

# ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community*



August 3, 2014 ~ 10:00 a.m.  
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
Communion Sunday

# ~ORDER OF WORSHIP~

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*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.*

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## 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

"All Who Love and Serve Your City"

from *Southern Harmony*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon Don Pagnucco

Come to worship, people of God, with praises on your lips.

**We glorify the One  
who holds our hand when we slip.**

Come into the presence of the One who calls us into this sacred space.

**Where the doors to grace  
are thrown open so all may enter.**

Come and hear the stories of the One who loves you.

**We will tell of the joy and of the love,  
of the peace, and of the hope which is ours.**

## \*HYMN

"God Is Here! As We Your People Meet"

printed in bulletin

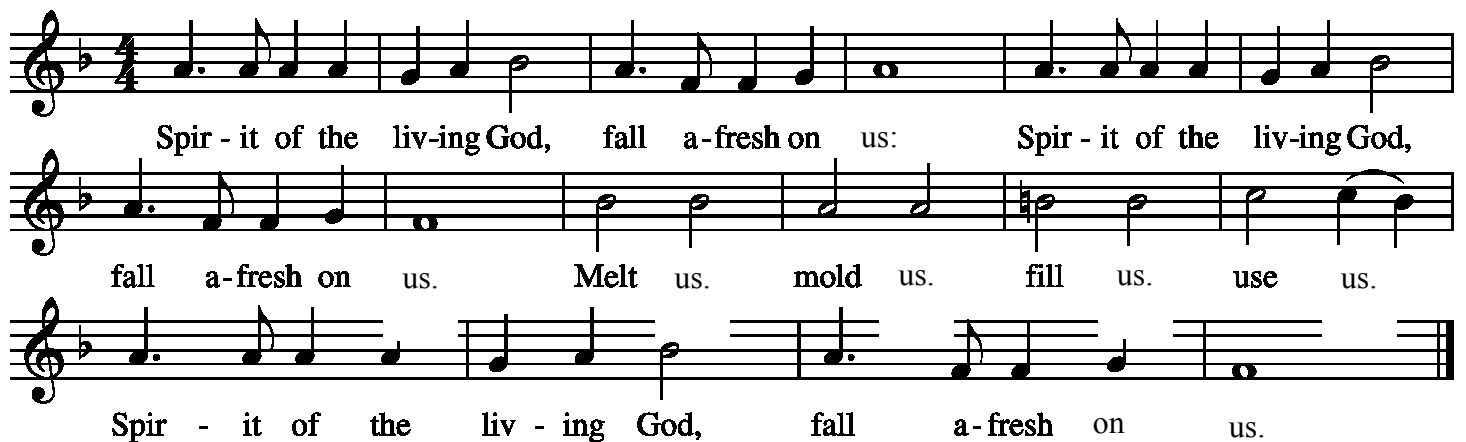
*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

## \*GATHERING PRAYER

Creator God,  
we dare to be your people.  
In you we live and move and have our being.  
To you we bring our offering of praise and thanksgiving.  
We open ourselves to your presence in this time of worship.  
Fill us with resolve and purpose,  
to be your community  
to share the cost of discipleship  
with deeds of bold mercy and courageous justice,  
and to expand our boundaries until all of creation is renewed,  
and all people are welcomed and blessed.  
Through your Holy Spirit enable us to move boldly into the future,  
and to fulfill the hope of love that Jesus taught.  
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

## \*SUNG RESPONSE



Spir - it of the liv-ing God, fall a-fresh on us: Spir - it of the liv-ing God,  
fall a-fresh on us. Melt us. mold us. fill us. use us.  
Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on us.

## MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

## READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Acts 17:22-34  
Matthew 28:16-20

SERMON “Jesus said nothing about ‘Church’”

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

## 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 Solo

Holli Bacon, Soprano

“How Beautiful”

Twila Paris  
setting by Lloyd Larson

### \*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

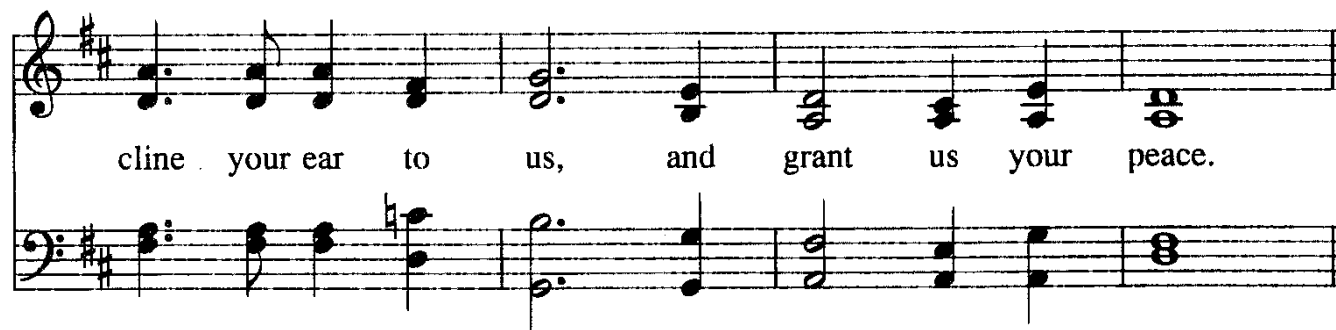
## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### 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

“I Come with Joy”

printed in bulletin

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*This church practices open Communion — all who wish to know the presence of Christ and to participate in the community of God's people are welcome to receive Communion, including children, and regardless of church membership or denominational affiliation.*

*This morning we will receive Communion by intinction (dipping the bread into the cup, which holds unfermented grape juice). Please come forward using one of the two center aisles, and return to your seats using the outside aisles. Gluten-free bread and juice are also offered. Any wishing to receive Communion who are unable to come forward may raise their hands to identify themselves to a deacon and will be served in their seats.*

### Invitation

We come to the table where Christ is the host.

Those who wish to serve him  
must first be served by him,  
those who want to follow him  
must first be fed by him,  
those who would wash his feet  
must first let him make them clean.

**For this is the table  
where God intends us to be nourished;  
this is the time when Christ can make us new.**

So come, you who hunger and thirst  
for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world.  
Come to the table where all are welcomed just as they are.

**We come to taste and see that God is good.**

### Prayer of Preparation and the Lord's Prayer

...God in Community, Holy in One,  
in thanksgiving, we pray the words your son and our savior teaches us:

**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.**

# The Words of Institution: Recalling the Story

## Sharing the Bread and the Cup

## Communion Music

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have put your life into our hands;  
now we put our lives into yours.  
Take us,  
renew and remake us.  
What we have been is past;  
what we shall be, through you,  
still awaits us.  
Lead us on.  
Take us with you.  
Amen.

## Sharing the Peace of Christ

*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**                      “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”                      printed in bulletin

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

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<b>COMMUNION SERVERS</b>	Don Pagnucco, Eleanor Mahar, Doug Robbins, Tom Fulda
<b>LITURGIST</b>	Don Pagnucco
<b>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</b>	Dave Sageman and Ruth Fitzgerald

The flowers are given in memory of John and Marian Gray  
By Sue Monaghan.

## **S.P.I.R.I.T. Corner**

*Serve, Pray, Invite, Receive, Ignite, Tell*

***Children are invited to remain in worship today,  
following along with the children and youth bulletins.***

S.P.I.R.I.T. Summer programming, for children in Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, focuses on "Favorite Bible Stories" and will be offered on the following Sundays:

August 10

Favorite Bible Stories: The Two Houses

August 24

Favorite Bible Stories: The Good Samaritan

### **NOAH'S TABLE – Service Project Next Friday & Saturday**

On the evening of Friday, August 8th, from 5 PM – 6 PM we will gather at RHCC to prepare a meal for homeless and low-income folks in Hartford. On Saturday, August 9, we will meet at the church at 7 AM and head to Center Church in Hartford where we will finish preparing the meal and serve it to approximately 120 homeless and low-income individuals. We will return at 11 AM. Drivers and chaperones are needed for Saturday, August 9th. If you are planning to attend either the Friday or Saturday events, you must RSVP by Wednesday, August 6, with Meghan Young at [Meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:Meghan@rhccucc.org).

**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS:** If you are interested in volunteering in the Nursery during Sunday morning worship, please contact a member of the Childcare Committee or email them at [RHCCchildcare@gmail.com](mailto:RHCCchildcare@gmail.com) for more information.

**S.P.I.R.I.T. Summer Volunteers Needed** – If you are interested in helping with any of our summer programming, please email Meghan at [meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org). One volunteer is needed for 8/10 and two are needed for 8/24.

### **It's Coming: Koinonia 2014!**

**"Jesus, the Storyteller"**

**An intergenerational Vacation Bible School for the whole church family!**

**August 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>**

**5:30 PM to 7:30 PM**

*Dinner provided. Freewill donations accepted.*

**A Minimum of 10 families or 20 individuals must sign-up  
before Wednesday, August 13 for us to have Koinonia this year.**

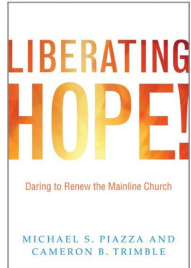
This summer you are invited to renew and spark your faith as we join together for fun, food, fellowship, and faith formation. Come for four nights as we learn about "Jesus, the Storyteller", and share and create our own stories. *Separate faith formation programming will be available for children, youth, and adults.*

***Mark your calendars and sign-up in Chapin Hall or by emailing [meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org).***

**Small Group Ministry at RHCC:**  
**Summer Faith Formation Opportunities**

*Join a small group to explore and enrich your faith in new ways!*

**ALL Church Summer Reading:**



**Liberating Hope.**

Join with your church family as we read together *Liberating Hope: Daring to Renew the Mainline Church*, written by Michael S. Piazza and Cameron B. Trimble. *Liberating Hope* provides concrete and tangible 21<sup>st</sup> century insight to those churches looking to renew their congregations through hope and optimism rooted in the resurrection.

Based on the successful work that Piazza and Trimble have done through The Center for Progressive Renewal, this book provides accurate and strategic evidence that the decline of the mainline, progressive church can be slowed and even reversed, despite the challenges it is facing. *Liberating Hope* is both thought provoking and an easy read, so don't forget to bring it with you on your summer vacation!

**Copies are available to check-out from the church office. Small discussion groups will be forming in late summer/early fall.**

**Small Group Gatherings:**

**Pilgrim People. Pilgrim Churches.**

*Sundays, August 3 & 10*

*11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, Fiorilli Room*

It has been said there are two types of people who show up in church on Sunday: Tourists and Pilgrims. Tourists are those who are spiritual but not religious; those who are shopping for a church home; those who tend to be spectators rather than participants; those who are observers but are not invested. Pilgrims are those who have committed their lives, even though they may not have all the answers; those whose faith is moving, growing, and maturing; those who engage in spiritual practices that foster growth. **Join us for a discussion group rooted in scripture that explores how we can be a pilgrim church of pilgrim people.** *Discussion topics include: prayer, presence, service, generosity, spiritual growth, hospitality, discernment, art and beauty, justice, and diversity. No preparation necessary.*





## **August 3 through August 24: Summer Sermon Series**

### ***"Living Stones: Imagining the Future of the Church"***

*A series of sermons meant to engage us together in imagining how, and reflecting on why, the church might move forward – in a time very different from the past.*

#### **August 3            Eighth Sunday after Pentecost; Communion**

Acts 17:22-34

"The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands."

*Jesus said nothing about "Church" as an institution, but much about faith and love. What would it mean to be a church not tied to the bounds of membership and building, but living by Jesus' great commission to go and make disciples?*

#### **August 10            Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

Acts 3:1-16

"One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer...And a man lame from birth was being carried in...And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them, but Peter said, 'I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk.'"

*What would it mean to stop and look up as we dash to our "temples" (jobs, committee meetings, resume building activities, etc.) and offer the love of God, recognizing that God calls us to be in the world?*

#### **August 17            Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

" 'My house shall be called a house of prayer, for all peoples,' says God, who gathers the outcasts. 'I will gather yet others besides those already gathered.'"

*What would it mean to understand the church as primarily a "house of prayer," and God as a God who means to gather in the ones who aren't here yet?*

#### **August 24            Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Luke 5:1-11

"Jesus said to Simon, 'Push out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' It was no sooner said than done – a huge haul of fish, so many it strained the nets."

*What would it mean to understand our core purpose as the church to be about depth, our main task as "going deeper" ?*

## 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.

Today we continue to have a variety of cards in inventory from more than **35** different restaurants and retailers, available for immediate purchase this morning, including (but not limited to):

**Coffee:** Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks

**Fast food:** Burger King, Chipotle, McDonalds, Subway

**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, On the Border

**Shopping:** Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Best Buy, Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, Lowes, Marshall's, Staples, Target, Walmart

See Gail Hall at the scrip table this morning for a complete listing of available cards, or to have all of your questions answered.

**THINK SCRIP!**

## RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

The Christian Activities Council, family and friends of the **Rev. Edwin Ayala** will be honored on **Thursday August 7, 2014** at the Pond House, Elizabeth Park, Hartford.

The Reception begins at 6:00pm. Dinner will be at approximately 7:00pm.

Tickets are \$75.00 per person.

It goes without saying what an outstanding Associate and Executive Director the Rev. Ayala has been. Please contact Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio after services or at 860-257-8177 for tickets.

## THIS WEEK AT RHCC

### August 3

10:00am **Worship**

### Sunday

Chapin Hall

### August 4

10:30am **Apple Rehab Service**

7:00pm **Women's AA**

### Monday

Chapin Hall

### August 6

9:30pm **Quilting**

### Wednesday

Room 6

### August 7

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

### Thursday

Chapin Hall

### August 8

**OFFICE CLOSED**

5:00pm **Youth Service Project**

### Friday

### August 9

7:00am **Youth Service Project**

### Saturday



## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Aug 3 Jennifer Kelley  
6 Ed Bacon  
Samantha Behlman  
7 Linda Tokarski  
Noah Dion  
8 Betty Mooney  
Galen Deming

## **OFFICE SUMMER HOURS**

Beginning June 30<sup>th</sup> – August 31<sup>st</sup>

Office hours will be

Monday – Thursday

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Closed Fridays**

### **STAFF VACATIONS**

**Brenda** will be away July 30 - August 13.

**Mary** will be away from August 11 - 24.



**Newsletter**  
**DEADLINE**

**FRIDAY**  
**AUGUST 15**

**Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ**  
**805 Old Main Street**  
**Rocky Hill, CT 06067**

Church Office: [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org) / 860 529-4167

Church Website: [rhccucc.org](http://rhccucc.org)

Visit us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/rhccucc](http://www.facebook.com/rhccucc)

**Office Hours**

Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Friday closed

**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](mailto:brenda@rhccucc.org)

Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: The Rev. Meghan D. Young  
[meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org)

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero [mary@rhccucc.org](mailto:mary@rhccucc.org)

Office Manager: Mitsey Baker [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org)

Webmaster: Dave Hall [webmaster@rhccucc.org](mailto:webmaster@rhccucc.org)