



Round Hill
Community Church

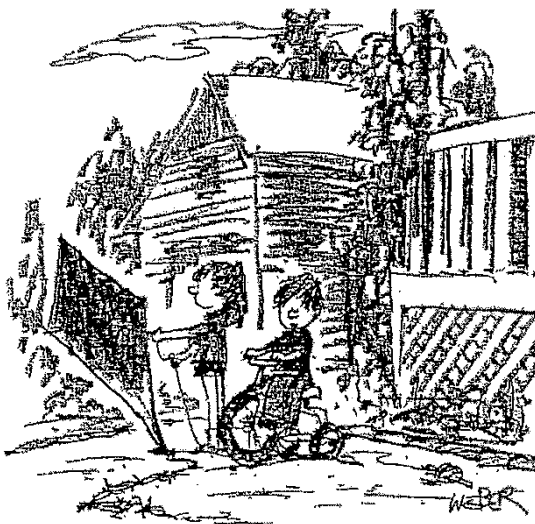
The News Letter

November 2011

Catching the Spirit of Round Hill

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

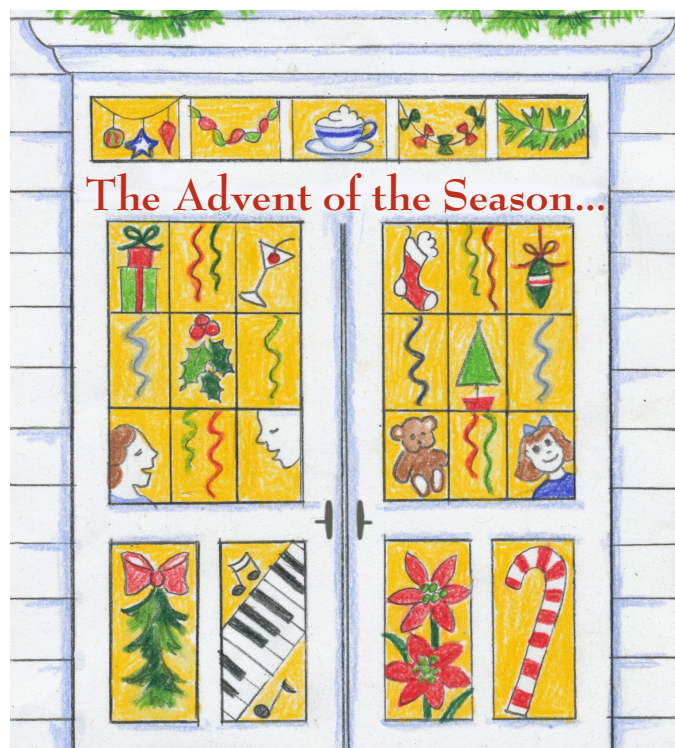
The cartoon below appeared in *The New Yorker* in 1991. It speaks volumes about the human condition, our relentless pursuit of happiness. The search is understandable. After all, Thomas Jefferson called it an unalienable human right. As people of faith we know that humans were created to be happy, that peace and happiness are what God intends for us. So, what's the problem? Perhaps the problem lies within us rather than in the world, in the play of creation.



"I can't wait to grow up and be happy."

Diana Eck is a theologian and professor of religion at Harvard University. In her book, *Encountering God*, she writes: "Just being awake, alert, attentive is no easy matter. I think it is the greatest spiritual challenge we face. Finally, I think, it is the only one." The only spiritual challenge we face! That's quite a claim. But if true, we should be able to verify it by our own experience. And what my experience tells me is that, indeed, I spend much of my life asleep. I move through the day with my attention, for the

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Christmas on Round Hill

Preview Party
Friday, December 2
6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Christmas Fair
Saturday, December 3
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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WOMEN'S GATHERING



Marion Piro and Dee Lewis

A capacity crowd of 50 convened in the Church Parlor in early October for the year's first Women's (and Gentlemen's) Gathering. Marion Piro shared photographs and impressions of the trip she and her son took to Iran last summer, and Iranian flags and pistachios provided cultural reference points. Everyone's favorite caterer, Andy Burke, provided lasagna and salad. Guests brought a variety of appetizers and desserts, in keeping with tradition.



Men joined in at this Women's Gathering

What a trip Marion had! Her adventure began with getting visas to enter the country since very few are granted to Americans each year. Marion gave us this overview of their trip.

Trees line the streets everywhere. Wildflowers dotted rolling green hills. The country is very clean and provides a sense of order. People love to picnic and visit amusement parks and seemed generally happy. They were exceptionally friendly, sharing with visitors the fact that "they love Americans but not our government," clearly distinguishing the two.



Phil Piro with Marion wearing a hijab, in Iran

Marion was amused to learn that rhinoplasty is popular, indeed something of a status symbol. People sport post-op bandages as a badge of honor. All women, Marion included, wear a hijab to cover their heads, often showing some hair, and a loose manteau to disguise their body parts. Let this attire not suggest women are in any way disempowered. They can drive, work, vote, and, according to Marion's guide, actually "rule the home and family."



Grada Herrick with Andy Burke



CENTER FOR FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Bible Study: Isaiah's Voices **Sundays, October 23, November 6 and 20** **11:15 a.m.**

Rev. Susan DeGeorge

Rather than hearing from my voice, read what Susan DeGeorge has to say about our biblical series beginning October 23 and continuing into November: "Over our three Sundays together we will explore Isaiah and the way the book captures a stream of tradition in several voices. We'll learn how the prophecies of Isaiah of Jerusalem (from the eighth century BCE) were added to and interwoven with the voices of later generations. This allowed communities living during the Babylonian captivity and those who had gone into the exile to respond to changing historical and theological forces. Studying Isaiah's 'voices' will help us discover how the Bible can stay faithful to its original message while also speaking to new and diverse issues, peoples, and locations."

Studying Isaiah's "voices" will help us discover how the Bible can stay faithful to its original message while also speaking to new and diverse issues, peoples, and locations.

If you are seeking a voice for your faith today, it may well be found in this series. Don't miss out on the full program! The series continues on November 6 and November 20.

Forum: Global Workers Justice Alliance **Sunday, November 13** **Cathleen Caron**

On November 13, we have a remarkable advocate for global fairness and justice, Cathleen Caron, presenting her story about migrant worker rights in a globalized economy. She begins with this statement: "Businesses are global. Workers are global. Justice is not."



Cathleen Caron is the founder and Director of the Global Workers Justice Alliance based in Brooklyn, New York. Cathleen was born and raised in Greenwich. Drawing upon her years of work in Guatemala on human rights, in East Timor on human trafficking, and in Florida on farm worker rights, she launched Global Workers in 2005 to address the lack of portable justice for migrants. Cathleen will talk about her background and why she decided to take on this issue of injustice. She will explain Global Workers' unique approach, which brings together human rights organizations in Mexico and Guatemala into a network of defenders for migrant workers who have faced injustices such as wage theft, when working in the United States. Together with the Defender Network, Global Workers ensures that workers who leave the United States are still able to fight for their rights even after they have gone home. Cathleen will highlight cases to show the powerful effect of this cross-border approach. Ongoing challenges and the future of migrant labor in the United States will also be addressed.

Migrant labor and immigration are critical topics in national and international political debates. Cathleen is front and center in this important dialogue. Mark this on your calendar today.

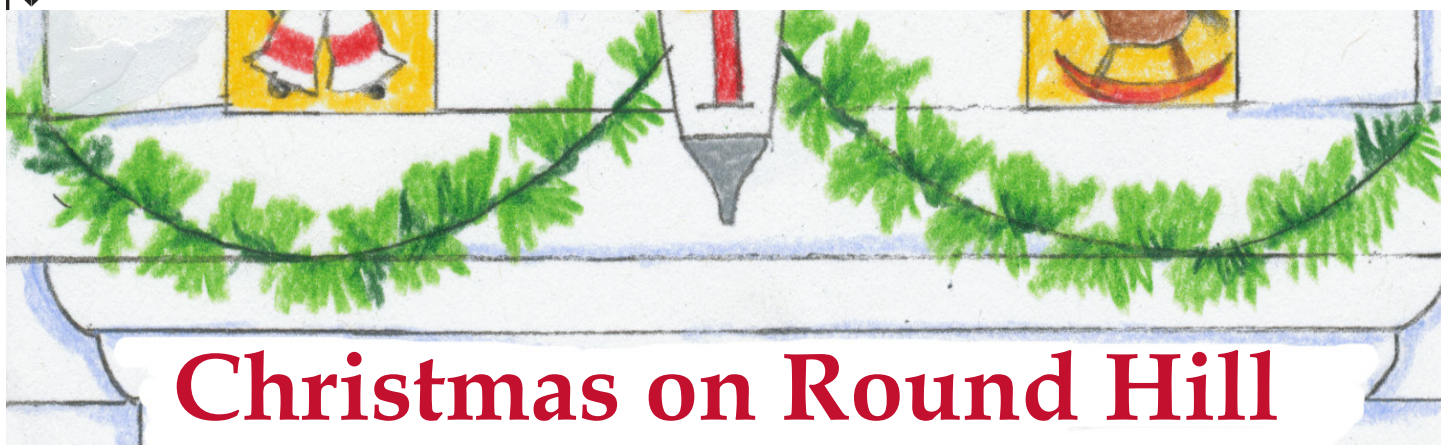
Businesses are global. Workers are global. Justice is not.

Cathleen is traveling to our Church from Brooklyn at the invitation of Anita Keire.

— Michael Sandifer

Adopt the pace of nature: her secret is patience.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson



Christmas on Round Hill

Cookie Baking



Sunday, Nov. 6, 11:30 a.m.
Thursday, Nov. 10, 2:00 p.m.
Community House Kitchen

Thursday, please enter kitchen at the back door.

For more information contact
Cookie Chef Jan Ziemia
203-531-4773 or mrzjcz79@verizon.net

Christmas Puddings



A traditional homemade English recipe that does not contain any suet or nuts, the puddings come in a glass bowl with full instructions for heating and with a recipe for Brandy Butter sauce. To pre-order, call the Church Office at 203-869-1091 before November 15.

Large serves 6 to 8 people: \$30
Small serves 2 to 4 people: \$15

Fabulous FROZEN Food

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Beef Stew | \$15/quart |
| Brunswick Stew | \$15/quart |
| Butternut Squash Soup | \$12/quart |
| Chicken Tetrazzini | \$15/serves 2-4 |
| Chili (mild) | \$15/quart |
| | \$8/pint |
| French Onion Soup | \$12/quart |
| | \$6/pint |
| Lasagna | \$18/serves 2-4 |
| Lentil Soup | \$12/quart |
| Meatloaf | \$18/serves 4 |
| | \$10/serves 2 |
| 10" Quiche Lorraine | \$15 |

Carol James
Julia Boysen
Carrie Finlayson
Nancy Lane
Carrie Finlayson

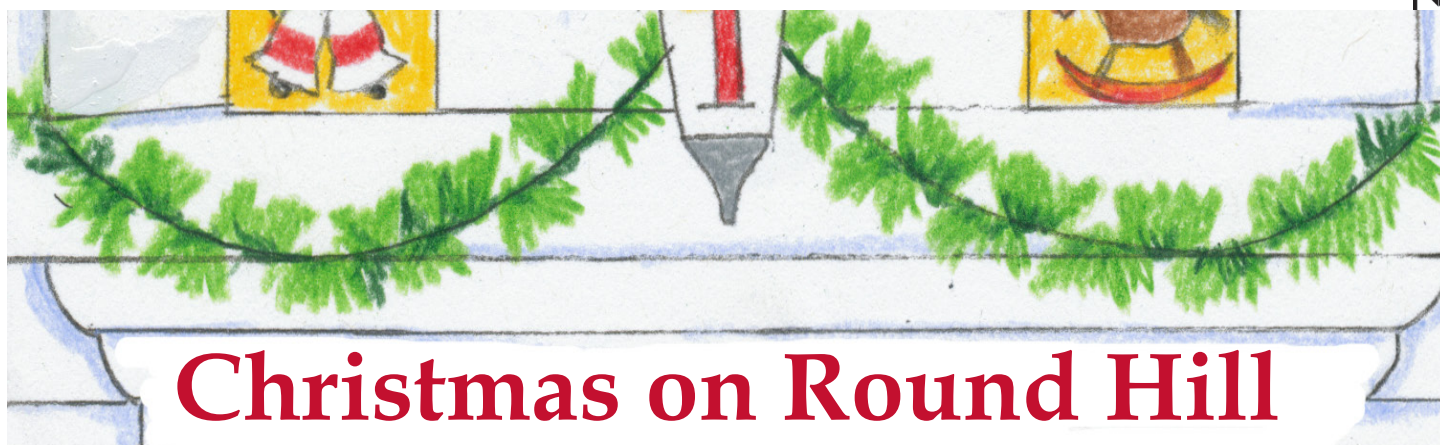
Carrie Finlayson

Nancy Mazzoli
Linda Cummin
Carrie Finlayson

Martina Halsey



To order, call the Church Office at 203-869-1091 by November 11. Quantities are limited.



Christmas on Round Hill

Silent Auction



Popular and one-of-a-kind opportunities will be available to the highest bidder at our traditional Silent Auction. Get in on the action early and be sure to keep an eye on your favorite item!

Volunteers



Volunteers are needed for set-up (week before the event), clean-up, and selling, both Friday and Saturday. Signing up for two hours helps our Church community.

**Contact Head Elf Staffer
Amy Minella at
203/661-4447 or aminella@cardcap.com**

Treasure Trove



The Trove has Treasures for the most discerning shopper. If you have items to donate, call the Church Office for drop-off information. Volunteers are needed to carry Treasures to the stage, perform simple repairs, set up, clean, and stage the week before the Fair. We also need people to sell on Friday night and all day Saturday. More volunteers will be needed on Sunday after the worship service to pack up and clear the stage.

Contact Amy Minella at 203/661-4447 or aminella@cardcap.com if you can help.



MUSIC ON ROUND HILL

Opera Arias and Ensembles



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Richard Strauss

Friday, November 4 , 8:00 p.m.

Wine and Cheese Reception Follows
Admission: \$25 Adults \$5 Students

Featuring the Round Hill Quartet

Risa Renae Harman, *soprano*

Jenna Hintz, *soprano*

Patrick Hogan, *tenor*

Scott Tomlinson, *bass*

Christopher Kabala, *piano*
String Ensemble

The Chamber Players of the Greenwich Symphony

Sunday, November 13

4 p.m., Sanctuary

Continuing the celebration of their 40th anniversary season, the Chamber Players will present cellist Bion Tsang as their special guest artist. He will play the second cello part in Franz Schubert's magnificent String Quintet in C major for Two Violins, Viola, and Two Cellos. This work was written in the last year of the composer's life and, in the eyes of many, established him as an heir to Beethoven.

Mr. Tsang is recognized as one of the great instrumentalists of his generation. He has performed as soloist, chamber musician, and recording artist worldwide.

Also programmed are Haydn's Piano Trio in E-flat major and Chausson's Concerto for Violin, Piano, and String Quartet in D major.

A wine and cheese reception will follow the concert. Tickets are available at the door. For subscription and further information call Suzanne Simpson at 203-622-6611 or visit greenwichsym.org and link to Chamber Players.

LES BEAUX ARTS GALLERY



"Red Barn and White Chair, Maine"

Pastel 14 x 18



"A Sense of Place" is on display at Les Beaux Arts Gallery through November 30. Richard Levine's pastel landscape paintings are defined by a quiet and serene quality. For the past several years, he has concentrated on his favorite techniques: pastel and oil pastel. "Pastel is a wonderful medium for capturing the color of light and air," he explains. "When holding a stick of pure pigment in one's hand, ideas and emotions seem to flow more easily and intuitively from the brain to the hand to the paper. I like to paint in places where the weather, the traditions and the geography still dominate, where these elements identify and characterize a locale. Where I can still connect to what has gone be-

I like to paint in places where the weather, the traditions and the geography still dominate, where these elements identify and characterize a locale.

fore and one feels an authentic "sense of place."

Richard Levine is a painter and photographer whose professional career has spanned more than 30 years in the graphic arts, while working for prominent design firms and corporate clients. He studied oil painting for four years with artists Alan Turner and Andrew Lattimore. His extensive travel throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia has formed the foundation for his personal work. "I'm interested in exploring the harmonious effects of light, texture, shape, and color and presenting these qualities in ways that evoke memory and spirit."

Richard has exhibited widely on the East Coast from New York to Massachusetts in both solo and group shows. In 2005 he won a New York State Certificate of Merit for his exhibit "India, a Traveler's Reflections." This past fall one of his still lifes was published in *International Artist* magazine. He is a member of the Pastel Society of America and the Oil Pastel Society. His work is held in both private and public collections. Levine recently moved his studio to Virginia, where he now resides.

– Mirella Hajjar, Gallery Curator

BENEVOLENCE AND OUTREACH

Making a Difference

Sunday, October 16, was both World Food Day and Mission Sunday – a confluence of two events that could open our eyes to the wider community. World Food Day is a day of reflection on the reality of hunger and food insecurity, which exists everywhere.



Right here in Greenwich, Neighbor to Neighbor, a free food and clothing pantry, has about 500 families eligible for food assistance. For the past three years they have provided enough food to make 300,000 meals each year. Neighbor to Neighbor serves 1,400 people per month in clothing. Each of us can contribute non-perishable foods to our Neighbors Helping Neighbors program. The wagon to receive donations is always in the Narthex.



October 16 was also RHCC's first Mission Sunday. Nineteen human service agencies, which are supported by our Benevolence and Outreach program, were represented in the Community House.

Members of the congregation could find out about these agencies and have questions answered. It was a lively interchange and a good opportunity for the agency representatives to get to know us better as well.

World Food Day is a day of reflection on the reality of hunger and food insecurity, which exists everywhere.



Following is a list of the agencies that participated in our Mission Sunday:

Community Centers, Inc.
Domus
Family Centers, The Den for Grieving Children
Family Centers, RITE
Friends of Edna's Maternity Hospital
GADC River House
Garden Education Center of Greenwich
GEMS
Good Samaritan School, Haiti
Greenwich Alliance for Education
Greenwich Youth Services Bureau
Jewish Family Services of Greenwich, Shopping for Seniors
Laurel House
Macedonia AIDS Ministry

BENEVOLENCE AND OUTREACH

Meals on Wheels

Round Hill Volunteer Fire Co.

Sekolo Projects

The Transportation Association of Greenwich “TAG”

Women’s Mentoring Network

The Benevolence and Outreach Committee is charged with both raising the social awareness of the congregation and administering grants to local human service agencies and those who support global causes. Benevolence and Outreach funding has two sources. The Board of Trustees dedicates 10% of the Church expense budget to outreach, and one-third of the land lease income is directed back to the community. The total comes close to \$100,000 a year.



The work of the Benevolence and Outreach Committee is to research and evaluate proposals for grants. This brings the members of the committee in contact with remarkable work being done by remarkable people. Mission Sunday was an attempt to involve the entire congregation in this process.

Our Church sees outreach as an essential part of its ministry if we are to follow the example of Jesus and to listen to his exhortation to “Love one another as I have loved you.”

Some members of the congregation may wonder why they should support agencies through the Church when they already do so on their own. There are many answers to this, but one is that our Church sees outreach as an essential part of its ministry if we are to follow the example of Jesus and to listen to his exhortation to “Love one another as I have loved you.” (John 13:34-35)



– Sandy Motland
Chair, Benevolence and Outreach

Committee:
Kristina Copeland-Aanonsen
Nancy & Steve Fuzesi
Hadi Hajjar
Kerri Ann Hofer
Louise Hoffman
Roland Kistler
Helen & Hooker O’Malley
Jenny Rye
Joan Warburg
Doug Miller, ex officio

*The News Letter is edited by Nancy Mazzoli,
Claire McKean, Suzy Simpson, and Lynda Kinney*

PASTORAL MESSAGE

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most part, on one thing – the incessant conversation in my mind. I relive past events, worry about the future, criticize and judge everything from drivers on the road to the people I love most, all within the confines of my mind. And it is very confining to say the least.

I've learned that full attention is one of the greatest gifts we can give to another person. I've learned that from being the recipient of the gift.

Many spiritual practices are designed to help us place our attention where it is meant to be, on what is right in front of us. Doing so helps us to live life as it is given, one moment at a time. Mystics and poets, and each one of us in our better moments, know what it is to experience God's presence and God's grace. And such awareness happens only in the present, not yesterday or tomorrow. And it happens when our attention is out, not when it is captured by the inner conversation.

I need to remind myself to be present, and I need help in doing so. One little practice that I use is to pause before answering the telephone. I simply pause, let go of what I am doing, and try to give my attention fully to the person on the other end of the line. It's good for me, and good for them. In fact, I've learned that full attention is one of the greatest gifts we can give to another person. I've learned that from being the recipient of the gift.

I could go on. But rather than doing that, let me share with you a pastor's message that appeared recently in the newsletter of the Church of the Redeemer, a UCC church in Westlake, Ohio. My friend Michael Moore wrote:

I hear that someone – possibly several someones – expressed annoyance at the sharp rise between the street and the apron of our

east driveway. It gives a lift to my heart to hear complaints like that. People who are disturbed by driving over a bump once a week are people whose sensitivities are obviously rather high. That tells me that we're helping our members become aware of all the other bigger things that are disturbing in the world.

I may be wrong, of course, but I assume that if it distresses people to drive over a bump, it must also distress them to know that nearly half the world's children go to bed hungry every night, and that many of those same children have been maimed by land mines in former war zones, and that many of those same children are likely to carry HIV, and that most of them will die before reaching age 50.

What's even more uplifting to me is knowing that I can tell the people who are unhappy about the driveway bump that their offerings to their church are doing something about the plight of children and adults from Westlake to West Africa. I can tell them that the more they give, the more those big problems can be shrunk to the size of a – well, a bump in the driveway, for instance.

The city of Westlake has told us, by the way, that we're just going to have to live with the driveway problem. But we don't have to "just live" with the others. Every time I pull into the driveway, I remember and rejoice. I hope you will too.

Whether it be the ring of the telephone or a bump in the driveway, I need all the reminders I can get to be aware of God's love and to reflect that love in word and deed. Maybe I don't have to grow up to be happy. Maybe I just need to wake up.

– Douglas Miller

FLOWERS

Flower Arranging Workshop



Thank you to Debbie Lipner, who worked her magic at a flower arranging workshop on Friday, October 22. The several ladies who attended were inspired and enthusiastic about joining the present group of flower arrangers. The flowers are usually arranged on Saturday morning, when you can contemplate the beauty of the flowers while allowing your creative juices to flow.

We would like to encourage others to join the group. If you are timid, we can find you a partner for tips and guidance. Worship on Sunday morning begins when we enter the Sanctuary and reflect upon the beauty of nature through our windows, hear the sound of sacred music, and see the glow of two lovingly assembled flower arrangements.



Please contact Julia Boysen (203-661-1172 or Boysenjuli@aol.com) or Louise Hoffman (203-869-8463 or lousiehoffman@optonline.net) if you would like more information.

STEWARDSHIP



We are now formally starting our financial, fundraising campaign for 2012. I will make a brief announcement from the pulpit on Sunday, November 13, and Doug Miller will be giving a stewardship-related sermon. You also should have just received, or shortly will receive, a pledge card and more formal letter that outlines our Stewardship goals and the programs and budget that we intend to service. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill Herrick (203-531-7824 or wfherrick@earthlink.net) or Finance Committee Chair, Simms Browning (203-661-2670 or simmsb@optonline.net).

– Bill Herrick, Stewardship Chair

New Member Sunday
November 13

The News Letter

Round Hill Community Church
395 Round Hill Road
Greenwich, CT 06831
(203) 869-1091

Visit our website, roundhillcommunitychurch.org, to view more pictures, read past sermons, learn about the activities and history of RHCC, and check the monthly calendar.

| NOVEMBER 2011 AT ROUND HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH | | | | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| LES BEAUX ARTS GALLERY: "A SENSE OF PLACE" PAINTINGS BY RICHARD LEVINE | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | Christmas on RH Workshop 2-5 p.m. | Meditation 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:00 p.m. | OPERA ARIAS AND ENSEMBLES 8:00 p.m. Sanctuary | |
| | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| | Worship and Church School, 10 a.m. Bible Study, 11:15 a.m. Cookie Workshop, 12 noon, CH | Trustee Meeting 7:30 p.m. | Christmas on RH Workshop 2-5 p.m. | Cookie Workshop 2 p.m., CH Meditation 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:00 p.m. | | |
| | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| Worship and Church School, 10 a.m. New Member Sunday Forum: Global Workers 11:15 a.m. Chamber Players, 4 p.m., Sanctuary | | Worship Comm. Mtg., 7:00 p.m. | Christmas on RH Workshop 2-5 p.m. | Meditation 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:00 p.m. | Newsletter Deadline | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| Worship and Church School, 10 a.m. Bible Study, 11:15 a.m. | HANGING OF THE GREENS Cooking for St. Luke's, 3 p.m. | | | Thanksgiving Office Closed | Office Closed | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Worship and Church School, 10 a.m. | Christmas on RH Setup | Christmas on RH Setup | Christmas on RH Setup | Christmas on RH Setup | CHRISTMAS ON ROUND HILL PARTY 6-9 p.m. | CHRISTMAS ON ROUND HILL 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. |