ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



September 9, 2018 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Re-Covenanting 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 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 "Praeludium" Dietrich Buxtehude

CALL TO WORSHIP

Michael Andonucci

L: We welcome the presence of God, who commanded faithful people throughout the ages to love God, love neighbor and love ourselves.

All: We welcome the presence of Jesus, our teacher and brother, who reminded us again that the whole of God's law can be summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

L: We welcome the presence of the Spirit, which moves us to love our neighbor through the hearing and understanding of their diverse voices and languages, just like on that first Pentecost day.

All: Let us love God, our neighbor and ourselves. Welcome neighbor!

Bold type denotes collective response *Please rise in body or in spirit.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

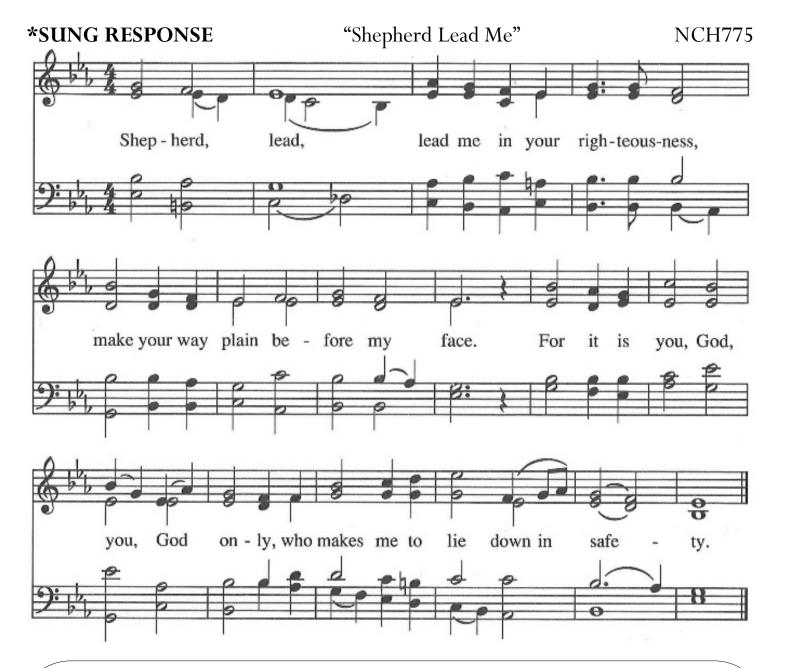
Our God, this morning we ask for your presence as we celebrate the covenant with have with you as your people. We pray that you will help us to invite and welcome others to be in this covenant as well, so that we don't keep your goodness to ourselves.

Help us to welcome our neighbor and extend to each person the love with which you surround us.

We ask 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.

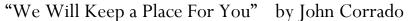




The theme of this morning's sermon is from the "Three Great Loves" initiative of the United Church of Christ. The theme, "Love of Neighbor," The Three Great Loves are: Love of Neighbor, Love of Children, Love of Creation. 3 Great Loves is our denomination-wide story telling initiative. In the coming years, the United Church of Christ will collect and lift up the stories of our local churches and affiliates. Stories about how we are living out God's love and expressing love of neighbor, children and creation, our 3 Great Loves. From knitting clubs making hats for newborns; collecting food for food pantries; standing together against a social injustice; no story is too insignificant to share. The hope of this initiative is to tell, and share the story, of how individuals, churches and organizations of the UCC are impacting and transforming the world as covenantal partners united in our common purpose, vision and mission. Work that lives out the love of God and leads to creating a just world for all.

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL

(Children are invited to depart for S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School)









ANTHEM

"Morning Has Broken"
The Choir

Cat Stevens

SCRIPTURE

Mark 7:24-37

Pew Bible NT p.42

SERMON

"Outside the Comfort Zone"

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

*HYMN

"Great Is Your Faithfulness"

NCH 423

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, the minister will come down 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

"Offertoire"

Charles Chauvet

*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



Pastoral and Silent Prayer

BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Jubilation on "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" $\,$

Larry Visser

LITURGIST USHERS HOSPITALITY

Michael Andonucci Christopher Sheehan, Deb Copes and Steve Smith InReach



The Tower is lit this week in loving memory of
Marvie Baize and all impacted by Alzheimers
By Gail and Natalie Tine

TODAY 10:00am Re-covenanting Sunday, Sanctuary

9:30am Child Care during Worship, room 4

10:15am Church School Worship in Chapel

11:00am Church School Registration

Noon Lunch Provided by Faith Formation





RHCC Music Ministry

We are gearing up for the fall! The adult choir, bell choir, children's choir and drum choir will be starting rehearsals soon. If you are interested in joining any of the groups, or if you play an instrument and would like to play in church, please contact Mary at mary@rhccucc.org or 860-529-4167.

"SEEDS NEED A GOOD SOIL" Stewardship Seminar Tuesday, September 11, 6:30 p.m. Seminar led by Charlie Kuchenbrod



Rocky Hill Congregational Church's *Time, Talent and Treasure Ministry* is pleased present the "Seeds Need a Good Soil" seminar on Tuesday, September 11th, in Chapin Hall, 805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill. Charlie Kuchenbrod is the Executive Associate to the UCC Connecticut Conference Minister, who oversees the Conference's Finance and Development Team. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m, and the presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Come with open minds and hearts and listen to how we can each build a legacy of Stewardship in ourselves, in our families and in our church.

All are Welcome!!

Please register with the church office: office@rhccucc.org or 860-529-4167



ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill www.RockyHillUCC.org www.facebook.com/rhccucc



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
- ➤ Gas: Exxon/Mobil, Shell, Sunoco
- ➤ Pharmacy: CVS, Walgreens
- Fast food: Boston Market, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's
- Restaurants:Bonefish Grill, Buffalo Wild Wings, 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, Walmart
- Fig Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, WholeFoods, Westside Market

The next order for cards not stocked in inventory will be placed on September 23.

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.

Stop by 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

<u>September 9</u>

10:00am **Worship** 9:30am **Childcare**

10:15am Church School 11:00am Coffee Hour

Noon – Faith Formation Lunch

Women's AA

Faith Formation

<u>Sunday</u>

Sanctuary Room 4

Chapel

Chapin Hall

Chapin Hall

<u>Monday</u>

Chapin Hall

Fiorilli

September 11

<u>September 10</u>

7:00pm

7:00pm

10:00am Interim Ministers UCC

6:30pm **Stewardship Seminar**

7:00pm Hearing Voices

<u>Tuesday</u>

Chapel/Fiorilli Chapin Hall

Room 6

September 12 Wednesday

9:00am **Breakfast Club** Bob's Coffee Shop

September 13 Thursday

7:00pm **Bible Study** Fiorilli

7:00pm Fair Mtg Room 6 or 22 7:30pm Men's AA Chapin Hall

<u>September 14</u>

9:30am **Preschool Music**

Friday

Room 6

<u>September 15</u>

10:00am ACA Group

Saturday

Fiorilli Room

RHCC Golf Tournament - Sunday, September 16th

Don't forget to register for this year's Fall RHCC golf tournament at the Wethersfield Country Club. Tee times will start about 12:30pm. Sign up sheets are in Chapin Hall. For info: Bill Hoffman (860-563-1367) to reserve your spot. *Don't miss out on this fun event!*





11 Katherine Flynn

11 Amy Wiknik

12 James Rolfe

15 Gail Walker

15 Ilona Laporte



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: www.RockyHillUCC.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 <u>ccowing@rhccucc.org</u>

Minister for Children and Youth: Georgette L. Huie ghuie@rhccucc.org

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero <u>mary@rhccucc.org</u>

Office Manager: Theresa E. Cleary office@rhccucc.org

Webmaster: Steve Smith <u>admin@rhccucc.org</u>

Child Care Provider: Liz Pulling <u>lrpulling@icloud.com</u>