

The Carillon

The First Congregational Church
of Vernon, UCC



January

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January 2013

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CHURCH STAFF

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Sunday Worship 10 AM (Announcements 9:50 AM)

Sunday School 10 AM

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

“Connect Through Christ – Connect With Us”

The *Carillon* is published monthly, except for July/August,
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695 Hartford Turnpike
Vernon, CT 06066

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Minister of Christian Education

Linda Shivers, necsvga@aol.com

Sunday School Superintendents

Cherish and Christa Hockenberry

Assistant Sunday School Superintendent

Jen Condry, jbcondry@aol.com

Child Care Coordinator

Christa Hockenberry, wildonehock6@att.net



Sunday School News

Thank You!!!

I would like to thank Cindy Madden for her many years (10 I think) as our Sunday School Superintendent. I am very grateful for all the time and energy she put in and for being my "right hand." Working with her has been a fantastic privilege and she will be deeply missed. I wish her good fortune in her next endeavor in Florida and know she will be an asset to any church she joins there. I would also like to extend a "thank you" to my "summer right hand" Victoria Madden. She and I bounced many ideas off each other and were able to be honest in our thoughts. Victoria is a dedicated young adult and followed through with every commitment she signed on for. I will defiantly miss the spontaneity of our ideas coming together and putting them into action. I wish her well and know she will succeed at whatever she does in life. Blessings to both of them from the Board of Christian Education for all the years they have given our church children, Vacation Bible School and our congregation.

In Christian Love, Linda Shivers

Welcome to Our New Sunday School Superintendents!

It is with great pleasure that the Board of Christian introduces our new Co-Sunday School Superintendents, Cherish Hockenberry and Christa Hockenberry. I have known both young ladies for years and have worked with them on numerous mission trips, Vacation Bible School, as Sunday School teachers, Youth Group Advisors and Child Care Coordinators. On a personal note, they have babysat for me for years and are truly wonderful with children. They bring with them fresh and new ideas which will help lead us into the future with our Sunday school program. Many thanks to them for volunteering their time. I am looking forward to working with them.

More "Thank You's" to...

The 1st and 2nd grade Sunday School Class for collecting 20 pairs of mittens and gloves and 15 hats for children and adults.

The 3rd-5th grade for collecting more than 90 coats that were donated to "Button-Up Connecticut" which donates them to people in need.

And to all our children and the Prewo family who participated in the Christmas Eve Family Service.

Christian education begins with you, the parents, guardians and family. We need to know how we can support you in this most important endeavor. If you have any questions regarding curriculum, mission projects or suggestions please let us know.



Sunday School Schedule

Jan 6 Classes resume after the holiday break. All grades start downstairs as a group before going to their classes

Jan 13, 20, 27 All children start upstairs for the Children's Message and then are dismissed to go to their classes

Our **Toddler Room** is open every Sunday from 9:45 AM until after the Worship Service for toddlers ages 12 months to 3 years. It is staffed by two high school students, GloryAnna Hockenberry and Jaclyn Leonard who have worked with toddlers for a couple of years and are members of our congregation. Christa Hockenberry is our Toddler Room Coordinator and can answer any questions or concerns you might have. We also offer a **Crib Room** for infants up to 12 months and their parents that is located upstairs near the balcony. This offers you an opportunity to be with your infant if you need to leave the worship service for any reason and still be able to hear the service. An usher will be happy to direct you if you are in need of assistance.

Confirmation Class Schedule

We will be attending a Jewish Synagogue for Tu B'Shevat in February. As soon as I confirm the date and time I will let you know. FYI - Jewish Services are on Friday nights.

At this time you should have at least half of your community church service hours completed.

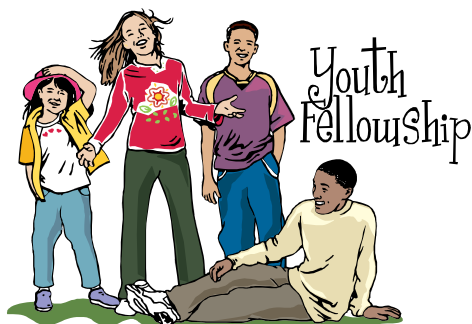
Due to the many happenings over the past 4 months, some scheduled events had to be cancelled. We are hoping to reschedule the retreat and our trip to First Cathedral.



Jan 5 Cornerstone Soup Kitchen, 9:30 AM-1 PM. Contact Linda Shivers to sign-up.

Jan 13 Class, 11:30 AM-1 PM

Jan 27 We are trying to reschedule our trip to First Cathedral for this date. We will confirm as soon as we can.



Youth Fellowship (grades 6-12)

Advisors: Helene Fujimoto, Beth Fowler, Dave and Debi Hockenberry, Sadie Burnett-Pollack

Basketball - open to youth in 5th-12th grade

January 19, February 2 and 16, March 2 from 6:30-8:30 PM at Wapping Church in South Windsor. Parents, please drop-off and pick-up at Wapping Church. Advisor - Randy Ramsdell

Peter's Retreat Mission (6th-12th grade)

Jan. 6 We'll meet at FCCV at 3 PM. If you have not previously turned in a permission slip, you will need one before going. We will return around 6:45 PM.

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Family Life Mission Opportunity

by *Linda Shivers*

Several months ago I was asked by Church Council to put together a family and adult hands-on mission opportunity. I have been in contact with "Homes for Heroes."

"Homes for Heroes Foundation"

Our purpose is to provide or coordinate financial assistance and housing resources to our Nation's Heroes such as Military personnel, Police/Peace Officers, Firefighter and First Responders who are in need.

The Homes for Heroes Foundation, through its growing network of contractors and generous donors, will endeavor to provide assistance to those who serve our country and communities every day.

"Homes for Heroes" is in the process of building a home for Corporal Greg Caron of Ellington who was injured in the Afghanistan War. Corporal Caron lost both legs and has very limited use of his right arm. This house will be for him and his family. The week of December 6 they contacted me asking our church to provide lunch for the volunteers who were framing the house. It was last minute but I was fortunate to have Debi Hockenberry volunteer to work with me and we were able to provide three days of lunch to the crew. They will be contacting me again for more help that families and youth can be involved in (painting, planting, etc.) when the professional tradesmen (electricians, plumbers, carpenters) are done. If you are looking for an opportunity to help someone in our community, please look for postings in the Sunday bulletins, Carillons, our website or Facebook page for when help is needed. This is a great way for families to come together helping another family.

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Super Bowl Grinders

It's time for the Super Bowl and time to order your grinders for the game. The Ways & Means Committee will be taking orders during Coffee Hour on Sundays, January 13, 20 and 27. Grinders will be available for pick up on Sunday, February 3 - Super Bowl Sunday. Questions? Contact Michelle Bower, 860-872-7274 or any committee member.



**February Carillon
DEADLINE
Tuesday, January 15**

ANNUAL FISCAL MEETING

to vote on the 2013 Budget
Sunday, January 27
following the Worship Service



Prayer Shawl Ministry

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Prayer Shawl Group

We invite you to join us on the **second Wednesday of the month at 1 PM in the Library** or feel free to make one at home. Questions? Contact Joan Apel, 860-875-7239 or Nancy Parker, quiltblockcreations@yahoo.com. or 860-872-9069.

**MUISC at FIRST
Rosewood Chamber Ensemble
January 27 at 4 PM**

Barbara Hopkins (historical flute) and Judy Handler (historical guitar)
present

"Melodies of Mark Twain"

Did you know that Mark Twain played guitar and piano and sang?
And that Judy has a nineteenth century Martin guitar
that is the exact same model as Mark Twain's?
Join Barbara and Judy as they premiere their new program of music
from Twain's life and times.

**Suggested donation: \$7 adults/\$5 seniors and students
Proceeds benefit the Les Childs Music Scholarship**

BOARD of MISSIONS NEWS

The Board of Missions and Outreach would like to thank everyone for their outpouring of generosity in providing gifts for the children on the Christmas Giving Tree. Each and every one of these children now have a wonderful new memory of finding gifts under the tree on Christmas morning. It is so heartwarming to know that the members of the First Congregational Church of Vernon really understand the true meaning behind the Christmas Season.

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE – Nails Salvaged from the Fire of January 23, 1965 that Destroyed the 1826 Meeting House

Three nails were mounted in small frames which were sold as a fundraiser to help defray expenses of FCCV's 250th Anniversary celebration. A few are still available at \$15 each. If interested, contact Daryl Gottier, 860-871-8594, edengott@sbcglobal.net or Joan Apel, 860-875-7239, joanapel@comcast.net.

Dear Friends,

Many thanks for all your kindnesses and good wishes in recent days. It was good to be together on Sunday to give thanks to God for the blessings of the past 28 months and for one another. I'm especially thankful for all who made the extra effort, given our snowfall on Saturday, to be there.



I am so grateful to so many for all your help, support and encouragement during our transitional time together. As I said on Sunday, I'm not sure the real impact of this time together can be measured until some time in the future, but I certainly believe that FCCV is well poised to begin a new year with a new pastor.

Thanks for all your encouraging words and good wishes. There are many good memories to enjoy and I'm looking forward to some time of rest and reflection in the days to come. Thanks also for the reception on Sunday. I appreciate the gifts given and the wonderful fellowship we enjoyed that day. I look forward to giving thought to how best to utilize the Pay It Forward gift and will report back to Charlie in the weeks ahead. Thank you for the gift cards and the special cross-stitched cloth. Since it is identical to the one that is used for Communion at First Church, I will surely remember you in the times we use it in "breaking bread" in the Minnick household.

To all I leave you with the benediction we shared on Sunday.

"God loves you just as you are and too much to let you stay that way. (Anne Lamott)
God loves you. Go and let all whose paths you cross know that wonderful, powerful, transformative good news, now and in all the days to come."

Blessings and thanks,
David
Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the outpouring of caring support you have given me as I recover from knee surgery. The cards, phone calls and visits have all been greatly appreciated. A thought for the day - "If you can walk, you can dance. If you can talk, you can sing." A Zimbabwe proverb. I send you Christmas greetings and I look forward to "dancing" and "singing" into the New Year with all of you.

Love,
Shirley Bryant



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

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. This is a great way to have your child involved in the church service and requires a minimal commitment.



firstchurchofvernon.org

We're on Facebook, too! Check us out!

CARING and SHARING SUPPORT GROUP

Anyone interested in attending this 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 run by members of our congregation. Please feel free to come alone or bring a family member or friend. Any questions? Contact the Church Office, 860-875-7580.



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.



FCCV on CABLE TV

Our Sunday morning worship services (one week delay) are available for viewing on Comcast Community Voice Channel 5 Sunday mornings at 10 AM and Monday evenings at 6 PM. Uncut DVD's (DVD's submitted for viewing on Comcast have to be edited to fit a 60 minute format) of the services from the chimes to the postlude are also available for borrowing in the Library. Check your local listings or go to CVCCCT.org for the dates and times of showings of other FCCV concerts and events.

Please Note: During January, Channel 5 will air a 90-minute version of the 250th Anniversary Service. Following are the dates and times for the showing of this service as well as the schedule for the Music at First Christmas Concert.

FCCV 250th Anniversary Worship Service

January 1	2 PM
January 4	9:30 PM
January 8	12 PM
January 16	1:30 PM
January 19	10 AM
January 22	9 PM
January 24	2 PM
January 31	11 AM

Music at First Christmas Concert

January 1	11 AM
January 4	3 PM
January 8	9PM
January 14	10 AM
January 18	1:30 PM
January 23	8:30 PM
January 26	12 PM
January 31	2:30 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, would like more information or would like to join the Care Network, please contact **Jan Muro** (872-1757 or jmoze@hotmail.com) or **Jon Dunlap** (875-7254).



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, U. S. Navy in San Diego

Steven Beimler, son of Nancy Beimler in the National Guard

Lance Corporal Steven A. Carr, Jr., husband of Angel Hockenberry Carr, stationed in Cherry Point, NC



January