

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



March 10, 2019 ~ 10:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Lent

*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

O Holy One

We come to you in gladness and expectation to begin our Lenten exploration.

You offer steadfast love as our strong refuge;

Your boundless grace is our sheltering presence, and we rejoice!

In the unity of worship,

we trust that you will speak to us and through us

as we begin this Lenten journey with each other and with Christ.

Prepare our hearts:

to seek you and embrace you,

to hear you and follow you,

to love you and to serve you.

With gladness and expectation we pray in Jesus' name as he 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 773

Re - mem - ber me, re - mem - ber me,

The first part of the musical notation is for the phrase "Re - mem - ber me, re - mem - ber me,". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The time signature is 3/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

O Je - sus, re - mem - ber me.

The second part of the musical notation is for the phrase "O Je - sus, re - mem - ber me." It also consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The time signature is 3/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

DEDICATION

Today we dedicate offerings of toiletries for residents at the Veterans Home in Rocky Hill. We thank all who have made generous donations to help our neighbors.

L: Today we are reminded of the basic needs that we have—the need to make ourselves as presentable as we want to others.

All: We bring these humble gifts to you as we offer them to others.

L: We dedicate these offerings to your service.

All: And we give them in love to our neighbors.

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

“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”

The Choir

American Spiritual, arr. Jeffrey Van

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 4:1-13

Pew Bible NT p.61

SERMON

“Remember That You Are Dust”

Rev. Craig Cowing

***HYMN**

“Lord Jesus, Who through Forty Days”

NCH211

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, they will collect the 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

“All Who Love and Serve Your City”

Southern Harmony

***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**

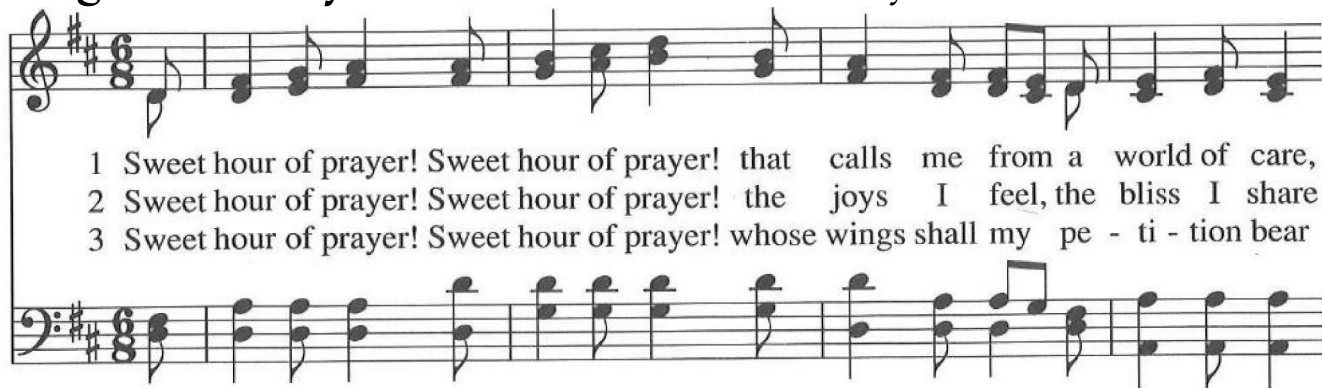
PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

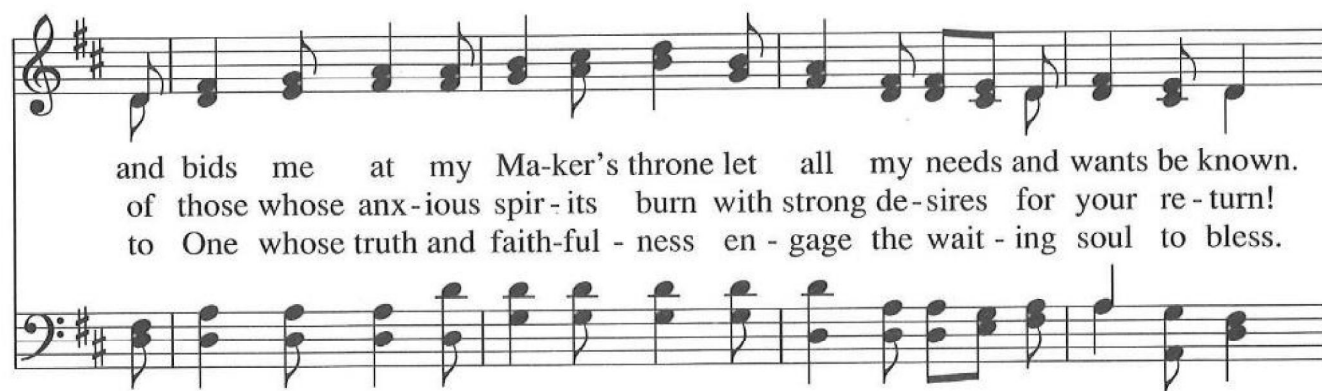
Sung Call to Prayer

“Sweet Hour of Prayer” verse 1

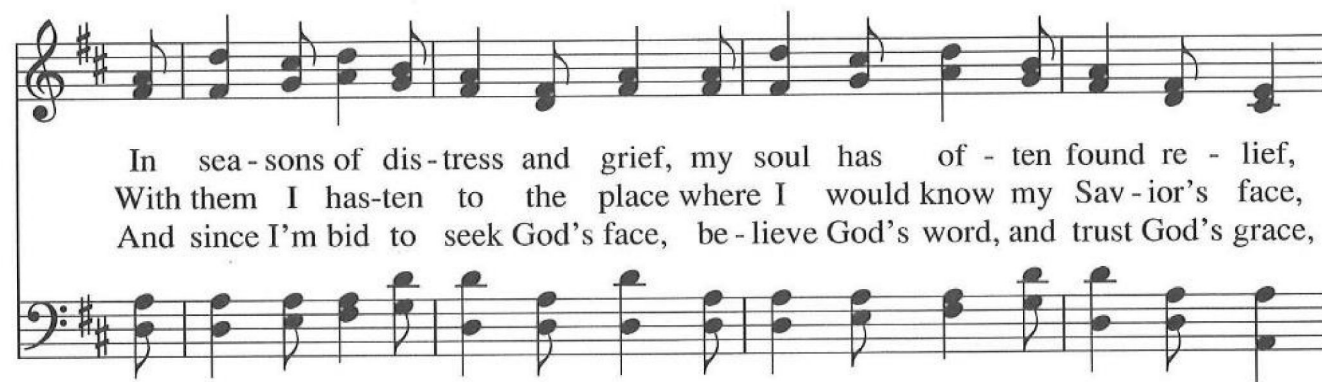
NCH505



1 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,
2 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share
3 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear



and bids me at my Ma-ker's throne let all my needs and wants be known.
of those whose anx-ious spir-its burn with strong de-sires for your re-turn!
to One whose truth and faith-ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.



In sea - sons of dis - tress and grief, my soul has of - ten found re - lief,
With them I has - ten to the place where I would know my Sav - ior's face,
And since I'm bid to seek God's face, be - lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,



and oft es - caped the tempt - er's snare by your re - turn, sweet hour of prayer!
And glad - ly take my sta - tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!
I'll cast a - way my ev - ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

Pastoral Prayer

***HYMN**

Guide My Feet

NCH 497

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE**

“Antiphon”

Gordon Young

LITURGIST

Bob Carberry

USHERS

Steve Smith, Sue Chatfield and Chris Sheehan

HOSPITALITY

Nancy Harlow, Judy Graham

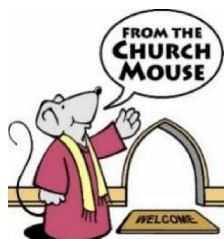
*Today's Altar Flowers have been given
in loving memory of Melissa Grace Hoffman
By Bill and Marsha Hoffman*

*The Tower is lighted this week in loving memory of
Betty Sieniuc by Gail and Natalie Tine*



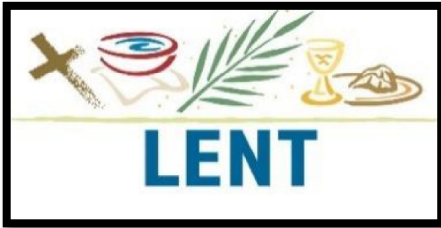
WELCOME VISITORS!

Interested in joining the church? If you'd like to learn more about our church community; please join us during coffee hour after worship and ask to speak with Pastor Craig Cowing or any Deacon. We are an Open and Affirming Christian community, actively expressing Jesus' inclusive embrace of all people.



RHCC Newsletter

Submission deadline for the April issue of The Church Mouse will be March 15. We want to hear from you! Send your articles and photos to: office@rhccucc.org. The mailing date will be Monday March 25.



LENTEN PROGRAMS AT RHCC UCC
SOCIAL JUSTICE LECTURE SERIES
SUNDAYS AT 7PM

During Lent, we are sponsoring a Lenten Social Justice series of talks on social justice issues in Connecticut. *Join us at 6:15pm for a ‘Simple Soup Supper’ prior to the talk, and coffee and desert will be served after.*

Sunday, March 10: Human Trafficking in CT:

Annamarie Boulay, Executive Director of The Underground, an organization based in Bloomfield which addresses human trafficking in our region.

Sunday, March 17: Cori Mackey: Social Justice Issues in Hartford

Cori is the Executive Director of the Christian Activities Council, a 150+ year old organization based in Hartford which works with residents on housing and related issues.

Sunday, March 24: Food Insecurity: Melissa Hicks

Melissa Hicks is the Director of the Department of Human Services for the Town of Rocky Hill, CT. She will talk on the issue of food insecurity locally and globally.

Sunday, March 31: Women in Incarceration in CT:

Lia Coppolecchia, a volunteer with A Sacred Space, an organization in New London which works with women who have been in incarceration, to help them rebuild their lives and discover their potential.



Music Ministry

Bobby Jo Valentine Concert Friday, March 22nd!

Rocky Hill Congregational Church Music Ministry will present a concert with Bobby Jo Valentine on March 22nd. Come at 6:00pm for a light supper, followed by the concert at 7:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public (a free will offering will be taken).

Talented, engaging and authentic, Bobby's gentle and humorous style will touch your heart. Join us for a great evening of food, sharing, humor and deep connection. All are welcome!



Council News: The Council has retained a consulting firm, Agile Church, to carry out a preliminary “Health Check” of various practices and procedures related to worship, hospitality, communications and marketing, financial management, stewardship, governance, and personnel. We believe that it’s important to periodically “take our temperature” as to how well we are doing in being the active, engaged and welcoming church we want to be. Interviews will be held with various church leaders and staff. We expect to receive a completed report in the next couple of months. At that time, we will share the results and discuss what we need to do to respond to the findings. Agile Church has a strong track record in this type of work and has been instrumental in helping churches to grow and prosper.

Our Middle School Youth Group will help prepare the “Community Meal” at Center Church in Hartford, to feed those in need, on Sunday, March 10th.



The One Great Hour of Sharing is the Lenten offering of the UCC. It will be collected on **Sunday March 31, 2019**. It responds to disasters, ministers to refugees and helps to build sustainable communities in over 80 countries. In cooperation with others such as Global Ministries and Church World Service it is a network of sharing and caring. One Great Hour of Sharing is but one concrete way we can show that we can reach out beyond what we can see and help brothers and sisters in need worldwide.

**CALL TO THE ANNUAL
BUDGET AND ELECTIONS MEETING
Sunday, March 24, 2019**



The annual Budget and Elections Meeting of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is called for Sunday, March 24, immediately following worship in the sanctuary for the transaction of the following items of business:

1. Presentation and approval of the proposed budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
2. To ratify Time, Talent, Treasure Ministry recommendations for coming year beginning May 1, 2019.
3. To approve recommendation of the Events Ministry Team for the dispersal of funds from 2018 events.

Submitted by: Linda Tokarski, Church Clerk

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
- Gas: Exxon/Mobil, Shell, Sunoco
- Pharmacy: CVS, Walgreens
- Fast food: Boston Market, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's
- Restaurants: Bonefish Grill, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster
- Shopping: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Lowes, Michaels, Payless Shoes, Target, Walmart
- Grocery: Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, WholeFoods, Westside Market

The next order for physical cards not stocked in inventory will be placed on March 31 (with delivery on April 7). E-cards may be ordered anytime. A complete listing of all retailers available through our program can be picked up at the scrip table in Chapin Hall.

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

March 10

10:00am Worship
9:30am Childcare
10:00am Church School
11:00am Coffee Hour
2:45pm MS Youth
7:00pm Social Justice Talk

March 11

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

March 12

7:00pm Cedar Hollow Mtg

March 13

7:30pm Choir

March 14

9:30am Music Together
7:00pm Events Ministry Team
7:30pm Men's AA

March 15

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

9:00am LSP/Music Together

March 16

Super Saturday UCC Conference

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Rms 24,25,26
Chapin Hall
Center Church
Chapin Hall

Monday

Fiorilli
Choir Loft

Tuesday

Chapin Hall

Wednesday

Choir Room

Thursday

Room 6
Fiorilli
Chapin Hall

Friday

Rm 6

Saturday

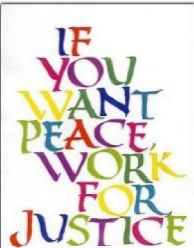
Massachusetts



11	Cheryl Robbins
12	Tim Dostie
12	Todd Doten
12	Suzanne Speers
13	Jackie Little
14	David Bell
15	Alexander Ware



<p>We will hold our next Events/Fair Committee meeting on Thursday, March 14, 7 p.m. in the Fiorilli Room. All are welcome to attend.</p>



In March we are sponsoring a Lenten Social Justice series of talks on social justice issues in Connecticut. Each talk will be on a Sunday evening at 7 PM in Chapin Hall. Join us at 6:15pm for a 'Simple Soup Supper' prior to the talk, and coffee and desert will be served after.

TODAY - Sunday, March 10: Human Trafficking in CT: Annamarie Boulay, Executive Director of The Underground, an organization based in Bloomfield which addresses human trafficking in our region. Join us!

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: www.RockyHillUCC.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: Steve Smith admin@rhccucc.org