

# ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 22, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

Thanksgiving Sunday

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*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.*

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## 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 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). Be prepared to pass it to the aisles at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.*

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## INTROIT

“Now I Walk in Beauty”

Native American

The Choir

*Now I walk in beauty,  
Beauty is before me,  
Beauty is behind me,  
Above and below me.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

O LORD, remember in David's favor all the hardships he endured;  
**how he swore to the LORD and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob,**  
“I will not enter my house or get into my bed;  
**I will not give sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids,**  
**until I find a place for the LORD, a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob.”**

We heard of it in Ephrathah; we found it in the fields of Jaar.

**“Let us go to his dwelling place; let us worship at his footstool.”**

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

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

Our God, you rule over all of us with justice and care,  
we your people confess that we do not submit ourselves to your rule,  
that we do not always participate in your reign of equity and  
integrity,

that we have not followed the example you set forth.

Lead us, our God, and set us on the path to righteous rule in all that  
we do.

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:**

Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia,

al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! *(Last time, end.)*

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The vocal line begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5, then a half note G4. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note bass line and a chordal accompaniment. The second system continues the vocal line with a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note Bb4. The piano accompaniment features a long, sweeping melodic line in the bass clef that spans across the end of the system.

**MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES AND  
DEDICATION OF COVENANT TO CARE DONATION**

**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

“Song of Thanks”  
The Choir

Russel Nagy

## SCRIPTURE READING

John 18:33-37

N.T. p. 162 pew Bible

## SERMON

“Whose Reign”

The Rev. Craig L. Cowing

## \*HYMN

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

New Century (black) 425

## OFFERING OF GIFTS

*During the time of offering, your prayers can be offered using the blue prayer request cards and placed in the offering plate. The pastor will read the prayers aloud during the Joys and Concerns.*

### 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 Solo

“Be Thou My Vision”  
Dave Hall, cello

arr. Richard Nichols

### \*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



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 "Crown with Your Richest Crowns" New Century (black) 301

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE "Voluntary and Fugue in C" G. F. Handel

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LITURGIST

Michael Bower

USHERS

Jim and Lois Stevens, Deb Copes and Chris Sheehan

HOSPITALITY

Candy Smith and Lynn McKenna

The flowers are given in memory of Jean and Jeffrey Holmes  
by their family.

The tower is lit this week in loving memory of Franklyn Hitchcock  
by Sue Starr



## 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 already earned more than \$1900 this month from scrip sales! If you placed a scrip order last week, you may pick up your cards at the scrip table this morning. The next opportunities to place orders for cards not kept in inventory will be Nov. 29 and Dec. 13. Delivery will be on the Sunday following each order deadline.

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.

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

**Fast food:** Boston Market, 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

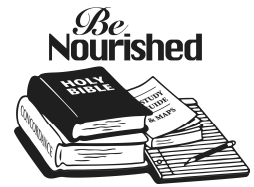
**Restaurants:** Bertucci's, Bonfish Grill, Buffalo Wild Wings, Denny's  
On the Border, TGI Fridays, Outback Steakhouse

**Shopping:** Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond,  
Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, L. L. Bean, Lowes, Payless Shoes, Target,  
Toys R Us, Walmart

See Gail Hall at the scrip table in Chapin Hall this morning for a complete listing of available cards, or to have all of your questions answered.

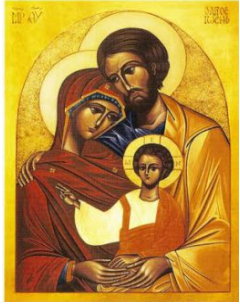
**THINK SCRIP**

## LOOKING AHEAD TO DECEMBER



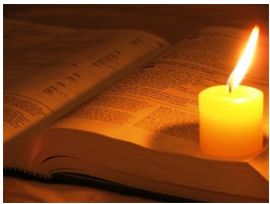
<b>Sun. Nov. 29</b>	<b>First Sunday of Advent</b>	
<b>Wed. Dec. 2</b>	<b>Advent Bible Study</b>	1:00 p.m.
<b>Sat. Dec.5</b>	<b>Men's Christian Fellowship</b>	8:30 a.m.
<b>Sun. Dec.6</b>	<b>Advent Family Night</b>	5 – 7 p.m.
<b>Tues. Dec. 8</b>	<b>"Images of Christmas, East and West"</b>	1:00 p.m.
<b>Wed. Dec. 9</b>	<b>Advent Bible Study</b>	1:00 p.m.
<b>Thurs. Dec. 10</b>	<b>Blue Christmas Service</b>	7:00 p.m.
<b>Sun. Dec. 13</b>	<b>Service of Lessons and Carols</b>	4:00 p.m.
<b>Tues. Dec. 15</b>	<b>"Images of Christmas, East and West"</b>	7:00 p.m.
<b>Wed. Dec. 16</b>	<b>Advent Bible Study</b>	1:00 p.m.
<b>Sat. Dec.19</b>	<b>Men's Christian Fellowship</b>	8:30 a.m.
<b>Thurs. Dec. 24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Services</b>	5 & 11 p.m.





Tuesday December 8 at 1 PM and Tuesday December 15 at 7 PM the Rev. Craig Cowing will give a presentation on **“Images of Christmas, East and West,”** in which he will display copies he has painted of Orthodox icons and Renaissance paintings with a Christmas theme. He will talk about the significance of Christmas in the Eastern and Western traditions and how that reflects on images of Christmas.

On Thursday, December 10 at 7 PM we will have a **Blue Christmas service.** The purpose of the service is to acknowledge that the holiday season is difficult for many who suffer from depression or who have experienced loss. December is the darkest month of the year, and the coinciding with a joyous holiday season can be difficult. This will be a meditative service of music, prayer and readings.



Rev. Craig Cowing will lead an **Advent Bible Study** on three Wednesdays, December 2, 9, and 16 at 1 PM in the Fiorilli Room. Each week we will look at the texts from the Revised Common Lectionary for the upcoming Sunday.

Giuliano-Sagarino Brooklawn Funeral Home  
511 Brook Street  
Rocky Hill

invite you to attend their  
**20<sup>th</sup> annual Memorial Tree Lighting Ceremony**  
on **Wednesday December 9 at 6:30pm.**

It is an evening of celebrating and remembering loved ones.

All are welcome to attend.





# A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

**December 13, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.**



**Rocky Hill Congregational Church**  
**United Church of Christ**  
Established 1727  
*An Open and Affirming Community of Faith*



## THIS WEEK AT RHCC

### November 22

#### THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

10:00am	<b>Worship</b>	Sanctuary
11:00am	<b>Baked Potato Fundraiser</b>	Chapin Hall
11:20am	<b>Children's Choir</b>	Choir Room
11:40am	<b>Lessons/Carols Adult Choir</b>	Choir Room
2:30pm	Wedding	Sanctuary
4:00pm	Siragu Tamil School	Rm 22, 23, 24, 25, 27

### November 23

7:00pm	Women's AA	Chapin Hall
7:30PM	<b>Bell Choir</b>	Loft

### November 24

6:00pm	Community Event	Room 25
7:00pm	Hearing Voices	Room 24

### November 25

5:15pm	Pilates w/Caroline	Chapin Hall
7:00pm	<b>Choir/Lesson s&amp; Carols</b>	Choir Room
7:30pm	<b>Adult Choir</b>	Choir Room

### November 26

#### THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED

7:30pm	Men's AA	Chapin Hall
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### November 27

#### OFFICE CLOSED

### November 28

1:00pm	<b>Piano Recital</b>	Sanctuary
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### Sunday

### Monday

### Tuesday

### Wednesday

### Thursday

### Friday

### Saturday



#### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov 22	Julia Pawlich
24	Kim Batterson Biglow
25	Jeannie Alessi Will McKenna



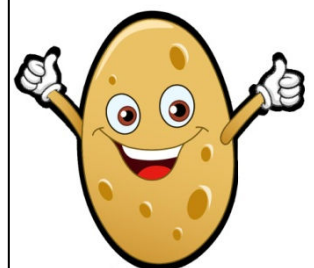
#### NEWSLETTER MAILING

The December Church Mouse will be mailed on **Monday November 30**.  
Join the  
Monday Morning Mailers  
any time Monday morning



**It's ba-a-ack:  
The Baked Potato Fundraiser!**  
**TODAY** after worship  
\$5 per potato  
freshly baked with all the fixings

Proceeds to benefit the High School Youth Group trip to the UCC National Youth Event in July 2016



# Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

805 Old Main Street  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Church Office: [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org) / 860 529-4167

Church Website: [rhccucc.org](http://rhccucc.org)

Visit us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/rhccucc](http://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](mailto:ccowing@rhccucc.org)

Minister for Children and Youth: Georgette L. Huie [ghuie@rhccucc.org](mailto:ghuie@rhccucc.org)

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero [mary@rhccucc.org](mailto:mary@rhccucc.org)

Office Manager: Mitsey Baker [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org)

Webmaster: Dave Hall [webmaster@rhccucc.org](mailto:webmaster@rhccucc.org)