

# ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Established 1727*



**March 2, 2014 - 10:00 a.m.**  
**Last Sunday after Epiphany**

*The Friendly Church at the Center*  
*An Open and Affirming Community*

# ~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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*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 always available downstairs in Room 4.*

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meghan D. Young

*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 pastors 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 pew racks (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

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

## CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

We gather as the faithful of God,  
we come to listen to what God has to say to us.

**God has invited us to this place;  
may our faces reflect our hopes and our hearts.**

We gather as the faithful of God,  
people of the new covenant of hope and promise.

**We boldly enter into the presence of God,  
hoping to be transformed into new people.**

We gather as the faithful of God,  
our fears melting away in the heart of God.

**We come to share in the freedom of the Spirit,  
we come to praise God's holy name.**

## \* 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.***

## \*GATHERING PRAYER

Majestic Glory, heart of God:  
in this sacred space  
and in all the ordinary neighborhoods where we live,  
you are with us, hearing us, answering us.  
Forgive us, Revealer of mystery and wonder.  
We may not actively conspire against you,  
but we confess that we do make those conscious choices  
which draw us away from you.  
And so, Holy Beloved, Face of God:  
we glance at you out of the corners of our souls,  
and see grace surrounding us;  
we look at you conversing with the poor and rejected,  
and see our family;  
we watch you as you come to us,  
to touch us, to heal us, and to give us back to God.  
And we do not lose heart.

## \*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Listen! You are God's children, the beloved of God's heart. God speaks words of healing and hope to you in these moments. Listen!

It is good to be here – in the presence of the One who forgives us.  
Thanks be to God.

## \*SUNG RESPONSE: Allelulia

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are: "Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! (Last time, end.)". The score includes a final fermata on the last note of the melody.

# MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

## READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9

2 Peter 1:16-21

## SERMON

“Transfigured”

Meghan D. Young

## OFFERING OF GIFTS

*Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, the pastor(s) will come to the center aisle to receive prayer request 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

"Glory, Glory Hallelujah"

#### \*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 -

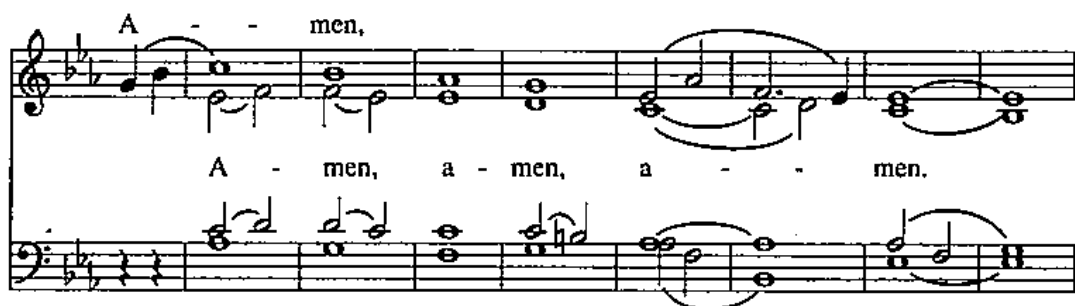
#### \*Prayer of Dedication

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

Prayer Response



## \* HYMN

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

New Century (black) 472

## 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**

We come to the Table where,  
by the presence of the Spirit,  
bread becomes the grace we need,  
the cup offers us the hope for which we long.  
Taking them up,  
God transfigures them into that sacred meal of love,

**A meal which strengthens us to get up  
and go into our neighborhoods,  
bringing light to the shadows,  
hope for the despairing,  
healing for the broken,  
justice for the forsaken.**

Christ calls each of us to come just as we are,  
offering our hearts in joy and hope,  
to be gathered up to the holy place of God's heart.

**Let us join with those of every time and place,  
rejoicing and forever singing our thanks to the God,  
who welcomes us here.**

### **Prayer of Preparation**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## The Words of Institution: Recalling the Story

### Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Communion Music Bread – “Give Me Jesus”

Communion Music Juice – “Just a Closer Walk”

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thank you God for this most holy meal.

May we leave this table,

filled with bread that offers grace to our deepest hungers,

awakened anew by the cup that quenches our spiritual thirst.

Now send us to live in your creation,

transformed in faithful discipleship,

with your story to tell in our hearts. Amen.

### The Practice of 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**

“This Little Light of Mine”

(Printed in *Bulletin*)

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

"When The Saints Go Marchin' In"

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**USHERS**

Lois & Jim Stevens, Bev & Harry Schmidt, Joan & Al Diaz

**DEACONS** Eleanor Mahar, Elaine Somes, Rob Grandell, Gail Hall, Bob Inderbitzen, Marty Rowe

Candy Smith, Julia Pickett

**RHCC DIXIELAND BAND**

Gail Hall, clarinet

James Rolfe, tenor sax

Ruth Fitzgerald, baritone horn

Rhody Triblets, guitar

Chris Mosure, bass

John Corvo, drums

Dave Hall, trumpet, arranger, & director

All of the Dixieland music in this morning's service was arranged by Dave Hall.

**The flowers this week are given in loving memory of  
Melissa G. Hoffman, Tom and Ben Hoge  
by Bill and Marsha Hoffman and family.**

## **He's Got the Whole World in His Hands**

He's got the whole world in His hands,  
He's got the whole wide world in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got my brothers and my sisters in His hands,  
He's got my brothers and my sisters in His hands,  
He's got my brothers and my sisters in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the sun and the rain in His hands,  
He's got the moon and the stars in His hands,  
He's got the wind and the clouds in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the rivers and the mountains in His hands,  
He's got the oceans and the seas in His hands,  
He's got you and he's got me in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got everybody here in His hands,  
He's got everybody there in His hands,  
He's got everybody everywhere in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

*(up a key for the final verse)*

He's got the whole world in His hands,  
He's got the whole wide world in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands.  
He's got the whole --- world --- in --- His --- hands!

## **This Little Light of Mine**

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Hide it under a bushel? No! - I'm gonna let it shine  
Hide it under a bushel? No! - I'm gonna let it shine  
Hide it under a bushel? No! - I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Don't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine  
Don't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine  
Don't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

All around my neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine  
All around my neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine  
All around my neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Let it shine 'til Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine 'til Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine 'til Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!



After this service, **please remain seated** for a short survey to get congregational feedback for the Search Committee

### **S.P.I.R.I.T. Corner**

*Serve, Pray, Invite, Receive, Ignite, Tell*

***Children are invited to remain in worship today, following along with the children & youth bulletins for Communion Sunday. S.P.I.R.I.T. Faith Formation will resume on March 9, with week 1 of Women of the Resurrection.***

#### **NOAH'S ARK- Change in Schedule**

Beginning this March. Noah's Ark will begin meeting twice a month on Sunday evenings from 5 PM – 6:30 PM for dinner, fellowship, and faith. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP with Diana Hellyar.

**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS:** Nursery Volunteers are needed. If you are interested in volunteering in the Nursery during Sunday morning worship, please contact a member of the Childcare Committee or email them at [RHCCchildcare@gmail.com](mailto:RHCCchildcare@gmail.com) for more information. You can also sign-up outside the Nursery.

### **IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR RHCC**

#### **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES MEETING ON TUES. EVE., MARCH 4**

The Pastoral Search Committee has asked to have a few minutes **at 7:00 p.m.** on March 4, prior to regular board and committee meetings, to talk with members of those groups about input important to their work. **You are asked to gather in the chapel promptly at 7:00 for this purpose.** Instead of our usual devotional time at 7:00, we will use the time for Search Committee purposes, then close with a prayer before all go to their respective meetings.

Meghan Young will be out of her office on a Reading Week from Thursday, March 6 until Wednesday, March 12.

# Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 5

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isa. 58:1-12; Ps. 51:1-17;  
2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10; Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21

12:00 noon      *Brief prayers, imposition of ashes (Chapel)*

5:30p.m.      *Strove Tuesday/Ash Wednesday Gathering  
Pancake dinner, celebration  
and special music*



SHROVE TUESDAY

6:45pm      *Service for the beginning of Lent*



*WORLD DAY OF PRAYER*

# Streams in the Desert

*March 7, 2014*

7:00 pm

Rocky Hill United Methodist Church  
626 Old Main Street

PREPARED BY WDP EGYPT

To download or order celebration materials, visit [www.wdp-usa.org](http://www.wdp-usa.org) or call 888-937-8720

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, USA COMMITTEE

475 Riverside Drive, 8th Floor, New York, NY 10115  
212-870-2466 | [Info@wdp-usa.org](mailto:Info@wdp-usa.org) | [www.wdp-usa.org](http://www.wdp-usa.org)

**CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION #5**  
**“CHURCH SHOULDN’T BE THIS HARD”**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 9 11:30 – 12:15**

The next in our series of interim process conversations will be based on a recent commentary piece in the Washington Post, by Tom Ehrich, an Episcopal priest and church consultant. The brief piece, which appeared on Jan. 7, 2014, was entitled “Church Shouldn’t Be This Hard” and reflects the writer’s views on how the church today is impeding itself, through attitudes, expectations and behaviors... and assumptions about clergy roles.

*Please read the piece beforehand (it’s only two pages).* Hard copies will be out and available at church, or you may go to:

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/religion/commentary-church-shouldnt-be-this-hard/2014/01/07/1d869022-77c0-11e3-a647-a19deaf575b3\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/religion/commentary-church-shouldnt-be-this-hard/2014/01/07/1d869022-77c0-11e3-a647-a19deaf575b3_story.html)

**AN ECCLESIASTICAL COUNCIL  
FOR MEGHAN D. YOUNG  
WITH THE HARTFORD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
*SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 3 P.M. IN OUR SANCTUARY***

This is the next step in the process toward ordination, where Meghan will present a summary of her ordination paper to a body made up of delegates and clergy from the 27 member churches of the Hartford Association. That body will then vote on whether to approve her for ordination pending an ordainable call. While only official delegates may vote, anyone may attend. All RHCC members are invited to be present, both to support Meghan and to experience this part of our UCC ordination process.

*A RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW, HOSTED BY THE DEACONS.*

**WANTED**

The loan of your collection of interesting/funny/beautiful things for everyone to admire in the case by the office. Joan Tennyson (860-529-8789) can arrange your wonderful things. They don’t have to be religious in theme.

## **SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES FOR LENT**

*Join a small group to explore and enrich your faith in new ways during Lent!*

### **1. ART + FAITH.**

*7 PM – 8 PM, Thursdays, March 13, 20, 27 & April 3, facilitated by Pastor Meghan.*

It has been said that creativity requires faith, and that art itself is an incarnational activity. Come and explore scripture and faith through different artistic mediums. Projects will be both group and individual. No artistic skill or experience needed.

**Minimum of 4 committed participants required. Maximum of 8.**

### **2. LIVING THE RESURRECTION.**

*12 PM – 1 PM, Sundays, March 23, 30 & April 6, 13, facilitated by Pastor Meghan.*

What does it mean to live a life rooted in the resurrection? We will explore this question, as individuals and a community of faith, through two books: *Daring Greatly & Liberating Hope*. *Daring Greatly: How the Courage to Be Vulnerable Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead* offers a powerful new vision that encourages us to dare greatly: to embrace vulnerability and imperfection, to live wholeheartedly, and to courageously engage in our lives. *Liberating Hope: Daring to Renew the Mainline Church* provides concrete and tangible 21<sup>st</sup> century insight to those churches looking to renew their congregations through hope and optimism rooted in the resurrection. Chapters from these books will be provided before each gathering.

**Minimum of 4 committed participants required. Maximum of 10.**

### **3. R - E - A - C - H for Lent!**

*A small-group faith enrichment experience, led by Rev. Brenda, meeting four times during lent.*

**REACH = “Recommunion Experience for Addressed Christians.”**

Confirmation is typically a time in our youth when we get to explore the meanings of the Christian faith and our place within the community of faith, the church. It’s a time for wondering, asking, learning, wondering some more, then “confirming” what we believe. Often it culminates in the writing and sharing of a faith-statement: “This is what seems true to me now about my faith, and here are my questions.”

Adults, however, seldom have the same opportunity to revisit core understandings of their faith and how they have changed through the experiences of adult life, or to put together a faith statement that reflects who they are now, many years after the Confirmation experience of their youth. This small group will be for just that purpose. Meeting four times, it will give participants a chance to do some exploring, reflecting and “reaching” through short readings and group conversation, and then the writing and sharing of faith statements at the end.

**Minimum of four committed participants needed.**

**Two evening options (four Wednesday evenings or four Thursday evenings) and one daytime option (four Tuesdays, early afternoon) will be considered. One will be chosen, depending on strongest preference/ availability of participants. Please indicate availability and preference of meetings times on the sign-up.**

**SIGN-UP FOR ALL PROGRAMS REQUIRED BY SUN., MARCH 2;**

*Sign-Up in Chapin Hall or contact the Church Office. (860-529-4167) or office@rhccucc.org*

## **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.*

If you placed an order last week, you may pick it up at the scrip table in Chapin Hall this morning. We ended February with a strong order, pushing the monthly profit over \$1,100 - the first time we have exceeded \$1,000 in a February.

We continue to stock a variety of cards in inventory from more than 30 different restaurants and retailers, available for immediate purchase this morning, including (but not limited to):

**Coffee:** Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks

**Fast food:** Boston Market, Burger King, Chipotle, McDonalds, Subway

**Gas:** Exxon/Mobil, Shell, Sunoco

**Grocery:** Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, Westside Marketplace, Whole Foods

**Pharmacy:** CVS, Walgreens

**Shopping:** Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Best Buy, Home Depot, Kohl's, Lowes, Marshall's, Target, Walmart

See Gail Hall at the scrip table this morning for a complete listing of available cards, or to have all of your questions answered.

**Think SCRIP!**

## **WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY**

In the event of winter weather on a Sunday morning, our first priority is to ensure the safety of church members. If snow and ice are a danger, worship is cancelled. Notice will be posted on **Channel 3 WFSB-TV**, and the voice mail greeting on the church phone will be updated with the cancellation if you choose to phone the main number. Additionally, an email and phone tree will alert church leaders to the same information. Cancellations will also be posted on the church website: [www.rhccucc.org](http://www.rhccucc.org).

On weekdays, if schools are closed in Rocky Hill, the church office will also be closed.

**Please note that if Rocky Hill posts a parking ban, the church will be closed. However, check on Sunday morning to see if a Saturday ban has been lifted.**

## THIS WEEK AT RHCC

### March 2

10:00am **Worship** Sanctuary  
11:00am **Souper Sunday** Chapin Hall  
11:30am **Search Committee** Fiorilli Room  
11:30am **Children/Youth Music** Choir Room

### Sunday



### March 3

10:30am **Apple Rehab Svc**  
7:00pm **Women's AA** Chapel  
7:00pm **Bowling**  
7:30pm **Bell Choir** Loft

### Monday

Mar. 1 Bill Hoffman  
Todd McGowan  
William White  
2 Sean Painter  
Rebecca Milles  
3 Alice Weil  
Pat Gordon  
Grace Donahue  
4 John Van Doran  
5 Joseph Wilson  
Timothy Bishop  
6 Percy Hall  
7 Margaret  
Vassilopoulos  
8 Dorothy Hunter  
Kevin Sudell

### March 4

6:00pm **Deacons** Fiorilli Room  
7:00pm **Boards and Committees**

### Tuesday

### March 5

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
9:30am **Quilters** Rm. 6.  
12:00pm **Prayers/**  
**Imposition Of Ashes** Chapel  
5:30pm **Strove Tuesday/**  
**Ash Wed. Gathering** Chapin Hall  
6:45pm **Beginning of Lent Service**  
7:30pm **Adult Choir**

### Wednesday

### March 6

5:30pm **Tops** Chapin Hall  
8:00pm **Men's AA** Chapin Hall

### Thursday

### March 6

7:00pm **World Day of Prayer**

### Friday

## WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, 12 noon – 1 p.m. (Fiorilli Room)

Led by the preaching pastor for the week, the study is based on the Scripture text(s) coming up for the following Sunday in worship. All are welcome. No experience necessary. Bring your favorite translation or pick one up from the shelf. Brown bag lunch is optional. **THIS WEEK – ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE INSTEAD.**

**Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ**

**805 Old Main Street**

**Rocky Hill, CT 06067**

Church Office: [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org) / 860 529-4167

Church Website: [rhccucc.org](http://rhccucc.org)

Visit us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/rhccucc](http://www.facebook.com/rhccucc)

**Office Hours**

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Friday 8:30 to 12:00

**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

Interim Senior Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka [brenda@rhccucc.org](mailto:brenda@rhccucc.org)

Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: Meghan D. Young [meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org)

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero [mary@rhccucc.org](mailto:mary@rhccucc.org)

Office Manager: Mitsey Baker [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org)

Webmaster: Dave Hall [webmaster@rhccucc.org](mailto:webmaster@rhccucc.org)