



# The Church Mouse

The Reverend Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka, Interim Senior Pastor

[brenda@rhccucc.org](mailto:brenda@rhccucc.org)

Mary DeLibero, Minister of Music

[mary@rhccucc.org](mailto:mary@rhccucc.org)

860 529-4167 Church

## July/August 2015 Newsletter

RHCC e-mail address – [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org)

Website: [www.rhccucc.org](http://www.rhccucc.org)

Summer Office Hours – 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday

Office is Closed on Monday and Friday

Sunday Worship Services – 10:00 a.m.

Childcare Available/Handicap Accessible

### **RHCC CELEBRATES**

the call of

### **THE REVEREND CRAIG L. COWING**

as our next Pastor

at the special congregational meeting held on June 28.

He will begin with us on Sept. 8 and his first Sunday will be Sept. 13.

***We joyfully welcome Craig and Anita  
as they move to Rocky Hill  
this summer and become part of our church family!!***

# From the Interim Senior Pastor



*The world fears a new experience more than it fears anything.  
Because a new experience displaces so many old experiences.*  
D. H. Lawrence

It's true. We're usually afraid of what we don't yet know, haven't yet experienced. Which, if you think about it, makes us afraid of something every day, all the time. What if it doesn't turn out well? What if the new isn't as good as the old? What if we're not up to the challenge of whatever's coming next? What if we never stop missing the way it used to be? What if ... what if...what if...

If this is true of human experience generally, I'd say it's true of congregational experience in particular. Churches may be (ideally) communities of risk-taking and future-building, but first we are communities of history and memory. We have to be. We do what we do, we are who we are, in light of a whole foundation that was here before we were. We learn it in order to step into it and become part of it. We have to learn it in order to love it or to critique it, to celebrate it or to change it. What we haven't first internalized, we can't speak to, or from, or about. Not really. So the past of a faith community is always quite present.

And therefore the future can seem scary. As the writer D. H. Lawrence put it, the reason a new experience scares us is because it displaces older experiences – that is, it can make us feel we're losing something. I have recognized the truth of this insight in the work of interim ministry, where the sense of loss that can accompany church transitions can be palpable. Congregations sometimes find ways of trying to hold on because they can't bear the displacing of something, or someone. They can't bear to let something end, even when it clearly needs to, and so there is an unhealthy hanging on. Pastors can do the same thing. Sometimes the next chapter doesn't get to start clean because of the holding-on. Sometimes we're not strong or brave enough for the future, no matter how much promise it holds.

And then again...in God's grace... sometimes we are. My hope and prayer for Rocky Hill Congregational Church is that you will be more than open to the next chapter, and not impeded by fears of displacement, or loss, or change. If we're afraid of those things, we're essentially afraid of life. And if we're afraid of life, we're not living it fully, we're just "getting through it." I don't think God means for us to just get through life, do

you? I think God means for us to live it fully, to be as awake and alive as we can be, both as individuals and as a community together. Discipleship – following Jesus, which is the purpose of the church – takes our wholeheartedness. That means we'll have to trust that what's coming next is worthy of our full hearts, minds, energies...even when it means that some things will end.

I thank you for the privilege of being your Interim Senior Pastor for these last two years, and for all the gifts of faith, hope and love that have been part of this journey with you. And I celebrate with you the arrival of the next...which, of course, will be built upon what has already been. It always is!!

May it be so with us...and thanks be to God.

Faithfully,

Rev. Brenda



### **Pastoral Coverage for Summer Weeks**

From July 13 through September 6, while RHCC does not have a pastor on staff, pastoral coverage will be provided by the Rev. Bob Woodward. Bob served RHCC as Associate Pastor from 1976-82 and is fondly remembered by many in our congregation. He also served in a number of interim pastorates before his retirement. Bob will be providing leadership for Sunday worship (with the exception of August 9 and 23, when we will have lay-led worship), as well as one day a week in the church office and on-call availability for urgent pastoral concerns.

During these weeks, you may reach Bob by calling the church office (860-529-4167). Deacons will be helping to monitor church office phone messages at times when staff are not in the office.



*Summer services are at 10:00 a.m. in air-conditioned Chapin Hall, through September 6.*

**July 5 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost; Communion**  
The Rev. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

**July 12 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
Rev. Brenda's last Sunday

**July 19 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**  
The Rev. Robert Woodward

**July 26 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**  
The Rev. Robert Woodward

**Aug. 2 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost; Communion**  
The Rev. Robert Woodward

**Aug. 9 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
Lay-led worship

**Aug. 16 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**  
The Rev. Robert Woodward

**Aug. 23 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
Lay-led worship

**Aug. 30 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
The Rev. Robert Woodward

**Sept. 6 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
The Rev. Robert Woodward



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

On Children's Worship Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, the S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School planned, wrote, and led worship. The service focused on what it means to be a hero in the eyes of God. We shared the story of Esther, a young woman, with immense bravery. The Pre-K and K-1 Classes, greeted, ushered, played bells, and sent us out in peace with a beautiful benediction. The 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade class reminded us to be generous givers and beautifully called us to worship in prayer. The 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade class thoughtfully led us in prayer. Our 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders shared the scripture through a worship drama they wrote, and preached about bullying and God's call to use each of us for good. Throughout the service Liz Reed-Swale led us in song, as we shared the music we sing in church school. There was also time to give thanks for our passionate and seemingly tireless teachers and volunteers, who help us grow in faith.

During the sermon, we were reminded of Mordecai's words to Esther, "perhaps you were created for a moment such as this?" Our young people charged us to hear that question, think deeply about it, and search our world for the places and moments where God calls us. God uses all of us, ordinary people, to create extraordinary change and share a deep love in the world. What a gift and blessing it is, to have these young people as ministers at RHCC!

## Youth Group

We held our final youth group of the fall. We climbed the church tower, shared a meal and brownie sundaes, held each other in prayer, and competed in a lip-sync battle. We are grateful for the time, relationships, friendship, and faith that we have been gifted and blessed with over the following year.

*All Youth Group (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders) will resume in the fall of 2015.*

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

**S.P.I.R.I.T. Summer Volunteers** – If you are interested in helping with any of our summer programming, please contact Kathy Morgan. Supplies and curriculum are provided.

## Here's What's Happening This Summer...

**S.P.I.R.I.T Summer Sunday Programming:** For Pre-K – 5<sup>th</sup> graders during the 10 AM Service.

Date	Scripture/Lesson
Sunday, July 13	Favorite Bible Stories: Joseph
Sunday, July 26	Favorite Bible Stories: Hannah and Samuel
Sunday, August 9	Favorite Bible Stories: The Lost Sheep
Sunday, August 23	Favorite Bible Stories: The Forgiving Father

**\*Families are encouraged to join us for worship throughout the summer. Special children's programs will be provided.**

## Thank You.

Dear Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC,

For almost 6 years, I have had the privilege and honor of serving as a Pastor at Rocky Hill Congregational Church, UCC. Thank you for inviting me into your lives, sharing your stories, blessing our community and the world with your gifts, and holding each other prayer. I am grateful for the ministry we have done together, and the ways it has shaped us both.

I want to thank you for all the moments we have shared together, and the memories I will carry with me. I also want to thank you for the wonderful send-off you gave me on June 21st, and the gifts you generously gave. I will treasure them.

I am so excited for RHCC, for I believe God has so much more in store for you, and I will continue to hold this community in prayer, even though our time together has ended. May God continue to keep and bless you, and in the words of Paul, may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit!

In ministry,  
Meghan

## *Blessings and Congratulations To our Confirmands*



Tyler Morgan,  
Confirmation

Victoria Bower,  
Sunday,

Brian Speers,  
May

Louis DiRenzo  
10,

2015

# DEACONS

The Diaconate at RHCC/UCC has been very busy in recent months preparing for the departure of our currently serving ministerial staff, and the arrival of our new settled pastor, the Rev. Craig L. Cowing. It is an exciting time

in the life of the church, and there is so much to be thankful for. Firstly, the ministry of the Rev. Meghan D. Young was celebrated on June 21, and our heartfelt appreciation goes out to Meghan for all she has done, and many blessings to her as she goes forth in her ministry! Also, on July 12 we will be saying a fond farewell to the Rev. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka, our Interim Senior Pastor, as she begins her ministry at another church embarking on the search for a new settled minister. Brenda has been an amazing pastor, resource, and friend during our interim period and helped us stay steady during a time of great change. We have benefitted greatly from her ministry with us. Finally, we commend the Search Committee for their excellent and diligent work in selecting Rev. Cowing as our next settled pastor. The Diaconate looks forward to working with Craig and supporting him in his ministry at RHCC/UCC!

The Diaconate is currently working on issues related to ministry! We are a church of lay ministers and there are so many opportunities to care for one another within the life of the church. This is not a role for church leaders only, but for all the members of the body of Christ. We can be Christ's hands, feet, heart, and mind in the world, and for one another here at RHCC/UCC. Look for upcoming opportunities to participate in Caring Ministries and Worship starting in the Fall, and consider places where you may be called to lay ministry.

## **Examples of Caring Ministries and Worship at RHCC/UCC:**

**Pastoral Care Ministries:** Pastoral Visits, Flower Delivery; Ride Care; Funeral/Memorial Service Ushers and Food Preparation; Prayer Shawl Ministry; Cooking for Those in Need; Prayer

**Worship Assistance:** Ushering; Liturgist; Musical Contributions (Choir, Soloists, Instrumental)

**Assistance for Functions in the Building:** Wedding / Function Coordination

Please continue to pray for the ministry of RHCC/UCC, and for those among us in need of prayer, and please don't hesitate to reach out to the church office if you are in need or help or prayers.

It is with great hope and optimism that we go forward into this new time of ministry in the life of the church, and welcome each of you to be a part of it!

In Faith,

Your Board of Deacons

Michael H. Bower – Chair, Bob Carberry – Treasurer, Candy Smith – Secretary, Victoria Bower, Judy Graham, Gail Hall, Nancy Parsons, and Gail Tine



# 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
			<b>1</b> 5:30pm Pilates w/Carolyn
<b>5</b> 10:00am <b>Worship</b> <b>Chapin Hall</b> <b>Communion</b>	<b>6</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7:00pm Women's AA	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9:00am <b>Breakfast Club</b>  5:30pm Pilates w/Carolyn
<b>12</b> 10:00am <b>Worship</b> <b>Rev. Brenda's last</b> <b>Sunday Chapin Hall</b>	<b>13</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7:00pm Women's AA	<b>14</b> 7:00pm Hearing Voices	<b>15</b> 5:30pm Pilates w/Carolyn
<b>19</b> 10:00am <b>Worship</b> <b>Chapin Hall</b> 11:30am <b>Deacons Mtg</b>	<b>20</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7:00pm Women's AA	<b>21</b> 7:00pm Hearing Voices	<b>22</b> 5:30pm Pilates w/Carolyn
<b>26</b> 10:00am <b>Worship</b> <b>Chapin Hall</b>	<b>27</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7:00pm Women's AA	<b>28</b> 7:00pm Hearing Voices 7:00pm Community Event	<b>29</b> 5:30pm Pilates w/Carolyn

# 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<b>2</b> 10:00am <b>Worship</b> <b>Chapin Hall</b> <b>Communion</b>	<b>3</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  7:00pm Women's AA	<b>4</b>  7:00pm Hearing Voices	<b>5</b>  5:30pm Pilates w/Carolyn
<b>9</b> 10:00am <b>Worship</b> <b>Chapin Hall</b>	<b>10</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7:00pm Women's AA	<b>11</b> 7:00pm Hearing Voices	<b>12</b> 9:00am <b>Breakfast Club</b> 5:30pm Pilates w/Carolyn
<b>16</b> 10:00am <b>Worship</b> <b>Chapin Hall</b>	<b>17</b> <b>NEWSLETTER</b> <b>DEADLINE</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7:00pm Women's AA	<b>18</b> 7:00pm Hearing Voices	<b>19</b> 5:30pm Pilates w/Carolyn
<b>23</b> 10:00am <b>Worship</b> <b>Chapin Hall</b>	<b>24</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7:00pm Women's AA	<b>25</b> <b>NEWSLETTER</b> <b>MAILING</b> 6:00pm Community Event 7:00pm Hearing Voices	<b>26</b>  5:30pm Pilates w/Carolyn
<b>30</b> 10:00am <b>Worship</b> <b>Chapin Hall</b>	<b>31</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7:00pm Women's AA		





THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>2</b> 7:30pm Men's AA	<b>3</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>9</b> 7:30pm Men's AA	<b>10</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>11</b> 5:00pm Birthday Party
<b>16</b> 7:30pm Men's AA	<b>17</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 5:45pm Pilates w/Carolyn	<b>18</b>
<b>23</b> 7:30pm Men's AA	<b>24</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>30</b> 7:30pm Men's AA	<b>31</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	



THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b>
<b>6</b> 7:30pm Men's AA	<b>7</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>13</b> 7:30pm Men's AA	<b>14</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>20</b> 7:30pm Men's AA	<b>21</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>22</b> 9:00am Yoga w/Lynn
<b>27</b> 7:30pm Men's AA	<b>28</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>29</b> 9:00am Yoga w/Lynn

### Please note!

The Tuesday Morning  
**BREAKFAST CLUB**  
has been changed  
to the  
**SECOND WEDNESDAY**  
of each month at  
Bob's Coffee Shop  
33 New Britain Ave,  
Rocky Hill  
at **9:00am**.



**ALL WELCOME!**

**THINK  
SCRIP!**

**Don't forget!  
Wear your  
Nametag!**





## BIRTHDAYS

1	Russell Sheathelm	16	Doug Robbins
3	Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio		Anne Vazquez
4	Anthony Marcucci		Maley Hunt
5	Frank Vann	18	Kari Cary
	Janice Rousseau	19	Lynn McKenna
	Tom Reed-Swale	21	Francis DiRenzo, Jr.
7	Ray Gagnon	22	Holli Bacon
8	Glen Schultz	24	Janet Hansen
	Tom Rolfe	27	Bud Griswold
9	Nancy Wilcock		C J Mason
	Betty Schako	30	Mark Biglow
10	Ruth Jensen		Chris Palazzolo
	Sean Mullins		Jaclyn Elliot
12	Paul Laporte		Sarah McGowan
15	Dave Sageman	31	Douglas Graham
	Heather Lizotte		



The RHCC church family extends congratulations and prayerful best wishes to the following 2015 graduates: **Danielle Berry** (Middletown High School). **Gregson Curtin** (Xavier High School) cum laude. **Thompson P. Hunt** (The George Washington University) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering with a concentration in Structural Engineering. **Jillian Fulda Maynard** (Univ. of Rhode Island) with a Masters in History, Masters in Library Science. **James Rolfe** (Rocky Hill High School). **John Speers** (Rocky Hill High School).



## ***AUGUST BIRTHDAYS***

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Jeannette Doane  | 14 Jim Stevens       |
| 2 Lynne Lataille   | Carol Baran          |
| Kathy Mosure       | Rhody Triblets       |
| 3 Jennifer Kelley  | 15 Tia Sheathelm     |
| 6 Ed Bacon         | 17 Joyce Toft        |
| Samantha Behlman   | Denise Carberry      |
| 7 Linda Tokarski   | Molly Morgan         |
| Noah Dion          | 19 Bill Bartley      |
| 8 Betty Mooney     | 20 Laura Pawlich     |
| Galen Deming       | 23 Emily McKenna     |
| 11 Julia Pickett   | 24 Thompson Hunt     |
| 12 Deb Copes       | 25 Lee Shippy        |
| 13 Jean Holmes     | 26 Michael Bower     |
| Stephanie Heneghan | 27 Persephone Blaise |
| Kim Walker         | 28 Paul Tine Jr.     |
| Gary King          | 29 Larry Gilbert     |
| Taylor McLean      | 31 Lily Hill         |
|                    | Barry Wilcock        |
|                    | Doug Elliot          |



**Bob and Janet Hansen**  
were married on  
**August 21, 1954**

**Dick and Sue Starr**  
were married on  
**August 31, 1957**

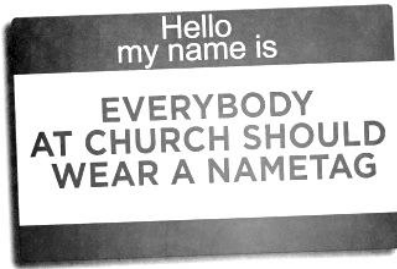
**Congratulations!**



Until you have become really, in actual fact, a brother or sister to everyone, brotherhood/sisterhood/community will not come to pass. No sort of scientific teaching, no kind of common interest, will ever teach humankind to share property and privileges with equal consideration for all. Everyone will think his or her share too small and they will always be envying, complaining, and attacking one another.

F. Dostoevsky, The Brothers Karamazov

## **PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR A NAMETAG**



Wearing a nametag is a very important way to let people know who you are, especially for our newer members, visitors, or folks who haven't been back in a while. And with new staff coming on board in the coming months, this will be all the more important! Please remember to wear your nametag every Sunday!

"But I don't have a nametag!" you say. That is easily fixed. Simply contact Mitsey in the church office at [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org) or 860-529-4167 and one will be created just for you! Or you can see me after church! I'll be wearing my nametag!

Michael Bower, Deacon

### **HONOR LOVED ONES DEDICATE SANCTUARY FLOWERS**



Please sign up to contribute flowers for the sanctuary. It is a lovely way to honor the memory or special events of family and friends. Sign up on the flower calendar in **Chapin Hall**, email [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org) or call the church office (860-529-4167). There are openings for July 12th and 26th and August 2nd, 23rd and 30th.

You may either bring your flowers (purchased or self arranged) or you may order from the Root System, 860-529-2777 – who will deliver directly to the church. If using the Root System, please let Kathy or Kim know so delivery can be arranged.

If you have questions – please call Kathy Moser 860-632-9763 or Kim Burghoff 860-563-3287.

After the service, you can leave your flowers to be delivered to shut-ins or take them with you.

## **2015 COUNTRY FAIR**

It takes all of us to have a successful fair and dinner!



**OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup>**



**9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

It takes all of us to have a successful fair and dinner.

**Do you want to help out in a booth? Can you donate to a booth?**

Farmers Market & Bake Shoppe – Ruth Jensen - Looking for small empty jars or a few filled with jelly or jam. Baked goods.

Sew Country – Nancy Rolfe - looking for material, yarn, crochet kits, etc.

Snack Shack – Jeanne Goff & family- Looking for hamburgers, hot dogs, chili, soda, water, chips

Candy Shoppe – Candy Smith – Looking for fudge of various flavors

Mainly Media – Elaine Somes – videos, cds & cd & dvd players in good condition

Watch your Sunday Bulletins for more to come...



We are putting a suggestion box in Chapin Hall all summer. If you have an idea for a booth or want to suggest something you want to see, let us know. You can remain anonymous!



Remember and Pass It On

**COUNTRY FAIR DINNER & QUILT RAFFLE  
NOVEMBER 7, 2015**

**LOOK FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF PIE MAKING AND SIGN UP**

**THANKS FROM YOUR FAIR COMMITTEE**

### **Faith-Based Organizing**

- Christian Activities Council's faith-based organizing initiative is going well. They are in conversations with a number of urban and suburban congregations and will begin training interested clergy this summer.

### **Adventures in the City**

- CAC has raised its \$96,000 budget for this year's summer program which will kick off on July 6<sup>th</sup> at Milner School. Thank you for your support and please pray for a fun and safe summer program for all.

### **Housing**

- Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) awarded CAC a \$20,000 grant to hire a housing consultant to evaluate and provide recommendations on CAC's ongoing housing projects to ensure sustainability.
- CAC will have a two family home for sale by the end of this summer on Deerfield Avenue. This home will be for first time, low income home buyers and will be the 8<sup>th</sup> house rehabbed or built on Deerfield Avenue by CAC!

### **Annual Meeting**

Our Annual Meeting was held on May 15, 2015 at the Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford.

I was impressed by Executive Director Cori Mackey's new format. It was much more centered on our important mission, rather than reports from different people such as auditors. Also ending the program along with spiritual prayers and songs was very uplifting.

I would personally like to thank Cori and the entire Council for her kind words and plaque that was given to me for years of service on the Board of Directors

Prayerfully,  
Rich Pawlich-Pagliccio  
Delegate

# SAVE THE DATE!!!!

Retreat sponsored by CT Women, UCC  
Theme

## GOD IS IN THE MUCK



Come and learn to see God's  
presence is *all* of life's experiences

The Rev. Lee Ireland, Leader

September 18, 4 p.m. to  
September 19, 4 p.m.

Silver Lake Conference Center

\$135.00 includes overnight lodging, walks by the  
lake & 3 delicious meals

More information-- [swaldron01@snet.net](mailto:swaldron01@snet.net)



**ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**  
**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 30, 2015**



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.

# OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> – August 31<sup>st</sup>

**Office hours will be Tuesday – Thursday**

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Closed Mondays and Fridays**

Voice Mail will be checked daily.

Telephone number: 860 529-4167

e-mail – [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org) / website – [rhccucc.org](http://rhccucc.org)

visit us on Facebook – [www.facebook.com/rhccucc](http://www.facebook.com/rhccucc)

## **PASTORAL COVERAGE FOR SUMMER WEEKS**

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