

**Rocky Hill
Congregational Church
Established 1727**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



**April 14, 2013
Third Sunday of Easter
10:00 A.M**

**The Friendly Church at the Center
An Open and Affirming Community**

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, April 14, 2013

10:00 a.m.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

We welcome all and extend a special greeting to our guests; our service is enriched by your presence! Join us in Chapin Hall for fellowship time after worship. The Welcome Table in the hall offers information about the church and ushers can answer any questions. Hearing devices and large-print bulletins are available for worship—ask an usher. Nursery care is always available downstairs in Room 4.

GOD GATHERS US FOR WORSHIP

A SCRIPTURAL AFFIRMATION

Psalm 65

The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

PRELUDE

Please use the prelude as a time for personal prayer and preparation of your heart for worship.

“Simple Gifts”

by Russell Schultz-Widmar

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.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Delight! Children of God, delight!

People: **We are delighted to be here together; to worship as a family
and to be united in a common ministry.**

Leader: We gather in worship to celebrate this community.

People: **We celebrate the love that we have for one another, the support that
we give to one another and the journey we are on to be united by
God’s grace.**

Leader: We gather in worship to join our hearts and voices in alleluia and praise to the Risen Christ.

People: **We are here! We are delighted! We are united!**

Leader: Let us worship our God who loves when we delight in giving!

* HYMN

“Enter, Rejoice and Come In”

New Century Hymnal 73

A MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Meghan D. Young

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



The musical notation is written on three staves in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. 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.

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION

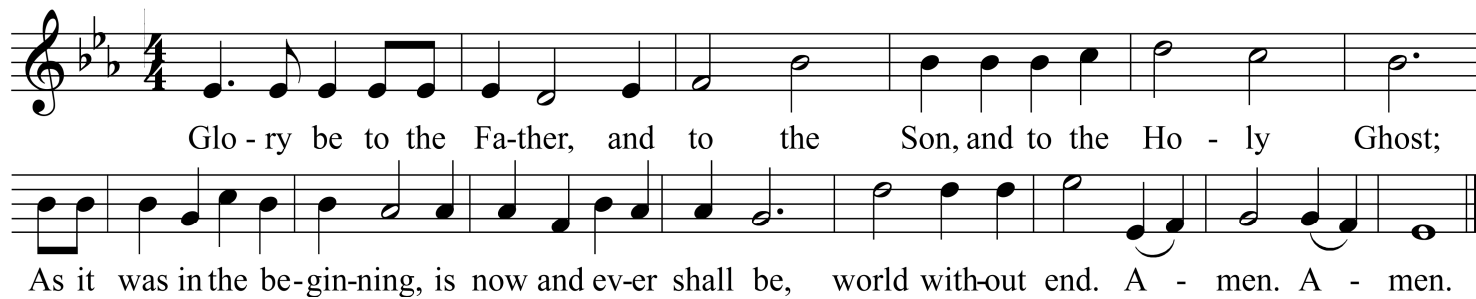
AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (*debts/debtors*)

Deacon Candy Smith

Holy God, the earth is full of your glory, and so we worship you. Our hearts are on fire with the awareness that Christ is with us, and so we thank you. Our spirits are ready to shine in the bright light of Jesus’ resurrection, and so we praise you. Let us draw near to you in this hour, and let us abide forever in the assurance of your love. In the power of the living spirit of Jesus we pray, as we say together the words he teaches 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.

* GLORIA PATRI



Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost;
As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A - men. A - men.

GOD SHARES WORDS OF LOVE AND LIFE

OPENING THE WORD

A LESSON FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

2 Corinthians 9:6-11

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

Jamaican folk tune, arr. Austin C. Lovelace

The Choir with Michael Bower, Bongos

Let us talents and tongues employ,
Reaching out with a shout of joy:
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one,
At His table He sets the tone,
Teaching people to live to bless,
Love in word and in deed express.

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus calls us in, sends us out,
Bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
Gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God, Immanuel, ev'ry where!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

SERMON

“Delight in Giving”

The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

* HYMN

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

New Century Hymnal 565

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

(We invite your oral prayer requests – keeping the request brief and identifying the first name for the pastors. Trust that God knows the details of the need.)

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER RESPONSE

A - - men,
A - men, a - men, a - - men.

The image shows a musical score for a prayer response. It consists of two staves, a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on the treble staff, and the bass line is on the bass staff. The lyrics are 'A - - men,' on the first line, and 'A - men, a - men, a - - men.' on the second line. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and ties.

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

OFFERING INVITATION

For those who have already given their offering, Giving Cards are available in your pew so that all may participate in giving back to God with joy and gratitude.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“The Good Shepherd”

by Dale Wood

* DOXOLOGY

As we sing the Doxology, praising God for all our blessings, some in our congregation sing this inclusive language version: “Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, Ye Heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.” You are welcome to sing whatever words are in your heart.

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;
Praise him a-bove, ye heav-en-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A - men. -

The image shows a musical score for a doxology. It consists of two staves, both with a treble clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on the top staff, and the bass line is on the bottom staff. The lyrics are 'Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;' on the first line, and 'Praise him a-bove, ye heav-en-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A - men. -' on the second line. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and ties.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE

* HYMN

“Take My Life, God, Let It Be”

New Century Hymnal 448

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Invitation to the Dance

setting by Don D. McKeever

*(*Please rise in body or in spirit.)*

GREETERS

Inreach

HOSPITALITY

Inreach

HEAD USHERS

Jay and Meghan Montana

The flowers this week are given

in memory of Leo Arnold and O.V. Baize by Gail and Natalie Tine.

NEXT WEEK

Sunday, April 21, 2013

Psalm 23 / Acts 9:36-43

“Get Up!”

The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

APRIL 14

11:30am **Noah's Table**
5:00pm **Confirmation**

APRIL 15

5:30pm Yoga with Lynn
7:00pm **Bowling**
7:00pm Women's AA
7:30pm **Bell Choir**

APRIL 17

9:00am **Quilters**
12:00pm **Bible Study**
6:00pm **Cedar Hollow Meeting**
7:30pm **Adult Choir**

APRIL 18

5:30pm TOPS
7:00pm **Women of the Bible**
7:00pm **Fair Meeting**
8:00pm Men's AA

APRIL 20

8:30am Yoga with Lynn

SUNDAY

Youth Room
Fiorilli Room/Parlor

MONDAY

Chapin Hall

Chapin Hall
Loft

WEDNESDAY

Quilters Room 6
Quilters Room 6
Room 25
Choir Room

THURSDAY

Chapin Hall
Fiorilli Room
Room 25
Chapin Hall

SATURDAY

Chapin Hall



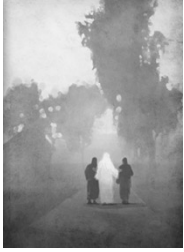
14 Kevin Hall
Carolyn Furman
15 John Shen
16 Ruby Bennett
Joan Diaz
David Lewis
17 Charles Oriel
Jake D'Addario
George Day
18 Sarah DeGiovanni
Dawn McLean
Kevin Griswold
Victoria Bower
Grace Triplets
19 Lois Griswold
Sue Monaghan
Wendy Ware
Mya Corvo
20 John Goff IV

Global Visitor Coming to Speak at RHCC

Tuesday, April 23rd, 6:30 p.m.

Come Hear Mary Louise Vitelli, a US lawyer and international energy expert give her insights and experiences on her time spent in countries around the world! Mary Louise is a very energetic and spirited speaker and will be chatting with us about her recent trip to Tonga, in the Pacific Islands! She will share her observations of the culture, the people and tell us of her own colorful experiences (which are many). Please come and share a cup of coffee and some wonderful global conversation!

Coffee and sweets will be provided...please contact Meghan Montana 203-640-2386 or me.kelly@snet.net for more information or to RSVP.



A Women's Evening of Reflection:

The Road to Emmaus,
Recognizing Jesus on Our Journeys and at Our Tables
Wednesday, April 24, 2013
5:30 to 8:00 pm

Join other women as we explore scripture, share our stories, grow our faith, and break bread together. Presented by Lisa Eleck as part of her course at Hartford Seminary with support from Rev. Donna Manocchio. Please register by Monday, April 22nd by calling RHCC at (860)529-4167 or Lisa Eleck at 860 436-3038 or sign up in Chapin Hall. Cost: \$10 to cover a light meal

Spring Breakfast

Saturday, April 27th
8:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.



Eggs Strata - Pancakes - French Toast
Cereal - Bacon - Sausage - Juice - Milk - Coffee

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

PLANT SALE / Flowers & Vegetables / BAKE SALE

Requests for Donations

The Fair Committee would like to ask the Congregation for donations for the annual Spring Breakfast/Plant Sale/Bake Sale scheduled for Saturday, April 27th from 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. We are looking for baked goods, as well as small garden tools. We would also be happy to take any houseplants, or garden plants that you may have. We hope you are able to attend the event, as it is always a great opportunity to extend an extravagant welcome to our community and celebrate the joy of spring.

2013 Youth Talent Show – Calling All Young Talent!

May 4th at 6:00pm

Make your own sundaes after the show. Rehearsals to be determined and announced soon. Please email or call Elaine Somes: Elainet320@att.net or 860 563-4099. Registration forms are in Chapin Hall.

From the Nominating Committee

Members of the Nominating Committee are still prayerfully seeking church members for various boards and committees to assist in the ministry of our church. After reviewing the Nominating insert – ask yourself: *Where is my ministry most needed?* We all look forward to hearing from all of you. Changes are coming our way, so let's build strong boards, strong committees and continue the energy of our church community for the upcoming years. Nominating Committee: Lois Stevens, Joan Diaz, Rich Pawlich, Lori Benito, Neal Cox, Kathryn Lewis, Stephanie Heneghan and Cheryl Hummel.

Church Secretary Carol Harvey Has Resigned

Pastor Donna Manocchio has received the resignation of Church Secretary Carol Harvey. Carol has referred to her decision to leave the church staff as both a retirement and resignation. Carol shared, "While I look forward to enjoying my retirement, I will miss many people in your congregation whom I have come to love very much. ... I want to say thank you to the church for giving me the opportunity to work there. I have learned much from everyone." Carol's last day is April 19.

Carol has dedicated 15 years to serving this congregation on the church staff. While Carol has declined our interest in celebrating her tenure during an upcoming Sunday morning, we invite all who are able to come by the church on Wednesday, April 17 from 9:00 – 10:30 AM to offer Carol your thanks and to bid her blessings on her journey.

While the Church Council has promptly turned its attention to responding to this staff opening, Pastor Donna reports that Mitsey Baker has accepted an invitation to help support the day-to-day responsibilities of the church office for a temporary period. We're grateful that Mitsey is available, as she has recently provided office coverage for our church during Carol's absences. There may be a need to seek volunteers to help with some office tasks. Please contact me if you are available or know of anyone who could assist.

Recent staff departures, while unrelated to each other, herald a time of transition, change and opportunity. Friends, God is always doing something new—in each of our lives, and most certainly here at RHCC, UCC. So I ask you to consider these leavings with anticipation—with hearts open to the possibility of new relationships. And let us remember we are always in the presence of God—our God who is calling us into a future filled with grace and peace.

As we give thanks for Carol's time with us, please keep Carol and her family in your prayers.

Yours in Faith,

Bob Inderbitzen, Moderator

Interim Minister Selection Update

As is the responsibility of the Deacons to select an Interim Minister, Deacons Don Pagnucco, Candy Smith, Gail Tine and Elaine Somes are doing just that. We are presently creating a mini profile that is necessary to seek such a minister. The CT Conference of the UCC tells us that a list of eligible and interested applicants is being gathered for us. We hope to send the mini profile to prospective candidates within the next two weeks. We ask for your prayers in our process and conversations, and we will continue to keep our church family updated.

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

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 5 – Go & Make Disciples

In his final words to his disciples, Jesus had urged them to “Go and make disciples, baptizing them” (Matthew 28:19). We call this Jesus’ “great commission.” The disciples did as Jesus commanded. They left the security of their small circle of friends and dared to reach out, traveling beyond Jerusalem in many directions. The book of Acts and many of the New Testament epistles describe these missionary journeys of the disciples and the encounters they had along the way.

The focus story for this unit takes place after Jesus’ death and resurrection and in response to Jesus’ great commission.

Although we may think of the Christian church in Africa as something that was established by 19th and 20th century missionaries, the story of the Ethiopian official and his encounter with Philip in Acts 8:26-40 tells us that Christianity spread into Africa at the very beginning of the early church. The church took root in Africa long centuries before it was established in parts of Europe or the Americas and has a rich tradition.

This unit’s focus story invites us to look at three important themes: what it means to be witnesses, God’s definition of inclusiveness, and the gift of baptism.

Read: Acts 8:26-40

Reflect. *Talk about the Bible story children and youth explored this week and reflect on these questions that we’ll be exploring in the coming week:*

- 1) What does it mean to be a witness?
- 2) What does it mean to be inclusive?
- 3) What does it mean to be baptized?

A Prayer For The Unit. Jesus you have shown us by your life what it means to love and serve others. In your great commission you ask us to go out and make disciples. Give us the wisdom to teach as well as the courage to reach out to others. Help us to be your witnesses so that people may experience your love through us. *Amen.*

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS: Nursery Volunteers are needed for April and May. If you are interested in volunteering in the Nursery during Sunday morning worship, please contact a member of the Childcare Committee (Kari McCaw-Blaise, Liz Pulling, and Liz Reed-Swale) 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	FOOD & PEOPLE Youth Room <i>Ground Floor of Church</i>
K - 1st Grade	COMMUNITY LIFE RM. 22 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>
2nd & 3rd Grade	FUN & GAMES RM. 24 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>
4th & 5th Grade	SHOW & TELL RM. 25 & RM. 27 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>
6th-8th Grade	HANDS ON RM. 23 <i>Christian Education Hallway</i>

Altar Flowers Needed

Please check the flower poster calendar in Chapin Hall. There are several weeks open for the coming months if you wish to donate flowers to adorn the altar.

Thank you,

The Flower Committee

Rocky Hill Congregational Church United Church of Christ

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

Senior Pastor: The Reverend Donna K. Manocchio donna@rhccucc.org

Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: Meghan D. Young meghan@rhccucc.org

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero mary@rhccucc.org

Church Office: Carol Harvey office@rhccucc.org / 860 529-4167

Webmaster: Dave Hall webmaster@rhccucc.org

Church Website: rhccucc.org

Visit us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/rhccucc