

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



April 7, 2019 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Communion Sunday

Fifth Sunday of 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 downstairs 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 aisles at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.*

INTROIT

“Christ, We Do all Adore Thee”

Theodore Dubois

The Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rob Grandell

Leader: Come, Beloved, for the Great Giver has restored your fortunes –

People: Let us tell of abundance as we shout with joy!

Leader: Come, Growers, for the Creator has brought up rivers in the desert –

People: Let us declare our praise as we plant our fields!

Leader: Come, Pilgrims, for the Righteous One has set a path through the sea –

People: Let us rejoice as we make our journey!

Leader: Come, People of God, for the Holy One has done great things for us!

People: Let us worship God!

*HYMN

“Bring Many Names”

NCH 11

**please rise in body or in spirit*

Bold denotes unison response

*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Come to this sanctuary, this house, this home, Holy Christ,
And let us receive you with lavish welcome.

You are the restorer of our fortunes,

The promise of new life – We pour out our praise to you.

Fill this room with your Spirit:

And fill our hearts with your compassion,

Not just in this time and place,

But in all times and in all places,

So that as we celebrate the great things you have done for us,

We may also embody the love you give to all.

We ask this in Jesus' name, 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 773

Re - mem - ber me, re - mem - ber me,

The first system of musical notation is for the vocal line. It consists of a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a time signature of 3/4. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B-flat4, and a quarter note C5. This is followed by a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4. The lyrics "Re - mem - ber me," are written below the notes. The melody then continues with a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a quarter note B3. This is followed by a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, and a quarter note F3. The lyrics "re - mem - ber me," are written below the notes. The system ends with a double bar line.

O Je - sus, re - mem - ber me.

The second system of musical notation is for the vocal line. It consists of a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a time signature of 3/4. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B-flat4, and a quarter note C5. This is followed by a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4. The lyrics "O Je - sus, re - mem - ber me." are written below the notes. The melody then continues with a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a quarter note B3. This is followed by a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, and a quarter note F3. The system ends with a double bar line.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 43:16-21

Pew Bible NT p.672

SERMON

“Through the Wilderness”

Rev. Craig Cowing

HYMN

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

PH 288

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, they will 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 Anthem

“In My Heart”

American Spiritual, arr. Alan Bullard

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**

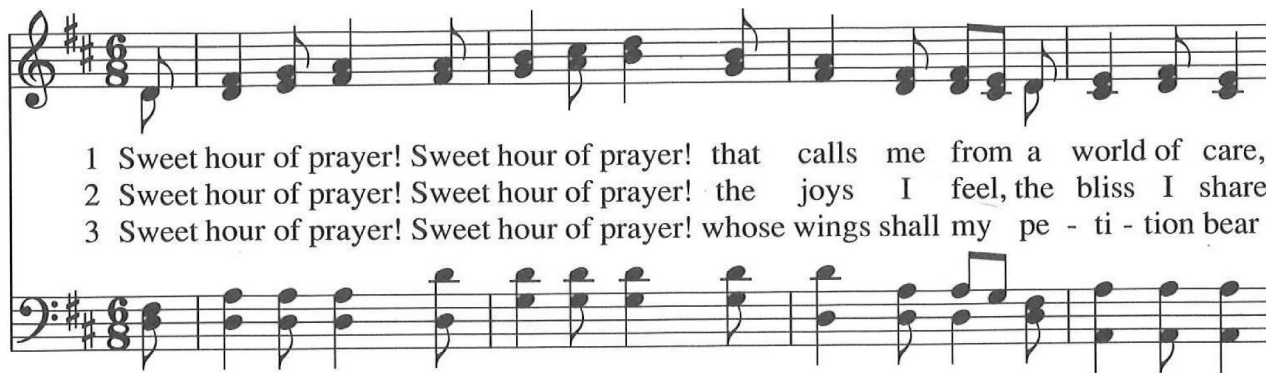
PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

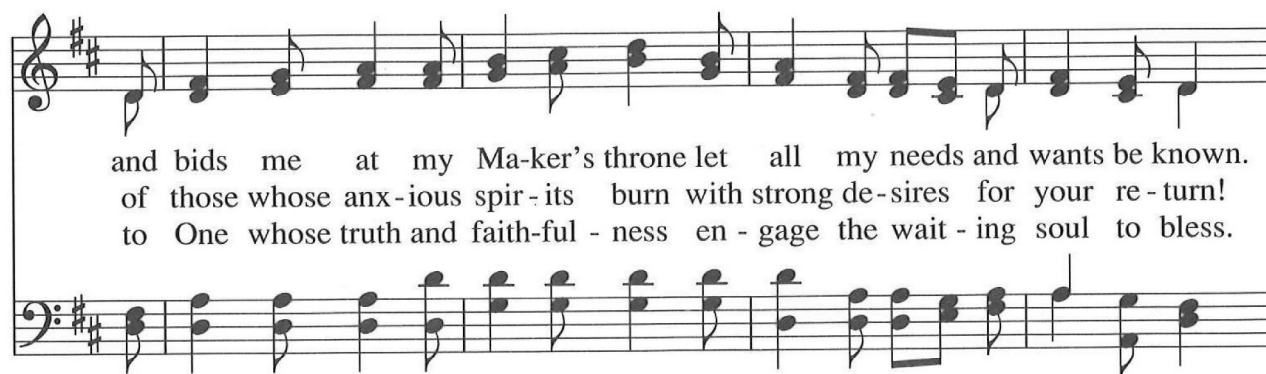
Sung Call to Prayer

“Sweet Hour of Prayer” verse 1

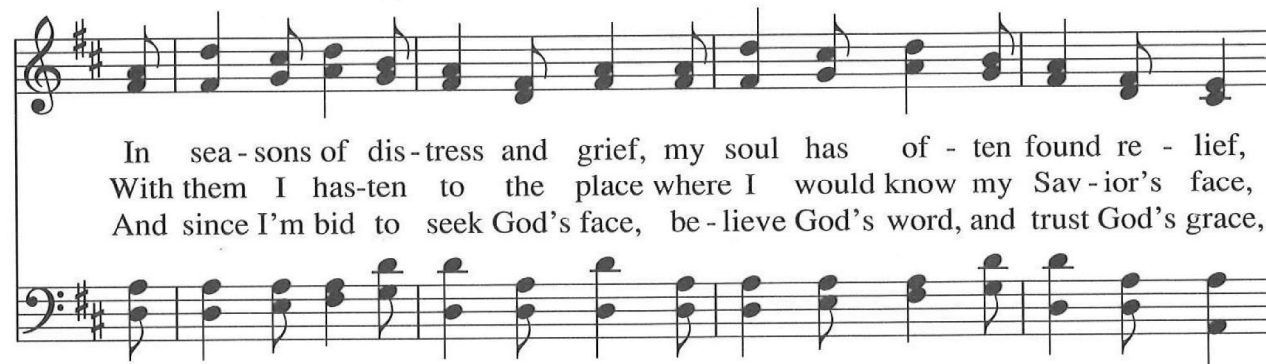
NCH505



1 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,
2 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share
3 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear



and bids me at my Ma-ker's throne let all my needs and wants be known.
of those whose anx-ious spir-its burn with strong de-sires for your re-turn!
to One whose truth and faith-ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.



In sea - sons of dis-tress and grief, my soul has of - ten found re - lief,
With them I has-ten to the place where I would know my Sav - ior's face,
And since I'm bid to seek God's face, be - lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,



and oft es-caped the tempt-er's snare by your re - turn, sweet hour of prayer!
And glad - ly take my sta - tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!
I'll cast a - way my ev - ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

Pastoral Prayer

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

This church practices open Communion; all are welcome to participate, regardless of church membership or denominational affiliation.

Prayer of Confession

We confess, Anointed One, that we excuse ourselves from reaching out to those who need your care.

We take your words – that there will always be unmet needs – as a reason not to try to meet the needs we can.

Forgive us, and help us to change.

Renew our determination to live

as faithful followers, faithful disciples, faithful Christians.

Help us to work with you for the well-being of your creation, that the fortunes of all your peoples may be restored. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of God's Love

We, too, are a part of the Way-Maker's will for restoration.

We are called, through Christ Jesus, to strive for restoration, but we are not called to do this work alone.

The One who has made a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert, will surely equip us for all we are asked to do in Christ's name.

God will empower us to attain all the potential God has placed within us.

Thanks be to God!

Invitation

Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

This morning, the congregation will be seated for Communion; the elements (bread and non-alcoholic grape juice) will be brought to each pew. Please wait until all have been served so that we may take the elements together. As you pass the trays to your neighbor, you may use the words “The bread of life” and “The cup of blessing.” If you would like to receive gluten-free bread, please raise your hand so that a Deacon may serve you.

Communion Music

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our God, you have refreshed us at your table. We ask that we will have what we need to go out and bring renewal and reconciliation to your world. Guide us through the presence of your Holy Spirit as we travel through the wilderness. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Now let us share among us a sign of God’s 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).

***HYMN**

“Now Is the Time Approaching”

NCH 609

BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

LITURGIST

Rob Grandell

USHERS

Wendy Ware, Sue Chatfield, Dave Sageman and Kim Burghoff

COMMUNION SERVERS

Judy Graham, Rob Grandell, Sarah DeGiovanni
Cheryl Hummel, Nancy Parsons, Laurel Cole

HOSPITALITY

Ruth Jensen, Hilaire Leavitt

This week’s offering will be given to CWS to help our brothers & sisters affected by the **floods in East Africa** from Tropical Cyclone Idai in Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Malawi.

Weekly Bible Readings – April “Sustained by God’s Word of Hope”

April 7 – Luke 16:1-18

April 8 – Luke 16:19-31

April 9 – Luke 17:1-19

April 10 – Luke 17:20-37

April 11 – Luke 18:1-17

April 12 – Luke 18:18-43

April 13 – Luke 19:11-27

Sunday, April 7 - Fifth Sunday of Lent.

Praying with religious Icons program at 7:00 pm in the Chapel.

Pastor Craig will lead a workshop on contemplative prayer using icons. This a good way to learn about an ancient form of prayer still practiced today in many parts of the Christian Church. The workshop will start at 7 PM and will meet in Chapin Hall. Everyone is invited!



Hunger never takes a holiday. Food Pantries need our help to meet their food demands. The large basket in the front foyer of the church welcomes your donations, and will be delivered to the Rocky Hill food bank weekly. Here are the current needs from the food bank:

Canned chicken or turkey, (not tuna fish)

Crackers, cookies and portable snacks for kids like peanut butter or cheese cracker packs.

Condiments like mayonnaise, mustard, ketchup, olives and pickles.

Maple Syrup, Juices, decaf coffee and instant decaf.

Dish soap and health and beauty aids (shampoo, soap, toothpaste).

Thankyou!

HOLY WEEK AT ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL UCC

Sunday, April 7

10:00 am Worship – Fifth Sunday of Lent.

Praying with religious Icons program at 7:00 pm in the Chapel.



HOLY WEEK

April 14 – 10:00 a.m. Palm Sunday

Worship in the Sanctuary

Easter flower ordering deadline

April 18 – 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday

Service of Tenebrae in the Sanctuary

Tenebrae is distinctive for its gradual extinguishing of candles while a series of readings and psalms is recited.



April 21– Easter Sunday!

Sunrise Service at Rose Hill Cemetery

Arrive just before sunrise (6:00 a.m. sunrise)

Follow the car path to the right and up to the back corner
(close to Gilbert and West St. end)

Breakfast will follow at the Church in Chapin Hall

All are Welcome!

10:00 a.m. Easter Worship Service in the Sanctuary

With full choir and accompaniment

Followed by coffee hour in Chapin Hall



Easter Breakfast

April 21st Easter Sunday! Our Sunrise Service at Rose Hill Cemetery starts at 6:00 a.m. A hot breakfast will follow at Church in Chapin Hall. All are Welcome.



WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

MOVE YOUR FEET.

JOIN US FOR A SOLE HOPE SHOE PARTY



WHEN

Sunday, April 14, 5:30-7pm

WHERE

Rocky Hill Congregational Church—Chapin Hall

HOSTED BY

Board for Faith Formation

#SHOESTHATCHANGELIVES

#HOPEISWINNING

#PARTYWITHAPURPOSE

#SOLEHOPE



We will start with a simple meal of soup, salad, and bread, along with a traditional Ugandan bean dish.

We will then use patterns provided by Sole Hope to cut out pieces from our old jeans that will be turned into shoes by Sole Hope shoemakers in Uganda.

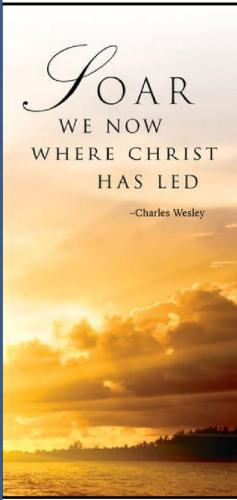
What to bring:

- One or two pairs of old jeans—adult sized, regular denim is recommended. Denim with stretch is not recommended. If children want to donate their jeans, we will find a use for them.

- Fabric scissors, if you have or can borrow some.

Sole Hope asks that with each pair of shoe tops, we donate \$10, which covers the costs of completing the shoes and transporting them to the children who will wear them. BFF has paid for the first ten shoes; we will take a free will offering at the Shoe Party should we end up making more than ten shoes.

Since the scissors will be sharp, we will ask the children to help assemble Soul Hope Care Kits, similar to First Aid kits, which will also be shipped to Uganda. Further info can be found at www.solehope.org.



The Easter special collection will benefit a Connecticut shelter for migrant children; **Noank Community Support Services** located near Groton. At this time, they have unaccompanied 10-12 minor children (teens mostly) from the border in their care, and are at or near capacity all the time. They also have other shelter-homes for homeless or disadvantaged local youth. Regina Moller, director of the shelter says it provides a family-like environment for up to 12 children while it looks for sponsors, typically family members living in the U.S., who can take them - a process that typically takes four to six weeks. She says the teens in her shelter had left their home countries unaccompanied by their parents to escape severe threats and violence.

High school seniors and college students; it's time to apply for scholarships! Graduating high school seniors and returning college undergraduates who are seeking a RHCC scholarship for the 2019-20 academic year are invited to complete and return an application prior to April 15. Scholarship awards will be announced in June.

Applications are available in the office, or at: www.rockyhillucc.org/scholarship-program. Submit completed applications to: scholarships@rhccucc.org, or to the Church office. Scholarship Committee: Hilaire Leavitt, Randy Pulling, Gail Hall and Steve Ware.



Frank Roswell Fuller Scholarship - This scholarship requires that you be a member of the UCC/Congregational Church. Applications are available in the church office. The deadline for submitting your application and other documents is May 15.



Taco Dinner Fundraiser

for the fight against Crohn's disease

When: Saturday, April 27, 2019

Time: 5:00 – 7:30pm

Where: Rocky Hill Congregational Church,
805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill

Cost: \$10

What: tacos, chips, salsa, dessert & beverages

Activities will include basket raffles, live music & merchandise for sale!

Hosted by the Jokl family and Crohn's crushers. If you have any questions, contact Michele:

mjokl@joklfamily.com





Walk Against Hunger: Saturday April 27, 2019

Join Our Walk Team!

Outreach and Worship Ministry invites you to Join our team! Battling hunger is a team effort. In Hartford and Tolland counties more than 120,000 people worry about having enough food for their families. The Foodshare Walk Against Hunger is the largest anti-hunger event of its kind in Connecticut.

- ✚ The Walk itself is less than 2 miles long, making it fun for people of all ages. It begins and ends with music, children's activities, informational booths, and so much more. It takes place on Saturday, April 27th at 10 AM at Dunkin' Donuts Park in Hartford.
- ✚ We'll meet at the church at 8 AM for a continental breakfast, and then carpool to the walk.
- ✚ To sign-up, use the forms available on our website (RockyHillucc.org) in the office or Chapin hall, and return them to Heather Collins or Elaine Sellenberg.
- ✚ You can also support our team with a donation to Foodshare by searching for our team, "Rocky Hill Congregational Church" on the Foodshare website.
- ✚ Together we can fight hunger in Connecticut!



Join us for our 3rd Annual Craft Fair on Saturday June 1, 2019, 9am -1pm
There will be many Vendors inside and also outside on the lawn (weather permitting). The snack bar will be open to buy food while shopping at our Craft Vendors' booths. If you are a crafter or vendor, or know someone who is, contact: Jeannie at: 860-839-1321 or scoobygirl83@gmail.com

From the Fair Committee – please save the date
October 19, 2019 for the RHCC Annual Country Fair!

If you are moving, cleaning up or down-sizing, think about donating your treasures to the white elephant booth, we are accepting items such as:

small furniture, electronics, tools.

The Holiday House is looking for sleds old, new, big or small.

The Farmer's market can always use canning supplies.

We will be updating you throughout the year.

Together we can make the fair a success!

REMEMBER OR HONOR LOVED ONES WITH EASTER FLOWERS



The flowers will adorn the sanctuary for worship on
Easter Sunday, April 21

The three choices this year will be:

- Easter Lily 6-inch pots with 6+ buds (\$10)
- Hyacinth 6-inch with 3 bulbs (\$7)
- Tulip 6-inch full pots (\$7)

The Deadline for orders is April 14

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	_____ x\$10 =		_____
Hyacinth	_____ x \$7 =		_____
Tulip	_____ x \$7 =		_____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please select:

- I will pick up my plant after worship on Sunday, April 21.
- 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.

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
- Gas: Exxon/Mobil, Shell, Sunoco
- Pharmacy: CVS, Walgreens
- Fast food: Boston Market, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's
- Restaurants: Bonefish Grill, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster
- Shopping: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Lowes, Michaels, Payless Shoes, Target, Walmart
- Grocery: Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, WholeFoods, Westside Market

The next order for physical cards not stocked in inventory will be placed on April 28 (with delivery on May 5). E-cards may be ordered anytime. A complete listing of all retailers available through our program can be picked up at the scrip table in Chapin Hall.

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

April 7

10:00am Worship
9:30am Childcare
11:00am Coffee Hour
7:00pm Praying w/Icons

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Chapin Hall
Chapel

April 8

7:00pm Women's AA

Monday

Chapin Hall

April 9

7:00pm Council

Tuesday

Fiorilli

April 10

9:00am Breakfast Club

Wednesday

Bob's Coffee Shop

April 11

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

Thursday

Rm 6
Chapin Hall

April 12

9am LSP/Music

Friday

Rm 6

April 13

Saturday



Happy
Birthday!

7	Grace Hoffman
8	Isabel Donahue
9	Sam DeGiovanni
11	Brian Donahue
11	Kaedryn Pulling
12	Steve Ware
12	Skyler Dean-Lee
13	Alan Wind
13	David Hawkins
13	Ruth Fitzgerald
13	Sara Lataille
13	Maya Donahue



Palm Sunday, April 14

Want to Make a Difference? Move Your Feet. Join us for a Sole Hope shoe party!

Sunday, April 14, 5:30pm-7:00pm

Sponsored by the Board for Faith Formation.

We will start with a simple meal of soup, salad, and bread, along with a traditional Ugandan bean dish.

We will then use patterns provided by Sole Hope to cut out pieces from our old jeans that will be turned into shoes by Sole Hope shoemakers in Uganda.

What to bring: **One or two pairs of old jeans—adult sized, regular denim is recommended.**

Denim with stretch is not recommended. If children want to donate their jeans, we will find a use for them.

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: Steve Smith admin@rhccucc.org