

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

*Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community*



**March 8, 2015 ~ 10:00 a.m.  
Third Sunday in Lent**

# ~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 down the hall in Room 4.*

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. 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 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

“Andante”

Rheinberger

## CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

The people of God are gathered, to meet the Spirit of God...

**What will the Spirit say on this day?**

The people of God are listening, and receiving, and wondering....

**What will the Spirit say on this day?**

The people of God are trusting that there is wisdom and life to be found...

**What will the Spirit say on this day?**

Let the people of God, in the season of Lent, be ready and open....

**for what the Spirit will say on this day.**

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

*\***Bold type denotes collective response.***

**\*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Because this is your world, God of all creation,  
we need you, if we are to be fully alive in it.  
Because you have given us an amazing freedom,  
we need you, if we are to live that freedom well.  
Because in our life-long growing up we will make mistakes,  
we need you, if we are to find the abundant life, the right path.  
Because we will cause pain to others as we find our way,  
we need you, whose love forgives and heals us all.  
God of all creation, because this is your world  
and we are your people,  
hold us, strengthen us, lead us,  
whenever we are tempted away from what is good.

*A moment for silent prayer is kept.*

Remembering that God is love,  
and that we have seen the face of that love in Jesus the Christ,  
the one we follow,  
let us pray together in the way he has given us:

**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

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

Dm G Dm Bb C Dm

*p*

*p*

## \*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).*

## 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

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

The Choir

“God be in my Head”

words Sarum Primer,  
music John Rutter

*God be in my head and in my understanding.  
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.  
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.  
God be in mine heart and in my thinking.  
God be at my end and in my departing.*

## READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7  
Mark 1:9-15

## SERMON

“On Growing Up”

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

## \*HYMN

“Guide My Feet”

New Century (black) 497

## 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

“Andante”

Guilmant

### \*Doxology



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



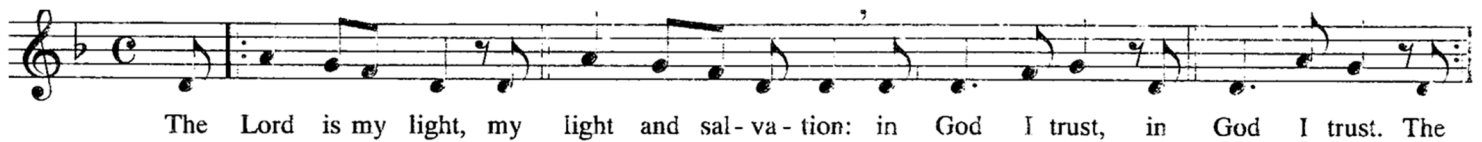
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

### \*Prayer of Dedication

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

## Sung Call to Prayer



## Pastoral and Silent Prayer

\*HYMN                      “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”                      New Century (black) 439

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE                      “Andante Pastorale”                      Zipoli

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LITURGIST	Candy Smith
ACOLYTES	Louis DiRenzo and Tyler Morgan
GREETERS	Jay Jensen and Nancy Harlow
HOSPITALITY	Ruth Jensen and Denise Carberry
USHERS	Wendy Ware, Nicole Graham, Lynn McKenna, Dave Sageman, Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio

**The flowers are given in honor of all March birthdays by Elaine Somes.**

### JOIN US TODAY

11:30 – 12:30

Chapin Hall

### Civil Rights for Adoptees

Guest Karen Caffrey of Access CT returns for Part 2 of a presentation about her organization’s hoped-for expansion of current state law regarding adoptees’ access to their original birth information. RHCC is being asked to bring a resolution of support for this to the Connecticut Conference of the UCC in October.

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

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

### S.P.I.R.I.T. Faith Nurture Ideas

**(Parents: Pick-Up your child in Chapin Hall)**

*These faith nurture ideas coordinate with the weekly session plans for church school. We hope you will join us in learning, teaching, and growing together!*

#### Here's what we're learning about this week...

##### **LESSON → Meals of Blessing**

**Read:** *Exodus 12:1-4, John 13:1-17, and Luke 22:14-27*

##### **Reflect and Remember.**

The title of this unit, *Meals of Blessing*, refers to three different meals: the Passover celebrated by the Hebrew people on the eve of the liberation from slavery in Egypt; the Passover Jesus celebrated with his disciples – an event which Christians later referred to as Jesus' last supper; and the Christian sacrament of Holy Communion. Although they are both unique meals, the Christian practice of communion draws on many of the same themes as the Jewish Passover meal. Both are meals of liberation. Both are meals of blessing. Both are meals of remembrance.

In Hebrew thought, *remember* means more than calling to mind. Remembering is linked to God's promise. It brings God's actions of the past into the present and enables God's future to enter the present reality.

In a similar way, Jesus commanded his disciples "Do this in remembrance of me." To remember is not just to think about something – it is to experience it. Through Holy Communion we are joined to the life and death of Jesus and renewed in our relationship with God, who wants us to experience deep and abiding joy. May these devotional activities invite you to enter into the story of God's liberating love in both Old and New Testament time and in your own life as well.

**Share Your Faith.** *Talk about the Bible story children and youth explored this week and try this: Remember and share the story of your favorite meal. What made it so special? Was it the food, or the people, or what the meal was celebrating? What makes a meal a blessing?*

**A Prayer For The Unit.** *Jesus, you are the light of the world. Jesus you are the bread of life. Refresh us with your word and feed us at your table so that we may love you and serve you with a living faith. Thank you for your gift and all those who show your love to us. Help us to remember you are always with us. Amen.*

#### **NOAH'S TABLE (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade) – Lenten Madness**

*March 15, 5 PM – 6:30 PM (Please note time and event change)*

Lenten Madness! March 15 is selection Sunday, the kick-off of the NCAA basketball tournament and March Madness. We'll be doing our own version of March Madness – "Lenten Madness". Join us as we make dinner and pit our favorite bible characters against each other in an NCAA style tournament. Please RSVP by Friday, March 13, with Meghan Young at [Meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:Meghan@rhccucc.org). 1 Adult volunteer is needed for this gathering.

## **Silver Lake 2015 – Calendars and Scholarships Available**

Pick up your Silver Lake 2015 summer camp calendars in Chapin Hall and sign-up for summer fun! *Scholarships are available. Scholarship requests must be received by March 30. Please contact Meghan Young at [meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org) for more information.*

### **A SACRED CONVERSATION ABOUT WOMEN IN THE CHURCH**

*March 15, 2015 at 11:30 AM*

Join us for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Lenten second hour, as we gather for a sacred conversation. Facilitated by Kari McCaw Blaise for Women's History Month, we will learn about "Antoinette Brown Blackwell". Antoinette Brown Blackwell was the first woman to be ordained by a mainstream Protestant church (1853, by the Congregational Church in South Butler, NY).

### **UCC OPPORTUNITY FOR GROWTH, LEADERSHIP, & FAITH FORMATION**

#### **GOING UP RIVER: WORKING FOR A JUST SOCIETY**

*Saturday, March 14, 8:30 AM - 4 PM at First Church of Christ in Mansfield*

Explore the biblical mandate to "go up river", examine what helps and hinders us from fully responding to God's call to "do justice" by becoming a more effective advocate for justice and peace, and learn how justice may be incorporated into the life and ministry of your church. This training is offered to support teams of local church members - laity and clergy - who wish to infuse more faith-based justice conversations, education, skills and opportunities into their respective ministries and communities. Leading justice is a collaborative effort; it's most effective to learn with a team. To attend with RHCC, RSVP to [meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org).

### **BREAD: A Call for Recipes**



This year for Lent the church school put away wheat for Lent, as well as wrote our blessings and hopes on communion clothes. This year on Holy Saturday we will transform the "wheat" into bread for communion on Easter Sunday. If you have a simple bread recipe please share. Gluten Free recipes are also needed. For information and to submit a bread recipe, please email Meghan Young at [Meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:Meghan@rhccucc.org).





One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected on  
**Sunday March 15, 2015.**

It is the Lenten Offering of the UCC supporting disaster, refugee and development actions.

## **A BOOK FOR LENT**

***Learning to Walk in the Dark*, by Barbara Brown Taylor**

*A spiritual reflection on learning to welcome the dark...*

*to see times of need, confusion and loss as times when God can be seen.*

A discussion opportunity is planned for Second Hour following worship on **Sunday, March 29.**

## **Lenten Labyrinth**

*Throughout Lent in the Chapel.*

*Open during office hours and on Sundays.*

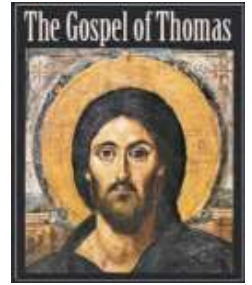
Come walk the Lenten Labyrinth. Stop by the church and spend some time in prayerful reflection walking a labyrinth. Labyrinths have been used for centuries, in many cultures, to facilitate prayer, meditation, and spiritual transformation. Labyrinths have one way in and one way out, winding back and forth, to the middle and back out, until we reach the center. When we walk the labyrinth, we begin a pilgrimage. Where will yours take you?



## WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY

**Wednesdays, 12:00 – 1:00, Fiorilli Room**

We are currently reading **The Gospel of Thomas**. Discovered in 1945, it is one of the several gospels we now know existed in early Christian times but was not included in the canon of the New Testament. Copies of the text will be made available. No need for any particular background, come and explore what the Gospel of Thomas says that Jesus taught... and see how it compares with what we are familiar with from the gospels we know.



## **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**



The group meets the first and third Saturdays in the Fiorilli Room, 8:30-9:30am. For the next several months we will be addressing the subject of "forgiveness". Come join your Christian brothers as we pursue and try to understand God's words.

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

2015 FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup>

6 P.M. - 7 P.M in the parlor

CONTACT ELAINE SOMES

860-563-4099

FOR ANY QUESTIONS



## CARING MINISTRIES at RHCC

*We are a church of ministers. We are disciples who seek to love God, and love our neighbor. Caring Ministries provides opportunities for us as a congregation to share God's love with one another, and provide care for our community.*

***Prayerfully consider how you can be part of this important ministry.***

**Pastoral Visitors.** Visit church members and friends who are homebound, hospitalized, or who have recently experienced a loss. Offer prayer, bring communion with the pastors, and share in fellowship. Your visitation extends the welcoming hand of the church and brings joy to our members and friends. No experience necessary. *On-going training and support around issues of pastoral care provided.*

**Heavenly Hosts.** Heavenly hosts provide food, support, and reception set-up for families of RHCC members, who want to host a reception at RHCC for their loved ones following memorial and funeral services.

**Funeral Ushers.** Provide care to families in their times of grief. Funeral Ushers assist with seating, distributing bulletins, and welcoming at memorial and funeral services.

**Wedding Coordinators.** Lend a helping hand to couples as they celebrate their wedding. Wedding coordinators assist pastors with wedding rehearsals and ceremonies, as well as answer couples questions about weddings at RHCC.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry.** Do you love knitting or do you want to learn? The prayer shawl ministry knits prayer shawls that are given to church members and friends in times of grief or illness. We also donate prayer shawls to local hospitals. *No knitting experience required, just ask and we'll teach you.*

**Ride Care.** Several of our church members and friends have mobility issues, do not drive, or do not have a car. Get to know folks as you give them rides to and from worship services and church events. *Must have car, with valid registration, license, and car insurance.*

**Agape Feast.** Sometimes we are unexpectedly faced with illness or the loss of a loved one. Members of Agape Feast cook and deliver fresh meals for church members and friends as needed, to ease the burden of families when they face the unexpected. *This is an especially great way for families with children to be part Caring Ministries and cook a meal together. Recipes provided.*

Please contact Meghan Young at [meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org) or Stephanie Heneghan at [stephanie\\_heneghan@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanie_heneghan@yahoo.com) for more information and sign-up. Look for additional information and opportunities in the coming months.



## **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.*

March came in like a lion, with over \$4700 of scrip sold last Sunday, earning a profit for RHCC of more than \$300. Thanks for your continued support!

We have most of the usual cards in inventory for immediate purchase this morning. Here is a partial list of cards 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  
On the Border, TGI Fridays

**Shopping:** Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond,  
Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, Lowes, 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**

# REMEMBER OR HONOR LOVED ONES WITH EASTER FLOWERS



The flowers will adorn the sanctuary for worship on  
Easter Sunday, April 5.



The three choices this year will be:  
Easter Lily in 6 1/2 inch pots with 6+ buds (\$11.00)  
Hyacinth 6 inch with 3 bulbs (\$8.50)  
Tulip 6 inch full pots with limited color options (\$8.50)

## **The Deadline for orders is March 21.**

Please fill out the information below and give to Kathy Mosure or the Church Office.

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Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication ("in loving memory of...", "in honor of...", etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

	<u>Number ordered</u>	<u>Dollar Amount</u>
Lily @ \$11.00 each	_____ x 11.00 =	_____
Hyacinth @ \$8.50 each	_____ x 8.50 =	_____
Tulip @ \$8.50 each	_____ x 8.50 =	_____

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Please select:**

- I will pick up my plant after worship on Sunday, April 5.  
 The Deacons may give my plant to a shut-in or homebound member.

**Make checks payable to RHCC and give them directly to  
Kathy Mosure or mail to the Church Office**  
805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill CT 06067, Attn: Flower Committee

You may call Kathy with questions at 860 632-9763.





## THIS WEEK AT RHCC

### March 8

10:00am **Worship**  
11:00am Souper Sunday  
11:30am **Second Hour**  
5:00pm Confirmation

### Sunday

Sanctuary  
Chapin Hall  
Chapin Hall  
Fiorilli Room

### March 9

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

### Monday

Chapin Hall

### March 10

8:00am **Breakfast Club**  
6:00pm **Fair Committee**  
7:00pm **Council**

### Tuesday

Bob's Café  
Parlor  
Fiorilli Room

### March 11

9:30am **Quilters**  
12:00pm **Bible Study**  
7:30pm **Adult Choir**

### Wednesday

Rm. 6.  
Fiorilli Room  
Choir Room

### March 12

7:30pm Men's AA

### Thursday

Chapin Hall

### March 14

9:00am Yoga with Lynn  
4:00pm Tamil Sangam

### Saturday

Chapin Hall  
Chapin Hall



### **Birthdays**

Mar 8 Kevin Sudell  
9 Colleen Schultz  
11 Chase Corvo  
12 Tim Dostie  
Todd Doten  
Suzanne Speers  
Ryan Walker  
13 Dick Somes  
Jackie Little  
14 David Bell

### **WORSHIP RECORDINGS AVAILABLE**

Audio recordings, written sermons and bulletins for many of our Sunday worship services are available on the church website, [rhccucc.org](http://rhccucc.org)

(See WORSHIP BULLETINS)

or you may contact the office to request an audio CD or printed sermon.

### **WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY**

Notice will be posted on **Channel 3 WFSB-TV**, and on the voice mail greeting on the church phone 860-529-4167. 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.**

# 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: The Rev. 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)