

---

**Subject:** Pastor's Weekly Email

---

**From:** FCCV Announcement (lists@firstchurchofvernon.org)

---

**To:**

---

**Date:** Friday, January 10, 2014 12:28 PM

---

Friends in Christ,

I am excited to be starting my second year as senior pastor of the First Congregational Church of Vernon! We have come a long way together in this short time.

2013 proved to be a year for the record books as our church navigated not one, but TWO pastoral transitions in a single calendar year. My first day of ministry among you was 1/2/2013 and the Reverend Robin Bird joined us on 10/13/2013. It has been a joyful and productive time of shared work and worship! I could not be more proud of this congregation and the extraordinary lay leaders with whom I am blessed to serve.

As we move into this new year together fresh new ministries are sprouting among us, even as we continue our season of planting. Already, tender shoots of promise are unfolding! Our Youth Group is growing by leaps and bounds, with more regular meetings fueling the fun and fellowship, our Tuesday Morning Bible Study is launching its second 10-week series (a biblical look at friendship), and "Theology on Tap" (an informal and informative discussion group that meets at the Wood-n-Tap) just toasted its first meeting this week with 25 gathered around the table.

Our tried and true programs also seem to be growing like weeds! Attendance is up in Sunday School, new faces can be seen in worship, our music ministries are flourishing, and coffee hour is abuzz with more than just caffeine.

This week is "Baptism of the Lord Sunday," which marks the event of Jesus' baptism by John in the Jordan River. We will celebrate the day with a baptism of our own as we welcome Colin Olmstead, son of Rick and Holly Olmstead, into the faith. I hope to see you there!

Peace and blessings to you in the bright dawn of this glorious new year. May God continue to shine love and kindness upon us all.

With you on the journey,

Meg

## REMINDERS....

### ANNUAL FISCAL MEETING

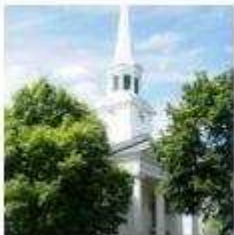
**Sunday, January 26**

*following the worship Service*

Child Care will be provided.

Also...our next New Members Class will meet on Tuesday, February 4 at 7 PM in the Library.

To be sure you receive our regular mailings and emergency announcements please add [lists@firstchurchofvernon.org](mailto:lists@firstchurchofvernon.org) to your Contacts.



**FCCV Distribution List Server**

*First Congregational Church of Vernon - UCC  
695 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, CT 06066*

**Office: 860-875-7580**

Website: [www.firstchurchofvernon.org](http://www.firstchurchofvernon.org)