



The Reverend Donna K. Manocchio, Senior Pastor

donna@rhccucc.org

Meghan D. Young, Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation

meghan@rhccucc.org

Mary DeLibero, Minister of Music

mary@rhccucc.org



April 2013 Newsletter

Editor – Carol Harvey

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Spring Breakfast

Saturday, April 27th

8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.



Eggs Strata - Pancakes - French Toast

Cereal - Bacon - Sausage - Juice - Milk - Coffee

Adults \$7.00 Kids (4-12) \$5.00 under 4 - free

PLANT SALE

Flowers & Vegetables

BAKE SALE

Rocky Hill Congregational Church

805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill, CT

(860) 529-4167



Beloveds in Christ,

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!

It will come as no surprise to those who worship on Easter Sunday at RHCC, UCC that I can often be found with tears in my eyes as the congregation sings this glorious Easter affirmation. There is such beauty, mystery, power and love in these words. And from the place where I am privileged to stand in worship, I also know the beauty, mystery, power and love of the people who lift their voices in song.

One of the mysteries and beauty of our Christian faith is its incarnational essence. We proclaim that the love of God took human form in Jesus Christ, and that love was present in his living, dying, and rising from the dead. But the incarnational dimension of our faith does not pertain just to Jesus – it is that the love of God is present in our human form as well. The apostle Paul expresses it this way...” We are always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.” (1 Corinthians 4:9)

During this Easter season, we are reminded of the call to make visible the risen life of Christ that we carry in our bodies. The words we say have the power to bring hope in someone’s life. The way we listen can be a source of peace and comfort. And hands and hearts outstretched to help another in need have the potential to bring forth light from the tombs of despair. This Easter season, let’s join together in carrying the light of resurrected Christ into the world!

In faith and peace,

Donna

APRIL WORSHIP

- April 7** **Second Sunday of Easter** Meghan D. Young
Scripture: John 20:19-31
Sermon: "Peace Be With You"
- April 14** **Third Sunday of Easter** The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio
Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11
Sermon: "Delight in Giving"
- April 21** **Fourth Sunday of Easter** The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio
Scripture: Psalm 23, Acts 9:36-43
Sermon: "Get Up!"
- April 28** **Fifth Sunday of Easter** The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio
Pledge Dedication Sunday/Orchestra Performs in Worship
Scripture: Revelation 21:1-6
Sermon: "A New Thing"

CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE RECOMMENDS NEW CONFERENCE MINISTER

There is good news from our denominational partners at the Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ. The Connecticut Conference Minister Search Committee and Board of Directors announced the recommendation of the Rev. Kent Siladi, the Florida Conference Minister and a former Regional Minister in Connecticut, to be the next Connecticut Conference Minister. The Board plans to issue a formal call to a Special Meeting to be held on April 20th, at which time Conference ministers and delegates will be asked to formally vote to extend the call to him. For more information about Rev. Kent Siladi, please visit www.ctucc.org.



HELP, THANKS, WOW

by Anne Lamott

According to the author, "Help, Thanks, Wow" are the three simple, essential prayers – asking for assistance, appreciating the good we witness, and feeling awe in the world – that enable us to make it through life. *Two copies have been placed in the church library for circulation among church members.*



Dear friends in Christ,

It has been two months since I announced my candidacy at Asylum Hill Congregational Church and my departure from RHCC, UCC as your pastor. Since officially receiving the call to be their next associate minister, we have entered into a time of transition in this congregation. The Board for Deacons has formed a selection committee to call an interim pastor, and working with the CT Conference Regional Minister, Rev. Tamara Moreland, have begun that process in earnest. I am confident that with the Spirit's guidance, the right person will emerge to lead this congregation in the next phase of its life and ministry. The interim pastor will join an already strong team of Acting Associate Pastor Meghan Young, Minister of Music Mary DeLibero and dedicated and faithful church leadership.

We have also begun the process of saying goodbye to one another. I have always believed that just as the first child makes someone a parent or a first class makes someone a teacher, the first congregation makes someone a minister. That is true of our relationship as pastor and people – and nothing will ever change the sacred bond we have with one another. It has been a joy to be in ministry at RHCC, UCC, and to be shaped by this community of faith. The ministry that happens in and through this congregation and each member and friend is a gift to so many.

As I prepare to depart after our last worship together on Sunday, May 26, please know that nothing will give me greater joy than to know that you are continuing your wonderful ministry in this place. However, for our separation to happen – as tempting as it might be to make an exception – I want you to understand that I cannot and will not officiate at any weddings, funerals, or baptisms. I can no longer be your pastoral or spiritual advisor or discuss church matters. Our family will not attend worship or personal celebrations.

It is the practice of clergy in our denomination and part of the ordained minister's code to maintain appropriate boundaries upon leaving a church. Good boundaries are also the practice of people who have been in covenant with God and each other. We made a sacred agreement when I was called to be your pastor, and while our mutual love and affection remain, the covenantal relationship of pastor and congregant will end. Perhaps most importantly, healthy boundaries and separation allow the Spirit to continue to work in you, in this congregation, and in me as all of us move into God's future, which is always more than we can hope or imagine.

We have good ministry to do – as pastor and congregation - in these last two months together. We will discover once again what it means to be a resurrection people and to know the delight of giving through the pledge season. We will participate in the Walk Against Hunger, and rejoice when the confirmands affirm their faith and become members of the church. Let us all praise God for the joy and privilege of doing ministry together in Christ's name and spirit!

In faith and peace,

Donna

Global and Local Mission News

“DELIGHT IN GIVING”

“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”— 2 Corinthians 9:7

First off, I admit to borrowing the title “Delight in Giving” from the upcoming Stewardship Committee’s Campaign. Although there are two budgets, local and benevolence, I’m assured that is okay because we are all in partnership together here at RHCC. I also admit that the amount I pledge to missions is a delight. It is probably safe to say we all feel really good when we give to the benevolence fund, or missions fund, whichever way you think of it. The Board for Missions has been able to do wonderful things this past year due to the generosity and cheerful giving of our congregation. However, what’s important is that when I fulfill all my responsibilities, there is warmth of satisfaction and contentment in knowing that I’ve done my part. As a member of our church who wants to see our church family survive and flourish, the giving to that purpose, supporting the local budget, is also a delight. As the Missions Chairperson, and a part of the larger congregation, I ask that each one of us look introspectively on the meaning of all our pledging. During the upcoming Stewardship Campaign, I hope you will discover what feels right for you and be able to delight in giving. May we all be cheerful givers!

It has been a pleasure and honor to serve this past year as your Chairperson of the Board for Missions. Thanks go out to all the board members who have been so helpful and generous of their time. Thanks also to all the church members who made our mission events successful with their participation and generous benevolence pledges.

Linda Calcagni

Your Board For Missions Members: David Bell - Treasurer, Michael Bower, Linda Calcagni – Chair, Bob Carberry, Lisa Eleck, Cindy Hunt, Thomas Kainamura, Meghan Montana – Vice-chair, Kari-McCaw-Blaise – Secretary, Sarah Mosure.

REVIEW OF EVENTS

On Wednesday February 27th, we hosted visiting missionary **James deBoer**. The event was well attended and James enjoyed meeting each of you and sharing his story.

Sunday March 3rd we sponsored a **Second-Hour Event**, which was a Missions Faith Exploration. The group opened with prayer and then participated in a hands-on project. Twenty-six duffle bags were filled for teens entering placement in foster care. These emergency care-packs included basic toiletries, underwear, towels, a book, journal, flashlight, and other amenities. After a lunch of hearty soup, bread and salad, our ministers spoke about missions as an on-going Faith-Formation experience. The participants brainstormed to first identify their individual gifts and then the needs of the local community. Two prevalent concerns emerged from the discussion. How can our church community help fight **hunger**, such as exploring a community garden? Can our church become a place for **community education**? Could we facilitate a safe place for talks on subjects such as, bullying, domestic violence, gay rights, racism, chronic illness, etc.

Breakout groups were formed to address those concerns and preliminary plans were developed. Mission Board members are very excited about the involvement of those attendees and grateful for their enthusiasm. Please keep abreast of future mission news, as these projects take form, we encourage and look forward to more church members joining in.

UPCOMING EVENTS

30th Annual Walk Against Hunger

Sunday, May 5 at 2:00 PM

(Check-in begins at 1:00)

The Walk Against Hunger provides much needed support for all of Foodshare's participating partner agencies. The largest Walk in CT, this event draws thousands of supporters from all over greater Hartford. Join us for a day of fun for this 2.5-mile walk around Bushnell Park in Hartford with entertainment, prizes and fun.

Signup sheets will be posted in Chapin Hall in the coming weeks. All ages are welcome! Contact Thomas Kainamura (thomascm@gmail.com) to learn more!

Since last month, **your generosity has helped the following:**

Rocky Hill Human Services	\$1,100
Bread for the World	700

Covenant-to-Care	2,800 (approx.) 26 care-packs, filled duffle bags, for teens entering emergency foster care (total is approximate as not all receipts are in).
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The annual Budget and Elections meeting was held after worship on Sunday, March 17th. The church's local and benevolence budgets for the next fiscal year (beginning on May 1, 2013) were presented, discussed and approved by the members present. Application of

last year's Country Fair proceeds were recommended and accepted, special offerings for the year were scheduled and the allocation of loose plate collection (between local and benevolence budgets) was affirmed. Then our Nominating Committee presented a slate of church officers, delegates and board and committee members.

Our active and vital church has many ways for members and friends to share their gifts in the ministries of worship, hospitality, faith formation, spiritual enrichment, fiscal oversight, music, and myriad others. There are still openings – 22 of them, in fact! – that need someone's gifts, energy, and commitment. Serving on a committee or a board is an opportunity to grow in faith and community or to try something new or share your passion to help RHCC share the good news of the gospel in our community and around the world. Please take a moment and look at your most recent RHCC Annual Report (http://rhccucc.org/RHCC_April-2012_Annual_Reports.pdf, page 26) and remind yourself of all the opportunities available for service in your own church. And then carefully and prayerfully consider sharing your gifts in ministry. There are opportunities for short term commitments like ushering (one month), or filling a partial term of a retiring board member, or serving a three year term on a board. Some people like to do something they are familiar with – school teachers serve on the Board for Faith Formation, accountants serve on Trustees. Other folks like to do the opposite – engineers serve on the Board for Missions, artists serve on Stewardship.

How are *you* being called to ministry in the church? Everyone can do something! Please contact a nominating committee member or the pastors to sign up or discuss your questions. But if you want to take one of those open positions, you better hurry – three were filled during the Budget & Elections meeting, so there are only nineteen left!

Bill Hoffman, for the Deacons

The Board of Deacons
Spiritual Welfare

Membership Vitality

Ministering



..... *a delightful abundance yet to come*

The past two Stewardship messages in February and March focused on the abundance, delight, and joy one can experience through the acts of sharing and or receiving gifts in many forms – all of which relate to the ongoing growth and support of our church’s vision and ministry.

During this month of April, we are expanding on these thoughts and what they mean in more practical terms Yes, it is pledge time!

Actually, pledge time happens year round. Each time you contribute to a Sunday offering, donate for a special offering or request, you are sharing a financial gift with RHCC, UCC. With expectations of such gifts, budgets can be planned so that both Local Operating and Missions work of this church can continue. For more information on the importance of our church’s budget, please reread the initial letter from Pastor Donna that accompanied the “Proposed Budget for 2014” presented for the March 17th Church meeting.

Using the UCC Stewardship resources, our theme this year is:

“Delight in Giving” – 2 Corinthians 9:7

The Stewardship Committee, working with other committee members, have planned some enriching, worshipful and joyful events. Each Sunday’s worship service this month will include a Stewardship Moment that will focus on sharing gifts and talents among our church family. These will happen as we listen to music, or the spoken word, or watch a skit helping us to understand the “pledging process.”

Soon you will receive the annual mailings with the letter and pledge card. Included with those will be an invitation to be our guests at a special catered luncheon after service on **April 28 – Dedication Sunday**. We invite you to read these prayerfully. Reflect on the many joys and delights experienced singularly or with abundance, and express your gratitude and support in celebration of the ministry of our church and our vision in action.

Yes, *“God is still speaking God loves a cheerful giver.”*

Prayerful Peace,

The Stewardship Committee: Louise Butts, Al Diaz, Michele Jokl, Dave Sageman, Barry Wilcock.

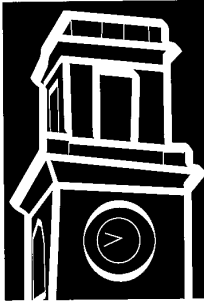


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|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Dick Webster
Donna Gagnon
Lynn Macri
Michelle Day | 17 | Charles Oriel
Jake D'Addario
George Day |
| 2 | Thomas Alferi
Rebecca Scribano
Gregson Curtin | 18 | Sarah DeGiovanni
Dawn McLean
Kevin Griswold
Victoria Bower |
| 4 | Bobbie Hawkins
Marsha Hoffman
Sherry Silkowski | 19 | Lois Griswold
Sue Monaghan
Wendy Ware
Mya Corvo |
| 7 | Judy Frascarelli
Grace Hoffman | 20 | John Goff IV |
| 8 | Gary Lexa
Meghan Montana
Leah Scully
Isabel Donahue | 21 | Sue Starr
Linda Gilbert
Elaine Malespini
Jason McGowan |
| 9 | Kathy Kunzelman
Sam DeGiovanni | 23 | Jean Sudell |
| 11 | Bea Crandall
Brian Donahue
Kaedryn Pulling | 24 | Alexander Lataille
Jocelyn Fritzer |
| 12 | Steve Ware
Skyler Dean-Lee | 25 | Jane Yorgensen
Ann Krischus
Amy Snow |
| 13 | Alan Wind
David Hawkins
Ruth Fitzgerald
Sara Lataille | 26 | Linda Rupaka |
| 14 | Kevin Hall
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 |
| | | 30 | Polly Pagnucco
Jennifer Ryan
Victoria Connor |



Phil and Bette Swain
were married on
April 5, 1948

Dale and Donna Rowland
were married on
April 29, 1972



WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Sunday Morning Worship
Communion 1st Sunday
10:00 a.m. with childcare



GOOD
care
 Provided



April 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	1 5:30pm Yoga w/Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:30pm Bell Choir	2 7:00pm Boards and Committees	3 9:00am Quilters 10:30am Apple Rehab Svc 12:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm RHCCNS Meeting 7:30pm Adult Choir
7 Communion Sunday Scrip Pickup 11:30am Noah's Table 11:30am Orchestra Rehearsal	8 2:00pm The Lodge Svc 5:30pm Yoga w/Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:00pm RHCCNS Mtg 7:30pm Bell Choir	9 8:30am Breakfast Club	10 9:00am Quilters 12:00pm Bible Study 7:30pm Adult Choir
14 11:30am Noah's Table 5:00pm Confirmation	15 Scholarship Deadline 5:30pm Yoga w/Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:30pm Bell Choir	16	17 9:00am Quilters 12:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Community Event 7:30pm Adult Choir
21 11:30am Noah's Table 11:30am Orchestra Rehearsal	22 5:30pm Yoga w/Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:30pm Bell Choir	23 5:30pm Global Missions	24 9:00am Quilters 12:00pm Bible Study 5:30pm Women's Retreat 7:30pm Adult Choir
28 Pledge Sunday Orchestra in Worship Scrip Deadline 11:30am Noah's Table 5:00pm Confirmation	29 5:30pm Yoga w/Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:30pm Bell Choir	30 9:00am Community Event	

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:

Donna Manocchio, Senior Pastor	202	Mary DeLibero, Minister of Music	207
Meghan Young, Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation	204	Thomas Munger, Custodian	205
Carol Harvey, Office Secretary	201	RHCCNS (Nursery School)	208

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

805 Old Main Street – Rocky Hill, CT 06067

(860)529-4167 office • (860)257-9637 fax

office @ rhccucc.org • website: rhccucc.org • Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/rhccucc

Office Hours 8am-2pm Monday– Thursday / 8am-noon Friday

The Reverend Donna K. Manocchio, Senior Pastor

Meghan Young, Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation

Mary DeLibero, Minister of Music

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 5:30pm TOPS 7:00pm Missions Meeting 8:00pm Men's AA	5 5:00pm Youth Group Gathering	6 8:30am Yoga w/Lynn 3:00pm Community Event TBA Confirmation
11 5:30pm TOPS 7:00pm Council Meeting 8:00pm Men's AA	12	13 8:30am Yoga w/Lynn 6:00pm Dinner/Movie
18 5:30pm TOPS 7:00pm Women of the Bible 7:00pm Fair Meeting 8:00pm Men's AA	19	20 8:30am Yoga w/Lynn
25 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	26 Set Up for Spring Breakfast	27 8:00am Spring Breakfast Plant & Bake Sale 2:00pm Community Event



**“SCRIP-SURE”
Order Schedule
Scrip Pick Up
April 7**

**Scrip Deadline
April 28**



Please check the flower poster calendar in Chapin Hall. There are several weeks open if you wish to donate flowers to adorn the alter.

Thank you,

The Flower Committee



Breakfast Club
Tuesday, April 9 at 8:30 AM

We meet at BOB'S COFFEE SHOP, 33 New Britain Avenue in Rocky Hill. Come join us for coffee, conversation, and community!

Theology on Tap

THEOLOGY on TAP will not meet in April or May as the staff evaluates the program. If you have ideas about this type of adult faith formation programming, please contact Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation Meghan Young at meghan@rhccucc.org.



Women of the Bible
Thursday, April 18
7:00 PM in the Fiorilli Room

Join with other women to explore the women of the Bible.
Come and pray, read, talk, laugh, and eat together!



S.P.I.R.I.T. Corner Check-in:

Church School

We finished Lenten unit, “Road To Emmaus”. We recalled Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, the last meal he shared with his disciples on Maundy Thursday, his arrest and trial, his death on the cross on Good Friday, and the amazing news at the tomb: “Jesus is risen!” We explored how the disciples encountered Jesus on the road to Emmaus. The warmth of this encounter with the risen Christ inspired us to reach out to those around us, especially as we gathered for table fellowship. On April 14th, we will start our last unit of the year, preparing for Children & Youth Sunday, and exploring what it means to be a disciple of the risen Christ.

Check out the “What We’re Learning Now” box for more information about our next unit, “Go and Make Disciples!”, beginning April 14th, and learn with us!

Youth Group

Youth Group had a great “choose your own adventure” night in March. On choose your own adventure night, at different points in the evening; the youth group receives envelopes with clues written on them, hinting at a possible activity. The youth group picks and opens the envelope they like as a group, and then we have to do whatever activity is written down inside. Our night took us from church to dinner at Whole Foods, to running all around a college gymnasium playing kick-ball and basketball, and finally we ended the night with frozen yogurt.

Gatherings

On Holy Saturday we worshiped together, held our annual Easter Egg Scavenger hunt that told the Easter story, and participated in a community art project. We transformed the prayers we put away for Lent, into colorful expressions of God’s love. Together they are a reminder of God’s love and the rich communion it forms.

Here’s What’s Happening This Month...

S.P.I.R.I.T Church School Calendar: What we’re learning this month.

Date	Scripture/Lesson
Sunday, April 7	Communion Sunday, Family Worship
Sunday, April 14	Week 1: Go and Make Disciples
Sunday, April 21	Week 2: Go and Make Disciples
Sunday, April 28	Week 3: Go and Make Disciples

Youth Group Calendar: April

Date	Fellowship Gatherings
Friday, April 5	Youth Group Gathering (6 th -12 ^h Grade)➔ 5 – 9 PM
Sunday, April 7	Noah’s Table (6 th -12 ^h Grade)➔ 11:30 AM – 1 PM
Sunday, April 14	Noah’s Table (6 th -12 ^h Grade)➔ 11:30 AM – 1 PM
Sunday, April 21	Noah’s Table (6 th -12 ^h Grade)➔ 11:30 AM – 1 PM
Sunday, April 28	Noah’s Table (6 th -12 ^h Grade)➔ 11:30 AM – 1 PM

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS: Nursery Volunteers are needed for April & May. If you are interested in volunteering in the Nursery during Sunday morning worship, please contact a member of the Childcare Committee (Kari McCaw-Blaise, Liz Pulling, Liz Reed-Swale) or email them at RHCCchildcare@gmail.com for more information. You can also sign-up outside the Nursery.

S.P.I.R.I.T. CHURCH SCHOOL – What We’re Learning Now!

COME JOIN THE CIRCLE: Unit 5 – Go and Make Disciples

In his final words to his disciples, Jesus had urged them to “Go and make disciples, baptizing them” (Matthew 28:19). We call this Jesus’ “great commission.” The disciples did as Jesus commanded. They left the security of their small circle of friends and dared to reach out, traveling beyond Jerusalem in many directions. The book of Acts and many of the New Testament epistles describe these missionary journeys of the disciples and the encounters they had along the way.

The focus story for this unit takes place after Jesus’ death and resurrection and in response to Jesus’ great commission.

Although we may think of the Christian church in Africa as something that was established by 19th and 20th century missionaries, the story of the Ethiopian official and his encounter with Philip in Acts 8:26-40 tells us that Christianity spread into Africa at the very beginning of the early church. The church took root in Africa many long centuries before it was established in parts of Europe or the Americas and has a rich tradition.

This unit’s focus story invites us to look at three important themes: what it means to be witnesses, God’s definition of inclusiveness, and the gift of baptism.

A Prayer For The Unit. Jesus you have shown us by your life what it means to love and serve others. In your great commission you ask us to go out and make disciples. Give us the wisdom to teach as well as the courage to reach out to others. Help us to be your witnesses so that people may experience your love through us. *Amen.*

*Don’t forget to learn along with us in our weekly bulletins.
Check them out for faith nurture ideas you can use at home.*

CONFIRMATION



Confirmation means affirmation of faith. It is an acknowledgment by both the individual and the faith community of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. The rite of confirmation is celebrated in worship as a community, both in response to and in anticipation of the work of God in the life of a believer.

March was a month of worship and exploration. We took a “Walk through Holy Week” walking to different stations throughout the church, remembering Jesus’ last week by walking over palms to washing the feet of the disciples, eating a last supper and hanging on the cross. We ended our walk with an ice cream sundae Alleluia banquet.

We also participated in many of the Holy Week worship services at RHCC, UCC, and assisted in leading parts of our Holy Week Vigil. It was a wonderful night (and week) of prayer and reflection as we moved towards our Easter rejoicing. During May we hope to engage in some service projects, talk about how our faith interacts our daily lives, and begin planning for Confirmation Sunday.

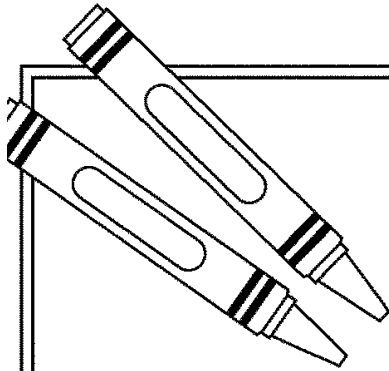
April Schedule:

Here's what we're learning and doing this month...

Date	Class/Event	Times
Saturday, April 6	CLASS: Baptism	TBD
Sunday, April 14	CLASS: Living our Faith <i>*Meeting with Mentors</i>	5 PM – 7 PM
Thursday, April 28	CLASS: Telling our Story	5 PM – 7 PM

SCRIP-SURE FACTS

1. For the current fiscal year, we expect to realize total profits of \$14,000 from our SCRIP-SURE program. For our next budget, the goal has been increased to \$16,000. If you haven't yet participated in the scrip program, we need you more than ever now. Please stop by the scrip table in Chapin Hall for more information.
2. Even though our SCRIP-SURE program has been a great success and a critical source of revenue, many regular Sunday attendees still have not bought scrip even once! It's hard to imagine that there isn't some economic way for EVERYONE to participate at some level. And if you are one of the occasional buyers, please consider becoming a more active participant. It pays (the church) to THINK SCRIP!
3. Over the past month, some of the most popular non-grocery scrip cards have been for gas (Exxon/Mobil, Sunoco), coffee shops/restaurants (Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts, Panera, Subway), and stores like Kohl's, Target, Home Depot, and Barnes & Noble. We often have special deals available for these popular cards. Stop by the scrip table each Sunday for a list of the best deals in inventory.

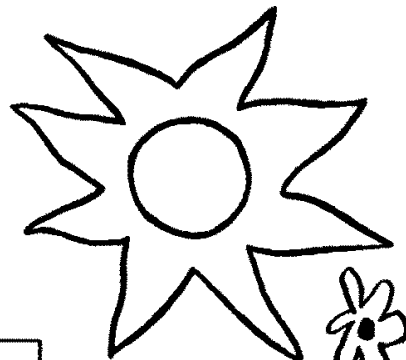


Just for **KIDS**

"For everything there is a season..."

—Ecclesiastes 3:1

There are many signs that tell us spring is coming! Use your Bible to find words that are "signs of spring." Fit them in the boxes below. Pick one word from each Scripture verse.



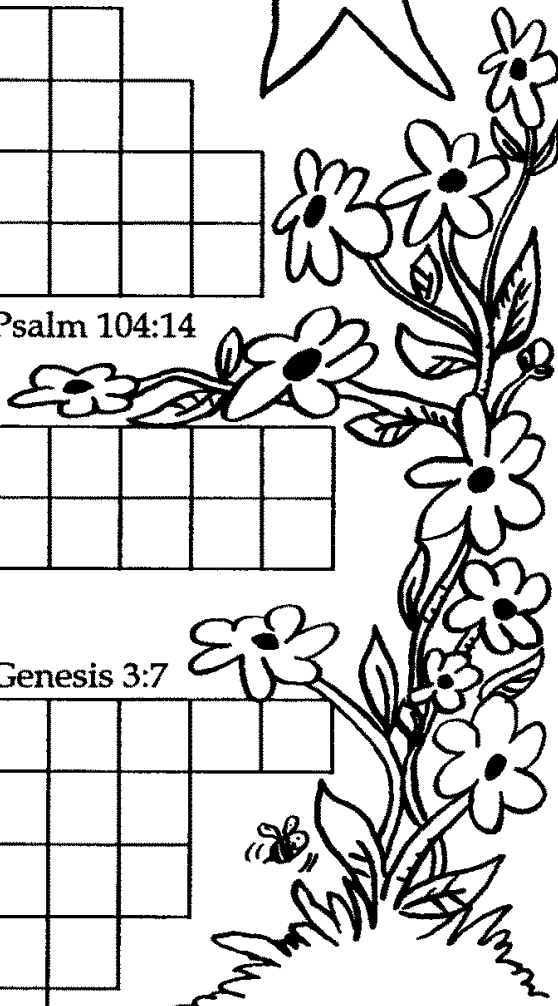
Matthew 5:45	S			
Genesis 1:20	I			
Psalm 23:2	G			
Psalm 104:17	N			
	S	Psalm 104:14		

Song of Solomon 6:11	O			
Psalm 103:15	F			

	S	Genesis 3:7		
Psalm 104:14	P			

Isaiah 55:10	R			
Ecclesiastes 7:1	I			

Revelation 21:5	N			
	G	Deuteronomy 22:6		





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 2013-2014 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, 2013.** Scholarship awards will be announced in June.

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 Scholarship



This scholarship requires that you be a member of the UCC/Congregational Church and “professed to be of the Congregational faith.” Applications are on the bulletin board in the church office. Feel free to come in to get your application while the office is open. If you are unable to come in during office hours please call and an application will be mailed to you.

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.

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



Come Join us for a Pot Luck Dinner and a Movie
Saturday, April 13, 2013 at 6:00 pm in Chapin Hall.
The film showing will be
"Nick of Time"

The clock is ticking for Johnny Depp in *Nick of Time*, a twist-filled race against time thriller directed by John Badham. And indeed it is a race, filmed in "real time" so that onscreen events unfold minute by nail-biting minute as they would in real life. No sooner does accountant Gene Watson (Depp) arrive at L.A.'s Union Station with his six year old daughter than he plunges into a nightmare. Two shadowy strangers (Christopher Walken and Roma Maffia) separate Watson from his little girl, slap a gun in his hand and present a devil's bargain: kill a top government official before she leaves a nearby political rally...or never again see his beloved child. The clock starts now!

Sneak preview for May – *"Cradle Will Rock"*

April 2013: Journey to India
Written by Jeanette Salley

...Whereas the aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and sincere faith.—1 Timothy 1:5

The Rev. Dr. Valerie Carter, Rev. Freda Wilkins and I, left for Bengaluru, India on August 16. We traveled there to teach as guest instructors for two weeks at the Indian Institute of Theology and Mission (IITM). The classes were part of a mission conference held at the school. The students and instructors of IITM had never met or known about the experience of African Americans, specifically African American women. They were excited to hear us share about Black African and African American experiences in America and God's actions in our history. We taught every day for two hours. Rev. Carter's topic was on mission, Rev. Wilkins topic was on prayer and my topic was multicultural religious education.

On the last day of class, we asked the students to share their faith stories with us as we had shared our faith stories with them. This was the first time visiting instructors had given them an opportunity to share their stories. They appreciated that and felt connected to people that struggle to survive all over the world.

Being received, embraced and affirmed as an instructor and a sister in the family of faith in a male dominated conservative Christian theological society was astounding. While experiencing another perspective of Christian education in an environment of poverty in India at IITM, I realized in some ways it is similar to that in Haiti. I will always hold a place in my heart for India and such respect and admiration for each student and the instructors who shared with us their narratives of becoming a Christian.

Jeanette Salley, a Global Ministries missionary is a member of St. John's United Church of Christ, Richmond, Virginia. She serves with the National Spiritual Council of Churches in Haiti (CONASPEH) as an assistant for disaster preparation and response, as well as a teacher at St. Andrew Seminary.



Quilt Show Invitation – 24th Annual Haddam Neck Congregational Church Quilt Show, April 13-14 at the scenic 19th Century Haddam Neck Congregational Church at 408 Quarry Hill Rd., Haddam Neck, CT. The hours are Saturday from 10am – 5pm, and Sunday from 11am – 5pm. There will be approximately 130 quilts and quilted items will be displayed in the Sunday school building. There will be a Tea Room offering various refreshments and baked goods, crafts and a raffle. Proceeds benefit the Church Restoration Fund.



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.

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, and Saturday mornings in from 8:30-9:15am. Contact Lynn MacDonald 860-550-4660 to register – Please bring water bottle, yoga mat, and a friend!!



RIVERFRONT EARTH DAY SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2013

Riverfront Mortensen Plaza, Hartford CT

1:00pm – 4:00pm

RiverfrontEarthdayCT.eventbrite.com

Event Includes:

Speakers on Environmental Issues, Live Music, Entertainment and Puppeteers, Local Food Vendors, Free Parking Downtown!

FEATURING:

Interfaith Prayer

Service & March through Downtown Hartford

Begins 12:45PM @ St. Patrick – St. Anthony

Sponsored by the Interreligious Eco-Justice Network
and the Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry

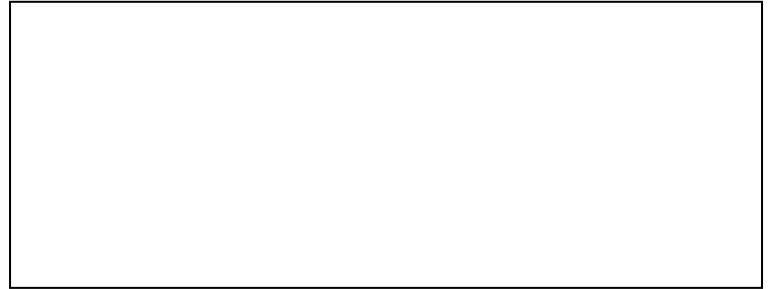
ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill CT 06067
Telephone # 860 529-4167

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No matter who you are,
Or where you are on life's journey...
You're welcome here.



**A Women's Evening of Reflection:
The Road to Emmaus,
Recognizing Jesus on Our Journeys
and at Our Tables**

**Wednesday, April 24, 2013
5:00 to 8:30 pm**

Join other women as we explore scripture, share our stories, grow our faith, and break bread together. Presented by Lisa Eleck as part of her course at Hartford Seminary with support from Rev. Donna Manocchio. Please register by Monday April 15 by calling RHCC at 860 529-4167 or Lisa Eleck at 860 436-3038 or sign up in Chapin Hall.

Cost: \$10 to cover a light meal