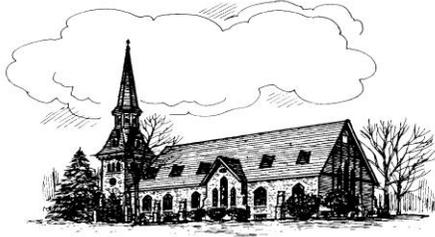


Good News Ambassador



Year of Christ 2020



## 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

On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation establishing a day of thanksgiving for the nation. The nation was in the midst of the Civil War. It was a time of great uncertainty. It had only been a few months since the Battle of Gettysburg which marked the deadliest battle in the war. Thousands had perished since the war began and despite some critical victories during the year, the outcome of the war was far from certain. In this perilous moment, Lincoln proclaimed there would be a national day of thanksgiving.

Many families were mourning losses. Many families were separated because of the draft that had gone into effect earlier that year. Many families were facing uncertain economic futures. I'm sure there were many who questioned the wisdom of calling for a day to give thanks. Lincoln did not ignore the suffering that people were facing, he recognized that even in the midst of cruel hardship, there were many reasons to give thanks.

We once again find ourselves in trying times. Our families have been disrupted. Ordinary expectations have been put on hold or canceled all together. Employment, economic security, good health... all these things have been subject to greater and greater levels of uncertainty. The church has not been immune from uncertainty. We went for two months without any worshippers in our sanctuary. For the last several months our worship has been different and distanced. Each one of us could probably spend hours reciting the ways this year has been unlike any other. We need some thanksgiving time.

We don't need the huge family gatherings. We don't need the football. We don't need the feasts. We don't need the bargain deals. What we need is to draw near to the heart of God, confessing the disruption to our lives and reveling in the blessings we have received. Whatever your Thanksgiving looks like this year, I pray that you take some intentional time to give thanks to God.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Casey



**Online and In-person Worship**

Join us **Sundays at 9:15 am.**

**Facebook** page: **RS Church of Christ Uniting**

You don't need a facebook login. Just go to [www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) and put the above name in the search, or watch later on YouTube, by searching on **RS COCU**.

Please call the church for prayer-requests or announcements. **315 858 1553**



**Communion for Nov 1**

The common table will be set once again for the Communion Meal. If you are joining church online you can pick up your prepackaged communion elements on Wednesday or Thursday from 1-4pm or you can call the church to make other arrangements to have Communion picked up or dropped off.



for November is the Utica Neighborhood Center.

**Sunday School Corner - SCAVENGER HUNT!**

Sunday school will be sponsoring a scavenger hunt **Sat. Nov. 7 1PM**. Participants will circle their cars in the church parking lot, remain in their cars for instructions then drive around the village to find all the items on a list handed out at the start of the search. A photo of each item will prove your "find" (if you need a cell phone or digital camera to participate call Donna 858-2357). All participants will meet back at the parking lot at the designated time to compare finds and distribute prizes. Everyone, young and young at heart is welcome to participate.

Hope to see you there. It will make it easier to plan materials and prizes if I know how many can be there, so if you think that you might be there give me a quick E or text or call.

Thanks, Donna



COCU Board of Directors Meeting is Tuesday, November 10th at 6:30 pm.

**~~~ PRAYER REQUESTS ~~~**

Joan Ames, The Amyotte family, Lindsay Barton, Raymond Bownds, Joanne & Richard Brown, Pat Walsh Cole, Ruth Culkin, Jenna Desmarais, Shirley Dreis, AnnMarie Gardner, Fred Gardner, Robert Hazelton, the Helms family, Oakley Ann Iverson, Dayton Kane, Linda Klink, Jan Lalor, Lindsey Lucas, Maryanna Maniscalsco, Dawn Myers, Ray Nassar, Les and Bev Olmsted, Marty Phillips, Mort Robertson, Rowena Robertson, Peter Rossi, Melissa Santos, Barb Sluyter, Nellie Smith, Pam Smith, Tim Snyder, Dustin Testa, Linda Travers, Kathy Tumyo, Betsy & Paul Varcarolis, Holly & Patricia Walsh, Jake Wells, Jason Wilbur, Linda Winsor



## NEWS FROM THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICE GUILD



Because COVID-19 prevented us from safely holding our annual sit down Harvest Turkey Dinner last month, the Dinner Planning Committee introduced an alternative option. We are happy to announce we held our first ever, pre-order drive through Roast Pork dinner in its place.

We would like to thank all of you who supported this event. It was because of you this dinner was a success. We received many compliments on the meal and were so happy we could offer you this delicious option. We would also like to thank all those who volunteered their time and energy to prepare the food and work the event for without them it wouldn't have run as smoothly as it did. We are truly fortunate to have a church family that works together to make things happen!

Guild Reminder: We will have a Zoom Meeting Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at which time we will finalize the sign-up sheet for 2021 (assuming we will be meeting at the church) for those willing to serve as Hostess and for those willing to make the dessert. Lastly, we will be distributing our revenue to several area non-profit organizations. There will be a reminder e-mail with Zoom login information a few days prior to the November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting date. Please see the email dated 10/15/20 sent to those of you with email addresses which shows the November Agenda of items to be discussed.

We are always looking for new members to join the Guild, so if you are interested please let Carol Simpson, Guild President, know by calling 315-868-0319.

May God bless you and keep you well.

<p><b>__Happy Birthday!__</b></p> <p>11/2 Barbara Barnes  11/3 Luke Worobey  11/3 Tom Crohan  11/4 Fay LaFrance  11/5 Maxine Armstrong  11/6 Michael Gardner  11/10 Sally Crohan  11/10 Dan Hoogheem  11/10 Donna Jones  11/11 Deanna Harkins  11/12 Ross Jones  11/18 John Dale Goodrich  11/18 Mackenzie Gardner  11/19 Cheri Pomeroy</p>	<p>11/23 Alicia Pomeroy  11/25 Lynne Foster  11/29 Pearl (Sally) Pickens  11/29 Myrna Santos  11/29 Sara Valenta</p> <p><b>____Happy Anniversary!____</b></p> <p>11/4 George &amp; Diane Butts</p> <p>11/7 Scavenger Hunt 1PM  11/9 Fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989  11/11 Veterans Day  11/26 Thanksgiving Day</p> <p>11/19 Guild Zoom Meeting  All women are welcome to join.</p>
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