

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**October 6, 2019 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome all and extend a special greeting to our guests; our service is enriched by your presence! Please join us 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.

Please include your full address, phone number and email 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.



~ORDER OF WORSHIP~

INTROIT

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

J.A. Freylinghausen

The Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sarah DeGiovanni

Leader: In this sacred hour, in this hallowed place,

People: Touch our souls deeply,

Leader: So that the places where we hurt can be healed,

People: The vision we have missed can be seen again,

Leader: And the challenge we have side-stepped can be eagerly accepted.

**ALL: Come, Holy One, and do your work in us for our good
and your glory.**

*HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

NCH 224

**please rise in body or in spirit;*

Bold denotes unison response

*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gracious God, we come as we are, not always holy, but hoping for a deeper communion with your Son. He has shown us your compassion. He has taught us your commands. He has heard our questions. He has challenged our excuses. Give us the courage in this service to walk with him to his cross, to kneel there, and not to turn away, to learn why he died and how we must change. Help us, when holy surgery hurts. Keep us praying, even as we pray now, the prayer he 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.

*SUNG RESPONSE

NC 773

Re - mem - ber me, re - mem - ber me,

The first part of the musical notation is for the phrase "Re - mem - ber me, re - mem - ber me,". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The time signature is 3/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

O Je - sus, re - mem - ber me.

The second part of the musical notation is for the phrase "O Je - sus, re - mem - ber me.". It also consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The time signature is 3/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 53:1-12 and Romans 5:1-8

SERMON

“On His Way to the Cross”

Rev. Dr. John Afman

HYMN

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

NCH 197

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, they will collect the prayer request cards. For those who have already given their offering, Giving Cards are available so that all may participate in the act of the offering.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Song of Peace”
The Choir

J. Sibelius

*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



Pastoral Prayer

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

This church practices open Communion; all are welcome to participate, regardless of church membership or denominational affiliation.

Prayer of Confession

One: We are called to examine our faithfulness to God's covenant with us. God, in whose presence we gather, promises us grace and pardon when we acknowledge our weakness and shame. Let us confess our sin to almighty God.

All: Eternal God, whose Word is a lamp for our feet and a light for our path, we recognize and confess that we have failed to respond fully to your gracious presence in our lives. Through Jesus Christ you have offered us new life, fulfillment, and the freedom to serve you. We confess that we are captive to sin, that our sin binds us with false pride, and that the wrong we do is made worse by the good we leave undone. Reconcile us to you and to all people. God of mercy, forgive all our sin and strengthen us anew for life as you intend it; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

One: Scripture tells us, God sent Jesus into the world, not to condemn us, but to make us whole.

ALL: We desire that gracious healing. 'Tis grace that has brought us safe thus far, and grace will bring us home.

Invitation

Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

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.

Communion Music



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord, we have come to your table like children, eager to enjoy holy presents. We also come as adults, carrying the lessons of life in our hearts, some learned the hard way, hungry for truth that does not wear out, and for love that does not give up. Thank you for meeting us here and for feeding our souls. Now empower us to follow you as you go to those in need. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Now let us share among us a sign of God's peace.

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

***HYMN**

“Before Your Cross, O Jesus”

NCH 191

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

“Fountain Reverie”

Percy Fletcher

GUEST MINISTER

Rev. Dr. John Afman

LITURGIST

Sarah DeGiovanni

USHERS

Jarod Taylor and Wendy Ware

GREETER

Joan Tennyson

COMMUNION SERVERS

Chris Sheehan, Laurel Cole, Barry Wilcock

Marge Murk, Cheryl Hummel

HOSPITALITY

InReach

The Tower is lighted this week in
Loving Memory of Marvie Baize by Gail & Natalie Tine



Join us for Coffee, Food and Fellowship after Worship.

Today: Sunday, October 6

The Neighbors in Need (NIN) offering is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It will be collected on October 6, 2019. It supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. It is used by the Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts and direct service projects through grants to local Churches. It also supports the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Thank you for your generosity. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities. The 2019 theme is "Love of Children".



Save the Date!!

HERITAGE SUNDAY - OCTOBER 20, 2019



On Sunday, October 20th, we will honor our 50+ year members during worship at 10 a.m. A special reception for all in attendance will be held after the service in Chapin Hall, where RHCC historical memorabilia will be on display and cake and refreshments will be served. (If you are a 'Heritage Member' you will soon receive an invitation to a private breakfast to be held at 9:15 a.m. in the parlor before Worship.)

Join us as we celebrate our 50-year members, and our long history as RHCC!

For more information, contact Judy Graham at: 860-502-7446.



RHCC Memorial Garden and Grounds Planting Sunday, October 6th

The Memorial Garden Ministry Team is organizing a one-time work project to complete some plantings at the church building. We plan to plant a small hedge and perennial bulbs on both sides of the building's front door and perennial bulbs to accompany the planters at the back door. Come and bring your favorite planting tools to the church at 1:00 PM Sunday, October 6th. We will purchase some bulbs and other planting materials, but feel free to bring some of your own bulbs to plant also, to make the job your own. No need to sign up, just show up. You can direct any questions you have to Bill Hoffman (860-563-1367).

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 would be right for this job, contact Marsha Hoffman or the church office.





Come to the Country Fair!
Saturday, October 19
9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Rocky Hill Congregational Church



**Shopping, Silent Auction, Food, Crafts,
Kid's Costume Parade, Face Painting by Catalina**

Featured Shops:

**Holiday Shop, White Elephant, Kid's Corner
Jewelry Shop, Farmer's Market, Sew Country
Snack Shack, Bake Shop, Something Different
Haunted House**



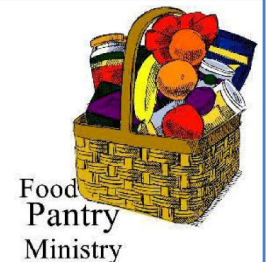
Tea Room (opens at 11:00 am)
Silent Auction (closes at 1:00 pm)

Start your holiday shopping at the Fair!



RHCC FOOD PANTRY BASKET

Clean out your pantry! Or buy 1 extra item while shopping. Our member volunteers make weekly deliveries to the Rocky Hill Human Services Food Pantry. All food donations are appreciated but there is a special need for non- food items especially paper products, including: paper towels, tissues, bathroom tissue, napkins foil, wax paper, soap, laundry detergent and dish soap.






Items accepted:

- Home cleaning (laundry, paper towels, dish soap, napkins)
- Personal Hygiene products (toothpaste, soap, feminine products, shampoo, toilet paper).
- Non perishable food (canned goods, cereals, rice)
- Scrip Gift Cards can be donated, or you can use them to buy your donation items!

All donations are gratefully accepted!




Do you have a great homemade Chili Recipe? Great because we will be holding a **CHILI COOKOFF** at this year's Annual Church Fair!!!

-  Enter by texting me at 203-767-1233 Cheryl Hummel
-  Make your Chili for the Fair
-  Share your recipe by bringing copies of same to fair (Optional)



CAKE AUCTION

Another oldie coming back is the Cake Auction!! Do you have a specialty cake, great cake decorator or just enjoy baking cakes?? We need at least 3-4 cakes to be auctioned at the Fair.

-  Enter by texting me 203-767-1233 Cheryl Hummel
-  Make your Cake for the Fair
-  Share your recipe by bringing copies of same to fair (Optional)

From the Church Office

Birthdays and Anniversaries – we're updating our lists. Let us know if you have a special milestone coming up. Call or email the church office at: 860-529-4167 or office@rhccucc.org



Please notify us of any changes to your address, phone number, cell phone number, or email account.

If you are dropping off items to donate for the Country Fair, the best time to do so is in the morning, 9am-Noon.

Got news? The submission deadline for the weekly service bulletin and weekly e-mail blast is every Wednesday. The email blast is sent, and the bulletin printed every Thursday. Churchmouse Newsletter Articles are due on the 15th of every month.



- Save the Date for: **A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**, Sunday, December 8, 2019 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.

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: Burger King, Boston Market, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's.
- Restaurants: Bonfish Grill, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster
- Shopping: Ace Hardware, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Jo-Ann Fabrics, Kohl's, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Lowes, Michaels, Target, Total Wine, Walmart.
- Grocery: ShopRite, Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, WholeFoods, Westside Market.

The next order for physical cards not stocked in inventory will be placed on **Oct. 20** (with delivery on October 27). E-cards may be ordered anytime. 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.

Think SCRIP!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

4	Stacy Veley	17	Jillian Fulda Maynard
7	Irene Moore	17	John Molina
7	Devin Gagnon	18	Mary Dean
7	Emily Doten	21	Peter (Jay) Alessi
9	Matt Behlman	22	Max Kainamura
9	Rebecca-Lee Molina	22	Alexandra Birdsall
9	Elaine Vicino	23	Rachel Meisterling
9	Anne Louise Griswold	23	Joshua Bell
10	Diana Hellyar	24	John Sword
10	Joseph Malespini	26	Nancy Harlow
11	Matthew Gagnon	26	Tim Bengston
12	Katie Hoffman-Fulda	27	Michael Andonucci
14	Brian Wilcock	28	Jean Goff
15	Peter Graham	29	Janet Pierson
16	Lisa Benson	30	James Pickett
17	Lisa Gilbert	31	Nancy Rolfe



Scott and Sandy Gau were married on October 12, 1996

Martin and Jean Sudell were married on October 10, 1964

Doug and Nancy Robbins were married on October 20, 1956

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

October 6

10:00am Worship
9:30am Childcare
11:00am Coffee Hour
1:00pm Gardening

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Chapin Hall
Front of Church



October 7

7:00pm Women's AA

Monday

Chapin Hall

October 8

7:00pm Council

Tuesday

Fiorilli

Neighbors In Need special collection on Sunday, October 6.

October 9

7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday

Choir Room

October 10

7:30pm Men's AA

Thursday

Chapin Hall

October 11

Little Scholars Closed

Friday

The church office will be closed on Monday, October 12 for Indigenous Peoples day. The preschool "Little Scholars" will also be closed.



We now have an Instagram page! You can find us at RHCCUCC. Please share this info with your loved ones; Instagram can be a great way to let the community know what our church is doing.

Check in on Facebook! WiFi password is "BeOurGuest"!!



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 – Closed

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

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