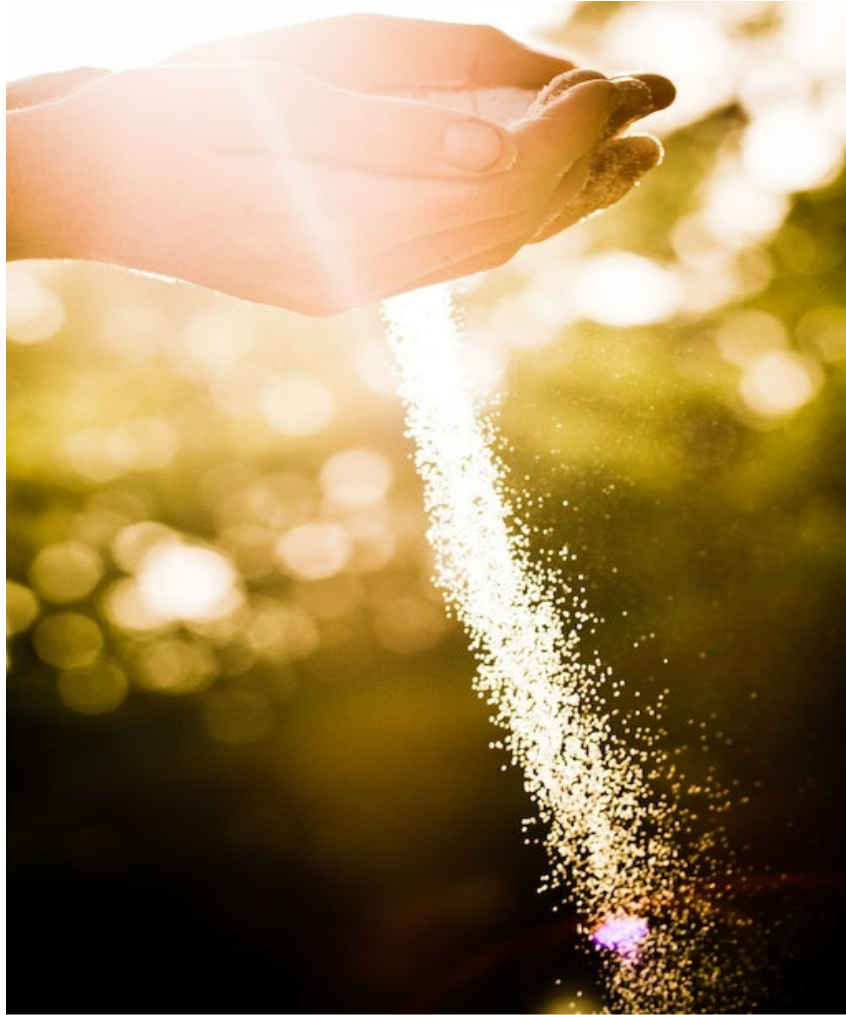


ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



February 9, 2020 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany



WELCOME! We extend a special greeting to our guests; our service is enriched by your presence! Nursery care is offered during worship downstairs in Room 4. Hearing devices are available for worship; an usher will be glad to assist you when you ask.

Please join us for fellowship time after worship in Chapin Hall, which is located downstairs. The Welcome Table in Chapin Hall offers information about the church; someone will be glad to answer your questions!

~ORDER OF WORSHIP~

Quote for Reflection:

Community is where the religious rubber meets the road.
People challenge us, ask hard questions, disagree, need things from us,
require our forgiveness. It's where we get to practice all the things we preach.

- Rev. Lilian Daniel

PRELUDE

Shenandoah

setting, Christopher Tambling

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

I Woke Up This Morning

African-American Spiritual

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deb Copes

One Let the Mystery of God draw us in:

People Beautiful, Just, Merciful!

Let the Wisdom of God surprise us:

Vulnerable, Powerful, Searching!

Let the Glory of God shine through our work:

Salty, Bright and Good!

In the Mystery, the Wisdom and the Glory of God,

ALL Let us worship!

*(*please rise in body or in spirit; Bold denotes unison response)*

*OPENING HYMN

O Master Let Me Walk With Thee

PH 418



We'd like to stay in touch with you! Here's how...

Please include your full address, phone number and email as you sign our friendship registration pads. 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. If you have announcements, please write them down and give them to the ushers or pastor prior to worship.

INVOCATION and the Lord's Prayer *(together)*

Holy and loving God,

We are drawn into worship today, knowing we need your mercy and your grace in our lives. It's been a hectic week and we come seeking to be restored in the Spirit. We are listening in community for your Word, alive and present through song and story. Help us to find that center from which to listen and to learn; let us be surprised by what you reveal and encouraged in our faith.

**As your gathered church we are praying
as Jesus 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**

Santo, Santo, Santo

NCH 793

Spanish, English, Spanish

Sharing the Peace of Christ

You are invited to share a sign of the reconciling peace of Christ with those around you with a handshake, an embrace, or a greeting comfortable to you.

(Children are invited to depart for Church School)

“We Will Keep a Place For You” by John Corrado



SCRIPTURE READINGS Matthew 5:13-20
Isaiah 58:1-9a

ANTHEM Here I Am, Lord Daniel L. Schutte
The Choir

SERMON Measuring Up Rev. Nada Sellers

***HYMN** Guide My Feet NCH 497

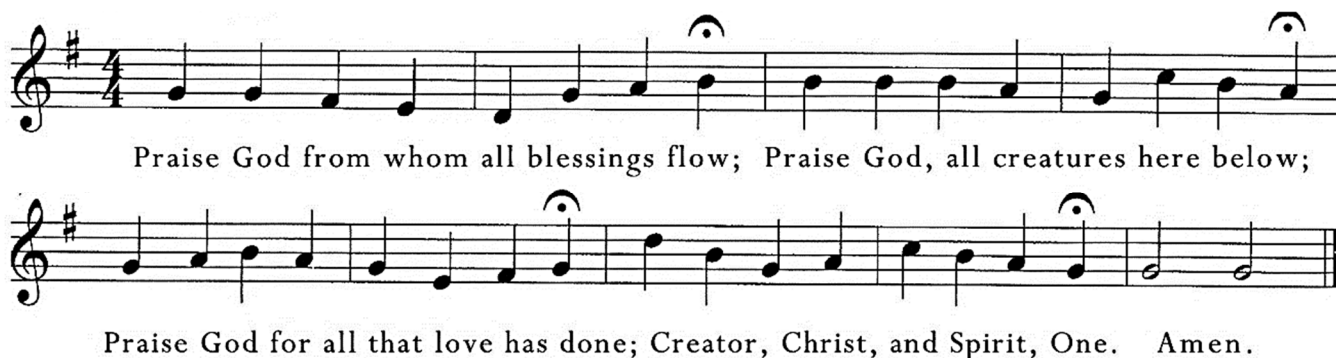
OFFERING OF GIFTS

After the ushers receive the offering, they will collect blue prayer request cards. 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Solo Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us arr. Richard A. Nichols

*The 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 *(together)*

O God, please take these gifts and multiply them;
let them be a means to create the justice and peace
you long for in this world.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

***Sung Response** Come, O Lord, and Set Us Free John Bell



Come, O Lord, and set us free; give your peo - ple peace.____
Come, O Lord, and set us free; Come, Lord Je - sus, come.____

***HYMN** I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me African American Spiritual

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Spiritual Sailor Southern Harmony



PRAYER LIST

Prayers for the ongoing work of our Regional Minister, the Rev. Tamara Moreland, and of our partner churches throughout Connecticut, and the ongoing work of the wider UCC church, especially the work of Rev. John Dorhauer, General Minister and President, Rev. James Moos, Executive Minister, Co-executive of Global Ministries.

Serving our country in the military: God bless all men and women serving our country at home and overseas - and remembering those who have died.



THANKS to our worship participants today:

Ministers	You, the people of God
Pastor	Rev. Nada Sellers
Liturgist	Deb Copes
Minister for Children/Youth	Georgette Huie
Ushers	Wendy Ware, Steve Smith, Marge Murk
Greeter	Joan Tennyson
Hospitality	Jean Goff, Ruth Jensen

Call to Worship and Offering liturgy adapted from content written by Rev. Susan A. Blain, for 2-9-20 at www.ucc.org, “Worship Ways” for Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team

“*I’m Gonna Live so God can use Me*” - Music: African-American spiritual; arr. Bill Thomas. Arr. © 1995, Chalice Press.

“*Come, O Lord, and Set us Free*” - John Bell, Words and Music - ©2008 Iona Community & WGRG1 Service. All reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-730607. All rights reserved.

Bucket Brigade! Sunday February 16th

Last year we purchased supplies and assembled Clean Up Buckets for disaster relief with the help and participation of our congregation. We rallied the troops and were able to provide 22 fully stocked buckets which we donated to Church World Services (CWS). CWS provides disaster relief to families and communities affected by flooding, tornadoes, earthquakes and other disasters. This is an excellent way for us to continue to support disasters on a broad scale with a focused effort.



Please join us on Sunday, February 16th as we once again form a Bucket Brigade to assemble supplies during our worship service! Other ways you can help are by:

- Donating for Supplies through purchase of a Scrip card (Walmart comes to mind)!
- Shopping for supplies
- Taking photos of the bucket assembly
- Delivering the filled buckets to Center Church in Meriden.

We have decided to stretch our goal this year to 25 buckets. We do cover some of the supplies from our Outreach and Witness but would appreciate additional donations. In case you want to add to our bucket total, the cost of one bucket is \$78. Please contact any member of outreach and witness or sign up on our bulletin board to participate!

The Outreach and Witness Team: Heather Collins, Elaine Sellenberg, Sue Speers, Christine Kainamera, Marge Murk and Sue Chatfield.



Young mothers' group will be gathering Thursday, February 20 from 5:30-6:45pm in Room 6. RSVP to Georgette - a gluten-free vegetarian meal will be served.

MOVING INTO LENT



LENTEN JOURNEY



Dixieland Sunday – February 23 at 10:00 a.m.

Since 2006, our church has taken advantage of its musical resources by engaging various vocal and instrumental ensembles to provide Dixieland-style music during the morning worship service on Transfiguration Sunday. Please join us as we celebrate the final Sunday after Epiphany before transitioning to the more reflective season of Lent.



Shrove Tuesday Supper – February 25 at 5:30 p.m.

Please join us for pancakes, activities and music as we celebrate before the start of the reflective time of Lent. Sponsored by Faith Formation, this is a fun intergenerational event!

Ash Wednesday – February 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Ashes will be available on a 'drop-in' basis during the day from 10:00am to Noon. A brief but beautiful service of prayers, music, meditation and ashes will be held in the Chapel at 6:30 p.m. (Choir rehearsal follows at 7:30pm). All are invited to attend.

From your Financial Secretary:

I know you are all looking forward to the upcoming tax season as much as I am. 😊

To that end, all statements were emailed on Saturday, 1/18/2020, to those for whom I have an email address on file. If I do not have an email address for you, your statement(s) went out via USPS on 1/21/2020. If you did not receive a statement from me by the time you read this article, please contact me at deb.copes@gmail.com or at 860-729-6541.

You would receive a contribution/Scrip statement if:

1. You purchased Scrip during 2019
2. You filled out a pledge card during our 2019 campaign and contributed toward that pledge
3. You specifically asked me for a tax statement

It is not too late to get a tax statement so if you want one, please let me know.

-Deb Copes





Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

The Southern New England Conference officially came into being with the New Year, and the change is becoming more and more visible. At the end of December, the Conference's Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Massachusetts Secretary of State's office, establishing it as a nonprofit. On Jan. 1, employees of the three historic conferences became employed by the Southern New England Conference. Perhaps more visibly, the Conference launched a **new Facebook page and new website** - sneucc.org - and all staff now have email addresses that end in sneucc.org (last name first initial @ sneucc.org, such as vailt@sneucc.org). Visit us at www.SNEUCC.org for all conference information.

We're going to Super Saturday! March 14, 2020

8am-4pm Minnechaug Regional High School, Wilbraham, MA

Registration deadline: Feb 29.

Contact the office or Pastor Nada if you would like to attend.

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.

COME TO OUR MOVIE NIGHT!
Babette's Feast - Directed by Gabriel Axel
Saturday, February 15 – 6pm – 9pm



Our Welcoming Ministry Team is hosting a family-friendly movie night – all are welcome to attend – bring your friends and neighbors!

Pot luck dinner at 6 p.m.
(Then popcorn during the movie)!
Movie starts at 7 p.m.
Movie is rated G for general audiences

Babette's feast will leave you with so much to talk about, from religious beliefs to eating habits around the world, the sisters take in Babette as a maid and cook, and in return Babette cooks a feast that brings the best out of each guest.

Film Review by Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat

This Danish film, which won the 1987 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, is based on a short story by Isak Dinesen. Written and directed by Gabriel Axel, this literate and lovely-to-look-at film compels us to meditate upon the needs of the flesh and the needs of the spirit. It is also about choices, talent, gratitude, friendship, grace, and hope.

Please contact Stephanie Heneghan (stephanie_heneghan@yahoo.com) or Ruth Fitzgerald (rfitzgerald@fhiplan.com) with any questions.

TIME, TALENT, TREASURE MINISTRY

Ministry Needs

Some of our current ministries have opportunities for additional helpers. Please consider sharing **YOUR** time, talent and treasure in these important areas.



- ☐ We would like one more member on our Pledging Committee. Please contact Deb Copes debcoes@gmail.com / (860) 729-6541.
- ☐ Fellowship opportunities are always great. We're looking for someone to help organize a family movie night. Contact Ruth Fitzgerald rfitzgerald@fhiplan.com / (860) 543-1520 or Steph Heneghan stephanie_heneghan@yahoo.com / (860) 529-4672.
- ☐ Photos. Please feel free to take photos of memorable moments in our church life. We want to let others know of our active worship and ministry opportunities. Please send your photos of church happenings to Theresa in the church office (office@rhccucc.org).

Welcoming Ministry Team update

Our Welcoming Ministry Team is working to help us be a church of extravagant welcome. Since this team was launched, we have increased our social media communications with the wider community, developed and mailed a postcard about Easter activities, added a Welcome Book (guestbook) to the Narthex, and (our biggest project) introduced a new church directory with photos. Most of all, we want to be welcoming to visitors and guests. If you are interested in being part of the Welcoming Ministry Team, please contact Stephanie Heneghan stephanie_heneghan@yahoo.com / (860) 529-4672 or Ruth Fitzgerald rfitzgerald@fhiplan.com / (860) 543-1520.



New Members & Friends Directory is Getting Positive Reviews

The directory with photos has been available for several months now. If you don't have one yet, copies are available in the church office. The method that was used to create this directory will permit frequent updates. If you notice any errors, change an address or phone number, or want to replace your photo, contact Theresa. office@rhccucc.org.



RHCC Newsletter

Submission deadline for the March issue of The Church Mouse will be **February 17** We want to hear from you! Send your articles and photos to: office@rhccucc.org. The mailing date will be Monday February 24.

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
- Gas: Exxon/Mobil
- Pharmacy: CVS, Walgreens
- Fast food: Burger King, Boston Market, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's.
- Restaurants: Bonefish Grill, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster
- Shopping: Ace Hardware, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Jo-Ann Fabrics, Kohl's, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Lowes, Michaels, Target, Total Wine, Walmart.
- Grocery: ShopRite, Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, WholeFoods, Westside Market.

The next order for physical cards not stocked in inventory will be placed on **February 23 (with delivery on March 1)**. E-cards may be ordered anytime. A complete listing of all retailers available through our program can be picked up at the scrip table in Chapin Hall.

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.

Think SCRIP!

THIS WEEK AT RHCC



February 9

10:00am Worship
9:30am Childcare
10:00am Church School
11:00am Coffee Hour
11:30am Pledge Ministry
5:00pm Confirmation Class

February 10

7:00pm Bonsai Group
7:00pm Women's AA

February 11

7:00pm Council Mtg

February 12

9am Breakfast Club
1:00pm Staff Meeting
6:00pm Bell Choir
7:30pm Choir

February 13

7:30pm Men's AA

February 14

Happy Valentine's Day

February 15

10am Set up for CWS Buckets
2pm Set up for Movie Night
6pm Movie Night!

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Rms 24,25,26
Chapin Hall
Fiorilli
Room 2

Monday

Chapin Hall
Room 6

Tuesday

Fiorilli

Wednesday

Bob's Coffee Shop
Parlor
Choir Room
Choir Room

Thursday

Chapin Hall

Friday

Saturday

Sanctuary
Chapin Hall
Chapin Hall



Birthdays
This
Week!

4	Jarod Taylor
7	Heather Wolfe-Taylor
7	Cheryl Hummel
8	Susan White
8	Robert Mullins
11	Val Triblets
12	Alyssa Gau
12	Caryn Doten
13	Bev Schmidt
13	Tyler Morgan
14	Kurt Sheathelm
14	Brian Speers

Pastor Nada's Office Hours:

Monday 9:30am–3:30pm

Tuesday 10:00am – 12:00pm

Wednesday 3:00pm – 5:00pm

*And by appointment; please
feel free to contact me if you'd
like to find a different time that
works better for you. Thank
you!*

Little Scholars Preschool
closed Feb 13-18.
Office closed Monday,
Feb 17.

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