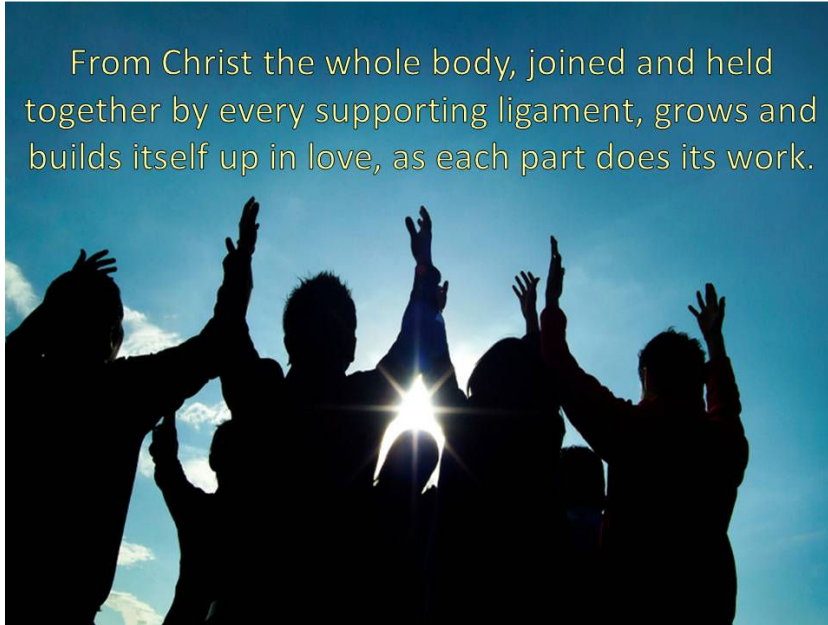


**ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community

From Christ the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.



“From Christ the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

**August 5, 2018 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Communion**

~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 aisles at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.*

PRELUDE

“Surrender”

Winfield Weeden, arr. Mark Hayes

CALL TO WORSHIP

Chris Sheehan

L: You call your people to prayer and praise in many ways.

This day, bring us together just as you called the people of Israel to gather manna in the desert to eat and sustain life.

All: God of unity, give us this day our daily bread.

L: Offer us the nutrients we need to remain connected to you.

As spiritual beings, we desire to receive food that endures—faith, hope, and love.

All: God of grace, give us this day our daily bread.

L: All life is created and nourished by you!

May we grow into new circles of understanding and being, reflecting the ways in which we have been touched by your holy manna.

All: Holy Spirit, come! Give us this day our daily bread.

*HYMN

“The Church’s One Foundation”

NCH 386

***Bold type** denotes collective response*

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

Life Sustainer, we receive the things you desire to offer us today and each new day! Grant us wisdom and openness to your Word and use its teachings to energize our bodies and spirits as we seek to serve you each day. We ask 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 "Grant Us Wisdom to Perceive You" v.1 NCH510

1 Grant us wis - dom to per - ceive you, hearts a -
2 Grant us faith - ful - ness in pray - ing, strength to
3 Grant us dil - i - gence in do - ing, pa - tience
4 Grant us cour - age to pro - claim you; Sav - ior

wak - ened to re - ceive you, minds a - lert to
keep our souls from stray - ing, sense to cease from
when your truth pur - su - ing, ea - ger to re -
of our lives we name you! May our ac - tions

thoughts that grieve you, God of mer - cy, hear us.
dis - o - bey - ing, God of mer - cy, hear us.
ceive re - new - ing, God of mer - cy, hear us.
nev - er shame you; God of mer - cy, hear us.

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.

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 4:1-16

^{4:1} I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.)

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

SERMON

“Called to Hope”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

***HYMN**

“As We Gather at Your Table”

NCH 332

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, Rev. Craig will come down 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 Duet

“Keeper of the Song”
John and Bill Hoffman, baritones

Joseph Martin

*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 CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

Sung Call to Prayer

“Be Still and Know that I am God”

(NCH743)

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that

I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Our God, we confess that we often spoon-feed ourselves items and ideas that do not provide us the energy we need to do your work.

**This creates space between you and us,
between ourselves and each other, as members of Christ's one body.
Oftentimes, we are willing to risk our sustained health and well-being
for immediate satisfaction.**

(Moment of silence and reflection)

Assurance of Pardon

L: Through Jesus, we have been given an example of one who was truly nourished and sustained by God.

All: In Christ, we are forgiven, made whole, and restored to the one body.

L: Let us outwardly profess our Christian unity by offering each other a sign of peace.

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

Communion Music

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our God, we thank you for Jesus' invitation to this table where we find grace and forgiveness. Help us to take what we receive today into the world around us that we may be ambassadors of Christ. 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**

“Glorious Things of You Are Spoken”

NCH 307

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE**

“Postlude”

Leon Boellman

LITURGIST

Chris Sheehan

USHERS

Deb Copes and Steve Smith

COMMUNION SERVERS

Judy Graham, Gail Hall, Doug Robbins, Elaine Somes

HOSPITALITY

Jackie Little



*Today's altar flowers are donated by Judy Graham
in loving memory of Courtney Elizabeth Saehrig
with Love, Grammy Graham, Mommy, Jake, and Ryan*

*The Tower is lit this week in loving memory of Jennifer O'Connor
by Julia O'Connor*

Join us for Coffee, Food and Fellowship after Worship



WELCOME VISITORS!

Interested in joining the church? If you'd like to learn more about our church community; please join us during coffee hour after worship and ask to speak with Pastor Craig Cowing or any Deacon. We are an Open and Affirming Christian community, actively expressing Jesus' inclusive embrace of all people.



BACKPACK DRIVE!

This summer, we will once again support our Covenant to Care liaison, Allison, by providing backpacks and school supplies for children in DCF care. Please do not provide used items unless they are new or "like-new" condition.

Collecting backpacks and supplies for:

- Backpacks, paper, notebooks, pens, #2 pencils and folders.
- Erasers, pencil boxes, glue sticks, blunt scissors, pencil sharpeners,
- non-permanent markers, rulers, small tissue packets and crayons.

We will be collecting items through August 26th. Thank you!



Rocky Hill Historical Society

785 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067
860-563-6704
InfoRHhistory@gmail.com
www.RHhistory.org

Center Cemetery Walking Tour

Join us for a story telling adventure about Rocky Hill history.



Center Cemetery, Bradford Gate

Created and led by Rocky Hill Town Historian Bob Herron
thistorian@rockyhillct.gov

Presented by the Rocky Hill Historical Society

Protecting, Promoting and Preserving the History of Rocky Hill, CT

Where:
Center Cemetery
2480 Main St.
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

When:
Saturday
August 11th, 2018
10:00-12:00 am

Free

Difficulty - Easy, Some uneven surfaces

Parking: Drive into the cemetery from the corner of Pratt and Main Streets, just past CVS, across from the Town Green. Meet at the cemetery flagpole.

More Center Cemetery information at www.RHhistory.org

Contact us at
860-563-6704
or

infoRHhistory@gmail.com

Like and Follow us on
Facebook
Visit us at RHhistory.org

Center Cemetery Walking Tour -
Saturday, August 11th 10am to Noon.

Join us for a story-telling adventure about Rocky Hill history.

Created and led by Rocky Hill Town Historian Bob Herron. Presented by the Rocky Hill Historical Society.

For info: www.RHhistory.org

860-563-6704

Victoria Bower awarded Frank Roswell Fuller Scholarship

Mr. Fuller was born in Hartford August 23, 1873, and died March 1, 1957. He attended public schools, and was always interested in helping students obtain the education that he had not been able to enjoy himself. The scholarship, given to a member of the United Church of Christ/Congregational Church, is administered by Trinity College. Victoria will begin college in August at the University of Arizona, in Tucson. Congratulations!



ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:



We encourage all members of Boards, Committees and the Church to share their news, events and photos for our facebook page, by sending these to office@rhccucc.org. Don't forget to follow us on facebook for updates about worship and events!

The submission deadline for the SEPTEMBER issue of The Church Mouse will be **Wednesday, August 15** and the mailing date will be Monday, August 27.

We want to hear from you! Send your articles and photos to: office@rhccucc.org.

Snail Mail vs. Email: If you would prefer to receive the monthly Church Mouse newsletter by email (PDF attachment) instead of a printed copy in your mailbox, just notify the office at: office@rhccucc.org

Weekly Email Announcements: If you are not receiving our weekly email, please send an email to: office@rhccucc.org

OUR WORSHIP CORE MINISTRY SEEKS COMMUNION SERVERS

The worship core ministry is looking for a few good people to be included in the new serving schedule beginning this October. Servers in the past have all been deacons or life deacons, but we would like to open it up to people who never served on diaconate. Training and help will be provided! If you are interested, please contact the church office or Christopher Sheehan at sheehancole@att.net or (860) 529-5151. We look forward to hearing from you!



RHCC Golf Tournament - Sunday, September 16th

Save the date for this year's Fall RHCC golf tournament at the Wethersfield Country Club. Tee times will start about 12:30pm. Details of cost and tournament format will be available soon. For info: Bill Hoffman (860-563-1367) to reserve your spot. *Don't miss out on this fun event!*

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:

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, Buffalo Wild Wings, 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, Walmart
- Grocery: Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, WholeFoods, Westside Market

The next order for cards not stocked in inventory will be placed on August 26, with cards available for pickup on September 2.

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!

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

August 5

10:00am **Worship**
9:30am **Childcare**
10:15am **Church School**
11:00am **Coffee Hour**

Sunday

Chapin Hall
Room 4
Room 24
Chapin Hall



August 6

Office Closed

7:00pm Women's AA

Monday

Chapin Hall

August 7

7:00pm Hearing Voices

Tuesday

Room 6

6	Ed Bacon
6	Samantha Behlman
7	Linda Tokarski
7	Noah Dion
8	Galen Deming
11	Julia Pickett

August 8

9:00am **Breakfast Club**

Wednesday

Bob's Coffee Shop

August 9

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

Thursday

Room 22
Chapin Hall

August 10

6:00pm Tamil Teachers Mtg

Friday

Room 25

August 11

Saturday



Save the Date:
Sunday, September 9th
Rally Day
Church School
Registration begins!

Join us on Wednesday, August 8 at 9am, when RHCC members gather for breakfast at Bob's Coffee Shop, 33 New Britain Ave, Rocky Hill. The group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Stop in anytime!



BIBLE STUDY GROUP STARTING IN SEPTEMBER

On three evenings in September Pastor Craig will lead a bible study on the early gospel known as "Q."

The dates are September 6, 13, and 20 at 7:30 PM.

We will meet in the Fiorelli Room.

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: Liz Pulling lrpulling@icloud.com