

**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.



***SUNG RESPONSE**

“Shepherd Lead Me”

NCH775

Shep - herd, lead, lead me in your righ-teous-ness,

The first system of musical notation for the song "Shepherd Lead Me". It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The lyrics "Shep - herd, lead, lead me in your righ-teous-ness," are written below the treble staff. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with accompaniment in the bass staff.

make your way plain be - fore my face. For it is you, God,

The second system of musical notation. The lyrics "make your way plain be - fore my face. For it is you, God," are written below the treble staff. The melody continues in the treble staff, with accompaniment in the bass staff.

you, God on - ly, who makes me to lie down in safe - ty.

The third system of musical notation, concluding the song. The lyrics "you, God on - ly, who makes me to lie down in safe - ty." are written below the treble staff. The melody concludes in the treble staff, with accompaniment in the bass staff.

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.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Georgette Huie

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL

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



“We Will Keep a Place For You” by John Corrado

We will keep a place for you where - ev - er you may go.

We'll sus-tain this home of faith and love you've come to know. Go in peace, bring

hope to hearts that yearn. We will keep a place for you 'till you re-turn.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and common time (C). The lyrics are written below the notes. A decorative flourish is centered below the third staff.

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

Sung Call to Prayer

“On Eagle’s Wings”

NCH774



And God will raise you up on ea - gle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the
sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

***HYMN**

“We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness”

NCH 179

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE** Jubilation on “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Larry Visser

LITURGIST

Michael Andonucci

USHERS

Christopher Sheehan, Deb Copes and Steve Smith

HOSPITALITY

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
- Grocery: Big 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

September 9

10:00am **Worship**
9:30am **Childcare**
10:15am **Church School**
11:00am **Coffee Hour**
Noon – **Faith Formation Lunch**

September 10

7:00pm Women's AA
7:00pm **Faith Formation**

September 11

10:00am Interim Ministers UCC
6:30pm **Stewardship Seminar**
7:00pm Hearing Voices

September 12

9:00am **Breakfast Club**

September 13

7:00pm **Bible Study**
7:00pm **Fair Mtg**
7:30pm Men's AA

September 14

9:30am **Preschool Music**

September 15

10:00am ACA Group

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Chapel
Chapin Hall
Chapin Hall

Monday

Chapin Hall
Fiorilli

Tuesday

Chapel/Fiorilli
Chapin Hall
Room 6

Wednesday

Bob's Coffee Shop

Thursday

Fiorilli
Room 6 or 22
Chapin Hall

Friday

Room 6

Saturday

Fiorilli Room



11	Katherine Flynn
11	Amy Wiknik
12	James Rolfe
15	Gail Walker
15	Ilona Laporte



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!*

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 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: Steve Smith admin@rhccucc.org

Child Care Provider: Liz Pulling lrpulling@icloud.com