

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



March 12, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Second 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** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is available down the hall in Room 4.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*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 pastor 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 center aisle at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.*

PRELUDE

“Consolation”
Dave Hall, cello

Mendelssohn

CALL TO WORSHIP

Cindy Hunt

Leader: O God, you send us out, like Abram and Sarai

People: We travel by day, in confidence

Leader: You draw us close, like Nicodemus

People: We travel by night, with questions

Leader: With our hopes and our doubt

People: We embark on our journeys of faith

Leader: With the saints of every age

People: We seek the way that leads into your love

Leader: We pause on our journey to praise you.

All: And rejoice to find you with us, guiding every step

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Bold type denotes collective response

***INVOCATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Beckoning God,
 You plant in us urgent questions, wonderings, calls,
 that lead us to You.
 You gather us into your Church:
 Prophets and Ponderers;
 Travelers and Builders;
 You make room for us
 and challenge us to be your Beloved Community.
 Bless us so that we may become a blessing in your world,
 Doing your work of Justice, Hope, Truth, among all.
 We pray this in Jesus’ name, who 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**

NCH 769

Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in -
 cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

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



The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The lyrics are: 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

“Hear My Prayer”
The Choir

Moses Hogan

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 12:1-9

NT Pew Bible p10

SERMON

“Journeying In Trust”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

*HYMN

“This Is a Day of New Beginnings”

NC (black) 417

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, Rev. Craig will come down the center aisle to 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 Anthem

“On Wings of Song”
Dave Hall, cello

Mendelssohn

*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 "I Need You Every Hour" (verse 1) NCH 517

1 I need you ev - ery hour, O God of grace;
2 I need you ev - ery hour, in faith or fear;
3 I need you ev - ery hour, in joy or pain;
4 I need you ev - ery hour; teach me your will,

the peace your voice af - fords, I now em - brace.
temp - ta - tions lose their power when you are near.
come quick - ly and a - bide or life is vain.
and your rich prom - is - es in me ful - fill.

Refrain

I need you, how I need you! Ev - ery hour I need you;

O bless me now, my Sav - ior; I come to you.

Pastoral Prayer

*HYMN

“Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed”

NC (black) 537

BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

“Prelude in G Minor”

Bach

LITURGIST

Cindy Hunt

USHERS

Deb Copes and Steve Smith, Lois and Jim Stevens

HOSPITALITY

Jean Goff



*Today's altar flowers have been given by Lynne Lataille in honor of
Stephanie and Jeremy's wedding.*

*The tower is lit this week in loving memory of Betty Sieniuc
by Gail & Natalie Tine*

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, March 19

Worship, Childcare, Church School

2nd Hour: Medieval Background of the Reformation

Coffee Hour

HS Youth Group



One Great Hour of Sharing is a special Missions offering of the United Church of Christ. It will be collected on Sunday, March 26th. It is involved with disaster relief with response and recovery, refugee/immigration and development ministries throughout the world; including healthcare, agriculture and food sustainability.

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 26, 2017 immediately following worship in the sanctuary for the transaction of the following items of business:

1. To vote on the proposed budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year;
2. To approve the special offerings for Missions and Diaconate.
3. To vote on the distribution of any undesignated bequests for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.
4. To elect church officers and board and committee members for terms beginning May 1, 2017.
5. To hear the report of Governance sub-committee for overview of current status.
6. To approve recommendation of the Special Events Committee for the expenditure from 2016 events.

Submitted by: Linda Tokarski, Church Clerk



Copies of the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year are available in the narthex, in the hallway across from the office, and in Chapin Hall.

**A LOOK
at the
BUDGET**

UCC Super Saturday is a full-day of skill building; offering numerous workshops, worship, a marketplace of vendors, and an opportunity for everyone to network with one another. Saturday, March 18, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Minnechaug Regional High School, 621 Main Street, Wilbraham, MA 01095, Brochures are available in Chapin Hall. See Craig or Georgette if you'd like to attend, or contact the church office.



Addendum to CAC Report in the March Church Mouse.

Isaac Lawson is an Ordained Minister and will be the Associate Pastor at Immanuel Congregational Church in Hartford.

-Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio, CAC Strategic Planning & Program Committee



REMEMBER OR HONOR LOVED ONES WITH EASTER FLOWERS

The flowers will adorn the sanctuary for worship on Easter Sunday, April 16
The three choices this year will be:
Easter Lily, Hyacinth, Tulip

The Deadline for orders is Palm Sunday, April 9

Hofstra Chamber Choir Concert - Saturday, March 25 at 4 p.m.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED!



The Hofstra University Chamber a cappella Choir will be back with us again for an afternoon concert on March 25th. The Hofstra Chorale specializes in the study of larger-scale choral works, ranging from extended a cappella pieces to the rich variety of the choral-orchestral repertoire.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

We will also be looking for host families for the choir member's one-night stay. Many of you have hosted students in the past and found it a delightful experience. If you can host, please contact Ruth Fitzgerald at rfitzgerald@fhiplan.com
Or Lynne Lataille at Lynnelataille@sbcglobal.com

Dear Members: We are in dire need of more host homes. Please be generous in opening your home to the Hofstra students who will be providing us with a wonderful concert on March 25. Here are the pertinent details if you are interested in hosting::

- The concert is at 4 p.m. After the reception for all attendees in Chapin Hall; we will feed the students. Host families will take the kids home after they eat.
- You will return the kids to the church by 8:45am the next morning, as they have to move on to their next "gig". You will need to give them breakfast if they are interested. In our experience, most of them don't eat much breakfast.
- They must be assigned to homes in groups of two or more.
- They CAN share beds, so please specify your bed size so they can assign kids to beds/homes.
- Please also specify pets—some have allergies, but not all!! We have a list of students with allergies.
- If you have a space but no bed, please let us know. We have several air mattresses you could borrow.

Thanks!! Ruth Fitzgerald

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.



WORSHIP RECORDINGS AVAILABLE Audio recordings and bulletins for many of our Sunday worship services are available on the church website, rhccucc.org (See WORSHIP BULLETINS) or you may contact the office to request an audio CD.



RECYCLE AND HELP OTHERS

Donate your old eye glasses to the Lion's Club to help others. A collection box is in the church office hallway.



Looking for something you left behind?
Check the Lost & Found Boxes in
Chapin Hall and near the back entrance.



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. Contact Denise Carberry with questions.

RHCC.UCC - BOARD FOR MISSIONS

Our major spring activity, The Foodshare Walk Against Hunger is fast approaching. The walk takes place the 1st Sunday in May which is May 7th this year. The walk helps to raise awareness and money for the over 137,000 people in Greater Hartford who struggle to get food. The church will once again will be walking under the leadership of our Team Captain, Thomas Kainamura. It is never too early to start soliciting donations from friends and families. Please save the date and plan on walking. Information on t-shirts coming soon.



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
- 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, Olive Garden, On the Border, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster
- Shopping: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Lowes, Michaels, Payless Shoes, Target, Toys R Us, Walmart

The next ordering deadline (for cards not kept in inventory) will be on March 26.

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 12

10:00am **Worship/Communion**
9:30am **Childcare**
10:00am **Church School**
4:45pm **MS Youth Group**
4:00pm **Tamil School**
5:00pm **Confirmation Class**

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Rms 24,25,26
Rms 22,23,25,26,27
Parlor

March 13

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

Monday

Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

March 14

7:00pm **Council**
7:00pm **Hearing Voices**

Tuesday

Fiorilli
Room 23

March 15

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

6:00pm **Pilates**
7:00pm **Lenten Worship**
7:30pm **Choir**

Wednesday

Chapin Hall
Chapel
Sanctuary

March 16

9:30am **Music Together**
7:30pm **Men's AA**

Thursday

Room 22
Chapin Hall

March 17

7:00pm **Tibetan Bowls**

Friday

Chapel

March 18

Regional UCC Super Saturday Conference

Saturday



- | | |
|----|---------------------|
| 12 | Tim Dostie |
| 12 | Todd Doten |
| 12 | Suzanne Speers |
| 12 | Isabella St. Pierre |
| 13 | Dick Somes |
| 13 | Jackie Little |
| 14 | David Bell |
| 15 | Alexander Ware |
| 17 | Kathryn Morgan |
| 18 | Gabriella Salazar |



Friday, March 17, 7pm
Sound Healing Meditation
with Tibetan Singing
Bowls in the Weil Chapel.
All are welcome!

Lenten Programs at Rocky Hill Congregational Church

March 15th and March 29th 7pm: Communion Worship Service held in the Weil Chapel.

March 19th 11am: Second Hour program by Rev. Craig Cowing on the Medieval Reformation.

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: rhccucc.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: Dave Hall webmaster@rhccucc.org

Child Care Provider: Liz Pulling lrpulling@icloud.com