

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



October 26, 2014 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Twentieth 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. 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.

PRELUDE

"Pastorale"

Giuseppe Sammartini
arr. P. Harris

CALL TO WORSHIP

Don Pagnucco

This is the day that the Lord had made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it!

For God is always and everywhere —

around us, in us and among us.

God is always and everywhere --

beyond us and yet close.

God is always and everywhere —

even here, even now.

And so we meet God once more in this place,

with heart, soul, mind and strength,

that we might learn to see and praise God everywhere.

*HYMN

"God of Abraham and Sarah"

New Century (black) 20

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

****Bold type denotes collective response.***

***GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Hear the promise of the gospel, that in God's love we are renewed,
in God's mercy we are forgiven, in God's grace we receive the
gift of new life. In that assurance, let us pray:

**O God whose forms are many, whose truth is one,
we gather once more as your people
and give thanks for our common life.**

**As we seek once more the sure center for our living,
we confess all that we do and all that we leave undone
that pulls us from that center
and turns our hearts toward lesser things.**

**May your spirit awaken and renew us,
today and tomorrow,
for wholehearted love and wholehearted life.**

**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.**

***SUNG RESPONSE: Bless God, O my soul**



MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Bob Inderbitzen

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



ANTHEM

“Bist Du Bei Mir” (Be Thou With Me)

J.S. Bach

The Jubilate Handbell Choir

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Matthew 22:34-40

SERMON

“Do As You Please”

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

*HYMN

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

New Century (black) 448

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

"The Amazing Love"

Don McKeever

The Choir

*The amazing love God gives to me
Is like no other love I see.
Amazing love is morning light to me.
For nothing's lost only gained
When all the sorrow and pain
Can never, ever remain - with love.

For there it is, above us all
Awaiting ev'ry needful call.
Amazing love, amazing love.*

*Doxology



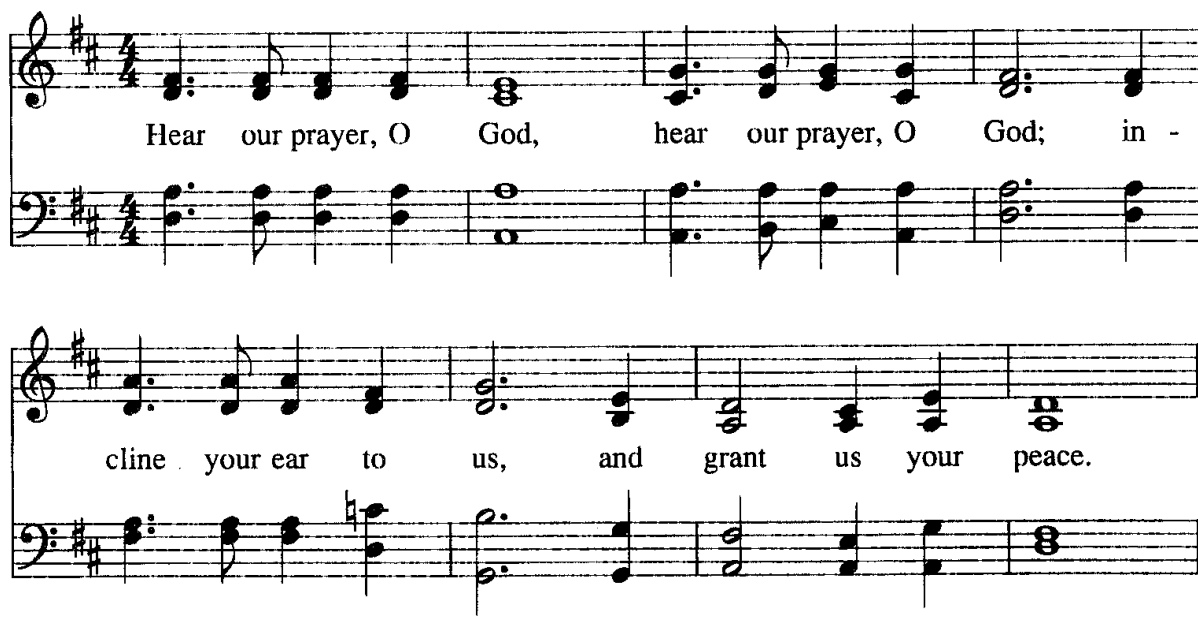
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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**

“Be Now My Vision”

New Century (black) 451

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”

arr. Carl Schalk

LITURGIST

Don Pagnucco

ACOLYTES

Victoria Bower and Louis DiRenzo

USHERS

Bill and Jeanne Timrud, Wendy Ware, Steve Smith, Deb Copes

**The flowers are given by Michael Bower
in memory of Fred Richardson.**

**The tower is lit this week in memory of Claire Roche
by Katie and Jillian and families.**



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 9th. We invite all those who would like to join the church, or simply explore the possibility without obligation, to attend a preparatory session **TODAY** after worship (11:30 – 12:30), with pastor and Deacons.

NEWSLETTER PLUS STEWARDSHIP MAILING

COME **JOIN** the **MONDAY MORNING MAILERS** - a wonderful group of people who help prepare bulk mailing. We will begin around 9:30am **TOMORROW** in the Fiorilli Room. It takes many hours to complete this task, so the more people helping, the faster the work is done. We are getting it done in record time! Come any time in the morning, for a half hour, an hour, or however long you can. Coffee is served

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 Deb Copes 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!

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE

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.

LOOKING FOR

A set of
Thanksgiving
dishes
we can use in
the display
cabinet for
Thanksgiving,
Call

Joan Tennyson
at 860-529-8789

October 2014:

Children on the Run

Written by Don & Maryjane Westra



Global Ministries

“Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.” Psalms 80:7

The United States faces a perfect storm of humanitarian crisis. Unaccompanied and separated children have crossed the border at unprecedented rates, the unanticipated result of foreign policy. Because they are on U.S. soil, our government has a legal, not to speak of ethical, obligation to provide protection, due process and basic needs to this wave of immigrants. Each child has the right by our own laws, to a fair hearing. This obligation was codified by the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, which passed the House and Senate unanimously and was signed into law by President George W. Bush. That law says the children cannot be immediately sent back. Due process must be followed. Global Ministries, along with Honduran partners, Christian Commission for Development and the Evangelical and Reformed Church of Honduras, are responding to the crisis in Honduras. Both organizations work in the education sector providing training and counseling for youth affected by violence; training that will help them get jobs and avoid involvement with the gangs, the “*maras*.”

Christians have a moral and ethical responsibility to keep children safe. In the end, this new “surge,” these new children may prove to be the salvation of the United States, just as other immigrants have been. Hondurans are hardworking, independent and extremely family-oriented, the very qualities we value. I am reminded that the Samaritan was a foreigner who stopped to help a stranger in need.

Here in Honduras, the crisis is unfolding and I sympathize with people who want to escape. Please understand that leaving one’s homeland is not easy and is never a first choice. Hondurans are drawn by fear and a need to escape violence, but even stronger is the need for hope.

Don and Maryjane Westra serve with the Christian Commission for Development and are based in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Don's appointment is supported by One Great Hour of Sharing and both appointments are made possible by Disciples' Mission Fund, Our Churches Wider Mission and your special gifts.

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

October 26

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



October 27

Monday

NEWSLETTER MAILING

7:00pm	Women's AA	Chapin Hall	Oct.26	Nancy Harlow
7:00pm	Bowling			Timothy Bengston
7:30pm	Bell Choir	Loft	27	Kathleen Mosure
			28	Robert Hansen

October 28

Tuesday

6:00am	Community group	Chapin Hall		Jean Goff
			29	Janet Pierson
			30	James Pickett
			31	Nancy Rolfe
				Carrie Laporte
			Nov 1	Neal Cox
				Bill Pierson
				Lanaya Rupaka

October 29

Wednesday

9:30am	Quilters	Room 6		
6:00pm	Personnel Committee	Fiorilli Room		
7:00pm	Adult Choir			

October 30

Thursday

7:30pm	Men's AA	Chapin Hall
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It's time now, before the cold winds blow and the snow falls deep, to think of the American natives on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation in South Dakota, who will be in need of warm winter clothing and blankets. Please consider a donation of any kind of winter clothing in good, ready to wear condition for all ages – men, women, children and infants. The last day for collecting will be Sunday, November 16th. For information call Joan Tennyson (860)529-8789, or leave your donations in Chapin Hall on the last table to be picked up on Sundays. It's a good thing!



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-Faszczka brenda@rhccucc.org

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

meghan@rhccucc.org

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero mary@rhccucc.org

Office Manager: Mitsey Baker office@rhccucc.org

Webmaster: Dave Hall webmaster@rhccucc.org

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 → Dorcas

Scripture: Acts 9:36-42

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, Psalm 37:3 "Trust in the Lord and do good."; (2) Dorcas spent her time helping and giving to others. Rake a neighbor's yard or help out with some other chore you wouldn't normally do. (3) Pay attention to those who help you this week. Look closely for them, and be sure to thank them. Pay it forward.

Prayer For The Week: Thank you, God, for all your disciples. Help them trust in you and do good. *Amen.*

BIBLE SUNDAY

Sunday, November 2, 2014

Pre-K – K, 2-3 Graders, and Confirmands will all receive bibles on November 2nd. Please join us for this special event.

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.

WORSHIP RECORDINGS AVAILABLE

Audio recordings, written sermons and bulletins for many of our Sunday worship services are available on the church website **rhccucc.org** (See WORSHIP BULLETINS), or you may contact the office to request an audio CD or printed sermon.