



THE COCU GOOD NEWS AMBASSADOR



August 2026



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Church of Christ Uniting
22 Church Street
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Pastor's Message



As we move through August, our summer worship series continues to explore what it means to be disciples of Jesus in our everyday lives. Following our church picnic and celebration of being One Table. One Family, we now turn our attention to three simple, yet life-changing invitations from Christ:

Love Boldly. Serve Joyfully. Lead Courageously.

These are more than sermon titles—they are a way of life for those who follow Jesus.

On August 9, we will reflect on Serving With Joy. Jesus reminds us that greatness is found not in being served, but in serving others (Mark 10:42–45). Whether preparing a meal, singing in the choir, greeting visitors, teaching children, serving on a committee, or quietly helping a neighbor, every act of service becomes an expression of God's love. The church flourishes when each person shares their gifts with joy.

On August 16, we will consider what it means to Lead Courageously. Leadership is not reserved for pastors or church officers. Every Christian is called to influence others through faith, integrity, and hope. God often calls ordinary people to do extraordinary things, and courage begins with taking the next faithful step—even when the path is uncertain.

Finally, on August 23, we will celebrate Loving Boldly, remembering that Christian love is more than a feeling; it is a choice we make every day. Jesus calls us to love our neighbors, welcome the stranger, forgive generously, and reflect His grace in all we do. As part of worship, we will also celebrate our annual Backpack Blessing, praying for students, teachers, school staff, and all who begin a new school year. We invite everyone to bring their backpacks, briefcases, work bags, or anything that reminds them of the places where they are called to live out their faith during the week.

These three themes—love, service, and courage—are woven throughout the Gospel. They remind us that following Jesus is not simply about what happens during an hour of worship on Sunday morning. It is about allowing Christ to shape our hearts so that we become His hands and feet throughout the week.

As we prepare to enter a new ministry season this fall, may these weeks encourage each of us to ask: Where is God inviting me to love more deeply? To serve more faithfully? To lead more courageously?

Worship Service

Sunday Mornings @ 9:15AM

Watch live via
<https://rscocu.org/worship/>

Or via Facebook Live: RS Church of Christ Uniting

Sunday Morning Helping Hands

August 2: Usher: Kate Huxtable
Greeter: Bill Stevens
Reader: Ross Jones
Coffee: Church Picnic

August 9: Usher: FaithAnn Young
Greeter: Cindy Talbot
Reader: Mark Reardon
Coffee: Carol Simpson

August 16: Usher: Donna Jones
Greeter: Ellen McIntosh
Reader: Kevin Mead
Coffee: Jo-Ann Mead

August 23: Usher: Carla Eckler
Greeter: Donna Jones
Reader: Brian Howser
Coffee: Fred Eckler

August 30: Usher: FaithAnn Young
Greeter: Bill Stevens
Reader: Missy Belcher
Coffee: Sheryl Morris

PRAYER
TIME

Strength, Healing and Guidance:

Dayton Kane, Fred Gardner, Bill Burdick,
Tim Snyder, Kevin Brown, Sally Pickens, ,
George Butts, Gary Aney, Carol Simpson,
Carrie Gardner, Peg Bobzin.

NEED PRAYER?

Contact the following for any
prayer needs

Linda Ehlers: 315-858-1833

Donna Jones: 315-796-1644

*If you would like to become part of
the prayer chain let Linda or
Donna know.*

WE
give thanks
to
GOD
always for all of you,
CONSTANTLY
mentioning you
in our
PRAYERS
1 THESSALONIANS 1:2

Sunday School News!



Sunday School is on "summer vacation". There will be activity sheets each Sunday for all the kids who want them at the usher's table. The comfort corner/nursery will be set up for kids up to first grade. We could use more adults to sign up to supervise the nursery. Talk to Pastor Chris or Donna if you are willing.

There is a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.

Questions or concerns
Donna 315-796-1644 or
Pastor Chris 585-704-5587



Happy Birthday

- 8/1 - Tom Worobey
- 8/3 - Bridgette Hallberg
Melanie Bruce
Kate Huxtable
- 8/5 - Gavin Valenta
- 8/6 - Al DaCostafaro
- 8/12 - Judi Southard
- 8/13 - Walter Hubiak
- 8/18 - Sara Goodrich
- 8/20 - Victoria Young
- 8/26 - Alex Talbot
- 8/27 - Norma Bostwick
- 8/31 - Pastor Christine Mitchell



- 8/23 - Emma & Zach Boss
- 8/27 - David & Lori Weiss

UPCOMING 2026 EVENTS

At this time the following events, approved by the Governing Board, will be held at the church, unless otherwise specified:

9/24 & 25 - Fall Rummage Sale

10/3/26 - Craft Fair at
Cullen Pumpkin Farm



Women's Guild News

Fall Rummage Sale

Thursday, September 24 from 5-7 PM
Friday, September 25 from 9 AM- 4 PM.
Start cleaning your closets! More info in the September newsletter.

Mark Your Calendar

No meeting in August.
Next Meeting: Annual Food Pantry Shower
Thursday, September 17th
6:00 PM: Social Time
6:15 PM: Business meeting
Bring a dish to share and enjoy.
Bring a canned good or food staple for the Food Pantry.

A list of most requested items will be included in the September newsletter. Carol Simpson will be the hostess.

6th Annual Fall Craft Fair

Saturday, October 3 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Cullen Pumpkin Farm
Applications are steadily coming in.
Richfield Youth Sports will, once again, be doing a food booth. We appreciate the Pumpkin Farm for allowing us to hold this fundraiser on their property again this year.

Contact Geri and Carla, Co-Chairs, with any questions.



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS!

Volunteers are always welcomed to help with food deliveries, packing bags, etc.

Call: Connie Olsen
607-267-2190

Monetary donations can be sent to:
Richfield Springs Food Pantry
PO Box 140
Richfield Springs, NY 13439

Governing Board Report

Board Meets 2nd Wednesday of Month
6:30 pm Fellowship Hall
All are welcome

Some areas of need

- Nursery Attendants/Monitors
- Sunday school youth class help
- Craft fair Chairs

Board Members: Carla & Fred Eckler, Ross & Donna Jones, Mark Reardon, Carol Simpson, Kate Huxtable, Cindy Talbot

Chair: Amy Worobey
Secretary: Teena Shypski

Please feel free to contact any Board member or Pastor Chris with questions.



Interested in becoming a member of the church?

Contact Pastor Chris if interested so we can figure out a time to meet that works for everyone!

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

August 22, 2026
4pm - 6pm
Dine In Only

- Italian Sausage w/ Peppers and Onions
- Roasted Potatoes
- Peas
- Salad
- Dessert & Beverage

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(315) 858-1553
www.rscocul.org



2ND MILE OF GIVING AUGUST 2026

CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK (UTICA)

Upcoming Church Events

Aug 2	Church @ Beach/Picnic
Aug 3-7	Vacation Bible School
Aug 25-Sep 8	Pastor Chris - Out of Office
Aug 22	Community Dinner
Aug 23	Backpack Blessing

7/12/26

Dear Congregation,

Pastor Chris and the Board have made church growth a priority over the last two years. The monthly Community Dinner, the new digital sign, Kid's Day and reinstating VBS are the results of our efforts to reach the community and unchurched. We have been discussing adding technology to our service. In August, we will be further discussing purchasing 3 tv monitors for the sanctuary, so the bulletin, hymns, Bible passages, etc, can be viewed more easily. The Board feels this would be more welcoming for newcomers and easier for all the congregants than using the hymnal and paper bulletins. A laptop or desktop will also need to be purchased to run the program to do this. The program would be a yearly subscription. We have been blessed to find someone who is willing to install this new technology without cost to us. The Board would use the Springer fund to purchase this new technology. If you feel moved to donate specifically toward this new technology, that would be most welcomed. The Springer Fund and the Memorial Fund can always use a boost! That being said, we'd like to clarify what our different accounts are used for and what monies go into them.

- 1) general checking account (where any income to the church is placed) - used for salaries, health insurance and pension for the pastor, apportionments to the Methodist conference and Presbytery, bills for the upkeep of the church and manse
- 2) Springer Fund - a Wells Fargo account, this money was donated for church growth, and can only be used for that purpose, no money is placed here unless specifically designated by the giver
- 3) Memorial account - money given in the name of someone who has passed, used to purchase lasting items for the church, unless specifically designated by the giver
- 4) Organ account - used for organ maintenance, no money is placed in this account unless specifically designated by the giver
- 5) Capital account - currently money given in the "noisy can", most recently used for purchasing a new furnace
- 6) Laura Twomey account - used for camperships, no money is placed here unless specifically designated by the giver
- 7) Community Dinner account - money donated at monthly dinners, used to purchase items for the next month's dinner, no money from weekly tithes or giving is placed in this account

We'd like you to be aware that the monies used in large purchases over the last year, have mostly come from the Springer Fund, Memorial Fund and donations specifically designated for these purchases. 20% of the payment for the new sign did come the general fund, and we did have to purchase the second furnace with money from the general fund, as we depleted the Capital Fund when we bought the first furnace.

We also plan to mount a flat screen tv that was donated to the church, in the fellowship hall. This will be used as a message board, instead of cluttering the area with paper flyers.

The church is in URGENT need of volunteers to organize the craft fair for next June.

Please see Amy Worobey, Board Chair, with any questions or concerns, remembering all are welcome to attend Board meetings, which are the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm.