

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

## Good News Ambassador

April 2023



### CHURCH OF CHRIST UNITING

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church  
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: **RS Church of Christ Uniting**  
Go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and put the above name in the search, or watch later on **YouTube**, by searching on **RS COCU**.  
[www.rschurchofchristuniting.com](http://www.rschurchofchristuniting.com)



Where do we go from here. I set out this year to look at two big ideas, uncertainty and knowing where we are going. Throughout Lent we explored the topic of uncertainty not as something that we were looking to overcome, but as a stage in life where we are invited to grow in our faith. One of the greatest things that I have taken away from these past few weeks is that sometimes in seasons of uncertainty we grow in unique, powerful, and amazing ways that we had never thought about in other seasons of life. I have also been using this season to share with you all the insights from the devotional book *Good Enough* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. I would like to offer one final blessing from the end of their book: “Blessed are we, realizing with relief that we can set aside the project of our own perfectibility, and name it for what it is—the place of almost. We are stuck a quarter-turn away from the beauty and fulfillment that our souls have glimpsed, and our hearts crave.”

From uncertainty we are moving into an equally important concept for this age, learning where it is that we are going. A couple of months before I came to Richfield Springs, I was sitting down for a meal with our District Superintendent. We were meeting at a restaurant in Amsterdam, a small out of the way place that didn't seem to have a budget for a sign. It was as I was sitting there waiting that I had the thought that I would have never been able to be in ministry before the advent of GPS. As it is I have a hard time figuring out where I'm supposed to be. How did people get around before a polite voice from the cellphone told you where to turn and where to park?

Throughout the Easter season we are going to be hearing stories from the scriptures about people who have unexpected encounters with Jesus, and in these encounters their lives are blessed. This Easter, I would encourage you to be on the lookout for the unexpected places Christ is showing up in your life. You might be surprised in the ways that Jesus shows up when you were least expecting. Be blessed by those encounters and trust that they are just a foretaste of the glory that God has prepared for each and every one of us. Have a blessed and amazing Easter,

**Yours in Christ**

**Pastor Casey**



**God's Work  
Our Hands**

Bread Auction: April 2, Palm Sunday. All Sunday School children will receive a pre-paid \$5 coupon to use towards their baked goods bids. All proceeds from the bake sale go to One Great Hour of Sharing. We hope you will bake and stay to participate in the bidding fun. (OGHS is supported by both the Presbyterian and the Methodist denominations and assists in disaster relief, the hunger program and aid development)

Easter Sunday: There are no classes scheduled for Easter Sunday so that families may worship together. There will be **special activity** packets for all the kids.( be sure to check with the usher)

**YOUTH** Class is scheduled to meet again April 30. Guests are welcome.

Wishing you all Easter Blessings.  
Donna Jones

Sunday Morning Ministries  
For April

4/2	Reader:	Brian Howser
	Usher:	FaithAnn Young
	Coffee:	Diane Butts
	Greeter:	Kate Huxtable
4/9	Reader:	Thomas Rhodes
	Usher:	Fred Eckler
	Coffee:	Sheryl Morris
	Greeter:	Carla Eckler
4/16	Reader:	Ross Jones
	Usher:	Carla Eckler
	Coffee:	Fred Eckler
	Greeter:	Donna Jones
4/23	Reader:	Mark Reardon
	Usher:	Geri Erwin
	Coffee:	Jo-Ann Mead
	Greeter:	Bill Stevens
4/30	Reader:	Linda Ehlers
	Usher:	FaithAnn Young
	Coffee:	Carol Simpson
	Greeter:	Kate Huxtable



Thank you to Sue and Don Sheldon

For contributing towards the March alter flowers  
in the loving memory of their son Eric.

Remember Easter is April 8<sup>th</sup> and you will still have  
time up to April 6<sup>th</sup> to sign up for Easter flowers in  
order to be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin  
listings.

Rowena

We have separate lists. When you receive a message, call the next person. If you get an answering machine, please leave a message, and call the next name on your list.

PRAYER CHAIN – List 1:

Linda Ehler	315-858-1833
Susan Sheldon	315-868-8005
Carrie Gardner	315-858-0634
Geri Erwin	315-858-2103
Rowena Robertson	315-858-0652
Carol Simpson	315-868-0319

PRAYER CHAIN – List 2:

Patti Lou Leopold	315-858-2706
Donna Jones	315-796-1644
Nancy Strongreen	315-858-9483
Kate Huxtable	315-858-1566
Shirley Dreis	315-858-0667





- 4/1 Mary Beth Kearney
- 4/1 Katelynn Bond Worobey
- 4/2 Anna Hawkes
- 4/2 Matthew Cristman
- 4/4 Lillian Martin
- 4/4 Emily Bond
- 4/8 Carrie Gardner
- 4/10 Maureen Kennedy
- 4/10 Diane Vaughn
- 4/12 Priscilla Edick
- 4/14 Linda Ehlers
- 4/14 Jessica Ann Klem
- 4/14 Lois Schoenlein
- 4/20 Patrick Twomey
- 4/24 Geri Erwin
- 4/29 Ashley Lindsay
- 4/30 James Watkins
- 4/30 Roger Waldron
- 5/1 Lorri Jo Farley Seamon
- 5/2 Alexis Wolfe
- 5/4 Joseph Barra
- 5/5 Susan Sheldon
- 5/5 Michael Mayton



- 4/2 Kenneth & Shirley Dreis
- 4/18 Rev. Mark & Myrna Ioset
- 5/2 Michele & Wayne Sheldon
- 5/5 Susan & Don Sheldon

**Second Mile Giving** for April is the



One of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ

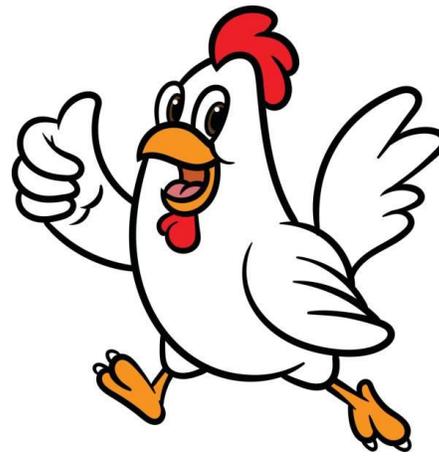
**From the:**



The April Guild meeting will be on Thursday, April 20. Social time is from 6:00 pm - 6:15 pm. Meeting starts promptly at 6:15 pm. Hostess will be Carla Eckler and the dessert will be provided by Rowena Robertson. Please let Carla know by Tuesday, April 18 if you are attending by calling 315-858-1451. This meeting is the *Call to Prayer and Self-Denial*. Donations will be accepted for our Annual *Call to Prayer and Self Denial Program*. Thank you in advance for your support of this worthy cause.



- \*\*April 2<sup>nd</sup> Palm Sunday: Annual Bread Auction immediately following Sunday worship. If any of your baked goods contain nuts PLEASE specify what kind on the package and we ask that you label your baked goods. Please make sure your baked good in packaging you do not want back.
- \*\*April 6<sup>th</sup> Maunday Thursday begins at 6p.m.
- \*\*April 7<sup>th</sup> Good Friday Worship beginning at 7p.m.
- \*\*April 9<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunrise Service @ 6:30am
- \*\*April 22<sup>nd</sup> Brooks' Chicken BBQ We are happy to Report our dining room will be open for those who wish to visit and enjoy a good meal! Take-outs will also be available.
- \*\*May 15<sup>th</sup> Women's Appreciation Dinner
- \*\*May 19<sup>th</sup> Rummage Sale
- \*\*June 1-3 Annual Conference in Syracuse
- \*\*June 10<sup>th</sup> Friendship Craft Fair
- \*\*October 7<sup>th</sup> Fall Craft Fair



## Brooks Chicken BBQ

Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup>

Dine-In or Take-out

Half chicken \$9.00

Chicken dinner \$13.00

Which includes :

Half Chicken

Roasted Potatoes

Coleslaw

Roll & Butter

Dessert

Beverage- for dine-in only

COME ENJOY THE FELLOWSHIP



**COCU Board meets**

Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.



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 Nicole Martinson @ 850-554-8537 to inquire.