

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



March 16, 2014 ~ 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 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

"Wondrous Love"

arr. by David N. Johnson

CALL TO WORSHIP

In this place we gather, the people of God,
and bring the fullness of our lives;

for God so loves the world.

To this time we come, the people of God,
in the grace that already holds us;

for God so loves the world.

In this day we live, the people of God,
forgiven and blessed, called and sent;

for God so loves the world.

Come, sisters and brothers, from wherever you are,

for here and now, God's grace finds us

and gives us all we need.

*HYMN

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Pilgrim (red) 228

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

Holy and Eternal One,
 ever working in us, through us, and for our sakes,
 help us now to center our souls and open our hearts,
 that we might be ready for a new seeing of your grace,
 and a fresh hearing of your word;
 that we might awaken to our call
 and renew our courage and strength
 to be your faithful people in the world.
 This we ask in Christ's name and spirit, as we also pray:

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 guitar part is in the key of D minor (Dm) and uses a p (piano) dynamic. The lyrics for the first system are: "Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name." The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics for the second system are: "Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life." The guitar part continues with the same key signature and dynamics.

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

"God So Loved the World"

by John Stainer

*God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
That who so believeth in Him should not perish,
But have everlasting life.*

*For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world,
But that the world through Him might be saved.*

*God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
That who so believeth in Him should not perish,
But have everlasting life.*

READING FROM THE GOSPEL

John 3:16-21
Ephesians 2:1-10

SERMON

"Not Our Own Doing"

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc Faszczka

*HYMN

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

New Century (black) 223

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

"Traumerei"

by Robert Schumann

Dave Hall, Cellist

*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

"Amazing Grace"

New Century (black) 547

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

"O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High"

GREETERS

Meghan, Jason and Aiden Montana

HOSPITALITY

Emily, William & Lynn McKenna

USHERS

Janet Hansen, Bobbi and Dave Hawkins, Nancy Parsons, Joan and Al Diaz

LITURGIST

Elaine Some

The flowers are given on the occasion of today's Ecclesiastical Council for Pastor Meghan D. Young by the Diaconate.

**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 19 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.

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

Easter Every Day

Read Mark 16:1-8. It describes how the women came to the tomb at sunrise on the first day of the week. Sunrise has become a symbol of the resurrection and reminds us of new hope in our own lives.

Sunrise happens every day! Get up early, go outside, and watch the sun rise. Imagine what the Easter sunrise might have been like. On Friday you had watched Jesus suffer, die on the cross, and be buried in a tomb. All through the long day of Sabbath you had waited and mourned. How might you have been feeling as you awoke in the pre-dawn darkness? How easy do you think it was to get out of bed? What might you have seen and heard as you met your friends and carried your jars of spices to the tomb? What might you have thought when you saw that the stone had been rolled away? Do you think your first response might have been hope, confusion, fear, anger, or something different? Remember a time in your life when something happened that was beyond your best hopes and give thanks for the gift of Easter.

Easter Prayer: Loving God, thank you for being with us at sunrise moments in our lives, just as you were with Jesus and the women on that first Easter morning. Help us show your love in all that we do and to make every day an Easter. *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	SHOW & TELL RM. 25 & RM. 27 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>
2nd & 3rd Grade	FUN & GAMES RM. 24 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>
4th & 5th Grade	HANDS ON RM. 23 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>
6th-8th Grade	COMMUNITY LIFE RM. 22 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>

VERSIONS OF EASTER

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



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.
Fiorilli Room*



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



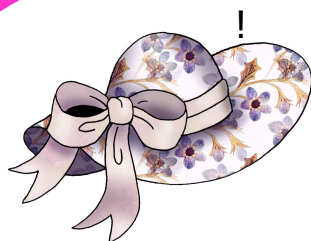
In July, our very own Sarah Mosure will be travelling to the Dominican Republic with an organization called Arm2Arm that provides local assistance to the Haitian immigrants there! On Saturday, March 22nd we will be hosting a pasta dinner to help raise some funds and also give some items for Sarah to 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.

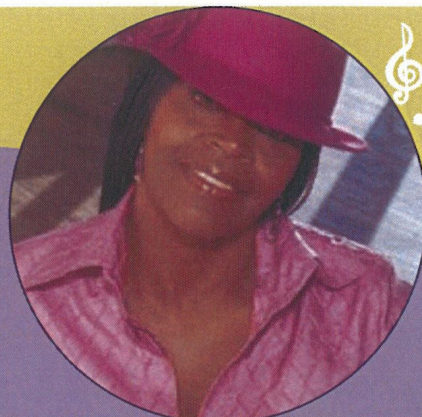
Our models will feature fashions by Dress Barn while you dine on quiches, green salad, fruit, sweet & savory muffins and breads, light desserts, and assorted beverages.

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

Tickets: \$10.00.



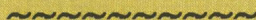
JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF JAZZ
 JAZZ AT THE GALLERY ON VINE STREET,
 HARTFORD, CT



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.



BARBARA FOWLER AND THE ORICE JENKINS TRIO
 WILL BE
 PERFORMING!



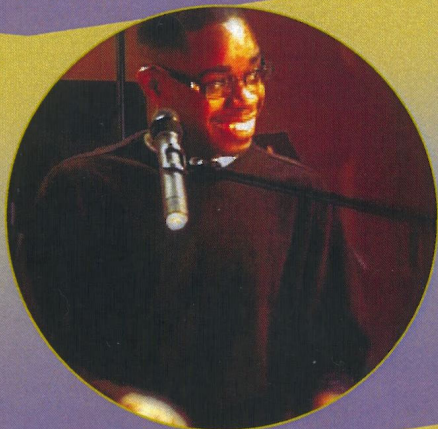
When: Friday March 21, 2014 @ 7:00pm

Where: 47 Vine Street, Hartford, CT



\$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.

This month, we have a special appeal from Kari McCaw-Blaise for gift card donations for the "**Covenant to Care**" program, which receives periodic support from our church through the Board for Missions. Donations will be used to provide Easter baskets for as many as 20 kids. Any funds donated through the scrip program will be used to provide gift cards at cost, so your donation will be magnified by the embedded discount. If you are buying cards at the scrip table today, how about adding an extra \$5, \$10, or \$25 to your order to go to this worthy cause? (And you can donate even if you aren't buying any other scrip, of course.)

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 16

10:00am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:30am	Search Committee	Fiorilli Rm
11:30am	Children/Youth Music	Choir Rm
3:00pm	Ecclesiastical Council	Sanctuary

Sunday

March 17

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

Monday

Chapel
Loft

March 18

11:00am	Clergy group
4:00pm	Lodge Svc
7:00pm	Versions of Easter

Tuesday

Parlor
Fiorilli Rm

March 19

9:30am	Quilters
12:00pm	Bible Study
6:00pm	Community Meeting
7:30pm	Adult Choir

Wednesday

Rm. 6.
Fiorilli Room
Rm 25

March 20

1:00pm	Versions of Easter
5:30pm	Tops
7:00pm	Art & Faith
8:00pm	Men's AA

Thursday

Fiorilli Rm
Chapin Hall
Fiorilli Rm & Parlor
Chapin Hall

March 22

12:00pm	Pasta supper cooking	Chapin Hall
5:00pm	Arm2Arm Pasta Supper	Chapin Hall

Saturday



Mar. 17	Kathryn Morgan
18	Gabriella Salazar
	James Bishop
19	Louise Tangarone
20	Sue VanNess
	Elaine Somes
	Charlotte Reed- Swale
21	Ryan Bengston
22	Gladys Carpenter
	Meghan Young

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 give to Kathy Mosure or the Church Office.

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 / 860 529-4167

Church Website: rhccucc.org

Visit us on Facebook at: 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

Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: Meghan D. Young meghan@rhccucc.org

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero mary@rhccucc.org

Office Manager: Mitsey Baker office@rhccucc.org

Webmaster: Dave Hall webmaster@rhccucc.org