

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community

Faith Formation



June 9, 2019 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Pentecost

Children's Sunday

Dear God, we thank you for gift of your Holy Spirit,
through whom we are united as one people.

Even though we are different in many ways, when we are filled
with your Spirit, we are better able to respect others, like being
kind to them, and sharing, showing good sportsmanship and
cleaning up after ourselves, helping, listening, having empathy
and holding the door open for someone when they need help.
Forgive us when we are not respectful, and give us the courage
to be respectful even when others are not.

This we pray in the name of Jesus,
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

“Spirit of the Living God”

NCH 283

Children and Georgette

F Gm D Gm F Dm C F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me;

F Gm D Gm F Bb/C C7 F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Bb F G7 C

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

F Gm D Gm F Dm C7 F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

SCRIPTURE READING:

Acts 2:1-21

Alexander Taylor

SERMON

“Listening to One Another’s Language”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

HYMN

“Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me”

PH 245

OFFERING OF GIFTS

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. 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

Georgette Huie

Offertory Music

“Creator, I Adore You”
Children and Liz Reed-Swale

***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**

Violet Collins and Charlotte Reed-Swale

Dear God, we offer our gifts of time, talent, and treasure to You, and pray that in some way, they may be used so everyone around the world can experience Your love. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

Sarah DeGiovanni

L: God of truth and knowledge, by your wisdom we are taught the way and the truth.

All: Bless these graduates as they now finish their course of study.

We thank you for those who taught and worked beside them, and all who supported them along the way.

Walk with these graduates as they leave and move forward in life.

Strengthen their many talents and skills.

Instill in our graduates a confidence in the future you plan where the knowledge they have gained will be used for the good of all people.

Amen.

The RHCC church family extends congratulations and prayerful best wishes to the following 2019 graduates:

Julia O'Connor will be graduating from Rocky Hill High School.

Emily McKenna will graduate from Wethersfield High, and will attend Adelphi University.

Frank DiRenzo will graduate from Rocky Hill High School.

Mike Fitzgerald received his MBA from UConn on May 11.

John Speers graduated from University of Maine with a B.S. degree on May 11.

Gregson Curtin graduated from Bentley University with a double major in Finance and Global Sustainability in May.

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

RECOGNITION OF CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS

Teachers and Assistants: Candy Smith, Sue Speers, Liz Pulling, Liz Reed-Swale, Steph Heneghan, Jeremy Thompson, Jen Cordes, Sandy Gau, Don Pagnucco, Marge Murk, Bay Tran, Toryn Pulling, Kaedryn Pulling, Heather Wolfe-Taylor, Kim Burghoff, Christine Kainamura, Sue Chatfield.

Thank You!

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

HYMN

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

NCH 286

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

LITURGISTS

Violet Collins, Alexander Taylor, Charlotte Reed-Swale

HOSPITALITY

Nancy Harlow and Lynn Mckenna

CHILDREN’S OFFERING

During the church school year, the children have given a total of \$52.48 as offering that was collected during their monthly Children’s Chapel services. Together, they have decided that half will be donated to True Colors, the Hartford-based organization working to support LGBTQ youth, especially those that are homeless, and half will go to the Connecticut Humane Society, whose rescue work includes both cats and dogs (some of the children prefer cats while others prefer dogs). And since past church school offerings had been left unspent, we will add an extra \$123.76 to each organization, making the total gifts \$150.00 to each organization.

Strengthen the Church

The Strengthen the Church Offering will be collected today, Pentecost Sunday. It is an offering of the UCC that supports the expansion of ministry and growth of local UCC congregations. Our god calls us to be the church in new ways. It will help in planting new churches, awakening new ideas in existing UCC churches and developing the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.



CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church United Church of Christ is called for Sunday, June 16, 2019 immediately following worship in the sanctuary for the following items of business:

1. To receive and act upon the 2019 reports of Ministries.
2. To vote on any revisions to the 2019-2020 budget as presented at the Budget and Elections Meeting.
3. To vote on any changes to the report of the Nominating Committee.
4. To approve amendments to the Constitution as presented.
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, 2018 to April 30, 2019.

Respectfully submitted, Hilaire Leavitt, Clerk.

The Annual Report will be distributed TODAY, Sunday, June 9.



In Memoriam: Dave Hall's father, Percy Hall, passed away peacefully at his home in Ohio on May 30. Although they lived their entire married life in Ohio, Percy and Nancy Hall had a multi-faceted connection to Rocky Hill Congregational Church. The choir continues to sing many of Percy's choral arrangements, and some of the instrumental ensemble arrangements performed here over many years were also his. Percy and Nancy also joined the RHCC choir for the Sweden tour in 2003, where Nancy served as the choir accompanist for many performances, and several of Percy's arrangements were sung - with Percy singing in the tenor section. In 2008, RHCC hosted a "Tribute to Percy Hall" concert, featuring many of his compositions and arrangements, with Percy and Nancy in attendance. Percy and Nancy truly thought of RHCC as their "church away from home." A biography and obituary of Percy is now posted online at <http://percyhall.com/obit/> with photos, videos, articles, and information on memorial gifts. Although Percy has now passed into the church eternal, his legacy and gifts will continue to flourish on earth.

Summary of CT Conference UCC Special Meeting, May 18, 2019

The worship service opened with drumming and dancing by Friendz World Music. The Rev. Kari Nicewander delivered the message of needing each other by sharing her recent personal experience in Central Africa. Amazing! In closing, the Blessing Response was performed by the drummers and dancers. A stunning way to open and close a worship service (like in the old days)!

Rev. Kent Siladi in his remarks said he has chosen to not be among those to be chosen for a leadership role in the proposed new Conference. He again urged all to be gentle with each other in this new chapter: to communicate as well as to listen to each other. He also emphasized the importance of bolstering new partnerships in each locality and affirming the success of those already started.

Steve Lane, a member of the First Church of Christ, Mansfield Center, received the Living Waters Award for his work in resettling refugee families by founding Quiet Corner Refugee Resettlement ("QCRR"). To date, QCRR has resettled three families.

Bryan Nurnberger, a former recipient of the Living Waters Award, spoke of his recent work with his Simply Smiles organization. He urged congregations to join a Simply Smiles service trip. So far there are two locations, South Dakota and Oaxaca, Mexico.

The Rev. Ryan Gackenhammer spoke of the benefits of Silver Lake Conference Center and of its successful partnership with Re-Center and Silver Lake's success with recycling. He introduced one of Silver Lake's campers, Tyler, who spoke of his wonderful life-transforming experience. Rev. Gackenhammer is excited for Connecticut to share Silver Lake with Rhode Island and Massachusetts. One more thing - a Clergy Camp is scheduled and he urged the congregations to send their clergy to this camp session!

Finally, three resolutions were presented: 1) A Resolution of Affirmation to End the Practice of Prolonged Solitary Confinement in Connecticut Prisons & Jails; carried; 2) A Resolution of Affirmation Regarding Citizenship of Certain Foreign-Born Children Adopted by American Citizens; carried; and 3) A Resolution of Affirmation Regarding Child Marriage & Forced Marriages; not carried.

Wed. June 13 at 9:00am - Breakfast Club at Bob's Coffee Shop, 33 New Britain Ave, Rocky Hill. Members of RHCC meet once a month, on the second Wednesday. Join us for coffee and fellowship!



Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also

Each and every day at Rocky Hill Congregational Church, we depend upon you to support the work of our church. Did you know that in April, we:

- Participated in the **Walk Against Hunger**. Money raised from this walk support Foodshare's efforts to fight hunger year-round as well as support programs in Tolland and Hartford county that help our neighbors who are struggling with food insecurities.
- Created **Sole Care Kits**. Thousands of men and women in Uganda suffer from a crippling parasite called jiggers, which is contracted through the feet. To help our friends around the globe, our Board of Faith Formation hosted a Sole Party. Simply by donating old jeans and following a pattern provided by Sole Hope, we were able to create these kits. Local Ugandans are paid to assemble the shoes which are then given to those in need, so each gift gives twice!
- Donated to a **Connecticut shelter for migrant children**. Noank Community Support Services (located near Groton) is home to between 10 and 12 unaccompanied children (mostly teens) from the border. Those children depend on donations from organizations like our church.
- **Visited those who cannot join us** at church events or Sunday service. Our devoted and caring Congregational Care Team ensures that we stay in touch with our church family and friends in many ways including visiting, calling and writing a note.
- Lived our vision of being a **welcoming church**. A welcoming committee was formed whose mission it is to ensure that we don't just say "no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are all welcome here" but we actively demonstrate it. Beginning in April, every person entering the sanctuary through the vestibule is welcomed by a greeter with a warm and friendly smile.
- Worked to **keep our church safe** and sound for our generation and all the generations to come. For example, one of our members is responsible for ensuring all doors are locked after Sunday morning services.

All of these things are planned and prepared by leadership and staff who are deeply committed to our becoming who God is calling us to be. We have a vision that is amazing and exciting, but we can't achieve our vision without your continued contributions of time, talent and treasure. These are the resources that fuel our mission; and yes, it does cost real money to provide spiritual things.

We thank all of you for believing in our vision and mission and working in so many ways to help make our vision a reality.

Blessings

Time, Talent, and Treasure/Pledging Ministry

Church Signage Design Team

We are looking for several volunteers to be on a team to design some new signs for RHCC. Goals for the team are new designs for our two existing exterior signs and a new sign to be located near the back door. Also, the team would develop some interior signs to improve wayfinding inside the church, particularly for visitors. If you have questions or are interested, please contact Dave Sageman, dsageman@snet.net

A reminder about holding meetings from your Facilities Team:

1. Contact the Church Office to check whether the space is available and to add to the calendar.
2. After the meeting, do a little cleanup, leaving the space clean for the next group.
3. Turn off lights and lock the room door if appropriate.
4. For evening meetings also check that bathroom lights and hallway lights are off and the exterior door is locked.

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR PHOTO YET???

We are overhauling our church directory into a photo directory. Please—today—email a photo to the church office. Photos can be casual or formal. If you are a couple, please send a photo of yourselves as a couple (whether or not you have the same last name). If you are a family with kids at home, please send a family photo. Pick your favorite and email it to: office@rhccucc.org. If you don't have a digital photo, drop off a printed photo to the office.



ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
CHURCH MOUSE NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE
JULY/AUGUST ISSUE

Deadline for articles: Friday, June 14
Mailing date: Monday, 24

Our worship service will be held in air-conditioned Chapin Hall for the summer, starting on June 30th and ending on September 1st.



THIS WEEK AT RHCC

June 9

10:00am Worship

9:30am Childcare

(Children's Sunday / no church school)

11:00 am Coffee Hour

June 10

7:00pm Women's AA

June 11

7:00pm Council

June 12

9:00am Breakfast Club

7:30pm Choir

June 13

7:30pm Men's AA

June 14

Newsletter Deadline

Sunday

Sanctuary

Room 4

Chapin Hall

Monday

Fiorilli Rm

Tuesday

Fiorilli

Wednesday

Bob's Coffee Shop

Sanctuary

Thursday

Chapin Hall

Friday



9	Samuel Dean-Lee
9	Julia O'Connor
11	John Goff III
15	Bob Carberry

Please send your articles for the July/August edition of the Church Mouse to: office@rhccucc.org



We extend an invitation to all Great-grandfathers to worship with us Father's Day on **June 16**, during worship we will proudly recognize our great-grandfathers of the church. In honor of Father's Day, Hospitality Ministry will offer Brownie Sundaes during Coffee Hour. All are welcome!



Summer Church school will be held on the following Sundays: June 16, June 30, July 14, July 28, August 11, and August 25.

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
- Gas: Exxon/Mobil, Shell, Sunoco
- Pharmacy: CVS, Walgreens
- Fast food: Boston Market, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's
- Restaurants: Bonefish Grill, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster
- Shopping: Ace Hardware, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Jo-Ann Fabrics, Kohl's, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Lowes, Michaels, Target, Total Wine, Walmart.
- Grocery: Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, WholeFoods, Westside Market

The next order for physical cards not stocked in inventory will be placed on July 14 (with delivery on July 21). E-cards may be ordered anytime. A complete listing of all retailers available through our program can be picked up at the scrip table in Chapin Hall.

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: www.RockyHillUCC.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: Steve Smith admin@rhccucc.org

Child Care Provider:

