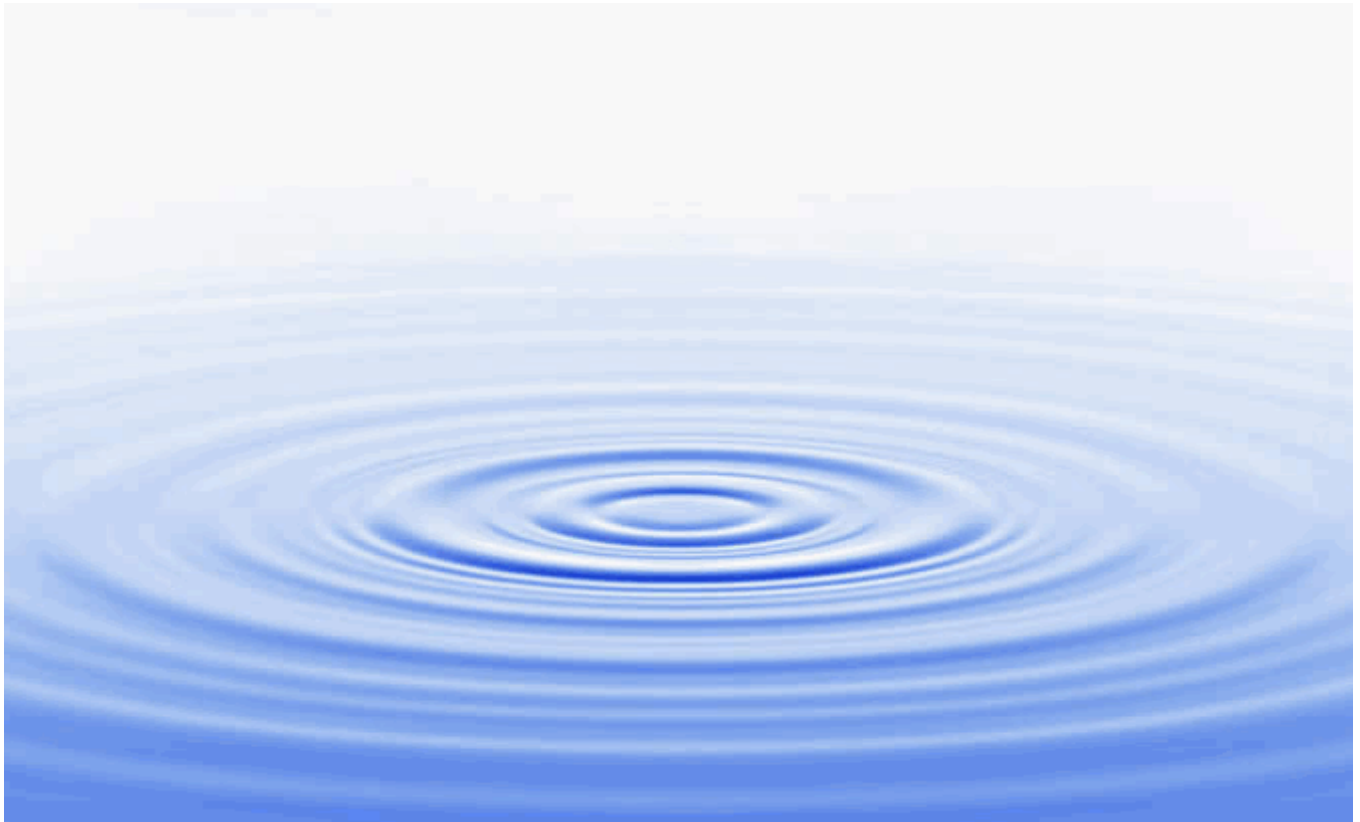


ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



September 21, 2014 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

~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

"Arabesque"

Claude Debussy

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

From the midst of our everyday lives we are called,

to be the people of God.

From the midst of our ordinary days we are called,

to be the disciples of Christ.

From the things that trap our minds and hearts we are called,

to be the liberated faithful.

From the waters of baptism we are called,

to be the blessed, the beloved, the sent.

God calls a people, God calls a community, God calls us.

**Today and tomorrow, in this place and beyond this place,
we meet the God who calls us!**

*HYMN

"God is Here As We Your People Meet" New Century (black) 70

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God who makes us and claims us,
who gives us life and new life,
we praise you for the gift of this day
and its every blessing.

Called together as the community of the baptized,
today we remember that it is your call upon us...
how you choose us for faith, hope and love,
for justice, compassion and mercy...
how you call us to be followers of Jesus
in this world.

Strengthen us, guide us, hold us
on our way as disciples,
that in every day, we may make of our chosenness
an offering.

This we ask in Jesus' name and spirit, 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.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (inserted in the bulletin)

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.

ANTHEM

“Ubi Caritas”

Maurice Durufle

The Choir

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Where there is charity and love, God is there.

Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

The love of Christ has gathered us as one.

Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.

Let us honor and love the living God.

Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

And from a sincere heart let us love one another.

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Matthew 5:43-48

Exodus 14:19-31

SERMON

“Chosen”

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

*HYMN

“Crashing Waters at Creation”

New Century (black) 326

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

Excerpt from “Prelude in Db (Raindrop)”

Frederic Chopin

*Doxology



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;



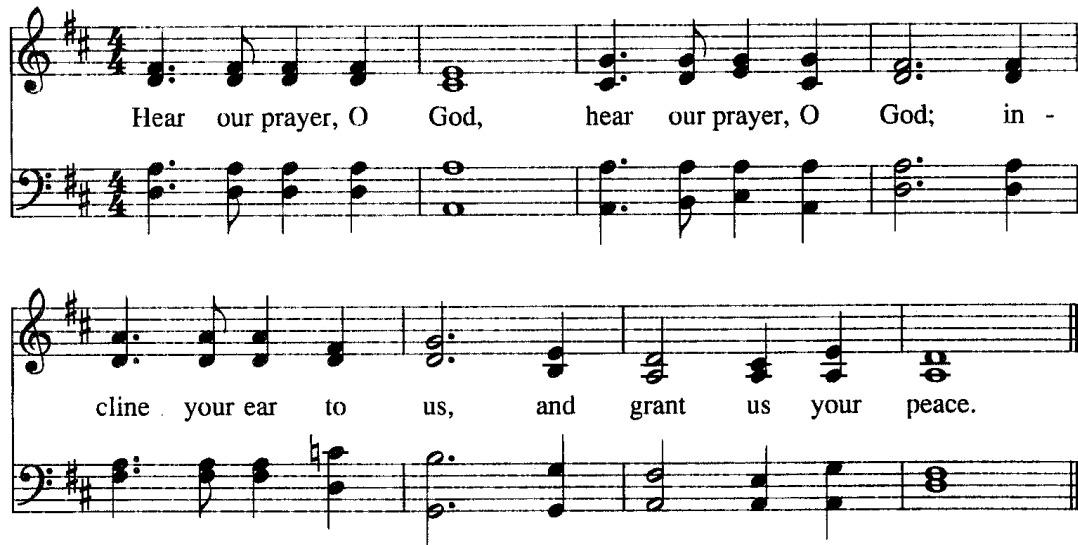
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys & Concerns

Sung Call to Prayer



Pastoral and Silent Prayer

***HYMN** "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" New Century (black) 82

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** "Raindrop" continued Frederic Chopin

LITURGIST

Don Pagnucco

The flowers are given in loving memory of
my dear friend Helen Griswold by Ellie Mahar.

NEWSLETTER MAILING

MONDAY MORNING

COME **JOIN** the MONDAY MORNING MAILERS - a wonderful group of people who help prepare bulk mailing. We will begin around 9:30am **TOMORROW** morning in the Fiorilli Room. It takes many hours to complete this task, so the more people helping, the faster the work is done. We are getting it done in record time! Come any time in the morning, for a half hour, an hour, or however long you can. Coffee is served

S.P.I.R.I.T. Corner

Serve, Pray, Invite, Receive, Ignite, Tell

S.P.I.R.I.T. Faith Nurture Ideas

(Parents: Pick-Up your child in Chapin Hall)

*These faith nurture ideas coordinate with the weekly session plans for church school.
We hope you will join us in learning, teaching, and growing together!*

Here's what we're learning about this week...

HEROES OF THE BIBLE. There is Daniel, Jonah, Joshua, Noah, David, Miriam and Moses, Esther, Jesus, Peter and John, Dorcas, Paul, Lydia, and many more. There are those that don't even get a name, men and woman who have great faith, who ask difficult questions, who speak up for justice, and even a child who shares his lunch so 5000 can be fed. They are never perfect people, they make mistakes, they are human, but when it matters they are brave, compassionate, giving, and have great faith. The heroes of the bible are often unexpected, teaching us that the ordinary can be extraordinary, and with God's love all things are possible.

LESSON → Favorite Bible Stories: The Good Samaritan

Scripture: Daniel 6:1-28

Talk About the Bible story children and youth explored this week. Here are some ways to nurture faith at home based on this week's story: (1) Memorize this week's Bible Verse, Psalm 113:3 "The name of the Lord is to be praised"; (2) Talk about choices you have made in your life based on your faith. Was it easy to keep your faith? Was it hard? Do you regularly think about your faith as you make choices? (3) Have each family member share something that is really difficult for them to do, perhaps it's something they have been avoiding, support them in completing that task this week.

Prayer For The Week: *(This is a body prayer, follow the motions as you pray).* **We praise you, God,** - hands come to the center to form praying hands and move up and out, extending overhead. **In the morning** – put both hands beside face, fingers outstretched making a smiling morning face. **We praise you, God,** - repeat first action. **In the evening** – place hands together, under side of face and pretend to sleep. **We praise you, God,** - repeat first action. **All the time** – hands outstretched, turn all the way around. **Amen.** – fold hands in prayer.

NOAH'S TABLE (6th-12th Grade) – TONIGHT, September 21, 5 PM – 6:30 PM

Come join us for game night. Are you up for the challenge? Please RSVP with Meghan Young at Meghan@rhccucc.org.

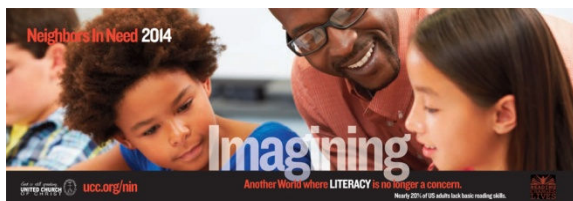
GROW YOUR FAITH & GET INVOLVED WITH S.P.I.R.I.T.

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? 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.



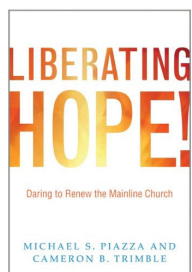
NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Don't forget our neighbors in need. The neighbors in Need (NIN) offering will be collected on Sunday October 5, 2014. It is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

Small Group Ministry at RHCC: Fall Faith Formation Opportunities

Join a small group to explore and enrich your faith in new ways!

SEPTEMBER:



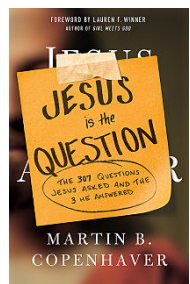
Liberating Hope.

NEXT Sunday, September 28, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Church Parlor

Join with your church family as we discuss our summer reading, *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. **Copies are available to check-out from the church office.**

OCTOBER:



Jesus is the Question: The 307 questions Jesus Asked and the 3 He Answered

Sunday, October 12, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Sunday, October 19, 12 PM – 1 PM

Church Parlor

Contrary to some common assumptions, Jesus is not the ultimate Answer Man, but more like the Great Questioner. In the Gospels Jesus asks many more questions than he answers. Asking questions was central to Jesus' life and teachings. *Jesus is the Question* considers the questions Jesus asks – what they tell us about Jesus and, more importantly, what our responses might say about what it means to follow Jesus. **Come with your questions, as we discuss this game-changer of a book by Martin Copenhaver. Copies are available to check-out from the church office.**

CHOIR REHEARSALS ARE BEGINNING

You are invited to join!



Our Minister of Music, Mary DeLibero, has scheduled the choir rehearsals for the new program year. If you are interested in joining a choir, please contact Mary at mary@rhccucc.org for details or just come to rehearsal.

Childrens Choir Sundays, 11:30am to 12:00 in the choir room. Starts September 21st

Adult Choir Wednesdays, 7:30pm – 9:00pm in the Choir room. Rehearsals already in progress

Handbell Choir Mondays 7:30pm to 8:45pm in the Loft. Starts September 22nd.



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.

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!

CHECK THE LOST AND FOUND TABLE IN CHAPIN HALL.

Many items were found a long time ago – earrings, a Chevy key, crosses to name a few.



If you were in church 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.



NEEDS OF THE
R.H.C.C. COUNTRY FAIR OCT. 4TH 9 A.M.-2 P.M.

SILENT AUCTION - Deb Copes

Baskets to sell - (think about using "Scrip" cards and create a basket around them, a win win!)

BAKE SHOP- The Pagnuccos

Homemade Baked Goods

KITCHEN SHOP- Elaine Somes

Gently used kitchen items (dishes, utensils, bake ware, etc.)

CANDY SHOP - Candy Smith

Homemade Fudge / Rock Candy / etc.

SEW COUNTRY - Nancy Rolfe

Felt, Thread, Material, Fleece, Yarn, Knitted or Embroidered Items, Patterns

JEWELRY - Phyllis Wilkey

Jewelry, Scarves, Pocketbooks, Wallets, Belts

MAINLY MEDIA - Elaine Somes

CD's, DVD's, cd/dvd Players (in working condition) (No VHS please)

NOTE:

Please bring any items donated to the church and leave by the closets in Chapin Hall

DINNER NEEDS

*****ROAST BEEF DINNER - Marsha Hoffman*****

Pie Makers, Servers, Clean Up, Set Up

***** DON'T FORGET TO BUY YOUR QUILT TICKETS
(ON SALE AFTER CHURCH IN CHAPIN HALL)**

***** Sign up to help an hour or two in a booth (sign up sheets in Chapin Hall)**

***YOUR DONATIONS OF ITEMS OR TIME WILL MAKE OUR CHURCH
FAIR FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS!***

THANK YOU TO ALL INVOLVED

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

September 21

10:00am	Worship	Chapin Hall
11:30am	Children's Choir	Choir Room
12:30pm	Golf Tournament	
4:00pm	Tamil Sangam	Rm 22, 23, 24, 25
5:00pm	Noah's Table	

September 22

Monday

NEWSLETTER MAILING

7:00pm	Women's AA	Chapin Hall
7:30pm	Bell Choir	Loft

September 25

Tuesday

7:00pm	Stewardship Committee	Fiorilli Room
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September 24

Wednesday

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

September 25

Thursday

7:00pm	Fair Committee	Fiorilli Room
7:30pm	Men's AA	Chapin Hall

September 27

Saturday

10:00am	Kaplan SAT Prep	Room 24
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sept 22	Gayle McGowan
24	Michele Jokl
	Christina Peterson
25	Al Diaz
26	Diane Bengston

OFFICE HOURS

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