

## From the Pastor



*"Use what talents you possess: the woods would be very silent if no birds sang there except those that sang best."*

Henry van Dyke

We begin a new program year and I encourage each and every person, members and friends of The United Church of Rowayton, to use whatever talents you possess to help us reach out to, teach, inspire and counsel people with varied needs. I share the words from the book, *The Hole in Our Gospel* by Richard Stearns, President of World Vision United States: "It's time to commit. What are you going to do about it? In the end God works in our world one person at a time. The hungry are fed, the thirsty are refreshed, the naked are clothed, the sick are treated, the illiterate are educated and the grieving are comforted, just one person at a time."

I believe he is right! You have the opportunity to be that one person to someone who needs what you have to offer. And what you have to offer is never small and insignificant. The great picture of what God is doing in and through our Church is incomplete without your unique puzzle piece, the talent that you possess. But you must choose to place your piece in the puzzle. Teach, sing, ring, lead, learn, share, worship, usher, garden, pray, knit, bake, create, drive, care, read, give, listen, participate, play, study. . .the opportunities go on and on. Talk to me and I'll find a place for you to help our Church continue to be the healthy thriving place it is. The noted psychologist of the early 1900s, William James, who has greatly influenced my philosophy of life said, "Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does."

Use what talents you possess! Be a part of an exciting year. Check out all the ways you can be involved and check in! Desmond Tutu once said, "Do your little bit of good where you are, it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

With Love,

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### Worship Themes and Scripture

- Sept. 5 Communion  
Message: A New Identity - **9:15am**  
Scripture: Philemon 7:24-37
- Sept. 12 **Rally Day! - 10:15am**  
Message: Growing in God's Love  
Scripture: 1 Timothy 1:12-17
- Sept. 19 Message: Prayerful Living  
Scripture: 1 Timothy 2:1-7
- Sept. 26 Intergenerational Worship Service  
Message: Surprising Investment  
Scripture: Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

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**Rally Day**  
**September 12th**  
**10:15am Worship**

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## Rethinking Christianity - New Adult Education Experience!

You are invited by our Senior Pastor John Livingston and Associate Pastor Carla Dietz Carroll, to be a part of a new and exciting adult education experience. **Rethinking Christianity - Living the Questions** is a DVD series featuring premier voices of our day, exploring an open, inclusive, broad-minded Christianity. This series brings together thirty-five acclaimed scholars, theologians including Walter Bruggemann, John B. Cobbs Jr, Elizabeth Schussler Fiorenza, James A. Forbes Jr, Winnie Varghese and best-selling authors: Diane Butler Bass, Marcus Borg, Matthew Fox, Amy-Jill Levine and others. The experience is simple - it will be offered from 5 - 7pm on Sundays throughout the year. We will watch the DVD for that session and then take time to discuss, learn and share. These two hours, once a month, might just change your life and renew your faith and be just what you are looking for. You can come on as many Sundays as you are able. One or each and every one. Rethinking Christianity begins on Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> and will continue on November 21<sup>st</sup>, January 16<sup>th</sup>, February 20<sup>th</sup>, March 20<sup>th</sup>, April 17<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>.

One UCC pastor who has used this series said, "It's a gift to all Christians desiring to explore progressive faith and practice." We are very excited about this time together. Come and join us.

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## Confirmation Classes

If your child is a 9<sup>th</sup> grader and would like to participate in our two-year confirmation program, please come to our student/parent orientation on Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm. Please call the Church Office if your child would like to participate.



10<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class will continue its journey on Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00pm.

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## Acolyte Registration

Any child entering 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade is welcome to register as an acolyte for the 2010 - 2011 Church School year. Acolytes light candles at the beginning of the service, allowing them to feel more involved in our worship services. A formal meeting explaining the acolyte program will be held on Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:15am in the Sanctuary after the Church service. Returning acolytes do not need to attend the session. You may register your child with Julie Begos by calling 203-866-2091.

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## Making Music at The United Church of Rowayton - Calling All Singers and Ringers!

### Youth Bells:

We are looking forward to having a full ensemble this year with many opportunities to ring. Our first rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. We will celebrate our new beginnings by heading for pizza at Rowayton Pizza and ice cream at 101. After we rehearse, that is! If you have never played bells but want to start this year, that's GREAT. Please let Marsha know by calling her at 203-866-8118. Come and give it a try! We need our youth and all the musical talents you have to offer!



### Children's Choir:

Judi Livingston continues to bring the fun and joy of singing to our children first grade and up. The children meet to sing, move, clap in the meeting house every Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Live continues to be the "in" place each and every week. Children's choir rehearsals will begin Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please call Judi at 203-866-8793.

### Adult Handbell Choir:

First rehearsal for Adult Handbells will be Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. It is already stacking up to be an exciting year of ringing! Interested in ringing, give Marsha a call at 203-866-8118

### Senior Choir:

Our first rehearsal of the season will be Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30. There will be lots of wonderful music for you to sing. If you have been thinking about singing with our choir, now is your opportunity. Although it may seem like a big commitment, it will be worth it to share your talents and love of music with an appreciative congregation. Music is such an important avenue to praise God!

If you have any questions, please contact me at 203-866-8118 or e-mail MJHarmony@aol.com

Sincerely,  
Marsha Hall



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## From the Associate Pastor

i thank You God for most this amazing  
day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees  
and a blue true dream of sky;  
and for everything which is natural  
which is infinite which is yes

(i who have died am alive again today,  
and this is the sun's birthday; this is the birth  
day of life and love and wings: and of the gay  
great happening illimitably earth)

how should tasting touching hearing seeing  
breathing any--lifted from the no  
of all nothing--human merely being  
doubt unimaginable You?

(now the ears of my ears awake and  
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)  
e.e. cummings

I hope you have had a memorable summer!  
Husband John C., daughter Liz and I have, while  
volunteering at Silver Lake Conference Center,  
vacation camp sessions at the Darien YMCA, a  
visit to New Hampshire and Tanglewood in the  
Berkshires and enjoying Sunday worship time  
with you all. Our son in the Army, Jeff came home  
from Afghanistan for a visit and first meeting with  
his baby Charlie. Our other son Andy, who lives in  
Chicago, became engaged to marry Angie Schum-  
acher. Liz is off to UConn this Fall for her sopho-  
more year and is rarin' to go. It is an exciting time  
for our whole family!

Though I have not always been a gigantic fan of  
e.e. cummings, I must admit to feeling a deep  
affinity for his poem above. It sounds more like a  
prayer of praise to me and I share his joy of God's  
beautiful green/blue world and the wonders of the  
simplest pleasures of everyday life. Especially in  
the summer and the coming of the cool, color rich  
Connecticut autumn, we can rejoice in the life we  
have been given. Like the poet said, I thank you  
God for most this amazing day! May God Bless  
you, as we journey on to a new Church year, to-  
gether. I am looking forward to seeing you.

Your friend,  
Reverend Carla Dietz Carroll



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## Dates to put on the calendar

(subject to adjustments)

- Sept. 8** Board of Christian Education  
Meeting 6:45pm,  
TEACHER ORIENTATION 7:30pm  
(bring your date books and Black-  
berries to schedule your classes)
- Sept. 12** Rally Day and Ice Cream Social  
All Church School classes  
commence!
- Sept. 19** Regular Church School Sunday
- Sept. 26** Intergenerational Worship
- Oct. 3** Communion Sunday  
PreK-4<sup>th</sup> Grade Church School only
- Oct. 10** Regular Church School AND  
9:00am Sunday Morning Bible Study  
resumes (join us!)
- Oct. 17** Regular Church School
- Oct. 24** Regular Church School
- Oct. 31** Intergenerational Worship

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## Youth Group

Calling all **6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> Graders** - the first Day of  
Youth Group will be **September 29<sup>th</sup>**. We  
will meet **Wednesday evenings from  
7:00 - 8:00pm** and we invite you to join  
us for weekly fellowship and snacks of our  
own design. Your ideas and input are  
sincerely welcome!



YOUTH GROUP

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## Board of Christian Outreach

### BACK-TO-SCHOOL BACKPACK DRIVE

Throughout the summer we have been  
collecting school backpacks and school  
supplies.



Please refer to the list below for request-  
ed items. (You only need to include a few  
items from the list) The backpacks can be dropped  
off in the Meeting House lobby Monday through  
Friday. For further information, please contact  
Bill Peltz at 203-853-2498.

Please consider helping a child to be successful in  
his/her new school year.

### PLEASE NO USED ITEMS/SUGGESTED ITEMS:

tissues, colored pencils, pens, spiral notebooks,  
crayons, geometric stencils, colored pencils,  
compasses, drawing pad, erasers, file folders,  
glue sticks, scissors, notebooks, notebook paper,  
journals, pencils, pencil sharpeners, markers, rul-  
ers, white out, red pencils, tape, stapler, staples,  
calculators.

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## Wednesday Night Live! Beginning in September

- 6:00 Children's Choir - 9/29**  
**6:00 Youth Handbell Choir - 9/15**  
**7:00 Youth Group - 9/29**  
**7:00 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation - 9/22**  
**8:00 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation - 9/29**

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### 2x4s Tuesday Luncheon

The 2x4s meet the **SECOND** and **FOURTH** Tuesdays of the month in the Meeting House behind The United Church of Rowayton Sanctuary. The social hour starts at 11:30am and lunch follows at 12:00 noon. Lunch is provided on the **SECOND** Tuesday. Bring your own lunch on the **FOURTH** Tuesday. Coffee and dessert are always provided. Donations are most welcome to help defray our expenses. Come and make some new friends. Everyone is welcome.

2x4s will kick off a new season beginning on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

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### Giant Tag Sale Thank You!

Heartfelt thanks to the many members and friends of our Family of Faith for their contribution of time, energy and merchandise. All **YOUR** efforts helped make our 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Giant Tag Sale a success. The sale raised about \$14,000 and **just under \$249,000 over nineteen years!!!** Thank you **ALL**, and you know who you are!!! **YOU** worked together to make this event as successful as ever. Every single hour **YOU** gave of your time made a difference. **THANKS!!!**



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### Deadline

### October/November Newsletter - Thursday, September 9, 2010

Send information to Kris Jenkins  
kris@ucrowayton.org

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## "For Everything there is a Season. . ."

Ecclesiastes 3.1

### BAPTISMS

- Eli Wallace Erickson,  
son of Jennifer and Carl Erickson
- James Douglas Eleck,  
son of Brooks and Donald Eleck Jr and  
grandson of Dianne and Donald Eleck Sr
- Frances Jennings McCabe,  
daughter of Cara and Edward McCabe

### DEATHS

- Dr. Henry Gloetzner
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## New Membership Gatherings - Save the Dates

On Mondays, November 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, Pastor John Livingston will be offering an opportunity for anyone interested in learning more about our Church and denomination, the United Church of Christ, as well as other theological and biblical information related to what it means to be part of a Family of Faith. This two-evening class will be like a "mini" confirmation class for adults and will be held from 7:30 - 9:00pm.

On Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Deacons will host a breakfast for all those joining our Church and following, during worship, new members will be warmly welcomed into our Family of Faith.



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## Beyond September. . .

- Oct. 3 Acolyte Meeting following Worship
  - Oct. 7 Thursday Adult Bible Study - Noon
  - Oct. 10 Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study resumes - 9am
  - Oct. 12 2x4s Luncheons start - 11:30am
  - Oct. 17 Rethinking Christianity - 5:00-7:00pm
  - Nov. 1 New Member Gathering - 7:30pm
  - Nov. 8 New Member Gathering - 7:30pm
  - Nov. 14 New Member Breakfast and Reception of New Members
  - Nov. 20 Tellabration! - 8:00pm
  - Nov. 23 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at St. Matthew Church - 8:00pm
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