

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



March 26, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Fourth 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

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

arr. Dave Hall

Katie Hoffman-Fulda, flute; Gail Hall, clarinet; Dave Hall, cello

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the days of Noah,
God placed a rainbow in the sky
as the sign of a covenant of God's love for all the earth.

People: **In the colors of the rainbow,
we see the sign of God's grace for all creation.**

Leader: In the days of Moses,
the words of God were written on tablets of stone,
as the sign of a covenant
between God and all of God's people.

People: **In the tablets of stone,
we see the sign of God's hope
for each to live in peace with God and neighbor.**

Leader: In the days of the prophet,
God promised to place a new covenant in our hearts.

All: **As members of the living Body of Christ,
we see the sign of God's promise among us.**

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Bold type denotes collective response

***INVOCATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

All-knowing and all-caring God,
we gather this day drained by another week.
We are like a parched desert, empty and in need of replenishment.
Visit us with your presence, saturate us with your Spirit,
and bathe us in your streams of living water,
that our lives might acknowledge and worship you
to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ, 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**

NC 743



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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



ANTHEM

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

American Folk Hymn

arr. Mack Wilberg

The Choir with Katie Hoffman-Fulda, flute; Gail Hall, clarinet

SCRIPTURE READING

John 4:5-42

NT Pew Bible p94-95

SERMON

"Seeing the Light"

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

*HYMN

"Amazing Grace"

NC (black) 547

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, Rev. Cowing will come down the center aisle to collect the prayer request cards.

Invitation to the Offering

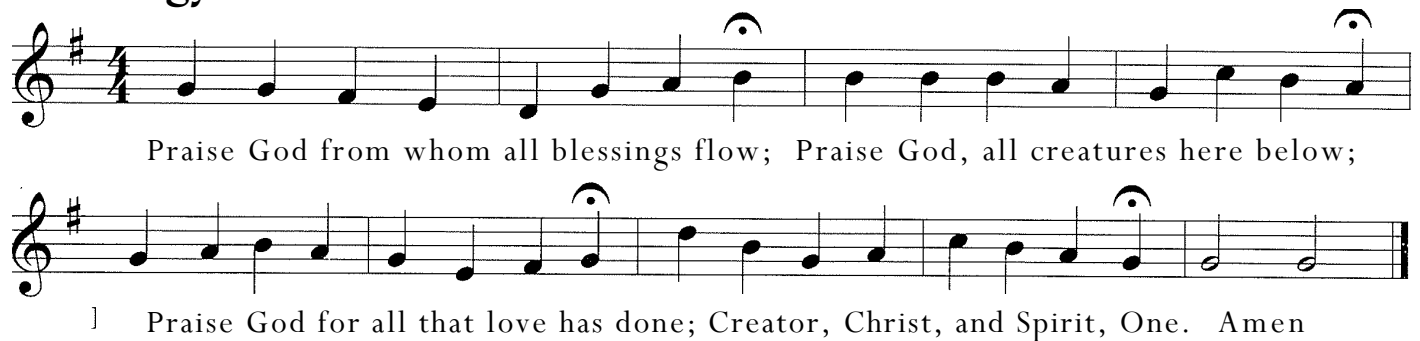
For those who have already given their offering, Giving Cards are available in your pew so that all may participate in the act of the offering.

Offertory Solo

"The Lord's Prayer"
Melody Hall, Soprano

Albert Hay Malotte

*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 “Behold Us, Lord, a Little Space” (verse 1) PH 395



1 Be - hold us, Lord, a lit - tle space From dai - ly tasks set free,
2 A - round us rolls the cease - less tide Of busi-ness, toil, and care,
3 Yet these are not the on - ly walls Where-in thou mayst be sought;
4 Thine are the loom, the forge, the mart, The wealth of land and sea,
And met with-in thy ho - ly place To rest a - while with thee.
And scarce-ly can we turn a - side For one brief hour of prayer.
On home-liest work thy bless-ing falls, In truth and pa-tience wrought.
The worlds of sci-ence and of art, Re-vealed and ruled by thee. A-men.

Pastoral Prayer

BENEDICTION

LITURGIST

Chris Sheehan

USHERS

Bobbie and Dave Hawkins, Lois and Jim Stevens

HOSPITALITY

Ruth Jensen and Nancy Harlow

*Today we are proud to welcome **Trinity Marie Collins**, (born July 31st, 2016 in Portsmouth, VA) into our church family through the sacrament of Baptism. Congratulations to her parents Heather and Bill Collins, and Godparents Karren Collins and Ralph Sayward.*

This week's Altar Flowers are given by Bob Inderbitzen and Michael Bower in Loving Memory of each of our Grandparents

TODAY AFTER WORSHIP – BUDGET & ELECTIONS MEETING



Sunday, April 2

Worship, Childcare, Church School, Coffee Fellowship
2nd Hour – Lutheran Reformation Presentation
Youth Group TACO IN A BAG FUNDRAISER



TODAY! One Great Hour of Sharing is a special Missions offering of the United Church of Christ. It will be collected Today, 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:

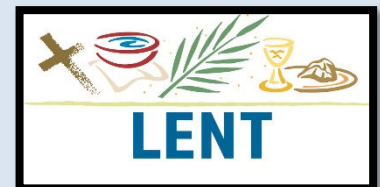
1. To vote on the proposed budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year;
2. To approve the special offerings for Missions and Diaconate.
3. To vote on the distribution of any undesignated bequests for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.
4. To elect church officers and board and committee members for terms beginning May 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.



LENTEN PROGRAMS AT RHCC UCC SECOND HOUR PROGRAMS SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES



For Lent we will have several opportunities to learn about our faith. 2017 is the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. Pastor Craig will do a series of second hour presentations on different aspects of the Reformation. These programs will be held after worship, beginning at 11:15 a.m, and will take place in Chapin Hall or the Parlor.

Sunday, April 2 we will look at the Lutheran and Anabaptist Reformations. Later programs in the Fall will be on the Anglican Reformation and the Roman Catholic Church's response, and the Reformed movement and Puritanism.

On Wednesday March 29 at 7 PM we will have a *communion worship service* based upon the second century (100's AD) as reconstructed from surviving writings. Both services will be held in the Weil Chapel. We hope that you will find these activities interesting and enlightening!



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 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 Palm Sunday, April 9

Please fill out the information below

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 Easter Sunday, April 16.

[] The flowers may remain in church to decorate the sanctuary

Make your checks payable to:

Rocky Hill Congregational Church with "Easter flowers" in memo line and mail to:

Kim Burghoff, 204 Gray Fox Lane, Rocky Hill CT 06067.

You may call Kim with questions at 860 563-3287.



The RHCC men's Christian fellowship (bible) study group meets the second and fourth Saturdays each month at 8:30-9:30am in the Fiorilli room. If you enjoy fellowship and want to learn more about scripture and other faith topics, please join us. If you would like further information, please see Jim Stevens at church or call 860-632-5810. Thanks be to God.

Narthex Bathroom under Renovation

Please note that the Narthex bathroom is being renovated. The toilet is working, but the wash basin sink has the water turned off, pending a part to be installed by the plumber. There are hand wipes in the bathroom for use.



SATURDAY, APRIL 22

RE-MAKER'S FAIR AND EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

"Remake, Reuse, Rejoice!" 10am-3pm in Chapin Hall



The Re-Maker's Fair will feature creatively hand-crafted items made from re-used or up-cycled materials, saved from the waste stream to become beautiful or useful objects.

Information on local recycling and other environmental efforts will also be available. Join us in celebration of our stewardship of the earth!

For more information or to sign up for a table to sell items, please contact Anita Hawkins at church or leave a message with the church office 860-529-4167 OR office@rhccucc.org

Missions Collection for Church World Service

In April, the Board for Missions will be preparing Emergency Cleanup Buckets for CWS (Church World Service). UCC Disaster Ministries has offered matching grants to UCC congregations that assemble Emergency Cleanup Buckets. These buckets equip people after a flood, tornado or other disaster. They include practical household materials like clothesline, work gloves, dust masks and insect repellent. See Kari or a member of the Board for Missions for more information.



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

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

Today is the deadline to order gift cards that are not stocked in inventory.

A comprehensive listing of all available retailers can be picked up at the scrip table in Chapin Hall. Cards ordered by today will be available for pickup on April 2. The next ordering deadline will be in six weeks, on May 7.

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 26

10:00am **Worship**
9:30am **Childcare**
10:00am **Church School**
11:00am **Budget & Elections**
11:45am **Middle School Youth**
4:00pm **Tamil School**
5:00pm **Confirmation Class**

March 27

9:30am **NEWSLETTER MAILING**
7:00pm **Women's AA**
7:30pm **Bell Choir**

March 28

6:00pm **Cedar Hollow Mtg**
7:00pm **Council**
7:00pm **Hearing Voices**

March 29

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

March 30

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

March 31

April 1

Sunday

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

Monday

Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

Tuesday

Chapin Hall
Fiorilli
Room 23

Wednesday

Chapel
Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

Thursday

Room 22
Chapin Hall

Friday

Saturday



26	Todd Pender
27	Richard Sweezy, Jr
28	Gail Fu
28	Nicole Graham
29	Kim Burghoff
30	Jayson Veley
31	Mark Walworth
31	Pat Hughes-Walworth
April 1	Dick Webster
	Mo Wyman
	Donna Gagnon
	Lynn Macri



LENTEN
SERVICE

Early Christian
Worship Service with
Communion
In the Chapel
Wednesday, March 29,
7PM
All are welcome.



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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