

**ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**February 5, 2017~ 10:00 a.m.
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Communion Sunday**

~ORDER OF WORSHIP~

*We welcome all and extend a special greeting to our guests; our service is enriched by your presence! Please join us in Chapin Hall for fellowship time after worship. **The Welcome Table** in Chapin Hall offers information about the church and members who can answer your questions. **Hearing devices** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is available down the hall in Room 4.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please include your full address and phone number as you sign our friendship registration pads, and please wear your nametags. All announcements should be written down and given to the ushers or pastor prior to worship. **If you have a prayer request you would like read aloud for today's prayers**, please fill out one of the prayer cards found in the friendship registration pads (your name is optional) and be prepared to pass it to the aisles at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.*

INTROIT

“Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word”
The Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let the mystery of God draw us in:

People: Beautiful, just, merciful!

Leader: Let the wisdom of God surprise us:

People: Vulnerable, powerful, searching!

Leader: Let the glory of God shine through our work:

People: Salty, bright and good!

Leader: In the mystery, the wisdom, the glory of God

People: Let us worship!

*HYMN

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

NC (black) 347

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Bold type denotes collective response

*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Wonderful God,

We gather today to celebrate your presence
in the lives of faithful people.

Send your Spirit to meet us here

and guide us into your depths

that we may begin to glimpse your grace:

what eye has not seen, nor ear heard,

nor the human heart conceived—

all you have prepared for those who love you.

We pray this in the name of Jesus,

Who taught us to pray, saying,

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE

NC 743

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that

The first line of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

The second line of musical notation continues the melody from the first line. It also consists of a treble and bass staff with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL

(Children are invited to depart for S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School)

“We Will Keep a Place For You”

by John Corrado



The image shows three staves of musical notation for the song 'We Will Keep a Place For You'. The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes.

We will keep a place for you where - ev - er you may go.
We'll sus-tain this home of faith and love you've come to know. Go in peace, bring
hope to hearts that yearn. We will keep a place for you 'till you re-turn.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:13-20

NT Pew Bible p4

SERMON

“Don't Hide Your Lamp!”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

*HYMN

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

PH (red)288

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, Rev. Cowing will come down the center aisle to collect your prayer cards.

Invitation to the Offering

For those who have already given their offering, Giving Cards are available in your pew so that all may participate in the act of the offering.

Offertory Anthem

“Ave Verum”
The Choir

Mozart

*Doxology



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;



] Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

Sung Call to Prayer “Behold Us, Lord, a Little Space” (verse 1) PH 395



1 Be - hold us, Lord, a lit - tle space From dai - ly tasks set free,
2 A - round us rolls the cease - less tide Of busi - ness, toil, and care,
3 Yet these are not the on - ly walls Where - in thou mayst be sought;
4 Thine are the loom, the forge, the mart, The wealth of land and sea,



And met with - in thy ho - ly place To rest a - while with thee.
And scarce - ly can we turn a - side For one brief hour of prayer.
On home - liest work thy bless - ing falls, In truth and pa - tience wrought.
The worlds of sci - ence and of art, Re - vealed and ruled by thee. A - men.



Pastoral and Silent Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Isaiah reminds us that our prayer, fasting and pious ritual must be lived out in compassion and justice:

When we forget the fast you desire—

To do justice, and stand up for the powerless:

All: Lord, have mercy.

When we forget the prayer you love—

To show compassion, and care for those in need:

All: Christ, have mercy.

When we forget the rituals you require—

To create relationships of righteousness and peace:

All: Lord have mercy.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Grace and Peace

Friends, the love of God revealed in Jesus forgives us, heals us and sets us free to rebuild, restore, and raise up foundations for new generations.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

This church practices open Communion. All are welcome to participate, including children, and regardless of denominational affiliation or church membership.

This morning, the congregation will be seated for Communion; the elements (bread and non-alcoholic grape juice) will be brought to each pew. Please wait until all have been served so that we may take the elements together. As you pass the trays to your neighbor, you may use the words “The bread of life” and “The cup of blessing.” If you would like to receive gluten-free bread, please raise your hand so that a Deacon may serve you.

Invitation

Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west, from north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Jesus' presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and wherever we are, that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Now let us share among us a sign of God's peace.

*You are invited to share a sign of the reconciling peace of Christ with those around you
(a handshake, an embrace, or a non-contact gesture).*

***HYMN**

“I am the Light of the World”

NC (black)584

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE**

LITURGIST

Deb Copes

COMMUNION SERVERS

Gail Hall, Bill Hoffman, Nancy Parsons

Candy Smith, Marge Murke, Wendy Ware

USHERS

Gladys Carpenter, Sarah & Jim DeGiovanni, and Sue Monaghan

HOSPITALITY

Jean Goff



LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, February 12

Worship

New Member Reception

Middle School Youth Outing

Confirmation Class Meeting



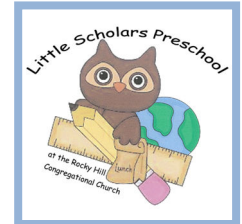
Super Bowl Party Basket Raffle and Super Sub orders are ready for pick up today after worship, in Chapin Hall.

Proceeds to support the High School Youth Group mission trip to Louisiana, to repair homes damaged by various weather events. Thanks for your participation.



LITTLE SCHOLARS PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

For any RHCC church members wishing to register their children for Little Scholars Preschool for the 2017-2018 school year:



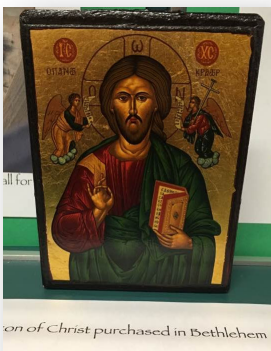
- Brochures and registration forms are available in the Church Office or can be downloaded from our website www.rhccucc.org/preschool.
- OPEN HOUSE will be held on Wednesday, February 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Little Scholars Classroom.
- OPEN REGISTRATION will be held on Wednesday, March 1st from 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. in the Fiorilli room.

If you have questions, please send an email to: lsp.registration@yahoo.com. Or contact Kim Bogert at kbogert52@gmail.com

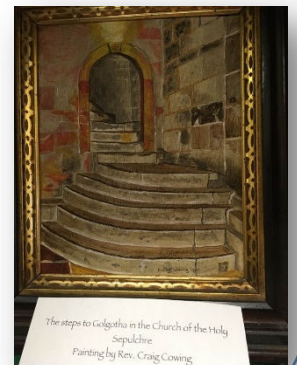
HOLY LAND DISPLAY

Stop by the hallway just outside the Chapel to view the display cabinet, which contains Craig's collection of photos and artifacts from his and Anita's trip to the Holy Land in 2011. It includes a few paintings he did of various scenes, an icon and a creche from Bethlehem, plus other items.

Come and enjoy!



The Holy Land is a traditional and descriptive term for the region within modern-day Israel, which holds major sites considered significant to three of the world's great religions. It lies between the Dead Sea and the Mediterranean Sea and contains areas including Jaffa, Ashdod, Bethlehem, Jericho, Hebron and Gaza.



SCRIP-SURE



What is it? Scrip-sure is a fundraising program for our church, which allows the regular shopping we do at a variety of retailers to generate income for the church. How? Participating retailers sell gift certificates or gift cards to our church at a discount. Church members buy the certificates for full face value and redeem them for full face value, and our church keeps the difference as revenue. Everybody wins! The retailers get our business, and our church gets a regular source of revenue that involves nothing other than what we would all be doing anyway – shopping/spending at grocery stores, drugstores, restaurants, gas stations, and many other businesses, including online retailers

We have most of the usual cards in inventory for immediate purchase this morning.

Here is a partial list of cards typically available:

- Coffee: Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks
- Fast food: Boston Market, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's
- Gas: Exxon/Mobil, Shell, Sunoco
- Grocery: Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, Westside Marketplace, Whole Foods
- Pharmacy: CVS, Walgreens
- Restaurants: Bertucci's, Bonefish Grill, Buffalo Wild Wings, Denny's, Olive Garden, On the Border, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster
- Shopping: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Lowes, Michaels, Payless Shoes, Target, Toys R Us, Walmart

The next ordering deadline (for cards not kept in inventory) will be on February 26.

Did you know that you can donate to the Rocky Hill Food Pantry and "Covenant-to-Care for Children" through our scrip program? Your cash/check donations are used to buy gift cards to local groceries (food pantry) or other retail stores (CC). For these donations, we do not retain any profit, so a \$1.00 donation effectively buys about \$1.07 in groceries or clothing. You may donate at the scrip table in Chapin Hall.

Stop by the scrip table in Chapin Hall this morning for a complete listing of available cards, or to have all of your questions answered. Think SCRIP!

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

February 5

10:00am **Worship/Communion**
9:30am **Childcare**
10:00am **Church School**
4:00pm **Tamil School**
5:00pm **HS Youth Dinner**

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Rms 24,25,26
Rms 22,23,25,26,27



February 6

7:00pm **Women's AA**
7:30pm **Bell Choir**

Monday

Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

February 7

7:00pm **Boards & Committees**
7:00pm **Hearing Voices**

Tuesday

Fiorilli
Room 23

February 8

9:00am **Breakfast Club**
6:00pm **Pilates**
7:30pm **Choir**

Wednesday

Bob's Coffee Shop
Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

February 9

9:30am **Music Together**
7:30pm **Men's AA**

Thursday

Room 22
Chapin Hall

February 10

Friday

5 Kimberly Sweezy
6 Cole Triblets
6 Ryan Madsen
7 Angelo Rutigliano
7 Cheryl Hummel
8 Susan White
8 Robert Mullins
10 Daniel Scribano
11 Val Triblets
11 Izaque da Silva

New Directories are available in Chapin Hall after worship and in the office during weekday office hours.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

WELCOME VISITORS!

Interested in joining the church? If you'd like to learn more about our church community; please join us during coffee hour after worship and ask to speak with Pastor Craig Cowing or any Deacon. We are an Open and Affirming Christian community, actively expressing Jesus' inclusive embrace of all people.

Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

805 Old Main Street
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Church Office: office@rhccucc.org / 860 529-4167

Church Website: rhccucc.org

Visit us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/rhccucc

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Open and Affirming Statement

Because we believe that all people are created in God's image and thus are blessed and loved equally by God, and because love is a unifying and strengthening force within our Christian Faith,

We, the members of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, hereby declare ourselves an Open and Affirming Christian community, actively expressing Jesus' inclusive embrace of all people.

We welcome all who seek to follow Jesus, including persons of every age, gender, race, national origin, faith background, marital status and family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, mental and physical ability, economic and social status, and educational background, to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings and joys of our church family.

Jesus teaches us to welcome all God's children into God's covenantal community. As we grow together in faith and love, we will strive to celebrate the diversity in which God has created us.

Approved by congregational vote June 2009

Ministry Team

Ministers: All the members of the church

Pastor: The Rev. Craig L. Cowing ccowing@rhccucc.org

Minister for Children and Youth: Georgette L. Huie ghuie@rhccucc.org

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero mary@rhccucc.org

Office Manager: Theresa E. Cleary office@rhccucc.org

Webmaster: Dave Hall webmaster@rhccucc.org

Child Care Provider: Liz Pulling lrpulling@icloud.com