



The Reverend Donna K. Manocchio, Senior Pastor  
[donna@rhccucc.org](mailto:donna@rhccucc.org)  
Meghan D. Young, Acting Associate Pastor  
Acting Christian Education Director  
[meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org)  
Will Kanute, Director of Music  
[music@rhccucc.org](mailto:music@rhccucc.org)

## June 2012 Newsletter

Editor – Carol Harvey  
(860) 529-4167 Church – (860) 257-9637 Fax  
[office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org)  
[www.rhccucc.org](http://www.rhccucc.org)  
[www.facebook.com/rhccucc](http://www.facebook.com/rhccucc)

### Call To The Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church United Church of Christ is called for Sunday, June 3rd, 2012 immediately following worship in the sanctuary for the following items of business:

1. To receive and act upon the 2012 reports of Boards and Committees
2. To vote on any revisions to the 2012-13 local budget as presented at Budget and Elections meeting
3. to vote on any revisions to the 2012-13 Missions budget as presented
4. to vote on any changes to the report of the Nominating Committee
5. to remember and reflect on those members and friends of the church who have entered the Church Eternal from May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012.

Respectfully submitted

Marsha Hoffman, Clerk

### Call for Special Meeting

**A Special Meeting of Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is called by the Council for Sunday, June 10, 2012 immediately following worship to seek the congregation's vote to affirm recommendations to improve accessibility of the sanctuary for all who come to worship God and journey in faith.**



***Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. . .  
Genesis 1:3***

My dear friends,

The Bible begins with the story of creation, a creation that comes about because God speaks it into being. Imagine that!

Light and sky and earth and seas; the moon, and the sun, and the creatures of all kind – the creepy, crawling, kind and the four legged kind as well. All are created because of the power of God's words. Then Scripture tells us God spoke human beings into creation: 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness.'

Made in the image of our loving creator, we, too, have the power to speak new worlds into being. Through our words, we can bring light and love, compassion and kindness, hope and peace into the world. I was reminded of this power two weeks ago while listening to the commencement address at our daughter Kathryn's graduation from Lebanon Valley College. Dr. Catherine Romagnolo, Associate Professor of English at LVC, reminded the students that they were not so different from the first graduating class:

***But, perhaps they were thinking as you may be thinking now: 'But, what can I do?' 'How do I affect this big, complicated world in which I live?' 'How do I make a mark when it seems impossible to do so?' 'How can I create a world in which people truly treat one another as neighbors?' And I believe if I were speaking to them, I would offer the same advice I offer to you: Never underestimate the power of words, use your words to make change, circulate a discourse of kindness and acceptance, and your world will be an accepting and kind place to live. 'Put an alternative discourse into circulation.'"***

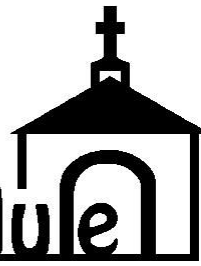
We are not so different from the first Christians, who sought to create a new world built on the words and deeds of Jesus Christ by following in his footsteps to "put an alternative discourse into circulation." In these days, so much of the discourse in the world is of separation, anxiety, and exclusion. And we have a different discourse, a different speech, to change the world. Instead of talking about "us and them," Christians use the word "we," building a world where all God's children are one. Instead of "you don't belong," Christians say, "you are welcome here!" to create a world where all are included. While the world's speech builds fear, Christians recall and share the words of Jesus, "peace be with you."

Friends, let's create a new world of love and justice and hope and compassion together and put an alternative discourse into circulation!

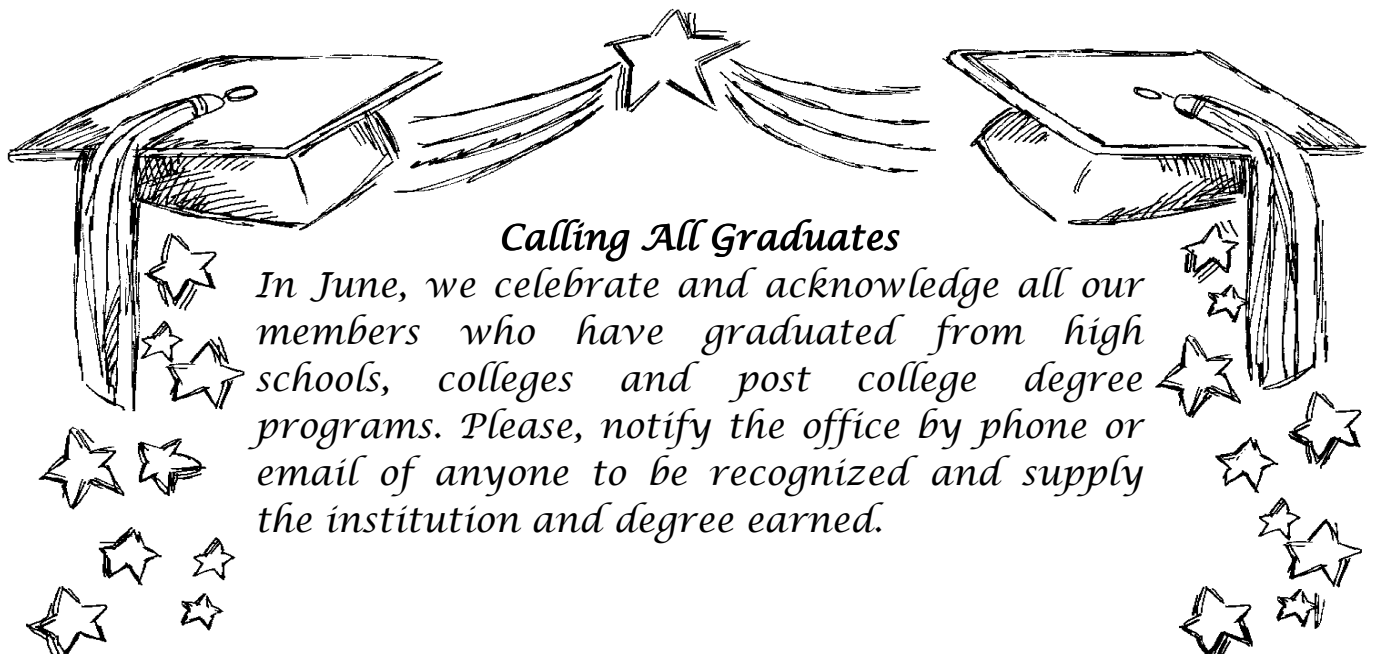
Peace,  
Donna

# June

## Worship Schedule



- June 3**      **Trinity Sunday**  
**Communion Sunday**  
Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8      Meghan D. Young  
Sermon: "Here I Am"
- June 10**      **Second Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Children's Sunday / Baccalaureate Sunday**  
**Special Meeting**  
Scripture: Luke 15:1-10      S.P.I.R.I.T Church School  
Sermon: "The Circle of God's Welcome"
- June 17**      **Third Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Great Grandfather Recognition**  
Scriptures: Mark 4:26-34      The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio  
Sermon: "Under Construction"
- June 24**      **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**  
Scripture: Mark 4:35-41      The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio  
Sermon: "The Perfect Storm"



### *Calling All Graduates*

*In June, we celebrate and acknowledge all our members who have graduated from high schools, colleges and post college degree programs. Please, notify the office by phone or email of anyone to be recognized and supply the institution and degree earned.*

## From the Moderator...

*“The church, after all, is a blessed company of strangers held together by the grace of God.”* —What Matters to Us, [ucc.org](http://ucc.org)

**The Church Council met on April 24 and May 8. Here’s an update...**

**Sanctuary Accessibility.** Over the last 12 months, church leaders from the Board of Trustees, Diaconate and Council have investigated ways to improve the accessibility of the sanctuary for persons with mobility difficulties—including people using wheelchairs, walkers, canes, and crutches. Their planning has been guided by a common vision: to be a faith community of extravagant welcome, accessible to all who desire to worship here. After months of thoughtful investigations, observations and conversations, the committee has made the following recommendations:

- **Remove the ‘Amen pews’ on the right-side of the sanctuary (as you are facing the pulpit).**
- **Remove the first 2 front rows of pews on both sides of the sanctuary.**

These changes will eliminate the narrow pathways across the front of the sanctuary and around the communion table, improving accessibility for people using walkers and wheelchairs, including large powered wheelchairs and scooters. Chairs will be introduced to the new, open seating area nearest the exit closest to the elevator. This space will offer an alternate seating option for people who cannot sit in the pews. The chairs can be arranged so that persons seated in wheelchairs can sit with their family members and companions.

These changes will have little impact on the beauty and character of our historic sanctuary. The benefits are far greater—improving accessibility for members, friends, visitors and guests, ensuring that our sanctuary is a place where all people can join in worship, weddings, and memorial services. Please watch your mailbox for a letter with additional information about this project. A copy of the letter will also be posted the church website, [www.rhccucc.org](http://www.rhccucc.org).

**A Special Meeting of Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is called by the Council for Sunday, June 10, 2012 immediately following worship to seek the congregation’s vote to affirm recommendations to improve accessibility of the sanctuary for all who come to worship God and journey in faith.**

**Heating System Upgrade Project.** Demolition of the old oil-fired steam boiler began on Monday, May 21. This is a significant milestone for this project, which will include the installation of new natural gas condensing boilers, and converting the steam radiators and piping throughout the building to a more efficient hot water system. Watch for additional progress reports from the Board of Trustees and the project's organizing group.

**Stewardship.** Louise Butts, for the Stewardship Committee, reported on this year's pledge campaign. Dedication Sunday was held on April 29—during which pledge cards were collected and dedicated to the continued work and life of our church. This year's campaign is "*Count Yourself Blessed.*" Every pledge is important for sustaining a talented and dedicated church staff, building expenses and outreach ministries. It's not too late. Please send-in your pledge TODAY. It's also easy to setup a recurring weekly or monthly online contribution at [www.rhccucc.org](http://www.rhccucc.org) (click the "donate online" button on the top of the web page).

**Music Minister.** The Council heard an update from the Music Ministry Search Committee. Following their initial planning, the committee promptly placed ads and set up an information page on the church website for candidates. They have already received resumes from many highly qualified candidates, and some interviews have already taken place. Watch for additional updates from the committee—and may God continue to bless and guide their prayerful search for our next music minister.

**Welcome!** The Church Council is pleased to welcome the following new Council members: Linda Calcagni (Board of Missions), Don Pagnucco (Board of Deacons), and Bob Carberry (Member At Large). A special word of thanks to the outgoing Council members who have completed terms: Stephanie Heneghan (Board of Deacons), Michael Bower (Board of Missions), and Wendy Ware (Member At Large).

The Council also heard reports and updates from Pastors Donna Manocchio and Meghan Young, Treasurer Dave Hall, Clerk Marsha Hoffman, Lynne Lataille and Steve Ware (Trustees), Stephanie Heneghan (Diaconate), Caryn Doten (Christian Education), and Michael Bower and Linda Calcagni (Missions).

**Next Council Meeting:** Tuesday, June 12.

God bless you,

Bob Inderbitzen  
rinderbitzen@cox.net  
cell 860-418-9171



In June, as the church’s Easter season ends, our congregation will celebrate not only the blessing of the risen Christ (we can still dimly hear the alleluias) but also the

achievements of our members and friends. We will take the opportunity to recognize and celebrate the contributions of love and support given by the Great-grandfathers in our congregation and remind ourselves to cherish them as a gift and a resource. The academic achievements of our young members and friends who have graduated from all levels of schooling (high school, college and post-graduate programs) will be lifted up and celebrated during worship in June. And we will express our gratitude for the musical and personal contributions of Will Kanute to our church family over the last 11 years as he leaves us to enter the next stage of his personal and professional life. Please plan to attend these services so you can join in the celebration. We recognized and celebrated our Great-grandmothers in worship on Mother’s Day. The Deacons will make a donation of \$100 to the women’s scarf project in Turkey, in honor of our Great-grandmothers. What a blessing it is to be able to give!

The members of the Board of Deacons for 2012 – 2013 are listed below. Please don’t hesitate to contact any one of us with your joys, concerns or suggestions.

Bill Hoffman, for the Deacons

BOARD OF DEACONS 2012 – 2013

Tom Fulda	Ellie Mahar	Candy Smith
Judy Graham	Don Pagnucco (Senior Deacon)	Elaine Somes
Stephanie Heneghan	Nancy Parsons	Gail Tine
Bill Hoffman (Senior Deacon)	Joseph Sheehan	Val Triplets

*The Board of Deacons*

*Spiritual Welfare*

*Membership Vitality*

*Ministering*

## Streetscape Update

May 25, 2012

Work on the town's streetscape project is progressing quickly and ahead of schedule. Instead of beginning work on Center Street (outside the back entrance of the church) in the middle of June, work will commence on Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. The work involves removing and replacing the sidewalk and reshaping the road and traffic patterns. **This means that Center Street traffic and parking will be closed off and access into the back entrance of the church limited beginning on the 29<sup>th</sup>.** During this next phase of the project, **access to the church will be from the side entrance on Old Main Street (during the week) and the side and Narthex entrances (on Sunday morning and choir nights).**

Impact to the church and to those who use our building on a regular basis will be felt during the week and on Sunday mornings, including the Nursery School. For their final two weeks of school, the Nursery School has developed a plan for drop off and pick up that involves using the spaces on Old Main Street, which will be marked "church parking only." If you need and want to come to the church during the week, please park on Old Main Street, either near the church or farther down in front of town hall, or in the town hall parking lot, which you will need to enter on Church Street. **Please do not use the driveway in the front of the church as a parking space.**

On Sundays, parking is available on Old Main Street and in both Town Hall lots – the one across from the church and the one near the post office. If you are physically able, please park in the lot near the post office so that others who need to be nearer the church can park in the closer lot and spots on Old Main Street. Please use caution and care as you come to church. However, **don't let the project keep you from coming to church for worship or your regular activities!** If you are wondering about access, call the church or check the website. We will be providing regular updates for church members and friends.

Because we know that God can be worshipped in many places and ways, and because we want to be able to include EVERYONE in worship, **service on Sunday, June 3 at 10:00 AM will be held in the Town Hall Chambers on the second floor in the town hall.** There is handicapped access into the building, an elevator, and we have secured spaces for both **child care and coffee hour!**

The town of Rocky Hill continues to be a wonderful neighbor and is working with us to ensure that during the construction, we can continue to be an open, inclusive, and welcoming space not only for church members but also for the entire community. It is the goal of both the town and the church to be in the sanctuary on June 10<sup>th</sup> for Children's Sunday and the baptism for Jackson McNally, as well as for June 24<sup>th</sup>, Will Kanute's last worship service and celebration. Steps are being pursued for that purpose.

Construction on Center Street is scheduled for the next two months, so please continue to watch for updates in the bulletin, telephone answering system, website, and FACEBOOK. The end result of the project is a town center and lovely setting for the church, enabling us to truly be "a church at the center," with a ministry centered in the love and good news of Jesus Christ.

## Mission News for June

*What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead....—James 2:14-24*

It is so wonderful to see that our congregation alive and is rich in good works. This has been said before but ever so evident in the weekend project at ***Peter's Retreat***. Approximately sixteen people, some friends of our church, worked raking and hauling 30 yards of mulch, scraping old paint, reaching, rolling and squatting to paint walls and woodwork. Still others are busy making shelves, trash bins and compost bins out of wood, and talented seamstresses are sewing tablecloths. At our noontime prayer and sharing, one participant gave "thanks for sore muscles" as it reminds us we've done 'good work'. Yes, the ice packs were abundant that weekend but in a happy way which everyone involved understood. The Meditation Garden and Formal dining room now have a fresh new look. A big *thank-you* to our congregation for providing funds that made this project possible.

Now for an update on the ***Inyana League for Rwandan Children and Youth***: The Board for Missions has identified a scholarship recipient in Rwanda. Her name is Clemence Byukusenge, and she is 23 years old. Clemence is a promising young woman who is fluent in four languages. We are thrilled to be able provide the funds for this young lady to receive a college education. Please be sure to visit our Mission Bulletin Board for more information about her and the Inyana League Organization. As we receive more information about Clemence we will certainly share it with you.

The ***Walk Against Hunger*** on May 6<sup>th</sup> was a huge success! *Thanks* to Cindy Hunt, team captain for all her hard work. See Cindy's report below.

On May 19th we had the pleasure of hosting a get-together with Ken and Betty Frank, recently retired missionaries from Turkey. After wonderful Turkish meal, from Saray Restaurant, we gathered in the chapel for a presentation. Ken and Betty took us through their 38-year journey as missionaries, first in Zambia, Africa for eight years and the remainder in Istanbul and Izmir, Turkey. Ken a math teacher, and Betty a librarian, worked for 22 years at the Izmir American Collegiate Institute, founded by the American Board of Commissioner's for Foreign Mission in 1878. As they leave, the school is good hands and being run by a school board comprised of many former students who are now educators and successful business individuals. There was ample time after the presentation for dessert and lots of discussion with the Franks. Special Thanks to Meghan Montana for all her efforts in planning this wonderful event.

The *“Harvest Now”* project is growing as we now have five families involved. If you have a vegetable garden and can donate fresh produce to the Connecticut food bank system there is still time to get involved. There will be forms posted on the Mission Bulletin Board or you can contact Linda Calcagni 860-721-9448 or [lindacal@cox.net](mailto:lindacal@cox.net)

**Father’s Day Tool and Blanket Cards** will be available in June, the Sunday before Fathers Day. The purchase of a Fathers’ Day card for \$5 provides a much-needed blanket to warm a child. What a wonderful way to honor fathers!

**Youth Mission News:** Sarah Mosure is working with Meghan Young organizing local projects for youth this summer. Be sure to look for Meghan’s updates in the youth section of the Church Mouse.

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

- Due to more generous offerings coming in the Easter offering for the Trevor Project was increased from \$439 to \$2126.73.
- \$3,500 went to Adventures in the City (CAC program for inner city children)
- \$4,704 Connecticut Conference Dues (UCC)
- \$2,500 Peter’s Retreat Project (Not complete)
- \$200 for the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation in South Dakota, Joan Tennyson trip.

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

### **Foodshare Fresh Vegetables & Fruit Distribution at Elm Ridge Park**



Foodshare Inc. will be distributing fresh fruits & vegetables to disadvantaged citizens on 6/8/12 & 6/22/12 at Elm Ridge Park located at 376 Elm Street, Rocky Hill. The distribution will be from 1:30 – 2:00 pm. A mobile Foodshare truck will be parked in Elm Ridge Park. The mobile food distribution program is to individuals & families in need. The distribution will be conducted by volunteers from the Oasis Christian Church. Questions should be directed to Oasis Church at 860-259-0701 or Foodshare at 860-286-9999. The Town of Rocky Hill is allowing Elm Ridge Park to be used for this distribution. Future Foodshare distributions will be every other Friday throughout the year.

**THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED MAKE OUR  
WALK FOR HUNGER A HUGE SUCCESS!**

On a warm and sunny afternoon, 17 walkers from Rocky Hill Congregational Church came through with flying colors and helped raise over half a million dollars for Foodshare. With your help, we surpassed our goal of \$2,500! We have raised over \$3,000 so far and are still waiting for the final tally that will include corporate matching funds, which will put us closer to the \$4,000 mark! Unbelievable! Thanks to all who donated so generously! No family in Connecticut should go hungry and these efforts will go a long way toward that effort!

An extra special thank you to the Walk Team this year, and a big shout-out to Thomas Kainamura, our “superstar” fundraiser, his wife Christine and son Max who joined us. Our happy throng of walkers included Donna Manocchio, Meghan Young, Michael and Victoria Bower, Trinity England, Kristy and Hannah Fuller, Phyllis and Bob Wilkey, Kari and Persephone Blaise, Linda Calcagni, Judy Graham, and team leader Cindy Hunt. We also recognize Bob Carberry and Julia O’Connor, who raised money but were under the weather and couldn’t walk. It is truly a blessing to be a part of such a wonderful, supportive congregation who recognizes the needs of others!



**BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY**

We will be honoring **all high school and college and post graduates** on Sunday, June 10. If your name is not listed below please call the office at 860 529-4167 or email [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org) by June 9, so we can add your name to the list. We would like to know your name, college, and degree. A complete list will be in the July/August newsletter.

**High School Graduates**

Michael Bighinatti  
Sara Lataille  
Joseph Malespini

Brianna Calderon  
Rose Lewis  
Rebecca Scribano

Skyler Dean-Lee  
Daniel MacNeil  
Jayson Veley

**College Graduates**

Diana Hellyar – St Joseph’s College – Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics  
Kathryn Lewis Lebanon – Valley College – Bachelor of Arts  
Sarah Biglow – New England School of Law with a Juris Doctorate.



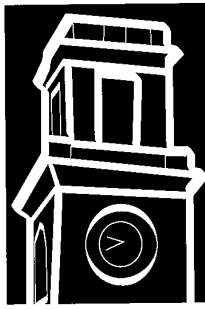
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|--------|---|----|--|
| June 1 | Harry Schmidt<br>Zachary Rupaka   | 18 | Betty Stedman  |
| 2      | Eric Jokl   | 20 | Elaine Motta   |
| 3      | Frances Pavlak<br>James Day   | 21 | Glenn Hunter<br>Deborah Friday<br>Jack Pawlich   |
| 4      | Gordon Titcomb Sr   | 22 | Gail Hall<br>Frank Murray  |
| 5      | Samuel Cusano   | 24 | Philip Carpenter Jr<br>Douglas Toft<br>Paula Delage<br>Kylie Pirre                           |
| 6      | John Van Epps<br>Courtney Cusano<br>Taylor Strong                           | 25 | Andri Smith<br>Kirsten Fulda   |
| 7      | Linda Marchand  | 26 | Douglas Sudell<br>Bethany St Pierre<br>Kayla Vaillancourt<br>Aiden Montana<br>Alba Donahue   |
| 8      | Thomas Kainamura  | 27 | Nancy Robbins<br>David Burnham   |
| 9      | Samuel Dean-Lee<br>Julia O'Connor   | 28 | Jim Christopher<br>Bruce Gengenbach<br>Linda Calcagni<br>Marjorie Sheathelm<br>Matthew Flynn |
| 10     | Paul Wilson   | 29 | Lynn Webster<br>Jane Veley<br>Riley McLean   |
| 11     | Louis Smith<br>John Goff III<br>Stephen Kobernat<br>Morgan McLean           |    |  |
| 12     | Douglas Goodrich<br>Michele Van Epps<br>Cheryl Connor                       |    |  |
| 13     | Arlene Painter<br>Clifton Vaillancourt<br>Anthony Fandetti<br>Kathryn Lewis |    |  |
| 15     | Robert Carberry   |    |  |
| 17     | Shirley Hall  |    |  |



**Mike and Stephanie Heneghan  
were married on  
June 10, 1967**

**David and Joan Dean  
were married on  
June 11, 1955**

**Donald and Betty Stedman  
were married on  
June 25, 1960**

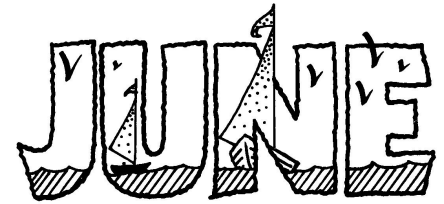


# WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Morning Worship

Communion 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

10:00 a.m. with childcare



## 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<b>3</b> <b>Communion</b> 11:05am Children's Sunday rehearsal 11:00am ANNUAL MEETING	<b>4</b> 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 6:00pm Music Search Committee 7:00 pm Bowling 7:00pm Women's AA 7:30pm Bell Choir	<b>5</b> 7:00pm Boards/Committee	<b>6</b> 9:00am Quilters 12:30pm Bible Study 7:30pm Adult Choir
<b>10</b> <b>Children's Day</b> <b>Baccalaureate Sunday</b> 11:15am Congregational Special Meeting 2:00pm Goodspeed "Amazing Grace"	<b>11</b> 2:00pm The Lodge Svc 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCCNS Mtg 7:30pm Bell Choir	<b>12</b> 8:30am Breakfast Club	<b>13</b> 9:00am Quilters 12:30pm Bible Study 7:30pm Adult Choir
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:30pm Bell Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9:00am Quilters 12:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Cedar Hollow
<b>24</b> 11:15am Picnic on the lawn Will's last day	<b>25</b> 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm Vacation Bible School 7:00pm Women's AA	<b>26</b> 5:30pm Vacation Bible School	<b>27</b> 9:00am Quilters 12:30pm Bible Study 5:30pm Vacation Bible School

**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	Will Kanute, Dir. of Music	207
Meghan Young, Acting Director CE	204	Thomas Munger, Custodian	205
Acting Assoc. Pastor		Kate Hellmuth, RHCCNS	208
Carol Harvey, Office Secretary	201		

<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
	<b>1</b> 5:00pm <b>Youth Group</b>	<b>2</b> 8:30am Yoga with Lynn
<b>7</b> 5:30pm TOPS 6:00pm <b>Music Search Committee</b> 7:00pm <b>Theology on Tap</b> 8:00pm Men's AA	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 3:00pm <b>Children's Sunday Rehearsal</b> 6:00pm <b>Dinner/Movie</b>
<b>14</b> 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 9:30am <b>Missions Retreat</b>
<b>21</b> 5:30pm TOPS 6:30pm <b>Women's Bible Study And Pot Luck Supper</b> 7:00pm <b>Fair Meeting</b> 8:00pm Men's AA	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 8:30am Yoga with Lynn
<b>28</b> 5:30pm TOPS 5:30pm <b>Vacation Bible School</b> 8:00pm Men's AA	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 8:30am Yoga with Lynn

**STAFF VACATION**



**Tommy Munger  
will be on  
vacation  
June 4-10**

**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](http://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 and Christian Education Director**

**The Reverend Arthur C. Weil, Minister Emeritus**

**Will Kanute, Director of Music**

♪ ♪ ♪ **Let's All Show Our Appreciation to Music Director Will Kanute** ♪ ♪ ♪  
Please join us for worship on June 24<sup>th</sup> as we bid farewell to our friend and show our appreciation for his years of dedicated and excellent ministry with and among us! There will be a time of remembrance in worship and a celebration of his time with us immediately following worship.



### Music Search Committee Update

It has again been a busy month for the committee! We have been blessed to have a significant number of qualified applicants who want to make their new home here at RHCC. The committee began the initial interviews of candidates and has begun to schedule a few follow up interviews with those that we feel we would like to see again. We are looking forward to successfully completing our search!

♪ ♪ ♪ **Hallelujah!** ♪ ♪ ♪

Celebrate the Easter Season with a service of Easter music and readings from scripture. The Music Ministries of St. James, Rocky Hill Congregational, and St. Andrew Churches will join forces for a joyful service on June 1, 2012 at 7 PM in St. James Church, 767 Elm St., Rocky Hill. Join us in singing a “Hallelujah Chorus” to our risen Lord. Admission is free and refreshments will be served after.



### How About a Nice Hot Cup of Justice? United Church of Christ Coffee Project

The coffee we serve after church and at all church events is purchased through the UCC Coffee Project. The UCC Coffee Project is a partnership of the UCC Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) and Equal Exchange.

The Inreach Committee has designated the third Sunday of each month as “Fair Trade Coffee Sunday.” On these Sunday’s we ask that you consider donating a dollar or two to help subsidize the cost of the coffee we serve. Additionally, coffee, tea, and hot cocoa will be available for order or purchase. For more information about the UCC Coffee Project: [www.ucc.org/justice/coffee-project](http://www.ucc.org/justice/coffee-project)



## **... *Stewards – one and all!*...**

Stewardship ... still waiting and counting!

Thank you, thank you to each and all who have responded so graciously to our current Stewardship pledge campaign. As of late May, we have received 121 pledges. We have reached a total of \$286,764 (or 90.1%) in support of the two proposed budgets

which include: \$233,645 for Local (Operating Expenses); and \$53,119 for the Benevolence (Missions) Budget.

It is our hope to be able to announce at the annual meeting on June 3rd that the overall pledge goal of \$318,203 has been met and the number of pledges exceeded those of last year. But we are not quite there yet. As is often said, “timing is everything!” If you put your pledge card aside, or for some reason you have yet to share and participate in this essential act of dedication, the “time is now.” We do not want to lose the momentum nor the financial support necessary for a congregation who has worked so diligently to make segments of our Vision a reality. Yes, the generosity and sharing of time, talents, and treasures have carried us this far. Let’s be sure that together with God’s help we will continue to experience the joy of changing and enriching lives – here at home and afar.

If you have not shared in the pledging process, please consider doing so now. The final accounting is still open. Pledge materials are available in the narthex. If you have questions, please contact a member of the Stewardship Committee, Deb Copes (Financial Secretary), or Pastor Donna.

With prayerful faith,

The Stewardship Committee: Louise Butts (Chair), William Bartley, Al Diaz, Michele Jokl, Dave Sageman, Barry Wilcock.



Honoring Great Grandfathers  
on Father's Day

## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!!

We extend an invitation to all great-grandfathers to worship with us Father's Day on June 17. 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 and we will add your name to our list.**

Rudy Burgess  
Larry Carlson  
Jim Christopher  
Neal Cox  
David Dean  
Albert Griswold

James Griswold  
Bob Hamilton  
Bob Hansen  
Joe Kunzelman  
Ralph Lexa  
Tom Schreier

Richard Somes  
John Sword  
Bob Tangarone  
James Ussery, Jr.  
Frank Vann  
Arthur Weil



The RHCC Bowling Season ended in May with a banquet at Elizabeth's in Rocky Hill. "Starrs & Strikes" is this season's winning team! Congratulations to Tim Dostie, Connie Lanteigne, Dave Lewis and Sue Starr with an assist from Merri Moore who stepped in at the end of the season when Sue was under the weather.

The RHCC Bowling League is looking for someone to coordinate participation & teams next year - please contact Joan and Jim Ross [860-563-5397](tel:860-563-5397) or [jjjross@gmail.com](mailto:jjjross@gmail.com) if interested. The solicitation of bowlers and team formation needs to get underway in August and finalized in September in order to begin a new season in October.

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

### **Church School**

May marked the end of our final curriculum unit of the year, *Lost and Found*. During this unit we heard stories about a lost sheep, a lost coin, and a lost son from the Gospel of Luke (chapter 15). We explored what it means to be lost and found, and confronted the good news of our awesome and loving God. Many thanks to all the teachers, CE Board members, and volunteers who helped kick-off this new curriculum model and made this year one of spirit filled faith formation!

Since finishing up our year-long curriculum, the children and youth of RHCC have begun planning and writing worship for Children's Sunday, reflecting on the ways we have formed in our faith over the last year. Over the last 9 months we have learned about the deep friendship of Ruth and Naomi, we have listened to Luke's Christmas story as God announced the birth of Christ first to those in the margins, we have explored God's blessings and how we can add our salt to the world, we have eaten God's meal of blessing at a table of welcome, and we have searched for the lost and have found God's love. We look forward to sharing on Children's Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, what it means to be welcome in the circle of God's love, with a service of extravagant welcome and hospitality.

### **Youth Group**

This month we went to "catch the Spirit" at the UCC's Connecticut Conference's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Youth revival. It was a wonderful night of fellowship, song, prayer filled worship, and testimonies about why the church matters, with our denominational brothers and sisters. Lunch Bunch has also offered us space and time to talk about our faith and lives.

### **Gatherings**

The Children and Youth Talent Show, an annual favorite, was a great night of music, dance, comedy, rapping, and sharing of talents and gifts. Thank you to all of our children and youth who helped out or performed, sharing their talents and gifts with us. And a special thanks to all those who organized, planned, and provided food for the talent show.

We also hope that everyone will join us for Koinonia 2012. For those wondering, Koinonia is a Greek word, used frequently in scripture, meaning communion by intimate participation. Koinonia is in fellowship, in breaking bread, worship, song, justice and peace making, and any moment where we come together in truth and love, opening ourselves up to the presence of God. Koinonia is a community about living and loving fully. Koinonia 2012, is a vacation bible school, for the whole church family. It will be four nights of spirit filled faith formation as we tell our story! Keep an eye out for more details.

**Here's What's Happening This Month...**

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Scripture/Lesson</b>
Sunday, June 3	Communion Sunday, Family Worship
Sunday, June 9	Children's Sunday Rehearsal, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM
Sunday, June 10	Children's Worship Sunday, 10 AM <i>All children leading worship should meet at 9 AM.</i>
Sunday, June 17	<i>Children's Sunday Preparation Begins</i>

**Youth Group Calendar: June**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Fellowship Gatherings</b>
Friday, June 1	Youth Night In
Sunday, June 3	Lunch Bunch (6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>h</sup> Grade) → 11:30 AM – 1 PM <i>We will use this time for Children's Sunday preparation.</i>
Sunday, June 10	Lunch Bunch (6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>h</sup> Grade) → 11:30 AM – 1 PM
Sunday, June 17	Lunch Bunch (6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>h</sup> Grade) → 11:30 AM – 1 PM
Sunday, June 24	Lunch Bunch (6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>h</sup> Grade) → 11:30 AM – 1 PM

**UCC National Youth Event – July 10-13 at Purdue University**

The UCC National Youth Event ([www.ucc.org/nye](http://www.ucc.org/nye)), a UCC gathering held every four years, provides an opportunity for about 3000 youth (ages 13-18) to gather for four days of worship, workshops, faith, fun and fellowship. If you are interested in attending and would like more information about transportation and scholarships, please contact Meghan Young ([Meghan@rhuccucc.org](mailto:Meghan@rhuccucc.org)).

**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS:** If you are interested in volunteering in the Nursery during Sunday morning worship, please contact a member of the Childcare Committee ([RHCCchildcare@gmail.com](mailto:RHCCchildcare@gmail.com)) for more information. You can also sign-up outside the Nursery. *The Childcare Committee Contact for June is Kari McCaw-Blaise.*

**It's Coming - Koinonia 2012!**

**Join us at RHCC for a 4 night (5:30-7:30 PM), Vacation Bible School, "Koinonia 2012", for the whole church family, from June 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>.** This summer you are invited to renew and spark your faith as we join together for fun, food, fellowship, and faith formation. Separate faith formation programming will be available for children, youth, and adults.

***Sign-up in Chapin Hall or contact Meghan Young at [meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org).***

## A Community of Faith Formation at RHCC, UCC



The biblical concept of home and household, of family, is inclusive, cross generational, and includes more people who are not simply connected by birth, marriage, or adoption. It is the community where we enact the love of Jesus, extending that welcome in love, service, peace, justice, action, and solidarity. This is where faith formation happens.

This past month the Board for Christian education has read several articles about faith formation, the relationship of the church to Christian Education in the last century, and best practices of churches that have vibrant communities growing together in faith. Over and over again, we have read that for too long the greater Christian community has told families to bring their children to church and to turn them over to the experts for education. While these experts were gifted in teaching the scriptures, the greater church forgot to invite families and adults into that learning process, and to equip them to be part of the on-going learning. Communities that are alive in faith formation have realized that faith formation is the *life-long work of the entire community*. Faith grows and thrives when the diverse, cross-generational community of the church forms together as an inclusive household, where all members learn from each other.

As we move forward in our discussions about faith formation, share the best practices we are learning, and live into this mission of faith formation, the Board of Christian Education has decided to change its name to the Board for Faith Formation. We feel that “The Board for Faith Formation”, encompasses the breadth and depth our vision for a community engaged in life-long faith formation, practices fellowship, and Christian education.

We look forward to continuing to share what we are learning about best practices in faith formation and how we can live them at RHCC, UCC. We also hope you will be able to join us for Koinonia 2012, a cross-generation faith formation event.

In Faith,

The Board for Faith Formation

Brian Donahue, Caryn Doten, David Lewis, Jennifer Martin, Judy Milles,  
Marjie Sheathelm, Sherry Silkowski, Kristy Solie, Sue Speers

## News from your Fair Committee

As reported at this year's budget meeting, the Fair Committee recommended to the Board of Trustees the following distribution of dollars from our 2011 events:

- \$1000 to purchase tables
- \$1000 toward the upgrade of the Audio System
- \$500 toward the Youth Room Renovation
- \$11,210.32 to the Memorial Fund (to offset the cost of the new heating system).

We want to thank all of the hardworking members of the congregation who helped us with our 2011 activities, which brought a total of \$14,710.32 (despite a rained out Memorial Day Parade and an unforgettable snow storm on our October fair day !),

2012 has started off very nicely for us – we had a great Spring Breakfast/Plant Sale (with a Bake Sale and drawing included), which raised \$1,606. We must give thanks to Lisa Gilbert of Gilbert Farms, Rocky Hill who generously donated an abundance of beautiful flower and vegetable plants; to our members with green thumbs who donated plants from their homes; to Marsha Hoffman and her hardworking helpers who provided 81 people with a delicious breakfast; to the bakers in our congregation who donated their confections; and to our artist Lynn McKenna, who donated a lovely hand-painted Adirondack chair and a wicker picnic basket full of goodies for a drawing. Congratulations to our winners, William McKenna (chair) and Don Pagnucco (basket)!

Remember our October Fair will be on Saturday, October 27th - stay tuned for more details in the July/Aug Church Mouse.

Your Fair Committee takes great pride in the types of events we can present to the community, showcasing the hard work, generosity, dedication and talents of the members of the RHCC.

*"Serve the Lord with gladness"—Psalms 100:2*



Join Us for Pot Luck Dinner and a Movie  
Saturday, June 9, 2012  
6:00 pm in Chapin Hall.

The film showing is  
"500 Days of Summer"

Starring Joseph Gordon and Zooey Deschanel

In this quirky romantic comedy about love and fate, a young greeting card writer (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) is hopelessly, helplessly searching for the girl of his dreams....and his new co-worker, Summer Finn (Zooey Deschanel), may just be "the one". But the 500 days of their offbeat relationship reveal (In no particular order) that the road to happiness can be unpredictable, uncontrollable ...and unbelievably funny! – **Hope to see you all there!**



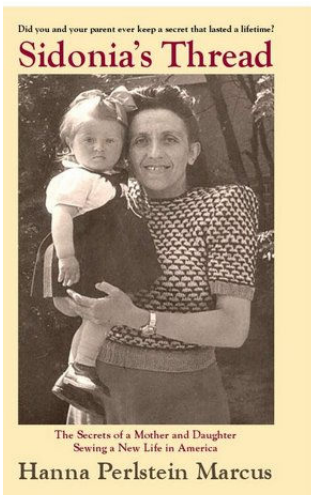
To the RHCC Church family,

Thank you all for your caring and concern for my family and myself during the last days of my dad's life and for the continued prayers. I was met with a flood of cards when I returned from my vacation and it was a healing time for me as I sat and read each one. I can't begin to tell you how comforted I was (and still am) by the words.

My family is doing well and I know they 'felt' your prayers. Thank you for being such a caring congregation. God is certainly working in and through all of you.

Carol Harvey

### Meet the Author



Hanna Marcus, author of Sidonia's Thread: The Secrets of a Mother and Daughter Sewing a New life in America, will be sharing her story and that of her mother's struggles as a victim of the Holocaust at Emanuel Lutheran Church, 60 Church Street, Manchester, CT on Sunday, June 30th at 3:00 pm. High tea will be served by sponsoring P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Org.) Chapter U. Your donation of \$20 will be given to the organization's projects which assist women throughout the world reach their goals in higher education. For tickets contact: Louise Butts, 860-563-5177, or Nancy Edwards, 860-529-6779.

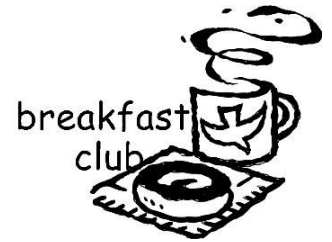


### **Pastor's Bible Study**

## **Pastor's Wednesday Bible Study**

Meet in the Fiorilli Room every Wednesday at 12:30PM. Each week, we gather to read and explore the Scriptures to be used in an upcoming worship service. All are welcome. No experience necessary. Bring your

favorite translation of the Bible or pick one up from the shelf. Brown bag lunch is optional.



## **Breakfast Club – Tuesday, June 12 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**

### **Thursday, June 7 at 7:00 PM AT Chuck's Steakhouse**

Are you interested in sharing questions and experiences about God and God's presence in your life? If so, come and join with other church members and friends in the "back room" of the Chuck's Steakhouse. We discuss a different topic each month, so join us whenever you can. Bring a friend and see you at Chuck's! Contact Donna ([donna@rhccucc.org](mailto:donna@rhccucc.org) or on FACEBOOK) if you have questions, want to suggest a topic, or can join us for a gathering.

## **Women's Bible Study**

### **Thursday, June 21**

### **6:30 PM in the Fiorilli Room and Parlor**

### **Pot Luck Supper/Snacks**

Come and join the prayer and conversation!

If you've never attended before,  
or have been with us at each meeting, all are welcome!

The last gathering prior to summer will meet a half hour earlier and include a pot luck. Bring a supper or snack item of your choice. We will explore selections from the Book of Wisdom, and a packet of the selections will be available on table outside the office. You may also email the office for a copy of the material.



## June 2012: Compassionate Caring

Written by Elena Huegel

*Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness and patience...Colossians 3:12*

Alejandra has a dream. Every day she seeks to make a difference in someone's life even if it is in a small way. The dream began when Alejandra was a toddler and bumped into a kerosene stove while playing. Within a few seconds she had suffered burns on most of her abdomen, leg and arm. She spent many days throughout her early childhood in the hospital recovering from multiple operations. At a very young age, Alejandra decided she would find a way to help other people.

On the morning after the February 2010 earthquake and tsunami in Chile, Alejandra, now a nurse and first aid facilitator at the Shalom Center, went to Dichato, a fishing and tourist village where her father pastors a church. Climbing over mounds of debris, carefully avoiding pits of water left by the five immense waves that flowed one after the other over Dichato, she found the little mission church still standing among the piles of cars, washing machines, beds and refrigerators. None of the homes of the members of the church remained.

Later that day, Alejandra was finally able to find the sisters and brothers of the church. They were up in the hills preparing to camp, not only homeless but fearful of the constant earth tremors. Alejandra went right to work. First she organized the church to provide aid in the immediate needs of dry clothing, food, clean drinking water, first aid, and shelter. Then, Alejandra began to think about how to care for the emotional trauma of not only of those from Dichato but also in the other towns and villages in the area. Alejandra had been certified in trauma healing and resilience just a few weeks before the earthquake, but she wanted to find a way to connect her medical training as a nurse to the spiritual and emotional wounds of the people around her.

Thanks to a scholarship provided by the Shalom Center and the Brookfield Institute, Alejandra was able to travel to Massachusetts for two weeks of specialized training in massage and trauma healing. She returned to Tomé and Dichato and is ministering to many children, youth and adults that continue to suffer the long term effects of the disaster. Alejandra is fulfilling her dream. She is making a difference.

We pray that our dreams of making a difference can be made our life's reality and that our example, like Alejandra's will let others know of our faith in our God of love.

*Elena Huegel, Global Ministries missionary, serves the Pentecostal Church of Chile (IPC) as an environmental and Christian education specialist at the Shalom Center and to other Latin American countries.*

**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.



**Children's Worship Sunday**  
**June 10, 2012 at 10 AM**  
**"The Circle of God's Welcome"**



Wipe off your shoes and come into the "home of Christ's friends." Come worship with us as the children and youth of the RHCC, UCC, S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School, lead us in a service of extravagant welcome and hospitality, inviting us to prayerfully and faithfully ask what it means to be welcome in the circle of God's love.

**Come Join the Circle!**