

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



November 24, 2019 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Baptism

We welcome all and extend a special greeting to our guests; our service is enriched by your presence! Please join us 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 down the hall in Room 4.



Please include your full address, phone number and email 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.

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

God of grace and mercy, in the warmth of this gathered household of faith, remind us again of what it means to be reconciled through the power of your Spirit, one with another, between friends, and with neighbors and co-workers and yes, even with those we consider to be enemies.

Gathered into your presence this morning, we are grateful for the blessings which come from you. Keep us humble and tenderhearted as we listen for ways to serve you today and every day. For we pray this as Jesus 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**

Santo, Santo, Santo

NCH 793

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

You are invited to share a sign of the reconciling peace of Christ with those around you with a handshake, an embrace, or a non-contact gesture of greeting.

BAPTISM OF JONATHON MARTIN

See Insert



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



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

“A Gaelic Blessing”
The Choir

John Rutter

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Hebrew Scripture:
New Testament:

Habakkuk 3:17-19
Matthew 20:1-16

SERMON

“Harvest Grace”

Rev. Nada Sellers

*HYMN

“Autumn Fields”

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, they will collect the prayer request cards. For those who have already given their offering, Giving Cards are available so that all may participate in the act of the offering.

INVITATION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“On Wings of Song”
Dave Hall, cello

Mendelssohn

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

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bountiful God, as you have shown us what the generosity of your wage-giving looks like, now receive these gifts of our labor. May they be useful in the church and moving forth into our communities and the wider world, bringing peace and comfort wherever they are put to use. Amen.

JOYS & CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

*HYMN

“Now in the Days of Youth”

NCH 350

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

“Prelude in G Minor”

J.S. Bach

LITURGIST
USHERS
GREETER
HOSPITALITY

Cheryl Hummel
Sue Chatfield and Denise & Bob Carberry
Joan Tennyson
InReach

Today's Altar Flowers are given by SueVanNess & Jennifer Martin
In Loving Memory of baby Jonathon's Grandparents, Great-Grandparents and Great Aunt



Outreach & Witness Ministry Team - Turkey and a Thirty drive!
TODAY - Frozen turkeys and donations will be collected in front of the church
From 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. (Make checks payable to "Foodshare")

Today's special Thanksgiving offering will be allocated to the Rocky Hill Congregational Church Helping Hand Fund.

Music Ministry is currently signing up Readers and Ushers for this year's Lessons & Carols Service on Sunday, December 8 at 4:00pm. Contact Mary, Nada, or email the office if you would like to participate.

A new sign-up portal for Liturgists, Ushers and Sunday building opening, can be found on our website:
RockyHillUCC.org

Thursday, December 5: 4:15pm to 5:30pm – a Magic Eraser party!

RHCC families are invited to help clean the backs of the pews using Magic Erasers (provided). Pizza will be served afterwards. RSVP to Georgette for dinner, and contact Liz Reed-Swale if you have questions.

Thursday, December 12: 5:30pm to 6:45pm – Young mothers' group

We will meet in Room 6 (Crafters' Room, next to the Nursery) for dinner and socializing. Children are welcome. Come to relax, be fed, and to exchange information and great ideas. RSVP to Georgette for dinner.



ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Thanksgiving Offering to replenish Helping Hand Fund

Today's special Thanksgiving offering will be allocated to the Rocky Hill Congregational Church Helping Hand Fund. This fund provides financial assistance to church members and friends in times of need. The fund has not been replenished since the spring of 2017, and at the end of the summer, the balance was down to just over \$5,000.

All disbursements from the Helping Hand Fund are made confidentially. The amount of any distribution is dependent on the circumstances of the need and the amount of available funds. Requests for assistance should be made directly to the Pastor or any member of the Executive Committee of the Council (currently Marsha Hoffman, Moderator; Ruth Fitzgerald, Vice Moderator; Hilaire Leavitt, Clerk; Dave Hall, Treasurer).

You may donate to this Thanksgiving appeal as part of this morning's offering. Please use the provided Thanksgiving offering envelopes for these gifts. Checks denoted as "Thanksgiving" in the memo line do not need to be in the special envelope. All gifts in Thanksgiving envelopes or otherwise denoted for Thanksgiving will be applied to the Helping Hand Fund. (All other gifts in the collection plates this morning will be processed as normal offerings - i.e., applied to fund the church's budgeted ministries.)

In the words of Matthew, "Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you." Thank you in advance for helping to provide a source of financial support to our friends and families in need.

From the Church Council

Rocky Hill Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Join your friends and neighbors of all Christian
denominations at a joyful service
giving thanks and praise to God



Tuesday, November 26, 2019

7:00 PM

Hosted by St. Josephine Bakhita Parish at

St. James Church

767 Elm St.

**MONETARY DONATIONS TO THE ROCKY HILL
FOOD BANK WILL BE ACCEPTED**

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
- Pharmacy: CVS, Walgreens
- Fast food: Burger King, Boston Market, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's.
- Restaurants: Bonefish Grill, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster
- Shopping: Ace Hardware, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Jo-Ann Fabrics, Kohl's, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Lowes, Michaels, Target, Total Wine, Walmart.
- Grocery: ShopRite, Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, WholeFoods, Westside Market.

The next order for physical cards not stocked in inventory will be placed next Sunday, December 1 (with delivery on December 8). E-cards may be ordered anytime. 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.

Think SCRIP!

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

November 24

10:00am Worship
9:00am Turkey \$30 Collection
9:30am Childcare
10:15am Church School

November 25

9:30am **NEWSLETTER MAILING**
7:00pm Women's AA
7:30pm Bell Choir

November 26

7:00pm Town Ecumenical Service

November 27

7:00 pm Lessons & Carols rehearsal
7:30pm Choir

November 28

Happy Thanksgiving!

7:30pm Men's AA

November 29

Preschool closed, Office closed

Sunday

Sanctuary
Front Steps
Room 4
Rms 24,25,27

Monday

Fiorilli
Chapin Hall
Choir Loft

Tuesday

Wednesday

Choir Room
Choir Room

Thursday

Chapin Hall

Friday

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

24	Kim Batterson-Biglow
25	Jeannie Alessi
25	Will McKenna
25	Holly Alessi
30	Gael Curtin



GRATEFUL GIVING

Helping Hand Fund – Today, Nov 24
Turkey & a \$30 – Nov 24
Veteran's Home Secret Santa
Food Bank – all month



HELPERS NEEDED TO PREPARE THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER MAILING – MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25 AT 9:30AM. THANK YOU!
Coffee and refreshments will be served.

Join us as we

Celebrate Advent



Sunday, December 1, 5:30pm – 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. This is an intergenerational event for the entire church family and friends.



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 – Closed

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: Rev. Nada Sellers nsellers@rhccucc.org

Minister for Children & Youth: Georgette 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