

# **Good News Ambassador**

## **October 2022**



### **CHURCH OF CHRIST UNITING**

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**

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**.

[www.rschurchofchristuniting.com](https://www.rschurchofchristuniting.com)

### **PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

A Pew Research study came out in September that served as a wakeup call to the Christian church in the U.S. The findings of this study should not come as a shock to anyone, it only reveals the trends we have been seeing over the last half-century. In 1972 90% of Americans identified themselves as Christian. By 2020 that number had dropped to 64%. The projections of the next few decades show that even under the most optimistic conditions, by 2070 Christians will make up less than half the population of the United States. There's probably no one reason for this trend, and while Christianity is shrinking in the U.S. it is growing rapidly in many parts of the world, notably in the global south. I share these numbers not because I want to frighten people, but because I think we are being handed one of the greatest opportunities imaginable.

We are living in a mission field today. You don't need to travel around the world to find people who have never heard the message of Christ, today the mission field is as local as your next-door neighbor. We have a great opportunity today to share our faith and witness Christ, not only in the words we say, but in the very ways that we live our lives. Every day when we get up and go to work, we are going on a mini mission trip. Each time we head out to the store, we have the opportunity to live our values in the presence of those who have never heard the Good News of Christ. Each day when we are chatting with the neighbor down the street, we have the chance to be in a deep mission conversation. What an amazing opportunity we are being given, and what amazing potential for the vitality of the Christian Church we have been given. Many have looked at empty pews and shuttering churches with the eyes of woe and the laments of fear, but maybe we should be seeing our churches as centers of mission-opportunity, the likes of which this region has not seen in hundreds of years.

I don't know what the church will look like a year from now, much less in the decades to come. There could be a revival that shakes the foundations of the earth, or there could be an exodus from faith greater than any model predicts. All any of us can do is to live faithfully as a people of Christ, and to know that we have been called for a time and place such as this to share the Gospel of Christ with a world that is ready to soak up the wonder of God.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Casey

**FOOD PANTRY** continues to serve:

Tuesdays and Thursdays each week

10 am - Noon normally.

2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month

11 am – Noon

Volunteers are always welcome to help with food deliveries, call Pam Diliberto @ 315-985-0816 to inquire.



### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Fall classes have begun. We are using Cokesbury's GROW PROCLAIM SERVE curriculum. This quarter concentrates on the Old Testament. The people of God have much to teach us about life today. We hope your children will come and even bring a friend.

Also we are in need of both substitute teachers and teacher assistants. If you feel you can help occasionally, talk to one of the teachers ( Amy, Mary, Emma , Donna) or Pastor Casey.

Thank you.

May God Bless

*Mrs. Boss, Mrs. Worobey, Mrs. Stevens and Mrs. Jones*

### *Birthday wishes go out to.....*

10/1 Russ Bloomfield  
10/3 Donna Senko  
10/3 Gabrielle Higgins  
10/4 Aurora-Jayne Z Homer  
10/5 Don Bruce  
10/7 Rowena Robertson  
10/8 Stephen Michael Sheldon  
10/11 Carter Boss  
10/12 Chelsea Johnson  
10/13 Debra DaCostafaro  
10/13 Debbie Bennett  
10/13 Chet Ainslie  
10/14 Carol Ainslie  
10/15 Lindsay Michelle Domion  
10/15 Kenneth Roger Vaughn  
10/15 Brittany Oakes  
10/15 Alexis Fahey  
10/16 Kala Sheldon  
10/18 George Butts  
10/19 Erin Kathleen King  
10/23 Mary Ann Snyder  
10/23 Rev. Mark Ioset  
10/24 Kayla Hall  
10/24 Sherry Ann Mosher  
10/24 Kenneth Dreis  
10/25 Marion Pitcher  
10/26 Donald Sheldon  
10/26 Shawn Hext  
10/27 Ronald Barnes  
10/28 Shelly Dyn  
10/28 Sally Klem

### Birthday wishes Cont.....

11/2 Barbara Barnes  
11/3 Luke Worobey  
11/3 Tom Crohan  
11/4 Fay LaFrance

### *Anniversary celebrations...*

10/5 Steven & Sally Klem  
10/9 David & Rosalie Wadsworth  
10/14 Michael & Susan Cristman  
10/25 Priscilla & David Edick  
10/28 Roger & Diane Vaughn  
10/29 Joseph & FaithAnn Young  
11/4 George & Diane Butts

### **The Church of Christ Uniting is looking for a new Financial Secretary.**

Responsibilities include depositing money received by the church and keeping track of what is given to the church each week. If you or someone you know is interested in serving as Financial Secretary, please speak with Pastor Casey or Ross Jones.

### **NEWS FROM THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICE GUILD**

**MEETING REMINDER:** The Guild Meeting is Thursday, 10/20, at 6pm. We will vote on our slate of Officers for 2023 and discuss other upcoming events. Rowena Robertson is this month's hostess and Linda Ehlers will be providing the dessert. Please let Rowena know if you will be attending the meeting so that she knows how many to set up for. You can email her at rowenarobertson7@gmail.com or call her at 315-858-0652

## **GUILD MISSION PROJECT DEADLINE**

**EXTENDED:** The deadline to donate the below requested items for the health kits is now October 10<sup>th</sup>, as it was decided that Guild members will be assembling the kits at their October meeting. The tote is located on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Items will be assembled into individual packages, then sent to Church World Service (CWS), a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe in response to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster. Requested items:

- 1 Hand Towel (15" x 25" or 17" x 27"—no microfiber.
- 1 Washcloth-no microfiber
- 1 Comb-must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth
- 1 Fingernail or Toenail Clipper-removed from package
- 1 Bath Size Soap-3 oz. or larger; no Ivory or Jergens
- 10 Standard-size bandaids-3/4" by 3"

**FALL CRAFT FAIR:** After months of planning, the 2nd Annual Fall Craft Fair at Cullen Pumpkin Farm, sponsored by the COCU Guild, will be Saturday, October 1. As of this writing, we are expecting well over 50 crafters. Last year we had 33 crafters. The Guild ONCE AGAIN appreciates the Shypski family for giving us this opportunity. We hope to see you there!

**FALL HARVEST DINNER:** Turkey Dinner with all the fixins, is Saturday, October 15. Dinners will be sold by RESERVATION ONLY, as outlined below: Deadline Oct. 11th.

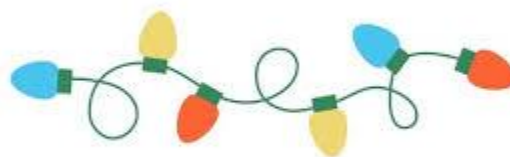
- 1st Seating (Dine-In) 4pm - 5:15pm
- 2nd Seating (Dine-In) 6pm - 7:15pm
- Take-Outs 4:30pm - 5:30pm

For Reservations, call: Donna (315)796-1644 or Carla (315)858-1451

For those of you dining in, we ask that you be prompt, so that we have time to re-set the tables for the second seating.

Dinners include: Turkey (off the bone), mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, squash, veg. casserole, cranberry sauce, sweet bread, roll & butter, and choice of dessert. (Beverage is for dine-in guests only).

\*Side Note: Due to rising costs, we have found it necessary to increase the price of our dinner to \$14. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing you on October 15<sup>th</sup>.



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Second Mile Giving for October

**Santa Anonymous**



## **FOOD COLLECTION BENEFITS FOOD PANTRY**

In keeping with the mission of the Christian Women's Service Guild of the Church of Christ Uniting, Guild members recently donated various food products that included the most requested food staples by patrons of the local Food Pantry.

Pictured are Guild members who donated food staples to be given to our local Food Bank. Not pictured is "photographer" Donna Jones. Food collection is a yearly September tradition along with our "dish to pass" dinner.

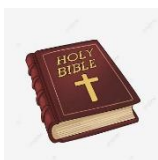
The Women's Guild welcomes new members any time of the year. For information, reach out to Carol Simpson, Guild President, at 315-868-0319.

## **FALL RUMMAGE SALE**

It was decided at a meeting in the spring that the Guild would not be having a Fall Rummage Sale this year due to fall fundraising events already scheduled. Be watching in the future for the status of this fundraiser.

## LUNCHEON/BAKE SALE/CRAFT CORNER

This popular event is scheduled for Saturday, November 12, which is 2 Saturdays before Thanksgiving. Look for more info in the November newsletter.



Fall Bible Study will be meeting on  
September 26<sup>th</sup>, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>,  
November 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>

## A NOTE OF THANKS FROM ROWENA

To everyone who recently gave flowers to beautify our Sanctuary: Sally and Tom Crohan, Fred and Carla Eckler, Diane and George Butts, Geri Erwin and The Gardner Family. The sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall for future dates available or you may call me at 315-858-0652.

I would also like to also thank Marion Pitcher and Carrie Gardner for taking care of the Altar while I had the flu.

## Serving in Worship for October

**10/2**

Reader: Brian Howser  
Usher: Jo-Ann Mead  
Coffee: Sheryl Morris

**10/9**

Reader: Tom Rhodes  
Usher: Donna Jones  
Coffee: Kate Huxtable

**10/16**

Reader: Ross Jones  
Usher: Carla Eckler  
Coffee: Fred and Carla

**10/23**

Reader: Linda Ehlers  
Usher: Faith Ann Young  
Coffee: Diane Butts

**10/26**

Reader: Brian Howser  
Usher: Geri Erwin  
Coffee: Carol Simpson



**\*October 1<sup>st</sup>---** Craft Fair at the Cullen Pumpkin Farm

**\*October 10<sup>th</sup>---** is the new Health Kit deadline, The Women's Guild asks that you take one of the lists above and by the tote in the Fellowship Hall to help them with this mission project.

**\*October 15<sup>th</sup>---** Harvest Dinner you must have reservations call Donna Jones @ 315-796-1644 and Carla Eckler @ 315-858-1451 for dine-in seating reservations. Take outs will also be available. Signup sheet also in the Fellowship Hall for food and Volunteers needed.

More Harvest Dinner info listed above in the Guild notes.

**\*October 20<sup>th</sup>---** Guild Meeting starting at 6p.m.

**\*November 12<sup>th</sup>---** Luncheon/Bake Sale/Craft Corner (2 Saturdays before Thanksgiving.)

**\*November 19<sup>th</sup>---** Charge Conference in Frankfort 1:30-3:30p.m.

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**COCU Board** meets Tuesday,  
October 11th at 6:30

