

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

"The idea that the church is to be the body of Christ is not just something to read about in theology books and leave for the scholars to pontificate about. We are literally to be the body of Jesus in the world. Christians are to be little Christs—people who put flesh on Jesus in the world today. You are the only Jesus some people will ever see. The promise of the church is this: none of us alone are Christ (that's blasphemy,) but all of us together are Christ to the world (that's ecclesiology)." -Shane Claiborne & Chris Haw, *Jesus for President*.

I first read those words nearly a decade ago and they were first published in the midst of a tumultuous presidential campaign between John McCain and Barak Obama. In many ways it seems like so long ago. So much life has happened in the last decade. Earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, fires, and countless other disasters have changed the landscape of the world. Political and social movements like the Arab Spring have brought sweeping changes not only in far-off parts of the world, but often right here at home. The economy has undergone great booms and great recessions, there have been bull and bear markets, there has been record employment and record unemployment. Terrorism and radical violence continues to be a present danger as we have witnessed attacks in Boston, Paris, London, Barcelona, Orlando, Auckland, Sri Lanka, and many other places in the world. School shootings have claimed the lives of nearly 200 students in the United States in the last 10 years. So much life has happened, and none of that includes what 2020 has thrown at us with a global health crisis challenging every aspect of public life, civil and social unrest, and another tumultuous presidential campaign.

I do not pretend to know what the next ten years will hold for our world or even our community. Ten years from now, in October 2030, I may very well be looking back on these days as the calm before the storm... but it is equally likely that I will look back and be awed by how resilient and faithful we have been through these days of trial.

What I can say, with assurance today, is that whoever is elected President on November 3rd will not create the world we wish to see. The most ambitious social safety net still leaves too many hurting, too many homeless, too many hungry. The boldest plan for safety and security still leaves too many frightened and too many in harm's way. The challenges we face cannot be solved by governments, corporations, or institutions... but they can be solved by radical faith. When we begin to embody the life of Jesus Christ, we become the change-agents who create a better world.

This year, as we draw near to the end of another election season, my prayer isn't that you agree with me on who would serve us best in Washington or in Albany. My prayer is that you elect to be the body of Christ for the world... because as Claiborne and Haw remind us "You are the only Jesus some people will ever see."

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 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 October 4th

The common table will be set once again on Oct 4th for the Communion Meal. If you are joining church online you can pick up your prepackaged communion elements on September 30th or October 1st from 1-4pm or you can call the church to make other arrangements to have Communion picked up or dropped off.

Board Meeting is Tuesday, October 13 at 6:30 pm.



for October is Utica Rescue Mission.

<u>Happy Birthday!</u>	
10/1 "John Russell ""Russ"" Bloomfield"	10/23 Rev. Mark Ioset
10/3 Donna Senko	10/24 Sherry Ann Mosher
10/3 Gabrielle Higgins	10/24 Kayla Hall
10/4 Aurora-Jayne Z Homer	10/24 Kenneth Dreis
10/5 Don Bruce	10/25 Marion Pitcher
10/7 Rowena Robertson	10/26 Donald Sheldon
10/8 Stephen Michael Sheldon	10/26 Shawn Hext
10/12 Chelsea Johnson	10/27 Ronald Barnes
10/13 Debbie Bennett	10/28 Shelly Dyn
10/13 Debra DaCastafaro	10/28 Sally Klem
10/14 Carol Ainslie	
10/15 Lindsay Michelle Domion	<u>Happy Anniversary!</u>
10/15 Brittany Oakes	10/5 Sally & Steve Klem
10/15 Alexa Fahey	10/9 David & Rosalie Wadsworth
10/15 Kenneth Roger Vaughn	10/10 Sara Valenta
10/16 Kala Sheldon	10/14 Michael & Susan Cristman
10/18 George Butts	10/25 Priscilla & David Edick
10/19 Erin Kathleen King	10/28 Roger & Diane Vaughn
10/23 Mary Ann Snyder	10/29 Joseph & FaithAnn Young



OCTOBER FUNDRAISER

COCU will be sponsoring a Roast Pork Dinner fundraiser. Info is included elsewhere in this newsletter.

Because COVID-19 health regulations prohibit the usual donating of food for such fundraisers, we are kindly asking your assistance in making a monetary donation for the purchase of food items for the dinner.

Two options for making a monetary donation:

- 1) Checks can be made out to COCU and mailed to: COCU, PO Box 896, Richfield Springs, NY 13439
Please specify on the memo line of your check that your donation is for "October Dinner."
- 2) Either a check made out to COCU or cash should be enclosed in an envelope marked "October Dinner" can be put in the wooden collection box upon entering the Sanctuary on either Sunday, October 4 or Sunday, October 11.

The deadline for receiving monetary donations is Sunday, October 11 to allow time to purchase necessary food items.

Thanks for your help in making this a successful fundraiser.

--Dinner Committee

Sunday School Corner -

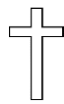
We will be providing a weekly something special for Sunday school children beginning the first week in October. We plan to vary the lessons from mail (as we did in the Spring) to online video to "special delivery ". I look forward to the time when it will be safe for us to meet together in class as we did last fall. If you parents have ideas or feed back from any of the lessons that work well, please let us know.

God Bless, Donna

Communion for Sunday Oct 4th

If you are joining church online you can pick up your prepackaged communion elements on September 30 or October 1 from 1pm to 4pm. Or you can call the church to make other arrangements to have Communion picked up or dropped off.





ROAST PORK DINNER

Saturday, October 17, 4:00-6:00 PM

Roast pork, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing,
vegetable casserole, roll & butter, apple crisp

Cost: \$11.00

PRE-ORDERS ONLY: DEADLINE OCT. 11

To reserve a time for **Drive Thru pickup**
call 315-858-1451 or 315-858-2357

Church of Christ Uniting

22 Church St., Richfield Springs

Please wear a face mask and don't arrive more than
5 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment.

Exact payment appreciated