

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



September 7, 2014 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday

~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. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

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

"Take It To The Lord In Prayer"

arr. By Liz Reed Swale

Liz Reed-Swale

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

The sinners, the saints, the broken, the whole...

all gather as the people of God.

The confident, the fearful, the wonderers, the wanderers...

all together are the household of faith.

With the prayers of our hearts we come today...

to be touched by a grace enough for all.

Whoever we are, wherever we are on life's journey...

we are welcomed at the table of Christ,

we are gathered into the community of faith.

Come now and enter the spirit of worship,

for God is in the midst of us

and we are in the midst of God.

*HYMN

"Holy Spirit Ever Dwelling"

New Century (black) 59

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

***GATHERING PRAYER**

Holy One, we gather once more in your presence,
that we might dwell in thanks and praise,
that we might renew our common life,
that we might receive a fresh hearing of your Word,
a new seeing of your grace.
Open us, awaken us, renew us;
help us know ourselves as your forgiven and beloved,
your called and sent....
help us know ourselves again as the community of Christ.
In his name and spirit we pray, Amen.

***SUNG RESPONSE**



MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Matthew 6:5-13

Luke 11:1-4

SERMON

“Why Pray?”

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

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 "Twenty Four Hour Prayer"

Don McKeever

Liz Reed-Swale, Vocalist

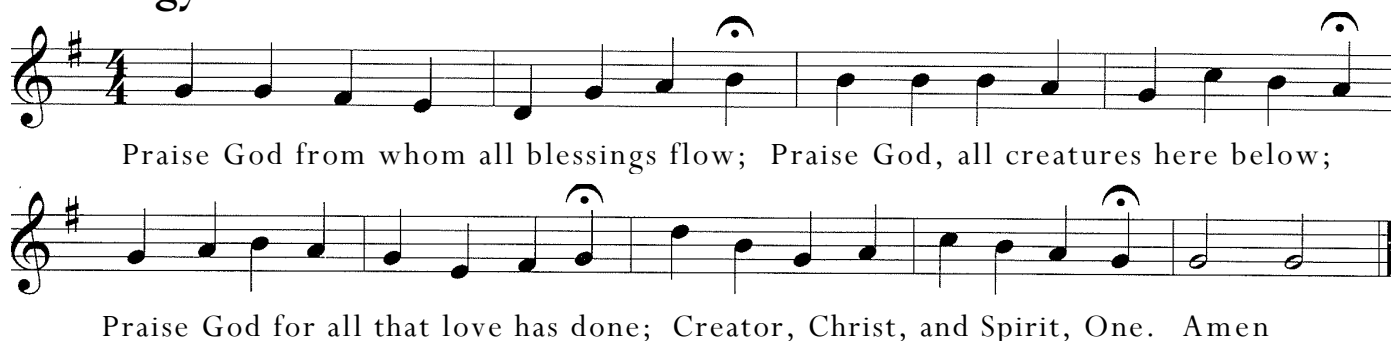
*Oh my dear God, what this day brings:
Calm loving talk, or fright'ning things.
Help me to know You're in ev'rything;
All of my days in Your caring.*

*Blessed sustaining security,
Blessed refrains of music for me,
Blessed remaining futures to see.
Oh, my dear God, this day will be.*

*And when at night, the time to bring
All of my thoughts, fears, dreams and things
Done and undone. may I still cling
To Your blest side, and hear You sing.*

*Blessed sustaining security,
Blessed refrains of music for me,
Blessed remaining futures to see.
Oh, my dear God, this night will be.*

*Doxology



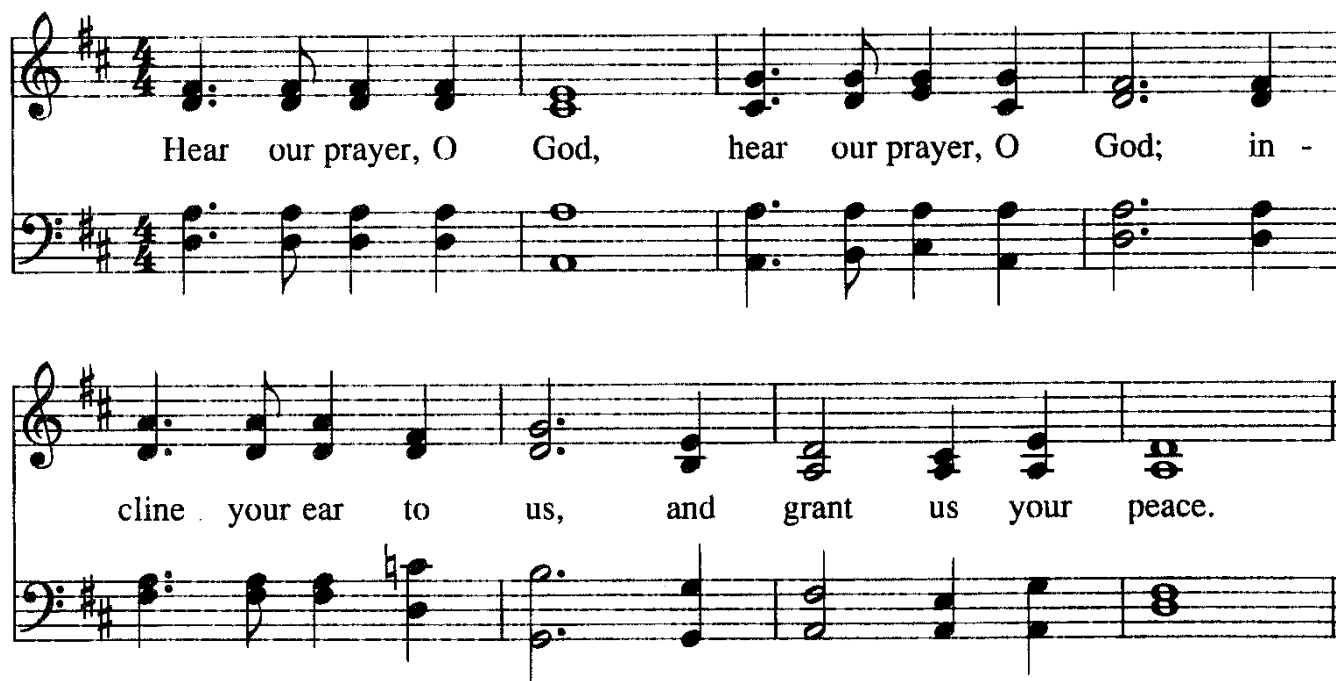
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

*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.

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

When Jesus was among the people,
from the fullness of his grace he fed them all.

**When Jesus was among the people in body,
he invited them to one table,
welcoming those who had never been welcomed before.**

When Jesus was no longer among the people in body,
he continued to live among them in spirit,
and they remembered what he had said,

**that forever after he would be among them in the meal,
in the fellowship of the open table,
and that they would be his body now –
a new community of love.**

With the faithful through time and beyond time,
we share this meal as the one Body of Christ,

sign of God’s grace and promise of the world that is yet to be.

Prayer of Preparation and the Lord’s Prayer

...in Christ’s name and spirit, we pray as we also say together:

**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.**

The Words of Institution: Recalling the Story

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

For the gifts of your table, we give thanks, O God,
for once more you have called and gathered us,
filled and renewed us.

Now you send us out to be living gospel –
bread for each other and light for the world.

May it be so with us! Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

*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**

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

New Century (black) 76

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

“Prelude in F”

J.S. Bach

COMMUNION SERVERS

Candy Smith, Stephanie Heneghan, Cheryl Hummel,
Chris Sheehan, Wendy Ware, Barry Wilcock
John Sword, Victoria Bower, Bob Inderbitzen

USHERS

GREETERS

Kim Batterson Biglow

HOSPITALITY

Sue Monaghan and Stephanie Heneghan

The flowers are given by Nancy Parsons.

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

TODAY, 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.



CHECK THE LOST AND FOUND TABLE IN CHAPIN HALL.

Many new items have been added this week - some have been found for quite some time —earrings, a Chevy key, crosses to name a few.

If you were in church last Sunday (August 31) please check your pockets, pocketbooks, or any place keys may be put, to see if you picked up car keys belonging to Lynn McKenna. Pictures of her grandchildren are on the key chain.

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) – TONIGHT, 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. 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.

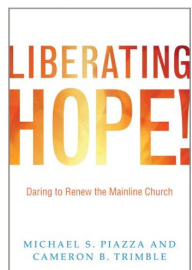
If you are interested in getting involved the S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School, please contact Meghan Young at Meghan@rhccucc.org to sign-up or to find out more information.

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 held Sunday September 28 during the second hour.

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 21st at 11:30

Adult Choir

September 3rd 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.

Cards ordered last Sunday are available for pickup this morning. We had our best August results ever, with profits of approximately \$1300 - the first time we've ever topped the \$1000 mark in August. During the month, 35 members and friends ordered cards with a total face amount of almost \$20,000. Thanks to everyone who continues to support this vital fundraising program.

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, Bonefish 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.

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 exaggerations 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.....

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

September 7

10:00am	Worship	Chapin Hall
11:30am	Leadership Workshop	Chapin Hall
4:00pm	Tamil Sangam	Rm 22, 23, 24, 25
5:00pm	Noah's Table	

Sunday

September 8

10:00pm	Little Scholars Preschool	Chapin Hall
7:00pm	Women's AA	Chapin Hall
7:00pm	Fair Committee	Fiorilli Room

Monday

September 9

8:30am	Breakfast Club	Bob's Cafe
7:00pm	Council	Fiorilli Room

Tuesday

September 10

9:30am	Quilters	Room 6
6:00pm	Kaplan SAT Prep	Room 24
7:00pm	Adult Choir	

Wednesday

September 11

7:30pm	Men's AA	Chapin Hall
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Thursday

September 12

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Friday

September 13

10:00am	Kaplan SAT Prep	Room 24
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Saturday



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sept 8	Mollie Engel
9	Thomas Schreier
10	Eleanor Maher
	Lisa Corvo
11	Katherine Flynn
12	James Rolfe

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

Friday

8:30 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

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