

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

*Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community*



**August 7, 2016 ~ 10:00 a.m.  
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

# ~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** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is available down the hall in Room 4.*

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## 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.*

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## INTROIT

“Let us Serve the Lord with Gladness”

Unknown

Victoria Bower, Jillian Maynard, Katie Hoffman-Fulda

## CALL TO WORSHIP *(Psalm 50)*

Leader: Come, listen to the One

People: **who speaks and summons the earth,  
from the rising of the sun to its setting.**

Leader: Come, see the One

People: **who shines forth in the perfection of beauty.**

Leader: Come, bring thanksgiving, the sacrifice that honors the One

People: **who shows the salvation of God.**

## \*HYMN

“The God of Abraham Praise”

New Century (Black) 24

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

***Bold type denotes collective response***

## \*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God of salvation, all the earth cries out for the beauty within us  
that comes from the covenant you made with creation.

We, your little flock  
of young and old, male and female,  
rich and poor, strong and weak,  
are not afraid,

for it is your good pleasure to give us now  
your kingdom on earth as in heaven.

We have come: we are dressed for action and have our lamps lit,  
we are ready for a new dawn that brings an everlasting day.

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,

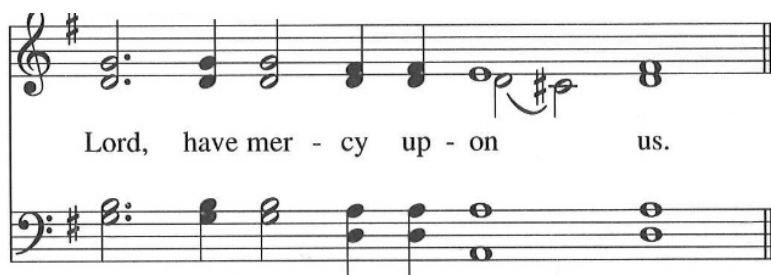
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

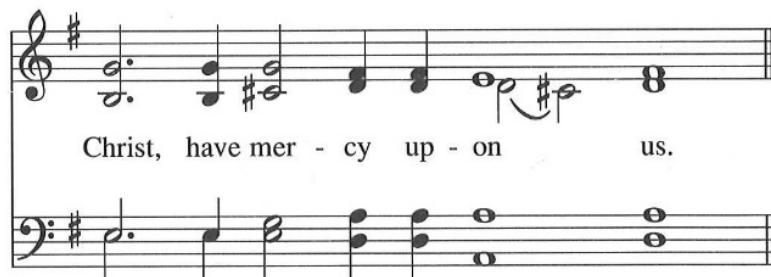
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## \*SUNG RESPONSE

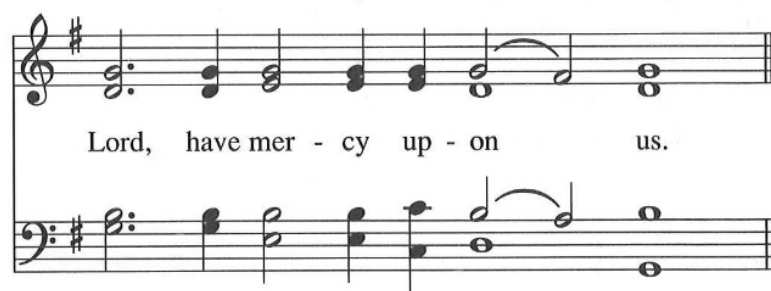
NC 750



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.



Lord, have mer - cy up - on 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

Genesis 15:1-6

Pew Bible OT p11

### SERMON

“Children of Abraham”

The Rev. Craig L. Cowing

### OFFERING OF GIFTS

*Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, they will 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.*

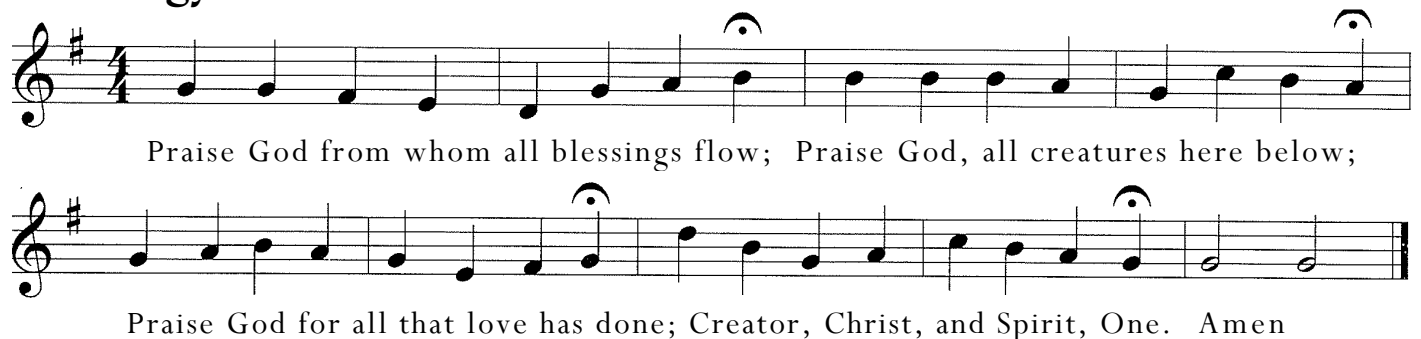
### Offertory Anthem

“Spirit I have Heard You Calling”

Thew Elliot

Victoria Bower, Michael Bower, Bob Inderbitzen,  
Jillian Maynard, Katie Hoffman- Fulda, Tom Fulda

### \*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 “More Love to You, O Christ” (verse 1) NC 456

1 More love to you, O Christ, more love to you! Hear now the  
2 Once earth-ly joy I craved, sought peace and rest; Now you a -  
3 Then shall my lat - est breath whis - per your praise; This be the

*Refrain*  
prayer I make faith to re - new.  
lone I seek, give what is best: In all I say and do,  
part - ing cry my heart shall raise:

more love, O Christ, to you, more love to you, more love to you!

#### Pastoral Prayer

\*HYMN “Great Is Your Faithfulness” New Century (black) 423

#### Prayer of Confession

We have promised to live as your people, our God, yet we confess that we fail you and one another. We do not honor one another as we should. As the body of Christ, we are often disjointed and clumsy. We do not work together as one to your glory. We refuse your cry for help in the voices of the poor and hungry. We have not been faithful to the trust you have placed in us. Merciful God, receive us as we are, and forgive us. Encourage us with your love that we may commit ourselves anew to live as those who belong to you, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Silent Prayer**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: God of compassion, your eternal love brings us back in true friendship with you through your boundless forgiveness. In Christ, this love is treasured in our hearts. Gathered as your community of believers, our family of faith, we are empowered to forgive one another as we are forgiven.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## **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, the congregation will be seated for Communion; the elements (bread and non-alcoholic grape juice) will be brought to each pew. Please wait until all have been served so that we may take the elements together. As you pass the trays to your neighbor, you may use the words “The bread of life” and “The cup of blessing.” If you would like to receive gluten-free bread, please raise your hand so that a Deacon may serve you.*

### **Invitation**

### **Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution**

### **Sharing the Bread and the Cup**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Our God, we thank You for inviting us to this table. We pray that You will help us to bear the nourishment we receive here out into the world, that the world may know the healing presence 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**

“My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff”

New Century (black) 418

**BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

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**LITURGIST**

Ruth Fitzgerald

**USHERS**

Julia O’Connor and Bob Carberry

**COMMUNION SERVERS**

Victoria Bower, Elaine Some

Doug Robbins, Val Triblets

**HOSPITALITY**

Lynn McKenna

**CHILDCARE** (Room 4)

Liz Pulling

*Today’s Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of  
Jennifer O’Connor - given by Julia O’Connor,  
And also in memory of  
Gladys and Ed Carberry, Armand and Bette Benoit  
- given by Bob and Denise Carberry*

LOOKING AHEAD

TODAY

10:00am

Worship with Communion

Kids’ Summer Sunday School, Rm 25

Childcare during Worship, RM4

Sun. Aug 14

10:00am

Worship in Chapin Hall

*Baptism of Matthew E. Bacon*

On August 7, and August 28, Child Care during worship is available the nursery, Room 4 (ground floor), from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. We are pleased to re-introduce this important ministry of Welcome and Hospitality to families attending our services with infants and toddlers.



We are also seeking adult volunteers to help Liz on Sundays—to ensure we have 2 adults present in the nursery. If you're interested in volunteering to help Liz, please speak to her before or after worship, or contact Bob Inderbitzen (Personnel Committee), Kathy Morgan (Board for Faith Formation), or the church office.



Sound Healing Meditation with  
Tibetan Singing Bowls  
Friday, August 19, 7pm

In sound healing meditation, we use the healing vibrations of the singing bowls to uplift the spirit, relax the body and quiet the mind. These instruments have been found to positively affect the body on many levels. The vibrations soothe the nervous system and invite the release of tight muscles, stress, anxiety, PTSD and depression. It has been found that soothing sounds can actually alter the brainwaves that are produced. The sound of singing bowls definitely has that effect. Come and see what it can do for you, and bring a friend!





The Icon for August is from the late 1400's in Crete. It depicts Jesus meeting Mary Magdalene on Easter Morning. Stop by for some quiet reflection in the Weil Chapel.

Cards of Sympathy in memory of **Doris Schreier** may be sent to:  
Thomas Schreier, 15 South Pembroke Street, Wethersfield, CT 06109.

Cards of Sympathy in Memory of **Warren Carpenter** may be sent to:  
Gladys Carpenter, 42 Sawmill Rd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

*On behalf of Brian and Amanda and myself; I would like to thank all of my church family for your prayers, cards, hugs and caring that you showed us over the past 3 weeks. You made a very difficult time easier.*

*Linda Tokarski*

## **RHCC Golf Tournament – Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**



This year's fall RHCC golf tournament is scheduled for Sunday, September 25th at the Wethersfield Country Club.

We are planning for up to (8) foursomes and tee times will start about noon. Details of cost and tournament format will be available about a month before the tournament.

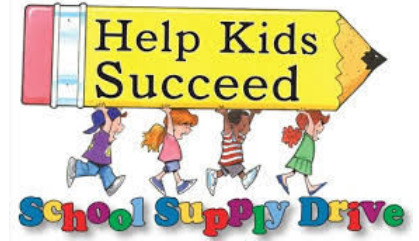
A sign-up sheet will be available in Chapin Hall in September, or you can contact Bill Hoffman (860-563-1367) to reserve your spot. Don't miss out on this fun event!

## Summer Backpack Drive

This summer, we will once again provide backpacks and school supplies for children in DCF care. Teenagers are most in need of school supplies. Items needed are:

Colored pencils, spiral notebooks, compass, drawing pads, erasers, file folders, rulers, pencils and sharpeners, highlighters, stapler & staples, binders, filler paper and backpacks.

You can also donate gift cards (Think Scrip!) and the supplies will be purchased. The final date for collection will be in August. Items can be left in the Missions office or Church Office. See Kari McCaw with any questions.



The submission deadline for the SEPTEMBER issue of The Church Mouse will be **Monday, August 15** and the mailing date will be **Monday, August 29**. We want to hear from you! Send your articles and photos to: [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org).



The Church Office will be  
CLOSED on  
Monday August 8 and  
Monday August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Please contact the church office if you have a change of address, phone or email. [Office@RHCCUCC.org](mailto:Office@RHCCUCC.org) or 860-529-4167.



# United Church of Christ – National Youth Event 2016

by Anthony Moujaes

Thousands of young people are returning home after a week of education, fun, sun and worship during the United Church of Christ's National Youth Event 2016, inspired to believe in faith, kindness and service. More than 3,000 attendees converged at Walt Disney World for five days from June 26 to June 30 in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

This was an NYE unlike any other, as it marked the first time the event took place at a location other than a college campus, and the first that was co-hosted by the UCC and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Hadiqa Bashir's keynote, as one of three teenagers to speak at NYE, underscored the importance of standing for what you believe in — even when faced with danger. Bashir's life is threatened because of her stance against early marriages of children in her native Pakistan, but she still believes in change. Bashir, a recipient of the Muhammad Ali Humanitarian Award, now advocates for the right to education for young girls in Pakistan and around the world. She also speaks on the importance of protecting religious minorities and the LGBT community in Pakistan. "I believe real change is when all girls can get an education, not forced into marriage," she said.

Two other youth speakers took the stage during NYE. Innovator Trisha Prabu works to confront cyberbullying in adolescents, which led her to create ReThink — a tech product that stops cyberbullying. Prabu was recently named one of the 15 most influential teens on the planet by the London Times. "I decided I wanted to be an upstander, not a bystander," she said. "It's easier to hide behind a screen than to talk to someone face to face."

Aidan Thomas Hornaday, who uses music to inspire those around him, spoke about the path of purpose he walks. He told the crowd to continually and relentlessly seek out those in need and help them. "If you give out of your passion it's not a burn out, it's a lifestyle. Why do anything besides what God meant you to be," said Hornaday, who formed AidanCares, which raises awareness of non-profits and promotes giving to those organizations

As part of the NYE service projects, youth and young adults went to a dozen Orlando-area nonprofit agencies or churches, sorting donations of food, clothing, furniture, and toiletries and helping with landscaping and painting. Others donated their hair at the Locks of Love on-site salon, which will be used to create hairpieces for children who lose their hair during medical treatment.

Recent NYE gatherings have used emerging technology; this year, attendees benefited from the launch of a smartphone application that let users keep up with schedules and event maps. This free application was downloaded by 76 percent (nearly 2,400 users) of the people in attendance and was used heavily throughout the event.

## Country Fair News

**The Fair will be held on  
Saturday, October 22nd  
from 9am to 3pm.!**



We are very excited to be having the Children's Booth back again as "Kids Corner". It will be operated by Holly Alessi, she is planning to sell toys, and play games. There will also be cotton candy sold. Also planned is a costume contest for the categories of scariest, prettiest and most original, plus a parade led by Liz Reed Swale. We will also have the pleasure of having Liz Reed sing in Chapin Hall.

The fair will be on 3 floors, the 3rd floor will have a White Elephant room, Antiques & Collectables and Sew Country (which will have all things sewing, knitting, etc.). On the 2nd floor will be the Tea Room, The bottom floor will have the Silent Auction, Kid's Corner, Holiday Shop and Jewelry. In Chapin Hall will be the Candy Shop, Bake Shop, Farmers Market and the Snack Shop.

The "Once Again" quilt will be on display and tickets will be available to purchase for a chance to win the quilt. The Quilt drawing will be held the same night as the Country Fair Dinner on November 5th at 5:30pm. Tickets for the dinner will be available during the fair and also be contacting the church office at (860) 529-4167.

If you would like to donate something for one of the booths or make something for the bake shop it would be greatly appreciated. For donations for the White Elephant or Kid's Corner we ask that it be clean and in good shape. I am sorry but we will not come and pick up. Being a volunteer is a great way to see the fair, if you want to volunteer but can't stay the whole day that is not a problem. We would love to have you help no matter how long you can stay.

### Booth Chairpersons:

Silent Auction: Elaine Somes .....	563-4099
Kid's Corner: Holly Alessi .....	680-3163
Holiday Shop: Lynn McKenna .....	836-0961
Jewelry: Bea Donahue .....	529-8687
Candy Shop: Candy Smith .....	563-4488
Bake Shop: Don & Polly Pagnucco .....	563-3233
Farmers Market: Ruth Jensen .....	563-4617
Tea Room: Sue Starr .....	529-3150
Sew Country: Nancy Rolfe & Anita Hawkins	
Antiques & Collectables: Nancy Harlow .....	529-4214
White Elephant: Bob Carberry .....	563-8311
Snack Shack: Jean & John Goff & Jeannie Alessi ...	529-3652



# 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 order for cards not kept in inventory will be submitted on August 28.

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.

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**

**August 7**

10:00am **Worship**

10:00am **Child Care**

10:00am **Church School**

**August 8**

**OFFICE CLOSED**

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

**August 9**

7:00pm **Hearing Voices**

**August 10**

9:00am **Breakfast Club**

5:30pm **Governance Mtg**

6:00pm **Pilates**

**August 11**

9:30am **Music Together**

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

**August 12**

**August 13**

**Sunday**

Chapin Hall

Room 4

Room 25

**Monday**

Chapin Hall

**Tuesday**

Fiorilli

**Wednesday**

Bob's Cafe

Fiorilli

Chapin Hall

**Thursday**

Room 25

Chapin Hall

**Friday**

**Saturday**



7	Linda Tokarski Noah Dion
8	Betty Mooney Galen Deming
11	Julia Pickett
12	Deb Copes
13	Steph Heneghan



**Wed. August 10 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!

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

Minister for Children and Youth: Georgette L. Huie [ghuie@rhccucc.org](mailto:ghuie@rhccucc.org)

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

Office Manager: Theresa E. Cleary [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org)

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

Child Care Provider: Liz Pulling