



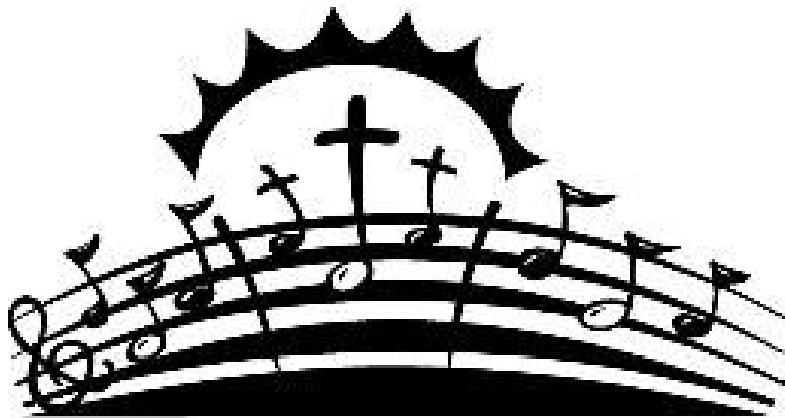
The Reverend Barbara Libby, Interim Pastor
203 389-8946 – barlibby@rhccucc.org
The Reverend Donna K. Manocchio, Assoc. Pastor
860 529-3013 – associate@rhccucc.org
Meghan Davis Young, Acting Director Christian Education
860 966-2432 – christianed@rhccucc.org
Will Kanute, Director of Music
860 233-1704 – music@rhccucc.org
860 529-4167 Church – 860 257-9637 Fax
Vol. 24 No. 4 – April 1, 2010



April Newsletter

Editor – Carol Harvey
RHCC e-mail address – office@rhccucc.org
Website: www.rhccucc.org
Office Hours – 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. M-F
Sunday Worship Services – 10:00 a.m.

Childcare Available/Handicap Accessible



Alleluia
is
Our Song



A Message From

Pastor Barbara

Happy Eastertide to us all! Although it's possible that this might appear in your mailbox prior to Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010 it is written to celebrate the season of Eastertide which begins on Easter Sunday and runs forward until Pentecost in the middle of May.

Easter is the keystone of our faith!! For Christians Easter is the greatest day in all history and the most important celebration day of our faith...**Easter is the beginning - not the end - of the whole thing!** Take the empty tomb and the resurrection of Jesus out of our faith story and we would have little more than stories about a good man to tell! **By faith** on Easter morning each year we say "Yes!" once again. We say "Yes!" to the amazing and incredible reality that Jesus died for us on a cross and three days later was resurrected to a life eternal... **We say "Yes!" by faith so that our eyes can be opened, so we can see and experience the Living Christ in our midst each and every day!**

In the church season following Easter Sunday, called Eastertide, we will hear again the stories of how others came to believe in the Good News... In Eastertide we take a look at how we too continue to come to believe in that same Good News!

Join us in worship regularly on Sunday mornings at 10 am in the sanctuary. Help us continue to celebrate Easter each week!

Here's one of my favorite Easter prayer/poems written by Joyce Rupp:

Awaken Me by Joyce Rupp from Out of the Ordinary

Risen One, come, meet me in the garden of my life.

Lure me into elation. Revive my silent hope. Coax my dormant dreams.

Raise up my neglected gratitude. Entice my tired enthusiasm.

Give life to my faltering relationships. Roll back the stone of my indifference.

Unwrap the deadness in my spiritual life. Impart heartiness in my work.

Risen One, send me forth as a disciple of your unwavering love,
a messenger of your unlimited joy.

Resurrected One, May I become ever more convinced that your presence lives on,
and on, and on, and on...Awaken me! Awaken me!

Pastor Barbara Weekly Bible Study – Wednesday afternoons from 12:30 – 1:30 pm in the Fiorilli Room. There will be no Bible or Book Study on April 7th. Pastor Barbara leads this lectionary Bible Study where we will read and examine the texts for the coming week's worship. **All are welcome.** No experience necessary. Bring your favorite translation or pick one from the shelf. Brown bag lunch optional.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR EASTERTIDE

April 4

6:15 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service at Rose Hill Cemetery

Sermon: “Remember the Word” The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

10:00 a.m. Easter / Communion / Family Worship

Scripture: John 20:1-20

The Rev. Barbara J. Libby

Sermon: “Good News!! He Is Risen!!”

April 11

Second Sunday of Easter

Scripture: John 20:19-31

The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

Sermon: “I Have Seen the Lord!”

April 18

Third Sunday of Easter

Scripture: John 21:1-19

The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

Sermon: “The Breakfast Club”

April 25

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Psalm 23

The Rev. Barbara J. Libby

Sermon: “The Lord Is My Shepherd”

“Bad” Girls of the Bible – A Bible Study for Women

April 15 / 7:00 – 8:30 PM in the Fiorilli Room

Come and explore some of the lesser-known women in the Scripture, whose lives are filled with jealousy, deceit, and rejection. Yet within these stories are words and deeds of courage and determination, commitment and faith.

Flower Chart in Chapin Hall

The 2010 flower chart is posted in Chapin Hall. **We have many vacant spots.** If you would like to reserve your flower Sunday, please call one of the committee members listed below. Thank you!—Joan Diaz, chair

The Flower Committee

January/February—Denise Carberry, 860 563-8311

March/April—Cindy Bennett, 860 721-6535

May/June—Betty McKinney, 860 529-2023

July/August—Pat Gordon, 860 665-1205

September/October—Joan Diaz, 860 613-2889

November/December—Lois Stevens, 860 632-5810



Note from the Trustees

Recently the Trustees have completed a project that repaired and upgraded the heating system for the church. The repair part of the project involved replacing four of the six steam control valves on the boiler. The four valves were not opening or closing properly. Three of them were at least thirty years old; so we feel that we got a long useful service from them.

The second part of the project involved installing a new computerized control system that controls heat for the entire church as well as air conditioning for Chapin Hall. In addition to having the whole church on a single control system, we now have greater flexibility in scheduling heat to various rooms in the church. The new controller allows us to heat the rooms in the Annex (the 1993 addition) without having to rely on another zone in the church being heated as well. Also, we can monitor the system from offsite via the Internet. As many of you have probably noticed already, the room thermostats have been replaced by new modules which communicate to the central controller.

We believe that the repairs and the new control system will help us improve the efficiency of heating the church. Everyone can help us by making sure that meetings at the church are noted on the church calendar which will help us schedule heat accordingly. If you have any questions, please contact Dave Sageman at dsageman@snet.net or 860-985-5988 or Neal Cox.



Join us for Pot Luck Dinner and a Movie On the playbill "Bottle Shock"

Saturday, April 10

at 6:30..... p.m. in Chapin Hall

1976 Napa Valley – One small American winery and its workers are about to show the French that the world's finest wine will now come from the other red, white and blue. Based on an inspiring true story, *Bottle Shock* is an "intelligent, affectionate, beautifully acted movie" (*The Hollywood Reporter*) that pours out the laughs.

For connoisseur, Steven Spurrier, there is no fonder art than French wine, despite rumors that the new California wines country holds the future of the vine. Positive the small Napa wineries are no match for the established French vintages, Spurrier challenges the American to a blind tasting. But when he finds the valley full of ambitious and talented novice vintners like Jim Barrett and his son, Bo, he realizes his publicity stunt may change the history of wine forever.



Go and Tell...on April 16

On Easter Sunday the church tells the story of the empty tomb and the charge by the messenger to “go and tell.”

Get ready for a very special message from the United Church of Christ--a message of inclusion, justice and welcome.

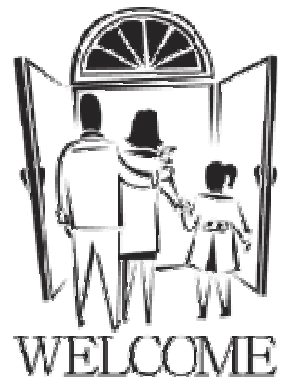
On **Friday, April 16, at 9 AM**, the UCC will launch a **NEW** powerful video spot on the internet. At first, the video will be delivered to tens of thousands—by email, through internet ads, and posts to social networks. Then, as the day unfolds, the video will sweep the internet like a wave—reaching millions! **But only with your help.**

GO to **ucc.org** at 9 AM on April 16 to receive the message.

TELL others by sending the link by email to family, friends, co-workers and church members, inviting them to watch and share it with others. Share the link on Facebook, Twitter, text messaging, MySpace, LinkedIn, myUCC, your own blog, or other places where internet dwellers will see it.

Go and tell!

Bob Inderbitzen, Senior Deacon
bobmike@cox.net



Diaconate News and Notes:

THANK YOU to all those who helped organize, participated in, and cooked for the Soup and Stories Lenten program.

VOLUNTEERS wanted to help lead the Call to Worship at the beginning of Sunday service. Contact any of the deacons if you are interested. And, catch the Spirit!

PLEASE WEAR A NAME TAG. We want to get to you know you...each of you. If you need a replacement name tag, please contact the church office or one of the deacons.

PARISH CARE. Please let the deacons or our ministers know if there is someone who would like a visit from our parish care volunteers or would like a ride to and from church. And, let us know if you're interested in volunteering.

If you have questions, worship feedback, or a special concern or need, please contact any of your sisters and brothers of the Board of Deacons: Laurel Cole, Deb Copes, Julie Dostie, Tom Fulda, Stephanie Heneghan, Bill Hoffman, Cheryl Hummel, Bob Inderbitzen, Julia Pickett and Gail Tine



Stewardship looks ahead to April 25th

Pledge Sunday, April 25th is not the end of our pledge-drive season, but the beginning of a time to be joyful and carry our commitments to a new level.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

As you consider completion of your pledge card, select the best way for you to show support for our fiscal budgets. For those who wish to review the presentation at the March Budgets and Election meeting, go to our own website, www.rhccucc.org and follow the links... and be amazed at how much time is represented, how many talents rise to the surface, and how multiple treasures are shared for the benefit of all.

Following the morning worship service on Pledge Sunday, we will gather in Chapin Hall for more than coffee, tea, and juice... We will rejoice in the fellowship of this congregation, be grateful for the generosity and sharing of each person's time, talents, and treasures which together enrich the worship and ministry of this church community. As a token of deep appreciation, each person will receive a small "loaf of bread" in keeping with this year's theme... *"From Jesus' fullness we have all received, grace upon grace."*

From the Stewardship Committee... We thank you.

Hilaire Leavitt, Louise Butts (Co-Chairs), Bill Bartley, Al Diaz, Brian Silkowski, and Deb Copes (Financial Secretary)

WHY I GIVE OF MY



T I M E *Talents* T R E A S U R E

The easiest thing I do is to set aside a specific amount of money for our yearly donation. However, my resources in that department are more limited than for others, and so I instead give what I do have, my time. The time and skills I donate is how I can best contribute to others in need, as well as the church. I donate my carpentry skills because when I help others I reflect on what I have and others do not. This truly makes me feel I am part of the church community in a unique way. Often what is overwhelming, time consuming and costly to others I can complete in little time. My frequent trips to Biloxi are my favorite way to contribute, because it is where I can reach the most need. I encourage everyone to contribute in whichever way they have the most resources. It is not the amount of money you can donate, but the type of giving that best fills your spiritual heart.—Sincerely, James Day

Walk with Me



Board of Missions

I am reminded as we pass through Holy Week that Jesus and his disciples walk everywhere. We watch as Jesus walks on water. He strolls along the Mount and delivers a sermon. He is transfigured as he hikes up the mountain. He wanders in the desert. Alone. We walk with Christ to Calvary and carry the cross in sorrow. We run to the tomb and find the Savior has risen. Alleluia! We walk beside our Teacher unaware on the road to Emmaus. And Jesus steps into our midst.

So much of our experience as Christians is the way we *Walk* with Christ. Part of that walk is traveled alone, and part of it in good company. During Lent, we had the opportunity to walk the labyrinth together as a way to contemplate that journey, and come to the “center” of our relationship with God. I was surprised at how moving this experience was for me. At times, I felt completely alone, and at other times, I felt surrounded by those on the “path” with me.

On Sunday, May 2nd, your Board for Missions has signed up to walk in **Foodshare’s 27th Annual Walk against Hunger**. This event helps feed hungry people in the greater Hartford area throughout the year. We have posted a sign-up board in Chapin Hall, and people of **all ages** are welcome to take the 3-mile walk with us. Information is posted about times, meeting places, etc. And there is additional information in this Church Mouse. If you would like to sponsor the team, look for a member of Missions in Chapin Hall any Sunday in April, and give them your donation (checks payable to Foodshare).

This year’s **Easter Offering** will benefit **Veterans of the Cross**, a UCC denominational program which supports clergy and lay folks who have walked with us in the service of the church in days gone by, and helps provide pension and health care supplementation to low-income retirees and emergency assistance to the families of clergy and lay employees. It is fitting that during the Easter season, we find a way to minister to those who’ve brought the “good news” of a risen Christ to people near and far, and spent their lives ministering to us. Our contribution will be “good news” for those who receive it!

We have entered into a Covenant with a social worker through the Adopt-a-Social Worker Program from **Covenant to Care**. We have promised, along with CE Board and our church liaison Meghan Kelley, to assist in any way we can.

We have also formed a new connection with **Hands On Hartford**, a local organization that helps coordinate and educate volunteers. They match volunteers with local projects, and have offered to help us coordinate a Day of Service in the future. Stay tuned!

In March, the budget for the new fiscal year passed unanimously, with a modest increase to the Benevolence Budget. Please keep the work of the Board for Missions in mind when you bring your pledge cards in on April 25. We also added a special UCC Offering on May 23rd to **Strengthen the Church**, which will help us, through OCWM, to strengthen our connection to the wider church community, and help churches right here in our area.

This coming program year, there will be many opportunities to walk together as disciples. By donating our time, talents, and treasure, we can each add to the rich and varied Mission of our church vision, and bring comfort to many, both locally and throughout the world.

Lastly, the Board for Missions is grateful for the service of Steve Smith and Chris Palazzolo, who will be vacating their seats on the board this month. Thank you for walking with us!

Yours in Faith and Service,
Michael H. Bower
Board for Missions

Blanket Cards for Mother's Day

The Missions Board will be selling Church World Service Blanket Cards for Mother's Day. Look for more information in April.

Where did your money go in March?

Our Church's Wider Mission	\$5000 (budgeted item)
Chile Earthquake Relief Fund	\$1500 (from Special Missions Fund)

Your Board for Missions are: Michael Bower - Chair, Linda Calcagni, Bob Carberry, Dave Edwards, Diana Gengenbach, Marge Murk - Secretary, Chris Palazzolo, Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio, and Steve Smith

MISSIONS SURVEY REPORT- FINAL

3/1/2010

We, on the Board of Missions, thank everyone who participated in our recent survey. Your input has been very helpful and valuable. The results from the survey are listed below. We found that overall, the responses were not unexpected. The Board's decisions over the past two years, and our future goals, reflect the wishes of the Congregation fairly accurately. If you would like to see a more detailed report along with comments, visit the Board of Missions bulletin board in Chapin Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,
Board of Missions
Rocky Hill Congregational Church

Number of surveys collected: 48
Invalid surveys: 6
Surveys tallied: 42

In order of priority – Mission projects ranked by congregation.

#1----2----3----4----5----6----7----8----9----#10
FIRST PRIORITY **LOWEST PRIORITY**

<u>Category</u>	<u>Total score</u>	<u>Rank Score Average</u>
1) Local Town Needs	101	2.4
2) Local Funding – CAC	124	2.6
3) Community Outreach	128	3.0
4) Local Work Projects	132	3.1
5) Closer (Overnight) Projects	158	3.8
6) Walk Against Hunger	171	4.1
7) Worldwide Disaster	172	4.1
8) Back Bay Mission Trips	210	5.0

With overall scores combined and divided to achieve the mean, we are happy to see that all our projects ranked at 5.0 or below, indicating that they are all deemed worthwhile endeavors.

*"What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do;
and the God of peace will be with you."*

PHILIPPIANS 4: 9

A New Building, A New Chapter

Our historical secondary school in Izmir, Turkey began a new chapter in its long history. Founded by our missionary predecessors in 1878, the Izmir American Collegiate Institute has now opened a renovated building. In addition to the usual classrooms and school facilities, the new building has a girl's dormitory. Thirty girls now live on the top floor enjoying modern, spacious living quarters with a magnificent view of Izmir and its bay. What's more, these girls are from more distant parts of Turkey and this means greater diversity in the student body.

We, as members of a long line of Americans who were invited to work in the Izmir school, appreciate how it strongly observes its heritage. It is an institution where generations of Christians, Muslims, Jews – Turkish and foreign – have worked together for common ideals of citizenship, service, and learning. It's a legacy that the graduates are protecting and developing. And it's a legacy that all Americans who contributed to it can celebrate.

Peace,

Betty & Ken Frank



KEN AND BETTY FRANK

Ken & Betty Frank serve with the American Board in Istanbul, Turkey. They share the job of General Secretary of the American Board. They also serve on the board of the Istanbul Interparish Migrant Program (IIMP).



You make the difference . . .

The prayers and help you provide through your local congregations make possible the work and witness of GLOBAL MINISTRIES, which is supported by Disciples Mission Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) of the United Church of Christ.

WWW.GLOBALMINISTRIES.ORG

MUSICAL NOTES

Since last fall the Music committee has been exploring options for seeking a replacement for Will. At this point we feel that it is to our advantage to seek an acting Director of Music who would remain in place until a new Senior Minister is called. The Committee feels, and the Council and the clergy agree, that this would avoid potential differences in style and also allow the new Senior Minister to participate in the search process.

A Search Committee for the purpose of choosing an Acting Director is being formed. It will consist of the Music Committee, the Ministers, 2 members from the Diaconate (including the Diaconate rep to the Committee), Steve Smith from the Personnel Committee and 2 at-large members from the congregation (who are not currently on a board or committee or involved in the music program). This committee will be reviewing resumes, conducting interviews and recommending to the Diaconate a suitable candidate. It is hoped that we would have someone in place by July 1, 2010. If this is not feasible we will be working with substitutes until we can find an appropriate candidate. An ad has been written and submitted to a variety of outlets including Yale, Wesleyan, Trinity, Andover-Newton and the American Guild of Organists.

If you are interested in being an at-large member to the committee please call Linda Tokarski at 860-633-8413.

On a happier note...

The Music Committee will be hosting a Concert

featuring

Donna Martin

an accomplished vocalist and musician

Saturday April 17th

at 7:00 p.m.

This will be in Chapin Hall and in a cabaret setting. We are hoping to post an excerpt from Donna's CD on the web site. Look for further information in Chapin Hall, on the web site and in the bulletin. This is an exciting performance that appeals to all ages. Come and join us in this new venue.

Come Make Bread!!!

Lent is a time of deep reflection and transformation. During the season of Lent, the Children & Youth of RHCC, UCC, have been learning how the wheat they brought to the manger during the Advent & Christmas season, will transform into the Bread of Life at Easter. And now, it's time to make some bread!!!

Join us on Holy Saturday to welcome the risen Christ as we keep vigil, gathering together, to make bread for Easter Communion.

WHAT: Bread making for Easter Communion.

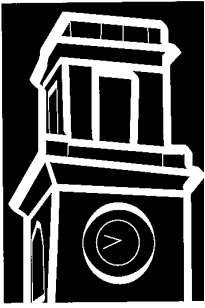
WHO: ALL children & youth at RHCC.
(Friends & Parents are welcome)

WHEN: Saturday, April 3rd, 2-4 PM

WHERE: Chapin Hall, Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC

Please Sign-up in Chapin Hall or contact Meghan Young at 860.966.2432 or christianedrhcc@gmail.com





WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Morning Worship
Communion 1st Sunday



2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
4 Easter "Scrip-sure" Orders are Here! 6:15am Easter Sunrise Service 7:00am Easter Breakfast 10:00am Easter Service	5 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:30pm Bell Choir	6 7:00pm Board and Committee Mtgs	7 9:00am Quilters 6:00pm Yoga with Pam 7:30pm Adult Choir
11 10:00am Worship 2:00pm Tea and Fashion Show	12 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 7:00pm RHCCNS Mtg 7:00pm Women's AA 7:30pm Bell Choir	13	14 9:00am Quilters 10:00am Book Study 12:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Yoga with Pam 7:30pm Adult Choir
18 10:00am Worship 11:30am 2 nd Hour Search Committee Presentation	19 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:30pm Bell Choir	20	21 9:00am Quilters 10:00am Book Study 12:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Yoga with Pam 7:30pm Adult Choir
25 DEDICATION PLEDGE SUNDAY 10:00am Worship "SCRIP-SURE" ORDER DEADLINE TODAY	26 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:30pm Bell Choir	27 10:30am Genesis Health- Care Service 7:00pm Council Mtg	28 9:00am Quilters 9:00am Hfd Association 10:00am Book Study 12:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Yoga with Pam 7:30pm Adult Choir

VOICE MAIL INSTRUCTIONS

If you call the church and the Voice Mail answers, you do not have to listen to the entire message. Anytime during the message you can have the call transferred directly to the person you are trying to reach by simply keying in the following numbers:

Barbara Libby, Interim Pastor	202	Meghan Young	204
Donna Manocchio, Assoc. Pastor	203	Will Kanute, Dir. of Music	207
Carol Harvey, Office Secretary	201	Dick Webster, Sexton	205

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
805 Old Main Street – Rocky Hill, CT 06067

(860)529-4167 office • (860)257-9637 fax
 office @ rhccucc.org • website: rhccucc.org
 Office Hours 8 am – 2 pm – Monday – Friday

The Reverend Barbara J. Libby, Interim Pastor
 The Reverend Donna K. Manocchio, Associate Pastor
 The Reverend Arthur C. Weil, Minister Emeritus
 Will Kanute, Director of Music

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:30am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 7:00pm Tenebrae Service	2 7:00pm Taize/Good Friday Service	3 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 9:45am Yoga with Lynn 2:00pm Bread Making
9 9:30am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 7:00pm Fair Committee 8:00pm Men's AA	9	10 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 9:45am Yoga with Lynn 6:30pm Movie/Dinner Nite
15 9:30am Yoga with Lynn 10:00am Mapleview Service 5:30pm TOPS 7:00pm Bad Girls of the Bible 8:00pm Men's AA	16	17 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 7:00pm Music Concert
22 9:30am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	23	24 8:30am Yoga with Lynn
29 9:30am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	30	



**Pot Luck Dinner and
 a Movie
 "Bottle Shock"
 Saturday, April 10
 at 6:30 p.m. in
 Chapin Hall**

“SCRIP-SURE” Order Schedule

SCRIP-SURE: Order forms for gift cards sold through our ongoing Scrip Fundraising program are available in Chapin Hall, and are also on the church web site. Orders that were placed by March 28 will be delivered on Sunday, April 4. For program details, visit the church web site, www.rhccucc.org . If you have any questions, ask Dave Hall (treasurer@rhccucc.org)..



- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| 01 | Dick Webster
Donna Gagnon
Lynn Macri
Michelle Day
Nathan Allaire | 18 | Victoria Bower
Grace Triblets |
| 02 | Rebecca Scribano
Gregson Curtin | 19 | Lois Griswold
Sue Monaghan
Wendy Ware
Mya Corvo |
| 04 | Bobbie Hawkins
Marsha Hoffman
Sherry Silkowski | 20 | John Goff, IV |
| 08 | Gary Lexa
Meghan Kelly
Meghan Young
Leah Scully | 21 | Sue Starr
Linda Gilbert
Elaine Malespini
Jason McGowan |
| 09 | Kathy Kunzelman
Sam DeGiovanni | 23 | Jean Sudell |
| 11 | Bea Crandall
Brian Donahue
Kaedryn Pulling | 24 | Alexander Lataille |
| 12 | Steve Ware
Skyler Dean-Lee | 25 | Jane Yorgensen
Ann Krischus
Amy Snow |
| 13 | Alan Wind
Dave Hawkins
Sara Lataille | 26 | Fred Painter
Linda Rupaka |
| 14 | Kevin Hall
Nicholas Benson
Carolyn Furman | 27 | Julie Dostie
Christopher Robbins |
| 15 | John Shen | 28 | Nadine Bell |
| 16 | Ruby Bennett
Joan Diaz
David Lewis | 29 | Douglas Scheirey
Liz Reed-Swale |
| 17 | Charles Oriel
Jake D'Addario
George Day | 30 | Jennifer Ryan
Victoria Connor |
| 18 | Sarah DeGiovanni
Dawn McLean
Kevin Griswold | | |



Bill and Betty McKinney
were married on
April 1, 1950

Phil and Bette Swain
were married on
April 5, 1948

Congratulations!



Mckayla Grace Stewart
was baptized on
March 14th!

SCRIP-SURE: Getting even Surer!

Through March 15, the Scrip-Sure program has already netted almost \$1,600 in total profits. But this is just the beginning. Here are a few exciting “news flashes” that suggest the best is yet to come.

- 1. Scrip profits are tax deductible:** We have learned that, in the eyes of the IRS, you are not really buying scrip at face value. You are buying at a discount, and donating the amount of the savings (i.e., the church’s profit margin) to the church. For example, if you buy a \$100 CVS scrip card, the CVS discount of \$6 (6%) is considered to be a charitable donation. If you itemize your deductions and you are in a 25% tax bracket, that’s just like receiving a 1.5% cashback reward from the IRS! We’ll be tracking each member’s purchases in order to report these amounts to you at the end of 2010. So you don’t have to do the accounting for this.
- 2. Big Y scrip is coming soon:** Many of you have asked if scrip is available for Big Y. While our current scrip provider does not have Big Y as a retailer, we have discovered that Big Y does offer a similar fundraising opportunity, and expect to be able to start offering Big Y gift cards in April. So far, Stop & Shop scrip has been our most popular seller, so adding Big Y should also be a boon. The profit margin for Big Y scrip should be in the 5%-6% range.
- 3. Sponsored charities:** We have added a couple of lines to the scrip order form that will allow you to make donations to either the **Rocky Hill Food Pantry** or the **Covenant to Care for Children Adopt a Social Worker** program. Both of these charitable entities welcome gift cards, and this provides an opportunity for you to donate to these concerns while helping the church at the same time. You don’t need to specify what cards to give; we’ll order what’s needed. And for these purchases, 100% of your donation is tax deductible, of course.
- 4. Pay for your scrip order online:** We always allowed you to order your scrip via email. Now you can pay for your order online as well, using our new electronic payment facility. To pay for a scrip order, just click on the “Donate” buttons that are easy to find on the church web site. Payments will be directly transferred from your checking or savings account, as you authorize. (Sorry – credit cards cannot be used for this – the cost of accepting credit cards would offset most of the scrip profit margin!)

Remember that scrip orders are placed each month on the final Sunday of the month. Cards are delivered in Chapin Hall on the first Sunday of the following month.

So, ordering scrip is now easier, more versatile, and more cost effective. Let’s open the floodgates!



Covenant to Care for Children

Helping Connecticut's Children in Need.

On March 21st we at RHCC signed a covenant to support the Adopt a Social Worker Program, run by the Covenant to Care for Children organization. We pledged to do the best we are able to for the needs of a social worker who has been assigned to our congregation. This means that as our social worker, Jessica, encounters needs for these families that her organization cannot provide, she

will come to us and we will try to fill those gaps as best we can. Prior to the formal covenant, I came before you and asked for an initial donation to show our commitment to this new venture, a good faith symbol that we presented at our covenant signing. The outpouring of generosity that came from our congregation is astounding! Using the SCRIP program we were able to raise \$610.00 in gift cards that these families can use for groceries and other essential items. In addition, other gift cards and various items for children and youth such as bath products and toys were donated. As a community we have realized the desperate need for help. The families that we will reach by being involved in the Adopt a Social Worker program are right here in our own area. We will be giving these children so much more than most of us can realize. They will know that they are cared for and that there is a community who supports them and wants them to succeed; we are giving them hope for a better tomorrow. On behalf of Covenant to Care, and myself, I truly thank all of you. You are all very special angels for these families who appreciate it so much and who need it so badly. Please know that at this Lenten time of sacrifice and reflection you have helped to give some joy and love to those who need it most. I wish you all a very blessed and happy Easter Holiday and hope you and your families take some time to enjoy each other and all those small things that really matter.

I will keep the congregation informed as needs arise, and I trust and pray that the generous spirit will continue to be among us. If anyone has any questions about the Adopt a Social Worker Program, please do not hesitate to contact me at me.kelly@snet.net, or 203-640-2386.

Peace,
Meghan Kelly
RHCC Liason to Covenant to Care

SAVE THE DATE!!!

RHCC UCC



Book Sale

JUNE 12, 2010

As part of our commitment to raise additional funds to help underwrite our budget, the Council is planning a Book Sale fundraiser in June.

Please support this book sale by:

1. Cleaning out your bookshelves
2. Volunteering to work with others on a fun project
3. Shopping at the book sale!!

If you would like to volunteer, please call Ruth Fitzgerald (860) 232-2238 (home) or (860) 543-1520 (cell)



Dear Rev. Manocchio and Denise Carberry,

Greetings from Hartford Hospital! We want to thank your church for being apart of the community that cares for patients at Hartford Hospital through the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

One of the prayer shawls donated to Hartford Hospital went to a Muslim woman who has terminal cancer. She received the shawl as a reminder of love that is shared between faith communities. There are many testimonials of patients who appreciate their prayer shawl on their journey of healing.

Your church's Prayer Shawl ministry has helped touch the lives of those who need these gifts of love and compassion.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Rev. Marian Michaliszyn

Community Chaplain Hartford Hospital

Prayer Shawl Ministry Network Coordinator



LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!!! The Senior Pastor Search Committee is seeking your input! We will be holding a 2nd hour Focus Group after church on Sunday, April 18th. In this second hour, we will be holding a question and answer forum. We want to hear from you – help us to get a better understanding and share your Vision with us as to what

type of Pastor you would like and what type of Church you would like us to become. Children and Youth are encouraged to attend. If you are unable to join us in the second hour on April 18, kindly submit any questions that you may have into our question boxes located in Chapin Hall and in the hallway outside of the Pastor's office. We have been working hard and consistently on our lengthy Church Profile to provide the most up to date information in search of our new Pastor and we have met with Church Council in March. Our upcoming Committee meetings are scheduled in April. We look forward to seeing you on April 18.

Habitat for Humanity's



House of Abraham

Interfaith Adult Social

Building on Strong Foundations of Faith and Community

June 2, 2010 from 6:30 to 8:30pm

Program will begin at 7:00pm

Jewish Community Center

335 Bloomfield Ave., West Hartford CT

RSVP by May 12, 2010

Krista Colletta krista@hartfordhabitat.org (860) 541-2208 x122

*In celebration of House of Abraham II
and anticipation of House of Abraham III*



CAC's finances are getting more complex and time consuming, so Executive Director Rev. Don Steinle is proposing a CFO on a volunteer basis.

Our neighborhood organizing continues with monthly meetings under the watchful eye of our employee, Shawn Holloway, on Saturday, April 17, 2010 we will bring together so leaders from upper Albany, Asylum Hill, and Blue Hill neighborhoods for a major "visioning" gathering to assess weakness, threats, and opportunities.

Healthy Homes program under the leadership of Ralph Knighton, Shawn Holloway and part-time employee, Antwan Morris, as you recall, this program identifies health hazards in people's homes. It is funded by a federal grant through Hartford Children's Hospital.

Marketing and Fundraising: Damaris Whitaker, is forging many new initiatives in these areas. Some will pay off short term while others will have long term benefits to strengthening our reputation and enhancing our financial strength.

Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio
Delegate and Member Board of Directors

**Walk with Us In Foodshare's 27th Annual
Walk against Hunger
Sunday, May 2, 2010**

An easy 3-mile walk, rain or shine, through Hartford's historic West End. A fun event for the whole family, and a great opportunity to spend time with church friends! Two stops provide rest rooms, water and fruit. This year our goal is \$4000.00, just over double what we raised last year! We can do it, and with your help, we can assist Foodshare in feeding hungry families for the entire year!!

What to do:

Write your name on the big board in Chapin Hall. Then sign up online at www.foodshare.org, click on "**Walk against Hunger**," click "**Join a Team**" and search for "**Rocky Hill Congregational Church UCC**." Then download a printable check-in form and recruit family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to make a contribution to sponsor you.

12:00 p.m. – Meet at RHCC to carpool, and tally our fundraising results

1:00 p.m. – Check-in at Hartford Financial Services Group, 690 Asylum Ave.

2:00 p.m. – Walk begins

NEWS FROM THE FAIR COMMITTEE

As reported at the March 14th Budget Meeting, the Fair Committee recommended to the Board of Trustees the following distribution of dollars from 2009 events:

- \$1,000 to purchase tables and chairs for Chapin Hall.
- \$1,000 to Board of Trustees to be used as needed.
- \$500 to Christian Education. Elaine Somes will identify needs.

2009 activities generated \$16,712.18 (leaving \$500 for 2010 activities). The Fair Committee gave \$16,212.18 to our church.

The Spring Breakfast and Plant Sale will be May 1st. Please see enclosed flyer for details.

We are asking our church family to donate baked goods and plants (bulbs & perennials) for the spring event. More details on donations will be in our Sunday Bulletins and announcements.

Spring Breakfast tickets will go on sale Easter Sunday after services in Chapin Hall.

**“WHAT YOU MAKE HAPPEN FOR OTHERS,
GOD WILL MAKE HAPPEN FOR YOU”**

Your Fair Committee,

Jim Stevens – co-chair

Phyllis Wilkey – co-chair

Annie Hokans – Doll

Neal Cox

Candy Smith

Mary Dean

Elaine Somes

Bob Simmons

Lynn McKenna

Nancy Flynn, Treasure



Welcome New Members

Kathy, Mollie, Tyler and Jon Morgan, and Meghan Kelly and Jay Montana
(Not shown are Paul and Jennifer Stewart)



From the Scholarship Committee

Each year, our church awards college scholarships which are funded by investment returns from the Scholarship Endowment Funds. Applicants should be members of Rocky Hill Congregational Church, active members of one of its youth

organizations, or active participants in the life of the church. Awards are based upon church and community involvement, demonstrated scholastic achievement, financial need, and the completion and submission of a scholarship application form. Scholarships may be awarded for up to four years of undergraduate studies. Recommendations on scholarship recipients are made by the Scholarship Committee, whose members are appointed by the Board of Trustees. This recommendation is then subject to the final approval of the Trustees.

Graduating high school seniors and returning college undergraduates who are seeking a church scholarship for the 2010-2011 academic year should obtain an application from the church office or from the web site, rhccucc.org and may be submitted electronically. Please complete and return it prior to April 15, 2010. Scholarship awards will be announced in June.

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Scholarship Directory Available

A directory of scholarships that are available to college-bound students in the 29-town Greater Hartford region is now available from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. Students can pick up a copy of the directory from their school guidance office or you can access it online at www.hfpg.org/scholarships, or call the Foundation to obtain a copy.



Frank Roswell Fuller was born in Hartford on August 23, 1873 and attended local public schools. He went to New York City and later formed his own company at 40 Wall Street known as Fuller & Company, which operated from 1904 to 1920. When he retired he came to live in West Hartford. He died on March 1, 1957. His will, probated in the Probate Court for District of Hartford, established a substantial scholarship fund. Mr. Fuller was always interested in helping “needy, deserving” students obtain the education that he had not been able to enjoy himself.

There will also be application packets in the church office.

Remember to file your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to federal processor by March 1. You may obtain a FAFSA application from your high school guidance counselor or at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

The deadline for submitting your application and other documents is May 15th.



Spring Breakfast

Saturday, May 1st

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Egg Strata ~ Pancakes ~ French Toast
Cereal ~ Bacon ~ Sausage ~ Juice ~ Milk ~ Coffee

Adults \$6.00 Kids (4-12) ~ \$4.00 under 4~free

Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC
805 Old Main Street
Rocky Hill, CT
(860) 529-4167





How about a little equal-exchange for some bunny special?

“Around the world coffee and fellowship come together where we share community. A warm pot of coffee is often the centerpiece of fellowship hour and other gatherings.”

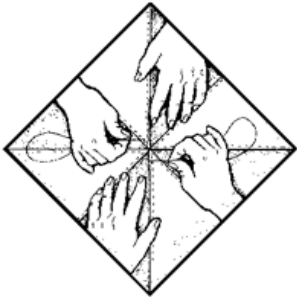
Equal Exchange Coffee, Tea or Hot Cocoa would make an excellent gift! Why not pick some up after church this Sunday?

During fellowship time in Chapin Hall, the Inreach Committee has available for purchase:

Gourmet Coffee - \$6.25/bag Tea - \$3/box Hot Cocoa Mix \$5/can

For more information about the UCC Coffee Project: www.ucc.org/justice/coffee-project

Wednesday Morning Quilters



Sewing Packages are ready!—Would you like to sew at home, either hand stitching or machine stitching? Packages of blocks are ready to be assembled to make lap robes for patients in nursing homes. Better still—Come sew with the Quilters on Wednesday mornings. We are assembling blocks for the next Fair Quilt.—Grace Cole



Always Welcome! – Hunger never takes a holiday... Food Pantries need our help to meet the food demands...Please consider bringing a non-perishable food item, laundry detergent, or baby items to worship every time you come. The large basket in the front foyer of the church welcomes all food donations. Pew Crew members have been taking your donations to the food pantry. Mark Williams sends a thank you note every month in gratitude for your generosity.

AARP'S 4th Annual Women.....'s Scholarship Program

The AARP Foundation is calling for entries to its 4th Annual Women's Scholarship Program. This program provides scholarships to women 40+ who are seeking to gain new job skills, training and education to support themselves and their families. All application information can be found at: www.aarpfoundationwlc.org. If you have any questions, please contact the AARP CT state office at: ctaarp@aarp.org

Upcoming Survey

The Church Council has been approached by a Church member requesting alcohol be allowed in Chapin Hall.

After considerable discussion on the subject, the Council thought that it would be a good idea to poll church members on what they think about the idea. If there is interest, the Council will further consider the request, and if it were ultimately decided to allow alcohol use, would also define clear rules for how and when alcohol could be allowed in Chapin Hall.

Church members will be surveyed on this question in April. The question will be simply to determine whether the Council should pursue the idea at all.

SUMMER CAMP ASSISTANCE DONATIONS

The Town of Rocky Hill Human Services Department is seeking financial donations to assist financially deprived Rocky Hill families in sending their children to camp this summer. This fund is designed to provide partial financial aid to lower income Rocky Hill families in sending their child to summer camp. Each year needy families may apply for partial financial aid to provide a summer camp experience for their child. The Human Services Department provides a \$200 maximum camp subsidy to needy families who meet income and asset guidelines.

This camp fund is completely dependent upon donations to help provide a summer camp experience for disadvantaged children. Please consider making a donation. If you have questions, please call 860-258-2799 or 258-2724.

Contributions may be mailed to:

Town of Rocky Hill Human Services
699 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

TOWN OF ROCKY HILL – FREE HOME REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE

The Human Services Department is accepting applications for free home repairs and maintenance and are available to Rocky Hill residents. Homeowners who demonstrate a financial need and/or have a physical condition that prohibits them from doing the work themselves may be eligible to have work completed at no cost. Jobs included are painting, yard clean-up, window replacement, handicap ramps, door replacement, dry wall, handrails, steps, roof leaks and other such projects. The work is conducted by United Methodist Army trained volunteers during the week of July 26 – July 30, 2010. The U. M. Army is a 501 (c)(3) non profit corporation which has operated nationally since 1979. The work is professionally completed for homeowners who are determined eligible. Applications must be completed by 5/23/10, and pre-site visits to the homeowner will be done on 6/26/10. Rocky Hill owners who have questions and/or are interested in applying may call the Human Services Department at 860-258-2799.

The 2010 Budget and Elections meeting was held in Chapin Hall following worship Sunday, March 14, 2010. Moderator Ruth Fitzgerald presented a “Joyful Generosity” budget without words highlighting what we receive. For those who were unable to attend, the presentation is available on the church website and very much worth checking out. The presentation led the meeting to the budgets with numbers for local and benevolence ministries for the upcoming year. Both budgets were approved overwhelmingly as presented in the March Churchmouse. The congregation accepted the recommendations of the Nominating Committee for the slate of officers and Board and Committee members as presented. A new special offering, Strengthen the Church which funds new church starts and invigorates existing congregations was approved in addition to Neighbors in Need, One Great Hour of Sharing, Easter offering determined by Board for Missions and Thanksgiving and Christmas offerings administered by Diaconate. It was voted that loose offering and undesignated bequests be appropriated to the local budget. The Fair Committee presented recommendations for dispersing of proceeds of 2009 events including \$1000 for new chairs and tables for Chapin Hall, \$1000 for use of Board of Trustees, \$500 to be used by Christian Education Board with remaining \$13,712.18 for use as needed for 2010 budget.—Marsha Hoffman, clerk



COMMUNITY EVENTS

FREE DENTAL CARE DAY

Dr. Barnett and Dr. Shoflick will be volunteering their services on April 10th for a day of FREE DENTAL CARE at 2139 Silas Deane Hwy., Rocky Hill from 8am to 2pm. There will be no charge for the services that they will be providing. Please call the office to make an appointment (860) 529-0624 – space is limited. For all ages.

Yoga classes offered in Chapin Hall



Yoga with Pam – Quiet the mind, increase flexibility, reduce stress and promote health and wellness. Wednesday evenings at 6:00-7:30pm with Pamela Clark, R.N. Beginner and advanced beginner students welcome! Gift certificates available.

Yoga Offered by Core Power, LLC – Experience the dynamic flow and challenge of yoga which builds strength, balance and flexibility for an overall fit and healthy body. Classes are for all-levels with options for everyone! This class meets: Monday evenings from 5:30-6:30pm, Thursdays mornings from 9:00-10:00am and Saturday mornings in from 8:30-9:00am (Yin Therapeutic Yoga). Contact Lynn MacDonald 860-550-4660 to register – Water bottle, yoga mat, and a friend!!

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill CT 06067
Telephone # 860 529-4167

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Rocky Hill, CT

Permit #7

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
TIME VALUE MAIL

Mailed March 25, 2010



Jesus didn't turn people away. Neither do we.
The United Church of Christ:
No matter who you are,
Or where you are on life's journey...
You're welcome here.

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
April 15**



Ladies' Tea and Fashion Show

Sunday, April 11, 2010

2:00 p.m. in Chapin Hall.

Benefits "My Sisters' Place, "a women's/ children's shelter. Door prize is a pair of tickets to "Carnival" at the Good Speed this summer.

Please reserve your ticket by calling Joan Tennyson at (860) 529-8789. Tickets are \$7.00 and include luncheon.

Sponsored by Inreach