

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**April 10, 2016 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Third Sunday of Easter**

~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 aisles at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gail Tine

Leader: Brothers and sisters.

If you lift your net and it is empty, Come here!

All: We'll cast it out again into Christ's abundance.

Leader: If you open your eyes but do not recognize the Holy One, Come here!

All: We'll find the Risen Christ in all creation.

Leader: If your life is filled with mourning, come here!

All: Christ is leading a dance of joy.

Leader: Come here, sisters and brothers!

All: To give blessing and honor and glory to God!

*HYMN

"I Sing The Mighty Power of God"

New Century (black) 12

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Bold type denotes collective response

*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Generous God,
Giver of all that is good,
Creator of all that is beautiful,
you have blessed us with abundance,
more than enough for everyone to share.
Out of this abundance you call us to care for each other:
“Feed my lambs.” “Tend my sheep.” “Feed my sheep.”
Awaken us to the beauty and bounty of your Creation.
Encourage us to share generously with all those you love.
May we protect the beauty of all that is yours
and nurture your bounty
for our children and our children’s children. We pray 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

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

The first part of the musical notation is for the phrase "Re - mem - ber me, re - mem - ber me,". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The time signature is 3/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

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

The second part of the musical notation is for the phrase "O Je - sus, re - mem - ber me.". It also consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The time signature is 3/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

WELCOME

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



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

“Swing Low”

arr. D. McKeever
The Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

John 21:1-19

NT(Pew Bible) p101

SERMON

“Follow Me”

The Rev. Craig L. Cowing

*HYMN

“Jesus Calls Us, O’er the Tumult”

New Century (black) 172

OFFERING OF GIFTS

During the time of offering, your prayers can be offered using the blue prayer request cards and placed in the offering plate. The pastor will read the prayers aloud during the Joys and Concerns.

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

“It is Well With My Soul”

Spafford/Bliss
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 CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

Sung Call to Prayer

Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in -

cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

*HYMN

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

NC (black) 493

BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

“Do Not I Love Thee” (from Sacred Harp)

arr. Wilbur Held

LITURGIST

Gail Tine

USHERS

Jim and Lois Stevens, Gail Tine, Lynn McKenna

HOSPITALITY

Jean Goff and Jeannie Alessi



*Today's Flowers are donated by Gail and Natalie Tine
in loving memory of our Grandmother and GreatGrandmother, Mary Farmer Midkiff*

*The Tower is lit in memory of
my Father, Leo Latham Arnold, and Stepfather, O.V. Baize by Gail Tine*

LOOKING AHEAD

Today April 10	11:00am	2nd Hr: Hearts Over Latin America (HOLA) Luncheon
	5:00pm	High School Youth Group "Who are these people?"
Sun. April 17	10:00am	One Great Hour Offering
	11:00am	Permaculture Garden Presentation
Sun. April 24	11:00am	2 nd Hr: Organization and Governance Q&A
	11:00am	Youth Group Taco Fundraiser

HOLA Second Hour Luncheon - Join us after worship

Hearts Over Latin America (HOLA) from UCONN and the Missions Board will host a Taco Lunch today in Chapin Hall to share their recent service work experiences in Latin America. Sarah Mosure and her fellow students from HOLA traveled to an indigenous Maya community in Guatemala this past January, where they held a children's medical campaign, explored the village's EcoTourism business, and hosted empowerment workshops for the women in the community. Going forward, HOLA seeks to maintain ties with the community by promoting their EcoTourism project, raising funds for a second trip next January, and reaching out to Guatemalan immigrants in the Willimantic community. **Tickets** \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids 12 and under (5 yrs old and under are free).



THANKS— It was wonderful to be back for Palm Sunday services after 3 months of healing. I want to thank all who sent Christmas Cards and get well cards and notes. It was a comfort to know that many of you were thinking of and praying for me during my surgery and recovery. It also was a joy to be greeted back to worship by so many. I felt I had come home. Sincerely, Joan Tennyson



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

High School Youth: **Today**, April 10 - 5 to 7pm “Who Are These People?”

We will take this time to get to know Pastor Craig, Steph Heneghan, and Georgette Huie a little better and they will get to know you!

Bring \$3 for dinner.

Don't miss our

Taco-in-a-Bag Fundraiser!

to benefit the High School Youth Group trip to the UCC National Youth Event in July
Sunday, April 24 after worship



Save the date: Middle School Youth Heifer International Farm Trip, May 6-7

S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School News

If you are able and willing to help teach, lead an activity, or be a second adult in a classroom, please sign up in Chapin Hall or contact Georgette Huie or Kathy Morgan.

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.



This offering will be collected on Sunday, April 17th.

One Great Hour of Sharing as part of Our Churches Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God’s message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

Project Highlight: Kenya

Matee Kakoo tells the story of her community in eastern Kenya before and after a One Great Hour of Sharing-supported sand dam was built. Ms. Kakoo recalls that people in Mbangulo went hungry because they didn’t have enough water to cook food. Their primary school had insufficient classrooms because there was no water to make bricks. The children often missed school because they needed to get water for their families. The task of fetching water took most of the day, leaving little time for other activities. Women were at risk for sexual assault on their long journey to get water.

When the people of Mbangulo were first approached about constructing a sand dam, they were enthusiastic. They quickly gathered local materials that were combined with additional donated construction materials to build the dam.

Today, children are in school and there is even a shallow well on the school grounds to provide for the school’s needs—including new bricks for new classrooms. Food is more plentiful as the water allows people to grow gardens and they have more time to tend to them. Ms. Kakoo expresses her gratitude for what this water project has done for her community, “It will be remembered by generations to come.”



Icon of the Month in the Chapel

Stop by the church to spend some time in prayerful reflection. The icon for the month is: *“The disbelief of Thomas”*. The original was painted in Serbia in the 1400's. You may also walk the labyrinth. There is a basket of stones at the entry. You'll be invited to take a stone, carry it with you through the labyrinth, and leave it at the center. Come and enjoy a few minutes of quiet contemplation in the Weil Chapel. The Chapel is open during office hours, 9am-2pm, Monday – Thursday and 9am – Noon on Friday.

Church Garden Ministry

First Meeting: Sunday, April 17th after Worship

Please join us for a short meeting to discuss ideas for improving the church grounds through a new gardening ministry. We'll also discuss “permaculture gardening,” a way of designing a garden the way nature does, and using low maintenance, self-fertilizing, self-watering plantings. For more information, visit West Parish Church UCC, www.permaculturewestparish.org. Our time together will even include a walk around the church grounds to get ideas. --Michael Bower & Bob Inderbitzen



FOODSHARE Walk against hunger

Foodshare Walk Against Hunger, Sunday May 1st at 2:00 p.m.

Time: 12:30 p.m. check-in / 2:00 p.m. Walk begins

Place: The Hartford's Liam E. McGee Memorial Park, 140 Garden Street, Hartford
*free parking is available at 690 Asylum Ave.

Spread the word! We have RHCC T-Shirts FREE for anyone who comes to WALK with us on May 1. **The T-shirt ordering deadline is April 10.** Registration forms are available in Chapin Hall after worship. Thomas Kainamura is our team chair. To register, go to www.FoodshareWalk.org and search for Thomas' name or Rocky Hill Congregational Church.

CELEBRATE SPRING AT OUR APRIL BREAKFAST & RE-MAKER'S FAIR

Saturday, April 30th 8am-10:30am

Adults \$7.00, Kids (4-12yrs) \$5.00, under 4yrs – free

Egg Strata ≈ Pancakes ≈ French ≈ Toast Cereal ≈ Bacon ≈ Sausage ≈
Juice ≈ Milk ≈ Coffee



RE-MAKER'S FAIR AND EARTH DAY FESTIVAL



11am-3pm (after the Pancake Breakfast). "Remake, Reuse, Rejoice!" 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, contact Anita Hawkins or the church office at: office@rhccucc.org



RECYCLE AND HELP OTHERS

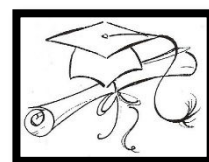
Donate your old eye glasses to the
Lion's Club to help others.



A collection box is in the church office hallway.

Rocky Hill Congregational Church Scholarship Information for the 2016-2017 Academic Year

Scholarship forms are due to the church office prior to **April 15, 2016**.
Scholarship awards will be announced in June. For more info, contact:
scholarships@rhccucc.org or see Hilaire Leavitt or Randy Pulling.



Frank Roswell Fuller Scholarship

This scholarship requires that you be a member of the UCC/Congregational Church. Applications are available in the church office. Mr. Fuller was interested in helping "needy, deserving" students obtain the education that he had not been able to enjoy himself. The deadline for submitting your application is **May 15th**.



Christian Activities Council April Report

Adventure in the City: We are all excited about our hosting a Freedom School. This is a huge part of the Children Defense Fund. Freedom Schools, were started by civil rights activists and early childhood educator, Marian Wright Edelman. Our staff person, Stacey Lopez, is the Project Coordinator. She will mentor ten Student Leader Interns, who will go to Tennessee, for training. These interns are young adults with a least one year of college. Also, there will be three adult staff. This education program will help 100 students to stop summer learning loss.

Housing: 54-56 Deerfield Ave is under contract! We are also under contract for two vacant lots on Irving Street. We have given the Cabot Street lot to Knox Park, who has committed to keeping the lot as a community garden.

Faith Based Organizing: Cori Mackey, Executive Director, CAC, has been meeting with Clergy, to have a broad base of churches to represent many different diversities. It is the intention that the ministers will turn their congregations onto organizing to better their lives and the lives of their neighbors. On February 18, Pat, our consultant and Cori met with four denominational leaders to get the support of organizing within their denominations. These leaders included: UCC CT Conference Minister, The Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of CT, the Bishop of New England Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of CT.

Re-Organizing: The Christian Activities Council is in the process of changing our by-laws to accommodate a new structure of our organization. We will be changing the Board of Directors, our Mission Statement, terms of office holders, and other important aspects to bring the Christian Activities Council well into the future, to better the lives of the residents of Hartford and outlying towns and cities.

Capital Improvements: My friend Rich Cooke and I met with Cori to analyze improvements to our office. Such as roof and handicap ramp replacements. I want to thank Cori for looking into these capital improvements, so we can plan ahead instead of reacting to a sudden need. Also thanks to Rich Cooke for his time and expertise.

Finally, Pastor Craig and I met with Cori so Craig will have a better understanding of the Christian Activities Council. I also led Pastor Craig on a small version of our *Immersion Program* of Hartford. Thank you, Pastor Craig for taking the time out of your busy schedule.

Peace,

Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio

Delegate

GET INVOLVED WITH THE CHURCH FAIR - April 21 at 7pm

Please help in making the 2016 Church Fair one of our best yet. We need members to volunteer and/or donate items. We will accept donations of toys, games, electronics, jewelry, CD's, books, arts and crafts. The Fair Committee meets the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7pm. If you'd like to get involved, please see a committee member or come to a meeting. Upcoming meetings are: April 21 and May 19 at 7pm, in the Fiorilli Room. Thank you.

Your Fair Committee: Peter Alessi-Chairman, Holly Alessi, Jean Goff, Jeannie Alessi, Ruth Jensen, Lynn McKenna, Candy Smith.

Wed. April 13 at 9:00am Breakfast Club at Bob's Coffee Shop, 33 New Britain Ave, Rocky Hill. Members of RHCC meet once a month, on the second Wednesday. Join us for coffee and fellowship!



STAFF VACATIONS:

Rev. Craig as well as Georgette will be on vacation Tuesday, April 11 to Monday, April 18. For Pastoral Concerns, contact the church office to be connected with the covering minister.

Theresa will be on vacation the following week from April 18-22.

The church office will be **closed** on Friday, April 15 and Monday April 18.



April 24 Second Hour - Organization and Governance Question and Answer Session

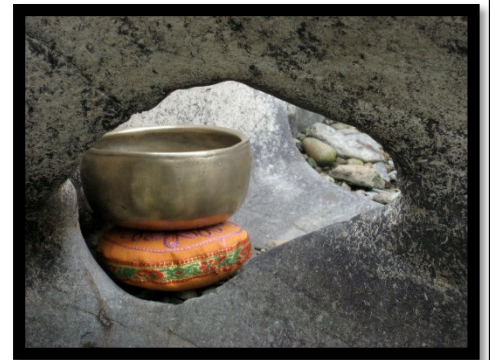
There is a shifting dynamic that is happening in our denomination, and in organized religion as a whole. The idea of smaller, more nimble governance structures is being discussed among churches who have recognized that a change in perspective could help refresh and revitalize our faith communities. Here at RHCC, a small ad-hoc group of the council has been working to explore how we might streamline our own governance structure. The group made a presentation at the B&E meeting and are now beginning to host several second hour discussions with the congregation (copies of the small group's presentation can be found in the office if you were unable to attend). Please join us for our first discussion, we hope to see you there!

Sound Healing Meditation with Tibetan Singing Bowls
Third Friday of the Month, 7pm
April 22

In sound healing meditation, we use the healing vibrations of the singing bowls to uplift the spirit, relax the body and quiet the mind.

Singing bowls developed in the region of Tibet a long time ago. A singing bowl is a bronze bowl ranging in size from a few inches to eighteen inches or more in diameter. These instruments have been found to positively affect the body on many levels. The vibrations soothe the nervous system and invite the release of tight muscles, stress, anxiety, PTSD and depression.

Research has been done in the last decade or so about the effects of sound on the mind. It has been found that soothing sounds can actually alter the brainwaves that are produced. The sound of singing bowls definitely has that effect. Come and see what it can do for you, and bring a friend!



Calling All Graduates!

Are you graduating? Or had you graduated sometime this past year? High school, college, a credited program? We would like to recognize your accomplishment in June during worship.

Please contact the office and let Theresa know your name and the accomplishment at 860-529-4167 or office@rhccucc.org



Great Grandmothers!

Are you a new great-grandmother? Please let us add you to our list of fabulous ladies who have become great-grandmothers, and we will be honoring you during worship on Mother's Day.

Contact the office at 860-529-4167 or office@rhccucc.org

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

The next order deadline for cards not stocked in inventory will be **Sunday, April 24**

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.

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 10

10:00am **Worship**
11:00am **2ND Hour HOLA**
4:00pm **Siragu Tamil School**
5:00pm **Youth Group**

Sunday

Sanctuary
Chapin Hall
Rm 22, 23, 24, 25, 27



April 11

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

Monday

Chapin Hall
Loft

April 12

7:00pm **Council Meeting**
7:00pm **Hearing Voices**

Tuesday

Fiorilli
Room 25

April 13

9:00am **Breakfast Club**
6:00pm **Pilates w/Caroline**
7:30pm **Adult Choir**

Wednesday

Bob's Café
Chapin Hall
Choir Room

April 14

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

Thursday

Rm 25
Chapin Hall

April 15

OFFICE CLOSED
NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS DUE
Scholarship Applications Due

Friday

April 16

8:30am **Men's Bible Study**

Saturday

Fiorilli

April 11	Brian Donahue Kaedryn Pulling
12	Steve Ware Skyler Dean-Lee
13	Alan Wind David Hawkins Ruth Fitzgerald Sara Lataille Maya Donahue
14	Carolyn Furman Nicholas Benson
16	Ruby Bennett Joan Diaz

Bible Study



Ruby Bennett Turns 100!

On April 16th Ruby Bennett celebrates her 100th birthday. Most of her family is visiting for the event and have planned a small luncheon at a restaurant in town. We will have a card in Chapin Hall for everyone to sign, so we can all wish her a healthy and joyous birthday!

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