

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



March 9, 2014 ~ 10:00 a.m.
First Sunday in Lent

~ 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 and large-print bulletins** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is always available downstairs in Room 4.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc Faszczka

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

CALL TO WORSHIP *based on Micah 6:6-8*

Candace Smith

How do we come before God?

How do we honor the Maker of heaven and earth?

The best we have to give is not a burnt offering, but a righteous heart —
doing justice, loving kindness, walking humbly with God.

This is the spirit of Lent and the spirit of our worship;
this is the call of Lent and the call of our faith.

How do we come before God? How do we journey in a new season?

**With open hearts, with ready minds, with willing spirits,
we meet the God who makes all things new —
even us, even here, even now.**

*HYMN

“Before Your Cross, O Jesus”

New Century (black) 191

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

We gather, O God, for a new season, on a new journey,
to call ourselves and each other to new awakening...
to know again that you are God,
to remember the love that holds us,
to learn the gospel that claims us,
to confess that by its light we can see our limits,
by its truth we can see our mistakes.
Guide us, we pray, in the days of Lent and beyond
to lives that are just and true,
to faith that is brave and strong,
as we follow Christ, crucified yet risen,
into your kingdom.
In his name and spirit we pray, as we also say together:

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

The musical score is written for guitar and voice. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a tempo marking of quarter note = 76. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The first system of music has the following chords: Dm, G, Dm, Bb, C, F, A. The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name." The second system of music has the following chords: Dm, G, Dm, Bb, C, Dm. The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life." The music is written in a simple, melodic style with a steady rhythm.

System 1:

Chords: Dm G Dm Bb C F A

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

System 2:

Chords: Dm G Dm Bb C Dm

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

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.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Sung Call to Confession

*Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew
that I may love the way you love, and do what you would do.*

*Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure,
Until with you I will one will, to do and to endure.*

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Hear the promise of the gospel, its word of life to us:
God is faithful.... God is faithful.... God is faithful.
Nothing separates us from the holy love that heals, forgives,
and redeems the world.

Thanks be to God.

*THE PRACTICE OF PEACE

ANTHEM

"Lonesome Valley"

words by Joseph Graham

The Choir with Valerie Tribble, soloist

music by Brad Mix

READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

SERMON

"Adding and Subtracting"

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

"Siciliano"

by J.S. Bach

Katie Hoffman-Fulda, Flutist

*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

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name;

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

*HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress"

Pilgrim (red) 363

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

"Little Prelude in G Minor"

by Paul Taylor

GREETERS
HOSPITALITY
USHERS
LITURGIST

Al and Joan Diaz
Kathy and Chris Mosure
Gail Tine, Kim Burgdoff, Gladys Carpenter, Liz Cunningham
Candace Smith

**The flowers are given in loving memory of
Mary Woods
by Kathy Mosure and family.**

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION #5
“CHURCH SHOULDN’T BE THIS HARD”
TODAY 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.

VERSIONS OF EASTER

*A one-session conversation, with Rev. Brenda,
Offered Tuesday March 18 at 7:00pm
AND Thursday, March 20 at 1:00pm
Fiorilli Room*



When we explore what the Bible says about the resurrection of Jesus, we find four different versions in the four gospels of the New Testament. What can we learn about the nature of the original Christian tradition, the early story-telling, and the foundations of our own faith, when we look at these accounts comparatively? How does each one speak to us, in its differing detail? How do they speak collectively?

Registration not needed.

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

Serve, Pray, Invite, Receive, Ignite, Tell

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

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...

COME JOIN THE CIRCLE: Unit 4 – Women Of The Resurrection

A Big Rock

Read Mathew 28:1-10. It describes how Jesus' tomb was sealed with a big rock and describes about an earthquake and tells how an angel rolled that big rock away from the opening of the tomb and allowed the women to see inside.

The Easter egg represents many things in the Easter story. Think about the stone rolling from in front of the tomb and a rolling hard boiled egg. Play one of these egg-related games to remember the big rock that was rolled away from the tomb.

Egg role: Clear the floor area and gently roll a hard boiled egg toward the center of the space. That egg becomes the target. Each player, in turn, rolls an egg toward the target. It's okay for eggs to bump other eggs. The winner is the player whose egg is closest to the target after everyone has had a turn.

Egg racing: If possible, use a grassy slope for this game. Give each player a hard boiled egg and have them mark their eggs for easy identification. Players line up at the top of the hill and, at the same time, roll their eggs down this hill. Whose egg reaches the bottom first? Whose egg rolls the farthest?

Easter Prayer: God, we thank you for the gift of Easter. Help us to remember the importance of the big rock that rolled away from your tomb. Help us to hear and share the good news of Jesus' resurrection. Amen.

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 for more information. You can also sign-up outside the Nursery.

PARENTS:

Church school ends at 11:15 AM.

Please pick-up your children at the following locations.

(So that the children may focus through the end of their class, we ask that you do not look through the classroom windows, and that you wait for the teacher to end class by opening the classroom door.)

CLASS	PICK-UP LOCATION
Pre-K & K - 1st Grade	HANDS ON RM. 23 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>
2nd & 3rd Grade	SHOW & TELL RM. 25 & RM. 27 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>
4th & 5th Grade	COMMUNITY LIFE RM. 22 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>
6th-8th Grade	FUN & GAMES RM. 24 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>

**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.

CALL TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND ELECTIONS MEETING

The annual Budget and Elections Meeting of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is called for **Sunday, March 23, 2014** immediately following worship in the sanctuary for the transaction of the following items of business:

1. to vote on the proposed budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year;
2. to approve all special offerings for Missions and Diaconate;
3. to elect church officers and board and committee members for terms beginning May 1, 2014;
4. to approve the recommendation of the Fair Committee for expenditure of the proceeds from the 2013 events;
5. to vote on the distribution of unspecified bequests for the 2014-2015 fiscal year;
6. to conduct any other business brought before the congregation.

Marsha Hoffman, Church Clerk

A handout containing the proposed budget and related discussion is available for you to pick up in the narthex, in the parish house hallway across from the office, and in Chapin Hall. Please take one and familiarize yourself with this information in advance of the Budget & Elections meeting.

ARM2ARM PASTA DINNER

Saturday, March 22nd ~ 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

In July, our very own Sarah Mosure will be travelling to the Dominican Republic with an organization called Arm2Arm that provides local assistance to the Haitian immigrants there! On Saturday, March 22nd we will be hosting a pasta dinner to help raise some funds and also give some items for Sarah to bring with her on her journey. Maryse Adonis from the Arm2Arm organization will be with us this evening to give a short presentation and to answer any questions.

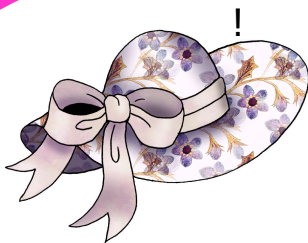
**Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids
(under 5 yrs. old are free)**

Please **RSVP** to Meghan Montana by **Sunday March 16th** so we can plan for food.
meghan.montana1105@gmail.com or 203-640-2386

Below is a list of items that are most needed:

Cough syrup, Tums, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Washcloths, Undergarments, Ziploc bags, Reading glasses, Eye drops, Plastic gloves, Vaseline, Animal crackers, Candy, Advil, Tylenol, Aleve, Aspirin, Vitamins

**Ladies, you are invited
to InReach's**



LADIES BRUNCH & FASHION SHOW

Chapin Hall,
Sunday, April 6, 2014, at 1:30 pm.

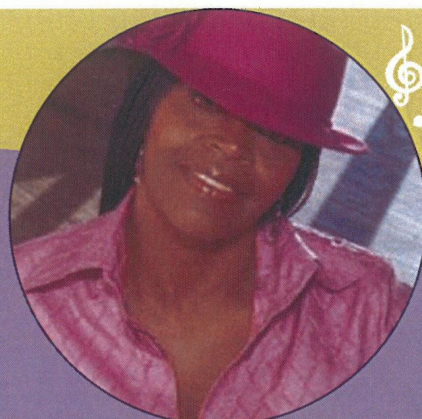
Our models will feature fashions by Dress Barn while you dine on quiches, green salad, fruit, sweet & savory muffins and breads, light desserts, and assorted beverages.

Please **call 860-529-8789 to reserve tickets.**

Tickets: \$10.00.



JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF JAZZ
JAZZ AT THE GALLERY ON VINE STREET,
HARTFORD, CT



Barbara Fowler



The gallery on Vine Street, the Connecticut Artists Initiative, the Community Leadership Development Initiative and the Christian Activities Council invites you to a night of Jazz.

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BARBARA FOWLER AND THE ORICE JENKINS TRIO  
WILL BE  
PERFORMING!

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When: Friday March 21, 2014 @ 7:00pm

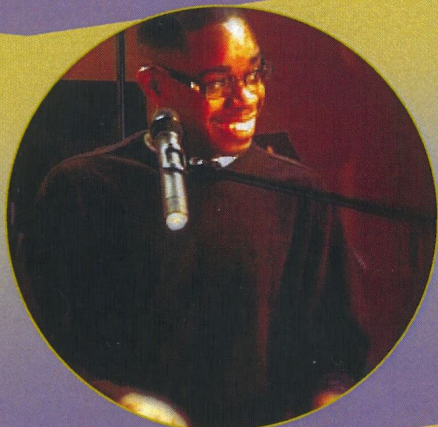
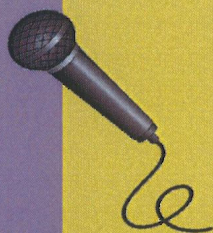
Where: 47 Vine Street, Hartford, CT

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\$20.00 donation (donations will support the Community Leadership Development Initiative of the Christian Activities Council).

Gallery will be open at 4pm.

Space is limited reservations required. For more information call 860.527.9860 between 9am-4pm.



**Orice Jenkins**

JAZZ ON VINE!





## 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 earned more than \$15,000 for the first 10 months of the current fiscal year. That's almost 30% higher than the earnings for the same period in the prior year. The RHCC budget assumed a 15% growth rate in scrip profits - so we've certainly overachieved on that front. Almost 5% of our total church budget is now funded by the Scrip-Sure program. Keep up the good work!

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, Panera, Subway, Wendy's

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

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

**Pharmacy:** CVS, Walgreens

**Shopping:** Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, 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!**

## 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.

## THIS WEEK AT RHCC

### March 9

10:00am **Worship** Sanctuary  
11:30am **Interim Second Hour** Chapin Hall  
11:30am **Children/Youth Music** Choir Room

### Sunday



### March 10

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

### Monday

Chapel

Loft

Mar. 9 Colleen Schultz  
Jason Hall

10 Jennifer Knight

11 Sharon Calvo

Chase Corvo

Ryan Tuohey

12 Tim Dostie

Todd Doten

Suzanne Speers

Ryan Walker

Isabella St. Pierre

13 Richard Somes

Jackie Little

14 Mary D'Addario

Lorraine Lewis

David Bell

15 Alexander Ware

### March 11

8:30am **Breakfast Club**

### Tuesday

Bob's

### March 12

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

### Wednesday

Rm. 6.

Fiorilli Room

### March 13

5:30pm **Tops**  
7:00pm **Art & Faith**

### Thursday

Chapin Hall

Fiorilli Rm &

Parlor

Chapin Hall

### March 14

### Friday

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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

### 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.

# REMEMBER OR HONOR LOVED ONES WITH EASTER FLOWERS



The flowers will adorn the sanctuary for worship on  
Easter Sunday, April 20.



The three choices this year will be:  
Easter Lily in 6 1/2 inch pots with 6+ buds (\$11.95)  
Hyacinth 6 inch with 3 bulbs (\$7.95)  
Tulip 6 inch full pots with limited color options (\$10.95)

**The deadline for ordering is Friday, April 4, 2014.**

Please fill out the information below and mail to Kathy Mosure (*address below*)

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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 @ \$11.95 each    | _____ x 11.95 =       | _____                |
| Hyacinth @ \$7.95 each | _____ x 7.95 =        | _____                |
| Tulip @ \$10.95 each   | _____ x 10.95 =       | _____                |

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

Please select:

- [ ] I will pick up my plant after worship on Sunday, April 20.  
[ ] 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.



**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)