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**Subject:** Pastor's Weekly Email

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

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**To:**

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**Date:** Friday, February 3, 2017 11:30 AM

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Family and Friends of FCCV,



In case you haven't heard, yet... "Punxsutawney Phil" saw his shadow yesterday to predict 6 more weeks of winter; however, Connecticut's "Chuckles" *did not* see her shadow and predicted an early spring. Which one do we believe? Do we choose "Chuckles" because we live in Connecticut? Or, do we choose "Phil" because he has been predicting the weather since 1887? On Groundhog Day, some of us really want to believe that "Chuckles" is right because we are anxious for all this cold weather and the threats of more snow to be over. Others may want to believe "Phil" because they are excited about all the winter activities that take them outside in the cold weather and snow. I know it's a silly little game we play every February 2<sup>nd</sup>, but this kind of scenario fits into our everyday lives. It seems like each day we are given conflicting stories, news, and events. What do we believe? How can we tell if it's the "real thing" or not? James 1:16 and 17 tells us, *"Don't be misled, my dear brothers and sisters. Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from the Father, the creator of the heavenly lights, in whose character there is no change at all."* I believe we can ask God for discernment when we are conflicted and God will direct us. Be reminded about how the scriptures should be a part of our discernment process in Psalm 119:105: *"Your word is a lamp before my feet and a light for my journey."* Be encouraged!

Sunday, our text will come from Luke 7:1-17. In this story, a centurion's servant is healed and a widow's only son is raised from the dead. The people who were in the crowds when these miracles took place were awestruck and gave praise to God! Are you awestruck at what God is doing among us? Come, let us give praise to God together! We truly believe God is still speaking!

Grace be to y'all,  
Robin

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### **Prelude to the Preludes**

I'll start this week off with two undulating piano pieces: Mendelssohn's Prelude and Faure's Barcarolle are both in six-eight time and both in A-flat major. Back at the organ, Jesus' ministry



of healing and compassion will be evoked by arrangements of “He Lifted Me,” “I Believe in Miracles,” “God Will Take Care of You” and “Love Lifted Me.” And while we celebrate communion I'll play Haydn's “Evensong to God” and Lysberg's “This Holy Feast.”  
-James

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**REMINDERS....**

**Line Dancing** tonight at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

**This Sunday...  
Communion**

**Anyone interested in becoming a new member** is invited to join Rev. Robin Bird in the Coffee and Conversation area of Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour.



**News from FCCV**

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

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

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**Attachments**

- clip\_image002.jpg (4.91KB)
- clip\_image004.png (83.24KB)
- sigimg0.sigimg0 (11.14KB)