

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**May 31, 2015 ~ 10:00 a.m.
First Sunday after Pentecost**

~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

“Praeludium”

Gordon Young

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

Today we gather in faith, hope and love, as the people of God,
and we wait for the touch of the Holy Spirit.

Today as in every day, the Spirit comes with grace and power,
with gentleness and strength;

the Spirit comes to awaken us for new living.

Holy is the One who has made us;

Holy is the One who calls us into the way of Christ.

Holy are the ways of justice and peace that call us into community.

Thanks be to God, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Pilgrim (red) 251

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Michael Bower

We turn our hearts, O God, we turn them ...
to you, to your gift of life, to your call upon us.
We turn our hearts, we turn them...
away from the blindnesses that divide us,
the mistakes that wound us,
the hatreds that destroy us.
Because your love will hold us even before we know our need,
we make of our turning a repentance,
and we make of our listening a trust --
that in us and through us and with us,
your Spirit is making a new world,
the one that Jesus shows us.
We pray in his name, 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

Response, Unison



(1-4) Bless God, O my soul! All with - in me bless God's name!
Bless God, who was, and is, and shall ev - er be the same!

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Invitation

Questions of Commitment

*Welcome of the Congregation

Friends in Christ, we welcome you with joy
into the life of this church.

We promise to you our friendship and our prayers
as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, within us and among us,
may we continue to grow together
in the knowledge and love of God,
faithfully witnessing to the gospel
as a community of Christian disciples.

*Prayer

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."

ANTHEM

“Fill-a Me Up”

Pepper Choplin

The Choir with Val Triblets, soloist

*Fill-a me up, come-a Holy Spirit,
Fill-a me up to the top-a my soul.
Fill-a me up, come-a Holy Spirit,
Fill-a me up now and take control.*

*So many things try to fill me up.
So many things try to weigh me down.
Fill-a my heart now until you stay
And chase the other things away.*

*Now my heart is an open door.
Here your Spirit is welcome, Lord.
Fill-a my heart now and let it grow
And change my life so all will know.*

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

John 14:1-11, 15-17, 25-27

SERMON “Why Religion Causes So Much Trouble” The Rev. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

***HYMN** “Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song” New Century (Black) 270

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Brian Speers

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

“Sweet Delight, Most Lovely”

Morris/Gerhardt/
trans Marshall

*Sweet delight, most lovely, shining, faithful friend in love and grief,
Holy Spirit, all divining, ever with us, our relief:
As the rainfall comes, descending, wash and bless us with your grace;
All creation comprehending, sanctify our human race.*

*Wise and careful, you have counted each electron, all the sands.
All-embracing, you have bounded space and time in your kind hands.
Source of life and every blessing, come in answer to our prayer
As you came, our sin redressing, came to save us from despair.*

*When I fail you, please exhort me to return to righteous ways.
 When I stagger, please support me through the long and painful days.
 Save me, hold me, ever steady, now in life as after death:
 Consolation, ever ready, everlasting, vital breath.*

***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

Tyler Morgan

Joys & Concerns

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**

“God the Omnipotent”

New Century (Black) 577

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Bachiana”

Gordon Young

LITURGIST

Michael Bower

USHERS

Jim and Lois Stevens

HOSPITALITY

Sue Monaghan and Lynn McKenna

**The tower is lit this week in honor of retiring Deacon
 Don Pagnucco**

WELCOME

New Members

We are so pleased to welcome into membership today Allan Smith and Arianna Baret Peralta. Allan and Arianna, who are engaged, live in Rocky Hill and have been attending and participating at RHCC for the past year. Allan works in sales with The Hartford Courant and Arianna is an engineer with Eversource Energy. Welcome to our new members!!

Second Hour Conversation With HANDS ON HARTFORD TODAY After Fellowship

Please join us for a presentation by our friends at Hands on Hartford where they will be discussing a building project that is underway for their brand new home in the Parkville section of Hartford! This is an exciting time to be partners with this great organization. Please come to learn more about all that is going on with them.

CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church United Church of Christ is called for **Sunday, June 7, 2015** immediately following worship in the sanctuary for the following items of business:

1. To receive and act upon the 2015 reports of Boards and Committees.
2. To vote on any revisions to the 2015-16 budget as presented at Budget and Elections meeting.
3. To hear a report of progress of the Settled Pastor Search Committee.
4. To vote on any changes to the report of the Nominating Committee.
5. To conduct any additional business to come before the congregation.
6. To remember and reflect on those members and friends of the church who have entered the Church Eternal from May 1, 2014 to April 30, 2015.

Respectfully submitted;

Marsha Hoffman, Clerk

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) – End of Year Gathering!

June 14, 5 PM – 7:30 PM. Join us for our last gathering of the program year. Come for dinner, a lip sync battle, a climb to the top of the church, and a time of saying goodbye. Please RSVP by Friday, June 12, with Meghan Young at Meghan@rhccucc.org. 1 Chaperone is needed for this event.

AID FOR NEPAL

The April 2015 earthquake in Nepal killed more than 8,000 people and injured more than 19,000. It was the worst earthquake to strike Nepal in over 80 years. United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries is present on the ground in Nepal, working through our partners in the ACT Alliance, providing food, water, and shelter. Those who survived the quake will need support for many years to come. The Board of Missions voted to send \$500 to UCC, Wider Church Ministries in support of the Nepal earthquake victims. The Board of Missions will also match additional church contributions up to \$500. Please write Nepal Fund in the memo line of any checks. See Kari McCaw-Blaise for any questions.

CALLING ALL GRADUATES



On June 14th, we will celebrate and acknowledge all our members who have graduated from high schools, colleges and post college degree programs. Please notify the office at 860-529-4167 or office@rhccucc.org of anyone to be recognized and supply the institution and degree earned.



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 earned around \$1300 from our scrip program in May, our 21st consecutive month of exceeding \$1000 in income. Forty-one members and friends bought scrip during the month. Thanks to all for your continued support. If you ordered cards last weekend, you may pick them up at the scrip table in Chapin Hall this morning. The next deadline for ordering cards that we do not keep in inventory is June 21 (note - this is one week earlier than usual).

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, Outback Steakhouse

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 31

10:00am **Worship/New Members** Sanctuary
2:00pm **Backe Memorial** Sanctuary

Sunday

June 1

7:00pm Women's AA

Monday

Chapin Hall

June 2 Tuesday

7:00pm **Boards/Committees**

June 3

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

Wednesday

Rm. 6.
Choir Room

June 4

7:30pm **Music Committee**
7:30pm Men's AA

Thursday

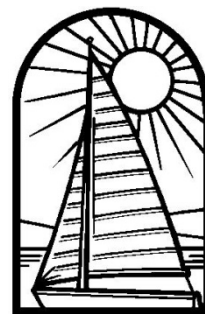
Fiorilli Room
Chapin Hall

June 6

8:30am **Men's Bible Study**
9:00am Yoga with Lynn
11:00am Open Road Rehearsal

Saturday

Fiorilli Room
Chapin Hall
Sanctuary



Happy Birthday

June 1 Harry Schmidt
Zachary Rupaka
2 Eric Jokl
6 Sandra Fritzer

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.



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