

~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

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

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

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

When fear and doubts stroll through our doors:

God stands beside us, whispering of peace.

When we toss and turn late at night:

God sits by our beds, singing lullabies of love.

When we stumble through the shadows of sin:

God illuminates the paths of goodness and joy.

*HYMN

"Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day"

New Century (Black) 241

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Peace-giving God of Easter,

you pour out your love for all to see.

You show us your hands, so we may reach out to mend the broken;
you show us your feet, so we may walk with those the world passes by;
you show us your face,

so we may know who our sisters and brothers look like.

You open our eyes, so we may see God's love;

you open our minds, so we may welcome God's Word;

you open our lips, so we may be God's witnesses.

Spirit of Hope: touch us with your peace.

God in Community, Holy in One,

Open us to your presence,

as we pray as Jesus has taught us, 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

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 in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble and bass staff. The second system also has a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The final phrase 'al-le - lu - ia!' is marked with a fermata and the instruction '(Last time, end.)'.

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



The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and common time. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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

“Do Lord, Remember Me”

arr Herbert Tovey

The Choir

Traditional Spiritual

I've got a home in glory land that out-shines the sun.

Do Lord, O, do Lord, O do remember me. Way beyond the blue.

I've got a robe and I've got a crown that out-shines the sun.

Do Lord, O, do Lord, O do remember me. Way beyond the blue.

I took Jesus as my Saviour, you take Him too.

Do Lord, O, do Lord, O do remember me. Way beyond the blue.

READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalm 4

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Luke 24:36b-48

SERMON

“Bedtime Stories”

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

*HYMN

“I Greet You, Sure Redeemer”

New Century (Black) 251

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

“Gentle Like Jesus”
Victoria Bower, Soloist

Roger Copeland

*The gentle touch of a baby's hand,
Drifting breeze thru an empty land,
All explain how the Spirit moves
As He lives His life in me.*

*The flurry of a robin's wings,
The lullaby that a mother sings:
Speak the truth in their quiet way'
As He live His life in me.*

*The Spirit gives to each one He fills,
The gentle fruit from above,
And He who walks where the Father wills,
Feels the warmth of His love.*

*And as I think how He died for me,
Gave His life just to set me free:
Rose again, now He lives on high!
Gentle life of Jesus, live thru me.*

*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 “Peace, I Leave with You, My Friends” New Century (Black) 249

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

USHERS Randy Pulling, Harry and Bev Schmidt, Bea Donahue, Bob Simmons

**The flowers are given in memory of my loved ones
by Babs Wheeler**

TODAY, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP, IN THE SANCTUARY

A RESOLUTION ON CIVIL RIGHTS FOR ADOPTEES: NEXT STEPS

Our congregation has had several learning and discussion opportunities around *a proposal that we bring a resolution* before the Connecticut Conference of the UCC (in October, 2015) to advocate for legislative change in Connecticut around a civil rights issue for adoptees. *The deadline for submitting a proposal to the Conference is May 1. We will continue the discussion today and come to a decision* about whether and how to proceed with sponsoring the resolution. Copies of the draft resolution and a Q & A document are available in the narthex and at the front of the sanctuary.

HOLA!

TACO LUNCHEON & SUNGLASSES DRIVE

TODAY 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 STAY 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 at the door, and are \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids 12 and under, (5 yrs old and under are free).





CREATION SUNDAY

April 26, 2015



*Creation-centered worship, faith formation, and hands on projects for all as we celebrate the themes of **earth-mindfulness and earth-care** as acts of faith*



FROM

THE CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST:

The Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ is asking us all to call or email our State Representative and State Senator now to urge them to oppose Senate Bill 1090, which could add up to three additional casinos in our state. While there are individuals opposed to adding these casinos, the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ may be the only faith-based organization in Connecticut, and possibly the only organization, opposing this expansion of casino gambling, so we need our voices to be heard. Delegates to the Conference voted Resolutions in 1977, 1979, and 1994 opposing expanding gambling in Connecticut. You can find your legislator at <http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/cgafindleg.asp#>

When you call or email, if possible, give your name and the town where you live, and let them know that you oppose Senate Bill 1090: An Act Concerning Gaming. You can also say “with gambling expansion and access come increases in problem gambling, and there needs to be more focus on the ill effects and social costs of gambling, not just the financial gain”. After you make your calls or send your emails, Michele Mudrick, the Connecticut Conference Legislative Advocate, will be keeping track of what State Representatives and State Senators were contacted, so please email Michele at michelem@ctucc.org or text or call her at [860.796.3822](tel:860.796.3822) to let her know what legislators you contacted that would be helpful.

Visit http://www.ctucc.org/news/20150408_opposingcasinos.html for more information on why this issue is one of deep concern for us as people of faith in the state of Connecticut.

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 all of God's creatures, the sea monsters, the creepy crawly things, the soaring birds, and the beasts on land. Reflect this week on who you are as one of God's creatures, and how you care for God's creatures. 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) We are created in the image of God. All creatures have a birth story. Take time sharing and reflecting on the birth stories you know.
- 2) As creatures we must care for creation and our fellow creatures. Start taking note of what we do in church, your home, your work to help caring for God's creation. Are we doing enough?
- 2) Pick one new animal to learn about this week. Why do you think God made this creature?

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! – TONIGHT!

April 19, 5 PM – 6:30. Join us for dinner and the always popular Choose Your Own Adventure Night! Please RSVP with Meghan Young at Meghan@rhccucc.org.

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.

CAN YOU HELP?

Mitsey will be out of the office from Wednesday, April 22 through 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.

COME JOIN THE DRUM CIRCLE!!

Participating can be very uplifting as well as a lot of fun!

We are forming a drum circle to play in the **April 26th service** (with an earth/creation theme). To help prepare, there will be a **drumming workshop on Monday evening, April 20, at 6:30pm** in the Sanctuary. The workshop leader is an excellent drummer who will guide us through various techniques, rhythms and patterns that can be layered to form routines to present. If you are interested in one or both events, please let Mary, or any member of the Music Committee know.

No experience necessary.

If you have a drum please bring it.

If not, let Mary know and we will provide one for you. No experience necessary.

This is open to participants of all ages (children under age 8 with adult supervision).





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

MAY BREAKFAST

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

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

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PLANT SALE

Flowers & Vegetables

Saturday, May 9th

8:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.



31ST ANNUAL WALK AGAINST HUNGER

SUNDAY, MAY 3 AT 2:00 PM

The Walk Against Hunger provides much needed support for all of Foodshare's participating partner agencies. The largest Walk in CT, this event draws thousands of supporters from all over greater Hartford and is a pretty 2.5-mile walk around Bushnell Park in Hartford. All ages are welcome!

Thomas Kainamura (thomascm@gmail.com) will be walking with his team and is able to take donations if you would like to make them! Please see Thomas for any additional information.

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

April 19

- 10:00am **Worship**
11:30am **Second Hour**
12:00pm **Mission lunch**
4:00pm Tamil Sangam
5:00pm **Noah's Table**

April 20

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

April 21

NEWSLETTER MAILING

- 11:00am Retired Clergy Group
7:00pm **Council**

April 22

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

April 23

- 7:30pm Men's AA

April 25

- 9:00am Yoga with Lynn
9:00am UCC Historian Workshop

Sunday

- Sanctuary
Chapin Hall
Chapin Hall
Rms 22, 23, 24, 25
Chapin Hall

Monday

- Chapin Hall
Chapin Hall
Loft

Tuesday

- Parlor
Fiorilli Room

Wednesday

- Rm. 6.
Choir Room

Thursday

- Chapin Hall

Saturday

- Chapel
Chapin Hall

Happy Birthday



- Apr. 19 Lois Griswold
Sue Monaghan
Wendy Ware
Mya Corvo
20 John Goff IV
21 Sue Starr
Linda Gilbert
Elaine Malespini
Jason McGowan
23 Jean Sudell
John McNeil Jr.
24 Jocelyn Fritzer
25 Jane Yorgensen

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.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

First and third Saturdays in the Fiorilli Room, 8:30-9:30am.



Come join your Christian brothers as we try to understand God's words.

For more details contact

Jim Stevens . 860-632-5810

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