

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**May 10, 2015 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Sixth 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

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

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/INTROIT

“Songs My Mother Taught Me”

Anton Dvorak

Dave Hall, cello

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

To praise and to celebrate, for this we gather.

To love and to serve, for this we are called.

In families of many kinds, and in the whole family of creation,

God's love and grace are known.

So let us know again, on this day, our belonging —

to God, to each other, to all creation.

And let that belonging bear the fruits of our faith —

love and courage,

hope and self-giving,

peace, wisdom, joy.

*HYMN

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

New Century (Black) 28

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Creator God, who has birthed us all,
may we know you on this day as a deep and nurturing love:
Wisdom that teaches us the ways of life,
Compassion that opens our hearts,
Grace that blesses us in the daily round.
Abide in us, and help us abide in you.
Make your home in us,
that we might make our home in you,
for the sake of our own families
and for the family of the world.
This we ask in the name and spirit of the Risen Christ,
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 vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, and a half note G5. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note bass line and chords. The second system continues the vocal line with a half note G5, followed by quarter notes A5, Bb5, C6, D6, E6, F6, and a half note G6. The piano accompaniment continues with similar chords and bass notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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

"Ubi Caritas"

Maurice Durufle

The Choir

*Where charity and love are, God is there
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other with sincere heart.*

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE

John 15:9-17

SERMON

"Learning Family"

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

*HYMN

"God Made from One Blood"

New Century (Black) 427

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 “O Perfect Love” setting, alt text Don McKeever
The Choir with Dave Hall, cello

*O Perfect Love, You are beyond our knowing.
Yet You're unerring, bearing us along to Your abode.
We trust we all are going to sing
In unison You're perfect song.*

*A song so old but ever new and growing,
Showing that You O God, are perfect love.
We add the music of our lives in chorus
And from imperfect lives make perfect song*

***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

Recognition of great grandmothers

Judy Graham

Sung Call to Prayer



The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust. The

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

***HYMN**

“Now Thank We All Our God”

New Century (Black) 419

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

“Andante Largo”

John Stanley

ACOLYTES

Brian Speers and Victoria Bower

USHERS

Dave and Bobbie Hawkins, Victoria Bower, Lois and Jim Stevens

GREETERS

Inreach Committee

HOSPITALITY

Inreach Committee

**The flowers are given in loving memory of Virginia Pittsinger,
Betty Pittsinger and Minnie Murk by Marge Murk**

The tower is lit this week in memory of Bob Aube by the Morgan family

RECOGNITION OF GREAT-GRANDMOTHERS

Thelma Backe

Janet Hansen

Doris Schreier

Charlotte Bacon

Midge Harvey

Thelma Somes

Carol Baran

Doris Hick

Sue Starr

Ruby Bennett

Anne King

Sylvia Steucek

Mary-Edith Bowman

Gladys Kitchens

Midge Sword

Barbara Burgess

Janet Kunzelman

Joan Tennyson

Evelyn Danforth

Betty Mooney

Joyce Toft

Jeannette Doane

Irene Moore

Liz Vann

Lois Griswold

Emily Rosenthal

Alice Weil

Jean Hamilton

Dot Wenzel

In honor of the great-grandmothers of our congregation, the Deacons will make a donation to “Forgotten Heroes,” a community-based transitional home dedicated to homeless female veterans and their children (up to age 10). This is the first organization of its kind in Connecticut. In addition to residence, the program offers other specialized services that address the unique needs of female veterans.

ADOPTEE RESOLUTION UPDATE: The adoptee resolution that RHCC has been considering as a congregation has been submitted to the CT Conference of the UCC. We are currently waiting to hear whether it will be accepted.

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)

Please pray for the Children and Youth of the S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School as they beginning preparations for worship on Children's Sunday. They will be planning, writing, and leading worship, with the entire congregation in mind.

PARENTS – If your child is planning to participate in Children's Sunday, and you have not already done so, please notify Meghan Young or a S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School Teacher.

NOAH'S TABLE (6th-12th Grade) – Picnic in the Park!

May 17, 5 PM – 6:30 PM. Join us for dinner and games at Elm Ridge Park! Bring a picnic blanket and a dish to share. Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 13, with Meghan Young at Meghan@rhccucc.org.

From the CT Conference UCC HOW TO HELP IN NEPAL:

Dear friends,

Reports from Nepal have been heartbreaking. Though nobody knows for sure, estimates suggest that more than 4,000 may have died. It is the worst earthquake to strike Nepal in over 80 years. United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries is already present on the ground in Nepal, working through our partners in the ACT Alliance, providing food, water, and temporarily shelter. Those who survived the quake will need support for many years to come.

Here's how you can help:

1. Pray for the people and communities impacted by the earthquake.
2. Make a gift payable to your congregation marked for Nepal Earthquake, with the request it be sent payable to the United Church of Christ, Wider Church Ministries, Financial Services - 6th Floor, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115.

OR

3. Send gifts, payable to United Church of Christ and marked in the memo portion Nepal Earthquake, to United Church of Christ, Wider Church Ministries, Financial Services - 6th Floor, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115.

OR

4. Make a secure on-line donation to the [International Emergency Relief Fund](#). Please note: Nepal Earthquake in the comment section.

Blessings to you!

Dear Leaders of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ,

Alongside many of our neighbors, we have been watching the General Assembly work with the budget proposal for the state this spring. We have been greatly concerned for the most vulnerable among us, as Governor Dannel P. Malloy's proposal severely reduced support for a wide range of human services: health care supplements for poor families, assistance for developmentally disabled adults, educational programs, and more.

The legislature's Appropriations and Finance Committee has prepared a revised budget that restores a lot of the human services funding that had been cut in the Governor's proposal. We encourage you, your friends, and those with whom you worship to support this budget, and to ask your state Representative and Senator, and Governor Malloy, to do so.

You can call [860.566.4840](tel:860.566.4840) or [800.406.1527](tel:800.406.1527) to reach both your legislators and register your opinion with the Governor's office.

Please thank the co-chairs of the Appropriations Committee, Sen. Beth Bye and Rep. Toni Walker, for their leadership. If your senator or representative is a member of that committee and voted for the revised budget, please thank them - note that the vote was party-line, with only Democrats in the affirmative. You can find the Appropriations Committee members here:

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/app/>

The Connecticut Mirror has prepared an excellent tool to help you compare Governor Malloy's budget proposal, a Republican proposal, and budget voted by the Appropriations Committee. You can view that here:

<http://ctmirror.org/2015/04/29/tracking-the-budget-healthcare-and-social-services/>

Please pray that God guide all our elected officials so that they lead in righteousness and justice. Thank you for putting your faith in action!

Blessings to you,

Kent Siladi, Conference Minister

Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate



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.

During April, we earned more than \$1400 from our Scrip-Sure program, as 44 different members or friends bought scrip during the month. For the fiscal year ending April 30th, more than \$17,000 was earned. Thanks to all who actively and persistently support this opportunity to help fund our faith.

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, Bonfish 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

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

May 10

10:00am **Worship**
4:00pm Tamil Sangam
5:00pm **Confirmation**

May 11

5:00pm Yoga with Lynn
7:00pm Women's AA
7:00pm Bowling
7:00pm **Little Scholars Preschool**

May 12

..8:30am **Breakfast Club**
7:00pm **Council**

May 13

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

May 14

7:30pm Men's AA

May 15

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE

May 16

8:30am **Men's Bible Study**
9:00am Yoga with Lynn

Sunday

Sanctuary
Rms 22, 23, 24, 25
Fiorilli Room

Monday

Chapin Hall
Chapin Hall

Tuesday

Bob's Cafe
Fiorilli Room

Wednesday

Rm. 6.
Choir Room

Thursday

Chapin Hall

Friday

Friday

Fiorilli Room
Chapel

Happy Birthday



May 14 Steve Smith
Paul Burnham
Randy Pulling
Christine Kainamura
Robert Furman
15 Jay Jensen
16 Jean Hamilton
Hilaire Leavitt

Rev. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka
will be away from
Wednesday, May 13th
through
Tuesday, May 19th.

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