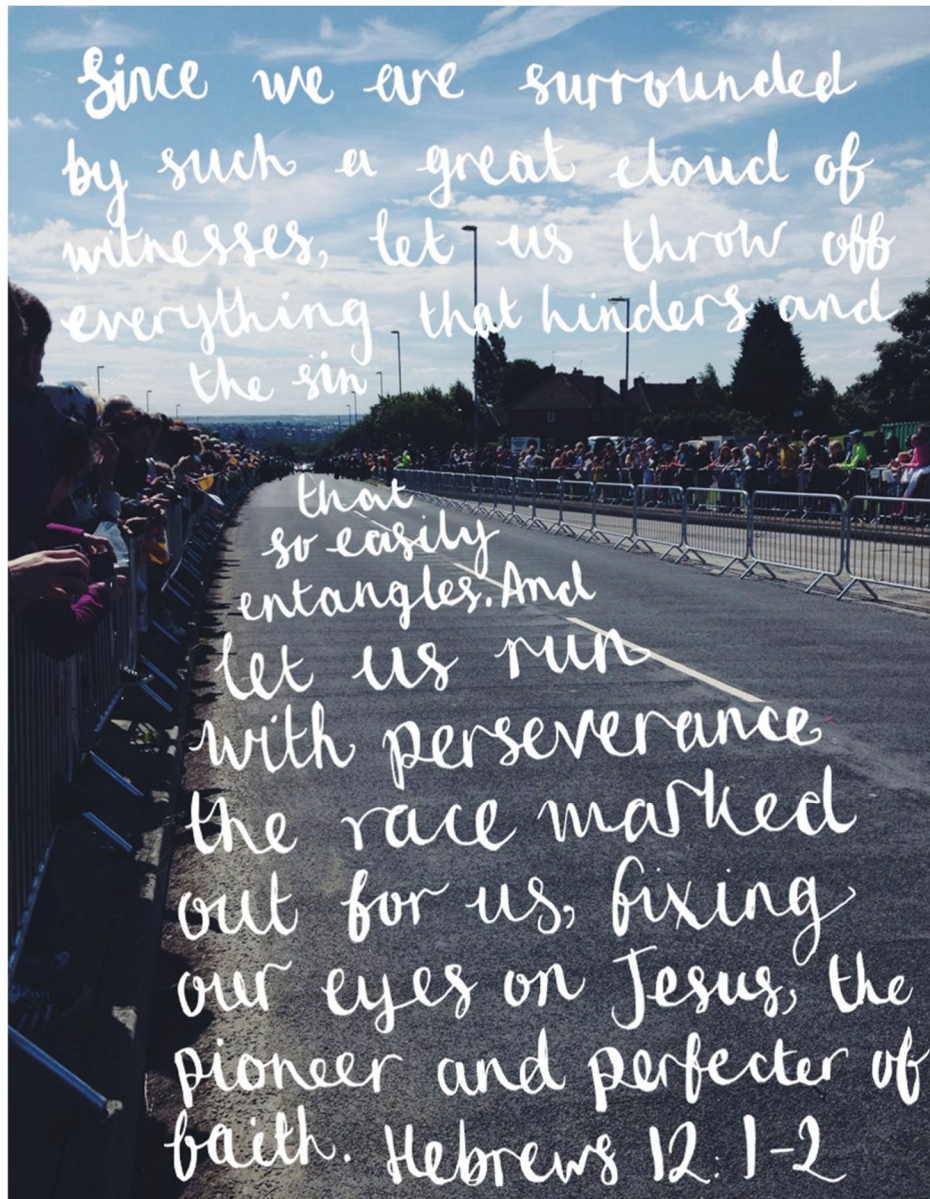


**ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



August 14, 2016 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

~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 He Is Exalted (Twila Paris)

Call to Worship

Leader: Let us sing to the God of Hosts

**People: who provides for us,
and whom we worship in this space.**

Leader: How awesome is our God

**People: who created from nothing
all that is beautiful in this world;**

Leader: who anticipates our every need;

People: who loves us beyond measure.

**ALL: O God, our God give heed to our presence.
Hear our voices lifted up to you in praise. Amen.**

***HYMN** "God, We Thank You for Our People" New Century (Black) 376

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Bold type denotes collective response

*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Most Gracious God

we greet you once again in this sacred space.

We have come because we need to be reminded
of your love and your expectations for our living.

We are like the vine you planted, watered and protected.

We know in our hearts

that we need, want and desire your presence in our lives.

So we come in prayer

and listen for your Word to speak to our hearts
and reveal again your desires for us.

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,

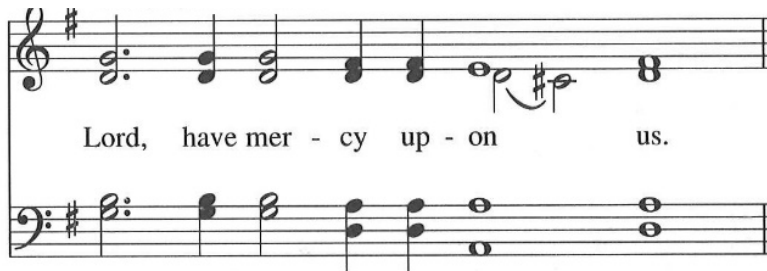
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

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


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

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Insert

ANTHEM

“Here I Am to Worship”

Tim Hughes

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Pew Bible NT p199

SERMON

“A Cloud of Witnesses”

The Rev. Craig L. Cowing

*HYMN

“At The Font We Start Our Journey”

New Century (black) 308

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

“Lamb of God”

Twila Paris

*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**

“For All The Saints”

New Century (black) 299

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

“The Lord Is the Strength of My Life”

Chris Machen

LITURGIST

Deb Copes

USHERS

Lois and Jim Stevens

HOSPITALITY

Christina Engel

GUEST PIANIST

Janet Schneider

*Today's Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of
My parents, **John and Marian Gray**
by Sue Monahan.*

LOOKING AHEAD

TODAY	10:00am	Worship in Chapin Hall Baptism of Matthew E. Bacon
Sun. Aug 21	10:00am	Worship in Chapin Hall Summer Sunday School
Sun. Aug 28	10:00am	Worship in Chapin Hall Childcare in Room 4
Sun. Sept 4	10:00am	Worship in Sanctuary/Communion
Sun. Sept 11	10:00am	Re-covenanting Sunday

Join us for Coffee, Food and Fellowship after Worship



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.

RHCC Golf Tournament – Sunday, September 25th



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

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.

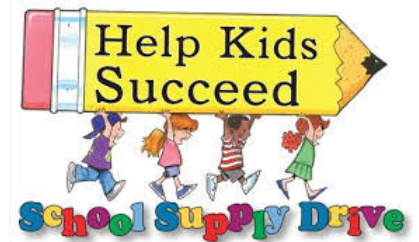
A sign-up sheet will be available in Chapin Hall in September, or you can contact Bill Hoffman (860-563-1367) to reserve your spot. Don't miss out on this fun event!

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.



SUMMER
WORSHIP



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.



On 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.

WORSHIP RECORDINGS AVAILABLE

Audio recordings, written sermons and bulletins for many of our Sunday worship services are available on the church website, rhccucc.org (See WORSHIP BULLETINS) or you may contact the office to request an audio CD or printed sermon.



Looking for something you left behind?
Check the Lost Found Boxes in
Chapin Hall
and by the rear doors.
Thank you.

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 Harlow529-4214
- 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 14

10:00am **Worship**

11:00am Coffee Hour

August 15

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

7:00pm Women's AA

August 16

7:00pm Hearing Voices

August 17

6:00pm Pilates

August 18

9:30am Music Together

7:30pm Men's AA

August 19

7:00pm **Harmonic Healing with Tibetan Singing Bowls – Weil Chapel**

In sound healing meditation, we use the healing vibrations of the singing bowls to uplift the spirit, relax the body and quiet the mind. 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!

This event is free and open to the public.

August 20

10:00am Kaplan SAT Prep

Saturday

Room 25



- | | |
|----|---|
| 14 | Jim Stevens
Carol Baran
Rhody Triblets |
| 15 | Tia Sheathelm |
| 17 | Joyce Toft
Denise Carberry
Molly Morgan |
| 20 | Laura Pawlich |

The church office will be closed on Monday, August 22nd.

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