

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**February 7, 2016 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Last Sunday after Epiphany/Transfiguration**

~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 and large-print bulletins** 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.

PRELUDE

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Something drew us together this morning

All: Something we can't name but which we experience in worship

One: Some holy mystery we call God

All: Some sacred calling we hear in the life of Jesus

One: Some indescribable hope we feel when we gather in the Spirit

All: May our experience of the Divine transform our doubts and fears and prepare us to love the world.

*HYMN

“He's Got the Whole World in His Hands”

printed in bulletin

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

**Bold type denotes collective response.*

*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

O God, you are beyond words and description,
your love is beyond knowledge and explanation.

Make our hearts ready to receive you.

Change us, we pray, that our lives may reflect the glory of your
transfiguration.

We rejoice in the power of your Holy Spirit and 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

The musical score consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in bass clef. The vocal line begins with the word 'Glo' and ends with 'ri - a'. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines. The second system continues the vocal line with 'in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo' and the piano accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



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



SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 9:28-36

N.T. p. 60 pew Bible

SERMON

“After the Mountaintop Experience”

The Rev. Craig L. Cowing

OFFERING OF GIFTS

During the time of offering, your prayers can be offered using the blue prayer request cards and placed in the offering plate. The pastor will read the prayers aloud during the Joys and Concerns.

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 “When The Roll is Called Up Yonder”

Val Triplets, soloist

*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

Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in -

cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

Pastoral Prayer

*HYMN

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

NC (black) 472

Call to Confession

One: Peter, James, and John went up on the side of a mountain with Jesus and experienced glory. But then Peter wanted to stay.

“It’s good for us to be here. Let’s get comfortable.”

We are also often tempted to keep the experience of the Divine to ourselves, to enjoy the company of the saints instead of going back down the mountain to continue the work of the Kingdom of God.

God knows this temptation of our hearts, so let us confess and pray for forgiveness.

All: God of glory and light,
forgive us when we are complacent and comfortable
with keeping the riches of your love to ourselves.
Keep calling us down from our mountains of privilege.
Keep expecting more of us as your disciples.
Keep reminding us to listen to your Son,
in whose name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Grace:

One: Whether we hear a voice from the heavens
or a still small voice in our hearts,
listen carefully for the love of God.
Believe and accept God's love and live in God's freedom.

All: We believe! 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

Communion Music

Dixieland Band

"Just a Closer Walk"

"Amazing Grace"

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our God, you have refreshed us at this table. We thank you for the strength and grace to meet the challenges of this day. Prepare our hearts as we go out into the world to serve you, knowing that Jesus is with us. We pray this in Jesus' name. 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**

“Down by the Riverside”

printed in the bulletin

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“When The Saints Go Marchin’ In”

Dixieland Band

LITURGIST

Bob Inderbitzen

COMMUNION SERVERS

Marge Murk, Nancy Parsons

Stephanie Heneghan, Elaine Some

Bill Hoffman, Bob Carberry

HOSPITALITY

Dave & Bobbie Hawkins and Lynn McKenna

RHCC Dixieland Band Members:

Gail Hall, Clarinet

James Rolfe, Tenor Sax

Sarah Mosure, Trombone

Rhody Triblets, Guitar

Chris Mosure, Bass

John Corvo, Drums

Dave Hall, Trumpet, Director, and Arranger

All of the Dixieland music this morning was arranged by Dave Hall with the exception of the offertory anthem and the final hymn, which were arranged by Dan Goeller.

*Today's flowers have been donated by the
Deacons and the Flower committee to celebrate
the installation of Rev. Craig Cowing*

LOOKING AHEAD

TODAY Feb 7	3:00pm	Installation of The Rev. Craig Cowing
Tues. Feb 9	5:30pm	ShroveTuesday/AshWednesday Gathering
Wed. Feb 10	9:00am – 5:00pm	Labyrinth Walk Meditation
Thur. Feb 11	6:00pm	Missions Guest Speaker Michael Joseph
Sun. Feb 14	11:30am	2nd Hour: Sacred Conversation on Race



Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ Hartford Association
At the request of Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC
And upon the recommendation of the
Committee on Church and Ministry of the Hartford Association
An Ecclesiastical Council is now called to install the Rev. Craig Lewis Cowing as Minister

**All are cordially invited to the installation of
The Rev. Craig L. Cowing**

on

Sunday, February 7, 2016 at 3:00 PM

Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC

The Worship service for Installation will begin at 3:00 PM

A Reception will follow

SHROVE TUESDAY/ASH WEDNESDAY GATHERING

Gather for a pancake dinner, celebration, and special music, followed by a time of worship.

Tuesday, February 9 5:30-7:30pm

Join us As we move from dancing into a time of preparation.



SIGN-UP IN CHAPIN HALL OR EMAIL OFFICE@RHCCUCC.ORG

Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday evening February 9th at 5:30pm will be celebrated by Inreach and Faith Formation. Please join us for pancakes, activities and music; and then we will turn our hearts and minds to the reflective time of Lent, as celebrated with a service of prayer and ashes. Also, we are collecting old crayons to be re-purposed on Holy Saturday. Sign up in Chapin Hall or call Steph Heneghan.

Walking the Labyrinth

Ash Wednesday

February 10, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Stop by the church to spend some time in prayerful reflection. There will be a basket of stones at the entry. You'll be invited to take a stone, carry it with you through the labyrinth, and leave it at the center. Labyrinths have been used for centuries, in many cultures, to facilitate prayer, meditation, and spiritual transformation. When we walk the labyrinth, we begin a pilgrimage. Where will yours take you?



Thursday, February 11th at 6pm in Chapin Hall Missions Pizza Party with Special Guest Michael Joseph

Come hear Common Global missionary Michael Joseph share the story of his 8 years of mission work in Colombia.

Michael is currently coordinating the Prophetic Call Human Rights Documentation Program. This project of the Peace Commission documents the impact of the war on Protestant and evangelical churches. Through the Prophetic Call Documentation Project, the Peace Commission can advocate on behalf of the church's victims to the State and international governments, as well as provide spiritual, emotional, financial and legal support to the victims of the conflict.

SACRED CONVERSATION ON RACE

2nd Hour February 14, 2016 at 11:30 AM

Sacred Conversation on Race is a UCC initiative to confront racism. Basically the conversation will allow for some assessment of the congregation about justice issues surrounding race. We'll talk about the intersection of race and social issues. We will begin to map a plan on how and what RHUCC can do to improve the world of everyone. Join us after worship. For more info: www.ucc.org/sacred-conversation



Rev. Craig will be out of the office next week, Thursday, Feb. 11 through Saturday, Feb. 13, to visit his Aunt in Virginia who is dying of cancer. We wish him a safe journey and a blessed visit. For pastoral emergencies, contact the office: 860-529-4167 to be directed to a Deacon or covering Pastor.



Alice Weil, the wife of Rev. Arthur Weil, passed away on Wednesday, February 3rd. Please remember her family in your prayers. *Cards of sympathy* may be sent to:
Ann Dimock, 73 Stephen Tom Road, Portland, CT 06480



Icon of the Week in the Chapel

On each Sunday in Lent there will be an “Icon of the Week” on display in the Chapel.

These are icons that Craig has painted, copying the original historic painting.

This week’s Icon is of

John the Baptist, from

The Museum of Russian Icons in Clinton, Mass.

Come and see it, and enjoy a few minutes of quiet contemplation.

Credit: Ca 1450 Museum of Russian Icons Clinton, MA



Lent is going to be a time for introspection and learning at our church. Craig has put together a set of programs and opportunities to stimulate thought and prayer.

Fri. February 19 at 7 PM Harmonic Healing with Tibetan singing bowls

This will be an opportunity for contemplation and prayer. You are guaranteed to come away relaxed!

Sun. February 21: 2nd hour program: “Where Did We Get The Gospels From?”

Craig will talk on the theories about the formation of the gospels as we find them in the New Testament.

Sun. February 28: 2nd hour on Islam

The Rev. Dr. Chuck Kennedy will talk about the basics of Islam in light of current events. He is a popular speaker on the subject and will help us to understand the most recently developed of the three Abrahamic faiths.

Lenten Programs (cont.)

Sun. March 6: 2nd hour program: “Good Friday and Easter in Art East and West” Craig will talk about how these two days, central to the Christian faith, are portrayed in art from the medieval and Renaissance worlds. He will also have copies of paintings he has done.

Sound Healing Meditation with Tibetan Singing Bowls Friday, Feb 19, 7pm



In sound healing meditation, we use the healing vibrations of the singing bowls to uplift the spirit, relax the body and quiet the mind.

Singing bowls developed in the region of Tibet a long time ago. A singing bowl is a bronze bowl ranging in size from a few inches to eighteen inches or more in diameter. It can be played to produce a pleasing sound. Metal singing bowls will usually produce a harmonic as well as a dominant tone. In other words, the bowl will produce a harmonic cord, not just a single note.

These instruments have been found to positively affect the body on many levels. The vibrations soothe the nervous system and invite the release of tight muscles, stress, anxiety, PTSD and depression.

Research has been done in the last decade or so about the effects of sound on the mind. It has been found that soothing sounds can actually alter the brainwaves that are produced. The sound of singing bowls definitely has that effect. Come and see what it can do for you, and bring a friend!

Bible Study

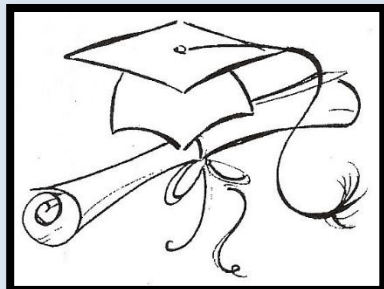


Men's Bible Study First and Third Saturday

Come join your Christian brothers as we pursue and try to understand God's words. All are welcome.

For more details, please contact Jim Stevens: 860-632-5810.

Rocky Hill Congregational Church Scholarship Information for the 2016-2017 Academic Year



Each year, our church awards college scholarships which are funded by investment returns from the Scholarship Endowment Funds. Applicants should be members of Rocky Hill Congregational Church, active members of one of its youth organizations, or active participants in the life of the church. Awards are based upon church and community involvement, demonstrated scholastic achievement, financial need, and the completion and submission of a scholarship application form. Scholarships may be awarded for up to four years of undergraduate studies. Recommendations on scholarship recipients are made by the Scholarship Committee, whose members are appointed by the Board of Trustees. This recommendation is then subject to the final approval of the Trustees.

Graduating high school seniors and returning college undergraduates who are seeking a church scholarship for the 2016-17 academic year are invited to complete and **return an application prior to April 15, 2016**. Scholarship awards will be announced in June. Scholarships to graduating seniors will be presented in the applicant's school awards assembly program. Otherwise, recipients will be notified by letter. Scholarship checks will be paid to the awardee and notification of change of plans or non-attendance should be made to the committee prior to issuance of checks in mid-July and mid-December.

Application forms are available in the office, or send an email to: scholarships@rhccucc.org for the link to the pdf. or refer to members of the Scholarship Committee: Hilaire Leavitt or Randy Pulling.

Applications are DUE prior to April 15th, 2016.

The **Council Meeting** will be held on *Tuesday Feb 16 at 7pm* in the Fiorilli room instead of Feb 9 due to the Shrove Tuesday/Ash Wednesday Gathering.



RHCC,UCC Mission News

The RHCC, UCC Missions Board is donating \$500 to the UCC Emergency USA Fund for Flint, MI. For more info visit: www.ctucc.org/news/20160121_flint.html People can donate

by sending a check to Emergency USA Fund. Mail to: United Church of Christ c/o Financial Services office, 700 Prospect Ave., Cleveland OH 44115 Put Flint, MI in the designation field.

The Michigan Conference of the United Church of Christ, the Disciples' Week of Compassion, and the Michigan Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) announced Jan. 18 the launch of "The Gospel in Action — Flint," a joint effort to help provide water to the more than 50,000 households in Flint who have not had clean water for almost two years.

"We have a history of working closely with the Disciples," said the Rev. S. C. Campbell Lovett, UCC conference minister in Michigan. With this joint effort, "we are living out that partnership in a powerful way." The conference staff delivered water to Vermont Christian Church Jan. 19, and also stopped by Woodside UCC in Flint to deliver much needed funds for that church's water filter distribution program. Additionally, UCC Disaster Ministries has provided a \$3,000 Solidarity Grant to Woodside.

The water problems began in Flint in 2014, when the governor-designated emergency manager of the city approved drawing water from the Flint River instead of purchasing water from Lake Huron via Detroit, an effort to save the city money. According to Kathleen Reid, a member of Woodside UCC's Water Accessibility Committee, Flint's filtration plant was not equipped to treat the warmer river water, resulting in toxic water streaming through the city's pipes.



Residents complained that the water smelled foul and looked dirty, but that was mostly caused from the high iron content in the water. What residents couldn't see was worse: since April 2014, the untreated, highly corrosive river water (which violated federal law) has caused lead from the aging pipes to leach into the city's water supply, according to a

report released by Marc Edwards, an engineering professor at Virginia Tech and an expert on municipal water quality, who studied the water supply under a National Science Foundation grant. His report found that Flint water was "very corrosive" and "causing lead contamination in homes."

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.

Cards ordered last weekend may be picked up at the scrip table in Chapin Hall this morning. The next order (for cards not kept in inventory) will be placed on February 28th.

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.

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, Wendys
- 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

See **Gail Hall** at 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!

THINK SCRIP

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

February 7

10:00am **Worship**
3:00pm **Installation**
4:00pm Siragu Tamil School

February 8

7:00pm LS Preschool Board mtg
7:00pm Women's AA
7:30pm **Bell Choir**

February 9

5:30pm **Shrove Tuesday**
7:00pm Hearing Voices

Sunday

Sanctuary
Sanctuary
Rm 22, 23, 24, 25, 27

Monday

Fiorilli
Chapin Hall
Loft

Tuesday

Chapin Hall
Room 25



Feb 7	Cheryl Hummel
8	Susan White Robert Mullines
11	Valerie Triblets Izaque da Silva
12	Alfred Harlow III Annie Hokans-Doll Caryn Doten Beverly Schmidt Tyler Morgan



February 10

9am–5pm **Labyrinth Meditation**
6:00pm Pilates w/Caroline
7:30pm **Adult Choir**

Wednesday

Chapel
Chapin Hall
Choir Room

February 11

6:30pm **Missions Speaker & Pizza**
9:30am Little Hands in Harmony
7:30pm Men's AA

Thursday

Chapin Hall
Room 25
Chapin Hall

HONOR LOVED ONES *DEDICATE ALTAR FLOWERS

Sign up on the flower calendar in Chapin Hall, email office@rhccucc.org or call the church office (860-529-4167). If you have questions – please call Kim Burghoff 860-563-3287.

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