



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)

## May 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)

## Global Missionaries Coming to RHCC!



Please join the  
Global Missions Committee  
and the Missions Board  
in welcoming

**Ken and Betty Frank**  
**Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.**

The Franks are Global Ministers who have been working as educational missionaries overseas for 41 years, and have been serving in Turkey since 1982. They work with maintaining the American Board schools and hospital in Turkey and are also involved in Muslim-Christian dialogue, refugee/migrant work, ecumenical relations, and interpreting Turkey and their work for visitors. Here at RHCC, the Franks will be discussing their work in Turkey and also touching on Christian/Muslim relations. Please come and enjoy some food, fellowship and wonderful conversation. A light dinner will be served to welcome the Franks, as is the RHCC way! If you would like more information or would like to sign up, please see Meghan Montana or call 203-640-2386.



My dear friends,

**Happy Easter!**

Yes, that's correct – Happy Easter! Or more appropriately, I should say “Happy Eastertide!” In the earlier days of the church's life, the word “Eastertide” was more common, referring to an entire season, not just one day of joyous celebration. For while the appearance of the Risen Christ to those first disciples early in the morning is the reason for the glorious “Alleluias!” we proclaim, Easter means so much more than that.

Eastertide is the season for reflecting and discerning on how the world and how each of us is different because of the resurrection. Rev. John M. Buchanan, in a column in Christian Century magazine poses the question this way: **“What does it mean to live in a world in which a resurrection happened?”**

During Good Friday service, people in the congregation went to a prayer station that invited them to look through the newspaper and find a place where suffering, struggle, confusion, and pain exists in the world. They tore out the article from the paper, marked it with a cross and placed it on one of the bulletin boards in Chapin Hall.

For Easter, this bulletin board was covered with white netting and the words “HE IS RISEN” placed on it. In the resurrection of Jesus, God tells us that the cross is not the last word or the last experience in life. In the resurrection, God makes us a promise, a promise that the proclamation “He is Risen!” transforms all of life.

As the mystic and teacher Esther de Waal writes, “The promise is not that we shall escape the hard things but that we shall be given the grace to face them, to enter into them, and to come through them. “

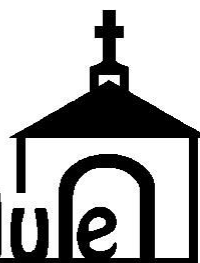
Take a look at the bulletin board in Chapin Hall – or read the morning paper or listen to the evening news. Look again at the places in the world or in your own life where struggle and death abound. Then take a deeper look and see if you can also find a place where love, compassion, grace, hope, and peace emerge...or where **you** can bring those same gifts that Jesus teaches us to give, for that is how we live as Easter people. That is how we live proclaiming that resurrection makes a difference in our lives and in the life of the world.

**Happy Eastertide!**

Blessings,  
Donna

# May

## Worship Schedule



**May 6**      **Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**Communion Sunday**

Scripture: Acts 8:26-40

The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

Sermon: "I Love to Tell the Story"

**May 13**      **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Mother's Day – Recognition of Great Grandmothers**

**Quilts to be displayed and blessed**

Scripture: John 15:9-17

Meghan D. Young

Sermon: "You've Got a Friend"

**May 20**      **Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**Ascension Sunday**

Scriptures: Acts 1:1-10

The Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

Sermon: "Can I Get A Witness?"

**May 27**      **Pentecost Sunday**

Scripture: Romans 8:22-27

Meghan D. Young

Sermon: "With Sighs Too Deep"

**Amazing Grace – An Epic New Musical**  
**June 10<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM**

*Join RHCC for "Amazing Grace" playing at Goodspeed Musicals'  
Norma Terris Theatre in Chester, CT.*

Storms. Slavery. Romance. Redemption. Prepare to be swept away by this epic musical saga about John Newton, a rebellious slave trader, and the woman who never lost faith in him. While fighting the raging seas and his own despair, Newton's life is suddenly transformed - igniting a quest to end the scourge of slavery. Based on a true story of the man who penned the world's most recognizable song, it's a powerful musical you will never forget.

*Tickets are \$43. The age advisory is PG.*

*If you are interested in joining RHCC for this show,  
please contact Meghan Young at [Meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:Meghan@rhccucc.org).*



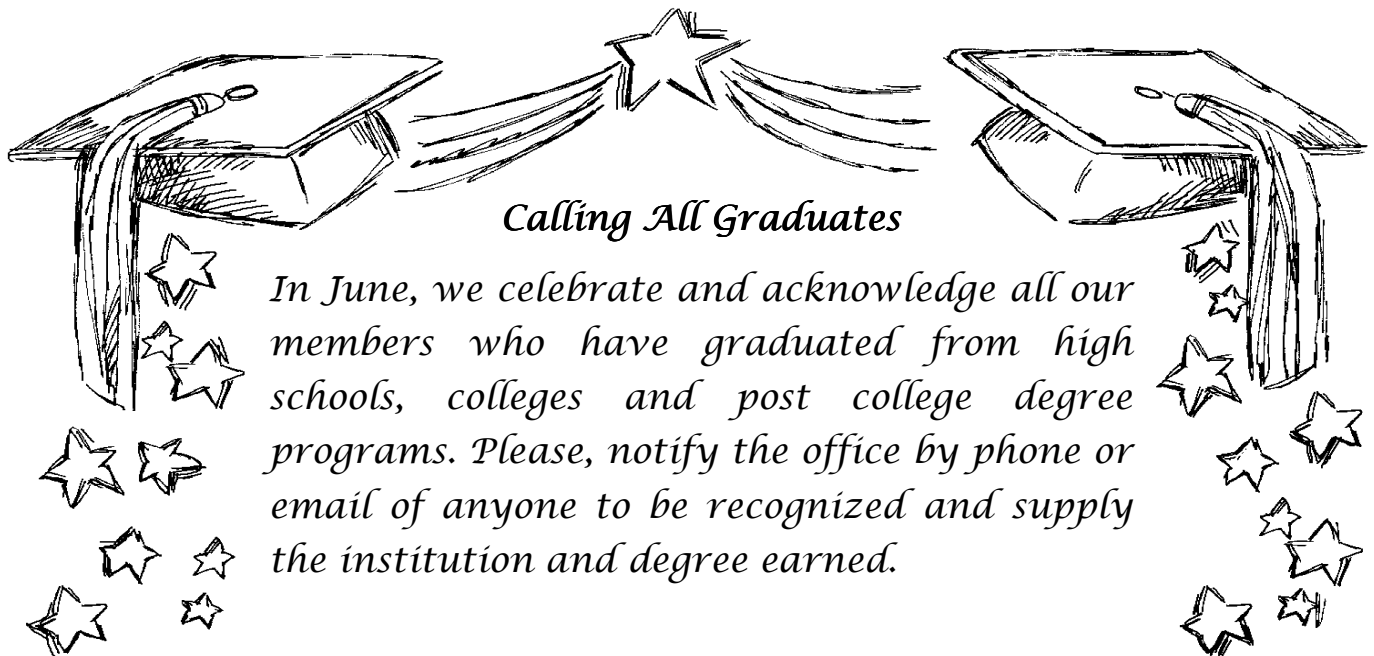
As the 2 years of my term as senior deacon have come to an end it is a cause for reflection on my time with RHCC and my spiritual journey, in general.

My life, more or less, divides into 20 year intervals. The early years were with the Congregational church “The Heart of the Highlands” – Newton Highlands, Ma. As a young married wife and mother of 3 it seemed important for us all to share the same religion as Catholics. During my 40-somethings I entered the work-a-day world and as the children left our home in various stages I had no strong affiliation with any church.

Now, in my 60-somethings I have come full circle to “The Friendly Church in the Center”. RHCC has become my spiritual home where everyone is asked to participate in the worship life. Together we share and rejoice in God’s abundant blessings. There is a place for the gifts and talents of all members and that has been especially true for me. I realize that my time as a new member did not really qualify me to serve on the Diaconate, but the support and suggestions of so many helpful, friendly, experienced members and the guidance of our gifted pastors has given me confidence and encouragement to grow my faith. I am, truly, one of the lives we have changed.

With the new senior team of Bill Hoffman and Don Pagnucco, I will, with the help of God, continue, in Faith with the ministry and membership at RHCC,

Stephanie



## STREETSCAPE PROJECT UPDATE

The Streetscape project is set to begin the first week in May. Town employees report the sequence of construction has been changed from its original plan. The contractors will begin work on the beautification project on the Silas Deane corner, move to building the cul de sac on Church Street, and then work on the Center Street part of the project (at the back entrance of the church). The anticipated start date for the Center Street portion is the middle of June, although as with all construction, there will be delays and readjustments. This will enable the church nursery school to finish up its school year with the least amount of interruption.

The contractor and town are committed to enabling as much access as possible to the church during the week and on the weekends. During working hours, some streets and access may be closed off due to construction projects; at night and weekends, things will be as open as possible. However, streets and sidewalks will be in various stages of construction, and they will be gravel before they are paved. 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.

During all phases of the project, expected to continue throughout the summer, parking will be impacted. Even when there is access, the road is likely to be gravel and unsteady. **In addition to the parking in the town hall lot directly across the street, people who are able are invited to use the town hall parking lot (next to the Post Office) and walk to the church.** This simple act of kindness and hospitality will enable those with more limited mobility to park nearer the church.

When the project begins on Center Street, there will be a limited amount of time when handicapped access will be limited. In order to accommodate all folks in worship, especially those that have limited mobility, there is the possibility that service sometime during June will be moved. We have been told that we can use the Town Hall Chambers for service, and another meeting space for coffee hour. We will make appropriate announcements – via worship, email, web site, telephone answering system, and ushers to point people in the right direction.

The church and the town continue to be good neighbors and will continue to meet together to ensure a smooth transition to the end result of this project – a town center and a beautiful setting for the church in the town center. This will enable 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 May

## James 1:27

*“Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.”*

It can be very difficult to find words from scripture that speak to one of the most immediate tasks at hand. Not so this month as the Board for Missions presses on with our commitment to global missions. We’ve committed to a new venture helping to support orphans in Rwanda.

A line item in the new budget was established for the *Inyana League for Rwandan Children and Youth*. To date, the league’s efforts have largely been to support the Orphanage of Little Sister of Jesus – Kigali, Rwanda. Many of these orphans are now of college age. The Missions Board has voted to dedicate some monies from a special bequest (\$6,000), which will provide a 4-year college education to one recipient.

To draw that parallel to scripture was easy, but led me to thinking about widows, not just our *literal* definition of the word but in a broader sense asking *“who are the widows of today’s world?”* As family circles have become broader and re-defined, we find people in many situations of widowhood: single moms and dads abandoned by partners who offer no support, common marriage couples who have lost a partner through death or separation, same sex life partners who have lost a partner only to receive no benefits, support, or recognition for their loss. Whom else do we see alone, grieving, and struggling in the world? As we recognize those in need, withholding judgment, thus we are called to ministry: *“compassion is a natural feeling, which, by moderating the violence of love of self in each individual, contributes to the preservation of the whole species. It is this compassion that hurries us without reflection to the relief of those who are in distress.”* Jean-Jacques Rousseau, (moral philosopher, 1712-1778).

We are all called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and become missionaries in his name. The Board for Missions strives to provide opportunities for all our church family, regardless of age, talents or limitations. Please read the upcoming events and projects to “find your place” as we all are a part of this ongoing ministry.

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE:**

**Sunday, May 6, Walk Against Hunger – 2:00 PM** (Check-in begins at 1:00)

Join our RHCC team for a day of fun! The walkers will have a lunch at the church before proceeding to the check-in location in Hartford.

You can sign up on-line to walk or donate: <http://site.foodshare.org/gotorhcc>.

Flyers are also posted throughout the church and on the Mission’s bulletin board.

All ages are welcome! Contact Cindy Hunt (860) 257-1602 or Bob Carberry (860) 563-8311 to learn more!

**"Harvest Now"** - Food for those in need in Connecticut. This is a food growing charity that works with faith-based organizations. If you have a vegetable garden can you donate fresh produce to Connecticut's food bank system?

For details contact: Linda Calcagni 860-721-9448, or [lindacal@cox.net](mailto:lindacal@cox.net)

**Mother's Day** Tool and Blanket Cards will be available in May

**Father's Day** Tool and Blanket Cards will be available in June

**Sunday, May 27th - Special Offering, Strengthen the Church**

A special Pentecost offering will be collected to Strengthen the Church, which will help us, through OCWM, to strengthen our connection to the wider church community, and help churches right here in our area. Strengthen the Church grows the UCC's future by funding [new church](#) starts and invigorating existing congregations, nurturing lay and pastoral leadership, building [youth](#) and [young adult](#) ministries, and supporting the [God is Still Speaking Ministry](#) and its extravagant welcome for all within the UCC. All gifts are directed to activities and programs of your church's local conference as well as the [UCC's national ministries](#).

**Youth Mission News**

Board member Sarah Mosure is working with Meghan Young on organizing one or more local projects this summer. Ideas include: helping out at the Cromwell Children's Home, Hands on Hartford, Habitat for Humanity, and Manna. Weekend trip possibilities include: a camp in Boston or visiting the Heifer International site in Rutland, Massachusetts. Stay tuned for more information!

**THINGS TO WATCH FOR:**

- "Whom Do We Serve?" a booklet with detailed information about the organizations supported by you through benevolence contributions.

..-"WHY BILOXI?" a DVD that partially chronicles RHCC's mission trips to Biloxi, MS, and includes interviews with recipients of Back Bay Mission services.

Since last month, your generosity has helped the following:

\$1,057 -One Great Hour of Sharing, offering on March 18th

\$250 - Rocky Hill Human Services - a matching donation from the special Missions fund to help a disabled Rocky Hill resident equip a new apartment.

\$2000 - Foodshare CT

\$1,000 - Scheduled disbursement to the Special Missions Fund.

\$439 - Easter offering for the Trevor Project, which works to minimize suicide amongst Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender youth.

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 WALK AGAINST HUNGER 2012

**Sunday, May 6th!**

Please consider supporting our Missions Project of helping to raise money for Foodshare by making a donation to our RHCC Walk Team. Our goal this year is \$2,500; we want to help Foodshare provide food to needy families in Connecticut. You can donate through our church team webpage at <http://site.foodshare.org/goto/rhcc> or see a Missions Board Member to give your donation. Any amount will help us to reach our goal and will be greatly appreciated. Thanks so much for your consideration! Cindy Hunt, 2012 Walk Team Captain, (860) 257-1602 for more information.

## Happy Mother's Day!

We extend an invitation to all great-grandmothers to worship with us on Mother's Day, May 13. During this worship we will proudly recognize our great-grandmothers of the church. If you are recently a new great-grandmother or if your name is not on this list, please contact the church office and let us know.

Thelma Backe  
Charlotte Bacon  
Carol Baran  
Ruby Bennett  
Mary-Edith Bowman  
Barbara Burgess  
Del Buswell  
Duffy Carruthers  
Carole Christopher  
Amy Cooke  
Evelyn Danforth  
Doris Day  
Joan Dean  
Phylis Dexter

Jeannette Doane  
Myrtle Furman  
Lois Griswold  
Shirley Griswold  
Marion Hale  
Jean Hamilton  
Janet Hansen  
Midge Harvey  
Doris Hick  
Anne King  
Gladys Kitchens  
Janet Kunzelman  
Eleanor Maynard  
Ella Michaud

Betty Mooney  
Irene Moore  
Jean Palmer  
Emily Rosenthal  
Doris Schreier  
Thelma Somes  
Sylvia Steucek  
Midge Sword  
Louise Tangarone  
Joyce Toft  
Liz Vann  
Alice Weil  
Dot Wenzel



### **Music Search Committee Update**

It has been a busy month for the committee! We have spent some time going over resource material, reviewing interview processes, advertising, and discussing many applicant resume's. We have been blessed to have a significant number of qualified applicants who want to make their new home here at RHCC. The committee will begin initial interviews of candidates in May and then will perform follow up interviews with those that we feel we would like to call back. We are looking forward to the work ahead and to meeting our pool of applicants!



- |       |   |    |  |
|-------|---|----|--|
| May 2 | Wendy Moser<br>Jeanne Timrud<br>Cristina Connor<br>Liam Flynn                     | 15 | Jay Jensen<br>Mark Pawlich<br>Matthew Yorgensen                                |
| 3     | Beverly Ahlberg<br>Cynthia Sweezy<br>Laura Walker                                 | 16 | Jean Hamilton<br>Hilaire Leavitt   |
| 4     | Christopher Sheehan<br>Ben Bellizzi   | 19 | Alana Hokans   |
| 5     | Sara Toft<br>Elizabeth Burnham<br>Abigail Bellizzi                                | 20 | Judy Milles<br>Abigail Charamut  |
| 6     | Joan Tennyson<br>Jane Lataille  | 21 | David Kromas<br>Karen Hoffman<br>Tate Veley<br>Emily Grandell<br>Megan Grandel |
| 7     | Brianna Calderon<br>Charles Vassilopoulos   | 22 | Louise Butts   |
| 9     | Chris Mullins<br>Kim Rutigliano   | 25 | Bob Hamilton<br>Barbara Carlson<br>James McLean                                |
| 12    | Waverly Kelley<br>Louise Risley   | 27 | Priscilla Lexa<br>Laurie Pipke<br>Doug Elliot<br>Carol Marshall                |
| 13    | Adam Carberry<br>Mark Carberry<br>Sara Harvey                                     | 28 | Don Pagnucco<br>Karen Coughlin<br>Stephanie Kelley<br>Justin Ross              |
| 14    | Steve Smith<br>Paul Burnham<br>Randy Pulling<br>Christine Kainamura<br>Bob Furman | 29 | Jim DeGiovanni   |
|       |   | 30 | Robin Welch  |
|       |   | 31 | Francesca Moot   |

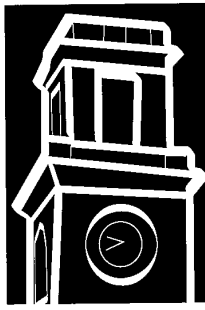


**Bill and Janet Pierson**  
were married on  
**May 4, 1963**

**Jim and Lois Stevens**  
were married on  
**May 14, 1955**

**Al and Joan Diaz**  
were married on  
**May 16, 1964**

**Bob and Fidle Lane**  
were married on  
**May 19, 1951**



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**  
**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**Communion 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday**  
**10:00 a.m. with childcare**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
		<b>1</b> 7:00pm <b>Boards/Committee</b>	<b>2</b> 9:00am <b>Quilters</b> 12:30pm <b>Bible Study</b> 7:30pm <b>Adult Choir</b>
<b>6 Communion</b> <b>Walk Against Hunger</b> 11:30am <b>Lunch Bunch</b>	<b>7</b> 2:00pm <b>The Lodge Svc</b> 5:30pm <b>Yoga with Lynn</b> 7:00pm <b>Women's AA</b> 7:30pm <b>Bell Choir</b>	<b>8</b> 8:30am <b>Breakfast Club</b> 6:30pm <b>Daisy Scouts</b> 7:00pm <b>CE Meeting</b>	<b>9</b> 9:00am <b>Quilters</b> 12:30pm <b>Bible Study</b> 7:30pm <b>Adult Choir</b>
<b>13 Mother's Day</b> 11:30am <b>Lunch Bunch</b>	<b>14</b> 5:30pm <b>Yoga with Lynn</b> 7:00pm <b>Women's AA</b> 7:00pm <b>RHCCNS Mtg</b> 7:30pm <b>Bell Choir</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 9:00am <b>Quilters</b> 12:30pm <b>Bible Study</b> 6:00pm <b>Cedar Hollow</b> 7:30pm <b>Adult Choir</b>
<b>20</b> 11:30am <b>Lunch Bunch</b>	<b>21</b> 5:30pm <b>Yoga with Lynn</b> 7:00pm <b>Women's AA</b> 7:00pm <b>Bell Choir</b>	<b>22</b> 6:30pm <b>Daisy Scouts</b>	<b>23</b> 9:00am <b>Quilters</b> 12:30pm <b>Bible Study</b> 7:30pm <b>Adult Choir</b>
<b>27 Pentecost Sunday</b> <b>Strengthen the Church Offering</b> 11:30am <b>Lunch Bunch</b>	<b>28 Office Closed</b> 8:00am <b>Parade</b> 5:30pm <b>Yoga with Lynn</b> 7:00pm <b>Women's AA</b> 7:30pm <b>Bell Choir</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:00am <b>Quilters</b> 12:30pm <b>Bible Study</b> 7:30pm <b>Adult Choir</b>

**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		

# 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 and Christian Education Director**

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

**Will Kanute, Director of Music**

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>3</b> 5:30pm TOPS 4:00pm Community Event	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 9:30am Yoga with Lynn
<b>10</b> 5:30pm TOPS 6:00pm <b>Meeting with missionaries</b> 7:00pm <b>Theology on Tap</b> 8:00pm Men's AA	<b>11</b> 5:30pm <b>Youth Revival</b>	<b>12</b> 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 9:30am Yoga with Lynn 6:00pm <b>Dinner/Movie</b>
<b>17</b> 5:30pm TOPS 7:00pm <b>Women's Bible Study</b> 8:00pm Men's AA	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 9:30am Yoga with Lynn 6:30pm <b>Youth Talent Show</b>
<b>24</b> 5:30pm TOPS 7:00pm <b>Fair Meeting</b> 8:00pm Men's AA	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 9:30am Yoga with Lynn
<b>31</b> 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA		

**Carol Harvey**  
will be on vacation  
May 3-4, and  
May 10 – 21  
Returning to work  
on May 22

**Donna Manocchio**  
will be away  
May 21-25  
for a study week



**ANNUAL REPORT  
DEADLINE**

**MAY 10**



## ... **Stewards – one and all!...**

### **Count Yourself Blessed!**

THANK YOU to all who have turned in their pledge cards! We are blessed by your gift of faith and generosity. If you have not turned in your pledge card, you are invited to do so as soon as possible by mailing it to the church or bringing it by the office. We are encouraging all pledges to be in by the Annual Meeting on June 3 and we look forward to a celebration of blessing, generosity, joy, and renewed commitment to the mission and ministry of the church

During worship on April 22, Donna invited members of the congregation to record their blessings on individual paper flowers, which later were added to the Garden of Blessings in the front hall and narthex. Take a few moments now and then to read them. Add your own if you were not with us on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. *God is still speaking. . . as we continue to count our blessings.*

The Stewardship Committee



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

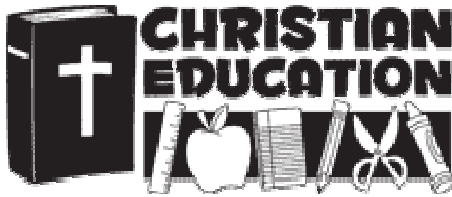
How many of you enjoy a nice hot cup of coffee? I know I do. But, what tastes even better to me is the justice that the coffee our church serves represents.

All 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. JWM, one of the four Covenanted Ministries in the United Church of Christ, empowers individuals and local congregations across the nation to do advocacy for justice in their communities and in the world.

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)



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

### **Church School**

In April we started our final unit of the year, *Lost and Found*. During this unit we are hearing stories about a lost sheep, a lost coin, and a lost son. These three parables appear together in the Gospel of Luke (chapter 15) and teach the same lesson of unconditional love. As we explore what it means to be lost and found, these stories draw us in because they show us what life is about – and they also confront us with the good news of our awesome and loving God.

When we finish this unit in late May, we are looking forward to planning worship for Children's Sunday, and sharing what we have learned this year about God's welcoming love with the entire congregation.

*Don't forget to learn along with us in the weekly bulletins.*

### **Youth Group**

Youth Group continues to meet for lunch bunch, and has started work on planning several service projects for the summer. A few youth group members also joined us for *All Night In The Garden*, our holy week vigil, which offered time and sacred space for prayer and deep reflection as the chapel was transformed into a candlelit garden.

### **Gatherings**

On Holy Saturday we held our annual Easter Egg Scavenger hunt that told the Easter story, and we had a time of worship in which we talked about how we welcome Jesus, our "Forever Friend," into our hearts at Easter. With help, we also transformed cloth shroud, containing our prayers, into a cloth for the communion table in the chapel. All during Lent, the church school, as well as members of the congregation, wrote blessings and prayers on different colored shroud. Knit together they are a reminder of God's love and the rich communion it forms.

A couple of us also gathered on Global Youth Service Day, for a day of environmentally focused service projects in Hartford, hosted by Our Piece of the Pie. What a great day of fellowship and living out God's love by serving our neighbors!

## **You are invited to 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.

***In order to make this awesome, spirit-filled, faith formation opportunity happen, we need at least 10 families and adults to sign-up by Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.***

**Contact Meghan Young at [meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org) to sign-up**

## 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, May 6	Communion Sunday, Family Worship
Sunday, May 13	Week 4: Lost and Found
Sunday, May 20	Week 5: Lost and Found
Sunday, May 27	Children's Sunday Preparation Begins

### Youth Group Calendar: May

Date	Fellowship Gatherings
Sunday, May 6	Lunch Bunch (6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>h</sup> Grade) → 11:30 AM – 1 PM
Friday, May 11	Youth Night Out – UCC Youth Revival ( <i>See Details Below</i> )
Sunday, May 13	Lunch Bunch (6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>h</sup> Grade) → 11:30 AM – 1 PM
Sunday, May 20	Lunch Bunch (6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>h</sup> Grade) → 11:30 AM – 1 PM
Sunday, May 27	Lunch Bunch (6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>h</sup> Grade) → 11:30 AM – 1 PM

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Youth Revival!

**WHO:** Youth Group (Grades 6-12)

**WHEN:** Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-9 PM

**WHAT:** Catch the Spirit, and raise your voices! Join the RHCC Youth Group as we meet for dinner at the church, and then join with youth group's from across the Connecticut Conference of the UCC for the second annual Youth Revival.

**WHERE:** Meet at RHCC. Transportation will be provided to and from the Youth Revival in Hartford.

**For more information or to sign-up, contact Meghan Young at [meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org).  
Sign-up is requested by Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.**

### 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)).

### Silver Lake Open House – Sunday, May 6, 2-4 PM

Learn more about Silver Lake and their incredible faith and fun filled camps. Come up for the day and take a tour of the facilities to see what you can expect when you come to camp. For more information visit: [www.silverlakeect.org/events](http://www.silverlakeect.org/events). If you plan to attend the Open House, please call Jenn at 860-364-5526 ex 10 with the name and number of people attending our party.

### Childcare Committee Seeking 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.

## **A Community of Faith Formation at RHCC, UCC**

Faith Formation is a lifelong process, journeyed both individually and as a community of faith. Faith Formation recognizes that we are always learning through the Holy Spirit, the Word of God, prayer, worship, and God's presence in our lives. As we are formed through participation in the life and ministry of a faith community, we enter into deeper relationships with one another and Jesus the Christ; we practice spiritual disciplines in home, community, and congregation; we explore our Christian traditions and the scriptures; we move together, seeking, and practicing in worship; and we engage in stewardship, justice, and service.

Christian Education does not happen in a silo. Rather it is found at the intersection of intergenerational congregational worship, mission, and ministry in the lifelong process of faith formation. Over the last couple of years the Board for Christian Education, has moved towards a model of faith formation that recognizes faith is lived and practiced in community. The RHCC Constitution states that "the Board for Christian Education shall develop and promote educational opportunities for all Church members and youth." As we move forward in this model of faith formation we hope to provide opportunities for ALL church members as well as children and youth to actively live into our faith as we journey together.

We look forward to you participating in this conversation with us.

In Faith,

The Board for Christian Education

Brian Donahue, Caryn Doten, David Lewis, Jennifer Martin, Marjie Sheathelm,  
Kristy Solie, Sue Speers, Liz Pulling

### **News from Your Fair Committee**

Are you planning on watching the Rocky Hill Memorial Day Parade? On Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup> come join us at our refreshment stand, while we watch the parade go by. You'll be "in luck with a buck", as we will be offering coffee, water, donuts, treats and souvenirs all for \$1 each! Hope to see you there!

We want to keep you updated on the Country Fair scheduled for Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. This year we will **not** be having the Toy Booth and we sadly say goodbye to the Arts & Antiques booth. We want to say a big thank you to Hilaire Leavitt for all her hardwork and the dedication she has given to the fair for many years.

As you are doing your spring cleaning, we would like to ask you to keep fair donations in mind. We are looking for dishes/glassware/tablecloths/napkins for the Kitchen Shop. Upgrading your PC, laptop or Ipod? - Please think about donating your old electronics to our Electronics Booth. Buying that gift card from Scrip-sure? - perhaps you might purchase an additional one to donate to the Silent Auction. The Jewelry booth is always looking for men's, women's and children's jewelry, as well as scarves, hats and purses. Found some unused tools in the shed? - feel free to send them our way!

If you are interested in getting involved with the fair, please contact any of the committee members - we are always looking for volunteers and can promise you a rewarding experience!

Phyllis Wilkey, Chair; Deb Copes; Neal Cox; Lynn McKenna; Don Pagnucco, Polly Pagnucco; Elaine Somes; Candy Smith; Jim Stevens; Nancy Flynn, Treasurer; Marsha Hoffman, consultant



Our fundraising activities have begun for our Adventure in the City summer educational program. This program is outstanding and helps the needy children in Hartford by honing their skills so they can have a better education. Please, if you can, donate to this most worthy program.

### **Housing**

Rev. Ed Ayala and Ralph Knighton are developing a five-year housing plan. This plan will enable residents the access to affordable housing and rentals. It will also protect CAC's financial commitment much more than it had previously. We will expand to the Northeast and Clay Arsenal neighborhoods. I will serve on the real estate committee.

### **Comprehensive Community Development**

Our staff person, Denise Best, heads up this very important neighborhood coalition. Denise is involved in the "Town Center Project" on Woodland St and Albany Ave. The proposals are for a Jazz supper club and several small retail businesses.

She is also working on public safety, Upper Albany Merchants Association, preventing the closing of the Blue Hills Post Office, Housing Task Force, and many other programs. As you can see, she is extremely busy in making people's lives better.

### **Health Care**

Damaris Whittaker and Michelle Murdrick continue to work with our legislators and many others throughout the state to make health care affordable and available to all state residents.

I personally want to thank our Missions Board for their continued financial support for the Adventures in the City program and the Christian Activities Council's general fund.

God Bless,

Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio

Delegate, Member of Board of Directors



Join Us for Pot Luck Dinner and a Movie  
Saturday, May 12, 2012  
6:00 pm in Chapin Hall.

The film showing is  
"I. Q."

**Starring Walter Matthau, Meg Ryan and Tim Robbins**

All the world knows about Einstein the scientific genius. But what about Einstein the matchmaker. *I.Q.* puts this fanciful notion to the test and comes up with winning results in this fun, warmhearted romantic comedy that has critics and audiences cheering.

Walter Matthau gives one of his greatest performances as the famed physicist who must solve a particularly vexing problem of how to lure his spirited niece, Catherine (Meg Ryan) away from her stuffy British finance (Stephen Fry) and into the arms of her perfect love match...a sweet-natured auto mechanic (Tim Robbins). It will take all the professor's smarts (and wiles) to transform the grease monkey into a shining knight. But never underestimate the mind of Uncle Albert - or the power of love. **Hope to see you all there!**



Thank You

To our church family,

Thank you for all the cards, calls, visits, and prayers during my recent illness. It made a lot to both Bea and I.

Will be back soon,

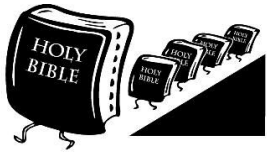
Bob Simmons and Bea Donahue

To all church members and our family,

A little late, but I want to thank you for the Easter daffodils. Also for my birthday card. It's hard to believe I made it to 96!

Thanks again for your thoughts and prayers,

Ruby Bennett



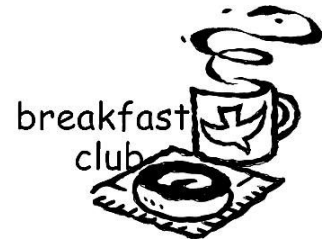
## **Pastor's Wednesday Bible Study**

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.

**Pastor's Bible Study**

## **Breakfast Club – Tuesday, May 8 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, May 10 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, May 17 at 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!



## **Fuller Scholarship**

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

There will also be application packets in the church office.

The deadline for submitting your application and other documents is May 15<sup>th</sup>.



## May 2012: What is Church?

Written by Lizzy Beach

*When Barnabas came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose...Acts 11:23*

They say 'home is where the heart is', and my heart is most definitely here in Swaziland! I have grown in my understanding and love for the diversity in the human family. I recently visited Lavumisa, in the southern part of the country, where it is very dry, and there are very few jobs. It is common for a home to house 15 people, it is also common that only one person is employed, two if they are a lucky family. If there is a man in the family, he will often go to stay where the work is, and come home once a month to see his family and bring home his paycheck. In these homes, it is never the 'traditional family' structure; it is most often a grandmother, a mother/wife possibly, maybe a father/husband, some adult children (20s/30s, unmarried), often a baby or two of the adult children, and some younger school age children - then there are the adopted children (of aunts, uncles or sisters who have died from AIDS), who are now incorporated into the family. They are not treated differently; they are simply called daughter or son. No one gets a free ride and laziness is not an option when food must be found to feed so many. Everyone is expected to contribute to the household through work, to bring home some income, or by doing household chores.

Kukhany'okusha Zion Church (KZC), our Global Ministries mission partner in Swaziland, is responding at this point of deepest need – knowing that prayer isn't enough to cure HIV, bring parents back from the grave, or make food magically appear on the table. Zionists have a long, and strong tradition of helping the needy, even though most of them are needy themselves. These people of faith do not waiver. They pray and pray and pray – and sing - for hours! and they work very hard to help others. They know – while a new church building would be nice – church is in the heart of the people. And even if (when) the church falls down, God will build it back up. These are a faithful and loving people, who give all they can to their families, communities, and churches. I know this – I have seen it.

Pray that our faith may be as vital, lively and giving as the church of Swaziland, and that they will sense the hope and care we send to them through our prayers.

*Lizzy Beach, Global Ministries long-term volunteer, assists with youth development programming and sustainability with the Kukhany'okusha Cares for Children Project (KCCP), a project of Kukhany'Okusha Zion Church in Swaziland.*

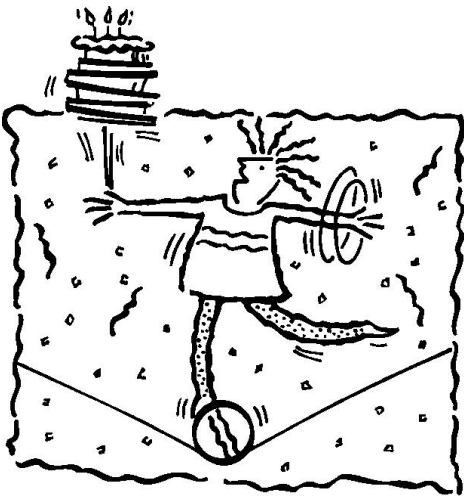
**ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill CT 06067  
Telephone # 860 529-4167

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Hartford, CT 06010

Permit #7

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



**ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
YOUTH TALENT SHOW**

**SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2012 at 6:30 P.M.  
FROM OUR YOUNGEST AMONG US  
TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL TALENT  
WE NEED YOU!**

SING, DANCE, JUGGLE, TELL A JOKE

**"WE KNOW YOU HAVE THE TALENT  
NOW WE NEED YOU TO SHOW YOUR CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS..."**

**SIGN UP IN CHAPIN HALL**

**PLEASE FILL OUT A TALENT SHEET by April 22nd**

**Any Questions please contact ELAINE SOMES 860-563-4099**

**REHEARSALS TO BE ANNOUNCED**