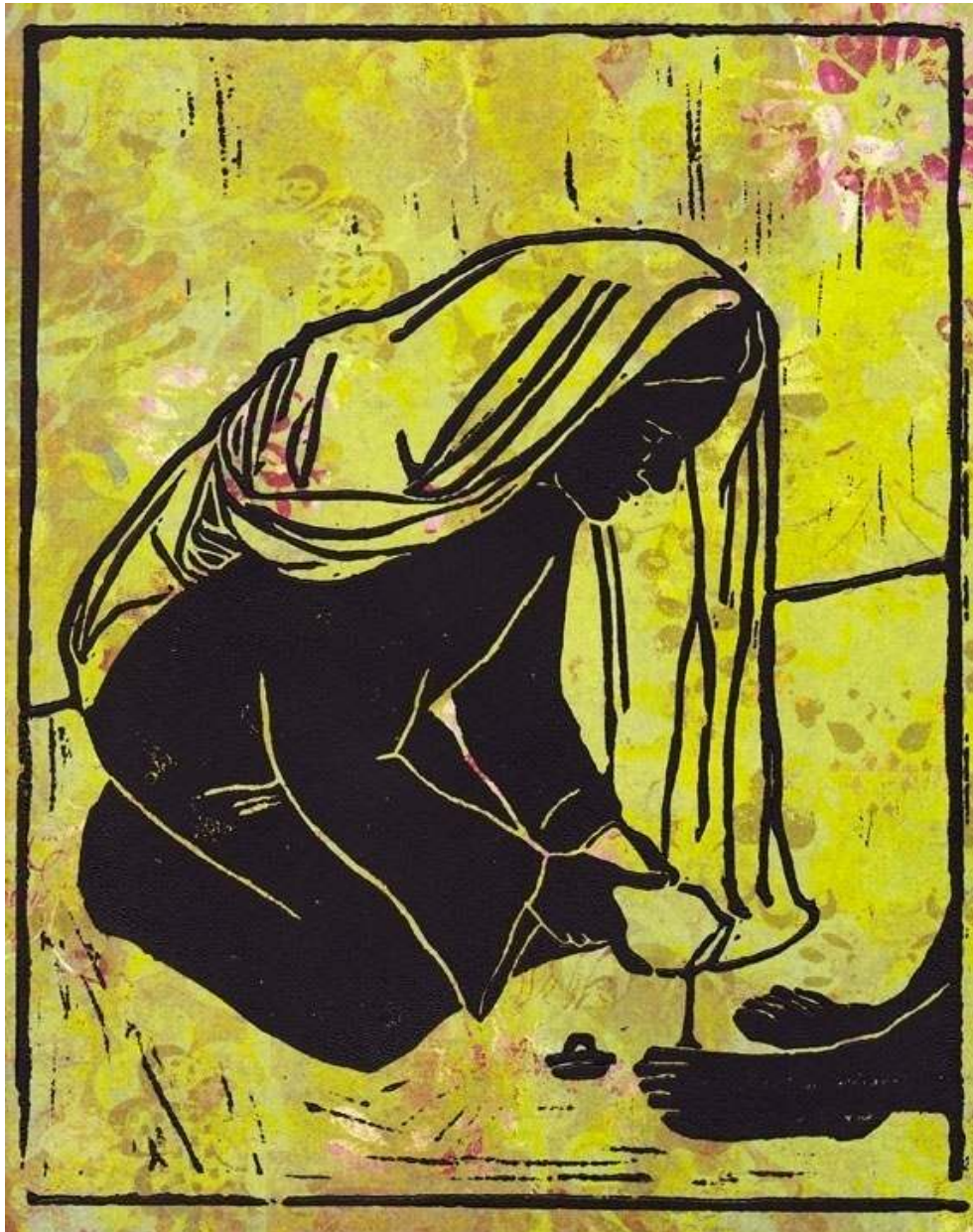


ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**March 22, 2015 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Fifth 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 down the hall in Room 4.*

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

"Gymnpedie No 2"

Eric Satie

Chris Mosure, alto saxophone

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day that the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

For God blesses and sustains us, in all things

and calls us to abundant life, in all times.

Christ has poured out life and bids us come and follow,

with all that we have, all that we do, all that we are.

This is the day that the Lord has made —

how will we be fully alive in it?

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

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

**Creator God, giver of life and new life,
from the midst of our everyday places we have come to worship,
that we might hear again the sound of your Word,
know again the promise of your grace,
feel again the touch of your Spirit that awakens us.
We come as those whose fear makes us closed,
needing to trust the love that makes us open.
We come as those who try to save up life,
needing to find the courage to spend it.
We come because we forget who we are,
needing to remember that we are yours.
May our worship on this day,
in our private hearts and in our common heart,
deepen again what we know:
that your poured-out love is offered to all,
even us, even here, even now.**

**Remembering that God is love,
and that we have seen the face of that love in Jesus,
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

Two systems of musical notation for a sung response. The first system has a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name." The second system has a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life." Above the second system, the chords Dm, G, Dm, Bb, C, and Dm are indicated. Both systems begin with a piano (p) dynamic marking.

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

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

*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

A single system of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature (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." The melody is simple and repetitive, suitable for children's use.

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

“Here’s One”

arr Mark Hayes

Traditional Spiritual

The Choir with Chris Mosure, alto saxophone

Talk about a child who do love Jesus, here's one.

Ever since I heard the gospel story,

I've been walkin' up the road to glory.

Talk about a child who do love Jesus, here's one.

Talk about a child who's been forgiven, here's one.

Ever since I heard the gospel story,

I've been walkin' up the road to glory.

Talk about a child who's been forgiven, here's one.

Talk about a child who's been converted, here's one.

Ever since I heard the gospel story,

I've been walkin' up the road to glory.

Talk about a child who's been converted, here's one.

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

John 12:1-8, 20-26

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

*HYMN

“Said Judas to Mary”

New Century (Black) 210

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

“There is a Balm in Gilead”

Traditional Spiritual

The Choir

*Doxology



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



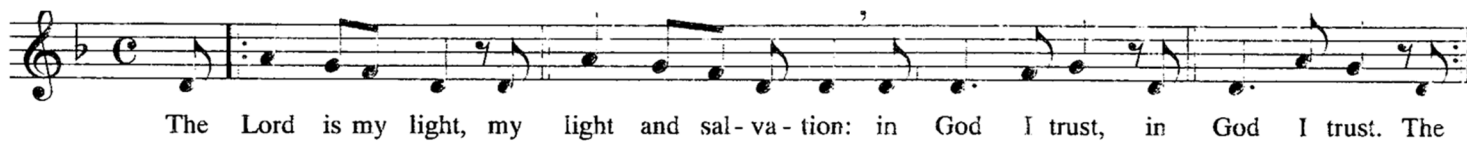
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

***Prayer of Dedication**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys & Concerns

Sung Call to Prayer



Pastoral and Silent Prayer

***HYMN** “Savior, an Offering, Costly and Sweet” New Century (Black) 536

***BENEDICTION**

LITURGIST

Michael Bower

ACOLYTES

Tyler Morgan and Brian Speers

GREETERS

Ellie Maher and Nicolis Alessi

HOSPITALITY

Jeannie Alessi and Jean Goff

USHERS

Don and Polly Pagnucco, Stephanie Heneghan, Lynn McKenna
Bob and Denise Carberry

**The flowers are given in memory of our grandparents
by Bob Inderbitzen and Michael and Victoria Bower.**

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



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 22, 2015 immediately following worship in the sanctuary for the transaction of the following items of business:

1. to approve the recommendation of the Council to reduce the ordained ministerial staff to one pastor;
2. to vote on the proposed budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year;
3. to approve all special offerings for Missions and Diaconate;
4. to vote on the distribution of any undesignated bequests for the 2015-2016 fiscal year;
5. to elect church officers and board and committee members for terms beginning May 1, 2015;
6. to approve the recommendation of the Fair Committee for expenditure of the proceeds from the 2014 events;
7. to conduct any other business brought before the congregation.

Marsha Hoffman, Church Clerk

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: *Luke 22:14-27, Eat and Remember*

Reflect and Remember.

Jesus ate a final meal with the disciples on the eve of his crucifixion. He took leftover bread and wine from the Passover meal, blessed them, and shared them with his disciples. When he broke the bread and called it his body and then poured the wine and called it his blood, he was preparing them to experience his presence in a new way. As often as they would share this sacrament, they would have him with them in a powerful way – through remembrance.

Throughout history, Christians have found several key meanings in our ritual of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. It is an experience of the presence of Christ, who continues to meet us at this holy meal. It is a rite of thanksgiving, which is the literal meaning of the term Eucharist. It is a remembrance of the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus through which these events that happened so long ago become alive for us in the present. Through communion, we are one with Christians in every time and place and we are reminded that God's love is extravagant, boundless, and never-ending.

Share Your Faith. *Talk about the Bible story children and youth explored this week and try this:*

- 1) God's love is beyond our knowing. Together create a litany in question-and-answer form. For example: "Is God's love as deep as the ocean?" And the response: "God's love is greater."
- 2) Bake some bread. If possible, make two loaves – one to eat, and one to give away.
- 3) Invite the youngest family member to tell the story of Jesus' last supper with his disciples. Together talk about how the disciples might have felt when they experienced this meal. How is it like what we experience at Holy Communion? How is it different?

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 (6th-12th Grade) – A Walk Through Holy Week

March 29, 5 PM – 6:30. Join us as we make dinner and take a walk through Holy Week. Please RSVP by Friday, March 27, with Meghan Young at 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 for more information.

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?

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.

HOLY SATURDAY GATHERING & EASTER EGG HUNT

April 4, 3 PM – 5 PM in Chapin Hall, An ALL church gathering.

Prepare for the risen Christ with family activities and worship. Come to prepare the bread for Easter Communion, and participate in an Easter egg hunt, and worship as we prepare for Easter rejoicing. **RSVP appreciated.** Please email meghan@rhccucc.org for more information and to sign-up.

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 3

5:30 - 7 PM, Chapin Hall

A meal and walk through Jesus' last words. RSVP appreciated. Email Meghan@rhccucc.org or call the office for more information.

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.**

VERSIONS OF GOOD FRIDAY

A small-group adult education opportunity

Tues., Mar. 24, 1-2:30 p.m.



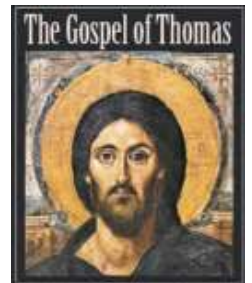
The story of the crucifixion of Jesus, like the narratives of his birth and resurrection, appears in differing versions in the four gospels of the New Testament. We'll look at each version, consider its details, reflect on what can be learned about how this central Christian story has been shaped and told.

No sign-up necessary

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

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 or Stephanie Heneghan at 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.*

Through the first three weeks of March, more than \$9000 of scrip has been sold, producing earnings for RHCC of more than \$600. The next ordering deadline is next Sunday, March 29. Cards ordered by that date will be available for pickup on Easter Sunday.

Meanwhile, 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

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

March 22

10:00am **Worship**
11:00am **Annual Meeting**
4:00pm Tamil Sangam
5:00pm **Confirmation**

Sunday

Sanctuary
Sanctuary
Rms 22, 23, 24, 25
Fiorilli Room

March 23

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

Monday

Chapin Hall

Loft

March 24

Tuesday

9:30am **NEWSLETTER MAILING**
1:00pm Versions of Good Friday
6:00pm Community Event
7:00pm Search Committee

Fiorilli Room
Room 25
Fiorilli Room

March 25

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

Wednesday

Rm. 6.
Fiorilli Room
Choir Room

March 26

7:30pm Men's AA

Thursday

Chapin Hall

March 28

9:00am Yoga with Lynn

Saturday

Chapin Hall



Birthdays

Mar 22 Gladys Carpenter
23 Marilyn Van Doran
24 Bea Donahue
Sarah Mosure
26 Todd Pender
27 Richard Sweezy, Jr.
28 Gail Fu
Nicole Graham

WORSHIP RECORDINGS AVAILABLE

Audio recordings, written sermons 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 or printed sermon.

The
"Church Mouse"
MAILING will be
Tuesday, March 24.
All welcome for as
little or much time
as you want.
9:30am start.

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.

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.



We Are Practicing

1				
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Clue: find the answer at rhccucc.org/love

Rocky Hill Congregational Church United Church of Christ

805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill, CT

Holy Week Services - All Are Welcome!

March 29, Palm Sunday – 10:00 a.m. - Worship, festival of palms and special music.

April 2, Maundy Thursday – 7:00 p.m.

Special worship service of word, music and communion recalling the last days of Jesus' life.

April 3, Good Friday – 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - A meal and walk through Jesus' last words.

April 4, Holy Saturday – 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Family activities, Easter egg hunt, worship.

April 5, Easter Sunday – ALLELUIA! Christ is Risen!

6:00 a.m. - Sunrise Service at Rose Hill Cemetery on Elm Street, Rocky Hill

6:45 a.m. - Breakfast back at the church in Chapin Hall

10:00 a.m. - Easter Sunday Worship with Communion in the Sanctuary

For more information: phone 860-529-4167 • email office@rhccucc.org
www.rhccucc.org • facebook.com/rhccucc



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: The Rev. 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