



The Reverend Barbara Libby, Interim Pastor
203 389-8946 – barlibby@rhccucc.org
The Reverend Donna K. Manocchio, Assoc. Pastor
860 529-3013 – associate@rhccucc.org
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July/August Newsletter

Editor – Carol Harvey

RHCC e-mail address – office@rhccucc.org

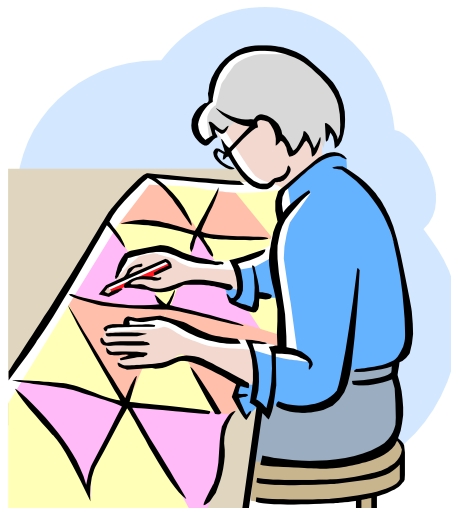
Website: www.rhccucc.org

Office Hours – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. M-TH

CLOSED FRIDAY DURING JULY & AUGUST

Sunday Worship Services – 10:00 a.m.

Childcare Available/Handicap Accessible



Can you Quilt?

The Quilters would welcome your help...

This year's quilt to be raffled off at October Fair
has been pieced together and is now fastened to the frame.

Hand quilters are needed to do the design work.

Wednesdays 9 am – 12 noon

Quilting Room (1st floor)

Call Grace Cole @ 529-4215 if you have questions



Summer Worship – It's A Good Thing! ☺

*A View from the
Interim Pastor's Seat*

We each need to feel truly welcomed and greeted when we come to church – whether it is our first visit or our 500th visit! Hospitality is a key to both coming to worship each week and in feeling welcome to come back. We each need to know that we are truly welcome and that our presence makes a difference each week. Help us meet and greet everyone who comes to worship – even if you aren't the “official greeters” for that Sunday. Rocky Hill Congregational Church United Church of Christ has now declared itself an Open and Affirming Congregation. One of the many things that this means is that it is up to each and every one of us to be truly hospitable as new folks as well as long time members come through our doors. **We all participate in the greeting and welcoming process.** Worship on Sundays continues each week at 10 am this summer. We will continue to share refreshments and conversation after 10 am worship each Sunday in Chapin Hall. If you see someone who might be new or a visitor in worship, please invite them to join you in coming downstairs to Chapin Hall for fellowship time.

Your pastors work hard to create worship that is open to the power of the Holy Spirit moving in our midst. Come to worship ready to experience and listen for the Still Speaking God who moves in our midst. We know that each week folks come from many different places in their lives. Most of us are looking to be “fed” in worship. We hope you come to actively participate in worship. The root word of “liturgy” means “the work of the people.” Good worship is a kind of work that we all share together. Worship can be fun, interesting, fruitful, and inspiring work. Worship needs your active presence and participation. Come to worship to be fed and to be fully engaged! There's no need to dress up for summer worship – Come just as you are! And bring your children and your guests with you!

It is important for all of us to participate in authentic activity. We yearn for activities and moments that touch our real lives. We bring our brokenness and hurts, our burdens and our failures; we know that life is not always easy. We need a safe place to bring all that is not whole in us. We come together as a community of faith because God binds our wounds and leads us toward wholeness. “Sometimes worship convicts us of our sin or challenges our discipleship. Ultimately worship is a ministry of grace allowing us to leave worship strengthened and encouraged for the week ahead.” (Rev. William O. “Bud” Reeves, April 2005 *Interpreter*)

What makes worship good? Your presence! Without YOU worship isn't all it can be!

It's a strange and wonderful business this interim ministry work that I do... Although the ebb and flow of each church system is somewhat like another church system, in fact, each one is unique and different... Each interim situation is different and each one demands me to move in new ways and to dance a new dance and to learn and grow and keep myself centered... It isn't always clear what God wants me or the church I serve to do. As I lean into my first summer among you and still in the first six months of my time here I want to assure you that I feel that this church is indeed moving and moving in a good direction – by the power of the Holy Spirit. I feel privileged to work among such good folk here and I feel as if we are making good progress in this transition time here at Rocky Hill. I feel confident that there is plenty of work yet to do and that there is growing energy about getting moving into the next chapter in the life of this church. With God's help we will continue to move in a good direction. Together we can do “the work of the people” and discern where God would like this church to go...

Your Interim Pastor

Barbara J. Libby

“Visiting Day – Sunday” author unknown



He was looking forward to this moment all day long, after 6 days of labor and it finally arrived – Visiting Day! The woman with the keys arrived to swing open the large, heavy doors. The cold gray hall springs to life in the warm glow of light. He could hardly control his emotions. The families began to arrive. He peers from the corner of the room longing for the first glimpse of his loved ones. He lives for the weekends. He lives for these visits. As the cars arrive, he watches intently. Then, finally, they arrive, for whom he would do anything. They embrace, eat a light lunch and reminisce how things used to be.

At one point, they break into singing, with interruptions of laughter and applause. But all too soon it is over. A tear comes to his eyes as they depart. Then the woman with the keys closes the heavy doors. He hears the key turn in the lock marking the end of a special day. There he stands, alone again.

He knows that most of his visitors will not contact him again till next week. As the last car pulls away from the parking lot, Jesus retreats into loneliness as He waits until next Sunday - Visiting Day.

Is the time that we spend with Jesus an everyday thing, or do we just visit Him on Sunday?



Visit Me
during the week!

A Message from Donna



Dear friends in Christ,

In other parts of this summer's newsletter, you will see updates on our congregation's June 7th vote to become an Open and Affirming Congregation. As a result of this vote – as there is with any other congregational vote – there will be some changes in our future. Some of them are immediately evident and have already occurred: on the weekly bulletin, the website, the newsletter, and the words we use to welcome folks to worship each Sunday. In these places, we say to each other and to the world that we are a community that seeks to actively express Jesus inclusive embrace of all people.

Some other changes will not be as quick or apparent. They will come as we ask ourselves some of the next questions in order to embody this statement in our church life. How will we live out this call to embrace the diversity that is among us and the diversity of all God's people? What can we do to become more welcoming in our words and our worship, and in our building and gathering spaces? This work is ahead of us as a Christian community relying on the power of the Holy Spirit to guide us.

In the midst of the changes that are occurring, we can be certain of one fact that will never change - **we are bound together in Christ**. No matter how you voted on June 7 or how you are feeling about this transition time, we can rest in the blessed assurance that we belong to Christ – individually and as community. The church locally or universally has never been (nor, I think, will ever be!) in complete agreement on a variety of issues or concerns. At the same time, there has always been the belief that Christ is our solace and our strength, and is with us as we walk continue to discern how to express and embrace the Open and Affirming designation.

The living out of our commitment to become an Open and Affirming Congregation will take place in the midst of all the other good work and fellowship that has marked and will continue to mark this community of faith: worship, church school, missions, stewardship, adult bible study and educational programs, and the many efforts of our boards and committees. Our vote did not change our essential mission to be the body of the Christ in the world. Let us move forward into the future God is creating for and with us!

Summer Notes from Barbara Libby

Summer Sundays

- Please worship with us throughout the summer each week at 10 am on Sunday mornings.
- We will use Chapin Hall (air conditioned) for two summer Sundays – July 26th and August 30. We look forward to your feedback about this space for worship.
- All worship is family friendly this summer – Children’s Messages will be offered weekly throughout the summer and Summer Fun (special programming) for children 3 years to 3rd grade will be offered alternating weeks. Childcare for young children under aged three will always be available.

Don’t Forget to Send us Your Pledges

Even if you are away from church – bills continue to need to be paid
Please keep current on your stewardship pledge – Thanks!

Summer Schedules

Church office

Carol Harvey: Monday thru Thursdays 9 am – 12 noon

Pastors

Barbara Libby: Sunday 9 am – 1 pm
Monday thru Thursdays 9:30 am – 5:30 pm
Additional hours are flex-time

Donna Manocchio: Sunday 8 am – 1 pm
Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 – 5:30 pm
Additional hours are flexible

Music Director

Will Kanute: Sunday 8 am to as needed

**Staff are available by appointment for daytime or evening as needed.
Carol Harvey knows schedules and emergency contact information.**

VOICE MAIL INSTRUCTIONS

Anytime during the message you can have the call transferred directly to the person you are trying to reach by simply keying in the following numbers:

Barbara Libby, Interim Pastor	202	CE	204
Donna Manocchio, Assoc. Pastor	203	Will Kanute, Dir. of Music	207
Carol Harvey, Office Secretary	201	Dick Webster, Sexton	205

Staff vacation schedule

Vacation commitments by both pastors had been made far in advance of shared employment at the church. After a conversation with the Deacons, it was discerned that this summer, pastors' vacations will overlap.

Interim Pastor Barbara Libby: Away July 30 - August 17

Pastor Donna Manocchio: Reading/Retreat time July 13-15
Away July 31-August 17

Music Director Will Kanute: Away July 13 – August 10

Carol Harvey: Away July 6 – 9 – office covered

What to do in Case of Emergency Need while Pastors are on vacation

In the event of a pastoral emergency or crisis, please call the church office first and leave a message. Do not leave any urgent messages on the pastors' voice mail while they are away on vacation.

The deacons will provide "on call" service for the church while the pastors are on vacation.

Pastoral coverage for memorial services has been arranged.

In case of any pastoral emergency or special need:

During Church Office Summer Hours: please call Carol Harvey at 860-529-4167

Outside of Church office summer hours: please call Senior Deacon, Bob Inderbitzen at his home number: 860-257-1294 (home) or 860 418-9171 (cell)

Cool Summer Plans

We have some very "cool" plans for summer worship!

Sundays - July 26 and August 30 at 10 am

Gather for worship in the air conditioned comfort of Chapin Hall.

Let's try out this space for summer worship

Your feedback will be welcome

Be Cool – worship with us!



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



BOARD of DEACONS

Peace be with you. I write these words as your new Senior Deacon—and with gratitude to Deb Copes for her most recent leadership and service in the position. I give thanks to God for Deb and my fellow Deacons—all who care deeply about our worship experiences and spiritual care here at RHCCUCC. I look forward to our

continued shared ministry—church members, leaders and pastors.

As our worship life moves into the summer months, the din changes noticeably about our church community. Some familiar Sunday faces disappear for weekends or weeks—off on vacations. Likewise begins the series of small homecomings, when friends return from summer trips, short or long—renewed, refreshed and with stories to tell. And, some of our children leave for weeklong church camp at Silver Lake where they'll enjoy the outdoor ministries of our Connecticut Conference of churches.

As we enjoy the grace of a “coming and going” people, I offer these ideas to help keep RHCCUCC close in mind...

- ✓ Send postcards to church friends and homebound members. Pack some postcard stamps for the trip, along with a copy of your church directory.
- ✓ Got visitors? Bring traveling relatives and friends with you to church on Sundays. We'll all enjoy meeting them!
- ✓ Phone or email prayer requests...joys and concerns. Prayer will unite us, regardless of distance or time.
- ✓ Visit the church web site. The site is chock-full of past sermons, recorded music (download to your MP3 player!), photos and other resources. Try these sites:
 - www.rhccucc.org – Rocky Hill Congregational Church United Church of Christ
 - www.ctucc.org – The Connecticut Conference United Church of Christ
 - www.ucc.org – United Church of Christ (national church news and info)
- ✓ Traveling? Consider visiting another UCC Congregation. You can find churches around the country by visiting www.ucc.org, and selecting the “FIND A CHURCH” link. When you return, share your experience with the Diaconate. How did the church welcome visitors? Did worship include any memorable or unique experience? Bring back a copy of the bulletin to share.

The members of your Board of Deacons have much good work to pursue in the coming months. Here is a short (and incomplete) list of our planning areas:

- Parish Care Planning (ongoing)
- Open and Affirming Ministry
- Ministerial Evaluations
- Collaboration with Christian Education Board
- Sunday, August 2–Guest Preacher: The Rev. Ineke Mitchell
- Sunday, August 9–Guest Preacher: Deacon Tom Fulda
- Sunday, September 27–Heritage/Church Homecoming Day

Yours in Christ,

Bob Inderbitzen, Senior Deacon, bobmike@cox.net

Your Sisters and Brothers of the Diaconate: Laurel Cole, Deb Copes, Julie Dostie, Tom Fulda, Stephanie Heneghan, Bill Hoffman, Cheryl Hummel, Bob Inderbitzen, Julia Pickett and Gail Tine



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

“We are all stewards – an ongoing process”

After the pledge campaign’s first stage concluded on Stewardship Sunday, a second round of mailings to those who had not yet pledged occurred. Several more pledge responses came from that effort. All efforts to date have produced the following pledges for the 2009-10 year:

- 150 returned pledge sheets (318 mailed)
- \$247,480 received for local support
- \$ 46,012 received for missions

That leaves a shortfall of \$21,520 for the local budget (adopted budget - \$269,000) and a small surplus for Missions (adopted budget - \$45,600).

The \$21,520 shortfall must be made up if all programs in the current operating budget are to continue.

Thus the campaign continues.

Your Stewardship Committee

Jim Stevens, chair, Louise Butts, Hilaire Leavitt, Bill Bartley, Al Diaz, Steve Smith



Childcare Help Needed July 5, 12, 19

See Elaine Somes, Michelle Day or sign up in the Childcare room.

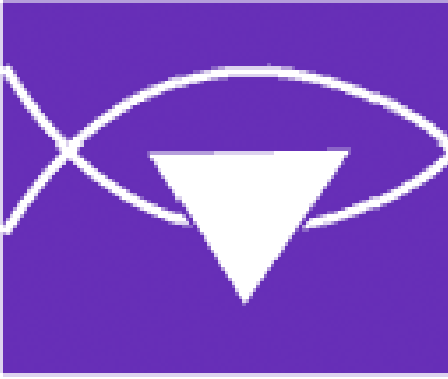


(Children of ALL Ages Welcome!)

- **Children will remain in the sanctuary until after Children's Message**
- **Children will need to be picked up in the K-1st grade class – Room 24**
- **Crafts, snacks, stories, cooking, etc.**
- **Childcare will be provided or they may join in on the fun**
- **Please notify Elaine Somes of any allergies your child may have or leave a note in CE mail box in office**

- June 28 Kick off summer program – “Footprints in the Sand”
- July 12 “ ‘Shell’ We Be There for Each Other?”
- July 13 “P. J.s and Popcorn” (wear your pajamas to church for Monday Night at the Movies (ALL ages))
- 6:30 – 7:00 pm – short film for the little ones
 - 7:00pm – Feature Film
 - Popcorn and Drinks Provided – Bring a pillow for the floor
- July 19 “Do We Flip/Flop for Jesus?”
- August 9 “Fishing for Disciples?”
- August 16 “Let Us Break Bread with our Summer Friends” (cooking)
- Followed by Fellowship and Lunch at Elm Ridge Park – for ALL ages from 11:30am to 2:30pm
 - Bocci for the big kids, Potato Sack Races, Face Painting and Playground – If it rains it will be in Chapin Hall
 - Bring a Sandwich (Chips, drinks, watermelon provided)
 - All desserts welcome and bring a folding chair.
- August 30 End of Summer Celebration
- Teachers Meeting at 11:30a.m. in the Fiorilli Room

Open and Affirming Update



On Sunday, June 7th at a special called congregational meeting of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, those members present for the meeting voted by ballot to accept the Open and Affirming Statement. The Open and Affirming Statement was affirmed by a simple majority vote – 110 ‘yes’ votes, 23 ‘no’ votes, and 3 abstentions. Rocky Hill Congregational

Church, United Church of Christ, became the 48th church in the Connecticut Conference to become an Open and Affirming Church.

Since our vote on Sunday to adopt the ONA statement, a few things have occurred to publicize our vote. This is what has been completed so far:

Barbara has sent an e-mail to the Conference Minister and her support person saying that we are now the 48th Open and Affirming church in the Conference. Barbara has also notified Ineke Mitchell, our Regional Minister.

Barbara has drafted and Carol has included a statement in our Sunday bulletin notifying people of the outcome of the vote on 6/7.

Dave Hall has changed our website to include the words “an Open and Affirming Church” under the header. He also added text to the “About us” page including the verbiage for our ONA statement and the vote results on the home page.

Steve Smith has added the vote results under the ONA at RHCC link, under Chronology and under the date of June 7, 2009.

Bill Hoffman went back to the UCC office to see what we needed to do to formally submit the statement so we are listed as an ONA church. Deb Copes has the procedures and will be submitting the required information to the UCC.

In September, the Diaconate will be investigating how to fulfill one of the ONA committee’s recommendations to have the Diaconate establish an ad hoc committee to further our ONA work in the future.

Your brothers and sisters in faith,

RHCC Diaconate

Note From the Conference Minister



June 9, 2009

The Rev. Barbara Libby
The Rev. Donna Manocchio
Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC
805 Old Main Street
Rocky Hill CT 06067

Dear Barbara and Donna,

I write to you as pastors of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church to express our appreciation for the excellent process your church engaged as you moved toward the vote on your Statement as a new Open and Affirming Church, with compassion for those who hold differing views, and with tenderness for those who have historically felt excluded for whatever reason.

As Conference Minister, I am privileged to have a particular vantage point on our churches. I have found that whenever a church engages the ONA process, I don't have to worry about its ability to work through controversy or conflict for at least a decade because its members have learned how to speak with one another with respect, how to hear one another in depth, and how to listen to those with whom they disagree.

Our ONA churches now range from 54 members to over 1800. They are rural, suburban and urban and they are spread geographically from Woodstock to Old Greenwich and from Niantic to Cornwall.

And so I extend my personal congratulations to the church and to you as pastors as you enter the leadership ranks of the Open and Affirming Churches who truly believe that God is Still Speaking in the midst of this challenging world.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Davida Foy Crabtree
Conference Minister



July Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 1 | Russell Sheathelm | 19 | Lynn McKenna |
| 3 | Dorothy Carlson | 20 | Trevor Charamut |
| | Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio | 21 | Francis DiRenzo, Jr. |
| | Maxwell Rowe | | Leila Sofiane |
| 4 | Nita Madden-Estra | 23 | Mark Gengenbach |
| 5 | Frank Vann | 24 | Jean Palmer |
| | Janice Rousseau | | Janet Hansen |
| 7 | Rusty Miller-Rich | 25 | Marianne Wainwright |
| | Barbara Moore | 26 | Audrey Titcomb |
| | Ray Gagnon | | Bill Pirre, Jr. |
| | Brian Geddes | 27 | Albert Griswold, III |
| | Patience Coleman | | Merri-Lynn Moore |
| 8 | Glen Hokans-Doll | | Peter Hanson |
| | Amy MacNeil | | C J Mason |
| | Tom Rolfe | 28 | Christopher Yorgensen |
| 9 | Nancy Wilcock | | Jeremy Ross |
| 10 | Ruth Jensen | | Abigail Riberio |
| | Sean Mullins | 30 | Mark Biglow |
| 12 | Paul Laporte | | Chris Palazzolo |
| 14 | Gary Linklater | | Jaclyn Elliot |
| 15 | Dave Sageman | | Sarah McGowan |
| | Heather Lizotte | 31 | Nanci Harvey |
| | Eddie Wine | | Laurie Tuohey |
| | Scott DiMartino | | Eric Jensen |
| | Emily DiMartino | | Douglas Graham |
| | Alex Jutras | | |
| 16 | Doug Robbins | | |
| | Jocelyn Harvey | | |
| | Anne Vazquez | | |
| | Maley Hunt | | |
| 18 | Barbara Graves | | |
| | Ted Dwyer | | |
| | Kari Funk | | |
| 19 | Amy Cooke | | |



Welcome
Our Newest
Members

May 31, 2009

**Robert and Suzanne
Speers
Margie Sheathelm
Janet Hansen
Rebecca Shen**



Arthur and Alice Weil
were married on
July 8, 1944

**Arthur and Marge
Murk**
were married on
July 20, 1963

Ted and Pat Dwyer
were married on
July 26, 1963



July 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
			1 9:00am Quilters 5:30pm Yoga with Pam
5	6 7:00pm Women's AA	7 6:00pm Yoga with Lynn	8 9:00am Quilters 5:30pm Yoga with Pam
12 10:00am Summer Fun	13 6:30pm PJ/Movie Nite 7:00pm Women's AA	14 6:00pm Yoga with Lynn	15 9:00am Quilters 5:30pm Yoga with Pam
19 10:00am Summer Fun	20 7:00pm Women's AA	21 6:00pm Yoga with Lynn 7:30pm Baby Quilters	22 9:00am Quilters 5:30pm Yoga with Pam 7:00pm Drum Choir
26 10:00am Worship in Chapin Hall	27 7:00pm Women's AA	28 6:00pm Yoga with Lynn	29 9:00am Quilters 5:30pm Yoga with Pam



AUGUST 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
2	3 7:00pm Women's AA Carol Out This Week	4 6:00pm Yoga with Lynn	5 9:00am Quilters 5:30pm Yoga with Pam 7:00pm Drum Choir
9 10:00am Summer Fun	10 7:00pm Women's AA	11 6:00pm Yoga with Lynn	12 9:00am Quilters 5:30pm Yoga with Pam
16 10:00am Summer Fun	17 7:00pm Women's AA	18 6:00pm Yoga with Lynn 7:30pm Baby Quilters	19 9:00am Quilters 5:30pm Yoga with Pam
23 1:35pm Rock Cats Baseball	24 7:00pm Women's AA	25 6:00pm Yoga with Lynn	26 9:00am Quilters 5:30pm Yoga with Pam
30 10:00am Worship in Chapin Hall 10:00am Summer Fun	31 7:00pm Women's AA		

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 9:00am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 7:00pm Silent Auction 8:00pm Men's AA	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 9:00am Yoga with Lynn
9 9:00am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11 9:00am Yoga with Lynn
16 9:00am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18 9:00am Yoga with Lynn
23 9:00am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25 9:00am Yoga with Lynn
30 9:00am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	31 OFFICE CLOSED	

STAY IN THE LOOP!

During the summer months when you can't make it to church why don't you:



www.rhccucc.org

You can:

Read Sermons
Look at pictures
Read Newsletters,
Listen to Music,
Read Worship Bulletins,
and much, much more!

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 9:00am Yoga with Lynn
6 9:00am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	7 OFFICE CLOSED	8 9:00am Yoga with Lynn
13 9:00am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	14 OFFICE CLOSED	15 9:00am Yoga with Lynn
20 9:00am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 8:00pm Men's AA	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22 9:00am Yoga with Lynn
27 9:00am Yoga with Lynn 5:30pm TOPS 7:30pm RHCCNS Parent/Orientation Mtg 8:00pm Men's AA	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29 9:00am Yoga with Lynn



August Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 01 | Jeannette Doane | 16 | Jacob Madsen |
| 02 | Lynne Lataille
Kathy Mosure
Taylor Ryan | 17 | Joyce Toft
Denise Carberry
Brandon Knight
Ryan Day |
| 03 | Jeffery Glidden
Jennifer Kelley
Robert Durgin | 18 | Thelma Backe |
| 04 | Keri Kemish
Ryan Pipke | 19 | Bill Bartley
Jori Sparry |
| 05 | Zachary Wainwright
Joseph Wainwright | 20 | Laura Pawlich |
| 06 | Samantha Behlman | 22 | Pat Raymond |
| 07 | Linda Tokarski
Rachel Hanson
Noah Dion | 23 | Emily McKenna |
| 08 | Betty Mooney
Richard Partynski
David Peisach | 24 | Dave Edwards
Thompson Hunt |
| 09 | Patricia Dwyer | 25 | Lee Shippy
Hailey Sousa |
| 10 | Kelly Moore | 26 | Earl King, Jr.
Diane Love
Michael Bower |
| 11 | Julia Pickett | 27 | Cynthia Lupacchino
Michael Scribano
Vanessa Sue Bighinatti |
| 12 | Deb Copes
Kimberly Robbins | 28 | Charles Vassilopoulos
Paul Tine, Jr. |
| 13 | Jean Holmes
Stephanie Heneghan
Kim Walker
Gary King
Taylor McLean | 29 | Helen Boyd
Larry Gilbert
Shannon Madsen |
| 14 | Jim Stevens
Carol Baran
Rhody Triblets | 31 | Lily Hill
Barry Wilcock
Maryellen Szwez
Kathryn Knight
Doug Elliot
Sydney Scheirey |
| 15 | Tia Sheathelm | | |
| 16 | Lisa LaBar
Val Scribano | | |



**David and Nancy
Edwards**

were married on
August 21, 1955

Dick and Sue Starr
were married on
August 31, 1957

Congratulations!

News from the Fair Committee

We are very happy to report that we now have chairpersons for all booths for the October fair. Julie and Tim Dostie have graciously offered to chair the Tag Sale booth. Thank you Dosties!

As the lazy days of summer are upon us, we on the committee ask that you please keep the October 24th fair in mind. After you read your summer novels and clean out your bureaus, closets, sheds and garages; we are asking you to put aside gently used paperbacks and hardcover books; tools, birdfeed, birdseed containers, bird houses, silverware, glassware, pots and pans, holiday decorations, jewelry, fashion scarves etc. and **donate these items to the fair in the fall.**

Your donations insure a successful fair and we thank you, as always, for your generosity. We will be working over the next few months preparing for the fair; feel free to contact any of the committee members with any questions you may have and we will be happy to help.

Jim Stevens
Elaine Somes
Candy Smith

Bob Simmons
Phyllis Wilkey
Mary Dean

Neal Cox
Lynn McKenna
Annie Hokans-Doll



Summer is the time of rest and relaxation – and also a time for reading! The CT Conference has sent along a reading list to local churches in preparation for its annual meeting in October that will be an experience of a “Sacred Conversation on Race.” Two of their recommendations that you might consider as days of summer are upon us:

In the Fall by Jeffrey Lent

This novel is set in the twilight of the Civil War when Leah, an escaped slave, discovers Norman Pelham, a wounded soldier who lies dying in the battlefield outside Richmond. Norman and Leah marry and raise a family in Vermont, and change comes when Leah travels back to the South of her birth.

The Children in Room E4: American Education on Trial by Susan Eaton

Eaton spent four years at Simpson-Waverly Elementary School, an all-minority school in Hartford, seeking to discover whether separate can ever be equal. This book examines the ups and downs of life in a classroom in the poorest city in one of the wealthiest states in the country.

You can find the complete list on the RHCC website: www.rhccucc.org.



[The listing of prayers requests is omitted from the online version of the newsletter.]



Back Bay Mission

In early October, Back Bay Mission will host a celebration of the new campus buildings, which are nearly complete! Donna will attend this dedication and report back to the congregation. If you would like to join her on this trip, please let her know.

Board of Missions

Pastoral Counseling Center

On September 20th, The Counseling Center will offer a second hour program in Chapin Hall, titled “Strengthening Your Soul and Faith.” The program will be presented by Rev. Dr. Bob Henderson. Please consider joining us, and look for more information in the coming months.

Blanket Card Sales

Thanks to all who supported the Church World Service through Blanket Cards this Father’s Day. What a great way to honor fathers and help families around the world. This year, we collected \$25 (\$140 was collected from the Mother’s Day sales).

Where Did Your Money Go?

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

Missionary Support

Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM) – \$5000.00

We have decided to have our usual portion of the loose offerings (which is normally 25%) go toward the general budget for this fiscal year, retroactive to May. We hope this will help with the shortfall for the local operating budget.

We have also authorized Steve Smith to use his discretion during the summer to fund any emergencies or disasters. This money would come from funds available for expenditures.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 8, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.

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



A note to my church family:

I want to deeply thank the many people who did errands above and beyond, called to see how I was doing, visited both at home and at Salmon Brook and St. Francis and sent cards. These were all very meaningful and are helping with my recovery. They also contributed to the wonderful welcome I received upon returning to church on the 7th. My heartfelt thanks to each and everyone of you. Am hopeful that soon I will not be in need of such assistance.

Love, Pat Howland

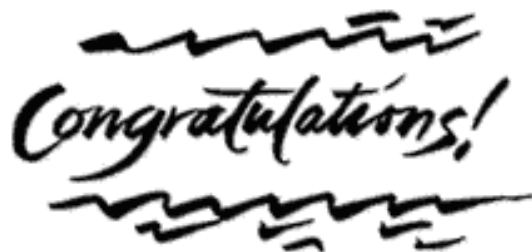
Dear Church Family,

The congregation has been so supportive and helpful to us during this time. The cards, calls, meals, and offers of help, have all been so appreciated. We are truly blessed to be a part of such a caring church community. The church care team is such a valuable resource. Phil Swain was so kind and helpful in getting me to my follow-up doctor's appointment.

Thank you to everyone!

We are so grateful!

The Hunt Family



Sarah Bell announced her engagement to Matthew Robinson!
They will be married on May 29, 2010

CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES



Vanessa Sue Bighinatti
 Brooke Czapkowski
 Brittainee Davis
 Jaclyn Elliot
 Melody Hall

Jenna Rae Hedding
 Maley Hunt
 Christina Jensen
 Samantha LaBar
 Jane Lataille

Alicia Partynski
 Christopher Robbins
 Daniel Scribano
 Ellen Scully
 Meghan Wilcock



COLLEGE GRADUATES

Brian Bell graduated with a **Doctor of Dental Medicine** from **University of Connecticut** and will be working at Hartford Hospital in a General Practice Residency Program for one year prior to joining David Bell in his dental practice.

Sarah Biglow graduated from **Susquehanna University** with a **Bachelor of Arts degree in History**. Sarah will continue her education at **New England Law in Boston** to earn her **Juris Doctor**.

Ben Bishop graduated from **University of Connecticut** with a Bachelors degree in Communications.

Tim Bishop graduated from **Central Connecticut State University** with a Bachelor degree in Political Science.

Sam DeGiovanni graduated from **Boston College** with a **Bachelor of Arts in Economics**.

Matthew Fulda graduated from **Central Connecticut State University** with a **Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Geography and Information Sciences**.

2009-2010 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Vanessa Bighinatti	General	University of Massachusetts Amherst
Julie Fell	General	Syracuse University
Lisa Fell	General	Elon University
Jillian Fulda	General	University of Rhode Island
Melody Hall	General	Hofstra University
Maley Hunt	General	The George Washington University
Kathryn Lewis	General	Lebanon Valley College
Meagan McLoughlin	General	Quinnipiac University
Christopher Robbins	General	University at Buffalo
Ellen Scully	General	Colorado College
Meghan Wilcock	Adams	Roanoke College



RHCCNS - Fall 2009 Nursery School Openings

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

quality preschool program, please invite them to call to set up a visit. Please help us spread the word throughout the community. Your recommendation of our long standing program is our best advertising! Applications are available in the hallway outside the classroom.

Did you know this about RHCCNS?

Testing....testing....testing....Do you know how long **RHCCNS** has been in operation? In fact, do you know what the letters “RHCCNS” really stand for? Yes, many of you do know and many of you have been a part of it ... as a 3- or 4-year-old student, as a parent, as an organizer, or as a Board Member.

The “Rocky Hill Congregational Cooperative Nursery School” was formed by a group of caring women in our Stepney Guild in about 1948 (during the Rev. Couch’s pastorate). One of their church service projects was to develop a week-day cooperative nursery school for some of their own children and for children in the community. The results of their vision and dedication grew into a highly respected program for preschoolers here in Rocky Hill. In 1987, **RHCCNS** met the State of Connecticut’s new and required licensing standards for health, education, and operation for all preschools. **RHCCNS** continues to meet those standards.

The next time you walk along the hallway outside Chapin Hall, peek through the windows or, when possible, step inside to meet the teachers and the children and witness what over 60 years of continued dedicated vision and service grew into. Just imagine, an estimated 2,100+ preschoolers started their school life at **RHCCNS!**

As children grow and change, so do educational needs and expectations. Today’s challenge to **RHCCNS** is to be sure its educational program and operational direction keep pace with current education curriculum and goals, as well as continue to be part of the overall mission of the church. If you would like more information or wish to share some of your skills and interests, please leave a message at the church office.

RHCCNS may still have openings for the coming school year in both the 3- and 4-year-old classes. If you know any families looking for a cooperative preschool program with a great reputation and a long history, please have them call the church office.



Rocky Hill Congregational Church Family Day at New Britain Stadium



Catch the fun & Excitement of Rock Cats Baseball
Sunday, August 23, 2009 @ 1:35pm
Gates Open 12:05pm

Rock Cats (Minnesota Twins)
 Vs.
 Reading Phillies (Philadelphia Phillies)

FAITH & FAMILY DAY!
POST-GAME CONCERT!
KIDS RUN THE BASE AFTER THE GAME!

Come Spend a Day at the Ballpark with Friends and Family from
 Rocky Hill Congregational Church!

All Orders must be received by:
 August 7, 2009



Rocky Hill Congregational Church Family Day at New Britain Stadium

August 23, 2009

Gates Open: 12:05 PM

Game Time: 1:35 PM

Rock Cats Baseball
Always a Rockin' Good Time

<u>Type</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total</u>
Reserved Seats	\$5.00 X	_____	= _____



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please return your form to the church office with cash or check made payable to Rocky Hill Congregational Church.
 Please note "Rock Cats Tickets" on envelope front.

Questions? Please contact Donna Manocchio at associate@rhccucc.org or (860) 529-4167

THIRD GRADERS TOUR THE CHURCH

On May 22 and 29, all the third graders in the town of Rocky Hill toured RHCC, UCC as part of the “learning about our town” curriculum. Many of the church school children were part of the group, and they were happy to welcome their classmates! The students learned about the history of our church, the 200 year old sanctuary, our commitment to mission, the canopy of cranes (which were a BIG hit!), and the church fire. Here’s a sampling of several thank notes:

Thank you for talking with us about the church.

I learned that when there were no phones back then, the church contacted people with bells.

I liked the cranes.

I liked learning that they used drums to call people to church.

*I especially enjoyed how the church came back after the fire.
It must have been a lot of hard work.*

It’s always a joy to have the energy and questions of young people and help them learn about our church. We look forward to welcoming a new group next spring!

PS If you’d like to know more about RHCC and its history, contact Donna. She’ll be happy to give the lesson to older kids and adults!

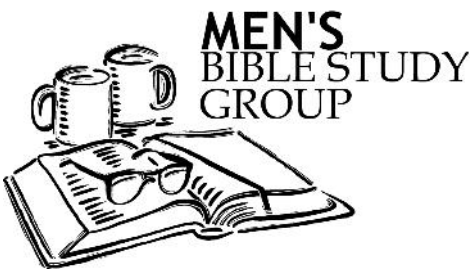


SAVING GREEN/GOING GREEN

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



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



The Saturday Men's Bible Study Group will be taking a summer break. The last meeting will be June 27 and will resume again on September 12. As always they are seeking additional members. If you are interested in studying scripture, discussing how it relates to our daily lives, engaging in open religious and

spiritual discussions, the Men's Bible Study Group may be just what you have been looking for. The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. in the church parlor.



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

Your "At Large" Council Members Are All Ears!

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

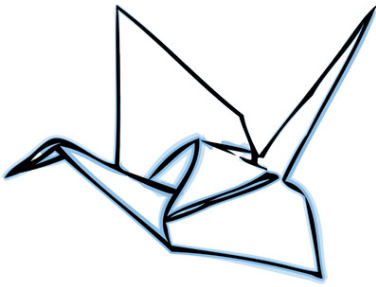
Just contact:

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

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

Jan LaCava, 529-2192 (janetyl@aol.com)





PASSING THE PEACE!

The canopy of cranes that adorned our sanctuary during the Easter season have been taken down. Some have been gifted to the CT Children's Medical Center, and others will decorate the hallway going up to the Church School classrooms. The remaining cranes - a symbol of peace - are available to church members and friends to take and share. You are encouraged to take two cranes. Keep the first one for yourself and put it in your room or house as a symbol of the peace of Christ. Or when the peace in your house is strained, place the crane in a spot where you can remember Christ's call to love and share peace with others. Take a second crane and gift it away! Maybe your neighbor or your local grocery store clerk can use the gift of peace. Perhaps a doctor's office or restaurant or a local convalescent home would welcome a crane. Christ shared the words of peace with his friends and with the world - Let us do the same!

If you'd like more than two cranes or are unable to come to church to pick them up, please contact one of the church pastors.

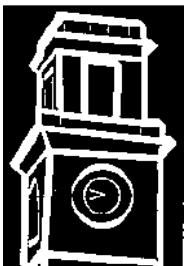


LOOKING AHEAD **Mark your calendars now!**

**Sunday, September 20th 2nd Hour Conversation with
Rev. Dr. Bob Henderson**

**Sunday, September 27th Heritage/Homecoming Sunday with
recognition of 50-year members.**

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. While Chapin Hall renovations are being done the sign up list will be posted in the Fiorilli Room or 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.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Food Bank – July 5 and August 2

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

Crayons for Cancer Benefit Concert – Saturday, August 15th from 5:00-7:00 pm at Cove Park in Wethersfield (behind the DMV). This concert will feature “Zeal” and “Post Hole Diggers.” Free admission, drawings, tasty treats, and family fun. Bring your old crayons to donate and your blankets and chairs. Visit Crayonsforcancer.org or call 860 563-8286 for more information. Crayons for Cancer raises funds for kids currently battling cancer. 100% of the proceeds from Crayons for Cancer go to the Family Fund in the Oncology unit at CT Children’s Medical Center of Hartford. The family Fund helps families cope with their child’s illnesses by offsetting the cost of parking and meals while they stay at the hospital. Hope to see you there!

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

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

Two Yoga classes offered at Rocky Hill Congregational Church in Chapin Hall

Yoga with Pam – Quiet the mind, increase flexibility, reduce stress and promote health and wellness. Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm with Pamela Clark, R.N. The fee is \$12 or \$80 for 8 classes. Beginner and advanced beginner students welcome! Gift certificates available.

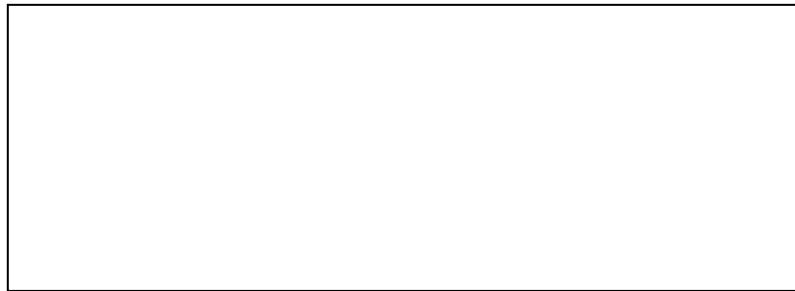
Yoga Offered by Core Power, LLC – Experience the dynamic flow and challenge of yoga which builds strength, balance and flexibility for an overall fit and healthy body. Classes are for all-levels with options for everyone! Thursdays at noon and Saturday mornings in July and August at 9:00am. The fee is \$10.00 or 10 classes for \$70.00 or 5 classes for \$40.00 – Lynn MacDonald / Please contact 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

Permit #7

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
TIME VALUE MAIL
Mailed June 26, 2009



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

**DEADLINE FOR
SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 15TH**



DINE OUT WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY
THURSDAY, JULY 16 @ 6:00 pm
PUKET CAFÉ, SILAS DEANE HIGHWAY,
WETHERSFIELD

SIGN UP IN CHAPIN HALL

For more information, please contact Donna
Unforgettable Dining Experience.....

As the world grows smaller, it is inevitable that the
foods of other countries, Asian or Western, find a
place in the Thai local culinary sense.

Experience the essence of authentic non-Asian cuisine. Capture the essential elements of East and West, here in Thailand where there are many choices of dining options to please all tastes. Whether you are thinking in terms of a restaurant by the river and by the sea, a popular meeting place in the city, colorful street-side food stalls, you are sure to find it there. Whatever the word "authentic cuisine" means to you, rest assured that Thailand has it all.