Marleigh Susan Emma Levine daughter of Rebecca and Jeff Levine.

The Cornucopia on the Communion Table is provided and arranged by the Flower Committee.

Greeters and Coffee Hour: Stewardship and Evangelism Committee

Joyful Nosie Bell Choir: David Bower, Michelle Bower, Jane Burr, Margaret Klukas, Kate Fowler, Serena Volovski

In Our Ongoing Prayers . . .

Phyllis Chase and family on the loss of her husband Donald Chase; Monica and Brad Becker and family on the death of her mother Irene Wasco; Lillian Burnett, Halene Fujimoto's mother; Dick Myer, Andy Myer's brother; Debbie Chase; Will Fisher and Jessica Surratt; E.G. and Donna Harvin; Adeline McGee; Chantelle Fuller; Sharon Dombek; Rev. Charlie Nichol's granddaughter Devon; Gail Occhialini; Kim Burnham; Cheryl Adams; Alan and Jayne Chesterton; Joyce Smith; Betty Worden; Mason Bower; Debbie Marshall; Jeanine Uthgenannt; Michael Turner; Claudette Weingart; Valerie Flitcroft; Jan Peacock; Candy Buswell; Steve Bright; Rachel Meneses; Lois Montlick; Janet Boucher; Donna Peacock; Arianna Saegaert; the people of Syria, including the family of Tarek Eid; Ruth Woodcock and her daughter Sarah; Will Livermore; Mike Swan; Pat Lazeren; Meredith Ross; Deborah Costello; Richard Brooke; Stephen Volovski; Ray Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Thelma Gifford; Cooper Doyle; Paul and Susan Shimer; Horst Pohlmann; John Kaminski; Bess Howe; Jane Morse; Melissa Morse; Charlotte Driggs.

New additions in bold print

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Today is "**Harvesting of Gifts**" Sunday. We will be celebrating the gifts that we bring to God, through the giving of time, treasure and talents. If you are in need of a Giving Packet, extras are available in the Narthex prior to the worship service or in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour. You may also email Kate Fowler at kfowler64@yahoo.com to have one sent to you electronically.

Helping Typhoon Haiyan survivors: The stories coming out of the Philippines are unimaginable. Rushing water and wind tearing children away from their parents' arms, a death toll that may be over 10,000. A city of 200,000 in which no buildings appear to have survived intact. One of the most intense typhoons on record, Haiyan (locally known as Yolanda) left catastrophic destruction behind. Envelopes have been provided in today's bulletin to help these victims. Please make your checks payable to FCCV, referencing Haiyan relief. Thank you, the Board of Missions

Confirmation Class: 11:30 AM, Library

TODAY DURING COFFEE HOUR downstairs in Fellowship Hall

If you ordered **pies** from Women's Fellowship, they are ready for **pick up today**. Pints of **homemade applesauce** are also available for purchase.

Orders for **Poinsettias** that are displayed in the Sanctuary during Christmas will be taken **today** during Coffee Hour. You may also purchase **lights** for the **Memory Tree** that is lit in the Memorial Garden during the Christmas season.

Pictorial Directory: There are still a few time slots available, so if you have not signed up, you still have an opportunity to do so. See us today during Coffee Hour.

Give Thanks



with a

Grateful Heart

Sunday, November 24, 2013

Name Tags: If you ordered a name tag prior to November 15, it is available today at the "Scrip Your All" table downstairs during Coffee Hour. If you have not yet

ordered a new name tag but would like to, you can do so any Sunday during Coffee Hour or you can contact Jim Montlick at jamontlik@aol.com. You may choose a pin, magnet or clip. A donation of \$3-\$5 is suggested.

Scrip-Your-All is now up and running. Materials will be available at the Pictorial Directory sign-up table during Coffee Hour today and when you come for your portrait session. You can order right away, so come and get the list of gift cards available. Ordering is not complicated, but if you have problems, contact Kate or Martha Fowler, 860-896-0768 or Holly Boutwell, 860-872-6359. We would like to send in the first order by December 9 in order for the cards to be here on December 15, so you will have them in time for Christmas gifts. Remember, these are real gift cards from responsible merchants. They have no expiration date and payment is to be made at the time of card purchase. The issuing merchant gives the church a percentage of your purchase (from 1% to 16% or more, which is determined by the merchant). You lose nothing and the church gains an income.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Centering Prayer Group: Monday, November 25, 7 PM, Chapel. Questions? Call Rev. Stan Possell, 239-218-0246.

Men's Club: Tuesday, November 26, 6:30 AM at the Vernon Diner

Bible Study: Tuesday, November 26, 11 AM, Library

Trustees: Wednesday, November 27, 7 PM, Library

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday, November 27, 7 PM

Union Church, Rockville

Rev. Meg Watson will be participating.

Thanksgiving Day Breakfast and 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, please sign up on the sheet posted in Fellowship Hall with the number of people attending.

If you can help that morning, please contact Michelle Bower, 872-7274.

Please Note: The Church Office will be closed on November 28 and 29 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Contemporary Choir Rehearsal: Saturday, November 30, 10 AM, Sanctuary

Advent Workshop: Sunday, December 1 during the worship service. All children will gather in Kellogg Hall for the Children's Message then go to Fellowship Hall to make some crafts. Parents can pick their children up there.

Youth Fellowship: Sunday, December 1, 5-6:30 PM. We will be doing some holiday baking for the Cornerstone soup Kitchen.

Thank you to the congregation for your generous donations. We were able to provide 67 Thanksgiving dinners to families in the community. Thank you for your ongoing support. The Board of Missions

The **Reading Buddies** are in need of **stickers**. Donations may be left in the labeled box located in the Library.

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**.

The Board of Christian Education is seeking a new Sunday School Superintendent. This volunteer position in our Sunday School program assists with things such as training, planning and keeping attendance records. Anyone with interest, suggestions or questions regarding this important role, should contact Cheryl Turner, Steve Westerberg, Linda Shivers, either of our Pastors or just drop a note at the BCE table in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour. Thank you!

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 www.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.

Special shows on CVC Ch. 5 this month: Rev. Meg Watson's Service of **Installation:** Nov. 18 10:30 AM; Nov. 22, 9:30 PM; Nov. 28, 3 PM. **Joes' Day - A Celebration Performance for Joe Connolly:** Nov. 19, 2 PM; Nov. 22, 8 PM; Nov. 29, 4 PM.

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).

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