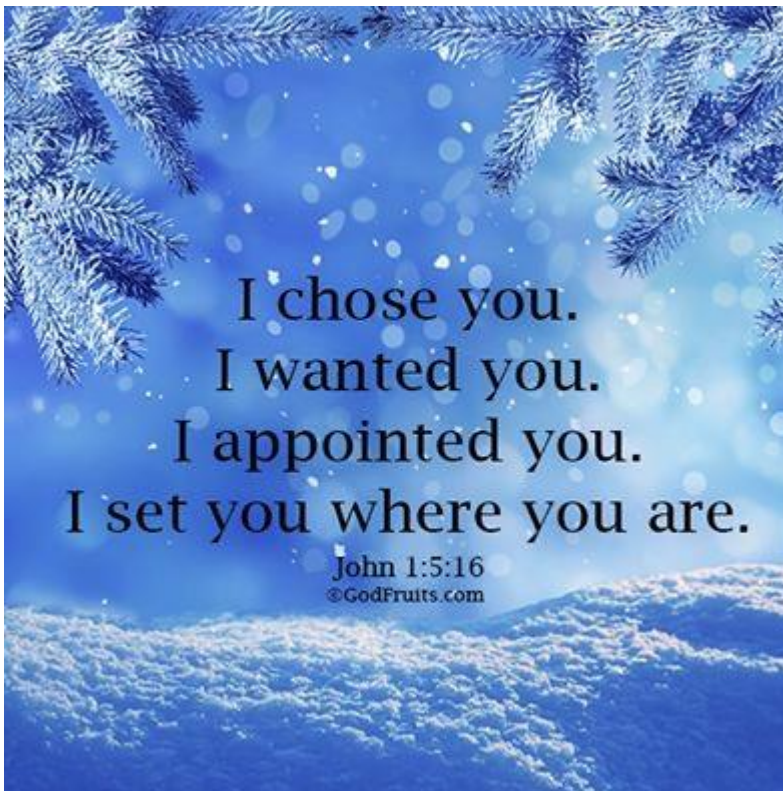

Subject: Pastor's Weekly Email

From: News from FCCV (lists@firstchurchofvernon.org)

To:

Date: Friday, January 8, 2016 12:17 PM



Hello, Beloved! Sending warmth your way today!

On Sunday we will hear the often-repeated Isaiah scripture, *I have called you by name; you are mine*. And, we'll listen to Luke's account of *The Baptism of Christ*. The sermon title is, *City of God*. Both of these lectionary texts are perfectly placed for the New Year!, as well as for FCCV as you embark upon a search for your new Senior Minister!, and perfect texts as we go into the Transition Team's Informational Meeting following worship. We will meet in Fellowship Hall from around 11:30a-12:30p, child care will be provided, and I'll give the team's report from what was brought forth in the Cottage Meetings. The format of the meeting will be: Opening remarks; What is there to learn from examining our history?; FCCV Strengths; What we'd like to see (in the church); Three Transition Team Recommendations; and, The Church's Mission/Purpose! *All are welcome (Members & Friends) to come, all are encouraged to come!* We hope this information will aid the Pastoral Search Committee.

I want to share that a few church members have spoken with me about the awkwardness of males seeking pastoral care from a female minister. I would like to provide my thoughts on this in case there are others who feel the same way. If you're interested, you can find them below Nancy's "Coming up" section.

For anyone who has been away at school, come to FCCV for pizza and a movie this Sunday, January 10 from 6pm to 9pm.! Info: contact Greg Mias gregmias@comcast.net

January 10 Scriptures: Isaiah 43:1-7; Luke 3:21-22

<http://bible.oremus.org/?passage=Isaiah+43:1-7&version=nrsv>

<http://bible.oremus.org/?passage=Luke+3%3A21-22&version=nrsv>

FCCV, *Building the City of God!*

See you in church, 🏠

Rev. Suz, Interim Senior Pastor

Coming up...

Tonight - Pairs and Spares, Beginner Line Dancing, 7:30 PM in Fellowship Hall

Family Night Out - Tomorrow, January 9, 5-9 PM in Fellowship Hall

Transition Team Informational Meeting - Sunday, 11:30 AM -12:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. Child care will be provided.

Pizza and a Movie for anyone who has been away at school. Come to FCCV from 6-9 PM! Contact Greg Mias, gregmias@comcast.net, for more info.

Since my ordained ministry began in November 1995 I have served 8 churches. In churches where I was the first female minister I sometimes heard rumblings early on that men can't seek pastoral care and counseling from a woman minister, that a woman would not be able to identify with mens' issues. I want to assure you that women ministers attend to everyone and everything. I don't think there is any "male concern" that hasn't been brought to my office. Male ministers are expected to attend to "female concerns", Catholic priests are expected to attend to marriage and family concerns. Love, care, support, understanding, compassion, wisdom, and prayer know no gender. I would hope that anyone in the church would feel comfortable to seek out Rev. Robin Bird and/or me for pastoral care and counseling. As a matter of propriety, when we meet with a male parishioner we do always make sure that someone else is in the building. This practice also needs to apply when a male minister meets with a female parishioner. And, as a "safe church" requirement, there are windows in the doors of the pastors' offices. In addition, I'm wondering if there would be interest for the men in the church (18 yrs. and over!) to have an organizational meeting with pastoral staff regarding a mens' group, and/or some kind of activity/ies. We often see womens' groups in churches, but we don't as often see activities for men. Let's bounce this around and perhaps look to set a date for the men in the church to gather with Rev. Robin and me to brainstorm. All are valued at FCCV!



News from FCCV

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To be sure you receive our regular mailings and emergency announcements please add lists@firstchurchofvernon.org to your Contacts.

Attachments

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- sigimg0.sigimg0 (11.14KB)