ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 \sim An Open and Affirming Community



October 19, 2014 \sim 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 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. Meghan D. Young

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

"The Swan"

Camille Saint-Saens

Dave Hall, cello

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszcza

Each morning, God's grace awakens us, each evening, God's peace cradles us.

Compassion is our constant companion, as we go through work, school, the day.

In every moment, God is present with us;

God whispers words which can change our lives.

Justice is our faithful teacher, pointing to where we can carry out fairness.

When we find ourselves groping in the shadows, God's light will provide a way home.

We turn the corner, and hope is waiting for us; we return home, and find a feast prepared.

*HYMN

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

Pilgrim (Red) 429

^{*}Please rise in body or in spirit.

^{*}Bold type denotes collective response.

*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

O God, distant yet near,

we gather as witnesses to your promise that if we seek you with all our hearts, we will find you.

Be among us this day.

Hear the confessions of our mouths and the yearnings of our hearts.

Help us change the narrowness of our vision

and the pettiness of our living.

Make us new again with your holy grace.

Grant us the openness to accept your many gifts in humility and use them with faithfulness.

Grant us your spirit that our worship

may ever witness to your holy presence in our lives.

Live in our hearts now and forever.

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

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL

(Children are invited to depart for S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School)



ANTHEM

The Choir

"I Will Arise"

arr. By Alice Parker and Robert Shaw
Traditional

I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms,
In the arms of my dear Saviour,
Oh! there are ten thousand charms.

Teach me some melodious sonnet Sung by flaming tongues above, Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, Mount of Thy redeeming love.

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace, Streams of mercy never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise.

I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms,
In the arms of my dear Saviour,
Oh! there are ten thousand charms.

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 45:1-7

Matthew 22:15-22

SERMON

"In God We Trust"

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

*HYMN

"O God of Earth and Altar"

New Century (black) 582

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

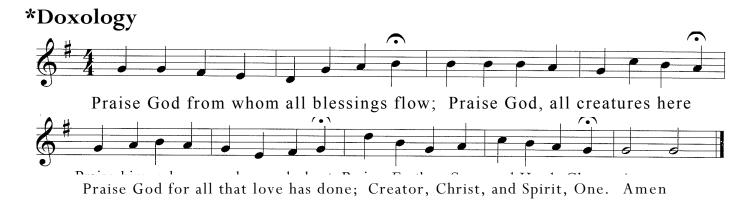
For those who have already given their offering, Giving Cards are available in your pew so that all may participate in the act of the offering.

Offertory Anthem

"On Wings of Song"

Felix Mendelssohn

Dave Hall, cello

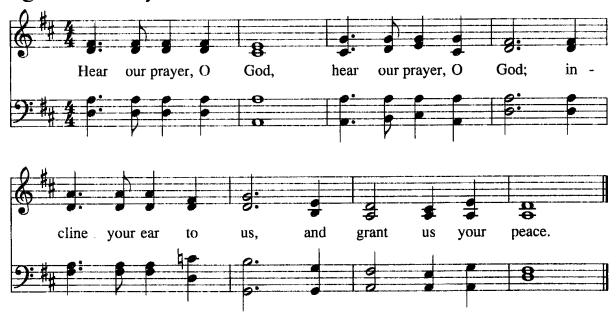


*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys & Concerns

Sung Call to Prayer



Pastoral and Silent Prayer

***HYMN** "Take My Gifts" inserted in bulletin

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

USHERS GREETERS

Steve Smith, Deb Copes, Tom Fulda, Barry and Nancy Wilcock Bob Simmons and Bea Donahue

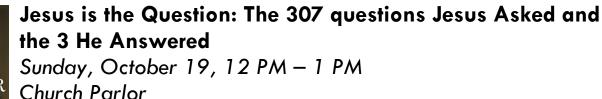
The flowers are given by Natalie and Gail Tine.

The tower is lit this week in memory of Linda Cosker by Sue Starr.

Small Group Ministry at RHCC: Fall Faith Formation Opportunities

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

OCTOBER:



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.

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 19th 2 PM

Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC

ALL pets are welcome (within reason)

Certificate to be presented to your animal. Snacks for animal (and human alike!)

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 → A Boy and His Lunch

Scripture: John 6:1-14

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, Hebrews 3:16 "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God"; (2) At a family meal go around the table and tell each person what "gift" you see in them (3) Talk about ways you can use your gifts together to help meet the needs of someone else, then do it.

Prayer For The Week: Loving God, thank you for Jesus and the many ways he taught us about your love. I ask blessing upon (*insert names*). Help them show your love to others by sharing. *Amen*.

PARADE OF HEROES

Sunday, October 26, 2006

Over the last two months we have been learning about what it means to be a hero in God's eyes. All S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School children and youth are invited to come dressed next Sunday as your favorite Bible or everyday hero. Be prepared to share who you are!

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.

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.



NEW MEMBERS' CLASS: OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN ON NOV. 9

The next opportunity for new members to join the church will be during worship on Sunday, November 9. We invite all those who would like to join the

church, or simply explore the possibility without obligation, to attend a preparatory session after worship on October 26 (11:30 – 12:30), with pastor and Deacons. Please let us know if you are planning to attend by speaking to one of the pastors, or contacting the church office (office@rhccucc.org, or 860-529-4167).

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.

The next scrip ordering deadline (for cards not kept in inventory) is Sunday, November 2. Note that this is one week later than usual. Following that, we'll place orders every two weeks through November and early December in order to provide more flexibility during the holiday season.

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: Boston Market, Burger King, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's

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, Shutterfly, 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!

THINK SCRIP!

HARVEST SUPPER AND SCREEN OF "THE LINE"



Thursday October 23rd 5:30 pm
Aetna Auditorium, Hartford CT

Hands on Hartford is hosting a dinner and screening of "The Line", a documentary depicting the struggles of people across the country living at or below the poverty line.

The Missions Board would like to host a full table of 8 people! To join us, or for more information, please contact Meghan Montana at 203-640-2386 or meghan.montana1105@gmail.com, or call the RHCC office.

WARM COATS NEEDED!

It is the season for cleaning closets and transferring over clothes! With this in mind, Allison, our Covenant to Care Social Worker, has requested any donations of gently used warm coats. They are particularly looking for the below, but will take any donations that are in very good condition.

Men's Medium for an older boy

11yr old boy

6 yr old boy

7 yr old girl

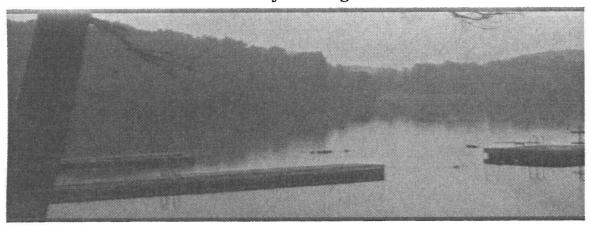
See Kari McCaw-Blaise or Meghan Montana if you would like to donate or have additional questions.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

Fancy Camp Gala

FUNDRAISER FOR SILVER LAKE

Saturday, November 1, 5-9 PM at Sarah Porter Memorial Hall First Church of Farmington, UCC



Celebrate the Ministry of Anne Hughes

Dress up for a gala celebration of the 11 years of ministry of Co-Director Anne Hughes as she steps out into her new social work vocation. At the same time, help raise financial support for Silver Lake's life-changing Outdoor Ministry.

The night will feature gala emcee Brian Lapis, a silent auction, live music, including Jolie Rocke Brown, Dexter the band, and other SLCC favorites, great food, and more.

TICKETS ARE \$100 AND MAY BE PURCHASED ONLINE AT WWW.SILVERLAKECT.ORG/FANCYCAMP.

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

October 19 Sunday

10:00am Worship Chapin Hall Children's Choir Choir Room 11:30am Fiorilli Room 11:30am **Small Group**

11:30am Confirmands

& Parents

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS 2:00pm

4:00pm Tamil Sangam Rm 22, 23, 24, 25

Confirmation 5:00



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October 20 **Monday**

7:00pm Women's AA Chapin Hall

7:00pm Tom Schreier **Bowling** Oct.21

7:30pm Bell Choir Loft 22 Max Kainamura

Alexandra Birdsall

Albert Griswold

Rachel Meisterling

October 21 <u>Tuesday</u>

11:30am Retired Clergy Chapin Hall

> Joshua Bell Wednesday

23

9:30am Quilters Room 6

7:00pm Adult Choir

John Sword 24 Pat Howland

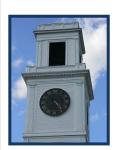
October 23

October 22

7:30pm Men's AA

Thursday

Chapin Hall



LIGHT THE TOWER In Honor or Memory of a Loved One!

Sign up on the spreadsheet in Chapin Hall to have the tower lit for a week or you call the

office 860-529-4167. church at Suggested donation is \$10 to have the tower lit for the designated week from Sunday through Saturday

Think Ahead **MONDAY MORNING MAILERS**

will meet Monday, October 27 to mail newsletter (a week from tomorrow)

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-Faszcza <u>brenda@rhccucc.org</u>

Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: The Rev. Meghan D. Young

meghan@rhccucc.org

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero <u>mary@rhccucc.org</u> Office Manager: Mitsey Baker <u>office@rhccucc.org</u> Webmaster: Dave Hall <u>webmaster@rhccucc.org</u>