

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



June 4, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Pentecost Sunday

Confirmation

~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 down the hall 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

“Sweet Delight, Most Lovely”
The Choir

Sally Ann Morris

CALL TO WORSHIP

Michael Bower

One: All elders and youth,

All: Come and worship!

One: All you saints, all you sinners,

All: Come and worship!

One: Wise counselors, teachers, parents and all in authority,
you who think deep thoughts,
all of you who have simple faith, like a child's,
you who heal the sick and do miraculous acts,
all preachers of the Gospel,
all who can discern differing spirits,
everyone gifted with tongues,
you who are interpreters of tongues,

All: Come and worship!

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Bold type denotes collective response

CALL TO WORSHIP

Michael Bower

One: All you whose spirits are red
with the power of the living God.

All: **Come and worship!**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

**We praise God with one voice, one body,
one church, one mind, one spirit.**

**We are shining red
with the power of our God!**

***HYMN**

“Enter, Rejoice, and Come In”

NC (black) 73

***INVOCATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

God of the heart,

God of the blood and fire and smoke,

you have invoked our presence here this morning

with your great gift of the Holy Spirit.

May this service of worship and praise

be worthy of your challenge to us.

May we turn the Spirit’s reign in our hearts to fire in our lives.

May we glow red with power and love.

May we wear our fiery hearts on our sleeves

for all who have eyes to see!

We pray 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**

NCH 765

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!

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 year. We will keep a place for you 'till you re-turn.

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:1-21

NT Pew Bible p119

SERMON

“Reflections on Confirmation”

Our confirmands will be presenting the sermon this morning, offering their reflections on what they’ve learned during the last year.

***HYMN**

“On Pentecost They Gathered”

NC (black) 272

ORDER FOR CONFIRMATION

OFFERING OF GIFTS

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

“The Lone, Wild Bird”

Southern Folk tune
arr. David N. Johnson

The Choir, Victoria Bower, soprano

*Doxology



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;



1 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) NCH 418

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee In low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move By some clear,
3 Teach me thy pa - tience; still with thee In clos - er,
4 In hope that send's a shin - ing ray Far down the
paths of serv - ice free; Tell me thy se - cret, help me
win - ning word of love; Teach me the way - ward feet to
dear - er com - pa - ny, In work that keeps faith sweet and
fu - ture's broad - ening way, In peace that on - ly thou canst
bear The strain of toil, the fret of care.
stay, And guide them in the home - ward way.
strong, In trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
give, With thee, O Mas - ter, let me live. A - men.

O Master, let me
walk with thee
In lowly paths of
service free;
Tell me thy secret,
help me bear
The strain of toil,
The fret of care.
A-men.

Pastoral Prayer

Confession

God of all people,
Our gifts are yours to use,
yet we often take them to ourselves
And hide them from one another and from you.

We confess that we know we cannot hide from you,
That our gifts are for giving away
in your world
for your work.

Forgive us for running our spirits to frivolous things.
Forgive us for forgetting what integrity means:
living the shapes you have given us,
right now,
Until all that we are manifests your power. Amen

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Forgiveness is your balm for us when we fail you.
Thank you, God of the wind and flame,
for sharing yourself with us in the blood of the lamb,
the fire of the ascension
and the smoke of the Holy Spirit.

All: In Christ, we are truly forgiven. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

This church practices open Communion. All are welcome to participate, including children, and regardless of denominational affiliation or church membership. This morning, we will have communion by Intinction. (Dipping the bread in the wine at a Eucharist so that the communicant receives both together.) Please come up through the center aisle to the front where the deacons will serve you. If you would like to receive gluten-free bread, please tell a serving Deacon when you come up.

Invitation

Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our God, we praise you, for you have satisfied us with the food and drink of eternal life, and have given to us the signs and seals of your mercy. We offer ourselves, all that we have and all that we are, that we may grow daily in faith, rejoice in hope, and may enrich each other in love. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Now let us share among us a sign of God's peace.

You are invited to share a sign of the reconciling peace of Christ with those around you (a handshake, an embrace, or a non-contact gesture).

***HYMN**

“Renew Your Church”

NC (black)311

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE**

“The Spiritual Sailor”

From The Sacred Harp
arr. James Boeringer

LITURGIST

Michael Bower

COMMUNION SERVERS

Victoria Bower, Sarah DeGiovanni
Jan LaCava, Laurel Cole

USHERS

Anne Louise Griswold, Marge Murk, Candy Smith, Lois Stevens

HOSPITALITY

Ruth Jensen



TODAY

Sunday, June 4 10:00am Pentecost Sunday, Communion & Confirmation
Strengthen the Church Offering
3:30pm Ecclesiastical Council & Reception for Lisa Eleck

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, June 11 10:00am Children’s Sunday & Annual Meeting
Sunday, June 18 10:00am Worship, Baptism, Father’s Day



Strengthen The Church Offering “Invest In The Vision”.

This offering is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It largely supports youth ministries and full time leaders for new churches. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. It will be collected on Pentecost Sunday, June 4th.

Congratulations Graduates!! The Diaconate would like to honor your graduation from high school or college during our Sunday service. If you are graduating or have already graduated this year, please call the Church Office at 860-529-4167 or email us at office@rhccucc.org.



Are you a new great-grandfather? Please let us add you to our list of wonderful men who have become great-grandfathers, and we will be honoring you during worship on Father's Day. Contact the office at 860-529-4167 or office@rhccucc.org



God works in strange and wonderful ways! Who would have thought that coming to Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC would lead to my seeking ordination in the United Church of Christ? Yet, here I am, preparing for my Ecclesiastical Council. I am so grateful for the support I have received from the people of this congregation along my journey!

I have now completed my courses at Hartford Seminary and Yale Divinity School and internships at First Congregational Church, Southington and Center Church, Hartford. My ordination paper has been approved. And my Ecclesiastical Council, to which you are all invited, will be held here at 3:30pm, Sunday June 4, 2017. It has been an amazing journey! Thank you, Everyone, for all your support, encouraging words, hugs, and of course, prayers! I am truly blessed!

Lisa Eleck

CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church United Church of Christ is called for Sunday, June 11, 2017 immediately following worship in the sanctuary for the following items of business:

1. To receive and act upon the 2016 reports of Boards and Committees.
2. To vote on any revisions to the 2017-18 budget as presented at Budget and Elections meeting.
3. To hear a report on the proposed conference merger.
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, 2016 to April 30, 2017.

Respectfully submitted; Linda Tokarski, Clerk

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

June 4

10:00am **Worship**
3:30pm Ecclesiastical Council
4:30pm Ecclesiastical Reception

Sunday

Sanctuary
Sanctuary
Chapin Hall

June 5

Craig Study Leave this week

7:00pm Women's AA
7:30pm **Bell Choir**

Monday

Chapin Hall
Loft

June 6

6:00pm Cedar Hollow
7:15pm **Boards and Committees**
7:00pm Hearing Voices

Tuesday

Chapin Hall
Fiorilli
Room 25

June 7

6:00pm Pilates w/Caroline
7:30pm **Adult Choir**

Wednesday

Chapin Hall
Choir Room

June 8

9:30am Toddler Music
7:30pm Men's AA

Thursday

Room 25
Chapin Hall

June 9

Friday

June 10

8:30am Men's Bible Study
9:00am Vendor Craft Fair

Saturday

Fiorilli
Chapin Hall/Outside



4	Alexander Gau
7	Linda Marchand
8	Thomas Kainamura
9	Samuel Dean-Lee
9	Julia O'Connor
10	Paul Wilson

Rev Craig will be taking a class at Yale Divinity School this week, entitled "The History of Spirituality in the Early Church" For Pastoral Concerns during the week contact the office at 860-529-4167. Rev. Bob Woodward will be covering.



We invite you to join us at our 1st Annual Craft Fair!

Saturday, June 10, 9:00am to 2:00 pm

We have nearly 20 vendors selling a wide variety of hand crafted and fair trade items. Start your Christmas shopping early and take part in this fundraiser for the church.

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, Olive Garden, 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, Toys R Us, Walmart

The next ordering deadline for cards not kept in inventory will be on Sunday, June 11th (delivery on June 18).

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

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