

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**February 12, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
New Member 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 center aisle at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.***

PRELUDE

“Reverie”

Claude Debussy

Katie Hoffman-Fulda, flute

CALL TO WORSHIP

Cindy Hunt

One: O lilies of the field, we of all colors and all varieties,
GOD calls us to hear the Word.

**All: As those who have been planted in faith,
we turn our open faces to you, O GOD.**

One: O people of the plains, the cities and the mountains,
we of all colors, theologies and life choices, we are God's field.
Come into God's sanctuary with joy!

**All: You have cultivated us, O GOD.
Let us vine and blossom
And bear the fruit of your integrity.**

One: O we of mustard seeds and wheat,
we of little faith and great, we come.

**All: We come to the living waters,
to the Sun of love and light.
We will drink of your ways, O GOD,
and we will sow your seeds.**

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Bold type denotes collective response

CALL TO WORSHIP (continued)

One: O, all who are of the world,
come and see what GOD has grown.

All: **We come to worship you.**
We stand in the sunshine of your living word.
We prosper in your paths, O GOD,
as the lilies of your field.

***HYMN**

“This Is a Day of New Beginnings”

NC (black) 417

***INVOCATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**Great God-Gardener,
Creator of all living things, you live with us today,
shining like the February sun,
and promising tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow.
The crocus tells us you are near
and the snow-drops make vows you alone can keep.
May we find you in every blooming thing beneath the
snows of our lives.
May we see you in the brightness of the morning
streaming through these windows.
May we know you in the promise of today and today and today –
becoming, always becoming.
We pray this in Jesus’ name, 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

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

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

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

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.

ANTHEM

“Help Us Accept Each Other”
Jillian Maynard, mezzo soprano

John Ness Beck

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:21-37

NT Pew Bible p 4-5

SERMON

“On Reconciliation”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

***HYMN**

“O For a World”

NC (black) 575

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

“The Best of Rooms”

Donald Busarow

The Choir

***Doxology**



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



¹ 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 Prayer

*HYMN

“Help Us Accept Each Other”

NC (black) 388

BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

LITURGIST

Cindy Hunt

USHERS

Kim Burghoff, Bea Donahue & Robert Simmons, and Wendy Ware

HOSPITALITY

Ruth Jensen

*The Tower is lit In Loving Memory of
nephew and cousin **Jay Romano**
by Gail and Natalie Tine*

Welcome New Members!

*All are invited to join us for coffee, refreshments and fellowship
in Chapin Hall after worship.*



LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, February 19

Worship

Childcare, Church School

Coffee Hour

High School Youth Outing

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.





Welcome New Members!

Alice Bradstreet has a varied religious background. Her father belonged to the Dutch reform church and served as the Sunday School superintendent. Her mother was Episcopalian. Alice was deeply impressed with Martin Luther which lead her to join a Lutheran church. Alice was born in Queens and lived in many different cities in NY. Alice was introduced to our church when she attended a couple of weddings here. Alice has a son who lives in CA and three cats. Alice loves cats and is an avid reader! While spending time with her cats is Alice's favorite thing, she did tell us that cooking definitely is not!

Rev. Ken Hoyt is a liberal-to-moderate Christian who believes in action as a justification of faith, based on the call from Luke's Gospel "to go and do". Ken resides in Windsor with his wife and cat. He is retired from parish ministry, having served churches in the mid-western US. He currently serves as a Team Chaplain for VITAS Home healthcare and Hospice. Ken may be absent from services for periods of time because he is also a supply preacher to the local UCC community. Ken and his wife have one married son and one grandson who is nine months old. Their son, who resides in Glendale California, is a special effects artist in the movie and television industry. Ken enjoys cooking with special emphasis on the Mediterranean area. He collects wine and studies culinary art as a hobby. Ken chose to be a member of RHCC for a variety of reasons including the facts that our pastor is genuine and contemporary, Georgette is eloquent and our music program is excellent and diverse.

Jared Maynard is an active member of our Music community. He has an extensive music background, is a classical guitarist and currently works as a music teacher in the Norwich school system. Jared grew up in Rhode Island and has lived in CT for the past 3 years. He attended college at University of Rhode Island where he met Jillian. He and Jill were married in our church about 3 years ago. Jared & Jill purchased Ruth Whipple's house (later Doug Sudell's house) on Bailey Road in Rocky Hill. Jared's interests include playing music and cooking.

John Piacentini currently lives in Rocky Hill on Washington Street. John moved to CT when he was 14. He joined the Marine Corp at 18 and lived for a while in MA. John has two children – a daughter, 21, and a son, 18. John grew up catholic but, after moving to Rocky Hill, was looking for a new church family when he was introduced to the church by Jennifer Martin. John is retired now but worked as a chef for the America School for the Deaf. John is getting married in July of this year and is a life-long NY Jets fan. His favorite thing to do is cook and, like most of us in this church, eat!!

Chili Supper and Movie Night Saturday, February 25, 6:00pm.



The Music Committee invites you to our annual Chili Supper with a new twist. This year we'll be having a movie night instead of a talent show. Yes, we still have tons of talent, but we thought we'd try something a little different. What better on a cold, late February evening than a big bowl of chili and a good movie. (Movie to be announced—any suggestions?) Please contact Deb Copes at Deb.copes@gmail.com or Ruth Fitzgerald at rfitzgerald@fhiplan.com if you can bring chili, cornbread or a dessert.

Why choose Silver Lake for camp this summer? Silver Lake is a place to find your voice; grow roots; become a leader; experience God's unconditional love. Sign up now for a life-changing experience this summer! Find conferences for young people entering grades 4 through 12 online at www.silverlakect.org.



Middle School Youth Group

On February 12, we will go to Laser Quest in Newington to try their Key Quest challenge, and on February 26, we will stay at church and make breakfast for dinner!

High School Youth Group

On February 19, we will go to Laser Quest in Newington to try their Key Quest challenge.

Child Care during worship is available in the nursery, Room 4 (ground floor), from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. Supervised by Liz Pulling and another adult. If you're interested in volunteering to help Liz, please speak to her before or after worship, or contact Bob Inderbitzen (Personnel Committee), Kathy Morgan (Board for Faith Formation), or the church office.

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 12

10:00am **Worship**
9:30am **Childcare**
10:00am **Church School**
11:00am **New Member Reception**
11:30am **MS Youth**
4:00pm **Tamil School**

February 13

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

February 14

HAPPY ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

7:00pm **Council**
7:00pm **Hearing Voices**

February 15

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

6:00pm **Pilates**
7:30pm **Choir**

February 16

Preschool Closed

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

February 17

Preschool Closed

7:00pm **Tibetan Bowls**

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Rms 24,25,26
Chapin Hall
Laser Quest
Rms 22,23,25,26,27

Monday

Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

Tuesday

Fiorilli
Room 22

Wednesday

Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

Thursday

Room 22
Chapin Hall

Friday

Weil Chapel



12	Alyssa Gau
12	Alfred Harlow III
12	Annie Hokans-Doll
12	Caryn Doten
13	Bev Schmidt
13	Tyler Morgan
13	Arianna Baret Peralta
14	Kurt Sheathelm
14	Brian Speers
16	John Speers
17	Ryan Painter
17	Owen Geddes



Sound Healing Meditation with Tibetan Singing Bowls

The healing vibrations of the singing bowls can uplift the spirit, relax the body and quiet the mind. Come and see what it can do for you, and bring a friend! Free will food offerings support the Rocky Hill Food Pantry.

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