

Good News Ambassador --- Sept



CHURCH OF CHRIST UNITING

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.
and the United Methodist Church

The Reverend Casey Bradley, 315 858 8864

Alice Mahardy, Organist & Choir Director

PO Box 896, Richfield Springs, NY 13439

Online and In-person Worship

Join us **Sundays at 9:15 am.** All in-person worship services will be livestreamed to our church Facebook page

Facebook page:

RS Church of Christ Uniting

Just go to www.facebook.com and put the above name in the search, or watch later on **YouTube**, by searching on **RS COCU**.

www.rschurchofchristuniting.com

One of my favorite things this past summer was getting to celebrate with the church our 50+1 anniversary. Of course, you probably know that the celebration came about in the midst of a lot of unplanned challenges, primary amongst them was the constant unknown of the ongoing pandemic. One of the wonderful things about Church of Christ Uniting is how the people in this church continue to rise to the occasion, think outside the box, and make things work even in the midst of the constant unknown.

On August 15th of this year I heard stories of triumph, stories of sadness, stories of grief, stories of wonder... all of which were experienced in the midst of Church of Christ Uniting. I once heard someone say that time was amongst the greatest of all of God's gifts. The gift of time allows us to experience life; we

get to live in the moment, we get to reflect on days gone by, and we get to dream of days to come. Rather than all things happening to us all at once, God's gift of time lets us all become storytellers and dreamers.

As we look forward to the next fifty years of Church of Christ Uniting, I hope that you are dreaming up amazing things that this church will be doing. I hope that you are dreaming of all the joy we can bring into the life of the people in our community. I hope that you are dreaming of the Good News that we will be sharing with all the world. I hope that you are dreaming of disciples experiencing the grace of God through our church ministry. I also hope that you continue to share your stories. One of the best ways we get to be in ministry is simply by telling our stories and our testimonies.

The next 50 years of Church of Christ Uniting will be challenging. We know some of the challenges we are going to be facing, but many others remain veiled to us. Whatever the challenges though, we have a church story of overcoming adversity and meeting challenges, and I hope we also have a church dream of growing beyond our comfort zone so that we can truly live into our God-given potential.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Casey

Communion

Pastor Casey is working on a list of church members who would like Communion delivered after church on the first Sunday of each month. During worship the Pastor will consecrate pre-packaged Communion elements in the presence of the congregation to be brought to those unable to be with us in church. If you are unable to attend worship and would like Communion brought to you, please call the Church office (315-858-1553). If you are interested in helping bring Communion to those not in worship, please reach out to Pastor Casey.



New Season Chancel Choir

Thank you to the Chancel Choir for singing on August 15. I would like to start the new choir season on Sunday, **September 19**. Please meet at 8:45am. Rehearsals will start after church. I appreciate the dedication of the members and enjoy our times together. -Alice



SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES

SEPT 5 COFFEE: Kate Huxtable
READER: Linda Ehlers
USHER: FaithAnn Young

SEPT 12 COFFEE: Sheryl Morris
READER: Thom Rhodes
USHER: Geri Erwin

SEPT 19 COFFEE: JoAnn Mead
READER: Brian Howser
USHER: Fred Eckler

SEPT 26 COFFEE: Diane Butts
READER: Ross Jones
USHER: Donna Jones

Cards and prayers for Maxine:

MAXINE ARMSTRONG

PO BOX 287

RICHFIELD SPRINGS, NY 13439

Blessing of the Backpacks

The school year is almost here. We all want what is best for our school children. We want them to have the best teachers. We want them to have the best supplies. We want them to have the best schools. There are going to be a lot of unknowns again this year. Without a doubt there are going to be some disappointments, but there are also sure to be moments of great joy and great learning. At Church of Christ Uniting we want the children of our community to walk into school each day knowing that they are loved and supported. One of the best ways we can do that is by offering a blessing on the backpacks that they are going to be carrying into school each and every day.

September 12th is going to be the 1st Sunday for the new Sunday School year, it is also going to be the day when we give school children the opportunity to come to church and have the backpacks blessed. Invite a friend, invite a neighbor, invite a new family in our community, but don't miss out on this opportunity to start the new school year off with a blessing that will pay off all year long.

In addition to a blessing of the backpacks, each school-aged child will receive a blessing bag with some extra school supplies to help make this a great year. Blessing of the backpacks will take place during the worship service, after the blessing children will be invited to **Sunday School**.



2nd Mile for September is

The Neighborhood Center

www.neighborhoodctr.org

COCU Board meeting Sept 14th 6:30 pm

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

- 9/5 Samantha Jasso
- 9/7 Thomas Twomey
- 9/9 Candace Huxtable
- 9/10 Gailyn Dyn
- 9/10 Gary Southard
- 9/13 Maibel Buck
- 9/15 Arnold "Gene" Simpson
- 9/18 Kevin Mahardy
- 9/18 Carla Eckler
- 9/19 Charlotte Plows
- 9/19 Roger Vaughn
- 9/20 Sheryl Morris
- 9/20 Ashlyn Wolfe
- 9/24 Connor Lawrence Lindsey
- 9/24 Candice Domion
- 9/25 Fred Eckler
- 9/28 Melissa Belcher
- 9/29 Abigail Matteson



Let the Children come unto Me.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 9/6 Michael & Connie Domion
- 9/9 Carrie & George Gardner
- 9/18 Patti Lou & Ed Leopold
- 9/20 Fred & Carla Eckler

Sunday School

Dear Parents: We are planning in person Sunday school, Beginning Sunday **Sept. 12.** Children will leave the worship service after the children's message, as they have in the past. Teachers will be wearing masks and we request that the children do as well, just as they do in school.

We have some fun learning activities planned and hope to see everyone soon.

Questions or concerns call Donna 315-858-2357

Opportunity to Serve – Dinner Coordination

For many years Carol and Gene have done amazing work on our church dinners, they are looking to step down from their roles soon and the Church Board is actively looking for those who have an interest in helping plan and coordinate dinners in the future. One person does not need to do all this work alone! We are looking for a small team of people who are interested in making dinners here at church successful. If you feel that your talents lend themselves to this kind of work, please do not hesitate to reach out. You can call the church (315-858-1553) or speak with Pastor Casey if you are interested in helping out.

Thank you Carol and Gene for all the years of doing this good work!

Church, Gardens and Grounds ☺☺☺

Many thanks to Ray, the Garden Committee and Grounds Keepers!

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES

Please check any areas that you would like to help with. You will be "trained" and placed on a schedule. If unavailable the day scheduled, trade with another on the list, and let us know.

- Usher Reader
- Sunday Greeter Sunday Coffee Host
- Sunday School Teacher (must be at least 18)
- Sunday School Assistant
- Nursery Care Provider (must be at least 18)
- Nursery Care Assistant
- Worship Service Acolyte

Name _____

Contact _____

Please place this in offering plate.

NEWS FROM THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICE GUILD

SEPTEMBER GUILD MEETING

The September meeting of the Guild will be held on Thursday, September 16th. This will be our annual Food Bank Shower, as well as, covered dish dinner which will begin at 6:00 pm. Please bring a dish to pass. Everything else will be provided.

Linda Watkins is this month's hostess. Please let her know if you'll be coming to this event so she knows how many to set up for. You can email her at: lpwatkins@yahoo.com, or call Carol at: 315-868-0319.

Food Bank Items Requested:

Canned Soups (Low-Sodium), Soup Broth, Canned or Dried Fruit, Prepared Meals, Canned Vegetables (LS), Cereal, Oatmeal, Spaghetti Sauce, Fruit Juice, Spices, & Tea (Regular & Herbal).

CRAFT FAIR UPDATE

After months of planning, the Craft Fair at Cullen Pumpkin Farm is almost here! It will take place on Saturday, September 18 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. at 587 Cullen Road. As of this writing, there are 30 crafters signed up showcasing a wide variety of handmade items. Applications are still being accepted. Please spread the word!

Richfield Youth Sports will be selling hamburgers, hot dogs, hot sausage, french fries and drinks to benefit their fundraising efforts.

The Guild appreciates the Shypski family giving us this opportunity after two years of not being able to have the June Craft Festival in Spring Park.

We hope that you will come and check out the Craft Fair, have lunch and also enjoy the activities offered across the road at the Pumpkin Farm.

FALL RUMMAGE SALE

After a year's hiatus, the Fall Rummage Sale will be held on Friday, October 29. Start cleaning those closets!

Patti Lou Leopold spearheads this enormous undertaking. She is in need of help sorting items the week of the event. Be watching for more information in the October newsletter.

A NOTE OF THANKS

The Richfield Springs Community Center would like to thank the Church of Christ Uniting for the use of the Church and grounds for the Brooks' Chicken and Rib "Drive Thru" BBQ fundraiser that occurred on August 14.

We value your support during these challenging times and are so pleased for your continued willingness to help us with this fundraising event which helps to support the programs of the Center.

We also wish to thank those who purchased chicken halves and ribs during the drive thru and the next day after church. Please know that we acknowledge and appreciate all of your help not only with this recent event but all the other support that you unselfishly give to the Community Center.