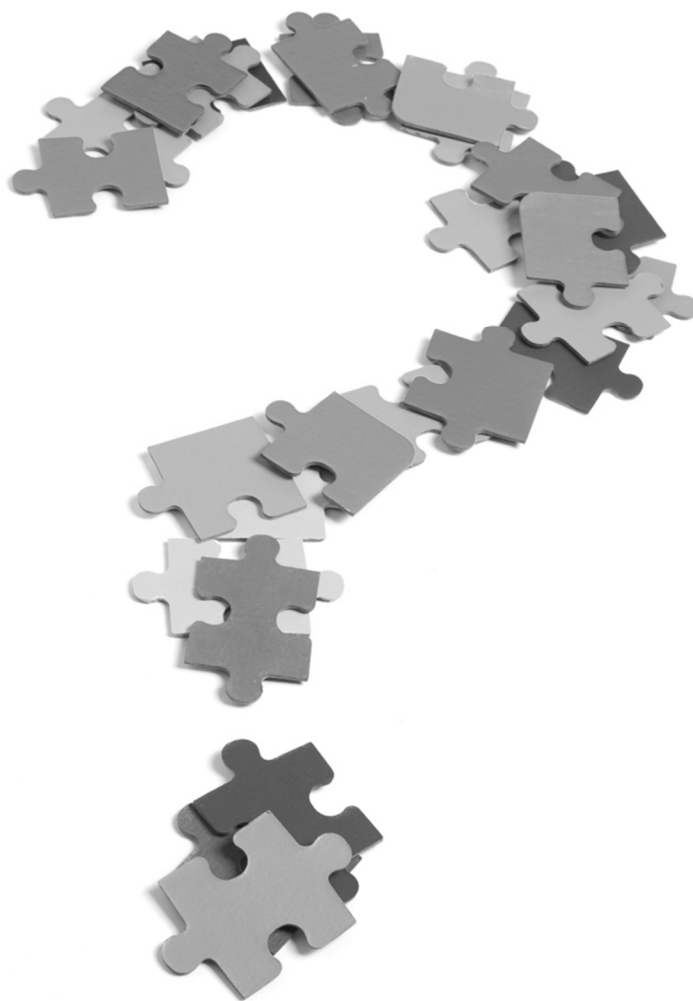


ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**April 12, 2015 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Second 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 and large-print bulletins** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is always 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 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 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

Grace and peace to the people of God.

Grace and peace to the community of the Risen One.

For Christ lives among us, here and now, despite all doubt and fear.

Christ is among us, always and everywhere.

So come, let us be at worship, for God is in the midst of us,

and we are in the midst of God.

***HYMN** “Yours is the Glory, Resurrected One” New Century (Black) 253

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Life-giving, world-making God,
who raises the whole creation to life,
we give you thanks for the gift of a new day
and for a new season of living hope.

As we once more meet the Risen Christ,
may there be for us a fresh hearing of your word
and a new seeing of your truth,
with the eyes of our hearts enlightened
and the courage of our souls awakened.

In Christ's name and spirit we pray,
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.

*SUNG RESPONSE

Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia,

al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! *(Last time, end.)*

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The time signature is 3/4, and the key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are 'Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia,'. The second system also has a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are 'al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! (Last time, end.)'. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

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

“Peace I Leave With You, My Friends”

Ray Repp

The Choir

*Peace I leave with you, my friends,
Shalom, my peace, in all you do.
Peace I leave with you, my friends,
I give to you so you can give to others, too.*

*To share God's love is why I came,
To show God's kindness without end.
Go now, my friends, and do the same,
Until I come again.*

*Take my hand and be at peace;
The spirit of our love I send.
And with this love you will be free,
Until I come again.*

*With this love now all will know
That loneliness is at an end.
Rejoice, my friends, although I go,
For I will come again.*

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

John 20:19-31

SERMON

“The Opposite of Faith”

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

*HYMN

“We Live by Faith and Not By Sight”

New Century (Black) 256

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

“Sanctus”
The Choir

Franz Schubert

*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

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

“Now the Green Blade Rises”

New Century (Black) 238

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The flowers are given in memory of my father Leo Arnold
and step father O.V. Blaize by Gail Tine

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

Serve, Pray, Invite, Receive, Ignite, Tell

S.P.I.R.I.T. Faith Nurture Ideas

(Parents: *Pick-Up your child in Chapin Hall)*

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...

LESSON → Celebrating God's Creation

Read: *Genesis 1*

Reflect and Remember.

"In the beginning God created the Heavens and the Earth." Throughout this unit we will explore our own possibilities for creation and our roles with in God's creation. How do we create? How do we make the world more full of truth and beauty? How do we nurture and care for God's beautiful creation?

This week we will focus on the heavens and the earth. Reflect this week on who you are as part of God's creation. Take time to notice the creation and creating that is happening all around you.

Share Your Faith. *Talk about the Bible story children and youth explored this week and try this:*

- 1) Spend some time this week as a family stargazing. What stories do the stars tell? What things do you imagine about the universe? Think of a prayer or thanksgiving or a blessing for each star you see.
- 2) Go on a nature walk this week. Take time to be still and watch. What do you hear? What do you see? What do you smell? What things in nature have you never noticed before? Share your reflections with your family and talk about ways you can better care for nature.

A Prayer For The Unit. God, God the Maker, Maker of color, sound, texture, quietness, and the restless beauty in living things, we bless you. God, God the Maker, Maker of granite and mustard seed, of grey cloud and starlight, of earthquake and heartbeat, we bless you. God, God the Maker, Maker of all that is unseen, of all that has been, of all that words could never capture, we bless you. God, God our Maker, we, the children of your love, the creatures of your kindness, the guardians of your creation, bless you. We bless you for your making, your trusting, your love, your never-ending goodness. Amen.

NOAH'S TABLE (6th-12th Grade) – Choose Your Own Adventure Night!

April 19, 5 PM – 6:30. Join us for dinner and the always popular Choose Your Own Adventure Night! Please RSVP by Friday, April 17, with Meghan Young at Meghan@rhccucc.org. 1 Adult volunteer is needed for this gathering.



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!



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

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

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

HOLA!

TACO LUNCHEON & SUNGLASSES DRIVE

Sunday, April 19th

12:00 pm – 2:00 pm



Since her mission trip last year, Sarah Mosure has started an organization called HOLA – Hearts Over Latin America and is in the midst of a campaign to raise \$5,000 that will be used for starting up a new school in the Dominican Republic. To help HOLA reach its goal, RHCC will be hosting a taco luncheon and sunglasses drive in Chapin Hall. Please come to support this wonderful cause by one of our own members and bring those old sunglasses (prescription or non-prescription) that you have hanging around the house! Tickets are on sale in Chapin Hall after service, or at the door that day, and are \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids 12 and under, (5 yrs old and under are free).

Please RSVP to Meghan Montana by Sunday April 12th so we can plan for food.

Hope to see you there!

meghan.montana1105@gmail.com or 203-640-2386

BAKERS, REFRESHMENTS, AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR APRIL 18 EVENT

On Saturday, April 18 from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM, our church will host a gathering of 45-50 church delegates and pastors from across Connecticut for General Synod Orientation. As the host church, we are seeking volunteers to help supply breakfast goods and light snacks for this meeting. Suggestions include baked items (no nuts), fruit platters, mini donuts & bagels, and gluten free items (please label).

Delegates at this orientation will be attending General Synod in Cleveland, Ohio in June. Every two years, General Synod gathers thousands of faithful members of our United Church of Christ for worship, fellowship, and meetings.

Volunteers for baking, refreshments, setup, and "welcoming" should contact Bob Inderbitzen, tel 860-418-9171 or email bobmike@cox.net. Items can be dropped off during church office hours on Friday, April 17 until noon, or on Saturday, April 18 by 8:30 AM.



CAN YOU HELP?

Mitsey will be out of the office from Wednesday, April 22 until Tuesday May 5th. Bulletins for April 26 and May 3 will be completed before she leaves. It is appreciated if material to be printed be submitted early. We also would like to have office coverage to answer the phones in her absence. If you are interested in helping out for even a small amount of time, please call the office at 860-529-4167 or email 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.

The next ordering deadline is April 26. However, we have 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, Bonefish 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

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE

The deadline for graduating high school seniors and returning college undergraduates who are seeking a church scholarship is Wednesday, April 15.

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

April 12

10:00am **Worship**
11:30am **Second Hour**
4:00pm **Tamil Sangam**
5:00pm **Confirmation**

April 13

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

April 14

9:30am **Breakfast Club**
7:00pm **Governance Committee**

April 15

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

9:30am **Quilters**
7:30pm **Adult Choir**

April 16

7:00pm **Fair Committee**
7:30pm **Men's AA**

April 18

8:30am **Men's Bible Study**
9:00am **Yoga with Lynn**
9:30am **Synod Orientation**
1:30pm **Community Event**

Sunday

Sanctuary
Chapin Hall
Rms 22, 23, 24, 25
Fiorilli Room

Monday

Chapin Hall

Loft

Tuesday

Bob's Cafe
Fiorilli Room

Wednesday

Rm. 6.
Choir Room

Thursday

Fiorilli Room
Chapin Hall

Saturday

Parlor
Chapin Hall
Chapin Hall

Happy Birthday



Apr. 12 Stephen Ware
Skyler Dean-Lee
13 Alan Wind
Dave Hawkins
Ruth Fitzgerald
Sara Lataille
Maya Donahue
14 Nicholas Benson
Carolyn Furman
16 Ruby Bennett
Joan Diaz
17 Jake D'Addario
18 Sarah De Giovanni
Dawn McLean
Victoria Bower
Grace Triblets

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.



**MAY CHURCH MOUSE
DEADLINE
WEDNESDAY APRIL 15**

**NEWSLETTER MAILING
TUESDAY APRIL 21**

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