

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

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



**November 18, 2018 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Transgender Day of Remembrance**

~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

Jennifer Cordes

INTROIT

“Now I Walk in Beauty”
The Choir

Hopi Native American

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bob Carberry

L: Unless our GOD builds the house, its builders labor in vain.

**All: We have come into this house, built by the Holy One,
to worship the God of Creation.**

L: Unless our GOD watches over the city, those who watch stand guard in vain.

**All: We have come to listen to the stories of people
who throughout the generations have shown us the way
by their trust in the promises of God,
who is always watching over us.**

L: The widow who gives her last coin
reminds us of the risks we are free to take
with confidence that God will take care of us
through times of plenty and times of want,
all along our journey through life.

**All: So let us celebrate this gathering which can bind us together.
Give thanks that we are no longer strangers with God's people here or
throughout the nations. Let us worship God!**

Bold type denotes collective response

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

Ever living God, instill in us, we pray,
the trust and self-giving that your Word imparts to us.
Teach us again during this time together
that you are always with us.
Remind us that all that we have is a gift from you
and is meant to be shared.
The Holy Spirit calls and empowers us
to live beyond our own desires.
So, send your Holy Spirit, we pray,
that we might be overcome
with its liberating courage and sustenance.

We ask 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.

ANTHEM

“Thanks Be To Thee”
The Choir

G.F. Handel

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 12: 13-17, 38-44

Pew Bible NT p.48-49

SERMON

“A Tale of Two Coins”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

***HYMN**

“For the Fruit of all Creation”

N 425

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

“Arioso”
Dave Hall, cello

J.S.Bach

*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.

Transgender Remembrance and Candle Lighting

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE “Variations from Organ Concerto, Op. 4, No. 1” G.F. Handel

TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18th we light a candle for the

Transgender Day of Remembrance, observed annually on

November 20 -- a national day of mourning for transgender persons

who have lost their lives, through murder or suicide, in the past year. Through this act of worship, we renew our

commitment to welcome, and advocate for, the transgender community. Our Outreach & Witness Ministry has

designated a \$250 donation, made on behalf of our congregation, to Hartford-based "True Colors" -- an

organization that works with social service agencies, schools, organizations, and within communities to ensure

that the needs of sexual and gender minority youth are both recognized and competently met. (Rocky Hill

Congregational Church UCC designated itself as an Open and Affirming Christian community in 2009.)



LITURGIST

Bob Carberry

USHERS

Deb Copes, Steve Smith, Kim Burghoff, Dave Sageman

HOSPITALITY

Sue VanNess & Jen Martin

*The Tower is lit this week in Loving Memory of **Justin Miller** by the Worship Ministry*



The Baked Potato Fundraiser!

Today after worship in Chapin Hall

\$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

A Turkey



& Thirty

A Campaign to Help

FOODSHARE Solve Hunger

"With longer legs, or not!"
www.foodshare.org

TODAY, Sunday, November 18, 2018

Turkey and a Thirty to benefit families

served by Foodshare

Drop-off 9 AM to 12 Noon (in front of the church)

Donate a frozen turkey and \$30, or any donation

(checks payable to "Foodshare")

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



We need YOU to help us fill the pews for Lessons and Carols!!

In recent years we have worked hard to fill the church for our annual service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

What can you do to help? Here's a list:

- Come. Please come.
- Share our event on Facebook when you see the announcement/invitation
- Take a few postcard invitations to send to family, neighbors, friends and church members you haven't seen in a while. Or just give them a call. Lessons and Carols is a beautiful tradition. Help us share it with others! Thank you.



We will hold our annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 9th, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

Held in the Sanctuary of Rocky Hill Congregational Church with full choir, pipe organist, and instrumentalists. 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. A truly unique and moving experience! Reception follows the service. All are welcome to attend.

A free-will offering will be taken to donate to our town food bank.



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

Congratulations: \$2 Million and Counting!!!

On Sunday, November 4, we officially passed the \$2M mark in scrip sales. This is an amazing milestone. Since 2009, **YOU** have bought two million dollars of scrip yielding almost \$134,000 of income to the church ***just by using scrip to buy the things you were going to buy anyway.***

This amazing accomplishment would not have been possible without the countless hours and faithful dedication that Dave and Gail Hall devote to the scrip program. In honor of them and other scrip volunteers, we are asking everyone to consider making a gift of scrip to the Rocky Hill Food Pantry. Just stop by the scrip table (or contact Dave or Gail directly) and let them know how much you wish to donate—any amount is fine. Thanks to your generosity, we already have \$360 donated on November 11th when we announced this in church. At the end of November, we will add it all up and donate the appropriate amount of grocery gift cards to the food bank.

Your scrip purchases help underwrite all the ministries of our church. Keep up the good work!

Think SCRIP.



Looking ahead to December, a time of Joyful preparation!

Throughout December: Mitten Tree
collecting hats, gloves, scarves for those in need.



Sunday, December 2, 10am – Consecration Sunday; prayerful reflection on giving of Time, Talent and Treasure during worship.

Sunday, December 2th, 5pm – 7 pm Advent Family Night

Join us for a pot-luck dinner, crafts, and a carol-sing, as during this season of Advent we wait in anticipation for the birth of Jesus Christ. Bring a salad, a main dish, or a dessert (a true pot luck!) This is an intergenerational event for the entire church family and friends.



Sunday, December 9, 10am – March of the Toys



Sunday, December 9, 4pm – Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

Wednesday, December 12, 6:30pm – Blue Christmas Service in the Chapel

Saturday, December 15, 10:30am – 2pm – Cookie Walk

Sunday, December 16, 2pm – Christmas Caroling & reception

Monday, December 24, 5pm & 11pm – Christmas Eve Worship Services



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 25 (with delivery on Dec. 2). 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 18

Sunday

9am-Noon Turkey & a \$30 Drop off

- 10:00am **Worship** Sanctuary
- 9:30am **Childcare** Room 4
- 10:00am **Church School** Rms 24,25,26
- 11:00am **Baked Potato Fundraiser** Chapin Hall
- 11:20am *Lessons & Carols Rehearsals*

November 19

Monday

- 7:00pm Bonsai Group Chapin Hall
- 7:00pm Women's AA Fiorilli

November 20

Tuesday

- 7:00pm Hearing Voices Room 22
- 7:30pm **Bell Choir** Sanctuary

November 21

Wednesday

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

November 22

Thursday

Office closed
HAPPY THANKSGIVING



- 7:30pm Men's AA Chapin Hall

November 23

Friday

Office closed

- 19 Robert Simmons
- 19 Sheila Elliot
- 20 Mary-Edith Bowman
- 20 Hannah Fuller
- 22 Julia Pawlich
- 23 Peter Alessi
- 24 Kim Batterson-Biglow

**Rocky Hill Ecumenical
Thanksgiving Service
Monday, November 19 at
7pm
At St. Andrew the Apostle
Episcopal Church**



CHURCH MOUSE DECEMBER ISSUE
We'll gather to prepare the newsletter on Tuesday, November 27 9:30am
in the Fiorilli Room. Join us!

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