

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



November 4, 2018 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Memorial Sunday
Communion

~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

PRELUDE "Ave Verum Corpus" arr. Robert Frost
Katie Hoffman-Fulda, flute; Gail Hall, clarinet; Dave Hall, cello

CALL TO WORSHIP Rob Grandell

Leader: Hear, O people of God:
our God is one.

Hear the commandments of our God.

**All: First, love your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your mind,
and with all your strength.**

Leader: Hear, O people of God:
our God is one.

Recite the commandments to your children
and hold them in your hearts.

All: Second, love your neighbor as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these calls to love. Amen.

Bold type denotes collective response

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

O Holy One, Source of all life and Ground of all love,
we thank you for your love that never lets us go.

Thank you for the privilege of gathering in this space
with these your people – our neighbors – to worship you.

We do not come merely to open the doors of the church,
but we come that our hearts might be opened to you and to one
another. As we worship you today, help us to respond to the call of
love – to love you, our neighbors, and ourselves.

May we be transformed from individuals to members of your one
body. We pray for our nation that we be united as a people tied to a
single garment of destiny.

Guide us as families, as a community of faith, as a nation
to follow the path of love.

We pray this in Jesus’ name, 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.



***SUNG RESPONSE**

“Shepherd Lead Me”

NCH775

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

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.

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.

At this time we will have the lighting of the candles for Memorial Sunday. Please bring your candle forward and place it on the table. If you do not have a candle, one will be provided for you.



SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 21:1-6

Pew Bible NT p.259

SERMON

“Hope”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

*HYMN

“Nearer, My God to Thee”

PH 351

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 Anthem

“Ubi Caritas”
The Choir

Maurice Durufle

*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: Again and again you call us
to care for widows and orphans,
to advocate for those in prison,
to welcome the strangers.

**All: God, we hear your call,
but all around us we hear the cry
that there is not enough for all, and that some are undeserving.**

L: Again and again you call us
to love you with our whole heart, understanding, and strength;
such love demands that we seek justice
for those who are oppressed, poor, and forgotten.

**All: God, we hear your call,
But all around us are competing calls
of worldly loyalties, political parties, and public acclaim.**

L: Again and again, you urge us to seek you first.
We long to trust the path of love for you and our neighbors as ourselves.

**All: Yet we fear that our “land of milk and honey”
Has become a land of moral famine and economic hardship,
And we wonder at times if you have abandoned us.**

L: Again and again you urge us not to lean on our own understanding
but in all our ways to acknowledge you, and yet

**All: we are often distracted by the clamor of fear dressed up as
reason.**

L: As we prepare our hearts and minds in these days,
at times we forget to observe
your statutes of compassion and your ordinances of justice.

**All: Again, you remind us to follow you
so that it may go well for us, our neighbors, our nation,
and our world.**

(Moment of silence and reflection)

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the word of God for this season and all seasons:

“Do not be afraid! I will never leave you or forsake you.”

Know that our God who began a good work in us is able to complete it.

As we open ourselves to the Spirit of God,

may we see more fully the wonder of God already at work in us.

And so it is. **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**

“For All the Saints”

NCH 299

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE**

LITURGIST

Rob Grandell

USHERS

Marge Murk, Kim Burghoff and Dave Sageman

COMMUNION SERVERS

Rob Grandell, Wendy Ware, Linda Tokarski

Cheryl Hummel, Don Pagnucco

HOSPITALITY

Jean Goff & Jeannie Alessi

In Loving Memory
of those who are forever
present in our hearts.



In Loving Memory
September 2017-October 2018

Michelle Van Epps	September 2017
Mary Edith Bowman	September 2017
Sylvia Steucek	October 2017
Sue Starr	December 2017
Bob Hansen	December 2017
Russell Stickels	January 2018
Mary Louise Griswold VanSkoot	July 2018



November Icon Paintings

The Icon of the Month for November is actually two! The originals of these icons of Peter and Paul were painted around 800 AD and are at the Monastery of St. Catherine at Mt. Sinai. Peter and Paul are often depicted together because of their contrasting views. Peter represents the more inward looking aspect of the Christian Church. He also represents the origin of Christianity in Judaism. Paul represents the outward looking, mission-oriented aspect of the Christian Church. In life Peter and Paul did not get along and really didn't like each other but here they represent

a prayer that the church be united. The dual symbolism of Peter and Paul has also been important in the relationship between the Roman Catholic Church (Peter) and the Orthodox Communion (Paul). These icons were painted on reclaimed wood out of respect for the resources of the Earth.



NOVEMBER

**Growing with God's
Word in Thankfulness
and Praise**

- 1 Psalm 8
- 2 Psalm 30
- 3 Psalm 40.1-11
- 4 Deuteronomy 16.1-17
- 5 Deuteronomy 30.1-20
- 6 Deuteronomy 31.9-29
- 7 Deuteronomy 31.30—
32.27
- 8 Deuteronomy 32.28-44
- 9 Deuteronomy 33.1-17
- 10 Deuteronomy 33.18-29
- 11 2 Samuel 6.1-23
- 12 2 Samuel 7.1-17
- 13 2 Samuel 7.18-29
- 14 Isaiah 12.1-6
- 15 Isaiah 25.1-9
- 16 Isaiah 42.1-17
- 17 Jeremiah 10.1-16

DECEMBER

**Growing with God's
Word in Love and Joy**

- 1 Psalm 24
- First Sunday of Advent**
- 2 Luke 21.25-38
- 3 Daniel 12.1-13
- 4 Isaiah 44.1-28
- 5 Isaiah 45.1-25
- 6 Isaiah 48.1-22
- 7 Isaiah 49.1-26
- 8 Isaiah 52.1-12
- Second Sunday of Advent**
- 9 Isaiah 60.1-22
- 10 Isaiah 61.1-11
- 11 Zephaniah 1.1-18
- 12 Zephaniah 2.1-15
- 13 Zephaniah 3.1-20
- 14 Malachi 1.1-14
- 15 Malachi 2.1-17

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)

COFFEE HOUR AFTER WORSHIP - JOIN US!

Please consider assisting at a coffee hour. Come at 9:45am and bring one item you feel the folks will enjoy, go down at the start of the final hymn to smile a warm welcome and pour coffee. Stay around to help clean up. Be a part of the Coffee Hour Team. Thanks, Steph



RHCC Golf Tournament

This year's fall RHCC golf tournament was held Sunday, September 16, 2018 at the Wethersfield Country Club. (31) golfers tackled the challenging course, which was in immaculate shape. There were no injuries, all returned safely and everyone had a great time. Five of the eight groups had rounds of even par or better. The group of Tim Dostie, Pat D'Amato and Scott McNally posted the winning score of 6 under par. Look for the new trophy in the church display case! We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to play such a wonderful golf course and the hospitality of our host and RHCC UCC member, Todd Doten. Todd and the Wethersfield Country Club have hosted our tournament every year since 2011 and we owe them our thanks.



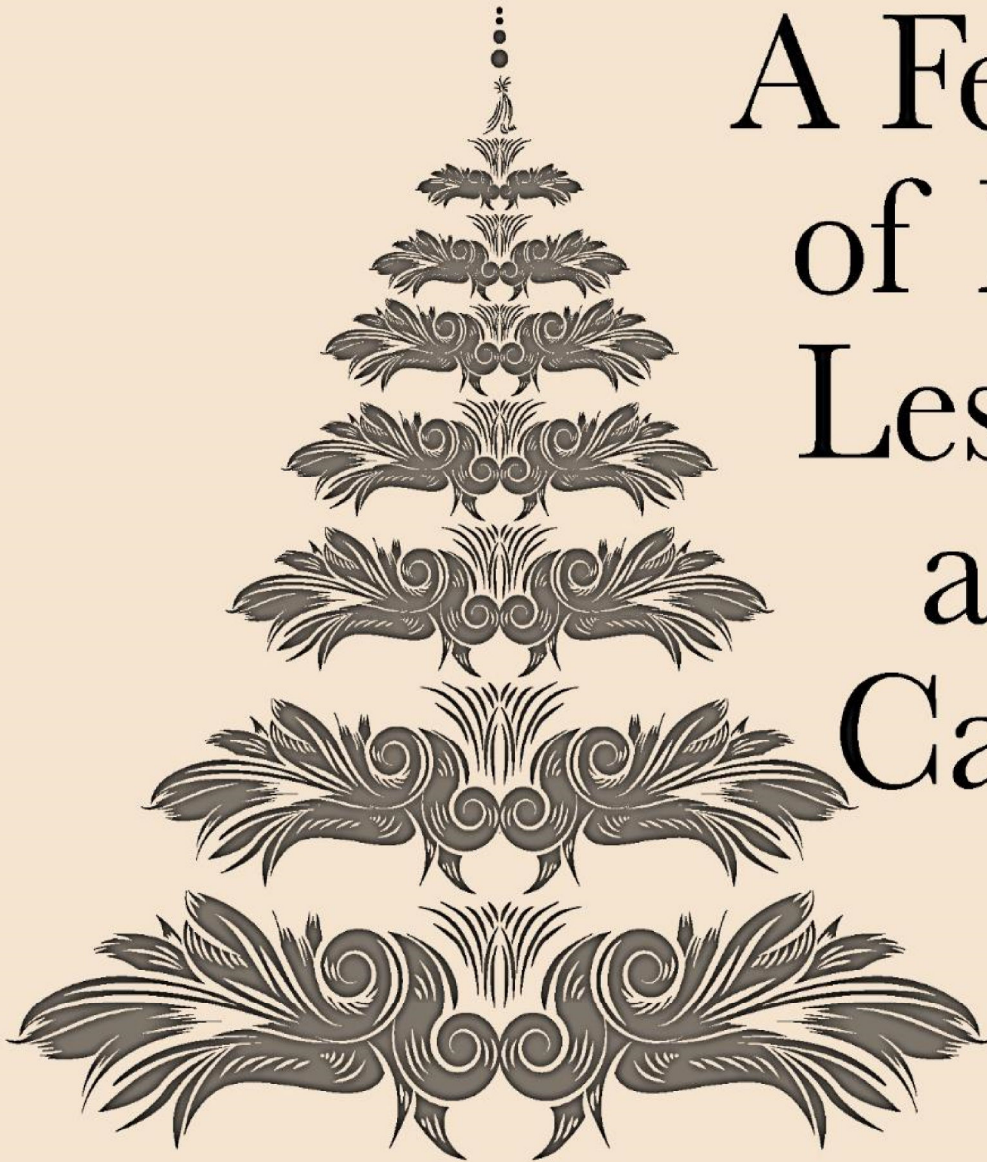
Child Caregiver Position Available: The RHCC Council is looking to fill the position of permanent Child Care giver in the nursery that has been ably held by Liz Pulling for the past two years. Hours are Sunday morning from 9:45am to 11:15 am with the assist of a weekly volunteer and stipend is \$25.00 per week. If you are interested or know someone who might be, see Marsha Hoffman or contact the church office.



Outreach & Witness Ministry Team Turkey and a Thirty Foodshare Campaign

On Sunday, November 18th, we will host a collection from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon in front of the church. We will accept donations of frozen turkeys and \$30, or any donation toward Foodshare. Please make checks payable to Foodshare. Please drop off frozen turkeys only during the designated collection time as we do not have ample storage space. Last year, Foodshare collected over 5,000 turkeys and was able to provide a turkey to each family who requested one. This event is open to the community so please share with family and friends!

If anyone is interested in joining the ministry team to assist us with collection of the turkeys at the church, and delivery to West Side Market on Sunday, November 18th, please contact Heather Collins, heathercollins2004@gmail.com, 860-798-4454.



A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

We have been celebrating this annual service of Christian worship for many years and welcome all to share in the beautiful story of the birth of Christ as told in word and music.

Admission is free, and a free will offering will be collected to benefit the work of our church and local community.

Reception following service.

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 November 11 (with delivery on Nov. 18). 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. 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

November 4

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

Sunday

Chapin Hall
Room 4
Room 24
Chapin Hall



November 5

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

Monday

Chapin Hall
Choir Room

November 6

ELECTION DAY-VOTE!

7:00pm Hearing Voices
7:00pm **Pledge Ministry**
7:00pm **Council**

Tuesday

Room 6
Fiorilli
Parlor

05 Meghan Wilcock
06 Tom Matthias
06 Mary DeLibero
07 Michael McKenna
08 Rob Grandell
08 Alyssa Somes Kellogg
09 Lisa Taylor
09 Jennifer Martin
10 Jon Morgan

November 7

7:00pm **L&C Choir**
7:30pm **Choir**

Wednesday

Choir Room
Choir Room

November 8

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

Thursday

Room 22
Chapin Hall

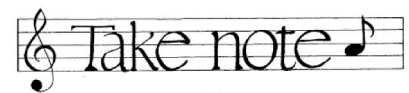
Choir Rehearsals
for Lessons & Carols
Sundays – 11:20am (children)
11:30am (adults)
Wednesdays – 7pm

November 9

9:30am Music Together/LSP

Friday

Room 6



November 10

Private Party

Saturday

Chapin Hall



It's ba-a-ack:
The Baked Potato Fundraiser!
Sunday, November 18 after worship
\$5 per potato
freshly baked with all the fixings
Proceeds to benefit next year's High School (and possibly,
adult) mission trip to Florida or Puerto Rico

Time, Talent & Treasure Ministry

*You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity”
2 Corinthians 9:11*



From your Time, Talent & Treasure Pledging Ministry:

In September, we were honored to have Charlie Kuchenbrod speak to us and other UCC churches in Chapin Hall. His topic “Seeds Need a Good Soil” was extremely enlightening to me. As our pledging ministry continues its planning for this year’s Stewardship drive and Consecration Sunday (December 2nd), I did want to share some poignant points from his presentation. These may be things of which you are all aware. For me, it was eye opening.

Stewardship is about so much more than meeting a budget. Stewardship enables our ministries to continue. Think about the wonderful work our Outreach and Witness ministry does each and every week. They just organized donations to help our friends and families in Mexico Beach, FL, who have experienced devastation that is unimaginable. Our Congregational Care ministry is reaching out to and visiting our homebound friends and families to remind them they are always in our hearts and minds. Our Music Ministry each and every Sunday makes a joyful noise to the Lord which lifts our spirits and enriches our lives. This ministry along with the Worship ministry continues to plan and hold our Lessons and Carols service. If you have never attended, you truly don’t know what you are missing. Our Worship ministry, in addition to Sunday services, organizes special services like Heritage Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Blue Christmas services, to name a few.

Each and every Sunday, our Worship experience lifts voices and hearts in prayer and praise. Our Facilities ministry honors our heritage by caring lovingly for our building and ensuring it maintains its beauty and history. Faith Formation ministry continues to engage our children and youth through church school, Confirmation classes, youth groups and mission trips. Each one of these ministries by itself would be worthy of our passion. The fact that we have all of this in one community of faith is almost over-whelming.

We will be kicking off our pledging campaign in early November. Consecration Sunday is December 2nd when we will ask you to support these worthy ministries. We ask that you start now to prayerfully think about what you are passionate, how that passion extends to our church and how you will give of your time, talent and treasure. This church has a very special place in my heart and I am passionate and proud about all that we do. Let’s find warmth in the passion of our ministries together.

Sincerely, Deb Copes



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: