



THE COCU GOOD NEWS AMBASSADOR



September 2026



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Church of Christ Uniting
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Pastor's Message



This fall, we're going back to the beginning—not the beginning of our congregation or our denominations, but to the beginning of the Christian Church itself.

Beginning **Sunday, September 13**, our **new 10-week sermon series**, D.R.E.A.M. Church, will take us through the Book of Acts while drawing from Brian Moss's book D.R.E.A.M. Church: Why Every Church Should Be About More Than Just Sundays. Moss challenges congregations to consider why we exist, whom we are called to reach, and whether our ministries reflect the mission Christ has given us.

Our primary guide, however, will be Scripture.

Acts tells the story of ordinary people learning how to be the Church after Jesus' ascension. Jesus tells them, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8). From there, the Gospel begins moving from Jerusalem to Judea, Samaria, and eventually toward the ends of the earth.

That movement wasn't always easy.

The early Church experienced disagreements, financial challenges, changing leadership needs, cultural differences, opposition, and questions about who should be welcomed. Again and again, the Holy Spirit pushed believers beyond what was familiar. That makes Acts remarkably relevant to the Church today.

Through these next 10 weeks, we'll consider some important questions for our own congregation. What is the purpose of the Church? How do we faithfully use our resources? How do we serve both locally and globally? How do we welcome people who aren't already here? And how do we know when changing the way we do something might actually help us remain faithful to what Christ has called us to do?

Acts does not give us a blueprint for recreating the first-century Church. Instead, it shows us people learning to recognize where the Holy Spirit was leading—and finding the faith to follow.

Our journey begins with Back to Church Sunday on September 13 at 9:15 a.m., followed by a special brunch after worship. I'm asking everyone to invite someone to join us. Invitation is at the heart of Acts: again and again, someone encounters Christ because another person speaks, welcomes, listens, opens a home, crosses a boundary, or extends an invitation.

Come ready to open Acts, explore what Brian Moss has to teach us, and discover what this ancient story has to say to the Church of Christ Uniting today.

And don't come alone—**bring someone with you!**

Worship Service

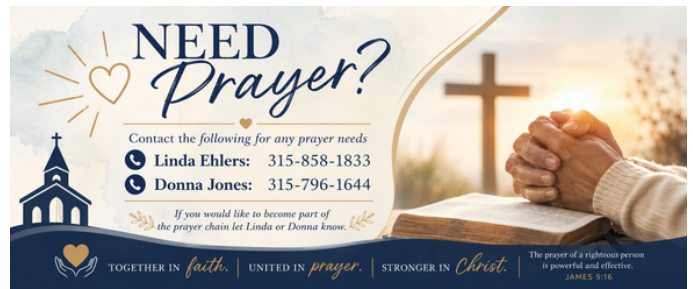
Sunday Mornings @ 9:15AM

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

Or via Facebook Live: RS Church of Christ Uniting

Sunday Morning Helping Hands

- September 6: Usher: Jo-Ann Mead
Greeter: Donna Jones
Reader: Cindy Talbot
Coffee: Diane Butts
- September 13: Usher: Geri Erwin
Greeter: Diane Butts
Reader: Ross Jones
Coffee: Fellowship Brunch
- September 20: Usher: FaithAnn Young
Greeter: Ellen McIntosh
Reader: Melissa Belcher
Coffee: Carol Simpson
- September 27: Usher: Carla Eckler
Greeter: Bill Stevens
Reader: Kevin Mead
Coffee: Fred Eckler



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, Linda Ehlers.



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



Sunday School News!



If you would like to help with our Sunday School classes, as a helper or teacher please talk to Pastor Chris or Donna. 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

- 9/10 - Gailyn Dyn
Gary Southard
- 9/15 - Gene Simpson
- 9/18 - Carla Eckler
- 9/19 - Roger Vaughn
Elouise Heidi Worobey
- 9/19 - Charlotte Plows
- 9/20 - Ashlyn Wolfe
Sheryl Morris
- 9/24 - Candice Domion
- 9/25 - Fred Eckler
- 9/26 - Alex Talbot
- 9/28 - Melissa Belcher
- 9/29 - Cindy Talbot
- 9/30 - Ronette Wiley



- 9/20 - Carla & Fred Eckler
- 9/23 - Taylor & Tyler Coughlin
- 9/29 - Melanie & Don Bruce



Women's Guild News

Fall Rummage Sale

Thursday, September 24 5-7 PM
 Friday, September 25, 9 AM to 4 PM
 (Bag sale from 3 PM to 4PM)
 Fill a bag for \$2.00
 \$10 for all you want!

Linda Watkins will, once again, head up this well received church fundraiser.
 Start cleaning those closets!!!

- Items can be brought in as early as Sunday, September 20 and placed in the Winter Chapel.
- Set up will begin Tuesday, September 22 at 12 Noon—after the Food Pantry closes.
- Deadline for dropping off items is Thursday, September 24 at 12 Noon.
- Volunteers are needed! Stop in and lend a helping hand even if it is just for an hour or two.

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. The Guild ONCE AGAIN appreciates the Shypski family for giving us this fundraising opportunity.

We hope to see you all there!

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

Next Guild 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.

Most Items Needed by Food Panty:

Spaghetti Sauce,

Canned Veggies

Canned Fruit

Boxed Cereal.

Carol Simpson will be the hostess.

If anyone is so inclined to donate, there will be a tote on the table in the Fellowship Hall marked "Donations—Food Pantry"

FALL RUMMAGE SALE!

It's time to hunt for some treasures! ♥

Join us at **Church of Christ Uniting** for our Fall Rummage Sale. You never know what great finds might be waiting for you!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 5:00 - 7:00 PM	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
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BAG SALE - FRIDAY ONLY!
3:00 - 4:00 PM
\$2 PER BAG OR \$10 FOR ALL YOU WANT!

CHURCH OF CHRIST UNITING
22 Church Street
Richfield Springs, NY

Come browse, find a bargain, and help support the ministries and mission of Church of Christ Uniting.
Great deals. Great finds. Great cause! ♥

PLEASE SHARE AND HELP US SPREAD THE WORD! ♥

Governing Board Report

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

- Back to Church Sunday will be on 9/13/26 with a BRUNCH following the service. The choir will be singing again. Sunday school will begin then, with two classes. One class will be for preschool through grade 6; the other will be a youth class for middle school and high school students. Nursery will also be provided upstairs. (A big thank you to those who volunteer their time to any of these!) Invite a friend to church
- Look for Connection Cards that will appear in the pews. Pastor Chris will explain these in church. Encourage visitors to fill these out.
- We hope you've noticed the clearing out, organizing, and cleaning of the church. Thanks to all who have volunteered their time in our effort to spruce up the church. This is a work in progress, more to come!
- The collection plates will once again be passed to the congregation in September.
- Second Mile Giving for September will be for Habitat for Humanity of Otsego County.

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.



**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

**2ND MILE OF GIVING
SEPTEMBER 2026**

**HABITAT FOR
HUMANITY OF
OTSEGO COUNTY**



Upcoming Church Events

Aug 25-Sep 8	Pastor Chris - Out of Office
Sept 13	Back to Church Sunday w/ Brunch
Sept 24 & 25	Fall Rummage Sale
Sept 26	Community Dinner
Sept 29-Oct 3	Pastor Chris - Leadership Institute, Lealand, Kansas.
Oct 3	Fall Craft Fair

