
Subject: Pastor's Weekly Email

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

To:

Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 11:45 AM

Family and Friends of FCCV,

Have you ever had the feeling of déjà vu? You know, something you've "already seen" - the phenomenon of having the strong sensation that an event or experience currently being experienced has already been experienced in the past? Well ... if you haven't ever experienced it, I'm going to provide that opportunity for you now and share some of last week's email in this week's email. ☺

(Last Sunday, due to the snow and driving conditions, we had to cancel church. The decision was not easy to make, but safety is always our number one priority.)

Be Our Guest

Sunday, I will be preaching from one of my favorite scriptures. (I will admit, I have lots of favorites!) Luke tells the story of Jesus attending a dinner party at the house of Simon, a Pharisee. Yes, this is still true! I will be preaching about how God calls us to offer hospitality to all of God's children. Are we doing enough to make sure everyone is welcome in our church? Let's open our hearts to God to discern what God is saying to us through Sunday's text.

Immediately after our Sunday morning service, active members will be given an opportunity to vote on whether we, First Congregational Church of Vernon United Church of Christ, will officially become an Open and Affirming church. Basically, we agree with the statement, "Jesus never rejected anyone, and neither do we." We will also vote on our Open and Affirming (ONA) declaration. As an Open and Affirming church, we join with our sisters and brothers in the United Church of Christ, and all persons who are committed to the struggle for justice, love, and inclusiveness with the example and teachings of Jesus Christ as our guide. Yes, this is still true, too! After the vote, we will enjoy one another's company downstairs during Coffee Hour.

We will celebrate the baptism of Addison Lynn Reilly, the daughter of Kelly and Brian. It is always exciting when we welcome a new little member into God's church!

As I looked out the window this morning, I said a prayer of thanks for the beautiful sunshine! (I am a native of the "Sunshine State", after all.) My prayer for you today is that you are warmed by the sun's rays, even in this cold weather, and that you are reminded by that warmth of how much God loves you and cares for you! It's true!

Come and experience God with us this Sunday!

Grace be to y'all,
Robin

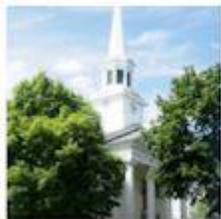


Prelude to the Preludes

Valentine's leftovers? Though the chocolate has been completely eaten up, I still have a dozen "love-themed" preludes that I didn't get to play last week. And unlike food, the good news of Jesus' love never gets stale. So I figured I'd just defrost a few and serve them up for this week--waste not, want not, right? On the menu are a few old stand-by's like "O Perfect Love" and "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" as well as a couple that are new to me like "O How He Loves You and Me." Bon appetit! --James

Reminder...

Line Dancing tonight at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to join us!



News from FCCV

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Office: 860-875-7580

Website: www.firstchurchofvernon.org

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

Attachments

- clip_image002.jpg (15.72KB)
- clip_image004.png (82.73KB)
- sigimg0.sigimg0 (11.14KB)