

**Rocky Hill
Congregational Church
Established 1727
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**



September 12, 2010

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 A.M

**The Friendly Church at the Center
An Open and Affirming Community**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

We welcome all and extend a special greeting to our guests; our service is enriched by your presence! 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 downstairs in Room 4.

Please include your full address and phone number as you sign our friendship pads. Thanks to everyone who wears a name tag and helps our ministry of hospitality. All announcements should be written down and given to the Pastor prior to worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Hoffman, Senior Pastor Search Committee Chairperson

This morning's service is part of the candidating weekend for our new Senior Pastor. We gather to worship God and to hear the candidating sermon of The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio. Today's ushers and worship leaders are members of the Senior Pastor Search Committee. A special congregational meeting will be held at the conclusion of the service to vote on calling Donna as the new senior pastor of our church. Child care is available in the nursery for the congregational meeting.

PRELUDE

“Amazing Grace”

Valerie Triblets, soloist

David Lewis, accompanist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gail Hall

Leader: *Gracious and loving Creator, we come today in joy;*

People: **We come to celebrate your love in our midst.**

Leader: *We come here secure and assured*

People: **of your forgiveness and your truth,**

Leader: *your salvation and joy,*

People: **your sustaining love and your compelling will.**

Leader: *Lead us, gracious God, in faith, through the hours and days ahead,*

People: **to glorify you and to serve one another.**

* HYMN

“Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

New Century Hymnal #459

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

Pat Howland

God of grace and God of glory, thank you for the blessings of this day. Gather us into your presence and care. Make us one with you, and make us one with each other. Teach us once again to walk gently on your path of love: seeking justice, making peace, and cherishing the earth and all our brothers and sisters. In the name and spirit of Jesus, our good shepherd, we pray, saying the words he teaches us,

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.

* GLORIA PATRI



Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost;
As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A - men. A - men.

A MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Pastor Donna K. Manocchio

A READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Luke 15:1-10

ANTHEM

“Rejoice with Me”

by Vicki Hancock Wright

SERMON

“Surprise! Surprise!”

Pastor Donna K. Manocchio

* HYMN

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

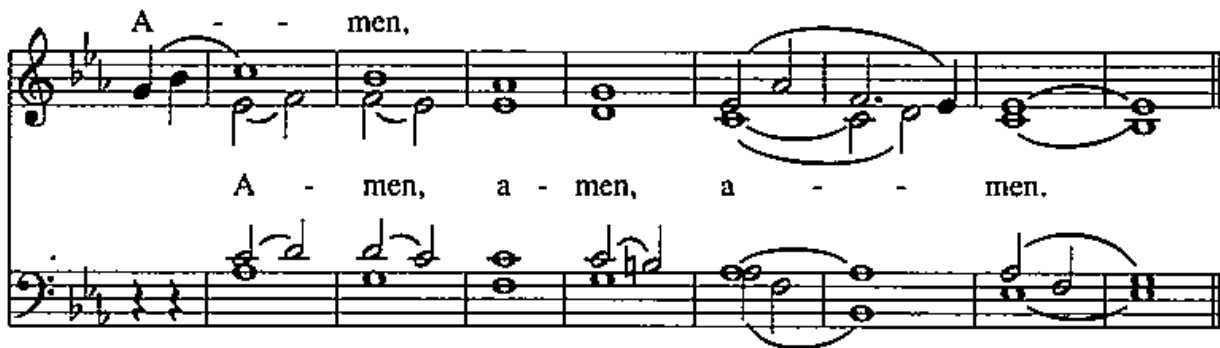
Pilgrim Hymnal #327

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Barry Wilcock

PRAYER RESPONSE



A - - men,
A - men, a - men, a - - men.

OFFERING INVITATION

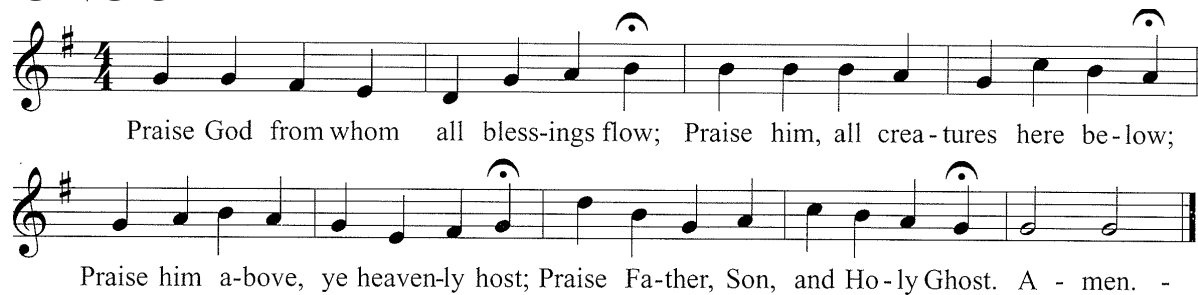
For those who have already given their offering, Giving Cards are available in your pew so that all may participate in giving back to God with joy and gratitude.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“The Hallelujah Side”

setting by Stan Pethel

* DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A - men. -

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Michael Bower

* HYMN

“Amazing Grace”

New Century Hymnal #547

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Closing Voluntary”

by Francis Linley

*(*Please rise in body and in spirit)*

GREETERS

Julia and David Pickett

HOSPITALITY

Joan and Jim Ross

USHERS

Louise Butts, Neil Cox, Laura Pawlich
Dave Sageman, Lynn Webster

**There are two flower arrangements on the altar this morning.
They are:**

in celebration of our son, James', birthday by Tom and Nancy Rolfe.

In honor of Don's mother for her 95th birthday by Mr. and Mrs. Don Pagnucco.

The tower is lit this week in loving memory of Catherine Macri by grandmother, Joan Tennyson.

NEXT WEEK SEPTEMBER 19, 2010

Scripture: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Sermon: "Just Do It!"

Pastor Barbara J. Libby

CALL TO SPECIAL CHURCH MEETING

A special congregational meeting of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is called for today, September 12, 2010 immediately following worship in the sanctuary for the following item of business:

To act upon the recommendation of the Senior Pastor Search Committee to call the Reverend Donna K. Manocchio as our new Senior Pastor:

There will be no other business transacted at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha G. Hoffman, Clerk

Rocky Hill Congregational Church United Church of Christ 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 in us. *Voted in by congregational vote June 2009*

Ministry Team

Ministers: All the members of the church

Interim Pastor: The Reverend Barbara J. Libby barblibby@rhccucc.org

Associate Pastor: The Reverend Donna K. Manocchio associate@rhccucc.org

Acting Director of Christian Education: Meghan Davis Young
christianed@rhccucc.org

Pastor Emeritus: The Reverend Arthur C. Weil

Director of Music: William Kanute music@rhccucc.org

Church Office: Carol Harvey office@rhccucc.org 860 529-4167

Webmaster: Dave Hall webmaster@rhccucc.org - Church Website:
rhccucc.org

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

SEPTEMBER 12, MONDAY

10:00am	Candidating Sermon	Sanctuary
11:00am	Vote	Sanctuary
11:30am	Coffee and...	Chapin Hall
11:30am	Lions Club Meeting	Childcare Room

SEPTEMBER 13, MONDAY

5:30pm	Yoga with Lynn	Chapin Hall
7:00pm	RHCCNS meeting	Fiorilli Room
7:00pm	Women's AA	Room 23
7:30pm	Bell Choir	Loft

SEPTEMBER 14, WEDNESDAY

8:30am	Breakfast Club	Tim Horton's
7:00pm	Council Meeting	Fiorilli Room

SEPTEMBER 15, WEDNESDAY

9:00am	Quilters	Room 6
10:00am	Book Club	Fiorilli Room
11:00am	Community Event	Choir Room
12:00pm	Yoga with Lynn	Chapin Hall
12:30pm	Bible Study	Fiorilli Room
6:00pm	Yoga with Pam	Chapin Hall
7:30pm	Adult Choir	Choir Room

SEPTEMBER 16, THURSDAY

8:30am	Yoga with Lynn	Chapin Hall
11:00am	Community Event	Chapin Hall
5:30pm	TOPS	Chapin Hall
7:00pm	Theology on Tap	Wood 'n Tap
8:00pm	Men's AA	Chapin Hall

SEPTEMBER 17, SATURDAY

6:30pm	Wedding Rehearsal	Sanctuary
--------	--------------------------	-----------

SEPTEMBER 18, SATURDAY

8:30am	Yoga w/Lynn	Chapin Hall
11:00am	Wedding	Sanctuary



Birthdays
This
Week!

12	James Rolfe
13	Ryan Moore
15	Gail Walker
	Tony Lupacchino
	John Doll
	Ben Bishop
17	Neal Jensen
	Phyllis Carlo
	Donna Manocchio
18	Val Calcagni

"The Interfaith Amigos"
From Seattle, Washington

Pastor Don MacKenzie

Rabbi Ted Falcon

Sheikh Jamal Rahman

Monday, September 27

7:15p.m.Refreshments

7:30-9:00pm Program

Asylum Hill Cong'l Church

817 Asylum Ave, Hartford

\$5-\$10 donations to meet costs

will be welcomed

Books available for purchase and
signing

RSVP: jpf7332@comcast.net or
call 860 236-0580

All Lions Club Fundraiser Volunteers

will meet in the "childcare" room following the congregational meeting for ten minutes to discuss the Lions Club Fundraiser event. Grab a coffee and head down to the Childcare room for a briefing on what is needed as a volunteer for the Lions Club Fundraiser event. Contact Elaine Somes if unable to attend. 860-563-4099. Thank you



Donna will lead worship service

Today, September 12 at 10:00 a.m.

Interim Pastors traditionally are not present for the candidating weekend events or worship. Interim Pastor Barbara Libby is away this weekend visiting with her mother in New Hampshire and holding everyone at RHCC in her prayers as she awaits news of the vote.

Congregational Meeting Following Worship to



Vote to call Donna as our new Senior Pastor will be taken



BLESSING OF
ANIMALS

Sunday, October 3rd at 1:30 p.m. – All pets are welcome (within reason!) – Brief service on church grounds – Certificate to be presented to your animal – Snacks for animal (and human alike!) – Please call Joan Diaz (613-2889) if you wish to attend.



ITS TEE TIME AGAIN!

Sunday, September 26 at Rolling Greens Golf Course @ Century Hills, Rocky Hill CT – 1st Tee Time 1:00 p.m. – Contact Bill Hoffman 860 563-1367 or Tim Dostie 860 563-5663

Handbell Choir Resumes Practice – Monday, September 13

“The Breakfast Club” – Tuesday, September 14 at TIM HORTON’S on Silas Deane Highway, Rocky Hill – All Welcome! Coffee and conversation (or a full breakfast of you’d like!) and discussion about life, current events, church, and the way of faith. Call the office, or email Donna (associate@rhccucc.org)

Theology on Tap – Thursday, September 16 at 7:00pm – at The Wood-N-Tap on Townline Road, Rocky Hill –Interested in sharing questions and experiences about God and God’s presence in your life? If so, come and join with other church members and friends in the “back room” of the Wood-N-Tap restaurant. Bring a friend and see you at the Tap! Contact Donna (associate@rhccucc.org or on FACEBOOK) if you have questions, want to suggest a topic, or can join us for a gathering.

**LIONS CLUB BAZAAR FUNDRAISER
ELM RIDGE PARK, ELM STREET ROCKY HILL**

September 16th – 18th / Thursday 6 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Friday 6 p.m. – 10 p.m. / Saturday 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Rocky Hill Congregational Church Booth Selling Hamburgers and Hot Dogs
Sign up in Chapin Hall to help out an hour or two call Elaine Somes 860-563-4099.

Rally Day September 19th – We welcome back our church school family. Eat tasty desserts and a put on your best pose in our fun family picture booth. If able, families should come with registration forms (one per child) or prepared to fill one out (*see form in newsletter.*)

Women of the Bible Scripture Study – (formerly “Bad Girls of the Bible”) Thursday, September 23 at 7:00 PM in the Fiorilli Room – Thursday, September 23 at 7:00pm in the Fiorilli Room with an exploration of Bathsheba. As we seek to understand the meaning of God’s word and work in our lives and in our world. Come and pray, read, talk, laugh, and eat together!

Church School Kick-Off – **The first day of Sunday School will be Sunday, September 26th.** Church school now ends at 11:15 am. Look out for announcements regarding the kick-off, and information about a parent’s meeting.

HOMECOMING/HERITAGE SUNDAY / SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2010 – Come join us for a Special Sunday! 10:00 a.m. Service – Honoring 50+ Year Members and Food, Fun, & Fellowship in Chapin Hall. More information to follow. For transportation call the church office at 860-529-4167

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP GATHERING – Sunday, September 26th, Chapin Hall 5:30 p.m. Catered dinner and fellowship. Cost \$10 pp. Appetizers, main dish and dessert will be served. Please sign up in Chapin Hall, and email or call Cheryl Hummel with any questions at cherylhummel@ymail.com or 860-508-2070.

Hands on Hartford – Saturday, October 16th – Day of Service

On Saturday, October 16, we will partner with **Hands on Hartford** for a Day of Service. This is an opportunity for our church members (and friends) to participate in a church-wide, hands-on, day-long event (8AM to 2PM) that will include many ways to help our local neighbors. A list of potential projects is listed below with some activities taking place at our church, and others will take place on-site in the Hartford area. We will need volunteers of all ages and abilities to sign up and pledge one day of service to help our local neighbors. Can you help? Look for a sign up board in Chapin Hall as we would like to target at least 50 volunteers. Complete the sign-up form and let us know which activity you would like to participate in. It's that simple!! And it will make a difference! **The deadline to sign-up is September 20, 2010.**

We will also be responsible for our own meals (i.e. boxed lunches) for the day, however we plan to provide breakfast in Chapin Hall that morning. RHCC is responsible for any materials we need to accomplish any of the projects we undertake, so we will take that into consideration as we plan the list of projects.

All projects will be organized as intergenerational events, incorporating a mix of individuals and ages. Family members are encouraged to volunteer together as a team. Below is the list of projects with items with an “*” being marked as appropriate for young children (6-14):

1. Preparing and cooking a meal for soup kitchen distribution*
2. Collecting items and assembling care packs for any of the following:
 - Homeless individuals and families; needy seniors; low-income students*
3. Organizing games/activities/special desserts with seniors at a low income residential complex*
4. Cleaning, painting and/or repair projects at an HIV/AIDS residence
5. Cleanup at a city park or historic cemetery
6. Cleanup and planting at a neighborhood school or service agency*
7. Repairs and renovations at a service agency or home repair organization

POTENTIAL SERVICE SITES:

▪ Home Teams:

1. Cooking for MANNA Community Meals [6-10]:
 - *Preparing a meal at RHCC for freezer or immediate use at the soup kitchen*
2. Care Packs [5-10]:
 - *Collecting items and organizing care packs for any of several possible groups (e.g., food for student backpack program, summer activities backpacks, personal care kits for the homeless, needy seniors, etc.)*

Note: This task could also be accomplished at a work site in Hartford

▪ Travel Teams:

1. MANNA Senior Community Café [8-10]
 - *Organizing games/activities/special dessert with seniors at Smith Tower and Betty Knox Center*
2. Peter's Retreat and/or Tabor House [10-20]
 - *Cleaning, painting, and repair projects at HIV/AIDS residence*
3. Knox Parks (Local Park) or CT Gravestone Network [10-20]
 - *Clean up a local park; clean and re-mount gravestones in historic cemetery*
4. Hartford Elementary Schools [10-20]
 - *Working to clean up and landscape school grounds*
5. Repair and Renovation [10-15]
 - *Working with a local service agency or housing organization on a half-day repair/renovation project*

*“The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed;
Those who help others are helped.”*

UCC Issues 300,000 Appeal for Pakistan Flood Relief You Can \$ Help!

Situation

The torrential rains and flooding that have affected Pakistan in recent weeks continue, with at an estimated 1,600 dead and 17.2 million affected. Some 1.5 million people are now homeless.

The floods which began in the northern parts of country have spread to four provinces covering over 132,000 square kilometers, or about 82,000 square miles. (Pakistan's total square miles: 340,132.)

As the rains continue, the waters are moving downstream like a rolling earthquake affecting Punjab and Sindh provinces further south. In Sindh, villages in the area of Dadu and Mehar Taluka have been flooded. Thus far, some 186 villages in Sindh have been affected in seven local municipalities, affecting 38,656 individuals, according to CWS staff in Pakistan.

Response

Church World Service is coordinating a response in a wide geographic area, including the distribution of emergency food packets and shelter kits. Mobile medical clinics are providing emergency health care.

Your Board for Missions Has Responded!!

Your Board for Missions has sent \$2000 from our Special Missions Fund to help in Pakistan.

We also intend to match any contributions from the congregation up to \$1000.

How You Can Help Now

1. Pray for the people of Pakistan, their leaders, and all emergency response workers.
2. Members and friends of RHCC can help the people of Pakistan by sending/bringing checks to made out to **Wider Church Ministries UCC**, marked "Pakistan Flood Relief."

100% of donations received by the UCC will be utilized for relief and recovery initiatives.

Administrative costs are covered by generous donations to Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM).

Luke 15:1-10

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.

² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable:

⁴ "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?

⁵ When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.

⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.'

⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?

⁹ When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.'

¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."