

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



For those who want to save their life
will lose it,
and those who lose their life for my sake
will find it.

Matthew 16:25, NRSV

August 31, 2014 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Twelfth 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 and large-print bulletins** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is always available down the hall in Room 4.*

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

"Tis So Sweet To Trust in Jesus"

Stead/Kirkpatrick

Katie Hoffman-Fulda, flute

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon Michael Bower

Among the poor, among the proud, among the persecuted, among the privileged,

Christ is coming to make all things new.

In the private house, in the public place, in the wedding feast, in the judgment hall,

Christ is coming to make all things new.

With a gentle touch, with an angry word, with a clear conscience, with burning love,

Christ is coming to make all things new.

That the kingdom might come, that the world might believe,

that the powerful might stumble, that the hidden might be seen,

Christ is coming to make all things new.

*HYMN

"Beams of Heaven as I Go"

printed in bulletin

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

O God our Creator,
your kindness has brought us
the gift of a new morning.
Help us to leave yesterday,
and not to covet tomorrow,
but to accept the uniqueness of today.
By your love
celebrated in your Word,
seen in your Son,
brought near by your Spirit,
take from us what we need to carry no longer,
so that we may be free again
to choose to serve you
and to be served by each other.
All this we pray as Jesus teaches us, 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

The musical score is written in 6/8 time and consists of two systems. The first system has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature of 6/8. The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. Chords are indicated above the staff: C, G7, C, F, C. The lyrics are in Spanish and English. The second system continues the melody and bass line with chords F, C, Am, F, G7, C. The lyrics continue in Spanish and English.

C G7 C F C

¡San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zón te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

F C Am F G7 C

cor - a - zón te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Dios.
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, God.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

ANTHEM

“Give Me Jesus”

African American Spiritual

John Hoffman, Baritone

In the morning when I rise, Give me Jesus

Give me Jesus

You can have all this world

Give me Jesus.

And when I am alone, Give me Jesus.

Give me Jesus

You can have all this world

Give me Jesus.

Oh, when I come to die, Give me Jesus.

Give me Jesus

You can have all this world

Give me Jesus.

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Matthew 16:21-28

SERMON

“The Story of Losing Your Life”

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

*HYMN

“I’m So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me”

printed in bulletin

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 Anthem

“Nearer, My God, to Thee”

Victoria Bower, soprano; John Hoffman, baritone; Katie Hoffman-Fulda, flute

Nearer, my God to thee! Nearer to thee!

E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me.

Still all my song shall be nearer, my God, to thee.

Nearer my God to thee, nearer to thee!

*Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,
Darkness be over me, my rest a stone,
Yet in my dreams I'd be nearer, my God to thee,
Nearer my God to thee, nearer to thee!*

*Then with my waking thoughts bright with thy praise,
Out with my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;
So by my woes to be nearer, my God to thee,
Nearer my God to thee, nearer to thee!*

*Or, if on joyful wing cleaving the sky.
Sun, moon and stars forgot, Upward I fly.
Still all my song shall be nearer my God to thee.
Nearer my God to thee, nearer to thee!*

*Still all my song shall be nearer my God to thee
Nearer to thee!*

***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

“This Is a Day of New Beginnings”

printed in bulletin

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

(Please remain seated during the postlude.)

HOSPITALITY

Jean Goff, Jackie Little and Sue Monaghan

The flowers this week are given in memory of
My dad Frederick K. Rising by Lynn McKenna

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK IN THE SANCTUARY

RE-COVENANTING SUNDAY

September 14th, 2014

10:00 am

Join us for Re-Covenanting Sunday as we remember the promises we make to God and each other to act in love and discipleship as a community of faith. As we begin a year of reflection, transformation, and growth, come September 14th and be part of the spirit filled worship, special music including some outdoor drumming, a remembrance of our heritage, S.P.I.R.I.T. programming for our children and youth, and an ALL church block-party picnic following worship.

For All RHCC Officers and Members of Boards and Committees

A LEADERSHIP TRAINING WORKSHOP

Sunday, SEPTEMBER 7, following worship: 11:30 – 12:30

with Pastors Brenda and Meghan

An opportunity for all church lay leaders to review together the key aspects of being good leaders for the church, including planning and coordinating, communicating, documenting, making effective use of meeting time, and ensuring that church activity serves the church's core purpose.

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. Church School, for children in Pre-K through 8th grade,
will begin on Sunday, September 14th.

NOAH'S TABLE (6th-8th Grade) – September 7, 5 PM – 6:30 PM

Come join us as we cook dinner and launch off a great year together! Please RSVP by Friday, September 5, with Meghan Young at Meghan@rhccucc.org. One (1) Adult volunteer is needed for this gathering.

GROW YOUR FAITH & GET INVOLVED WITH S.P.I.R.I.T.

The RHCC S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School is a place that values intergenerational relationships, growing in faith, and learning throughout our lives to be the disciples Christ calls us to be. You are invited to come join the circle and get involved. For the 2014 church school we are looking for:

- 1) **Youth Group Advisor** – Regularly assists with youth group and coordinating events. Must be college age or older.
- 2) **S.P.I.R.I.T. Teachers** – Teachers commit to no more than 4 Sundays in a row. Teachers provide support and assistance to our children and youth during our chapel times. Programming is provided on days with individual classes break out for faith formation rotations. Training is provided. Ideally we are looking for 8 - 12 teachers willing to rotate throughout the year. Up to 4 teachers slots are available for high school students.
- 3) **S.P.I.R.I.T. Contributors** – Do you have a gift or skill, an ability to cook/bake, a love for crafts, a musical ability, an affinity for story-telling, a love of all things theater, a passion for organizing mission projects? Sign-up to be a S.P.I.R.I.T. Contributor. Join us for a one time class or chapel worship, and share you gift.

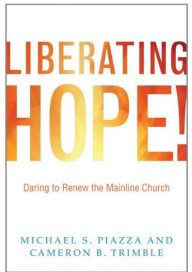
If you are interested in getting involved the S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School, please contact Meghan Young at Meghan@rhccucc.org to sign-up or to find out more information.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS: Nursery Volunteers are needed for Fall. If you are interested in volunteering in the Nursery during Sunday morning worship, please contact a member of the Childcare Committee (RHCCchildcare@gmail.com) for more information. You can also sign-up outside the Nursery.

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 21st 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.



CHOIR REHEARSALS TO BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER

You are invited to join!

Our Minister of Music, Mary DeLibero, has scheduled the first choir rehearsals for the new program year. If you are interested in joining the first practice, please contact Mary at mary@rhccucc.org for details.

Childrens Choir -	September 21 st at 11:30
Adult Choir	September 3 rd at 7:00pm.
Handbell Choir	Monday September 15 at 7:30 pm



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 is the deadline to order scrip cards that are not kept in inventory. Order forms may be turned in at the scrip table in Chapin Hall or emailed to treasurer@rhccucc.org. Orders placed today will be available for pickup next Sunday, Sept. 7.

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, Bonfish 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!



COUNTRY FAIR

**The Annual Country Fair will be held on
Saturday, October 4th, 2014
from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

The Annual Roast Beef Dinner will follow at 5:30 p.m.

Please consider donations for the following:

- ★ Bake Sale Don and Polly Pagnucco
- ★ Candy Booth Candy Smith
- ★ Farmers Market Ruth and Jay Jensen
- ★ Jewelry Booth Phyllis Wilkey
- ★ Kitchen Booth Elaine Somes
- ★ Mainly Media Elaine Somes
(CD's and DVD's only – NO VHS please)
- ★ Silent Auction Deb Copes and Ruth Fitzgerald

Volunteers are needed for the following:

- ★ Apple Pie workshop Wednesday October 1 and Thursday October 2
- ★ Servers for Roast Beef Dinner on Saturday October 4
Please contact Marsha Hoffman

RHCC Golf Tournament -- Sunday, September 21st



This year's fall RHCC golf tournament is scheduled for Sunday, September 21, 2014 at the Wethersfield Country Club. We are planning for (6) foursomes and tee times will start about 12:30 PM. Cost will be \$50 per golfer (+ \$5 for prizes) for 18 holes of golf and an electric cart. We will use a 4-man best ball scoring format, so the only score reported will be a team score.

Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in Chapin Hall. Also feel free to contact Bill Hoffman (860-563-1367) to reserve your spot. Don't miss out on this fun event! More details to follow.....

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

August 31

10:00am **Worship**

Sunday

Chapin Hall

September 1

OFFICE CLOSED

7:00pm Women's AA

Monday

Chapin Hall

September 2

7:00pm **Boards and Committee**

Tuesday

September 3

9:30am **Quilters**

7:00pm **Adult Choir**

Wednesday

Room 6

September 4

7:30pm Men's AA

Thursday

Chapin Hall

September 6

10:00am Outside group

3:00pm Outside group

Saturday



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Aug 31 Lily Hill
Barry Wilcock
Douglas Elliot
Sept 1 Marge Murk
2 Michael Fitzgerald
3 Carolyn Taylor
Tom Fulda
Phyllis Wilkey
Bob Inderbitzen
4 Elizabeth Pulling
John Corvo
6 Richard Starr
William White
Dorothy Bartley

OFFICE HOURS

Office hours are

Monday – Thursday

8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

QUILT RAFFLE TICKETS

Available TODAY

in Chapin Hall

Tickets are \$2.00

Book of 10 is \$20.00

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 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

Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: The Rev. Meghan D. Young
meghan@rhccucc.org

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero mary@rhccucc.org

Office Manager: Mitsey Baker office@rhccucc.org

Webmaster: Dave Hall webmaster@rhccucc.org