

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**3 Great Loves: Love of Creation
World Communion Sunday
October 7, 2018 ~ 10:00 a.m.**

"3 Great Loves: Love of Creation" on the cover, and "

~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

Craig Cowing, Green Team

INTROIT

“How Can I Keep From Singing”

The Choir, Jillian Maynard, soloist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Today we celebrate World Communion Sunday as we recognize our connection to Christians around the world, and as we reflect on the Earth, the home we share with all other people.

L: The Earth is beautiful, and bright, and kindly, but that is not all. (*Ursula K. Le Guin*)

All: God's presence and power are in every corner of the universe!

L: Creation is God's presence in creatures. (*Wendell Berry*)

All: Praise God all creatures of the earth!

L: All the stones that are around here, each one has a language of its own.

Even the earth has a song. (*Wallace Black Elk*)

All: Let the stones sing their songs to God!

L: It is only the infinite mercy and love of God that has prevented us from tearing ourselves to pieces and destroying God's entire creation long ago. (*Thomas Merton*)

All: God's mercy and love are unending!

L: Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. (*Rachel Carson*)

All: Let us see and proclaim the beauty of the Living God!

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

**Creator of mountain grandeur and meteor showers,
You are ever at work in the infinite space of the universe,
and in the smallness of each ant, beetle, butterfly and bee.
We marvel at your majesty yet are awestruck at the intricate
simplicity of life.**

**Let your presence be known among us today
Bless us with wisdom to nurture growth throughout the world,
and to make our world a safe place for each of your children.
We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our True Vine,
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.**



Bold type denotes collective response ,

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

***SUNG RESPONSE**

“Shepherd Lead Me”

NCH775

Shep - herd, lead, lead me in your righ-teous-ness,

The first system of musical notation for the song. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Shep - herd, lead, lead me in your righ-teous-ness,"

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

The second system of musical notation. The melody continues in the treble clef, and the accompaniment continues in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "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.

The third system of musical notation, concluding the piece. The melody ends with a double bar line in the treble clef, and the accompaniment ends with a double bar line in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "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



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 READING

Psalm 8

Pew Bible NT p.489

SERMON

“We Are All Together”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

*HYMN

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

NCH 347

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

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”
(Prayer of St. Francis) Sebastian Temple
The Choir

*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

Prayer of Confession

L: Today we gather, sustained by the Connecticut River. The river, after giving us life, watering our farms and serving our industries, makes its way out to Long Island Sound. It connects our lives and actions to the Atlantic Ocean, the great beasts of the sea, the fish that bring work to communities and feed people across the world.

All: God, we confess that we do not often bother to contemplate these things.

We do not act responsibly. We do not act in the truth of our connectedness.

We have not loved creation, or our neighbors, or the generations to come as ourselves.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us in the courage and the wisdom and will to change.

L: Today we gather, our worship lit by electricity pulled from a grid powered by mountaintop coal. For the over 30 years, coal companies have been at work 24-7 to satiate our need for power.

All: God, we confess that we have been careless and wasteful in our use.

We have been unimaginative finding solutions.

The particles of pollution from our electricity and our cars make their way into the air we breathe.

We have not loved creation, or our neighbors, or the generations to come as ourselves.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us in courage and the wisdom and will to change.

(Moment of silence and reflection)

Assurance of Grace

Embodying grace and mercy,
forests can be replanted.
Waste sites can be cleaned.
Wind can power the world.
A human heart can change.

**God's goodness is true,
God's promises are true,
God's love is true.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen!**

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

Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Communion Music

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our God, we thank you for Jesus' invitation to this table where we find grace and forgiveness. Help us to take what we receive today into the world around us that we may be ambassadors of Christ. 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 (a handshake, an embrace, or a non-contact gesture).

***HYMN**

“The Spacious Firmament on High”

PH 72

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE**

“Batalha do sexto tom”

Pedro De Araujo

LITURGIST

Michael Andonucci

USHERS

Bob Carberry, David Hawkins, Doretta Andonucci

COMMUNION SERVERS

Christopher Sheehan, Michael Andonucci

Paul Burnham, Laurel Cole, Marge Murk, Elaine Somes

HOSPITALITY

Sue Van Ness & Jennifer Martin

*Today's Altar Flowers are given by Elaine Somes
In Loving Memory of my late husband, Daniel R. Somes.*



Neighbors in Need offering will be collected today, 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. 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)

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



Icon of the Month for October

The icon of the month for October is from the Monastery of St. Catherine at Mt. Sinai. The original was painted around 1200. The top part depicts the Crucifixion, and the lower part depicts the Nativity. This is a common theme in icons and other religious art, to depict the Nativity but also have a visual reference to the Crucifixion, to see in one image the beginning and end of Jesus' earthly life. This icon is painted on reclaimed wood out of respect for the resources of the Earth. Visit in Weil Chapel for prayer and meditation.

LIBRARY
BOOK SALE!



Rocky Hill Historical Society Library Book Sale!

Saturday October 13th 1:00-3:00pm at the Academy Hall
Museum, 765 Old Main Street.



Rocky Hill History Walk Saturday, October 13, 10:00am – 12:00 Noon. Join us for a story telling adventure about Rocky Hill history. This guided tour will be led by Bob Herron, Rocky Hill Historical Society Historian and Walk Leader. Meet at Center Cemetery main entrance. Length of walk approximately two hours. Level of difficulty: easy (some uneven surfaces and hills). For more information, see Gail Tine or call: 860-563-6704

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), phone/email, in the church office and you will be contacted by the Personnel Committee for further discussion of requirements and experience.

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.



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, Holiday, Family/Kids, Movie Night, Spa You get the idea!

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



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.

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,.

Booth	Booth Chair	Contact Info	
Holiday House	Lynn McKenna	860-836-0981	
Farm Market	Ruth Jensen	860-563-4617	rjensen@yahoo.com
Snack Shack	Jean Goff	860-729-8153	Jrsg50@gmail.com
Baked Goods	Marsha Hoffman	860-563-1367	
	Gloria Moon-Schweitzer	860-295-8871	
Kids Korner	Emily McKenna	860-513-1025	
Silent Auction	Sue Chatfield	860-595-6639	smchat999@att.net
Jewelry	Sue Van Ness	860-666-1900	
Tea Room	Jen & Bill Cordes	860-202- 3517	
	jencourtmanche123@gmail.com		
White Elephant	Nancy Harlow	860-529-4212	nharlow@outlook.com
Something Different	Hilaire Leavitt	860-529-3814	halx@rcn.com
Sew Country	Anita Hawkins	203-235-8372	anitasfarm1010@gmail.com

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

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, 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

The next order for cards not stocked in inventory will be placed on October 28.

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

October 7

10:00am **Worship**
9:30am **Childcare**
10:15am **Church School**
11:00am **Coffee Hour**

October 8

Little Scholars Closed

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

October 9

7:00pm **Hearing Voices**

October 10

6:00pm **Music Committee**
6:30pm **LSP Board**
7:30pm **Choir**

October 11

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

October 12

9:30am **Music Together/LSP**

Sunday

Chapin Hall
Room 4
Room 24
Chapin Hall

Monday

Chapin Hall
Choir Room

Tuesday

Room 6

Wednesday

Parlor
Fiorilli
Choir Room

Thursday

Room 22
Chapin Hall

Friday

Room 6



7 Irene Moore
7 Devin Gagnon
7 Emily Doten
9 Elaine Vicino
9 Anne Louise Griswold
10 Diana Hellyar
10 Joseph Malespini
11 Matthew Gagnon
12 Katie Hoffman-Fulda

COME TO THE FAIR!

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 20**

10AM-2PM

FOOD!

CRAFTS!

WHITE ELEPHANT

EVENTS FOR KIDS

COSTUME PARADE

HERITAGE & HOMECOMING SUNDAY – OCTOBER 21

On Heritage & Homecoming Sunday, we will honor our long-time church members (Heritage) and also celebrate our entire congregation (Homecoming). That morning at 9:15am, we will have a breakfast for our 50+ members in the Parlor before Worship. Invitations have been sent. Please RSVP to the church office. At the close of our worship service, we will all gather in front of the church for a photo of our entire congregation! We hope everyone will come to help us celebrate 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. Steve Ware, our church historian will make a brief presentation on our history.



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