

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

~WORSHIP FOR EASTER DAY~

April 5, 2015

10:00 a.m.

*We welcome all on this Easter Sunday and extend a special greeting to our visitors. **Hearing-assist devices and large-print bulletins** are available for worship; please ask an usher. Children will remain in worship today but **nursery care** for infants and toddlers is available downstairs in Room 4.*

*Please sign the **friendship registration pads** found in the pews. You will also find **nametags** there, and **prayer request slips**. **If you have a prayer request you would like read aloud in today's prayers**, please fill out one of the slips and pass it to the center aisle at the time of the offering.*

*All are cordially invited for **fellowship time after worship**, downstairs in Chapin Hall, where a **Welcome Table** offers information about the church.*

INTROIT

“Tina Singu”

From Lesotho, South Africa

“We are filled with the fire of life”

Children and Adult Choirs with Val Triblets, leader,
Tom Rolfe and Michael Bower, drums

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

Christ is risen, alleluia!

Alleluia, he is risen indeed! Sound the trumpet!

Let the people of God be filled with the fire of life!

Alleluia! Sound the horns!

For early in the morning, on the first day of the week,

the sun has risen, the night has passed,

all creation starts new – sound the horns!

For love is stronger than evil and life is stronger than death.

Death cannot contain him, we have seen the Lord.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory!

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

***HYMN**

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

New Century (black), 233

***PRAYER FOR EASTER DAY**

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

God of life and new life, God of the now-awakened world,
we praise you on this, our festival day,
for the dawning of joy, for the opening of tombs,
for love that overcomes everything.

We praise you for Jesus the Christ, crucified yet risen,
who for our sakes has lived and died and lives again.

God of life and new life, God of the now-awakened world,
may we be filled with the fire of life,
compelled by love, made bold by hope,
alive as an Easter people in the world.

Alleluia! Amen.

***SUNG RESPONSE**

*The strife is o'er, the battle done, the victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!*

WELCOME

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

READING FROM THE EPISTLES

1 Corinthians 15, selected

ANTHEM

“Joyful Rhythm”
The Jubilate Handbell Choir

Kevin McChesney

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Mark 16:1-8

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

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

“The Stone is Rolled Away”

Victor Johnson

The Choir

*The stone is rolled away, hallelujah! The stone is rolled away!
The Lord is risen from the grave, the stone is rolled away!*

*Let all Christians give thanks and sing:
Shout your praises to our King!
The grave lost its victory and death, its sting,
The Lord has risen indeed! Oh, Hallelu!*

*The stone is rolled away, hallelujah! The stone is rolled away!
The Lord is risen from the grave, the stone is rolled away!*

*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



The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust. The

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

This church practices open Communion – all who wish to know the presence of Christ and to participate in the community of God’s people are welcome to receive Communion, including children, and regardless of church membership or denominational affiliation.

*This morning we will receive Communion by intinction (dipping the bread into the cup, which holds unfermented grape juice). Gluten-free bread and juice are also offered. **Beginning with the side sections from the front, continuing with the center sections from the back, please follow the lead of the ushers who will guide the coming forward row by row.** Any wishing to receive Communion who are unable to come forward may raise their hands to identify themselves to a deacon and will be served in their seats.*

Invitation

Luke, the evangelist, tells us a story, that on the first Easter evening, two disciples on the road to Emmaus are met by the Risen Christ. They recognize him when he breaks bread with them; their eyes are opened to his presence when their shared experience on the road makes of them a community.

**May our eyes also be opened to the Risen One,
beside us and with us and among us,
on the roadways of our lives.**

We remember what he has said to us, that he will always be with us when we gather in his spirit, to share in his love, to work for his justice, to live in his peace, to be his body in the world.

**We come to the table where Christ is the host,
to be strengthened by his presence,
to be renewed for the life of faith, hope and love,
to keep presence with each other,
to embody the beloved community.**

Prayer of Preparation and the Lord's Prayer

....This we ask in Christ's name and spirit, as we also say together:

**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.**

Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Communion Music

"Reverie"

Claude Debussy

"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

Stead/Kirkpatrick

Katie Hoffman-Fulda, flute

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Easter Blessing

Thanks be to you, O God, creator of the fire of life,
for faithfulness in all generations,

for grace that feeds, forgives and heals the world.

May we, the community of the Risen One,
take courage for lives of love and justice and hope,

that we might bear the flame of Christ in your world.

Now let us take the gospel and its truth,

that Christ is risen and alive in the world,

and proclaim it with our lives – not just for today,

but in all days,

until the life of the whole world

becomes an "alleluia."

Thanks be to God, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit. Let all the people say,

Amen.

***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).*

*During the passing of the peace, those who would like to join the choir
for the singing of the Hallelujah Chorus are invited to go to the balcony,
where copies of the music will be provided.*

***THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS**

G. F. Handel

***POSTLUDE**

“Fugue in C”

G.F. Handel

COMMUNION SERVERS

Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio, Cheryl Hummel, Marge Murk,
Don Pagnucco, Gail Hall

USHERS:

Polly Pagnucco, Candy Smith, Stephanie Heneghan
Chris and Mark Sheehan

GREETERS

Sue Starr and Jay Jensen

HOSPITALITY:

Lynn McKenna and Ruth Jensen

INSTRUMENTALISTS FOR HYMNS:

Dave Hall, trumpet

Gail Hall, clarinet

Ruth Fitzgerald, baritone horn

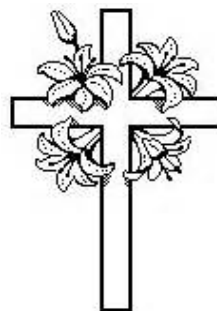
Sarah Mosure, trombone

Jason Hall, trombone

Bulletin cover artwork and design by Nancy Edwards.

*Today's communion bread was baked by the children, youth and families of
RHCC. The gluten free bread was baked by Barry Wilcock.*

**The tower will be lit from April 5 to April 11 in memory
of Mary Farmer Midkiff by Gail and Natalie Tine.**



S.P.I.R.I.T. Corner

Serve, Pray, Invite, Receive, Ignite, Tell

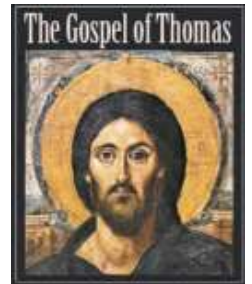
***Children are invited to remain in worship today,
following along with the children and youth bulletins.***

S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School will resume on April 12 with "Celebrating God's Creation"

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

Please remember to help feed our neighbors and our friends!

The Rocky Hill Food Bank is always in need.

Suggested items

6 oz. tuna, baked beans, canned soups
spaghetti sauce, rice, spaghetti, juice boxes
snack bars, toilet paper and paper towels, diapers

Food Pantry
Donations Needed

Please bring items to service or drop them off at church during the week.



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.

Thanks to all who bought scrip in March. Almost \$22,000 (face amount) of scrip was sold, producing a profit for RHCC of more than \$1,500. Cards ordered last weekend may be picked up at the scrip table this morning.

We have restocked 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, Bonafish 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

April 5

EASTER SUNDAY

- 6:00am **Sunrise Service**
6:45am **Breakfast**
10:00am **Worship**
4:00pm **Tamil Sangam**

April 6

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

April 7

- 9:30am **Little Scholars Preschool**
11:00am **Lodge Service**
7:00pm **Boards / Committees**

April 8

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

April 9

- 7:30pm

April 11

- 9:00am **Yoga with Lynn**
11:00am **Search Committee**

Sunday

- Rose Hill
Chapin Hall
Sanctuary
Rms 22, 23, 24, 25

Monday

- Chapin Hall

Loft

Tuesday

- Chapin Hall

Wednesday

- Rm. 6.
Fiorilli Room
Choir Room

Thursday

- Men's AA

Saturday

- Chapin Hall

Happy Birthday



- Apr. 7 Judith Frascarelli
Grace Hoffman
8 Meghan Montana
Isabel Donahue
9 Sam DeGiovanni
11 Brian Donahue
Kaedryn Pulling



**MAY CHURCH MOUSE
DEADLINE
WEDNESDAY APRIL 15**

**NEWSLETTER MAILING
TUESDAY APRIL 21**

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.

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