

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**April 15, 2018 ~ 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 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 center aisle at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.***

INTROIT

“Christ, We Do Adore Thee”

Theodore Dubois

CALL TO WORSHIP

Chris Sheehan

L: Like the disciples who met the risen Christ,

All: **We come hoping for unexpected appearances of God's love.**

L: We come with our questions and doubts,
and listen for Christ to appear in our midst saying:

All: **“Peace be with you.”**

L: “Touch me and see who I am” says Jesus:

We look around at the lives of our neighbors and guests,
and seek the power of the risen Christ at work there,
offering peace, offering hope, offering courage, offering transformation.

All: **We are witnesses to the tangible love of Jesus!**
Come, let us worship!

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Bold type denotes collective response

***INVOCATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**O Present God, our lives are filled with distractions big and small.
We confess that like the disciples we are easily scared by the unknown.
We are overcome with worry about illness, unemployment,
our children, and the world as a whole.**

**In our most vulnerable moments we demand that you answer us when
we call to you.**

Remind us that your light shines in all moments of life.

Give us eyes to see the light of your face shining on us, O God.

Let us feel the gladness you have placed in each of our hearts

And let us live out of that glad confidence.

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**

“Alleluia”

(NCH765)

1 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The musical score is written for a four-part vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of a series of eighth and quarter notes. The piano accompaniment provides a steady harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines in both hands.

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.

The musical score is written for a single vocal line in treble clef. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and common time (C). The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of a series of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

ANTHEM

**“Jesus Calls Us”
The Choir**

William Jude

SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 2:29-3:7

NT Pew Bible p240

SERMON

“Work In Progress”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

***HYMN**

“How Like a Gentle Spirit”

NCH 443

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, Rev. Cowing will come down the center aisle to collect your prayer 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

“The Gift of Love”

Currie and Hopson

***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 "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee" verse 1 (PH418)

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee In low - ly
paths of serv - ice free; Tell me thy se - cret, help me
bear The strain of toil, the fret of care.
A - men.

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

*HYMN

"Jesus Loves Me"

NCH 327

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Resurrection Postlude”

Don McKeever

LITURGIST

Chris Sheehan

GREETERS

Liz and Charlotte Reed-Swale

USHERS

Sarah and Jim DeGiovanni, Bill Cordes, Marge Murk

HOSPITALITY

SueVanNess and Jennifer Martin



*The Tower is lit this week
in Loving Memory of Doris McNally
by Lisa, Jackson & Maya McNally*

Join Rev. Craig today for a Second Hour Program on Puritanism, at 11:15am, after Worship in Chapin Hall. The Reformation: Puritanism in New England, 1620-1700. In this program we'll look at how Puritanism became the impetus for English migration to the New World, and how it influenced the formation of American traditions.



MISSIONS

across the street & around the world

Today the Missions Board is pleased to present a check for \$3,000 to Tammy Marzik, Manager of Community Advocacy at the Rocky Hill Veterans Home. The Veterans Home was chosen to be the recipient our Easter Offering, and the congregation generously contributed \$2,600. with Missions adding \$400. This money will be used to purchase washer/dryer combos, which will contribute to the well being and comfort of our local Veterans. Thanks to all who contributed!



PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

A Pastoral Relations Committee for Rev. Craig Cowing has been formed and is meeting regularly. Members of the Committee are Bill Hoffman, Marge Murk, Don Pagnucco and Jim Stevens. The Pastoral Relations Committee supports and maintains an open relationship between the ordained minister and members of the congregation. It helps the Pastor and members of the church share ideas, hopes, dreams and interpretations of mission. It lets the Pastor know what people in the church are thinking. Feel free to contact any one of us to share your thoughts and hopes about the church's mission.



Walk Against Hunger: Saturday May 5, 2018. Join Our Walk Team!

Our Board for Missions invites you to Join our team! Battling hunger is a team effort. In Hartford and Tolland counties more than 127,000 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. It takes place on Saturday, May 5th 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 in Chapin and outside the office. You can also support our team with a donation to Foodshare. Contact Bob Inderbitzen, Heather Collins, or Elaine Sellenberg with questions. Contact Thomas Kainamura if you have questions about online fundraising or employer-sponsored matching gift programs. Walk with us!

RHCC Scholarship Information for the 2018-2019 Academic Year

Graduating high school seniors and returning college undergraduates who are seeking a church scholarship for the 2017-18 academic year are invited to complete and return an application prior to April 15, 2018. Scholarship awards will be announced in June. Application forms are available in the office, or send an email to: scholarships@rhccucc.org for the link to the pdf. or refer to members of the Scholarship Committee: 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. The deadline for submitting your application and other documents is May 15th.

MAY CHURCHMOUSE ARTICLES DUE – Please send your articles and announcements to the office no later than April 17th, at: office@rhccucc.org
Thank you!

APRIL EVENTS AT RHCC SAVE THE DATES!

April 15 – RHCC Scholarship Application deadline

April 19 - Tibetan Bowls Meditation (Every 3rd Thursday of the month)

April 22 – Foodshare Walk registration deadline (Walk is May 5)

April 22 – Youth Groups' Earth Day Clean Up

April 28 – Pasta Dinner Fundraiser for Crohn's Disease

April 29 – Taco Fundraiser for Youth Group after Worship

PASTA DINNER FUNDRAISER FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST CROHN'S DISEASE

Saturday, April 28, 2018, 5:00 – 7:30pm

\$10 per person.

Pasta, Salad, Bread, Meatballs, Dessert and Beverages

Activities will include basket raffles, trivia and merchandise for sale.

Reserve tickets in advance by contacting michele jokl
mjokl@joklefamily.com or buy at the door



Looking for something you left behind?
Check the Lost & Found Box in the hallway near Fiorilli Room.
All items not claimed by April 30, will be donated to charity.



Sound Healing Meditation with Tibetan Singing Bowls *Thursday, April 19, 7pm, Weil Chapel*

Singing bowls developed in the region of Tibet a long time ago. 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. The healing vibrations of the singing bowls can uplift the spirit, relax the body and quiet the mind. Come and see what it can do for you, and bring a friend! Free-will food offerings support the Rocky Hill Food Bank.

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, 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, Walmart

The next order for cards not stocked in inventory will be placed on April 29.

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 15

10:00am **Worship**
9:30am **Childcare**
10:00am **Church School**
11:15am **2nd Hour Program**

April 16

OFFICE CLOSED
12:30pm **Bonsai Workshop**
7:00pm **Bonsai Group**
7:00pm **Women's AA**
7:30pm **Bell Choir**

April 17

OFFICE OPEN 9AM-NOON
Newsletter Articles Due
7:00pm **Diaconate Meeting**
7:00pm **Hearing Voices**

April 18

OFFICE OPEN 9AM-NOON
6:00pm **LSP Board Meeting**
7:30pm **Choir**

April 19

OFFICE OPEN 9AM-NOON
9:30am **Music Together**
7:00pm **Tibetan Bowls**
7:30pm **Men's AA**

April 20

OFFICE OPEN 9AM-NOON
9:00am **Music Together/LSP**
6:00pm **Tamil School**

April 21

Noon – 4pm

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Rms 24,25,26
Chapin Hall

Monday

Chapin Hall
Chapin Hall
Fiorilli Rm
Sanctuary

Tuesday

Fiorilli
Room 23

Wednesday

Fiorilli
Sanctuary

Thursday

Room 22
Chapel
Chapin Hall

Friday

Rm 6
Rms 22,23,25,26,27

Saturday

Private Party/Member



16 Ruby Bennett – 102yrs!
16 Joan Diaz
17 Jake D'Addario
18 Sarah DeGiovanni
18 Dawn McLean
18 Victoria Bower
18 Grace Triblets
19 Lois Griswold
19 Sue Monaghan
19 Wendy Ware
20 John Goff IV

Theresa will be on vacation the week of April 16th. During this week, the office will be open: **Tuesday through Friday, 9am – Noon.**



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

Child Care Provider: Liz Pulling lrpulling@icloud.com