

# THE CARILLON

The First Congregational Church  
of Vernon, UCC



Vol. 47 No. 2

October 2010  
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## CHURCH STAFF

<b>Interim Senior Pastor</b>	The Rev. David Minnick
<b>Associate Pastor</b>	Rev. Cynthia J. Carr
<b>Minister of Christian Education</b>	Linda Shivers
<b>Church Secretary</b>	Nancy Young
<b>Sanctuary Choir Director</b>	Mary Jo Simonds-Huneger
<b>Organist</b>	James Burr
<b>Custodian</b>	Earl Friedrich
<b>Phone</b>	(860) 875-7580
<b>Fax</b>	(860) 875-2436
<b>Email</b>	fccv@snet.net
<b>Website</b>	firstchurchofvernon.org

**Sunday Worship** 10 AM  
**Sunday School** 10 AM

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**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**



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**"Connect THROUGH CHRIST - Connect WITH Us"**

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First Congregational Church of Vernon  
695 Hartford Turnpike  
Vernon, CT 0606

**PASTOR'S PONDERINGS**

by *The Rev. David Minnick*

Let me preface my remarks this month with a riddle.

Q - What is something that every home has at least one of and is an item that almost no one ever thinks much of (until it is missing)?

A - A welcome mat!

Welcome is surely one of the most beautiful words in our vocabulary. We have all gloried in a warm and enthusiastic welcome home, whether it be after a day away at work, a semester away in college, a several day business trip or a tour of duty in the armed services.

As special as a welcome back at our homes can be, being welcomed in a new place is a double blessing. The wonderful words from the book of Ephesians, which are part of the UCC liturgy for welcoming new members into the church are cherished ones. "So then you are no longer strangers or sojourners, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone." (Ephesians 2: 19-20)

The joy and wonder of being welcomed have certainly been among the many blessings I have given thanks for in recent days. From the staff meeting/brunch held on my first day with you, to the spirited choir potluck which the Myers' so graciously hosted on September 10, to the many joys of Rally Sunday, as we celebrated a new program year, the beginning of Sunday school, new hymnals, new pew cushions and a new voice in the pulpit, being welcomed has been an experience, rich and varied in recent days.

Many thanks to all who were part of organizing these many efforts at hospitality. I appreciate your warm welcome, as well as all of you who have been kind enough to introduce yourselves to me and have shared so many encouraging words. Please continue to introduce yourselves to me and to wear your nametags on Sunday. These simple efforts are a big help to me and especially to any and all who might be visiting with us for worship and to whom we want to be sure to extend a warm welcome.

We are certainly off to a joyful start in the new program year. With God's blessing, may we continue in all our efforts at being a welcoming and spirited family of faith.

See you in church.

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Christian Education News



**Minister of Christian Education**

Linda Shivers

**Sunday School Superintendents**

Cindy Madden

Jen Condry

Victoria Madden

**Youth Advisors**

Dave and Deb Hockenberry

Fred and Jayne Gunther

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**Sunday School News**

Rally Sunday was a busy day. We welcomed a few new students and were glad to see a lot of familiar faces ready to start the Church school year. The church picnic was wonderful - seeing everyone talking and enjoying the day and catching up from the summer.

Don't forget - as the parent or guardian you have the most influence over your child's development of faith. Show interest in your child's Christian education by volunteering, ask them what they learned, and ask them if they have questions.

Our gratitude to all our teachers and shepherds for committing to the call to teach during the 2010-2011 church school year. Parents, please take a minute to extend a thank-you to your child's teachers and shepherds and ask if there is any assistance that is needed.

**Teachers:**

3/4 yrs. Adam Boucher, Hannah Hilton, Kevin Maki, Courtney West

K/1<sup>st</sup> Jennifer Jensen, Cheryl Turner, \*Kelsey Wilson

2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Debbie Bartos, \*April Cavelli, Diane Mead, \*Sean O'Gara

4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Monica Becker, \*Haley Dowty, \*Jacquelyn Mead, Alexa Philbrick, Erika Sturgis

6<sup>th</sup> Debi Hockenberry, Jean Philbrick

7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Joe Brady, Martha Fowler, Greg Mias

\*shepherds

**Teacher Substitutes:** Hal Cummings, Sue Ferruolo, Suzanne Maki, Ian

Pettigrew, Nancy Shoemaker

**Childcare:** Christa Hockenberry

**Youth Advisors:** Fred and Jayne Gunther, Dave and Debi Hockenberry

**Reminder to Parents:** Check with the class Shepherd each Sunday to see if notices were handed out. Sometimes students leave them behind and you have no way of knowing about a planned activity or what your child was asked to bring to class.

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This year, classes will remain in one place and not rotate as in previous years.

### Sunday School Classrooms

3/4 yr. olds	Kellogg Hall Wing, across from the restrooms
K/1 <sup>st</sup>	Fellowship Hall, corner near the kitchen
2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup>	Fellowship Hall, by the piano
4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup>	Kellogg Hall, end room
6 <sup>th</sup>	Library
7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup>	Chapel

The first Sunday of every month, Sunday School students from 3 years - 5<sup>th</sup> grade will meet in the end room of Kellogg Hall for music for the hour. The 6<sup>th</sup> graders will meet in the Library and then do a cooking class and serve those of us in Kellogg Hall.

On September 19, students in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade received a Bible from the Board of Christian Education. The students are: Cameron Bogli, Hunter Pare, Lorenzo Percy, Stephen Sutton, Melina Toolan, William Walsh, Emily Wilson

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### Confirmation Class Schedule

- Oct 17** Trip to Bloomfield Cathedral. Meet at 9:15 AM in the Breezeway. Invite your sponsor to attend. (waiting for confirmation on this - please check your email to verify - if not the Cathedral, we will have a class)
- Oct 31** Class, 11:30 AM-1 PM. Tour of our church. Invite your sponsor to attend.
- Nov 14** Class 11:30 AM-1 PM

### Youth Fellowship (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades)

- Oct 3** Giv2 mission project. Meeting in FCCV Fellowship Hall, 1-5 PM. We will have a light snack and then leave for our mission site, Bennet Academy in Manchester. If you did not turn in a permission slip on September 26, you need to turn one in before attending this mission. Friends are welcome to join us - they will need a permission slip also.
- Oct ?** Planning a Halloween activity. We will keep you posted.

Giv2 mission projects will take place on October 3, December 5, February 6 and April 3.

Please give us your email address if you are interested in receiving updates by email.

Check the bulletin board and Sunday bulletins for updated information on activities, sleepovers, etc.



### **2011 Stewardship Campaign LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**

Matthew 5:16 (NIV)...**Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven.**

First Congregational Church of Vernon, Connecticut is made up of men, women, children, young, old, those who have been here "forever," those who have just arrived, families of one, families of many, those who come every Sunday and those who can't make it often, but will when they can, those who are members and those who are friends...all individual pin-points of light!

During our Stewardship Campaign this year let us consider that each of us, from children in Sunday School to our most senior members, has time, talent and treasure to share with one another and with those in our community, state, nation and world. Let us **COLLECTIVELY let our light shine** brighter than ever by giving of our time and talent when we are able...and yes, by thoughtfully considering our willingness to commit a portion of our treasure too. How brightly we can shine...how much we can do to show our light and GOD's LIGHT working through us. Let us meet and EXCEED our budgetary needs this year!

Pledge packets for the Stewardship Drive will be available for pick-up on Sundays, October 17 and 24. They will be in the Narthex before the worship service and in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour. To help defray the cost of mailing, we encourage everyone to pick up their packet. If you are away during this time or homebound, please contact the church office, (860) 875-7580, and a pledge kit will be mailed to you. Thank you!

**Stewardship Sunday – November 14**

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NEWS

**CHURCH FAIR, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 9 AM-3 PM**

See the enclosed flyer for more information

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**Basket Group will be meeting on Thursday mornings at 10 AM to finish making the gift baskets for the fair. Call the Church Office for more information.**

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**The Craft Circle meets on Monday evenings at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall. Share your craft ideas or learn a new craft from us. Items are being made for the Holiday Fair. Call the Church Office for more information.**

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## MUSIC @ FIRST CONCERT SERIES

### Amici Baroque Players

Sunday, October 24\*  
3 PM

Join the **Amici Baroque Players** (Gwendolyn Winkel, recorder; Barbara Hopkins, traverso and Angela Salcedo, harpsichord) as they present a sumptuous banquet of music by Bach, Handel, Telemann, Philidor and Uccellini.

Barbara, Gwen and Angela are professional musicians, educators and friends (hence the name "Amici") who have come together to form one of the few early music groups in the area.

Come and hear this unusual group!

Meet the artists at a reception after the performance.

Suggested donation at the door: \$7  
\$5 for seniors, students and groups of 10 or more

For information, please contact the Church Office.

*\*The "Music @ First" season flyer has the wrong date for this concert.*

**November Carillon  
DEADLINE  
Tuesday, October 12**



**39 Club** will meet on **Wednesday, October 27** at noon in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverage provided. If you are a senior who enjoys meeting people, this is the place for you. We generally meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month for lunch, conversation and surprise entertainment. Bring a friend. The more, the merrier!

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## BOARD OF MISSIONS NEWS

### On-going Mission Projects

Non-perishable food items are being collected in the Mission Box in the Breezeway. The items collected are delivered to the Food Pantry. They are always in need of all types of non-perishable foods, especially foods that are high in protein - peanut butter, tuna fish, soups and beans. Each month specific items are highlighted as the food of the month:

October - cereal

November and December - stuffing mix, instant potatoes, canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, canned fruit

There is also a need for baby diapers, baby formula and any type of personal care item (soap, deodorant and shampoo).

We are also collecting sample-size toiletries from hotels for the Tri-Town Shelter in memory of Dave and Joanna Chmielecki. Items may be left in the basket on top of the Mission Boxes in the Breezeway.

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### Soup Kitchen Sunday

October 17 during Coffee Hour

Please support our monthly Soup Kitchen Mission. FCCV provides dinner on the first Saturday of each month. Help us keep this mission going. Stop by the Missions table to donate your time, drop money in the soup pot or leave us donations of the following items - cans of pineapple, peaches, juice, instant mashed potatoes, garlic salt, coffee, tin foil, extra heavy duty plates (shepherd's pie is heavy) cake plates, bowls, napkins, coffee cups, juice cups.



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The **Men's Club Breakfast Group** meets every Tuesday at 6:30 AM at the Vernon Diner. A brief devotion and excellent conversation is served each week. We invite all men of the church to join us.



## Parish Nurse News

The Parish Nurses will be sponsoring a **CPR/AED class** organized by Cproheart out of Tolland on Saturday, October 30 from 9 AM- 12 PM. The class will be geared

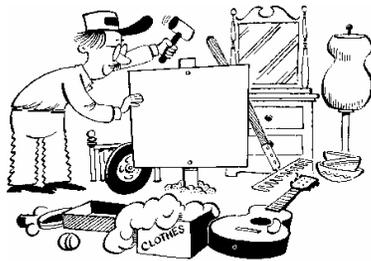
toward lay responders and will cover CPR and AED usage. Since we have an AED on the church property, it is recommended that members are trained and able to respond in case of an emergency. This would include all members who have been involved in the previous classes held at the church. The class will cost \$20 per person, with the remaining cost being paid by the Parish Nurses. Please contact the Church Office if you plan to attend.

**YOGA...**Our Parish Nurses sponsor Yoga classes on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:30 PM. Classes are based on practical Hatha Yoga stretches and are geared for all levels. Donation is \$5 per class. Please bring a mat. Questions? Contact the Church Office.

Your Parish Nurses take **blood pressures** on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month. We also offer supportive listening and provide information and referral resources.

## Cleaning Out Your Garage, Basement, Closets?

Don't throw away your unwanted items. Please hang on to them for the Youth Fellowship who will be holding a tag Sale during the Holiday Fair on November 6. Items may be dropped off at the church in October.



## CARING and SHARING GROUP

Anyone interested in attending this grief support group is invited to join us on **Fridays** at **10:30 AM** in the Library. This group is open to all who have experienced the loss of a loved one and is being run by members of the congregation. Please feel free to come alone or bring a family member or friend. Any questions? Contact the Church Office, 860-875-7580.



## IN-CARE SEMINARY STUDENT LEANNE CONNOLLY CONTINUES PROGRESS TOWARD ORDINATION

It is with great pleasure that the In-Care Committee reports Leanne Connolly is approaching the "home stretch" of the course of study leading to her ordination as a minister of the United Church of Christ!

We often see Leanne (and her family) participating in worship and fellowship here at FCCV as involved members of our church family. Leanne has gifted our congregation with several sermons during her time as a seminary student. She has been instrumental in bringing quarterly contemporary worship services to our church. During 2006-2007 she was a Teaching Parish student at First Church in Windsor, CT. This past April, she finished an intense seven-month chaplaincy at Hartford Hospital. During her time at HH she had clinical practice six hours per week, was on call two weekends per month and was at the hospital each Thursday for an all-day seminar...earning a successful evaluation (which she has shared with the In-Care Committee) and three credit hours. Last month, Leanne attended a conference in St. Louis, MO concentrating on the specialized field of mental illness and disabilities ministry.

Leanne has reduced her teaching load (elementary music in Tolland) to one day per week so she can take three classes at Andover-Newton each semester this academic year. Stay tuned, as these classes should complete her course work. FCCV, under the leadership of the In-Care Committee, will then prepare to celebrate with Leanne as she makes ready to fulfill her calling to ordained ministry!

## FROM THE BOOKWORM

### Books... Books... Books

The Library will again be selling books at the Fair on November 6. As you do your fall cleaning, please think of us. Used books in boxes or bags (labeled "Fair Donation") can be left in the Library. The proceeds from the last Fair allowed us to add to the DVD collection. Thank you.

The Library is self-serve and open when the church is open.



The new **Communion Set** has been given by Cheryl Purnell in loving memory of her parents, Alice and Emerson Bosworth and Edward C. J. Williams.

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## WAYS and MEANS NEWS

The Ways and Means Committee has met and we have several events in the works! There will be a **Wine Tasting** on Sunday, October 24 from 2-4 PM at Cassidy Hill Vineyard in Coventry. The past two tastings were relaxing and very successful!

Plan on taking the night off from making dinner on the day of the Church Fair. We will be selling **dinners for take-out** on Saturday, **November 6**.

How does a **Breakfast Buffet** sound some Sunday morning before Church??

Yummy soups, grinders on Super Bowl Sunday and other stuff, too, will again be for sale after church!

Thanks for supporting Ways and Means!

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Deacons **Margaret Klukas** and **Jan Muro** are the **coordinators** for the **Care Network**. If you are in need of a ride to the doctor, hospital, grocery store, etc., meals or a visit, please call the Church Office.

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## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Following is a list of people in our church family on active duty. We ask that you keep them and their families in your prayers. If you would like to add someone to this list, please contact the Church Office.

Maj. Joel Cummings, son of Hal and Ibbey Cummings, at Fort Bliss, TX  
Michael Wilson, son of Nancy Beimler, serving in the U. S. Navy in San Diego  
Steven Beimler, son of Nancy Beimler in the National Guard  
David Roy, nephew of Bess and Harmon Howe and Donna and Dave Symonds,  
in Afghanistan  
Charlie Oster, Mary Hurst's daughter's fiancée, in Afghanistan

