

**ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

*Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community*



**September 17, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.  
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
New Member Sunday**

# ~ORDER OF WORSHIP~

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*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.*

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## 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 center aisle at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.*

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## PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Don Pagnucco

Leader: Bless God, O friends: with all our strength, bless God's holy name.  
Bless God, O friends, and never forget God's gifts--

**All: Bless God, O friends: with all our strength, bless God's holy name.  
Bless God, O friends, and never forget God's gifts—**

Forgiveness flowing into healing,  
Tireless goodness and joy:  
Strength and youth of the eagle's flight.

**Bless God, O friends: with all our strength, bless God's holy name.  
Bless God, O friends, and never forget God's gifts—**

*(continued)*

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

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Vindication, justice for all those oppressed;  
Liberation from bondage, and guidance for the way;  
Unending mercy, steadfast love.

**All: Bless God, O friends: with all our strength, bless God's holy name.  
Bless God, O friends, and never forget God's gifts—**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is God's love toward those who are faithful;  
As a parent has compassion for children,  
so our God has compassion for us.

**Bless God, O friends: with all our strength, bless God's holy name.  
Bless God, O friends, and never forget God's gifts.**

**\*HYMN**

“O Holy City, Seen of John”

N 613

## **\*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our God, draw near to us.**

**Surround us with confidence in your good news:  
that you love us as parents love their children;  
that your mercy is boundless and generous,  
that you beckon us always and will wait forever  
as we find our way back to you.**

**Open our hearts to receive your compassion;**

**And then show us how to forgive,**

**So that we may be vessels of resurrection hope in our troubled world.**

**In Jesus' name. we pray as he 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

NCH 517

I need you ev-ery hour, O God of grace;

I need you every hour,  
O God of grace;

The peace your voice af-fords, I now em-brace.

The peace your voice affords,  
I now embrace.

*Refrain*  
I need you, how I need you! Ev - ery hour I need you;

I need you, how I need you!  
Every hour I need you;

O bless me now, my Sav - ior; I come to you.

O bless me now, my Savior, I  
come to you.

## MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

### QUILT BLESSING

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

## 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.

<b>ANTHEM</b>	“Create in Me a Clean Heart” The Choir	J.A. Freylinghausen
<b>SCRIPTURE READING</b>	Matthew 18:21-35	NT Pew Bible p20
<b>SERMON</b>	“How Much Is Enough?”	Rev. Craig L. Cowing
<b>*HYMN</b>	“Amazing Grace”	NC (black) 547

## OFFERING OF GIFTS

*Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, Rev. Craig will come down the center aisle to collect the 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.*

<b>Offertory Solo</b>	“Help Us Accept Each Other” Victoria Bower, soprano	John Ness Beck
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## \*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

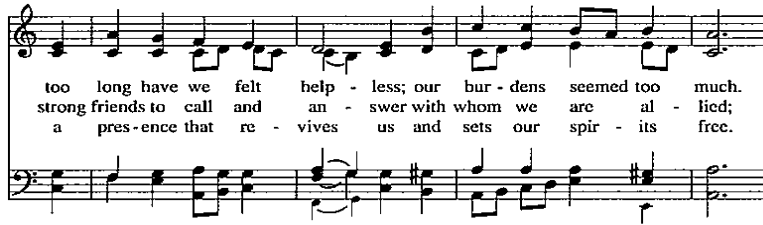
## Joys & Concerns

**Sung Call to Prayer** “We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness” (verse 1) NCH 179



1 We yearn, O Christ, for whole - ness and for your heal - ing touch;  
2 We long to have com - pan - ions who trav - el by our side,  
3 We need your liv - ing pres - ence, O Christ of Gal - i - lee,

We yearn, O Christ, for  
whole-ness and  
for your healing touch;



too long have we felt help - less; our bur - dens seemed too much.  
strong friends to call and an - swer with whom we are al - lied;  
a pres - ence that re - vives us and sets our spir - its free.

Too long have we felt help-less;  
our burdens seemed too much.



For - get - ting all pre - tens - es we make our plead - ings heard,  
As we lift up each oth - er when strug - gles lay us low,  
No long - er are we fear - ful, your love per - vades each place.

Forgetting all pretenses  
we make our pleadings heard,



in hope and ex - pec - ta - tion a - wait your gra - cious Word.  
com - mu - ni - ty de - vel - ops; our faith and car - ing grow.  
Em - pow - er us with cour - age to claim your heal - ing grace.

In hope and expectation  
await your gracious Word.

**Pastoral Prayer**

**\*HYMN** “Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer” NC (black)18

**BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

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**LITURGIST** Don Pagnucco  
**USHERS** Kim Burghoff, Rob Grandell, Christopher Sheehan, Wendy Ware  
**HOSPITALITY** Jean Goff and Jeannie Alessi

*Today's altar flowers are donated in loving memory of  
Her Granddaughter, Catherine Macri  
By Joan Tennyson*

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Here at Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, we are an Open and Affirming Christian community, actively expressing Jesus' inclusive embrace of all people. Today we welcome into our church family Doretta, Michael and Heather. Please extend a warm welcome to our new members:



### *Doretta H. Andonucci*

Born and raised in Bloomfield, Conn., Doretta graduated from Gordon College with a BA in Economics and Business Administration and from the University of Hartford with an MBA in Finance. After nearly 25 years as a marketing professional in insurance and financial services, Doretta transitioned to the nonprofit space as a Communications Manager at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. She shares her life with her husband of 19 years, Michael, her daughter Caralyn, and their dog Emmitt. She is a volunteer with the Friends of Cora J. Belden Library, the Greater Hartford League of Women Voters, and SEWN (Senior Executive Women's Network). Doretta loves baking, crochet, playing handbells, cheering for Hartford City FC, and is learning to enjoy the benefits of exercise.

### *Michael C. Andonucci*

Born in Rahway, New Jersey, Michael spent his early years in upstate New York before moving with his family to New Port Richey, Florida. After serving in the U.S. Air Force and living in Delaware, Texas, Italy and Germany, Michael returned to the U.S. to graduate from SUNY New Palz. Michael moved to Rocky Hill in 1989 for a job with Aetna. He earned his MS in Information Technology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and has gone on to work for IBM, CSC, Travelers and now Capgemini as a Director IT Workforce Management. Michael met his wife Doretta while taking ballroom dancing lessons. Michael is a certified soccer referee, and coached his daughter's team with Rocky Hill Parks & Rec. In his free time, you can find Michael in the garden, enjoying a glass of wine, longing for a warm beach, or watching English Premiere League Soccer. While the Tampa Bay Rowdies will always be his favorite team, he is a member of the Agents of Hale fan club for the Hartford City FC.

### *Heather Wolfe-Taylor*

I was born and raised in Alabama, and I met my husband at the University of Oklahoma. I earned a Master's degree in education in Arlington, Virginia, and taught school for three years-- one in Arlington, and two in Yokohama, Japan. It was in Japan that Jarod and I married and had our son, Alexander. When we returned to the US, we lived in Manhattan for two years before settling in Rocky Hill in 2015. Since Alexander was born, I have been a stay-at-home parent-- he is now six and attends Myrtle Stevens School. The three of us have spent this summer fishing local ponds from our new canoe. In January, I will be starting an accelerated RN program at UConn's Waterbury campus. I am moving my membership to RHCC from Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford.





Did you know that the Diaconate Board maintains a **Helping Hand Fund** to assist Church members and their families who are in emergency need, and, as appropriate, members of the community? Whenever you or someone you know has a need for a Helping Hand, please bring it to the attention of either the Senior Deacon, Deb Copes, or the Minister, Craig Cowing. All disbursements from the Helping Hand Fund are made confidentially, and, as needed, the fund is sustained by our Church's special offerings at Thanksgiving or Christmas.

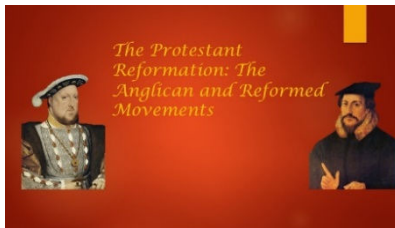
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## SOUND HEALING MEDITATION WITH TIBETAN SINGING BOWLS

**Thursday, September 21 at 7:30pm in the Weil Chapel.**

New date and time!

In sound healing meditation, we use the healing vibrations of the singing bowls to uplift the spirit, relax the body and quiet the mind. Research has been done in the last decade or so about the effects of sound on the mind. It has been found that soothing sounds can actually alter the brainwaves that are produced. The sound of singing bowls definitely has that effect. A free-will offering for the food bank is collected. Come and see what it can do for you, and bring a friend! Bring a blanket, pillow, or yoga mat.



Join Rev. Craig on Sunday, September 24 after Worship for his continuing series on the protestant reformation. **This Second Hour** program will be on the Anglican and reformed movements which are the background of our own tradition.

### Save the Dates!

The Country Fair - Saturday, October 22nd from 9am to 3pm.

The Roast Beef Dinner and Quilt Raffle - Saturday, October 28, 5:30pm

#### QUILT RAFFLE – Tickets available Now!

Tickets are available for sale after worship in Chapin Hall after worship. A book of ten for \$10 or \$1 each. For more info, contact Kim Batterson Biglow, Stephanie Heneghan or Gail Tine. All proceeds will be donated, in cooperation with our Board for Missions, to support school children in Hartford.



#### Silent Auction Seeking Helpers and Emergency Assistant

As the RHCC Country Fair is just around the corner I find I need a few good people the day of the fair to assist the Silent Auction. I am looking for one person that can take over in case my grandsons are born that day...and three others that would Like to help the booth. One that is computer savvy would be preferable among them, as we need to use the charge card thingy...(as you can see I am not that savvy) Any hours between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. that you can help are greatly Appreciated... Please call Elaine Somes 860-563-4099 Thank you!



## PRAYER VIGIL TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 19 6PM

A Prayer Vigil for those affected by the hurricanes Harvey and Irma will be held in the Weil Chapel on Tuesday, September 19 at 6pm. All are welcome to attend.

### Responding to the Hurricanes: Prayer and Action

*(Updated 9/13/2017)*

The hurricanes and catastrophic flooding in Texas, Florida, and the Caribbean have devastated whole communities. It has been difficult to watch the news of so many people facing danger and hardship. Lives disrupted. The national disaster ministries of the United Church of Christ and our other faith-based partners have committed to the long term recovery work, to humbly support survivors in the years ahead. For generations, this congregation has responded to support our sisters and brothers in the midst of life's struggles, whenever and wherever there is need...here, near, and far. There are a variety of ways you can support our response:

1. **Pray.** The people impacted by these disasters have cried, "Pray for Us!"
2. **Give.** The Board for Missions has committed \$2,000 to hurricane and flooding relief efforts. These are monies already contributed or tithed by the congregation to the ongoing mission work of our church. Additionally, the Board has established a church fund for "Hurricane Relief." Already, we have raised over \$2,134 (through Sept 10) from members of the congregation and community. Why donate to the church? Because 100% of donated monies will be used to assemble Emergency Cleanup Kits (a project of Church World Service), and the relief and recovery efforts organized by our covenantal partners. If you would like to make a donation, please mail your check in September to Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, 805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. Include "Hurricane Relief" on the memo line. Or, donate online at rhccucc.org (follow the "donate" buttons).
3. **Volunteer.** During Sunday worship, September 24, the congregation will assemble 20 Emergency Cleanup Buckets. The buckets will be delivered to Center Congregational Church in Meriden, which has been activated by Church World Service as an official collection point. So far, CWS has responded with over 100,000 hygiene kits and cleanup buckets for areas affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. The Board for Missions is organizing this effort. They're also working with Minister for Children and Youth Georgette Huie – who has helped commit assistance from our youth groups and their families.

Thank you for your generous support. Please contact any member of our Board for Missions if you have questions, or Bob Inderbitzen, 860-418-9171 or email [rinderbitzen@cox.net](mailto:rinderbitzen@cox.net).

Board for Missions: Heather Collins, Anita Hawkins, Bob Inderbitzen, Marge Murk, Elaine Sellenberg, Sue Speers, Wendy Ware, and Benevolence Treasurer Kathy Morgan



## THIS WEEK AT RHCC

### September 17

10:00am **Worship**  
9:30am **Childcare**  
10:15am **Church School**  
11:00am **Coffee Hour**  
5:30pm **High School Youth Group** Chapin

### Sunday

Sanctuary  
Room 4  
Rms 23,24,25,27  
Chapin Hall

### September 18

7:00pm Women's AA  
7:00pm Bonsai Group  
7:30pm **Bell Choir**

### Monday

Fiorilli  
Chapin Hall  
Sanctuary

### September 19

10:30am Retired Clergy  
6:00pm **Prayer Vigil**  
7:00pm Hearing Voices

### Tuesday

Parlor  
Weil Chapel  
Room 23

### September 20

7:00pm **LSP Board**

### Wednesday

Fiorilli

### September 21

9:00am Music Together  
5:00pm Music Together  
7:30pm Men's AA

### Thursday

Room 22  
Room 22  
Chapin Hall

### September 22

6:00pm Tamil Language School

### Friday

Rms 22,23,24, 25, 27



17	Phyllis Carlo
19	Lori Benito
20	Gabrielle Pierson
21	Sandra Gau
22	Gayle McGowan
23	Steven Sudell

#### **TODAY!**

**RHCC Golf Tournament**  
**Sunday, September 17th**  
at the Wethersfield Country Club,  
12:30 PM.

Questions, see: Bill Hoffman  
(860-563-1367)

Don't miss out on this fun event!



#### **WE'RE UPDATING OUR RECORDS!**



Contact the office if you have any **changes** to your contact information (address, phone or email) at: 860-529-4167 or [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org). If you are not receiving our weekly email, please fill in your email address below and return to the office. Thank you.

NAME/ADDRESS/PHONE/EMAIL:

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# 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
- 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, Olive Garden, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster
- Shopping: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Lowes, Michaels, Payless Shoes, Target, Toys R Us, Walmart

The next ordering deadline for cards that are not kept in inventory is September 24.  
Cards ordered by that date will be available for pickup on Sunday, October 1.

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!

# Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

805 Old Main Street  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Church Office: [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org) / 860 529-4167

Church Website: [rhccucc.org](http://rhccucc.org)

Visit us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/rhccucc](http://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](mailto:ccowing@rhccucc.org)

Minister for Children and Youth: Georgette L. Huie [ghuie@rhccucc.org](mailto:ghuie@rhccucc.org)

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero [mary@rhccucc.org](mailto:mary@rhccucc.org)

Office Manager: Theresa E. Cleary [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org)

Webmaster: Dave Hall [webmaster@rhccucc.org](mailto:webmaster@rhccucc.org)

Child Care Provider: Liz Pulling [lrpulling@icloud.com](mailto:lrpulling@icloud.com)