

**ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
805 Old Main Street**

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**The Reverend Jonathan B. Dean-Lee, Senior Minister
The Reverend Donna K. Manocchio, Associate Minister
The Reverend Arthur C. Weil, Minister Emeritus
William Kanute, Director of Music
Julia Pickett, Director Christian Education
Church # 860 529-4167
Fax # 860 257-9637
e-mail – office@rhccucc.org
website – rhccucc.org**

**The Friendly Community Church At the Center
Established 1727**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

> Third Sunday in Lent >

February 27, 2005

10:00 A.M.

Welcome and Announcements

(please sign and pass the friendship pad to your neighbor)

Prelude

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

setting by Johann Gottfried Walther

Introit

“All People That On Earth Do Dwell”

setting by William Billings

Call To Worship

Leader: *The way of worship invites us: “Give thanks, call on God’s name.”*

People: We remember God’s wonderful works and our hearts rejoice in God’s presence.

Leader: *The way of covenant beckons us: “Walk blameless before your God.”*

People: God awakens our faith and trust and calls forth righteousness.

Leader: *The way of the cross summons us: “Deny yourself and follow”.*

People: Christ challenges our complacency and bids us risk all for the gospel.

All: Let us worship the God Jesus Christ together!

*Hymn “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say” New Century Hymnal 489

Prayer of Confession

What will you do with us, O God? We are never satisfied with our lot. We rebel and complain when things don’t go our way. Our hearts chase after things that become gods to us and consume our time, energy, and attention. We spend little time in communion with you and then begin to doubt your presence. At times you seem far away and unavailable. We create barriers among ourselves that separate us from one another and from you. Send your living water to cleanse us, O God. Empower us to open our hearts to you this day....

(you may continue you prayers in silence)

Sung Response

God Tender and Just

Assurance of Forgiveness

A Message for Children of All Ages

(Children are dismissed to their classes)

Scripture Reading

John 4:5-42

Anthem

“As Streams in the Desert” Vincent Ambrosetti
Arlene Painter: solo

Sermon

“Holy Food, Blessed Drink”
The Rev. Jonathan Dean-Lee

*Hymn “When, like the Woman at the Well” New Century Hymnal 196

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer (*debts/debtors*)

Prayer Response

Two Fold Amen

Offertory

“God So Loved the World” Sir John Stainer

*Doxology

*Words Of Dedication

*Hymn “God of Grace and God of Glory” Pilgrim Hymnal 366

Benediction

Postlude

Postlude in C major
(*if able, please stand) Hal H. Hopson

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Acolytes

Brett Timrud and Ryan Bengston

Greeters and Hospitality

Inreach

Ushers

Women of the Prayer Shawl Ministry:

Kim Batterson Biglow

Mary-Edith Bowman

Liz Cunningham

Cheryl Hummel

Nancy Rolfe

Lynn Webster

Childcare

Sharon Janes

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This morning's flowers are in loving memory of Melissa Hoffman and Ben Hoge given by Marsha and Bill Hoffman, Kirsten, Matthew and John.

The tower is lit this week in memory of Life Deacon Tony Calvo by the Diaconate.

We welcome you and extend a special greeting to our visitors; our service is enriched by your presence! Please include your full address and phone number as you sign our friendship registration pads, and please remember to wear your nametags! After worship, we hope you will join us in Chapin Hall for coffee and fellowship.

Attendance Last Sunday: 169

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Church's Annual Meeting on May 22, 2005 will include a vote on proposed amendments to the RHCC Constitution, both regarding the work of the Board of Trustees. Copies of the two proposed changes are available on the table across from the Church office.

On Sunday, March 6th, there will be a second hour program led by Peggy Wright, a member of the Back Bay Mission Board of Directors. She'll show a video of the facility in Biloxi, as well as groups working on workcamp projects – like our group will be doing in April! The session will begin at 11:30 in Chapin Hall.

Shares for the RHCC Biloxi Trip on sale today! You are invited to invest in the mission work of our church by purchasing at \$25.00 share in the trip to Back Bay Mission. The guaranteed return on your investment includes meaningful participation in helping those in need, a postcard from the group while in Biloxi, and an invitation to a celebratory shrimp dinner upon the groups' return from Mississippi. Thanks for your support!

We celebrate affirmations of life among children whom we do not know, but who are “ours” nonetheless. Jesus said, “Truly, I tell you, just as you did it to the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” (Mt. 25:40) Next Sunday, March 6th, a gift to **One Great Hour of Sharing** is a gift of hope for children across the globe. It's remarkable what your gift will do. God is still speaking.

The 2005 Lenten Program, “The Last Supper and the Life of Faith,” continues this Thursday at 6:30, when we will continue our paper-cutting meditation and reflections. Next Thursday, Donna Manocchio will lead the final session, when our focus will be on forgiveness and new beginnings. Please bring a dish to share for our pot luck supper. Childcare will be provided.

Hot off the Press! Get your copy of the Pew Crew's bestseller, “Retirement Options!” Copies are on the table in the narthex. Please let Carol know if you take the last copy.

An invitation to Help with World Day of Prayer This is a worldwide movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer on the first Friday of March each year. The theme of this year's service which was written by a committee of women from Poland is “Let Our Light Shine.” Saint Elizabeth Seton will host this year's event scheduled for 7:00 P.M. Friday, March 4. We are looking for volunteers to help out with hospitality. It is our hope that we can provide some Polish refreshments for our guests. If you would like to assist with this or any other aspect of our World Day of Prayer celebration, please call Eileen Bransfield at 529-3222.

Prayer Gathering: Are you interested in meeting with other church members in a small group to pray for concerns of the church and the world? For further information, contact Jane Formica at home 860-635-6116 or via e-mail at j.m.formica@comcast.net.

This Week at RHCC February 27- March 5

SUNDAY February 27	4:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Confirmation Adult Bible Study	Fiorilli Room call Julie at 563-5663
MONDAY February 28	12:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Bridge Faith in Action Meeting Brownies Ecumenical Lenten Gathering Bell Choir Womens AA	Chapin Hall Chapin Hall Room 25 St. Elizabeth Seton Loft Room 23
TUESDAY March 1	9:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.	Faith in Action Meeting Boards/Committees	Chapin Hall
WEDNESDAY March 2	9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Quilters TOPS Senior Choir	Chapin Hall Chapin Hall Loft
THURSDAY March 3	6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Lenten Study Series III ABC Quilters	Chapin Hall Fiorilli Room
FRIDAY March 4	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	AA World Day of Prayer Service	Chapin Hall St. Elizabeth Seton
SATURDAY March 5	7:30 p.m.	AA	Chapin Hall

Next Week

Sunday, March 6, 2005

Fourth Sunday in Lent/Communion

Scripture: John 9

Sermon: "Seeing Anew"

The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio