

# ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community*



October 5, 2014 ~ 10:00 a.m.  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
World Communion 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 and large-print bulletins** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is always available down the hall in Room 4.*

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## 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.*

## INTROIT

The Choir

“Somos Pueblo Que Camina”

(We Are People on a Journey)

Nicaraguan Communion Song

*Los humildes y los pobres invitados son de Dios.*

*Acudamos jubilosos a la santa comunión.*

*God has sent the invitation to the humble and the poor.*

*Joyfully we come together at the holy feast of God.*

*This is the bread that God provides us, nourishing our unity.*

*Joyfully we come together at the holy feast of God.*

*Christ is ever present with us to unite us all in love.*

*Joyfully we come together at the holy feast of God.*

*Acudamos jubilosos a la santa comunión.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

Welcome to this place,  
where children and elders sit side by side,  
where heaven and earth embrace in peace.  
where God is, and has been, and will be.

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

*\***Bold type denotes collective response***

**Welcome to this place,  
where we bring our hungers and find food,  
where we bring our brokenness and find healing,  
where we bring ourselves and find acceptance.**

Welcome to this place,  
where we remember that “God’s beloved”  
means us, but not only us --  
for God’s creation is a whole world,  
sisters and brothers of every land.

**Welcome to this place,  
for here we join with each other  
and with all others,  
seeking a common life,  
renewing our shared life,  
finding the Bread of Life.**

**\*HYMN** “In Christ There is No East or West”

New Century (black) 394

**\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND GATHERING PRAYER**

Because God is infinite in love, and gracious toward all of creation,  
because God’s mercy is greater than our sin,  
we know that whatever is not yet fully loving and faithful,  
God can make new...  
even us, even here, even now.

In this assurance, let us pray:

**God of all the world and of infinite worlds,  
we praise you on this day for the goodness  
of all that you create,  
even as we remember our failure to love  
all that you love.**

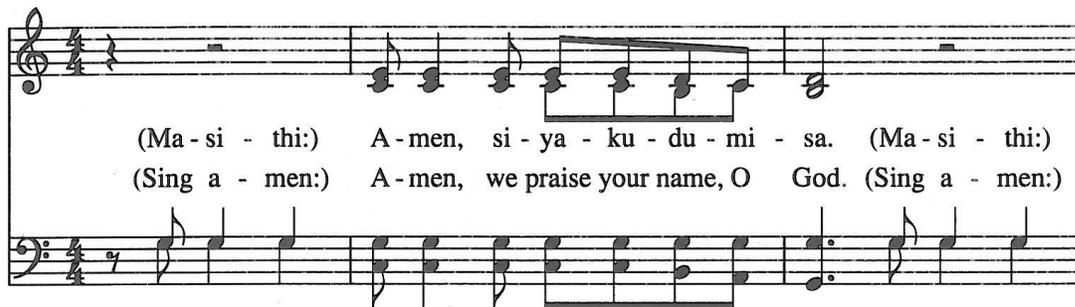
**Because we divide what is whole,  
because we betray what is one,  
because we do violence to your world,  
we need your spirit of peace.**

**God of our one world,  
may our hearts today receive  
your spirit of peace.**

**In Christ’s name, Amen.**

## \*SUNG RESPONSE:

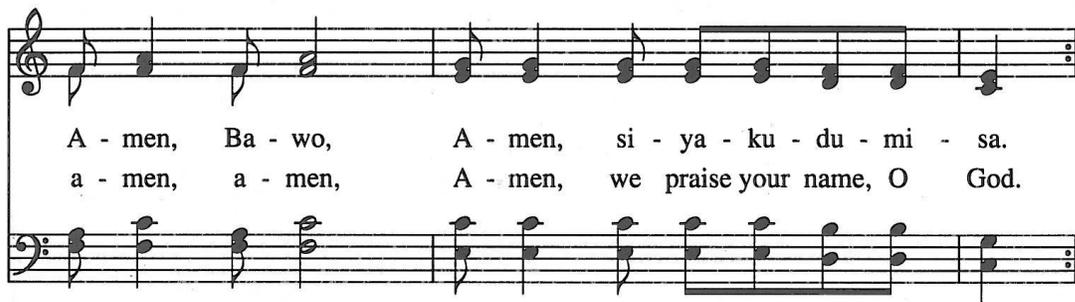
*(The choir will sing the 1<sup>st</sup> verse in African,  
the congregation will join in singing the 2<sup>nd</sup> verse in English).*



(Ma - si - thi:) A - men, si - ya - ku - du - mi - sa. (Ma - si - thi:)  
(Sing a - men:) A - men, we praise your name, O God. (Sing a - men:)



A - men, si - ya - ku - du - mi - sa. (Ma - si - thi:) A - men, Ba - wo,  
A - men, we praise your name, O God. (Sing a - men:) A - men, a - men,



A - men, Ba - wo, A - men, si - ya - ku - du - mi - sa.  
a - men, a - men, A - men, we praise your name, O God.

## MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

### READING FROM THE GOSPEL

John 6:25-35

### SERMON

Bread of Life

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

### 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

“Do Not I Love Thee”

from The Sacred Harp

The Choir

*Do not I love thee O my Lord?  
Behold my heart and see:  
And turn each cursed idol out  
That dares to rival Thee.*

*Do not I love thee O my Lord?  
Then let me nothing love.  
Dead be my heart to ev'ry joy,  
When Jesus cannot move.*

*Thou know'st I love Thee, dearest Lord,  
But how I long to soar  
Far from the sphere of mortal joys,  
And learn to love Thee more!*

## \*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

### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

#### Joys & Concerns

#### Sung Call to Prayer

Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in -  
cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

## Pastoral and Silent Prayer

\*HYMN

“One Bread, One Body”

inserted in bulletin

### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*This church practices open Communion. All are welcome to participate, including children, and regardless of denominational affiliation or church membership.*

*This morning, the congregation will be seated for Communion; the elements (bread and non-alcoholic grape juice) will be brought to each pew. Please wait until all have been served so that we may take the elements together. As you pass the trays to your neighbor, you may use the words “The bread of life” and “The cup of blessing.” If you would like to receive gluten-free bread, please raise your hand so that a Deacon may serve you.*

#### Invitation

Let us come to God’s table, where all are invited,  
**where all alike are offered the bread of life.**

Let us come because we are seeking, because we are open,  
because we know our need for God.

**Let us come with our sisters and brothers of the world,  
because we know the world’s need for God.**

#### Prayer of Preparation and the Lord’s Prayer

To your table, you bid us come, O God.  
You have set the places,  
you have poured the wine,  
and there is always room, you say, for one more.

**And so we come.**

**From the streets and alleys, from the deserts and hills,  
from the ravages of poverty and the palaces of privilege,  
running, limping, carried....we come.**

We are bloodied with our wars,  
we are wearied with our wounds,  
we carry our dead with us,  
and we reckon with their ghosts.

**We hold the seeds of healing,  
we dream of a new creation,  
we know the things that make for peace,  
and we struggle to give them wings.**

And yet, to your table, we come.  
Hungering for your bread,  
thirsting for your wine, we come.

**Singing your song in every language,  
speaking your name in every tongue,  
in conflict and in communion,  
in discord and in desire,  
O God of wisdom,  
we come to your table.**

Now with our sisters and brothers in the body of Christ,  
through time and around the world,  
we pray together as Jesus has taught 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.**

## **Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution**

### **Sharing the Bread and the Cup**

#### **Communion Music**

“The Table is Long”

Webster/McKeever

The Choir

Bread

*The Table is long, the Table is old,  
It's laden with riches far greater than gold.  
The cup of salvation, the good bread of Life,  
Are here for the sharing, with all who have  
faith.*

*Our Host is Lord Jesus  
With all the disciples in that upper room  
To break bread together  
We sit at His Table*

Cup

*In far distant places  
All races and nation sit here with our Lord  
And share with us all now the love and the feast  
A bridge of compassion*

*I think as I sit at the Table once more  
Of those who came to Jesus  
I think of the presence of loved one and friend  
That great cloud of witnesses*

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, for the gifts of your table –  
reminders of all that nourishes us in body and spirit,  
and of all that makes us one.

We give thanks to you for our brothers and sisters in this community  
and around the world,  
and pray that today, tomorrow and always,  
we might learn to see the world through Christ's eyes  
and love the world with Christ's heart. Amen.

## THE PRACTICE OF PEACE

*You are invited to share a sign of the reconciling peace of Christ with those around you  
(a handshake, an embrace, or a non-contact gesture).*

### \*HYMN

“Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers”

New Century 397

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

“Batalha do sexto tom”

by Pedro De Araujo (1662-1705)

*The bulletin cover image and the Communion Prayer of Preparation  
are from the copyrighted work of Jan L. Richardson, resources  
specifically created for World Communion Sunday (prayer adapted).*

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### COMMUNION SERVERS

Rob Grandell, Bill Hoffman, Eleanor Mahar, Nancy Parsons  
Chris Sheehan and Sue VanNess

### USHERS

Wendy Ware, Dave Sageman, Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio, Deb Copes  
Steve Smith

**The flowers are given in loving memory of  
Daniel Somes by Elaine Somes**

**The tower is lit this week in loving memory of  
our son Daniel by Dick & Thelma Somes**

## **S.P.I.R.I.T. Corner**

*Serve, Pray, Invite, Receive, Ignite, Tell*

*Children and youth are invited to stay in worship this week for communion.  
Join us next week in church school for more Heroes of the Bible*

### **YOUTH GROUP: October 12, 1 PM – 5 PM**

Let's go explore God's beautiful creation. Wear warm clothes and hiking shoes. Don't forget to bring water and a snack. Drivers and chaperones needed. RSVP by Wednesday, October 8, at [Meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:Meghan@rhccucc.org).

**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](mailto:RHCCchildcare@gmail.com)) for more information. You can also sign-up outside the Nursery.

## **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:

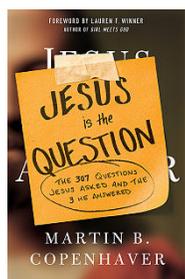
- 1) **Youth Group Advisor** – Regularly assists with youth group and coordinating events. Must be college age or older.
- 2) **S.P.I.R.I.T. Teachers** – Teachers commit to no more than 4 Sundays in a row. Teachers provide support and assistance to our children and youth during our chapel times. Programming 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 your 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](mailto:Meghan@rhccucc.org) to sign-up or to find out more information.

### **Small Group Ministry at RHCC: Fall Faith Formation Opportunities**

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

#### **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 Copenhagen. Copies are available to check-out from the church office.**

### **THE TOWER IS LIT!**

Our long-standing tradition of lighting our tower at night in honor or memory of a loved one was interrupted due to electrical problems. The problem has been located and beginning on the first Sunday in October you will have the opportunity to once again light the tower in memory or recognition of someone. A spreadsheet will be located in Chapin Hall for sign-up. The suggested donation remains at \$10 to have the tower lit for the designated week from Sunday through Saturday.





## A THANK YOU FROM THE FAIR COMMITTEE

*Once again, God gave us the strength and creative talent!*

*Thank you to all who participated in this year's R.H.C.C. Country Fair, Quilt Raffle, and Roast Beef Dinner.*

*It takes many hands to accomplish this feat and we appreciate all who donated, worked, created and purchased!*

*We also want to recognize the Quilters. Their task has been a major challenge of late and for their quilt this year, we thank them from the bottom of our hearts. So many beautiful quilts have been created for us over the years and as a winner of one, I can say, it is a privilege to have one in my possession.*

*As much fun as we have Fair day, this event is the largest Fund-raiser for the year, in a single day and it takes commitment! So, I personally want to thank the Fair Committee, for their determination and hard work over the year (May breakfast & Plant Sale & Memorial Day Food Stand). Not only do these members chair a booth and put on a dinner Fair Day but they create most of the items sold!*

*Please stop down after worship in Chapin Hall and check out the items that are left for purchase and thanks to all again!.*

*Submitted by Elaine Somes  
2014 Fair Committee*



## 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.

Scrip ordered last weekend is available for pickup this morning at the scrip table in Chapin Hall. During September, almost \$19,000 (face amount) of scrip was sold, producing a profit for RHCC of approx. \$1300. Thanks to all who continue to support this important fundraising program.

Looking ahead: Although scrip is sold in Chapin Hall almost every Sunday, be aware that scrip will NOT be available for sale next Sunday, October 12 (Columbus Day weekend). If you'll need any scrip in the next two weeks, get it today!

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, Bonfish 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!**

## THIS WEEK AT RHCC

### October 5

10:00am **Worship** Chapin Hall  
11:30am **Children's Choir** Choir Room  
4:00pm **Tamil Sangam** Rm 22, 23, 24, 25

### October 6

10:30am **Apple Rehab Service**  
7:00pm **Women's AA** Chapin Hall  
7:00pm **Bowling**  
7:30pm **Bell Choir** Loft

### October 7

7:00pm **Boards & Committees**

### October 8

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

### October 9

7:30pm **Men's AA** Chapin Hall

### Sunday

### Monday

### Tuesday

### Wednesday

### Thursday



## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Oct.7 Irene Moore  
Emily Doten  
9 Elaine Vicino  
Anne Louise Griswold  
10 Susan Lexa  
Diana Hellyar  
Joseph Malespini

**Copies of the September 1st  
sermon "Chosen" may be picked  
up from the table outside of the  
sanctuary.**

**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 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](mailto:brenda@rhccucc.org)

Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: The Rev. Meghan D. Young  
[meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org)

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

Office Manager: Mitsey Baker [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org)

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