



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
860 529-4167 Church – 860 257-9637 Fax
Vol. 23 No. 6 – June 1, 2009

June 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

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church is called for Sunday June 14, 2009 immediately following worship for the following deliberations:

1. to receive and act upon the 2009 reports of the Ministers, Officers, Boards, and Committees;
2. to vote on any revisions to the 2009-2010 local operating budget as adopted at the Budget and Elections Meeting;
3. to vote on any revisions to the 2009-2010 benevolence budget as adopted at the Budget and Elections meeting;
4. to vote on any additions or changes to the Nominating Committee report;
5. to vote on proposed amendments to the church Constitution (as published and distributed in February 2009);
6. to receive any other business appropriate to come before the congregation;
7. to remember and reflect on those members and friends of the church who have entered the Church Eternal from May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009.

Respectfully submitted
Marsha Hoffman, church clerk



*A View from the
Interim Pastor's Seat*

I write with joy in my heart recalling Confirmation Weekend – May 16th and 17th! What a special way of celebrating its confirmands this church has – with a special Saturday night worship service that includes the youth sharing what they have learned, a celebration of Holy Communion, and the presentation of gifts by parents to their youth, and of course – food – with a supper after Saturday night's worship and a breakfast the next morning before the Confirmation in worship. What a blessing to have 8 young people affirm their baptism and become full members of this church family during the 10 am worship service! Special thanks to the Confirmation Teaching Team (Zelma Hughes, Meghan Kelly, David Lewis, and Associate Pastor Donna Manocchio) who worked with the class this year. (See page 21.) Special thanks as well to the parents and families who supported their young people throughout the confirmation process. As we know confirmation is not a graduation ceremony but rather an affirmation of faith as a lifelong journey and a response to Jesus' invitation to be a lifetime friend. Confirmation reminds us all that we all make a lifetime commitment to grow our faith. At this late spring season we also congratulate those who celebrate academic graduations. See the list of graduating persons on page 16. Congratulations to all!

There is a lot going on here at Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ in June. We hope you plan to be with us in the coming weeks. We have two congregational meetings scheduled; both of these meetings follow our Sunday, 10 am worship service in the sanctuary:

1. Sunday, June 7th members of the congregation present will vote about whether to become an Open and Affirming Congregation. This vote comes following a process of study, conversation, and dialogue which began in July, 2007 when the Diaconate, with the blessing of the Church Council, created an Open and Affirming Committee to study and guide the process. (The proposed Open and Affirming Statement has been mailed to all members and is online at rhccucc.org and is on page 8.)
2. Sunday, June 14th members of the congregation present will vote on a number of changes to the church By-Laws as well as receive and take action on the church's Annual Reports. June 14th will also be Children's Day and our worship that day will be designed and conducted by the

children and youth of the church. (The proposed By-Law changes and the Annual Reports are online at rhccucc.org)

I encourage everyone to read this church's Annual Report thoroughly before the Congregational Meeting on June 14th. This Report represents the work of this church over the past year. Even as this congregation moves through a transitional time it is clear that this congregation continues to percolate and to actively engage in its work as an active and committed community of disciples of Jesus Christ. As you read the Report listen carefully for the signs of hope and promise implicit there – this Report represents the work of many committed lay people. The lay leadership here at RHCC, UCC is the life blood of this congregation and one of your many strengths. Copies of the Annual Report will also be placed in the narthex, Chapin Hall, and on the table in the hallway and on the church web site .

My Annual Report reviews my presence with you as your transitional/interim pastor only since the middle of March. In that report I look quite specifically into how together we are moving forward on the Five Developmental Tasks of Interim Ministry: Coming to Terms with History, Discovering a New Identity, Strengthening Lay Leadership, Enhancing Denominational Ties, and Preparing for New Leadership. We still have important work to do together even before a Search Committee is chosen to begin their work of calling a pastor. I imagine that for some this may be exasperating news; some of you may hope that things will “get back to normal” or at least “get back to the way things used to be” as soon as possible. Some of the most difficult work I have to address with every church in their transitional time is how life will never be exactly the same as it was before... no matter how much we might wish for that... no matter how hard we might try and hope for that... **Transitional times are all about preparing for a new future.** As much as we might wish things could stay “the same”, we know in our hearts that change is inevitable. This church is no exception. We may yearn to have things return to some remembered past. We may wish that things could return to a familiar normalcy. Part of the work we do together is to prepare for and to dream about the future. I encourage everyone to be a part of that process. Join us for worship as often as possible; engage with the members and friends here at RHCC, UCC; participate in the dialogue about the future...

Yours in Christ, Barbara J. Libby



- June 7** **Trinity Sunday / All Church Communion**
Baptism of Madison Michelle Burghoff
Scripture: John 3:1-17 The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio
Sermon: "When Were You Born?"
- June 14** **Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Children's Sunday
Scripture: Psalm 23 Christian Education
- June 21** **Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Father's Day
Scripture: 1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49
Mark 4:35-41 The Rev. Barbara J. Libby
Sermon: "Life's Challenges"
- June 28** **Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Scripture: 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
Mark 5:21-43 The Rev. Barbara J. Libby
Sermon: "Times of Healing"



**Pastor's Bible Study Resumes with
Interim Pastor, Barbara Libby**

We meet weekly at 12:30pm in the Parlor. Bring your lunch and whatever translation of the Bible you like. Focus will be on the lectionary texts for the coming Sunday. All welcome!



Drum Circle

Looking for a stress release and spiritual connection?

Join us on Thursday, June 23th from 7:00 – 8:00 pm. We are hoping to start drumming on a regular basis again.

From the Moderator

The Council is currently engaged in a number of activities, as we bring our program year to a close in June.

We are making preparations for the Open and Affirming vote which will take place on June 7th. Our preparations include holding two listening sessions (May 3 and May 31 after church in Chapin Hall) and making the arrangements for the vote itself which will be by paper ballot. If you desire to know more, there is a wealth of information on our church website www.rhccucc.org and in the cabinet outside the church office.

We stand ready to assist our Stewardship Committee in helping to underwrite our budget. As you know if you attended the Budget and Elections Meeting in March, we crafted the budget for the coming year very intentionally to both cut expenses as much as possible, but without strangling our ability to be a vital, vibrant and growing Christian community. These are difficult times and these were difficult decisions, but we felt this to be the right approach for us.

Our June meeting will be (hopefully) wholly devoted to our visioning process. It has been difficult to focus on visioning with all our other transitional activities, but we are ready to make this our focus, as we try to discern our future directions. We remain so grateful for the lively interactions and input from so many church members at our visioning evening last November.

Enjoy this beautiful spring weather and the promise of summer to come.

Ruth Fitzgerald for the Council



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

"We are all stewards – an ongoing process"

We are well into our 2009-2010 Stewardship Campaign. As of May 15th we have received over 143 pledges totaling over \$289,000. That still leaves us about \$26,000 short of our pledge goal.

If you have not returned your pledge card, please return it as soon as possible. If you choose not to pledge, a card with "0" will help us to be clear of your intentions.

We will be mailing reminder letters to those who have not returned pledge cards shortly.

The Stewardship Committee has learned that many churches supplement their annual stewardship campaigns with fund raising events throughout the year. We are studying this idea with Council as to its feasibility at RHCC. If any members of the congregation have any ideas for fund raising events, please let a member of your Stewardship Committee know.

We are continuing our Planned Giving and Financial Planning Seminars in the fall. More details to follow.

"The first step toward success is the willingness to listen."

Your Stewardship Committee,

Bill Bartley	Hilaire Leavitt
Louise Butts	Steve Smith
Deb Copes	Al Diaz
Jim Stevens, Chair	



A Reminder from your Pastors: If possible please alert us in advance when you are going into the hospital. If a sudden or unexpected hospitalization occurs to someone from the church please let us know! Your phone call is invaluable to us as we try to reach out to those who may need us. Remember please, hospitals no longer call or advise us of a church member's presence in a hospital facility.



BOARD of DEACONS

Last month in my Church Mouse article, I spoke of the transition of members on and off the Board. In May, one of our first orders of business was to vote on our Officers and representatives for our sub-committees. The officers are: Treasurer – Bill Hoffman will be filling in for Cheryl Hummel while she is away in Maine, and Secretary – Julie Dostie. I will be stepping down as Senior Deacon starting July 1st. I have enjoyed my two years as Senior Deacon but it is time for someone new to fill the role. Bob Inderbitzen has agreed to fulfill the role of Senior Deacon until his term ends in April 2010. I will continue on as the Council representative for another year. Our sub-committee representatives are as follows:

Personnel and Music Committee – Tom Fulda
Inreach Committee – Laurel Cole
Lead Usher – Stephanie Heneghan

May and June seem to be especially busy months in the church (yes I know – they all are!). During our June Diaconate meeting, we will be discussing ideas and goals for this coming program year. We have so many avenues from which to choose and this board has so much energy, I am anxiously anticipating our meeting. During our May meeting, we did decide to host a Heritage Day on September 27th. We will invite members and friends of the church that we haven't seen in far too long to worship with us once again. We will use this Sunday to recognize our 50 year members, the foundation of our church. And on August 9th, the Diaconate once again have planned a Laity Sunday. Bob, Tom and I will be working on the theme for this Sunday over the next few weeks.

Your Brothers and Sisters of the Diaconate,

Deb Copes, Senior Deacon

Laurel Cole, Julie Dostie, Tom Fulda, Stephanie Heneghan, Bill Hoffman, Cheryl Hummel, Bob Inderbitzen, Julia Pickett and Gail Tine



Open and Affirming Vote set for Sunday, June 7

The Open and Affirming statement that we will be voting on is as follows:

Rocky Hill Congregational Church United Church of Christ 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 in us.



We will be honoring **all graduates** on Baccalaureate Sunday, June 14. If your name is not listed below please call the office by June 12 so we can add your name to the list. The office telephone number is 529-4167. We would like to know your name, college, and degree.

Vanessa Sue Bighinatti
Jaclyn Elliot
Melody Hall
Maley Hunt

Christina Jensen
Jane Lataille
Christopher Robbins
Daniel Scribano

Ellen Scully
Meghan Wilcock



Board of Missions

Back Bay Mission

Donna's recent trip to Back Bay Mission was informative, inspiring, and energizing. Look for photos on the church web site. In early October, they will host a celebration of the new buildings, which are nearly complete! Donna will attend this dedication and report back to the congregation. If you would like to join her on this trip, please let her know.

Christian Activities Council

29 Edgewood Street: CHFA is close to funding all or part of the cost for this project. Northeast Utilities will give \$120,000 to CAC for tax Credits.

Catholic Charities: CAC has been invited to attend a meeting with Catholic Charities in order to work together for the needy.

Adventures in the City: The Hartford school system will pay for the extra 5 weeks of the program this summer.

Weed and Seed Program: The CAC, Community Policing, and other groups will work to help troubled youth in the Upper Albany Avenue area. \$20,000 has been awarded to help improve program.

June 15th is the CAC's Annual Business Meeting. A five year plan and goals should be adopted.

Foodshare Walk against Hunger

Thanks to all who supported the Walk against Hunger. Over 3000 people participated in the Walk this year and \$453,500.00 was raised. Our congregation sent 18 walkers and raised \$1457.00. Look for photos on the church website! We'll see you again at the 27th Annual Walk Against Hunger!

Pastoral Counseling

The Counseling Center offers seminars, such as "Strengthening Your Soul and Faith." We'd like to offer this as a possible second hour in the fall. Would you be interested in attending? See Dave Edwards for more information.

Blanket Card Sales

Missions will be selling Church World Service Blanket cards for Father's Day on: Sunday, May 31, June 7 & June 14. This is a great way to honor fathers and help families around the world. \$140 was collected from the Mother's Day sales.

Where Did Your Money Go?

At our May meeting, the board voted to give, per our budget, to the following:

Local Assistance

Adventures in the City (CAC)	\$3500.00
Cromwell Children's Home	\$250.00
Mercy Housing	\$250.00
Rocky Hill Youth Program	\$250.00
Interval House	\$250.00
Peter's Retreat	\$500.00
Rocky Hill Care Team	\$500.00

Support for Organizations

Hartford Seminary 250 Club	\$250.00
Families in Crisis	\$700.00

Dues

Hartford Association/UCC	<u>\$900.00</u>
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Total \$7350.00

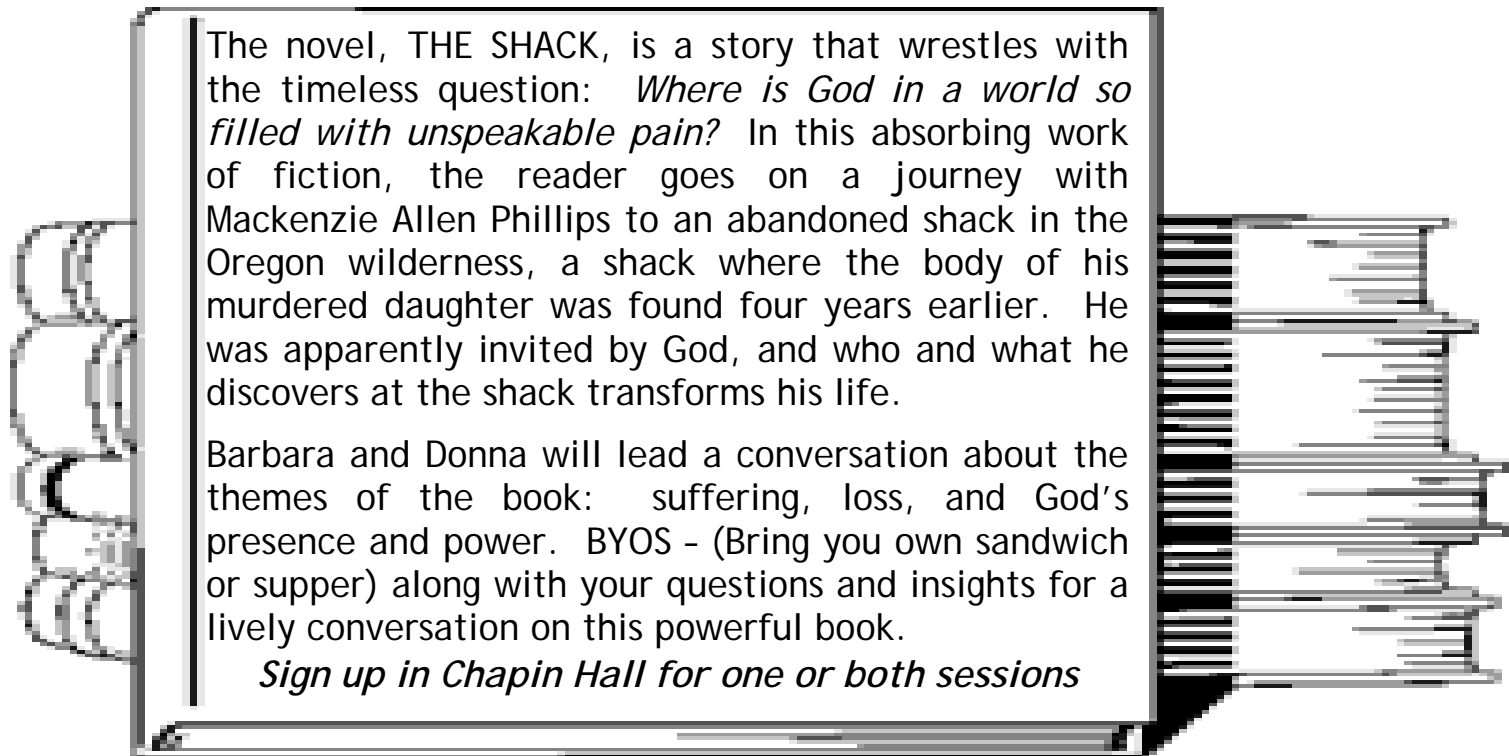
Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at 7:00pm.

Your Board for Missions:

Dave Bell (Treasurer), Michael Bower, Linda Calcagni, Bob Carberry, Dave Edwards, Diana Gengenbach, Marge Murk, Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio, Chris Palazzolo, Steve Smith (Chair)

BOOK CONVERSATION: THE SHACK

Wednesdays, June 17 and 24 – 6:00 – 7:30pm in the Fiorilli Room and Parlor

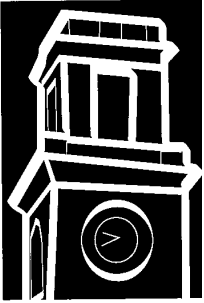


The novel, *THE SHACK*, is a story that wrestles with the timeless question: *Where is God in a world so filled with unspeakable pain?* In this absorbing work of fiction, the reader goes on a journey with Mackenzie Allen Phillips to an abandoned shack in the Oregon wilderness, a shack where the body of his murdered daughter was found four years earlier. He was apparently invited by God, and who and what he discovers at the shack transforms his life.

Barbara and Donna will lead a conversation about the themes of the book: suffering, loss, and God's presence and power. BYOS - (Bring you own sandwich or supper) along with your questions and insights for a lively conversation on this powerful book.

Sign up in Chapin Hall for one or both sessions

[The listing of prayer concerns is omitted from the online version of the newsletter.]



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



June
2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	1 7:00pm Women's AA 7:30pm Bell Choir	2 7:00pm Boards and Committees	3 9:00am Quilters 12:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Yoga with Pam 7:30pm Adult Choir
7 Family Worship/Communion Baptism 11:30am Congregational Meeting Open and Affirming Vote	8 7:00pm RHCCNS Mtg 7:00pm Women's AA	9 7:00pm Council	10 9:00am Quilters 12:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Yoga with Pam 7:30pm Adult Choir
14 Children's Sunday Baccalaureate Sunday 11:30am Congregational Meeting Annual Meeting	15 7:00pm Women's AA	16 7:30pm Baby Quilters	17 9:00am Quilters 12:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Book Discussion 6:00pm Yoga with Pam 7:30pm Adult Choir
21	22 7:00pm Women's AA	23	24 9:00am Quilters 12:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Book Discussion 6:00pm Yoga with Pam
28	29 7:00pm Women's AA	30	

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	CE	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

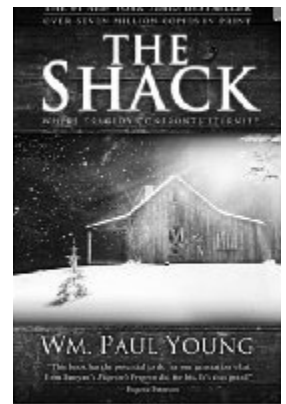
805 Old Main Street – Rocky Hill, CT 06067

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

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

Book Discussion
June 17 & 24
All Welcome!

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 10:00am Mapleview Service 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	5	6 8:30am Yoga with Lynn
11 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	12	13 8:30am Men's Bible Study 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 6:30pm Dinner/Movie
18 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	19	20 8:30am Yoga with Lynn
25 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	26	27 8:30am Men's Bible Study 8:30am Yoga with Lynn



If you would like a name tag to wear on Sunday mornings please call the church office at 529-4167 and I will make one for you. You can also put your request in the offering plate on Sunday and it will be given to me.—Carol Harvey



Happy Birthday!

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|--------------------|
| 01 | Harry Schmidt | 21 | Jack Pawlich |
| | Emily Sousa | 22 | Gail Hall |
| | Meghan Sousa | | Frank Murray |
| | Zachary Rupaka | 24 | Warren Carpenter |
| 02 | Eric Jokl | | Doug Toft |
| 03 | Frances Pavlak | | Kylie Pirre |
| | James Day | 25 | Andri Smith |
| 04 | Robert Hunter | | Kirsten Fulda |
| | Gordon Titcomb, Sr. | 26 | Douglas Sudell |
| 06 | John Van Epps | | Bethany St. Pierre |
| 07 | Linda Marchand | | Kayla Vaillancourt |
| 08 | Michelle DiMartino | 27 | Nancy Robbins |
| 09 | Julia O'Connor | | Zelma Hughes |
| 10 | Paul Wilson | | David Burnham |
| | Meagan McLoughlin | 28 | James Christopher |
| 11 | Louis Smith | | Bruce Gengenbach |
| | John Goff III | | Linda Calcagni |
| | Morgan McLean | | Matthew Flynn |
| 12 | Douglas Goodrich | 29 | Lynn Webster |
| | Michelle Van Epps | | Jaye Veley |
| | Cheryl Connor | | Riley McLean |
| 13 | Arleen Painter | | |
| | Clifton Vaillancourt | | |
| | Anthony Fandetti | | |
| | Kathryn Lewis | | |
| 15 | Florence Moore | | |
| | Bob Carberry | | |
| 17 | Helen Calvo | | |
| | Shirley Hall | | |
| 18 | Betty Stedman | | |
| 20 | Elaine Motta | | |
| 21 | Glenn Hunter | | |
| | Deborah Friday | | |
| | Kristine Rork | | |



Please pray for the family and friends of

June Cox
who died on
May 7, 2009



David and Joan Dean
were married on
June 11, 1955

Mike and Stephanie Heneghan
were married on
June 10, 1967

Earl and Anne King
were married on
June 4, 1949

Donald and Betty Stedman
were married on
June 25, 1960



Honoring Great Grandfathers on Father's Day

We extend an invitation to all great-grandfathers to worship with us on Father's Day on June 21st. During this worship we will proudly recognize our great-grandfathers of the church.

If your name is not listed below or if you recently became a new great-grandfather, please contact the church office at 529-4167 so we may add your name to our list.

Rudy Burgess
Larry Carlson
Jim Christopher
Neal Cox

David Dean
Albert Griswold
James Griswold
Bob Hamilton

Joe Kunzelman
Ed Matthias
Paul Maynard
Tom Schreier

Dick Somes
Bob Tangarone
James Ussery, Jr.
Frank Vann
Arthur Weil



RHCCNS - Fall 2009 Nursery School Openings

Our nursery school has openings in both the 3 and 4 year old classes for next year. Our 3's class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays and the 4's class is held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Both programs run from 9:00 AM – 11:30am. If you know someone interested in finding a quality preschool program, please

invite them to drop by and visit us. Please help us spread the word throughout the community. Our school year ends the middle of May, but visitors are welcome to come in during our final few weeks of school. Your recommendation of our long standing program is our best advertising! Applications are available in the hallway outside the classroom.

Confirmation Class – May 17, 2009

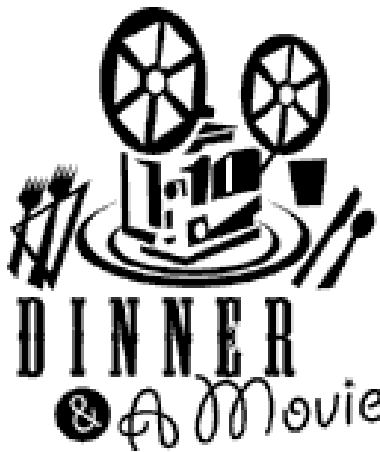


Left to right: Dan MacNeil, Skyler Dean-Lee, Rose Lewis, Mike Bighinatti, Brianna Calderon, Jayson Veley, Becky Scribano, Joe Malespini

On Sunday, May 17, eight ninth graders were confirmed and welcomed as new members of RHCC during the 10:00 AM service. The confirmands and their parents also participated in a Saturday evening service and attended a dinner sponsored by the Diaconate.

Confirmation weekend is the conclusion of a nine-month program that includes prayer, Scripture study, fellowship time, and learning about God, the sacraments, the church. The class also participated in several service projects, including serving a meal at Peter's Retreat, a residence for persons with HIV/AIDS.

Each young person has God-given gifts and talents, and we look forward to their sharing them with the church. WELCOME AND BLESSINGS!



Come for Dinner and a Movie!
Saturday, June 13 in Chapin Hall
6:30 pm

This month we will be trying a Pot Luck dinner
so bring your favorite dish to share.

The movie is *Henry Poole Is Here*. Henry Poole is a disillusioned man who attempts to hide from life only to discover he cannot escape the forces of hope.

Shattered by circumstances beyond his control, Henry Poole settles in to suburban isolation, but his well-meaning busybody neighbor destroys his exile when she discovers a mysterious stain on Henry's stucco wall that is seen to have miraculous powers.

With the help of the beautiful young divorcee next door and her daughter, Millie, Henry finds himself gradually drawn towards life as he realized his plan to live out his days in quiet desperation is going to be much harder than he imagined.

Luke Wilson in one of his first non comedic roles is Henry Poole.

News from the Fair Committee

We had a very successful Spring Breakfast/Plant Sale this year. Thanks to all who donated their time and talents! We raised \$1,516 by serving over 70 people at the breakfast (thanks to Chefs Marsha Hoffman, Lynn Webster and crew); selling all of our baked goods; having an active teacup auction and due to the generous donations from Lisa Gilbert, we had a bounty of flowers and vegetables sold. Thank you to Bob Simmons for his daisies and onions too! We could not have done any of this without the participation of our congregation and **we truly appreciate it!**

We have wonderful news regarding the October 24th fair – Deb Copes has graciously offered to chair the Silent Auction! We are looking for volunteers to help with this booth, as it is very important to the fair and requires a great deal of work. Anyone interested please contact Deb or any member of the fair committee. We are currently in “negotiations” with members to get a chair for the Tag Sale, at which point all booths will have chairpersons and the fun will begin! – Phyllis Wilkey

HERE'S A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE YOUR CHURCH



There are still positions to be filled on RHCC Boards/Committees.
Won't you prayerfully consider lending your time and talents?

_____Board of Christian Education (3-year term) Work to develop educational opportunities for members of all ages (meet 1st Tuesday)

_____Nominating Committee (3-year term) Help identify and secure personnel for boards and committees (only a few Sunday meetings in February and March)

_____Co-op Nursery School Church Representative (Early childhood education helpful but not required to represent RHCC on Nursery School board (2-year term) (One Monday night/month)

_____Head Usher for month of April 2010 – Secure ushers for each Sunday in the month (No meetings)

Yes, I would like to fill the above position

Name _____ Contact _____

DINING OUT WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

Abyssinian Restaurant
Farmington Avenue, Hartford
Thursday, June 18 at 6:00 PM

It's long been said that we at RHCC love to eat! We often dine at church – potlucks, suppers, even breakfast! Let's take the "show on the road," and try some new restaurants in Hartford! Our first road trip will be on June 18th to Abyssinian Restaurant, an Ethiopian restaurant in the west end of the city. The Abyssinian serves great food family style, and you eat your meal with a special bread called injera (no utensils unless you ask!). Ask Donna for further information and sign up in Chapin Hall for this night of food, fun, and fellowship.



The Christian Activities Council was invited by the Catholic Charities organization to attend one of their meetings. The intent is these two groups working together to help the poor and needy in Hartford.

At the request of the Hartford School System, CAC's summer educational program, Adventures in the City (AIC), will be extended for 5 weeks. Because our budget is extremely tight they will bear the financial costs to this worthy program. Another heartfelt thank you to the Board

of Missions and church members for donating \$3500 to AIC.

Our Annual Awards Dinner will take place on May 1, 2009 at the Bond Hotel. The keynote speaker will be Tom Condon, a well known writer for The Hartford Courant and advocate for affordable housing. We are all looking forward to a great evening.

Recently, a \$20,000 grant was awarded to two consultants to improve the Weed and Seed program for Upper Albany Avenue. This program consists of Community Policing in partnership with CAC and other non-profits to help troubled youths.

Lastly, after many meetings with our strategic planning consultant, Linda Campanella, we will adopt this plan at CAC's Annual Meeting on June 15, 2009.

God Bless,

Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio
Delegate Member of Board of Directors



SAVING GREEN/GOING GREEN

In an attempt to save postage and office supplies the Board of Trustees is asking members, who are able, to receive church correspondences via E-mail or on the church website. Items will also be available for pick up at the church office. Please contact Carol in the office with your E-mail address or let her know if you are interested in picking items up.—Todd Doten



The gathering of women who have made Baby Quilts in the past was originally begun under the umbrella of Women's Fellowship. Attendance has been dwindling and we have decided to reinvent ourselves. So all types of projects are welcome...come to quilt, sew, crochet, knit, do needlework, scrapbook, make crafts for the fair or any other type of project but mostly to enjoy the company!. Quilts kits will still be available to those who want them and dessert will be provided. We will continue to meet the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm in the Fiorilli Room. Hope to see you there. If you have any questions please contact Kim Batterson Biglow.



The Saturday Men's Bible Study Group will be taking a summer break. The last meeting will be June 27 and will resume again on September 12. As always they are seeking additional members. If you are interested in studying scripture, discussing how it relates to our daily lives, engaging in open religious and spiritual discussions, the Men's Bible Study Group may be just what you have been looking for. The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. in the church parlor.



Every Sunday, the coffee served after our church service supports The United Church of Christ Coffee Project. Coffee is available for sale in Chapin Hall during coffee hour on the 3rd Sunday of every month. The Inreach Committee has available for purchase in the Parlor: Gourmet coffee (\$6.25/each), Tea (\$3/box), Hot cocoa mix (\$5/can). Please consider making all of your coffee and tea purchases at church! And, offer a donation for the cup of coffee you enjoy every Sunday. Now that's really "good to the last drop!"

Your "At Large" Council Members Are All Ears!

We are ready to hear your ideas and comments.
We are the voice of the congregation to the Council.

Just contact:

Bob Hamilton, 635-5648 (RevBobJean@aol.com)

Wendy Ware, 563-5631 (sware@snet.net)

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Proposed Constitutional Amendments

The Council has proposed several amendments to the Church Constitution which clarify and redefine the relative roles of the Assistant Treasurer and the Financial Secretary. The specific proposed language appear below and will be subject to a vote at the Annual Meeting scheduled for June 14, 2009.

Proposed Constitutional Amendments for June, 2009 Rocky Hill Congregational Church

1. Eliminate Assistant Treasurer as an elected officer position.

Language change: Delete Article IX(D)(4)

2 Add Trustee responsibility to designate a Trustee to serve as Assistant Treasurer. (Role of Asst. Treasurer is essentially to fill in for Treasurer if needed.)

Language change: In Article IX(F)(2) which defines the Board of Trustees, add an additional responsibility as item p: *Appoint an Assistant Treasurer from among the members of the Board, to be available to assist the Treasurer as needed.*

3. Grant Trustees the power to authorize the Financial Secretary to cosign checks

Language change: Insert the following as the second sentence in Article IX(F)(2)(g) [currently line 693]: *The Board may also designate the Financial Secretary as an authorized signatory.*

4. Appoint Financial Secretary as ex officio member of the Stewardship Committee, to provide advice and recordkeeping support to that Committee.

Language change: Amend Article IX(G)(12), by adding the following sentence at the end of the first paragraph in the section on "Membership and Reporting" [currently line 1200]: *The Financial Secretary shall serve as a member ex officio, to provide advice and recordkeeping support to the Committee.*

Note: Copies of the current Constitution are available on the church web site (rhccucc.org) in the "Reference Library" page in the "Resources" section. Members without internet access may obtain a printed copy from the church office upon request.



A NEW YOGA CLASS!

*Quiet the Mind
Increase Flexibility
Reduce Stress*

Promote Health and Wellness

Instructor: Pamela Clark R.N.
(Certified Instructor of Integral School of Yoga)

When: Wednesday Evenings

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Location: Rocky Hill Congregational Church
Chapin Hall

Cost: \$80 for 8 Classes / \$12 a Drop-in Class

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. Class is for all-levels with options for everyone!

Warning: a side effect from practicing yoga is a clear focused mind, increased energy level and a toned body free of stress!

Day: Saturday mornings
Dates: June 6, 13, 20, 27
Time: 8:30-9:30am in Chapin Hall
Location: Rocky Hill Congregational Church, 805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill, CT
Fee: Drop in: \$10.00 / 10 classes for \$70.00 / 5 classes for \$40.00
Instructor: Lynn MacDonald / Please contact 860-550-4660 to register
Bring: Water bottle, yoga mat, and a friend!!



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Food Bank – June 7 Please continue your efforts in offering the donation of non-perishable food items, laundry detergent and baby items on the first Sunday of each month. We thank Bill McKinney for his prompt response in delivering our donations.

The Town of Rocky Hill Human Services Department announces the availability of financial assistance to help pay for the cost of a summer camp experience for children in Rocky Hill. Families who demonstrate a financial need and lack resources may apply for partial assistance toward the total camp cost. The maximum benefit per household is \$200. Income guidelines are a gross maximum of \$38,279 for a family of 2, \$47,286 for a family of 3 and \$56,283 for a family of 4. There is a liquid asset guideline of \$5000. Applicants are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. The camp is the parent or guardian's choice. Community donations have made it possible to offer this resource to financially deprived families. If you have questions, please call Human Services at 258-2799 or 258-2724.

Support Our Local Farmers! A Farmer's Market will take place from May 28th to October 22nd EVERY Thursday (rain or shine) from 4pm – 7pm at Keeney Memorial Cultural Center Grounds, 200 Main Street, Wethersfield CT.

Press Release – Food Pantry Donations Needed – The Town of Rocky Hill Human Services Department is in need of donations for our food pantry which is maintained for needy residents. Our food pantry has a variety of non-perishable food items available for qualified residents. Donations from various churches, community groups, and individuals provide the supply for the pantry. Our supply at this time is very low. If you are interested in more information or interested in donating to the food pantry please drop off donations at the address below or call 860-258-2799 or 258-2724. Please be aware the expiration dates on donations as we can not take any donations that are expired.

2008 Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival Winners will perform at First Church in Wethersfield on Sunday, June 14 at 7pm.

Celebrate Recovery – Thursday nights at First Church in Wethersfield. The purpose of this ministry is to fellowship and celebrate God's healing power in our lives through the 8 Recovery Principles. This experience allows us to be changed. By working and applying these Biblical principles, we begin to grow spiritually. 6:00-6:45 Dinner (\$4.00 donation), 7:00-8:00 Large group meeting, 8:00-9:00 Safe, supportive gender-specific small groups, 9:00-9:30 Coffee and Dessert / Crosstalk Café. For more information call 860 529-1575 x210 or email care@firstchurch.org

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 May 26, 2009



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.



CALL TO SPECIAL CHURCH MEETING

A special meeting of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is called for Sunday, June 7, 2009 immediately following worship to vote upon the adoption of the Open and Affirming (ONA) statement developed by the Open and Affirming Committee. No other business shall come before the congregation at that time.

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha G. Hoffman, Clerk