

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**September 23, 2018 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Eighteenth 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** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is available downstairs 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.*

MINISTRY MOMENT

Care Team

INTROIT

“Blessed Jesus at Thy Word”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dave Sageman

- L: Jesus challenges us in today's gospel:
All: **Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.**
- L: Then Jesus took a little child and put it among them;
and taking the child in his arms, he said to them:
All: **Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.
And whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the
one who sent me.**
- L: We are still learning today what Jesus came to teach us two thousand years ago.
To change the world we must change the way we love and welcome all children!
All: **May we learn to love all children as if they were our own!
Welcome, children!**

***Bold type** denotes collective response*

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

Dear God,
Jesus has called us to welcome children as a way to welcome you.
And please, dear God of compassion and justice, hear our voices:
Teach us the way to make the last first and to be servants of all.
Guide us in your way of humility and service.
Show us how to become disciples of Jesus Christ.
We ask for blessings on all your children in our holy family
as we pray 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,

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

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

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



ANTHEM

“Hear my Prayer”

Moses Hogan

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 9:30-37

Pew Bible NT p.44

SERMON

“Opening Ourselves to God”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

***HYMN**

“What A Friend We Have in Jesus”

NCH 506

OFFERING OF GIFTS

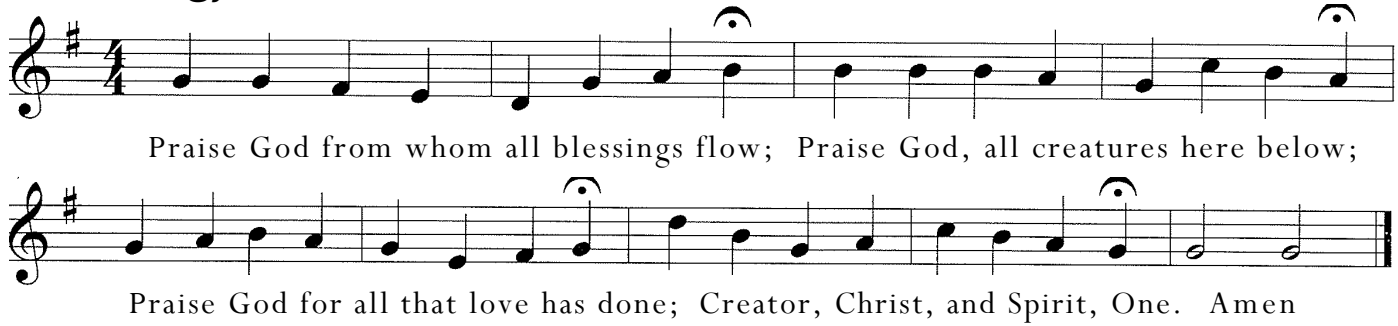
Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, the minister will come down the center aisle to receive prayer request cards.

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

*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**

“O Come to Me, You Weary”

NCH 484

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE**

“Voluntary”

Maurice Greene

LITURGIST

Dave Sageman

USHERS

Nancy Parsons, Charlotte and Liz Reed-Swale

HOSPITALITY

Nancy Harlow & Ruth Jensen

WELCOME VISITORS!

Interested in joining the church? If you'd like to learn more about our church community; please join us during coffee hour after worship and ask to speak with Pastor Craig Cowing or any Deacon. We are an Open and Affirming Christian community, actively expressing Jesus' inclusive embrace of all people.



Neighbors in Need offering will be collected on Sunday October 7, 2018 on World Communion Sunday. This offering (NIN) is a special missions offering of the United Church of Christ. It supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One third supports the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Two thirds are grants awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities.

For more information, pick up a brochures in Chapin Hall or visit www.ucc.org
Thank you for your generosity.



2018 Daily Bible Reading Guide Connecticut Bible Society

Growing With God's Word

I am like an olive tree growing in the house of God; I trust in His constant love forever and ever. -Psalm 52.8 (Good news Translation)

SEPTEMBER

Growing with God's
Word in Wisdom and
Strength

- 1 Mark 2.18-28
- 2 Mark 4.1-20
- 3 Mark 4.21-34
- 4 Mark 7.1-23
- 5 Psalm 1
- 6 Psalm 2
- 7 Psalm 19
- 8 Psalm 25
- 9 Proverbs 1.1-33
- 10 Proverbs 3.1-35
- 11 Proverbs 4.1-27
- 12 Proverbs 14.1-35
- 13 Proverbs 15.1-33
- 14 Proverbs 16.1-33
- 15 Proverbs 17.1-28
- 16 Proverbs 18.1-24
- 17 Proverbs 22.1-29
- 18 Proverbs 23.1-35
- 19 Proverbs 24.1-34
- 20 Ecclesiastes 1.1-18
- 21 Ecclesiastes 2.1-26
- 22 Ecclesiastes 3.1-22
- 23 Ecclesiastes 5.1-20
- 24 Ecclesiastes 7.1-25
- 25 Ecclesiastes 8.1-17
- 26 Ecclesiastes 9.13—
10.20
- 27 Ecclesiastes 12.1-14
- 28 2 Kings 22.1-20
- 29 2 Kings 23.21-30
- 30 Job 28.1-28

OCTOBER

Growing with God's
Word and Pursuing
Justice and Peace

- 1 Exodus 18.1-27
- 2 Exodus 23.1-13
- 3 Deuteronomy 15.1-18
- 4 Psalm 15
- 5 Isaiah 1.1-20
- 6 Isaiah 2.1-22
- World Communion Sunday**
- 7 1 Corinthians 11.17-34
- 8 Isaiah 3.1-15
- 9 Isaiah 4.2—5.7
- 10 Isaiah 5.8-30
- 11 Isaiah 6.1-13
- 12 Isaiah 9.8—10.4
- 13 Isaiah 11.1-16
- 14 Isaiah 24.1-23
- 15 Isaiah 29.9-24
- 16 Isaiah 30.8-26
- 17 Isaiah 32.1-20
- 18 Isaiah 33.1-24
- 19 Isaiah 56.1-12
- 20 Isaiah 57.1-21
- 21 Isaiah 58.1-14
- 22 Isaiah 59.1-21
- 23 Amos 1.1-15
- 24 Amos 2.1-16
- 25 Amos 3.1-15
- 26 Amos 4.1-13
- 27 Amos 5.1-27
- 28 Amos 6.1-14
- 29 Amos 7.1-17
- 30 Amos 8.1-14
- 31 Amos 9.1-15

NOVEMBER

Growing with God's
Word in Thankfulness
and Praise

- 1 Psalm 8
- 2 Psalm 30
- 3 Psalm 40.1-11
- 4 Deuteronomy 16.1-17
- 5 Deuteronomy 30.1-20
- 6 Deuteronomy 31.9-29
- 7 Deuteronomy 31.30—
32.27
- 8 Deuteronomy 32.28-44
- 9 Deuteronomy 33.1-17
- 10 Deuteronomy 33.18-29
- 11 2 Samuel 6.1-23
- 12 2 Samuel 7.1-17
- 13 2 Samuel 7.18-29
- 14 Isaiah 12.1-6
- 15 Isaiah 25.1-9
- 16 Isaiah 42.1-17
- 17 Jeremiah 10.1-16
- 18 Psalm 50
- 19 Psalm 71
- 20 Psalm 75
- 21 Psalm 135
- Thanksgiving Day**
- 22 Psalm 136
- 23 Psalm 138
- 24 Psalm 121
- 25 Psalm 122
- 26 Psalm 124
- 27 Psalm 125
- 28 Psalm 126
- 29 Psalm 127
- 30 Psalm 128

DECEMBER

Growing with God's
Word in Love and Joy

- 1 Psalm 24
- First Sunday of Advent**
- 2 Luke 21.25-38
- 3 Daniel 12.1-13
- 4 Isaiah 44.1-28
- 5 Isaiah 45.1-25
- 6 Isaiah 48.1-22
- 7 Isaiah 49.1-26
- 8 Isaiah 52.1-12
- Second Sunday of Advent**
- 9 Isaiah 60.1-22
- 10 Isaiah 61.1-11
- 11 Zephaniah 1.1-18
- 12 Zephaniah 2.1-15
- 13 Zephaniah 3.1-20
- 14 Malachi 1.1-14
- 15 Malachi 2.1-17
- Third Sunday of Advent**
- 16 Malachi 3.1-18
- 17 Malachi 4.1-6
- 18 Isaiah 7.10-25
- 19 Isaiah 8.1-20
- 20 Isaiah 8.21—9.7
- 21 Luke 1.1-25
- 22 Luke 1.26-56
- Fourth Sunday of Advent**
- 23 Luke 1.57-80
- 24 Luke 2.1-20
- Christmas Day**
- 25 John 1.1-18
- 26 John 1.19-34
- 27 John 1.35-51
- 28 Revelation 5.1-14
- 29 Revelation 7.1-17
- 30 Romans 15.14-33
- 31 Romans 16.17-27



You have an opportunity to support our Church Fair Raffle! Do you have a new or vintage quilt or large wall hanging you can donate? Did you win a quilt you do not use? Did you inherit a quilt that you do not use or want? If you are shaking your head yes, then consider donating it to our raffle. Any quilt size from twin to king is welcome!
Call Joan Tennyson @ 860-529-8789.



***Request for Donations for Baskets and Items
for the Silent Auction at the Fair***

We would like to make an appeal to all members who would like to donate a themed gift basket to our Church Fair. If you don't want to do a whole basket, donated individual items would be also greatly appreciated. Here are a few ideas:

- Scrip cards! This is a double money maker, first with the card (% to church) and second with the silent auction. And it's easy.
- Other theme baskets could include: **Italian** (wine, pasta, sauce) **Holiday** (ornaments, decorations, hats, gloves) **Family/Kids** (toys, books, games, cards) **Movie Night** (popcorn, small blanket, candy) **Spa** (candles, bath salt, lotion) You get the idea!

For more information, contact Sue Chatfield at: smchat999@att.net or call: 860-595-6639.

Child Caregiver Position Available: The RHCC Council is looking to fill the position of permanent Child Caregiver in the nursery that has been ably held by Liz Pulling for the past two years. We want to thank Liz for her dedication to this position and would like to find someone to fill her shoes. Hours are Sunday morning from 9:45am to 11:15 am with the assist of a weekly volunteer and stipend is \$25.00 per week. If you are interested or know someone who might be please leave information including experience, age, (must be over 18 years), method of contacting in the church office and you will be contacted by the Personnel Committee for further discussion of requirements, experience, etc.

Drug Awareness Program October 15 Rocky Hill Community Center



A Drug Awareness Program will be presented by the Wethersfield Rocky Hill Elks Lodge #2308 and the Rocky Hill Human Services Department, on Monday October 15, 2018 from 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the Rocky Hill Community Center, 761 Old Main Street. The program will be led by a panel of experts on

drug addiction and recovery. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio.



It's almost time for the Fair!

The Rocky Hill Congregational Church Country Fair will be held on **Saturday, October 20 from 9am to 2pm.**

We will have plenty of wonderful booths to get your holiday shopping started, delicious refreshments and a farmer's market, as well as activities for families! The next meeting of the Fair and Events Committee will be on October 4 at 7pm All members of the church are welcome to attend.

Being a **volunteer** is a great way to see the fair, if you want to volunteer but can't stay the whole day that is not a problem. Contact any member of the Events Team if you'd like to get involved.

If you would like to **donate** something for one of the booths or make something for the bake shop it would be greatly appreciated. All donations must be clean and in good shape. We are looking for the following items:

- White Elephant - gently used household items, DVDs, games.
- Sew Country - yarn and fabric, sewing and knitting items, craft items.
- Donations of goods and services for the Silent Auction.
- Baked goods; especially pies, cakes and cupcakes.
- Jewelry - gently used purses, wallets, eye glass cases, tote bags, scarves, and jewelry.

Booth Chairpersons

Silent Auction:	Sue Chatfield
Holiday Shop:	Lynn McKenna
Farmers Market:	Ruth Jensen
Tea Room:	Jenn & Bill Cordes
Bake Shop:	Goff family
Snack Shack:	Jean & John Goff & Jeannie Alessi
Jewelry Shop:	Sue Van Ness & Jen Martin
Sew Country:	Anita Hawkins
White Elephant:	Nancy Harlow
Something Different:	Hilaire Leavitt
Kid's Corner:	Emily McKenna

FAIR DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED ON SUNDAYS OR DURING OFFICE HOURS; MONDAY – THURSDAY 9AM-2PM.



RHCC Music Ministry

We are gearing up for fall and the Holiday season! The adult choir, bell choir, are currently holding rehearsals. 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.

Save the Date for:
A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.



Held in the Sanctuary of Rocky Hill Congregational Church with full choir, pipe organist, and instrumentalists. A unique and moving experience! Reception follows the service. All are welcome to attend.



HOMECOMING/HERITAGE SUNDAY – OCTOBER 21

We will honor our 50+ year Members at a Special Service at 10 a.m. A breakfast for our 50+ members will be held at 8:30am in the Parlor before Worship. Join us as we celebrate our 50-year members, and our long history as RHCC! Please feel free to bring photos, mementos, and any historical items related to the church, and place them on the table in Chapin Hall that morning.

Church illustration done by Nancy Edwards



Tri-Conference Annual Meeting on June 15-16, 2018, held in Springfield, MA: Report of Connecticut Conference Delegate, Jackie Little:

I'd like to share with you my summary of the meeting. The CT Conference voted on the following five resolutions presented from CT:

1. A Resolution of Implementation Calling for Anti-Racism and Racial Justice Training for Clergy
2. A Resolution of Affirmation Denouncing Acts of Violence, Hatred, and Racism Carried Out in the Name of Neo-Nazi and White Supremacist Ideologies
3. Resolution of Implementation for Transparency of Information about Infrastructure Development
4. A Resolution of Implementation Recommending Working Together to End Bullying
5. A Resolution of Witness Condemning Our Government's Abhorrent Policy of Separating Immigrant Children from Their Parents at Our Southern Border

All five resolutions were carried.

Also, all recommendations by the CT Conference Board of Directors to form the Together, As One ("TA1") Conference and the proposal itself were carried.

The Rhode Island Conference and the Massachusetts Conference also voted in favor of forming the TA1 Conference.

In the plenary session following this historic vote, Kent Siladi, the CT Conference Minister, summarized that in so voting for TA1, we affirm that we need each other - we can not do it (our UCC mission) alone. As we continue on this new journey, we need to be gentle with each other (we will make some mistakes), and continue to discern, listen, adapt and be open to change. We need to remove boundaries and relinquish habits that have clouded our vision.

Several small listening sessions were held after this, and in the one I attended, the following advantages of the new TA1 were noted: sharing resources, forming covenantal partnerships, and including associate members. Also noted was the importance of learning each other's needs and sharing ways to address such; to speak up, call, and communicate. A member from CT's Christian Activity Council noted that it was going beyond charity and working toward justice.

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, 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

Today (September 23) is the ordering deadline for cards that are not kept in inventory. Orders may be turned in at the scrip table in Chapin Hall this morning. Cards ordered today will be available for pickup on Sunday, September 30. After today, the next order will be placed on October 28 (with delivery on Nov. 4). A complete listing of all retailers available through our program can be picked up at the scrip table in Chapin Hall.

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 23

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

Sunday

Chapin Hall
Room 4
Room 24
Chapin Hall
Chapin Hall



September 24

9:30am **Newsletter Mailing**
7:00pm **Women's AA**
7:30pm **Bell Choir**

Monday

Fiorilli Room
Chapin Hall
Choir Loft

September 25

7:00pm **Worship Ministry**
7:00pm **Cedar Hollow Board**
7:00pm **Hearing Voices**

Tuesday

Fiorilli Room
Chapin Hall
Room 6

23	Steven Sudell
24	Michele Jokl
24	Christina Peterson
25	Al Diaz
26	Diane Bengston
28	James Ussery Jr
28	Kirsten Timrud
29	George Moore III
29	Eric Jokl

September 26

7:30pm **Choir**

Wednesday

Choir Loft

September 27

9:30am **Music Together**
7:00pm **Bible Study**
7:30pm **Men's AA**

Thursday

Room 22
Fiorilli Room
Chapin Hall

CHURCH MOUSE MAILING
MONDAY SEPT 24 – 9:30AM
Join us in the Fiorilli Room as
we prepare the newsletter for
mailing. All are welcome!



September 28

9:30am **Music Together**

Friday

Room 6



In the coming months, we have many Sundays available for memorial flowers or to mark a special occasion such as graduation, an anniversary, or special birthday. They need not be a formal flower arrangement but could be flowers from your garden, or a flowering plant. Sign up in Chapin hall or call/email the church office: 860-529-4167, office@rhccucc.org

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