

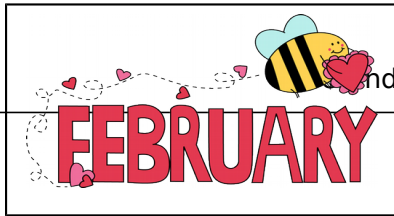
MOUNT VERNON LARGER PARISH

**No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.**

First Christian Church of
Coventry
(Rice City), UCC
63 Vaughn Hollow Road, Greene, RI
02827

Moosup Valley Congregational
Christian Church, UCC
81 Moosup Valley Road, Foster, RI
02825
moosupvalleychurch.wordpress.com

Mount Vernon Baptist Church,
ABC
210 Plainfield Pike (Route 14)
Foster, RI 02825



Reverend Bob Hollis is available at 401-440-7831 or at RevBobH@gmail.com.
Betsy Aldrich Garland is available at 401-463-8697 or at BAGarland@cox.net.

FEBRUARY 2017 SERVICES & NEWS

Date	Rice City	Moosup Valley	Mt. Vernon
Feb. 5	9:00 a.m. Morning Worship with Communion	10:30 a.m. Morning Worship with Communion.	6:00 p.m. Open Mic Worship <i>Hosted by Maia Grandy</i>
Feb. 12	9:00 a.m. Morning Worship	10:30 a.m. Morning Worship <i>Reverend Betsy, preaching</i>	3:00 p.m. Hymn Sing <i>With Rev. Betsy & Pastor Doug on piano</i>
Feb. 19	9:00 a.m. Morning Worship	10:30 a.m. Morning Worship	6:00 p.m. Praise and Worship <i>Hosted by Mary and Mario</i>
Feb. 26	9:00 a.m. Morning Worship	10:30 a.m. Morning Worship	6:00 p.m. Quaker Style Service

Also in the Larger Parish

<p>Morning Bible Study Thursdays, Feb. 2 & 16, 10 a.m.</p> <p>The Bible Study group will turn back to the Book of Genesis and the story of Abraham and Sarah. We meet at Moosup Valley Church on Thursdays, February 2 and 16, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Come to enjoy not only the study but also the fellowship and prayer.</p>	<p>Evening Bible Study Wednesdays Feb. 1, 8, & 22, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Stroll through the Gospel of Mark on Wednesday evenings, 7 to 8:30 p.m., at Mt. Vernon Meeting House. Read ahead and come ready to ask questions and learn more. <i>(Note: No Bible Study on the 15th; plan to come to the Ecumenical service at Foster Center. See over.)</i></p>	<p>Valentine's Day Fellowship Breakfast Saturday Feb. 18, 9-11 a.m.</p> <p>Men's Breakfast Fellowship will host a Valentine's Day Brunch at Rice City Church on Saturday, February 18, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. for all those we love – and that includes you! Please sign up, call Pastor Bob, 401-440-7831, or call Chef Ron, 401-215-8700, if you are planning to join us!</p>	<p>Pasta & Meatball Dinner Saturday, Feb. 25, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Help get Tina Lavallo to Colorado to participate with disabled veterans and enjoy a delicious pasta and meatball dinner with friends at Rice City Church on Saturday, February 25, 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20; the proceeds will be used to help Tina, with Alicia as her coach, with airfare and accommodations.</p>
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Ecumenical Service

Wednesday, February 15, 7:00 p.m.

The Foster Churches Association's monthly ecumenical service will be held on Wednesday, February 15, 7:00 p.m., at **Foster Center Baptist Church**. Pastor Bob will be the preacher.



Hearts to Haiti

The Haitian Service at Mount Vernon Church the end of January was very well received with some new people there. The offering went to Hurricane relief. Rose will be going to Haiti on February 19. Call her at 401-397-8644 for more information.

It's Always Time to Help the Hungry

The Foster DHS Food Pantry is always looking for non-perishable food, which can be left in donation bins at Tyler and Foster Public Libraries, the Post Office, Town Hall lobby, and DHS office. Also, grocery store gift cards, checks, and cash donations are welcome. Checks can be made payable to DHS – Town of Foster, and mailed to 181 Howard Hill Road, Foster, RI 02825. For questions, call Carol Mauro, Director, at 392-9208.

Looking Ahead to Lent

Ash Wednesday, March 1

The Foster Churches Association will sponsor *weekly* Lenten services each **Wednesday evening** during Lent. The theme will be "Singing Our Faith" with a focus on hymns as story-tellers and teaching tools. We will meet in a different church each week with that church selecting a favorite hymn for focus. The first service will be on Ash Wednesday, which is on March 1. We look forward to worshipping with our neighbors.

RIPTA Senior Van Service

Do you need a ride?

The Foster Department of Human Services held a task force meeting in January to discuss the possibility of getting RIPTA senior van service in Foster. The proposal would be for the van service to run once a week to take seniors from Foster into Scituate Village and the IGA Plaza. If you are a senior who would be interested in this service, or if you know someone in Foster who could benefit from this, please contact the Foster DHS office at 392-9208. They are collecting data now to present to RIPTA in April. The more people who need the service, the better our chances of getting this program in Foster.

February Meetings

- **Spring Equinox Planning:** Spring arrives this year on March 20. There will be a meeting to plan the celebration on **Monday, February 6, 7:00-8:00 p.m.**, at the Mount Vernon Meeting House.
- **Women's Meeting:** The women of the Larger Parish will meet at the home of Pat Safstrom on **Saturday, February 11, 10 a.m.** Please call Pat, 401-397-5884, to let her know if you're coming in case we need to move the meeting to Rice City.
- **MVLP Council Meeting:** Monday, February 13, 7:00 p.m., at Rice City Hall.

Women's Retreat

March 31-April 2

Angels appear in both the Old and New Testaments and in pagan folklore in the Ancient Near East as well. Are they only for good – or also for evil? And what are they anyway, and how shall we understand them? Are they a phenomenon of the past, or are there angels in our literature today? Perhaps you have experienced an angel? Or *been* an angel?



Come, join the discussion at the annual Women's Retreat at URI's Alton Jones Campus on Saturday, April 1. (Come early on Friday evening, March 31, and stay until Sunday morning, April 2, if you wish.) The women gathered at Martha Safstrom's house in November chose "Angels" as the theme – to give Reverend Betsy something to research and us, something to think about between now and then!

In addition to study, reflection, and fellowship, we enjoy walks on the beautiful grounds and delicious meals. Call Pat Safstrom at 397-5884 to see about options and costs.

Please send items for the March newsletter to Rev. Betsy at BAGarland@cox.net.