

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



September 6, 2015 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Fifteenth 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

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

“Moderato Cantabile”

Rachmaninoff

CALL TO WORSHIP

For all things there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

Now is the time to bring thanksgiving to God for all that has been and for all that is yet to be.

Let us come into God's presence with singing, for the Lord is good to us.

In steadfast love, God endures forever, and is faithful to all generations.

Thanks be to God,

Who in the Holy Spirit is with us always.

*HYMN

“Called As Partners in Christ's Service”

New Century (black) 495

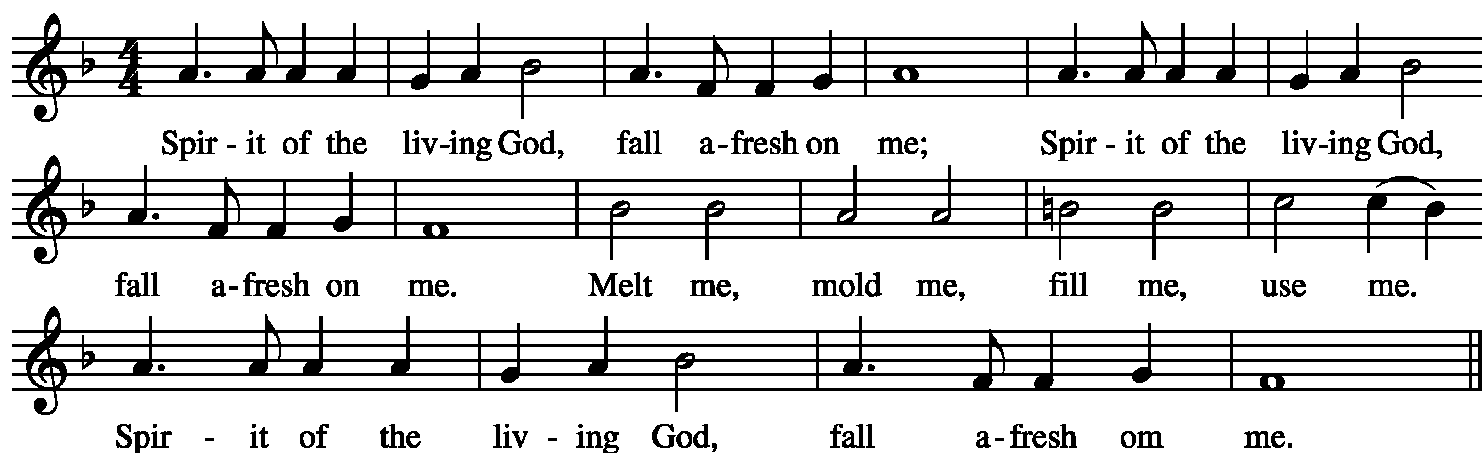
**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God, Who always is and Whose worlds are without end, hear the praises we sing for Your eternal goodness! In the rhythms of our lives, Your love is steadfast. In endings and beginnings, in days, seasons and years that come and go, in all times of passage Your faithfulness is sure. Grant that we may offer now our heart's true worship, and receive once again the blessing of Your Word. For You are the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End, the Spirit without Whom we are not whole. We pray in the name of the One Who has gone before us, and shown us whole and abundant life, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE



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

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Jeremiah 29:10-14

SERMON

“A Future With Hope”

The Rev. Bob Woodward

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, the pastor 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.

Val Triplets, soloist

***Doxology**



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;



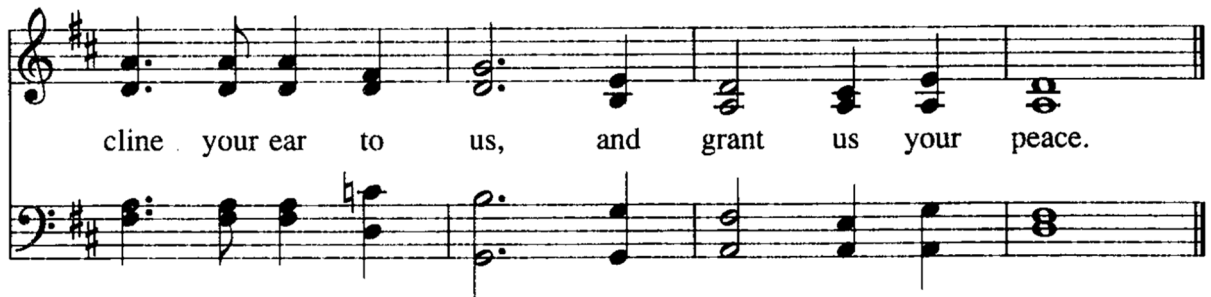
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

***Prayer of Dedication**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

Sung Call to Prayer



Pastoral Prayer

***HYMN**

“We Gather Together”

New Century (black) 421

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

This is one loaf made from many kernels;
This is one cup filled from many grapes;
Let us be one body made from many view points.

**Let us be joined by Christ at this holy table;
Let us give our thanks for the love bestowed;
Let us be welcomed as God’s children cherished and forgiven.**

Let us find our life in the light of Jesus;
Beneath the cross let us be made whole;
Now at Christ’s table let us be empowered and strengthened.

**Let us be made one, kneaded, worked together;
In Christ’s name let us serve God’s world.
Let us spread love’s message justice and compassion.
Let us praise God with a single voice.
Let us be one body bound by Love Incarnate.**

Prayer of Preparation and the Lord’s Prayer

O God, as we gather at Your table and partake of bread and cup, by the power of Your Spirit grant that in mutual love, forgiveness, and acceptance we may find union with one another and with Christ Jesus Who is risen and living, and with us always, and in Whose name we pray,

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.**

Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty God, we give You thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed at Christ's table that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of Your love and that Your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ Who makes all things new. 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** "In the Bulb There Is A Flower" New Century (black) 433

WORDS FROM BOB

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE**

LITURGIST

Gail Hall

COMMUNION SERVERS

Judy Graham, Michael Bower, Deb Copes
Chris Sheehan, Wendy Ware, and Barry Wilcock

HOSPITALITY

Lynn McKenna



A sincere **thank you** to the Reverend Bob Woodward.
We appreciate his ministry with us and his compassionate care and concern
for our congregation during the summer.

LOOKING AHEAD:

**Our new Minister begins his work with us
this coming Tuesday September 8th.**

**On Sunday, September 13, we welcome Craig L. Cowing and his
wife, Anita Hawkins, as they join RHCC during his first Sunday
as our new Pastor.**

A graphic of a nametag with a dark top section containing the text "Hello my name is" and a white bottom section containing the text "EVERYBODY AT CHURCH SHOULD WEAR A NAMETAG".

Hello
my name is

**EVERYBODY
AT CHURCH SHOULD
WEAR A NAMETAG**

PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR A NAMETAG

With new staff coming on board in the coming months, this will be all the more important!
Please remember to wear your nametag every Sunday!

COMING EVENTS!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 – RALLY DAY / RECOVENANTING SUNDAY



Join us as we celebrate the beginning of the church year! This will be our first Sunday with Rev. Craig Cowing leading us in worship; and our new Minister of Children and Youth, Georgette Huie, will lead the Message for All Ages! After service, all parents may sign up their school-age children for the new church school program! And join us in Chapin Hall for a special lunch, sponsored by the Board for Faith Formation.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 –
Worship in the Sanctuary –
CHURCH SCHOOL PROGRAM BEGINS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 – HERITAGE SUNDAY

Join us as we celebrate our 50 year members, and our long history as RHCC! Please feel free to bring photos, mementos, and any historical items related to the church, and place them on the table in Chapin Hall that morning.

RHCC GOLF TOURNAMENT -- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

This year's fall RHCC golf tournament is scheduled for Sunday, September 2, 2015 at the Wethersfield Country Club. We are planning for up to (12) foursomes and tee times will start at 12:20 PM. Cost will be \$55 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.

A light buffet-style luncheon will be offered at the Country Club prior to the start of the tournament. Also, we will gather after the round for refreshments, trading of golf lies and awarding of prizes.

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.....



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 earned more than \$1200 from scrip during August, our 24th consecutive month of topping the \$1000 mark in earnings. For the summer months combined, our scrip earnings of approx. \$4600 were 20% higher than last summer's. Thanks to all who have persisted in buying scrip through the summer.

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
On the Border, TGI Fridays, Outback Steakhouse

Shopping: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond,
Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, L. L. Bean, Lowes, Payless Shoes,
Target, Toys R Us, Walmart

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

September 6

10:00am **Worship**
3:00pm Tamil School

Sunday

Chapin Hall
Chapin Hall

September 7

OFFICE CLOSED

7:00pm Women's AA

Monday

Chapin Hall

September 8

7:00pm Hearing Voices
7:00pm Boards and Committees

Tuesday

Room 24

September 9

9:00am Breakfast Club
5:30pm Pilates w/Caroline
6:00pm Kaplan
7:30pm Adult Choir

Wednesday

Bob's Café
Chapin Hall
Room 24
Mary's

September 10

7:30pm Men's AA

Thursday

Chapin Hall

September 12

9:30am Adoption Resolution

Saturday

Fiorilli Room



Sept. 6 Dick Starr
Dorothy Bartley
8 Mollie Engel
9 Tom Schreier
10 Ellie Mahar
Lisa Corvo
11 Katherine Flynn
12 James Rolfe

Rocky Hill Food Pantry

Food insecurity does not take a vacation in the summer months. The number of families dependent on the Rocky Hill Food Pantry is growing. Clients may receive 1 bag (single person) every 21 days. The current need is protein items (**tuna, canned chicken, Spam, canned ham, Chef Boyardee canned pasta, Vienna Sausage, hash, stew**). Additionally, **coffee, tea, crackers, and breakfast items** are in short supply. **Laundry detergent, toilet tissue, paper towels and shampoos** are always

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

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

Closed Monday and Friday

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

Bridge Pastor: The Rev. Robert G. Woodward

Minister for Children and Youth: Georgette L. Huie

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero mary@rhccucc.org

Office Manager: Mitsey Baker office@rhccucc.org

Webmaster: Dave Hall webmaster@rhccucc.org