

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



March 30, 2014 ~ 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 and large-print bulletins** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is always available downstairs in Room 4.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 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

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc Faszczka

Early each morning, God waits
to greet us with joy and wonder.

**We awake to find ourselves
enveloped in grace.**

During the day, Jesus comes
to invite us to serve.

**We rise from our work and leisure
to bring healing and hope to others.**

In the shadowed evenings of our fears
and worries, the Spirit is with us.

**The Light of life shines on us
in every moment of every day.**

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

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

God who listens,
you are the One who sends us on journeys.
When we find ourselves in valleys veiled in shadows
you are walking alongside us
even though we may never notice.
We try to box you in with boundaries we can manage,
but you continue to burst forth
to bring newness into the world.
Have mercy on us, God of forgiveness,
and open our eyes to your presence among us.
One thing we know,
once we could not see you in every moment,
but now our eyes are opened wide.

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

The Spirit of the Lord has come upon us,
bringing hope, life, and forgiveness to each person.
We will go forth as God’s children,
sent to bring the good news to everyone we meet.
Thanks be to God!

Now let us pray together in the words Jesus has taught 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

p = 76

Dm G Dm Bb C F A

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

Dm G Dm Bb C Dm

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

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a sung response. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The first system starts with a tempo marking of quarter note = 76 and a dynamic marking of *p*. The lyrics are 'Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.' The second system continues with the lyrics 'Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.' Above the treble staff, guitar chords are indicated: Dm, G, Dm, Bb, C, F, A for the first system, and Dm, G, Dm, Bb, C, Dm for the second system. The music is in a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (Bb).

*THE PRACTICE OF PEACE

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (inserted in the bulletin)

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.

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a children's recessional. It consists of three lines of music on a single treble staff. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 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**"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"**

arr. by Mack Wilberg

The Choir with Katie Hoffman-Fulda, Flute, Gail Hall, Clarinet

READING FROM THE GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

SERMON**"Mud"**

Meghan D. Young

HYMN*"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"**

New Century (black) 547

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****"Fairest Lord Jesus"**

arr. by Dave Hall

Katie Hoffman-Fulda, Flute, Gail Hall, Clarinet, Dave Hall, Cello

***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**

“There Are Some Things I May Not Know”

New Century (black) 405

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

GREETERS

John and Midge Sword

HOSPITALITY

Jeannie Alessi, Jean Goff and Jennifer Meisterling

USHERS

Sue Monaghan, Joan Tennyson, Linda Grillo, Joan and Al Diaz

**The flowers are given in memory of Judi Pawlich Socha by Uncle Rich,
Aunt Mary, and Cousin Rick.**

EASTER MAILING

There is a second bulk mailing this month. **COME JOIN** a wonderful group of people to help prepare the mailing of the Easter letter. We will begin around 9:30am **MONDAY** morning in the Fiorilli Room. Thanks to a terrific group of volunteers, last Monday's Church Mouse mailing was done in record time - completed before 11:00am! Come any time in the morning, for a half hour, an hour, or however long you can.

TOMORROW

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

New Understanding

Read John 20:1-18. Peter and another disciple ran to the tomb after hearing Mary Magdalene tell that the stone had been rolled away. They discovered the truth of Mary's account. "Although as yet they did not understand," they believed.

Ask a Question: Asking questions can help us learn and grow. What questions do you have? Write faith questions on small pieces of paper and place them in a small bowl or basket. Read aloud the questions during prayer times. Let the "Faith Question" bowl always be ready for new questions.

Easter Prayer: Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Why is Jesus risen? New life for everyone! Thank you, God, for always being ready to hear our faith questions. Amen.

NOAH'S ARK- Meets today!

Noah's Ark meets twice a month on Sunday evenings from 5 PM – 6:30 PM for dinner, fellowship, and faith. We are changing our schedule for today only. If you are planning on coming, please see Meghan Young. In April we will meet on the 13th and the 27th. If you are planning to attend in April, 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	COMMUNITY LIFE RM. 22 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>
2nd & 3rd Grade	HANDS ON RM. 23 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>
4th & 5th Grade	FUN & GAMES RM. 24 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>
6th-8th Grade	SHOW & TELL RM. 25 & RM. 27 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>

RHCC FOOD PANTRY BASKET

Melissa Gerace-Hicks, Director of Rocky Hill Human Services with responsibility for the Food Pantry, informs us that the client list is increasing while donations are decreasing. In March, monetary donations normally designated for fresh food were used to purchase crackers, rice, and juice. Other staples are also in short supply. The following food items are needed:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Spaghetti sauce and linguini pasta | Crackers |
| Rice | Juice, coffee, tea |
| Soups | Cereals |
| Tuna & canned chicken | Applesauce |
| Peanut butter & jelly | |

Jars can be plastic or glass.

Additionally all paper goods (towels, toilet paper, etc.) and detergents are in short supply and **always** needed. Toothpaste, shampoo and conditioners are needed. The pantry also accepts hotel size containers. All donations are welcome.

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.

Today is the deadline for ordering scrip from our primary scrip provider, Great Lakes Scrip Co. Cards ordered this morning will be available for pickup next Sunday morning, April 6. A complete listing of participating retailers is available at the scrip table in Chapin Hall. This is the only way to get cards that we don't usually keep in inventory. Examples of cards you may wish to consider include Dressbarn, Macy's, JC Penney, Jo-Ann Fabrics, Shop Rite, Omaha Steaks, TGI Fridays, Staples, Hallmark, Ace Hardware, Michaels, Applebees, Ruth's Chris Steak House, Cabelas, Supercuts, Shutterfly, Payless Shoes, Buffalo Wild Wings, Marriott, etc. Order forms are available at the scrip table. You may also email your order to treasurer@rhccucc.org by the end of Sunday.

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!



LADIES BRUNCH & FASHION SHOW

Sunday, April 6, 2014, at 1:30 pm. Chapin Hall,

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.

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

March 30

10:00am **Worship** Sanctuary
11:30am **Search Committee** Fiorilli Room
11:30am **Children/Youth Music** Choir Rm
12:00pm **Living the Resurrection** Parlor
5:00pm **Noah's Table**

Sunday



March 31

EASTER MAILING

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

Monday

Mar. 30 Jayson Veley
Sean Yorgensen
31 Pat Hughes-Walworth
Mark Walworth

April 1

7:00pm **Boards & Committees**

Tuesday

Apr. 1 Dick Webster
Donna Gagnon

April 2

9:30am **Quilters** Rm. 6.
12:00pm **Bible Study** Fiorilli Room
7:30pm **Adult Choir**

Wednesday

2 Thomas Alferi
Rebecca Scribano
Gregson Curtin

April 3

7:00pm **Art & Faith** Fiorilli Rm &
Parlor
8:00pm **Men's AA** Chapin Hall
Music Committee

4 Bobbi Hawkins
Marsha Hoffman
Sherry Silkowski

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.

**86TH ANNUAL GATHERING OF THE
CONNECTICUT WOMEN OF THE UCC
APR. 12, 8:45 AM - 3:00 PM**

DELUSIONS OF INCLUSION, PART II

The 86th Annual Gathering of the Connecticut Women of the UCC will be a continuation of the powerful conversation we began at last year's spring gathering. Rev. Da Vita McCallister will be our keynote speaker again this year, bringing us word of new initiatives and some of the ways congregations are using the SCRUM curriculum. **Delusions of Inclusion II** will **not** be a repeat of last year; we highly recommend that you not miss it!

Morning coffee and refreshments and a light lunch of soup, sandwiches, dessert are included. There will be a SERRV table, a Simply Smiles Coffee table (coffee for sale), a UCC Plainville Easter Candy sale table and other displays.

Location: Congregational Church of Plainville 130 West Main Street, Plainville, CT

\$20.00

Contact: Pam DiDio

860.747.1901

pamd@ctucc.org

WORKSHOPS: (to be chosen at registration table when you check in)

- **Sacred Conversations on Race, Part II** with the Rev. Da Vita McAllister
- **4 Hands 4 God**, Welcoming Folks w/ Intellectual Disabilities, led by Suzanne Colley UCC, Plainville
- **Supporting Families Affected by Mental Illness**, led by Carol Drescher, First Church of Christ in Mansfield, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
- **Simply Smiles, Building Bright Futures Through Inclusive Philanthropy** led by Samantha Steinmetz and Dave Graves (Simply Smiles is a not-for-profit organization that provides bright futures for impoverished children, their families, and their communities. From the desolate prairies of an Indian Reservation in South Dakota to the remote mountains of Oaxaca, Mexico, this personal and holistic approach means we are providing food, clothing, shelter, medical care, education, infrastructure, jobs, pride, dignity, hope, and solutions.

We like to encourage women to show thanks to the host church by participating in one of their missions. Plainville UCC has requested non-perishable food items, especially gravy. Please check your items to be sure they are not damaged or out of date. A receptacle for these offerings will be near the registration tables.

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.

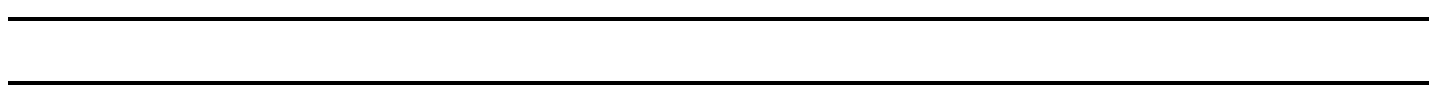
Please fill out the information below and give to Kathy Mosure or the Church Office.



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