



The Reverend Donna K. Manocchio, Senior Pastor
donna@rhccucc.org
Meghan D. Young, Acting Associate Pastor
Minister of Faith Formation
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Mary DeLibero, Minister of Music
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October 2012 Newsletter

Editor – Carol Harvey
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Rocky Hill Congregational Church
805 Old Main St., Rocky Hill CT
Saturday, October 27th – 9:00am – 2:00pm

- Buy-it-Now Silent Auction
- Jewelry Boutique
- Chapin Hall of Foods
- Spa & Relaxation Room
- -Bake Shop
- Kitchen Shop
- -Candy Shop
- Picture This
- -Divine Dinner
- Missions Booth
- -Farmer's Market
- Quilt Raffle
- Holiday House
- Tea Room (opens @ 11 a.m.)

Roast Beef Dinner

5:30pm

Adults \$12 – Children 5-12 \$5 – 4 & under Free

Reservations Required

Call Church Office at (860)529-4167



My dear friends,

At a recent women's Bible study gathering, Lisa Eleck shared the following poem she penned while on a retreat a few years ago. It is a perfect "sabbatical poem."

Nowhere to Go

My car sits idle.
Its engine is silent.
Its doors are closed.
Its windows are rolled up.

I have no appointments to keep,
No meetings to attend,
No shopping to do,
Nor errands to run.

Here I sit.
Put the schedule aside.
Quiet the racing thoughts.
Hush the ever present should.
The breeze brushes my cheek.
The leaves crinkle and shimmer.
The clouds drift away.
The cool refreshes.

Today I have nowhere to go.
Peace settles in.
My soul sighs.
God smiles.

My hope and prayer for my sabbatical time is to slow down and let peace settle in and feel God's smile and presence. In reading (Please join me in reading and discussing **Love Wins** by Rob Bell on November 25) and studying (some more in-depth work on Biblical storytelling, especially for Advent) and attending conferences (Cultivating Christian Leaders for Forming Faith), I will carry each of you in my prayers. I plan to travel with the church directory and pray for each of you by name.

Although I will not be worshipping with you, I will be in worship in other communities and settings, letting God's grace fill my soul and spirit. I encourage you to be in worship also. We all need the time set aside to pray and sing and focus on the mystery of God. So I ask you to commit to being faithful in your attendance and your giving so that the ministry of the church will continue to grow. I also trust that you will support Meghan's ministry as well as sabbatical supply pastor Peter's ministry as graciously as you support mine.

I also encourage you to take some "sabbatical moments" in the coming weeks – where you have nowhere to go, except to God who is waiting for you!

In peaceful blessings,
Donna



- October 7** **Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**
World Communion Sunday The Rev. Peter Allen
- October 14** **Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**
The Rev. Peter Allen
- October 21** **Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost**
The Rev. Peter Allen
- October 28** **Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost**
Hymn Sing Sunday
Scripture: Jeremiah 31:7-9
Sermon: "This Is My Song" Meghan D. Young

INTERNATIONAL VISITOR AT RHCC, UCC

Please welcome Zulu Lemtur! Zulu is a student in the International Peacemakers Program at Hartford Seminary. Students in that program come from around the globe to study interfaith dialogue and leadership skills. During their time in Hartford, students are placed in a local community to serve as a spiritual home. Together student and congregation share fellowship and faith together, learning and growing in understanding and peace. We are delighted that we have been selected as a host congregation for Zulu, and we look forward to getting to know him – and for him to get to know us! Zulu comes to us from Nagaland, India, in the far-northeastern part of the continent, near Burma and China. He has received both a Bachelor of Divinity and Masters in Theology. His bachelor's thesis is entitled "Martin Luther King Jr's Understanding of Peace and Its Implication in Present Naga Society."

Zulu has a wide variety of experiences in teaching, leading, and peacemaking in areas of conflict. He is enthusiastic and excited about his time in the IPP program, and his journey with us. He will be participating in the life of the church through worship, service, and learning opportunities. Welcome, Zulu!

Meghan Kelly Montana
Chair, Global Missions Committee



It's really amazing when church people travel and act like church people outside the walls of the church building. Large areas in northern New England were severely damaged by last summer's tropical storm. Before our annual Christmas offering was collected last

December, the Deacons sought out a congregation in northern New England that could benefit from our church's financial help. The Congregational Church of Rupert, VT was recommended to us. The church's furnace had been ruined when the lower floor was flooded. Luckily, they were able to replace the furnace with emergency funds. We communicated with representatives of the church and \$3,000 of the offering was sent to them. Members of the Rupert church used those funds to repair a bathroom in their parsonage.

Since then, the Deacons have established a relationship with members of the Rupert church. Judy Graham and James Day traveled to Rupert in July to meet with members of the congregation and assess whether there was any other physical or financial help needed that our congregation could provide. They identified several painting, landscaping and light repair tasks that could be completed over a weekend. And a small group of talented and energetic fellow members will travel to Rupert, VT on the weekend of October 12 – 14 to perform that work.

A fund-raising pasta supper was held on September 15th at the church for this work trip and a few members of the Rupert church attended. Maybe you attended the dinner and supported the effort with your money. Maybe you are one of the group that will travel to Rupert and do the physical work (it's not too late to sign up). Maybe you are one of the people that helped plan the trip or the dinner. Or maybe you are a member of our congregation who will support the effort with your donations or prayers. Thank you for helping Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC extend our ministry outside the walls of the building. It's really amazing.

Bill Hoffman, for the Deacons

The Board of Deacons

Spiritual Welfare

Membership Vitality

Ministering

BIBLE DEVOTIONS

In her sermon on September 16, Pastor Donna encouraged all of us to delve into God's word found in Holy Scripture. She made the suggestion of receiving a daily bible verse by email. Donna says she receives a daily verse from the UCC Still Speaking Devotional; you can subscribe at <http://www.ucc.org/feed-your-spirit/daily-devotional/>. Another suggestion is to commit some passages of the Bible to heart. Here is good place to get started: <http://www.ucc.org/feed-your-spirit/your-life-better/bible-passages-to-know-by-heart/>

Global and Local Mission News

We are moving into the fall season and everything it brings with it. For most of us it can be a season of being very busy as we keep reminding ourselves that “the holidays will be here before we know it.” Some of us have been refreshed by a summer vacation or depending on the vacation and how “busy” it was; maybe you were more tired when you returned home! We don’t have the lazy days of summer like we used to. Even our church stays very busy throughout the summer.

“In western culture "busyness" is seen as a virtue. If we're not busy in some way then we believe that we are of less value. Of course this is not true - our sense of value comes from understanding how much God (and our friends and family) loves us. Instead, we believe the lie that being constantly occupied makes us more important. If we are going to be good at patience, then we are going to need to know that it's OK to stop for once in a while.” (Source unknown)

As we move forward with our Mission Board activities, we pray for the patience we need to see our way clear and to keep the path open for God and others. We promise to take a deep breath, now and then, and prayerfully reflect on how to best serve the many needs that are presented to us, and to serve those we choose in our fullest capacity. In order to do this, we must renew our strength.

“But those who are waiting for the Lord will have new strength; they will get wings like eagles: running, they will not be tired, and walking, they will have no weariness.” (Isaiah 40:31)

Upcoming events and activities:

Global Awareness effort for Haiti: There will be continued efforts for communicating the missionary efforts in Haiti, the orphan situation, and the Haitian artisans who are struggling to make a living for their families. There will be information available and on display at the Missions Fair Booth.

Saturday, October 27th - Be sure to visit the Missions booth at the Fair!

Sunday, Nov. 4th – Global Missions Awareness Day, designation certificate to be awarded to our church by the Rev. Shari Prestemon. ALSO following service there will be a holiday shopping opportunity featuring gifts made by artisans in Haiti. More information to follow and there will be a sample display soon.

Sunday Nov. 18th - Turkey and a \$20 **or** \$30 (30th anniversary of Foodshare).

Remember the Rocky Hill Food Pantry is low and your donations are needed. The Board for Missions has voted to donate \$500.00 to help replenish their shelves.

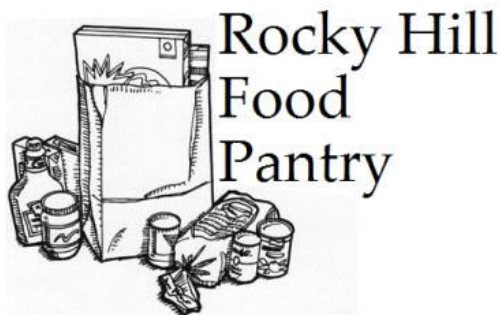
Since last month, ***your generosity has helped the following:***

Christian Activities Council	\$2,000
Hands on Hartford	600
Operation Fuel	1,600
Church World Service	160 (from blanket cards)



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.



I thank you and the members of the RH Congregational Church for the recent donation of non-perishables to our town food pantry. Currently we have over 100 financially deprived households using the food pantry. As you know, we completely depend upon donations for our food supply.

Please extend my appreciation to all your members for their continued support and generosity.

Sincerely,

Mark Williams
Human Services Director



As we enjoy the crisp air of fall and the leaves changing color, we know winter is on its way. At the Cheyenne River Lakota Sioux reservation in South Dakota the snow will be deep and the winds will blow cold across the plains.

These people are in great need of winter clothing, both adults and children. Rochelle Ripley from Hawkwing in Glastonbury will be sending winter items by November 1.

If anyone has warm winter clothing their children have outgrown, or adult clothing you are ready to discard, would you consider contributing it to be sent along? Winter jackets, sweaters, sweatshirts, gloves, warm pants, socks, boots, warm pj's, robes, slippers and underwear are all among things needed. They can be left in Chapin Hall on the end table to be picked up on Sundays after church.—Joan Tennyson



Personal Testimony

Eric and I joined RHCC about 11 years ago – a year before we were married right here in this church. We have since had 2 children – Eric who just turned 8 years old and Nicholas who is 5½. They were both baptized here at RHCC.

This church has been an important part of our lives. It has given us a sense of community and belonging in Rocky Hill. With our boys involved in Sunday School, they enjoy coming to church every Sunday and look forward to seeing their church friends.

Eric and I both grew up in Congregational Churches – Eric in North Haven and myself in North Branford Congregational Church. Although my mother brought my sister and me to church regularly while growing up, I can honestly say that I never felt a sense of belonging or community in the church. So I am so happy when my boys are excited to go to church on Sunday morning and I see them having fun with their church friends. As a Sunday School teacher, I know that the kids in our church are special – and the lessons they are learning in our church are giving them a solid base of morals and ethics with which they will use to make good decisions throughout their lives.

When Eric and I joined the church, no one talked to us about pledging. Every week we would drop a check into the collection plate and at the end of the year, we would declare our donations as a deduction on our tax return. It was only a couple of years ago that we decided to fill in a pledge card and make a commitment to the church. At first we were hesitant about making that commitment because we saw it as another “bill” that we had to pay. But once we actually made the commitment, we realized it wasn’t an obligation, but actually a promise that we were making. A promise that we would do our best to be a part of our new extended family – that we would now belong to this community that is RHCC.

And it wasn’t until this year when I joined the Stewardship Committee that I fully understood the importance of sending in our pledge card. I learned that the pledges received were used to plan and budget for the year ahead. We always knew that the church used collected funds to help the community in different ways – local food banks and other worthy causes. But we never really thought about what keeps the church running day in and day out...what keeps the church lights on, the water flowing and the heat and a/c blowing when needed. Looking past the day to day expenses, though, I was able to see the more important things that the local budget does –

- it is what helps to keep our friendships grow at coffee hour every Sunday
- it allows couples to join together in front of their friends and family when they pledge their love for each other in a marriage ceremony just as Eric and I did 10 years ago
- it allows families to baptize their precious children so that they are welcomed into God's kingdom and our church family – just as we had Eric and Nicholas baptized when they were babies
- it is what helps our children grow and prosper in the comforting and inviting environment that our Sunday School has provided for them. It gives our children a sense of belonging and extended family that Eric and I want for our boys.

This is why Eric and I give our gift every year. It is our promise to help make our church the inviting and comforting place that we take pride in saying we are a part of.

Michele Jokl

REV. PETER ALLEN TO SERVE AS PASTORAL SUPPLY FOR SABBATICAL LEAVE

The Deacons, with affirmation and approval by the Council, have contracted with Rev. Peter Allen to provide pastoral supply during Pastor Donna's sabbatical. Peter will be among us and assist Meghan in preaching, pastoral care, and the daily activities in the life of the church.

Rev. Allen has most recently served as the Vice-President of Simply Smiles, a Connecticut-based organization dedicated to creating bright futures for impoverished children. Prior to Simply Smiles, he served as the Senior Pastor at the Monroe Congregational Church for seventeen years, and he has also served as associate pastor in several churches in the New England area. Peter is a graduate of UCONN, Andover Newton Theological School, and Hartford Seminary.

Peter will begin the week of October 1st and will be at the church on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday. He is looking forward to his time with us and getting to know our community. Please welcome Rev. Allen as he preaches on World Communion Sunday, October 7.

The sabbatical supply pastor is a part time position. With the approval and confidence of the Deacons and Council, Pastor Meghan will be taking on some additional responsibilities during the sabbatical. Please continue to support Meghan in her ministry with us.

Lastly, I ask that we send Donna off knowing she is in our prayers for safe travel, much rest and glorious rejuvenation.

Elaine Somes for the Diaconate

Elainet320@att.net; 860-563-4099



- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|-------------------|
| 2 | Sophia Cardello | 17 | John Molina |
| 4 | Charles Friday | | Lisa Gilbert |
| | Stacy Veley | | Christina Engel |
| | Sandra Mason | | Kristen Rodriguez |
| 5 | Edward Day | | Jillian Fulda |
| 6 | David Fandetti | | Nathaniel Robbins |
| 7 | Irene Moore | 18 | Mary Dean |
| | Devin Gagnon | 19 | Will Kanute |
| | Emily Doten | 21 | Tom Schreier |
| 8 | Whitney Pirre | 22 | Diana Gengenbach |
| 9 | Elaine Vicino | | Max Kainamura |
| | Anne Louise Griswold | 23 | Albert Griswold |
| | Judy Charamut | | Mak Goodrich |
| | Matthew Behlman | | Joshua Bell |
| | Rebecca-Lee Molina | 24 | John Sword |
| 10 | Susan Lexa | | Pat Howland |
| | Lindsey Wainwright | 26 | Elton Harvey III |
| | Diana Hellyar | | Nancy Harlow |
| | Joseph Malespini | | Tim Bengston |
| 11 | Matthew Gagnon | | Alicia Stewart |
| | Karen Jensen | 27 | Kathy Mosure |
| 12 | Katie Hoffman-Fulda | 28 | Bob Hansen |
| | William Knight | | Jean Goff |
| | Phillip Coleman | | Brett Laporte |
| 13 | Barbara Libby | 29 | Janet Pierson |
| 14 | Brian Wilcock | | Donna Roberts |
| 15 | Peter Graham | 30 | James Pickett |
| 16 | Darrell Peterson | 31 | Nancy Rolfe |
| 17 | Cindy Tennyson | | Carrie Laporte |



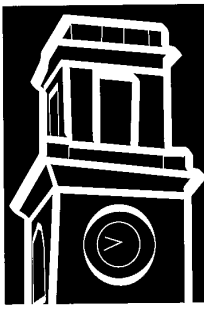
Martin and Jean Sudell
were married on
October 10, 1964

Doug and Nancy Robbins
were married on
October 20, 1956

Tom and Doris Schreier
were married on
October 22, 1949

Ralph and Priscilla Lexa
were married on
October 29, 1949

Don and Anita Watson
were married on
October 25, 1947



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



CHILD
care
 Provided



2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	1 5:30pm Yoga w/Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:30pm Bell Choir	2 6:00pm Rupert Mtg 7:00pm Boards and Committees	3 9:00am Quilters 12:30pm Bible Study 7:30pm Adult Choir
7 Neighbors In Need Offering Script Pickup 5:30pm SPIRIT Spark	8 2:00pm The Lodge Svc 5:30pm Yoga w/Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:00pm RHCCNS Mtg 7:30pm Bell Choir	9 8:30am Breakfast Club 7:00pm Council	10 9:00am Quilters 12:30pm Bible Study 7:30pm Adult Choir
14 11:30am Noah's Table 1:00pm Blessing of the Animals	15 Newsletter Deadline 5:30pm Yoga w/Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:30pm Bell Choir	16	17 9:00am Quilters 12:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm Community Event 7:30pm Adult Choir
21 11:30am Noah's Table	22 5:30pm Yoga w/Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:30pm Bell Choir	23	24 12:30pm Bible Study 4:00pm Apple Pie Baking 7:30pm Adult Choir
28 Hymn Sing Sunday Script Deadline 11:30am Noah's Table	29 5:30pm Yoga w/Lynn 7:00pm Women's AA 7:00pm RHCC Bowling 7:30pm Bell Choir	30 9:00am Community Mtg	31 9:00am Quilters 12:30pm Bible Study 7:30pm Adult Choir

VOICE MAIL INSTRUCTIONS – If you call the church and the Voice Mail answers, you do not have to listen to the entire message. Anytime during the message you can have the call transferred directly to the person you are trying to reach by simply keying in the following numbers:

Donna Manocchio, Senior Pastor	202	Mary DeLibero, Minister of Music	207
Meghan Young, Acting Director CE	204	Thomas Munger, Custodian	205
Acting Assoc. Pastor		RHCCNS (Nursery School)	208
Carol Harvey, Office Secretary	201		

Please Note:

**Theology on Tap will not meet this month
Women’s Bible Study will not meet this month**

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men’s AA	5 5:00pm Youth Night Out	6 8:30am Yoga w/Lynn
11 5:30pm TOPS 7:00pm Fair Mtg 8:00pm Men’s AA	12	13 8:30am Yoga w/Lynn 6:00pm Dinner/Movie Rupert Mission Trip
18 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men’s AA	19 CT Conference Annual Meeting	20 8:30am Yoga w/Lynn CT Conference Annual Meeting
25 9:00am Apple Pie Baking	26	27 9:30am Country Fair 5:30pm Roast Beef Dinner

**“SCRIP-SURE”
Order Schedule**
Scrip delivery is
October 7

Scrip deadline is
October 28

**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 @ rhcucc.org • website: rhcucc.org

Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/rhcucc

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

The Reverend Donna K. Manocchio, Senior Pastor

Meghan Young, Acting Associate Pastor and Minister of Faith Formation

The Reverend Arthur C. Weil, Minister Emeritus

Mary DeLibero, Minister of Music

How Can I Provide Some Extra Financial Support to the Church without Spending a Dime???

This one's easy. ***Think Scrip*** get into a "scrip mindset" so that you think of using scrip for many of your purchases.

What IS Scrip? Scrip is just gift cards, purchased at face value, but a portion of the purchase price goes to the church. You then use the gift cards for your purchases.....your groceries, your gasoline, your morning latte, your new refrigerator, your vacation rental car, your new winter coat.....you name it.

A few Scrip statistics:

- In the past 12 months, scrip sales yielded a profit for RHCC-UCC of \$12,350. *Our goal is to increase this figure by 25% in the coming twelve months. **With YOUR help, we can do this!!***
- Of the \$11,034 in scrip profit during the 2011-2012 church program year, over 50% came from just 7 families!! *These families have adopted a "scrip mindset" to maximize their contribution to RHCC-UCC (without spending any more money than they would be spending anyway).*
- *What if seven MORE families changed their mindset?? What if 14 more families did so?? The return to the church would be awesome.*
- Although there are a wide variety of scrip cards available through our program, 63% of the profit has come from groceries and pharmacies. *We all eat. We all frequent CVS or Walgreens.*
- If 25 additional church families bought all or most of their groceries using scrip (assuming a grocery bill of \$100/week), the church would benefit by an additional \$7,000/year. ***We can make this happen.***

Stay tuned. We'll be sharing more information with you in most issues of the Churchmouse. And, remember.....**THINK SCRIP!!!**

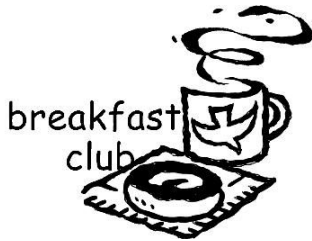
P.S. Also, watch for weekly "specials" in Chapin Hall on Sundays after worship – cards that are not routinely available.



Pastor's Bible Study

Wednesdays, 12:30 to 1:30 PM in Fiorilli Room

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 or pick one up from the shelf. Brown bag lunch is optional.



breakfast club

Breakfast Club
Tuesday, October 9 at 8:30 AM
We meet at BOB'S COFFEE SHOP, 33 New Britain Avenue in Rocky Hill. Come join us for coffee, conversation, and community!



Come Join us for Dinner and a Movie
Saturday, October 13, 2012
at 6:00 pm in Chapin Hall.

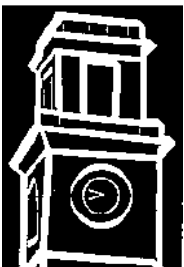
The film showing is "Frost/Nixon"

From Academy Award winning director, Ron Howard comes the electrifying untold story behind one of the most unforgettable moments in history.

When disgraced President Richard Nixon agreed to an interview with jet-setting television personality, David Frost, he thought he'd found the key to saving his tarnished legacy. But, with a name to make and a reputation to overcome, Frost became one of Nixon's most formidable adversaries and engaged the leader in a charged battle of wits that changed the face of politics forever.

Featuring brilliant portrayals by Frank Langella and Michael Sheen, *Frost/Nixon* is the fascinating and suspenseful story of truth, accountability, secrets, and lies.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: In November the film, *Dick* takes an entirely different and humorous look at the same time period.



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. You can email me at office@rhccucc.org or call the church office at 529-4167 and I will write it on the signup sheet.

—Carol Harvey



FAITH FORMATION @ RHCC

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

We kicked off our 1st unit, *Communities of Peace*, of our church school faith formation programming on September 23rd. All our curriculum units this year, focus on the theme of discipleship. This unit we are learning how to be disciples who live a life of Shalom, as peacemakers.

The subject of peace is threaded throughout scripture, yet it is difficult to pull into a single unit or tie to a particular scripture passage. *Communities of Peace* combines familiar biblical words that help us guide our lives in the midst of a world that has daily tension and violence in homes, schools, churches, and the wider community. The word peace seems an unrealistic faraway dream.

Communities of Peace emphasizes the individual's choice to live a life of shalom. Shalom is defined and visualized over and over in this unit. Through games, a global mission service project, drama, crafts, and food, we will experience and begin to understand what peaceful community feels like.

Check out the "What We're Learning Now" box for more information, and learn with us!

Gatherings

On Rally Day we kicked off our year of forming in faith by making promises to each other with circle covenants, learning great new songs for the year, exploring who we are and want to be as disciples, and imagining what God's vision is with a fun photo-shoot. We hope to share the photos soon, and are looking forward to involving the whole church.

This month we also hope to see everyone as we gather for our first ever S.P.I.R.I.T. Spark! See *announcement on back page for more details.*

Youth Group

Youth group is re-launching in October. All Youth Group events for the year will be open to 6th-12th graders, and when appropriate 6th-8th graders and 9th-12th graders will break off for separate discussion groups. We will meet once a month for Youth Group Night Out events and service projects. On Sundays following church, the newly created Noah's Table will meet. We are very excited about Noah's Table, so stay tuned for more details.

GET INVOLVED WITH S.P.I.R.I.T. – We Need You!

You've heard how much fun the RHCC S.P.I.R.I.T. program is. It's a place that values intergenerational relationships, growing in faith, and learning throughout our lives to be the disciples Christ calls us to be. You are invited to come join the circle and get involved. **We are currently in need of a Shepherd for the 4th-5th Grade and the 6th-8th Grade.** Shepherds stay with their particular age group during a whole unit (each time they teach throughout the year, they will stay with that same age group). The Shepherd knows the Bible story well, and helps the class and learning center guide, connect the Bible story from week to week over the course of the unit. Additionally, there are several learning center guide openings throughout the year. If you are interested in teaching, shepherding, or sharing a gift or talent at a one-time class, please let us know by sending an email to Meghan at meghan@rhccucc.org.

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

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

Date	Scripture/Lesson
Sunday, October 7 - 5:30 – 7:30 PM	S.P.I.R.I.T. Spark! - <i>Communities of Peace</i> See details on back cover.

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

Date	Scripture/Lesson
Sunday, October 7	World Communion Sunday, Family Worship <i>Cereal Box Project Kick-Off</i>
Sunday, October 14	Week 3: <i>Communities of Peace</i>
Sunday, October 21	Week 4: <i>Communities of Peace</i>
Sunday, October 28	<i>Bible Sunday</i> - Week 1: <i>Getting to Know your Bible</i>

Youth Group Calendar: *October*

Date	Fellowship Gatherings
Friday, October 5	Youth Group Night Out (6 th -12 ^h Grade) → 5 – 9 PM <i>Dinner at the Church followed by our Annual Trek to the always fun Moonlit Corn Maze. Drivers needed.</i>
Sunday, October 14	Noah's Table (6 th -12 ^h Grade) → 11:30 AM – 1 PM
Saturday, October 20	<i>Possible Service Project, TBD</i>
Sunday, October 21	Noah's Table (6 th -12 ^h Grade) → 11:30 AM – 1 PM
Sunday, October 28	Noah's Table (6 th -12 ^h Grade) → 11:30 AM – 1 PM

FALL NURSERY VOLUNTEERS: Nursery Volunteers are needed for September, October, and November. If you are interested in volunteering in the Nursery during Sunday morning worship, please contact a member of the Childcare Committee (RHCCchildcare@gmail.com) for more information. You can also sign-up outside the Nursery.

The Cereal Box Project

A Global Mission Project for the Whole Church

On Sunday, October 7, World Communion Sunday, the Board for Missions and the Board for Faith Formation are kicking-off the Cereal Box Project.



CAUSE: The Apparent Project artisan's guild, in Haiti, uses discarded materials, such as cereal boxes, to create beautiful "upcycled" pieces of jewelry. These artisans bring new hope to their families, earning a means to pay for their children's food, shelter,

and education. The vast majority of Haiti's "orphans" have not been orphaned by parental deaths, earthquakes, hurricanes, or floods, but are children of living parents who gave them up simply because they knew that an orphanage could feed their children. The Apparent Project, works to enable Haitian families to stay together.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Bring your thin colored cardboard, empty, broken down, cereal, cracker, cookie, soda, tissue boxes, etc. to RHCC, UCC, each Sunday, from October 7th (World Communion Sunday), through November 4th (Global Missions Sunday). *On November 4th, come to see and purchase the jewelry your boxes will create.*

CONTEST: The S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School is challenging the congregation of RHCC to a friendly contest, to see who, church school or congregation, can collect the most boxes for the Apparent Project. Each week, track your group's progress in Chapin Hall. On November 4th, we will announce the winning group and their prize. **Join RHCC, UCC, in Global Missions!**

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

COME JOIN THE CIRCLE: Unit 1 – Communities of Peace

Peace is the focus of the S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School for the coming weeks. It is a theme threaded throughout scripture. It is the world's hope, yet it too often eludes us as individuals and communities.

The Hebrew word shalom is literally translated "peace." A shalom life is an important way for each of us to live. A shalom life is one where arguing, anger, and conflict are overcome. Shalom can be both an individual way of life and a community choice.

Read: Luke Isaiah 11:1-9; Zechariah 7:9-10

Reflect and Remember.

As we focus on building communities of peace. You are invited to explore what the Bible says to us in our context. It reminds us that if we ask the question "What does God require of us?" we'd better be open and ready to hear the answer. Challenge yourself to find intentional ways to show kindness (that is, justice and mercy) in your life, our congregation, our community, and the world.

A Prayer For The Unit (the International Peace Prayer). Lead me from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead me from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead me from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe. Amen.

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

CONFIRMATION



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

Confirmation is open to all 9th and 10th graders who are interested in exploring who they are and what their faith means to them. Confirmation is a year of intentional faith formation that takes place through learning, discovering, and discerning within our faith community. At the end of that year, each Confirmand has the opportunity to make the choice to affirm their faith and join the membership of Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC. Participation in confirmation means regular attendance in Sunday worship, acolyte responsibilities, participating in the life of the church, organizing a mission project, engaging with mentors, and attending class twice a month.

Confirmation classes will begin in mid-to-late October with an orientation meeting and service project. If you have already signed up for confirmation, you will be receiving a letter in the mail with a schedule and details.

If you would like more information about being part of the Confirmation class, or if you are interested in being a mentor for the confirmation class please contact Meghan Young at Meghan@rhccucc.org.

Blessing of the Animals



Sunday, October 14th

1 PM

Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC

ALL pets are welcome

(within reason)

Certificate to be presented to your animal.

Snacks for animal *(and human alike!)*

Francis of Assisi was known for his love of animals, and it has been a tradition in many Christian churches to offer a blessing to those pets who are our companions, comforters, and beloved family members. You are invited to bring your family pets to the side yard of the church to receive a blessing and to join in celebrating God's gift of animals in our lives.

Please call Joan Diaz (860-613-2889) if you wish to attend.



ALL CHURCH CHORUS - December 2nd!

Singers and Ringers of all ages, please help our Choir and Bell Choir herald in the Advent season with a *simple* and *fun* anthem written especially for a multi-generational chorus, instruments, bells and chimes during our Sunday morning service on December 2nd. All music lovers are encouraged to participate and share in the joy of offering praises to the Lord! More information about rehearsals will follow. Please let Mary (mary@rhccucc.org) know if you are interested or if you have any questions. *Stay tuned for more details...*

LESSONS AND CAROLS - December 9th!

We are planning Lessons and Carols on December 9th. Please save the date, either to attend or to participate! Rehearsal schedules will be published soon. Please let Mary (mary@rhccucc.org) know if you have any questions.



Saturday, October 27th
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

The annual country fair is almost here and, as always, we need your help to ensure a success. **Volunteers are needed to help on fair day in the following areas:** In the office; the Silent Auction; the Jewelry booth; selling quilt raffle tickets and help at the roast beef dinner. If you can spare even a few hours, we would greatly appreciate it! Please contact any fair committee member or booth chair if you are able to help us out.

Donations are needed for the following booths:

- The Buy-it-Now Silent Auction (Deb Copes) – gift baskets, gift cards, services (cooked meals, massages, hair & nail gift certificates)
- The Jewelry Booth (Phyllis Wilkey/Joan Diaz) – women, men's and children's jewelry, fashion scarves and purses
- The Candy Shop (Candy Smith) – homemade fudge and candy apples
- The Kitchen Shop (Elaine Somes/Judy Graham) – dishware, glassware, pans, utensils, linens
- Picture This (Elaine Somes/Judy Graham) – frames, wall hangings, art
- The Bake Shop (Don & Polly Pagnucco) – fruit pies, cakes, cookies

We have a great fair planned this year. Liz Reed Swale is opening a Spa & Relaxation Room featuring complimentary hand treatments, \$1/minute chair massage with spa products and candles for sale. Sue Starr will be back with the ever popular Tea Room. The quilters have been hard at work sewing a new beautiful quilt for us to raffle off. Nancy Parsons will be running the Divine Diner. Lynn McKenna and Nancy Rolfe are bringing their craft talents to the Holiday House. Ruth Jensen will be setting up another Farmers Market for us. Missions will have a booth as well and, of course, Marsha Hoffman and her team will bring us the Roast Beef Dinner to cap off our day!

We will not be having the Electronics/Tool Booth this year, as it has become more difficult to compete with online retailers. Our thanks to Steve Smith and Neal Cox for all their past efforts.

We will be selling quilt raffle tickets and roast beef dinner tickets in Chapin Hall after service every Sunday before the fair.

Time and effort goes into the fair every year, but the rewards are not just monetary – we all work together to offer the community an "extravagant welcome", and we, as church members, renew friendships and faith.

We hope to see you there!

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



Calling all bakers and non-bakers to help with pies for the Church Fair and Roast Beef Dinner, Wednesday, October 24, 2012 from 4-7:30 pm and Thursday, October 25, 2011 from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Bring your peelers, rolling pins, energy and appetites (you will get to sample pie.) The more volunteers the easier the project. Wednesday night we will work with preparing dough as needed and Thursday will peel apples, put together and bake pies and anything else we can do with apples. If you are interested or have any questions please call Marsha Hoffman at 860 563-1367.

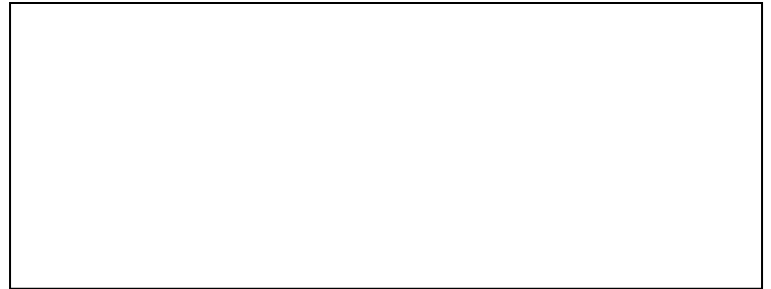
ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill CT 06067
Telephone # 860 529-4167

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Permit #7

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



It's Coming – S.P.I.R.I.T. Spark!

**Join us Sunday, October 7
5:30-7:30 PM**

for S.P.I.R.I.T. Spark, a faith formation night for the whole church family.

Come to renew and spark your faith as we join together for a pot-luck dinner, fun, fellowship, and faith formation. Separate faith formation programming will be available for children, youth, and adults.

S.P.I.R.I.T. Spark is an intergenerational gathering for the entire RHCC, UCC Family. It is offered 5 times throughout the year, and corresponds with the S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School curriculum. S.P.I.R.I.T. Spark is a great way for families of all ages and shapes to learn together and continue to form in faith at home, school, and work. It is also a wonderful way for the entire RHCC family to participate in life long faith formation.

Join RHCC, UCC as we form together in faith!