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Vol. 24 No. 10 – November 1, 2010

November Newsletter

Editor – Carol Harvey

RHCC e-mail address – office@rhccucc.org

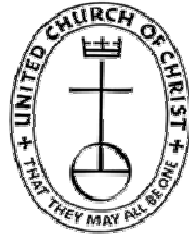
Website: www.rhccucc.org

Office Hours – 8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday

8:00am-noon Friday

Sunday Worship Services – 10:00 a.m.

Childcare Available/Handicap Accessible



"FRIEND-raising" Sunday

November 14 at 10:00 AM Worship

Bring a friend to church! We have a beautiful sanctuary, a dedicated congregation, a new senior minister, and a message that God is Still Speaking to everyone! We are an open and affirming family of faith, the friendly church at the center of Rocky Hill sharing the love of Christ in our church and in our community. Let's share the good news with our friends and neighbors, our family and work colleagues. Please invite someone - or two or three - to join you on Sunday, November 14th. Let's worship and pack the pews!



Beloved friends in Christ,

While this is not my first letter in THE MOUSE, it is my first as your senior pastor. I write the day after the installation service - a marvelous celebration of God's grace in the life of the

church! I want to begin with a word of gratitude - to God and to each of you. I am humbled and privileged to be called to continue in ministry with and among you as we seek to share the good news of Christ with all people and in all places. Your words of encouragement, offers of assistance, and commitment to prayer are a source of strength and blessing.

In addition to all the activities that mark this season of the church year, these first few months will include a time of transitioning. Transitioning from associate pastor to senior pastor in the same church has many blessings: we know a good deal about each other's stories and faith journeys; we've built a strong connection together; we can get started on our ministry together right away! However, sometimes we can be lulled into a sense of familiarity that can keep us from sharing our joys and hopes, our dreams and visions with one another. Please do continue to share with me what makes your heart sing, what struggles you carry, what hopes you hold for RHCC, and how you would like to share your gifts with the church. I promise to do the same.

Part of the transition will be a physical one. I will be moving my office to the one next to the sanctuary. Within the next weeks, with the Trustee's help, the Pew Crew's painting expertise, and a few trips to IKEA, the office will be transformed into a place of work and welcome, a place to pray, ask questions and share stories of God's presence our lives. There will be a few special items for our children and youth, so watch for the transformation and stop by and visit!

One of the first meetings during my first "official" week as senior pastor was to attend the Council's visioning session. We spent several hours in Chapin Hall discussing next steps and possibilities for embodying our vision in all areas of church life. There was much creative energy - the Holy Spirit was doing her good work! - and you will soon hear more about how you can add your ideas and commitment to the circle of conversation and action!

I look forward to discovering together the ways God will be among us and call us into deeper faith, community, and mission in the months and years ahead!

Blessings,

Donna



What a blessing! After an interim time that challenged us to examine our history and evaluate our future we are quickly poised to move forward. With Donna installed as our senior pastor and Meghan performing her many roles we, the membership, feel a sense of joy that our church life is on a steady course to sail into the Season of Thanksgiving and the watchful, waiting of Advent. God is good and we are grateful.

The Diaconate is excited about the opportunity to assist Donna in worship services. However, this assistance does not fall only to us or even to life deacons. Any lay member can fill the role of liturgist and we are hoping that many folks will volunteer to participate. The children and youth at their service last June should inspire us all. By becoming actively involved each participant will be more engaged.

The handicapped accessible door is a major hurdle in being a welcoming facility. With the perseverance of the Trustees and several volunteers - it happened! Now that folks can easily enter our sanctuary we will endeavor to assure their comfort once within our beautiful worship space. Again, in coordination with the Trustees, there will be alterations made in the back of the sanctuary to better accommodate the chairs that are being used by many so members. This project enhances our vision objective to provide an “extravagant welcome” to all. More changes are being considered and pictures will be circulated.

Also, in an attempt to welcome new members we are planning a Friend Raising Sunday. Please, consider sharing our worship experience with a friend or relative. You may offer someone a sense of God’s grace that is missing in his or her life. That is also the morning we honor and remember the service of our Veterans. The following Sunday afternoon the pastors and deacons will host a short session we call “Getting to Know Us/You”. It provides prospective new members an opportunity to chat about their spiritual backgrounds, interests and to learn about RHCC and our church family activities.

As we concentrate on the purpose and meaning of our worship experience together it is important to have everyone involved and contributing. Your feedback is valuable; those aspects of our worship that move you and enrich you, those of our shared community that relate and reward, those that we could expand upon to be more meaningful.

In faith, Your Board of Deacons

Laurel Cole	Tom Fulda	Bill Hoffman	Gail Tine
Deb Copes	Judy Graham	Don Pagnucco	Val Triblets
Julie Dostie	Steph Heneghan	Candy Smith	



A Place at the Table

Summer has gone, and the Fall is treading on. The time for Harvest has come. Now is the time of year when we begin gathering our families, assembling our store of foodstuffs for the Winter, and feasting our way through the Holidays. Some of us. Though we live in a part of the world where food is often not an issue, there are many among us who live every day with food insecurity. Some we may even know, some we may never guess. But the truth is, while we begin preparing for Thanksgiving, the seminal feast of feasts, there will be some families who will not enjoy the bounty that we have become accustomed to. During Thanksgiving, we often think of those people, and respond in kind with donations to food shelters, trips to soup kitchens, drops to clothing drives, and various other activities to help out in whatever way we can. We do this joyfully and faithfully. And then the Holidays fly by and the food shelters and soup kitchens see a rapid decline in donations and volunteers. This is a very natural occurrence. But that means that those folks who were lucky enough to have a seat at the Thanksgiving table now go back to living in need. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could help feed those hungry families throughout the entire year, and not just during the Holidays? Guess what?? We can!! See below!!*

Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is a church of service. Your benevolence pledge every year supports many organizations. You have donated time and effort building houses, cooking, singing, providing comfort in many ways to people who truly need it. And while it may seem like there is always another collection, or another call to serve, we are always looking for more ways to help, more opportunities to see everyone at the table, with enough to eat, shelter, warmth, safety, and comfort. We seek ways to help encourage equality among God's people, an end to violence, and comfort to the sick and imprisoned. What other ways can we help? We can continue all the wonderful programs we have done all along, and in addition, we can pray for those among us who need help, we can offer an encouraging word, we can bring canned goods and dry goods to church every Sunday, we can get involved in a community organization, we can write a letter to our elected officials and encourage them to write legislation aimed at food insecurity, equal wages, housing assistance, and fuel affordability. (**Proverbs 31:8-9** - Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.) Finally, we can live our lives according to the words Jesus said, "When you do this for the least among you, you do this for me." Thank you so much for all you have done and continue to do for the least among us!

***Foodshare Turkey and a Twenty Drive – Sunday, November 21**

Foodshare has once again launched its **Turkey and a Twenty** campaign, and Rocky Hill Congregational Church UCC is going to lend a hand. We have signed up to collect Frozen Turkeys and Twenty dollar donations **on Sunday, November 21**, the week of Thanksgiving. The turkey is to give a local family a seat at the Holiday table, and the \$20 will help Foodshare feed those hungry families throughout the year!

Look for the sign up board in Chapin Hall and let us know you'll be participating, so we'll be prepared to deliver the turkeys to Foodshare! Our goal this year is 100 turkeys and 100 donations (\$2000). Bring your frozen turkey and a twenty dollar donation to the church anytime between 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. (Checks should be made out to FOODSHARE) See Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio or Stephanie Kelley for more information. Or check www.foodshare.org, and look for our team "Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC."

Neighbors in Need Special Offering

Thank you to all who donated to Neighbors in Need. We collected \$656.00 on Sunday, October 3. Neighbors in Need is the UCC's annual offering to support ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States, including the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM), justice and advocacy efforts, and direct service projects funded by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries.

Hands on Hartford Day of Service

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Day of Service on October 16. Thank you also to all who donated personal care items, and everyone who supported our very first church-wide all ages day of service! We look forward to other opportunities to gather and serve!

Hear are more opportunities to serve:

Project Toy Drive – Sunday, December 12

To benefit the children of women who are incarcerated at Niantic Prison. Bring new, unwrapped toys to church, and the toys will be delivered that afternoon to the Hartford Seminary, and distributed to the kids before the Christmas holiday. See Michael Bower or Pastor Donna for more information.

Back Bay Mission Trip – September 4-11, 2011

Sign Me Up! We are beginning to plan the next trip to Biloxi! There will be more information coming soon. This is a wonderful opportunity to help our neighbors on the Gulf Coast and to be part of the amazing ministry of Back Bay Mission. See Michael Bower, Lynne Lataille, or Pastor Donna for more information. Or talk to someone who has gone before! Or check out <http://www.thebackbaymission.org/>

Where did your Benevolence Donations go in October?

Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) - \$5000

Pakistan Relief Matching Contribution - \$50

Hartford Association UCC Annual Dues - \$876

Foodshare - \$1500

Mercy Housing and Shelter Corp - \$750

Peter's Retreat - \$500

Rocky Hill Human Services - \$1000

Yours in Faith,

Michael H. Bower, Board for Missions, Chair

Your Board for Missions are: David Bell – Treasurer, Michael H. Bower - Chair, Linda Calcagni, Bob Carberry, Dave Edwards, Tom Kainamura, Stephanie Kelley, Meghan Kelly, Marge Murk - Secretary, Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio

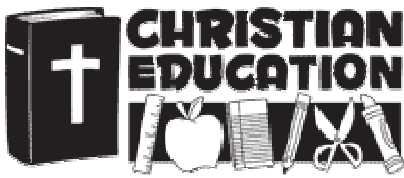


My soul magnifies the Lord, and my Spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

My dear friends,

Words cannot express the depth of gratitude I feel for all that you did to make the Senior Pastor Installation service and celebration a wonderful witness to God's love and the power of community. Visitors were welcomed and made to feel at home, the drum and vocal choirs provided music that invited people to into the presence and power of our living God, and the reception was a joyous feast! The beautiful stoles you gifted me will be worn with joy and honor. Thank you for all your generosity and I look forward to sharing ministry with you into the future that God is creating with and for us.

Blessings,
Donna



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

October has been a busy and fun month. We've settled into classes and chapel, which has brought with it wonderful singing and music opportunities. The youth group kicked-off and somehow found their way out of a moonlit corn maze. And, hopefully you've been following along with us in the weekly bulletin, as we work our way through the book of Genesis. This month we will be learning the story of Joseph and his coat of many colors, which will culminate with a special movie viewing. We hope you will continue to learn with us and ask questions as we get to know Joseph and his family!

November also brings new schedules and exciting events. Youth group will now be split in to two groups that will meet every week. Lunch Bunch will meet Sundays from 11:30 AM – 1 PM, and is open to 6th-8th graders. The High School Youth Group, open to 9th-12th graders, will meet weekly from 4 pm - 6 pm. Both groups will join together once a month for an evening activity.

Lastly, the end of November brings with it the season of Advent. We hope to see you ALL (that means you!) at our Advent Church Night, as we welcome in the season of Advent with a pot-luck dinner, crafts, worship, and more!

Here's What's Happening This Month:

Be sure to check the church website for details about events, as well as updates and changes to the calendars.

SPECIAL EVENTS: *You do not want to miss this!*

Date	Scripture/Lesson
Sunday, November 28	Advent Church Family Night: ALL invited!!! 5-7 PM Join us for a pot-luck dinner, crafts, and worship as we wait in anticipation during the season of Advent.

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

Date	Scripture/Lesson
Sunday, November 7	Communion Sunday, Family Worship
Sunday, November 14	Genesis 39-41 → "Joseph in Egypt"
Sunday, November 21	Thanksgiving Sunday: Turkey & A Twenty Genesis 42-46 → "Reuniting the family of Jacob"

Sunday, November 28	First Sunday of Advent <i>Movie</i> → Joseph: King of Dreams
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Lunch Bunch Calendar: November – Grades 6th-8th

Date	Event
Sunday, November 7	Lunch Bunch → 11:30 AM-1PM
Friday, November 12- Saturday, November 13	Youth Night In → 6 PM – 9:30 AM <i>Overnight Camp-in at RHCC, UCC</i>
Sunday, November 21	Lunch Bunch → 11:30 AM-1 PM
Sunday, November 28	Lunch Bunch → 11:30 AM-1PM

High School Youth Group Calendar: November – Grades 9th – 12th

Date	Event
Sunday, November 7	Youth Group → 4 PM – 6 PM
Friday, November 12- Saturday, November 13	Youth Night In → 6 PM – 9:30 AM <i>Overnight Camp-in at RHCC, UCC</i>
Sunday, November 21	Youth Group → 4 PM – 6 PM
Sunday, November 28	Youth Group → 4 PM – 6 PM

Ways to get involved and serve:

Safe Church Volunteers Needed!

Being a Safe Church can only happen with the help of the entire RHCC, UCC, church family. Every church school classroom (including the youth room) and youth event needs at least two adults present to be in compliance with the RHCC Safe Church policies. Safe Church Volunteers get to participate in discussion, crafts, and games, all while getting to know the children & youth of RHCC, UCC. If you're interested in being a safe church volunteer, even if it's just one time, please email Meghan Young at christianedrhcc@gmail.com to find out available times or sign-up in Chapin Hall!

Teachers Needed

Being a teacher is a wonderful way to get to know the children and youth of the RHCC, UCC, family. You get to learn, grow, and discover new things about your faith. Teachers rotate, and teach approximately 1-2 times a month. We are looking for a lead and assistant teachers. If you're interested in being a teacher, or have questions, please email Meghan Young at christianedrhcc@gmail.com.

Confirmation

On Sunday, October 31st there will be a confirmation dedication during worship, as the confirmation class begins their year of learning, discovering, and discerning within our faith community. Participation in confirmation means regular attendance in Sunday worship, acolyte responsibilities, participating in the life of the church, engaging with mentors, and attending class twice a month. If you would like more information about confirmation please contact Meghan Young at Meghan@rhccucc.org.

October – November Schedule:

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

Date	Class/Event	Times
Sunday, October 31	<i>WORSHIP:</i> Confirmation Dedication <i>CLASS:</i> Parent's Meeting & Orientation	10 AM Service 11:45 AM – 12:45 PM
Sunday, November 7	<i>CLASS:</i> The Bible	2-3:45 PM
Sunday, November 21	<i>SERVICE:</i> Turkey & A Twenty <i>EVENT:</i> Islam: Rumor & Reality	9:15 AM -11:30 AM 2-4 PM
Sunday, November 28	<i>CLASS:</i> Worship	2-3:45 PM

IMAGINE

Worship is an encounter with the living God; it is a place where we come together with others to be in the presence of divine mystery and grace. Worship is enhanced when we come prepared to meet the One who gathers us together. A new tool or practice for your preparation is called **IMAGINE!** and it is available on the church website and **FACEBOOK** page. **IMAGINE!** Is an invitation to spend some time with Scripture and prayer to create an open mind and heart. By Thursday of each week, an image and a portion from the upcoming Scripture lesson and a brief prayer are posted. You are invited to ponder and pray with the words and images. What connections arise? Is there new wisdom for your daily living and discipleship? Just click on the large purple **IMAGINE!** Button on the top of the church website or follow the link from the church **FACEBOOK** page.



This month, there are several opportunities to be with our interfaith sisters and brothers for times of prayer, singing, and education. Each event provides a chance to grow in understanding and, as is often so true in interfaith encounters, a deeper commitment to our Christian faith. Please join us for one or more of these events! In particular, plan to attend the afternoon program on Islam in Chapin Hall on November 21. Aida Mansoor participated in the Installation service and she is looking forward to being with us again. Carpooling will be available for the Hartford events; please be in touch with Donna either by phone or email if you need more information or would like to attend.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18 HARTFORD PRAYER BREAKFAST
7:30 - 8:45am - The Artist's Collective
1200 Albany Avenue, Hartford, CT

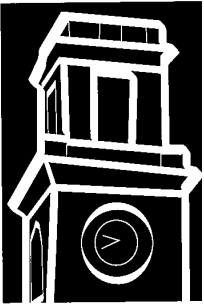
Join with interfaith partners for conversation, prayer, and learning. Imam Abdullah Antepli is the keynote speaker. Cost is \$10 and you can register through YMCA - HPB, 241 Trumbull Street, Hartford, CT 06103, Attention, Tom Reynolds

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18 INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SING ALONG
7:00 PM, Charter Oak Cultural Center

A good old fashioned sing along (not of religious songs, but good old fashioned tunes like "Good Night Irene") with friends and neighbors. Price of entrance is a baked good to share with others.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21
Islam: Rumor and Reality
With Aida Mansoor, CT Muslim Coalition
2:00 PM, CHAPIN HALL, RHCC, UCC

Aida will present the basic beliefs, pillars, and scripture of Islam. She will also address cultural differences as well as contemporary stereotypes of this Abrahamic religion.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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



2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	1 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:30pm Bell Choir	2 6:30pm Personnel Mtg 7:00pm Boards/ Committees	3 9:00am Quilters 12:00pm YOGA w/Lynn 12:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Yoga with Pam 7:00pm Lessons/Carols 7:30pm Adult Choir
7 Scrip Pickup 11:30am Lunch Bunch 2:00pm RHCCNS Party 2:00pm Confirmation	8 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCCNS Mtg 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:30pm Bell Choir	9 8:30am Breakfast Club 7:00pm Council	10 9:00am Quilters 9:00am Community Mtg 12:00pm YOGA w/Lynn 12:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Yoga with Pam 7:00pm Lessons/Carols 7:30pm Adult Choir
14 Friend Raising Sunday Recognition of Veterans	15 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:30pm Bell Choir	16	17 9:00am Quilters 12:00pm YOGA w/Lynn 12:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Yoga with Pam 7:00pm Lessons/Carols 7:30pm Adult Choir
21 9:15am Turkey/\$20 Drive 11:30am Lunch Bunch 11:45am Getting to Know You 2:00pm Program on Islam 2:00pm Confirmation 4:00pm Youth Group	22 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:30pm Bell Choir	23 7:00pm Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at St. Andrews	24 12:00pm YOGA w/Lynn 6:00pm Yoga with Pam 7:00pm Lessons/Carols 7:30pm Adult Choir
28 Scrip Deadline 11:30am Lunch Bunch 2:00pm Confirmation 4:00pm Youth Group 5:00pm Advent Gathering	29 5:30pm Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm Women's Retreat 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:00pm Women's AA 7:30pm Bell Choir	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:

Donna Manocchio, Senior Pastor	202	Meghan Young, Acting Dir CE	204
Meghan Young, Acting Assoc. Pastor	204	Will Kanute, Dir. of Music	207
Carol Harvey, Office Secretary	201	Dick Webster, Sexton	205

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

(860)529-4167 office • (860)257-9637 fax
 office@ rhccucc.org • website: rhccucc.org

Office Hours 8 am – 2 pm – Monday – Thursday, and Friday until noon

The Reverend Donna K. Manocchio, Senior Pastor
Meghan Young, Acting Director of Christian Education and Acting Associate Minister
The Reverend Arthur C. Weil, Minister Emeritus
Will Kanute, Director of Music

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	5	6 8:30am Yoga w/Lynn
11 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 7:00pm Fair Meeting 7:00pm Theology on Tap 8:00pm Men's AA	12 6:00pm Youth Group Overnight	13 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 6:30pm Dinner & Movie
18 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	19	20 8:30am Yoga with Lynn 10:45am Yoga with Lynn
25 THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED 8:00pm Men's AA	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27 8:30am Yoga with Lynn



New Church Office Hours
 Monday-Thursday
 8:00am – 2:00pm
 Friday
 until noon

Dear church family and friends,



Thank you so much for the phone calls, cards and prayers after my accident. I fell at home over 6 weeks ago, and fractured my left wrist and hurt my back. Slow recovery but we're half way to good health. Looking forward to seeing all of you again.

A beautiful chicken dinner was brought to us also. It made for 2 meals also. Dick and I appreciated everything.

Love and Prayers to you all,

Yours in Christ, Sue Starr

“SCRIP-SURE” Order Schedule
Scrip deadline is November 28 for pickup on December 5



- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>01 Neal Cox
 Bill Pierson
 Kristin Rutigliano
 Lanaya Rupaka</p> <p>03 Phil Swain</p> <p>05 Meghan Wilcock</p> <p>06 Tom Matthias</p> <p>07 Michael McKenna</p> <p>08 Rob Grandell
 Alyssa Somes</p> <p>09 Sharon Vassilopoulos
 Lisa Taylor
 Jennifer Martin
 Christopher Marshall</p> <p>10 Jon Morgan</p> <p>11 Paula Komar
 Dale Rowland
 Briana Stewart</p> <p>12 Diana Belliveau</p> <p>13 Donna Rowland</p> | <p>15 Roland Lataille</p> <p>16 Jim Griswold</p> <p>17 Mary-Ellen Lewis</p> <p>18 Jacob Moot</p> <p>19 Bob Simmons
 Sheila Elliot
 Kevin Fell</p> <p>20 Mary-Edith Bowman
 Elijah Calderon</p> <p>22 Julia Pawlich</p> <p>24 Kim Batterson Biglow</p> <p>25 Mel Smith
 Dorothea Wiley
 William McKenna</p> <p>26 Evan Timrud</p> <p>28 Lisa Fell
 Kade Lamontagne</p> <p>30 Gael Curtin
 Ryan Pirre</p> |
|---|---|



**Joseph and Janet
 Kunzelman**
 were married on
November 3, 1958

**Warren and Gladys
 Carpenter**
 were married on
November 5, 1955

**Melvin and Mary
 Smith**
 were married on
November 24, 1956



I am writing this in the glow of yesterday's installation service. What a joyous occasion it was, as we entered into covenant with Donna for the next leg of our journey together. The church was packed, and spirit was one of joy and blessing. The service was also webcast for the benefit of some who were unable to attend. Many, many thanks to our Search Committee and to everyone who helped make the installation service and reception so lovely.

In October, the Council along with chairs of most of our boards and committees, met to take the next step in moving toward our vision. We have already identified the type of church we *want* to be. Now we need to develop an action plan to help us live the vision and *be* that church. You will be hearing more about this soon, as we will be looking for input (and action!!!) from everyone.

Stewardship is a part of almost all aspects of our vision. It calls for us to give of our time, our talents and our treasures. Please see the stewardship message elsewhere in this Churchmouse. This year we have a significant shortfall in pledging, and our stewardship committee is asking everyone to consider additional donations. We want to be an active, energetic, and engaged church. It would indeed be wonderful to fully underwrite the budget we need to live that part of our vision. As you may recall, the council made a decision to help underwrite our budget by fundraising. Our biggest single fundraiser this year was our annual church fair. It was a wonderful opportunity to provide great connection with others in our church family as well as outreach to the wider community.

Ruth Fitzgerald for the Council



**GETTING TO KNOW YOU:
An information session about RHCC
Sunday, November 21
11:45a.m. – 1:30 – PM**

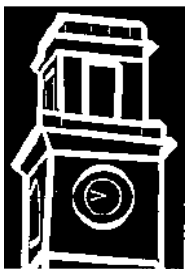
Are you new to RHCC? Have you been worshipping with us for a while and desire to know more about our church community? Perhaps you're even thinking about joining the church. If so, please join the pastors and other church members at a session that includes basic information about the church including:

- our testimony of faith
- beginnings and history in Rocky Hill
- our denominational affiliation: the United Church of Christ
- church organization
- boards and committees
- church staff
- becoming a member
- belonging to the church
- YOUR QUESTIONS

CHILD CARE WILL BE PROVIDED

Sign up in Chapin Hall or contact one of the pastors for further information.

**New Members will be received:
Sunday, December 12 during Sunday worship**

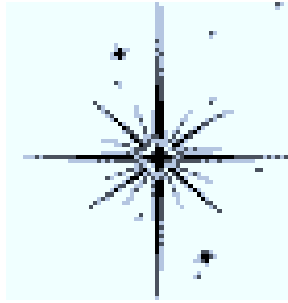


TOWER LIGHTING

Light the Tower! This is a special way to honor or memorialize your loved ones. The tower lights are on overnight and add to the electric bill. Your contribution of \$10 helps defray the cost. The names of your loved ones will be noted in the bulletin. There are still a few dates left. The sign up list is in Chapin Hall or you can email me at

office@rhccucc.org or call the church office at 529-4167.

The Grace of Stars



Ecumenical Women's Advent Evening of Reflection
Monday, November 29
5:30 – 8:30 PM
Asylum Hill Congregational Church, UCC
814 Asylum Avenue, Hartford

Women from RHCC, UCC, Asylum Hill, St. Elizabeth Seton, and St. Patrick St. Anthony come together for the 7th Annual Advent gathering. Join us during the season of waiting for an evening of contemplation, conversation, and creative expression. A light supper is included and the cost is \$15, with checks payable to AHCC. Please complete the form below and send it to AHCC, 814 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105, Attention: Denise Doran, ADVENT RETREAT.

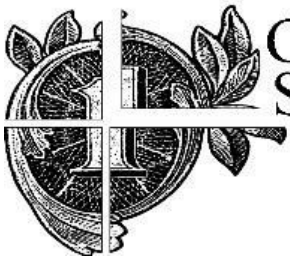
THE GRACE OF STARS

NAME -----

ADDRESS -----

CHURCH -----

EMAIL -----



Giving Statements

From the Financial Secretary

As in past years, I will be sending to all of you who pledged this year an accounting of your pledge versus contributions. It will include contributions received and recorded by me from 5/1/10 through

10/31/10. The letter will include your total pledge amount for the year and contributions made for the first six months of our financial year. In addition, the same mailing will include Chapin Hall pledges and collections received to date. Everyone who pledged will receive a letter from me whether paid-in-full, up-to-date on collections or overdue unless you have specifically asked not to receive a letter. If you see any discrepancies between what I have recorded in the letter I send to you and what your records show you have contributed or pledged, please let me know as soon as possible.

And at any time you decide you want to be “green” and receive only e-mail communications from me, you can call me at 860-257-1099 or e-mail me at finsecrhcc@gmail.com. If you are interested in giving electronically, there is an insert in this month’s Churchmouse providing information about electronic giving and an authorization form. Or you can always contact me or Dave Hall.

Thanks!

Deb Copes, Financial Secretary



ATTENTION ALL VETERANS

On Sunday, November 14, Veterans will be recognized in Sunday morning worship. Please call the office (860-529-4167) with name, branch of service, and dates served. This year, we want to include a list of where and when you served. In addition, please share a few pictures of your time in the service. Bring pictures (mark name and date please) no later than Thursday, November 4. A

display will be available for all to view in Chapin Hall during coffee hour Nov. 14. Thanks to Deb Copes, last year's pictures have been scanned and will be shown as well.



Comprehensive Community Development

Once again, CAC is in the forefront of another outstanding program to improve the lives of people in their neighborhoods, and in turn, the City of Hartford. It is a strategy of partnering with leaders and organizations in surrounding neighborhoods to bring about results beyond which each could do individually.

Together, we and other leaders targeted Asylum Hill, Blue Hills, Upper Albany and Clay Arsenal.

Task forces were formed with participants from all neighborhoods, each was assigned one or more topics such as public safety, housing, economic development, employment, education and health.

These task forces will reconvene to present their strategies and actions to the larger assembly for adoption. This document will be an “agreement” or “covenant” by and for the targeted neighborhood.

Obviously this is a large task to be accomplished. But in the end we will improve the lives of the poor and needy in Hartford and surrounding cities and towns.

God Bless,

Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio

Delegate, Member Board of Directors



I write this with a very full and grateful heart after my final Sunday with you. At worship on October 10th we brought official closure to the interim time and to my time among you after eighteen months together. Special thanks to everyone for the lovely gifts and for the kind and generous words that were spoken and written about our time together.

You all made my last Sunday a good time of farewell with plenty of good food - in typical RHCC UCC fashion!

Goodbyes are a bittersweet thing. Know that each of you has touched my heart in a special way. I am confident and excited for you all as you move into the future with Pastor Donna's leadership. I will continue to hold you in my prayers and trust that God walks with you each and every day.

Again, thank you for the good work accomplished during the last year and a half and thank you as well for our final farewell together.

Blessings always, Interim Pastor Barbara Libby

ONLY 28 SCRIP-SURE SHOPPING DAYS LEFT 'TIL CHRISTMAS

Almost a year has passed since we launched our SCRIP-SURE program. We've recently been generating monthly profits of \$500-\$600, with almost \$6,000 booked cumulatively since last November. But that first order – in late November, 2009 – was still our best month, with a profit of \$960!

That was probably because some of you used this opportunity for Christmas shopping. There are two powerful ways to use Scrip for holiday shopping:

1. You can buy scrip for the places that you expect to shop for Christmas gifts. For example, some of the most lucrative scrip cards are for catalog retailers like L.L. Bean and Lands End. Other retailers that might fit this use:

Amazon	Barnes & Noble	Bed, Bath & Beyond
Best Buy	Build a Bear	Cabelas
Crate & Barrel	Dressbarn	Eddie Bauer
Harry & David	Kohl's	Marshalls
Old Navy	Walmart/Sam's Club	Williams Sonoma

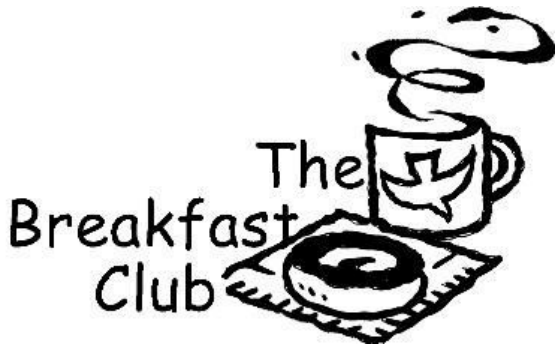
There are hundreds of other possibilities as well. A complete listing is available at the SCRIP-SURE display in Chapin Hall, and also on the church web site.

2. You can give scrip (gift cards) to others. In addition to retail stores and web sites, cards are available for many restaurants, movie theaters, gas stations, grocers, and drug stores – both in the Hartford area and nationwide. Or how about an iTunes gift card for a teen or college student?

The deadline for pre-Christmas orders is Sunday, November 28 – the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Those orders will be available for pickup on Sunday, December 5 – in plenty of time for shopping or gift-giving. Remember also that the profit margin on scrip purchases is considered a tax-deductible donation to RHCC. So using scrip for your Christmas shopping not only benefits your gift recipients, but also your church and yourself!

Can we top \$1000 in church income this November? With pledge income down this year, SCRIP-SURE could become a very important piece of the RHCC revenue puzzle.

Order forms are available on the church web site and at the SCRIP-SURE display in Chapin Hall. Orders may be submitted in the offering plate, in the box in Chapin Hall, to the church office, or via email to treasurer@rhccucc.org



Tuesdays at 8:30 AM
November 9 and December 7
TIM HORTON'S

Silas Deane Highway, Rocky Hill

Come join the club! Meet with others for coffee and conversation (or a full breakfast of you 'd like!) and discussion about life, current events, church, and the way of faith. Bring your thoughts, questions – and a friend or two. Call the office, or email Donna (donna@rhccucc.org), or arrive at Tim Horton's!

Women of the Bible Scripture Study
(formerly "Bad Girls of the Bible")

Once-a-month Thursdays, 7:00 PM in the Fiorilli Room

Join with other women to explore the stories of women in our Scriptures. As we seek to understand the meaning of God's word and work in our lives and in our world. Come and pray, read, talk, laugh, and eat together!

Thursday, December 2

Ruth

Thursday, January 20

Tamar

Theology on Tap
Thursdays at 7:00 PM
November 11, December 9
Chucks Steakhouse

2199 Silas Deane Hwy, Rocky Hill

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 Chuck's Steak House. We discuss a different topic each month, so join us whenever you can. Bring a friend and see you at the Tap!

Contact Donna (donna@rhccucc.org or on FACEBOOK) if you have questions, want to suggest a topic, or can join us for a gathering.



Starting in November the Flower Committee will give the Congregation the option of ordering fresh flowers or having the Committee display one of our silk arrangements on the altar.

If the silk option is preferred we would ask for a donation of \$30 that would go towards the general fund in meeting operating expenses.

New Option for Altar Flowers

Whoever you would be honoring or remembering would be listed in the Sunday bulletin as usual.

Please specify your preference when signing the poster in Chapin Hall and feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you

Joan Diaz, Flower Committee Chair, 860 613-2889

Musical Notes

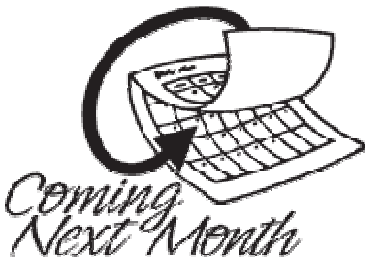
A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

December 5 at 4:00pm (*Snow date December 12*)

Presented by the choirs of the church

Free will offering benefits

the Rocky Hill Department of Social Services



Cookie Walk and Christmas Caroling

Also coming quickly is the annual Cookie Walk. As we did last year there will be a sign up sheet in Chapin Hall for volunteers to make cookies. We had over 100 different kinds last year and would like to see lots more! Snow date for this event will be

Sunday Dec 20th. More information will follow so check the signs in Chapin Hall.

Christmas Caroling for shut-ins and local convalescent homes will also be happening. Watch for more details in the December Churchmouse.

Your Music Committee

Will Kanute, Music Director

Linda Tokarski Gail Hall Eleanor Mahar Chris Mosure Liz Reed-Swale
Harry Schmidt John Hoffman



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Holiday Wreath Sale – to benefit Rocky Hill Project Graduation 2011. \$16.00 per wreath. Order blanks will be on the bulletin board on the Old Main Street side entrance to the church.

Asylum Hill Chamber Music Series presents Two Concerts

The first is on Friday, November 5, at 8:00 p.m. – Miroslava Mincheva 20009 Belsky Piano Competition winner. \$20 general seating in the sanctuary. **And the Second is Brown Bag-It Concert with Brahms! Sunday, November 21 at noon** – Features the works of Johannes Brahms. Bring a brown bag lunch or purchase a snack bag for \$3.00 and enjoy a brief talk on the music in the Twichell Room after Sunday worship. The concert follows. Free event.

Handel's Messiah, Part 1 – Presented by New England Chamber Choir on Sunday, November 28 at 4pm at Bethlehem Lutheran church on One East High Street in East Hampton. Directions and information email www.newenglandchamberchoir.org or call 860 267-4272.

Handel's "Messiah" – Part I is being presented by the New Britain Musical Club on Sunday, November 28th at 4:00pm at Saint Jerome Roman Catholic Church, 1010 Slater Rd, New Britain, CT.

Annual Christmas Tea – 1st Congregational Church in Cromwell on Wednesday, December 1, 2010 at 2:00pm. This program is open to men as well as women. Entertainment by Bud Chappell in Fellowship Hall. Call Tammy at 860 635-4806 by November 24 so she can plan refreshments.

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

Yoga classes offered in Chapin Hall



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

Yoga Offered by Core Power, LLC – Experience the dynamic flow and challenge of yoga which builds strength, balance and flexibility for an overall fit and healthy body. Classes are for all-levels with options for everyone! This class meets: Monday evenings from 5:30-6:30pm, Wednesday lunchtime from 12:00-12:45pm, Thursday mornings from 8:30-9:30am and Saturday mornings in from 8:30-9:30am. Contact Lynn MacDonald 860-550-4660 to register – Water bottle, yoga mat, and a friend!!

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

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
TIME VALUE MAIL

Permit #7

Mailed November 3, 2010

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



Our film selection this month is ***The Straight Story***. Please join us for a **pot luck dinner** starting at **6:00pm on November 13th** in Chapin Hall, all are welcome!

When his brother, Lyle (Harry Dean Stanton), falls ill, Iowa farmer Alvin Straight (Oscar nominee Richard Farnsworth) pledges to go to Lyle's side -- despite being unable to drive -- armed with a riding lawnmower for transportation, a tent and unshakable determination. Leaving his mentally challenged daughter (Sissy Spacek) at home, Alvin sets out to cover the 300 miles to his brother's house in a weeks-long journey of healing and remembrance





STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Facing a challenge ...

This afternoon, Oct. 24th, Rev. Donna Kathryn Manocchio will be installed as Senior Pastor of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.

These past eighteen months have been a special journey for all of us. It was enriched in one way or another by each of you - by attendance at meetings, or asking questions, sharing ideas, listening, and gratefully assuring that the “work of the church” continued during these months.

Now it is time to refocus our energies on ways to assist Pastor Donna in the “settling in” process. Take a few moments to think about how you can join others in this expression of dedication and commitment. The people in this congregation represent a generous sharing of a variety of their time, talents, and treasures, which when combined, result in a powerful vision and message of faith-based actions.

Many of us may recall a form of tag played at school recess time or in a backyard when players took turns asking a question of the leader such as, “*May I take?*” And the answer might have been ... “*You may take 3 baby steps.*” ...or “*You may take 2 giant steps.*” As a congregation, we have yet to meet our Local Budget’s goal for this current year’s operational and administrative fiscal responsibilities. It has grown by “baby steps” and needs the infusion of more baby steps as well as some “giant steps.”

We ask that you give prayerful consideration to taking one or more of those “steps” by increasing your weekly, monthly or yearly pledge in an amount comfortable for you, or by sharing a one-time donation. We have been blessed at RHCC. Generosity abounds in innumerable ways. But we do need to maintain our present ministries, such as, Christian education, pastoral care, hospitality and welcome, as well as participate in the energy generated in support of our new Senior Pastor. Let’s each look ahead with grateful appreciation for what has been....and with prayerful anticipation for what is yet to be.

In faithful fellowship,

Your Stewardship Committee:

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

Meeting the challenge ...

One of our church families has “taken a step” and is increasing their own yearly pledge by adding \$20 per month. A \$20 increase might reflect:

- . 2 glasses of wine at a nice restaurant
- . 2 tickets to the movies on a Wednesday
- . 3 ice cream Sundaes at your local Friendly’s
- . a weekly grande pumpkin spice latte at Starbucks
- . a large pepperoni pizza and a liter bottle of Coke.

We hope you decide to match this challenge – or set your own goals. If so, please complete the form below and then put it in a Sunday Offering plate ... or send it to the Church office ... or email the information to Deb Copes (Financial Secretary) at deb.copes@gmail.com .

___ Please increase my pledged amount to RHCC’s 2010-2011 Local Budget by \$ ___ based on its weekly, monthly, or yearly, designation.

___ I prefer to share a one-time donation of \$ _____ as additional support to meet the challenge.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ E-mail _____

Thank you for your expression of faith in our generosity ministry.