

The Good *News*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
RUNNELLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
AUGUST 2022 | VOLUME 265



R C C F A L L K I C K O F F

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

9:30

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

10:30

WORSHIP & BACKPACK BLESSING



INTERNATIONAL MISSION UPDATE

Dear church family,
I will be traveling to Haiti with a medical mission group headed by Dr. Tami Gudenkauf of Dubuque to **Mountain Top Ministries**, September 24 through October 2. I have been to this clinic a number of times. Below is a list of items that the clinic could use.

- Pampers
- Gas X
- Small and medium jock straps (yes they really need these)
- Dandruff shampoo (pyrithione zinc)
- Niizoril shampoo
- Sulfur soap
- Manual blood pressure cuff, not battery or automatic
- Pregnancy tests
- Liquid children's ibuprofen and Tylenol
- Acne cream
- Diaper rash cream
- Hemorrhoid cream
- Antibiotic ointment
- Antifungal ointment
- Allergy meds (adult and children's, liquid and pill)
- Artificial tears

Any donations are much appreciated! I will take as much as I can fit in my suitcase. Please bring items to the church by September 18. If you have questions, please ask me. Of course, monetary donations are always welcome!

Mesi (thank you),



Moving the fruit of God's earth
from your garden to those who need it

NEW THIS YEAR @ RCC - GARDEN FOR GOOD

If you have an abundance of produce from your garden this summer, consider participating in Garden for Good at RCC. Simply bring your excess produce to church on Sunday and we will get it to local organizations helping to feed our neighbors. Participating organizations include: 3G Food Pantry, Caring Hands, and the Food Bank of Iowa. If you'd like to help by being a delivery driver, contact Pastor Katie.

Pantry Partner Program

Runnells Christian Church is partnering with Caring Hands Outreach Center to stock their food pantries with menstrual hygiene items.



Please bring your donations to church by August 31.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

Zach Funk

For some people, the act of volunteerism starts at a young age. Many adults in the church appreciate when the youth step forward and help out. Runnells Christian Church is blessed to have several dedicated youth who help out in various ways when their busy teenage schedules allow.

One such volunteer is Zach Funk who, along with his twin sister Amelia, has grown up in the church. He started volunteering in sixth grade through youth group and accompanied his mom on hospital visits when she served as an elder.

Zach volunteers at Trunk or Treat, with Vacation Bible School, at the harvest supper, as a junior diaconate and this summer at Kids' Café. He also assists with a variety of mission projects as an RCC youth group member.



Zach enjoys volunteering through RCC for the chance to meet other church members and get to know them better. “I really like the harvest supper because there is so much good food that is probably made from family recipes,” Zach said.

Zach lives with his mom and sister, and sees his dad when he is in Iowa as he splits his time between Iowa and Florida. He has a half-sister who resides in California and a half-brother who lives in Des Moines.

In his free time, Zach enjoys watching *Survivor* and *Big Brother*. He likes running and tennis, and is on the cross country and tennis teams at Southeast Polk High School. He hopes to take up piano lessons again.

His favorite scripture is John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world, he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”

When asked why more people should take a leap of faith and volunteer, Zach replied, “Just do it! It’s rewarding when you try something new and you find a new way to help others. You can only find that out by trying out new things.”



Prayer Concerns

All Military Personnel and Veterans
Residents of Ukraine
Aislinn, Jane Charls' daughter
Dave, friend of Sue Howard
Connie Dunn
John & Norma Grinstead
Marcie Huffman, friend of Jill Simonsen
Sharon Lawson
Jennifer Sieck
Jaque Tate
Clay York

To keep our prayer concerns current, names will remain on the list for four weeks. At that time names will be removed unless you have asked that a name remain on the list and give an update on the person's well-being. If a name is removed and you'd like it on the list again, contact the church office. Thank you!

With Sympathy

With Prayers and Heartfelt Sympathy

Our prayers & Christian sympathy go out to the families & friends of:

**Joan DeGroot,
who passed away on August 1, 2022**

May God's love comfort you in the time of your loss.

HOME COMMUNION

Contact Elder Chair, Tammy Gaudette at 515-707-3715 or the church office at 515-966-2587, if you or someone you know would like to receive communion at home.



THANK YOU

To Runnells Christian Church,
Thank you so much for all your support over the past years. I appreciate the recognition ceremony and the generous gifts I received from it. Thank you again—Makenna Phillips

RCC,
I can't tell you how much your prayers, love and support mean to me. I am so grateful. I am doing well now and asking that you take my name off the prayer list as I know there are others who are now in crisis and should be the focus. I will continue to pray for your congregation and love all of you.—Jeri Sanburn

RCC BOOK GROUP

Wednesday, August 31, 7 pm, the RCC Book Group will meet to discuss *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion Monroe.

From Amazon: The international bestselling romantic comedy “bursting with warmth, emotional depth, and... humor,” (Entertainment Weekly) featuring the oddly charming, socially challenged genetics professor, Don, as he seeks true love.

The art of love is never a science: Meet Don Tillman, a brilliant yet socially inept professor of genetics, who's decided it's time he found a wife. In the orderly, evidence-based manner with which Don approaches all things, he designs the Wife Project to find his perfect partner: a sixteen-page, scientifically valid survey to filter out the drinkers, the smokers, the late arrivers.

Rosie Jarman possesses all these qualities. Don easily disqualifies her as a candidate for The Wife Project (even if she is “quite intelligent for a barmaid”). But Don is intrigued by Rosie's own quest to identify her biological father. When an unlikely relationship develops as they collaborate on The Father Project, Don is forced to confront the spontaneous whirlwind that is Rosie—and the realization that, despite your best scientific efforts, you don't find love, it finds you.

Arrestingly endearing and entirely unconventional, Graeme Simsion's distinctive debut “navigates the choppy waters of adult relationships, both romantic and platonic, with a fresh take (USA TODAY). “Filled with humor and plenty of heart, The Rosie Project is a delightful reminder that all of us, no matter how we're wired, just want to fit in” (Chicago Tribune).

Upcoming selections for 2022

September 2022 - *Fifty Words for Rain* by Asha Lemmie
October 2022 - *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides
November 2022 - *The Noel Diary* by Richard Paul Evans

A wooden chalice from the personal collection of Rev. JoAnn Thomas has been given to Runnells Christian Church. JoAnn, who grew up at RCC and was ordained here in 1982, passed away last fall. May this chalice be a reminder of Rev. JoAnn Thomas and the legacy of her ministry at RCC and beyond.



We are Updating the Church Directory

Have you gotten rid of your home phone? Do you have a new phone number or email address? Do you want to include an updated photo of you or your family in the church directory? Please send any changes or photos to the church office (runnellscc@gmail.com) or write the correct information on the copy in the narthex. Please have corrections in by August 14. We will print copies for those that would like a hard copy and you can download the app to your phone and keep the current directory at your fingertips. Contact the church office with any questions.

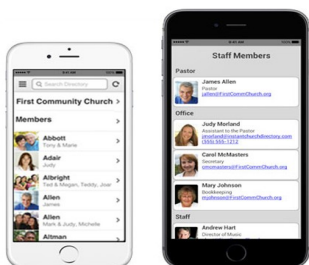
Sync Our Church Directory to Your Mobile Device

Now you can sync our church directory directly to your Apple, Android or Kindle Fire device with a FREE app!

Search for other members, and then email, call or text — right from the directory app.

It's Easy!

1. Go to your device's App Store.
2. Search for Instant Church Directory.
3. Enter your email as it's listed in our church directory.
4. Follow the directions on screen to complete the login process.



Piano Update

RCC's digital piano will turn 20 years old in September! It was a gift to the church from Linda Dawson and has served us well for many years. However, in the last couple of years it has needed repairs that are becoming both costly and difficult to make. With discussion between Pastor Katie, Tammy Feeley, and the Board, our church leaders believe the time has come to replace it with a new digital piano. A digital piano not only allows Tammy to accompany hymns in Sunday worship and provide beautiful prelude and communion music, but it also allows her to record music for worship on Sundays she is gone and to enhance her music with additional tracks or voicing (like when the piano magically sounds like a flute or an organ!). Many digital pianos are currently unavailable to purchase due to supply chain issues. However, an employee at Rieman Music recommended several options that will likely meet our church's needs. They range in price from \$2900-\$3700. The Memorial Committee has agreed to purchase a new digital piano for the church with undesignated memorial gifts. When the pianos are in-stock again, Tammy Feeley will go test them out and we will choose one that makes the most sense for our church. Many thanks to the Memorial Committee and to those who left memorials to the church to enable such a purchase.

In addition to the need we have for a new digital piano, Pastor Katie and Tammy Feeley began to dream about acquiring a baby grand piano for the sanctuary. We imagine this could replace the organ, which is no longer used because we do not have anyone to play it. It is less functional than a digital piano (for instance, it is not as easy to record with) but it would be more artistic; a baby grand would make Tammy's prelude and communion solos sound even more beautiful and it would be a desirable instrument for things like recitals and weddings in our sanctuary. We are researching what a good, used piano might cost and praying for a good opportunity to come our way. If you have questions, you can ask Pastor Katie or a member of the Board.

Online Giving

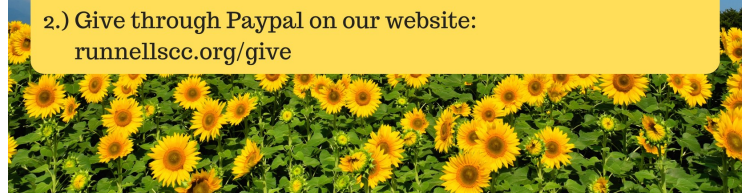
- 1.) Send the Church your offering through your online banking and bill pay.

Set the Church up as a payee: Runnells Christian Church
Your account number is your Phone # with area code.

Example: 515.123.4567,

Address: PO Box 30, Runnells, IA 50237-0030

- 2.) Give through Paypal on our website:
runnellscc.org/give



VBS By The Numbers

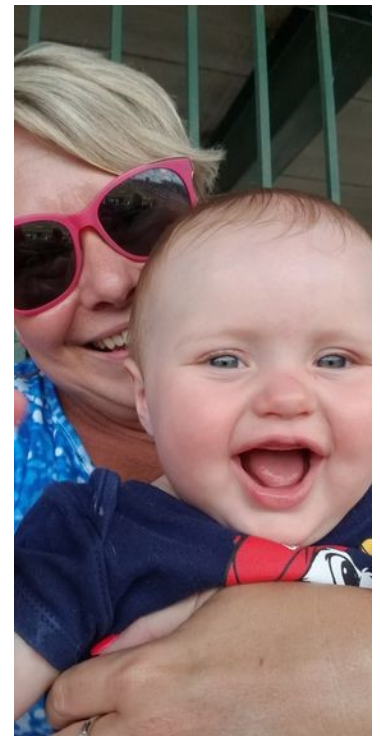
34 volunteers worked together to make VBS happen. They put up decorations, checked kids in at registration, led stations and groups, took photos, counted offering, rang bells, and more! Thank you to all who helped make this ministry happen for our community.

34 kids attended VBS this year. While this is about half the number of kids who have attended in previous years, it is right on target with what we were expecting. Church attendance (across all churches--not just RCC) is about 50% of what it was pre-pandemic. Camp participation at the Christian Conference Center is about 50% of what it was pre-pandemic. Our leaders assumed VBS would follow a similar pattern and set a goal of 30-40 kids at VBS this year. Our two largest classes were the preschool and Kindergarten/1st grade class, which means we have a great foundation on which to grow in years to come!

VBS participants collected **\$204.58** in offering. This will be sent to Global Ministries and designated for the Alliance for Sustainable Resource Management in Puerto Rico. This initiative is--among other things--installing rainwater harvesting systems in local communities and water filtration systems in houses to ensure Puerto Ricans have access to clean water, even when natural disasters strike.







**RCC at the
Iowa Cubs
July 17, 2022**



Runnells Christian Church

The Body of Christ:



Building



Growing



Serving

Place
Stamp
Here

Runnells Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

P.O. Box 30
309 Brown Street
Runnells, Iowa 50237

*(Please use P.O. Box 30 when
addressing all mail to Church)*

Phone: 515-966-2587
E-mail: runnellscc@gmail.com
pastor.krussell@gmail.com
Website: www.runnellscc.org

Church Staff:

Ministers: The Congregation
Pastor: Rev. Katie Russell Hainline
Church Admin/Bookkeeper: Deb Bracewell
Nursery Attendant/Custodian: Ann Hammen
Board Moderator: Bill Ingle
Pianist: Tammy Feeley
Choir Director: Mike Miller
Bell Choir Director: Sheila Aukes
Children's Choir Director: Tammy Feeley

Address Service Requested



Has your address
changed?



Keep us
posted!

(U. S. Post Office requires P.O. Box 30 on all church mail.)

Noisy Offering Update

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Noisy Offering this year. Your generosity is making a difference in the lives of others.

These are the past few Noisy Offering donations:

- May—\$153.89 Altoona Kid's Cafe
- June—RCC VBS
- July—\$156.46 to purchase school supplies for kids in need

The August Noisy Offering will be donated to Mountain Top Ministries in Haiti. Thank you again for your generosity.



Looking ahead...

- ♦ September 5th—Labor Day, church office is closed
- ♦ September 11—Kickoff Sunday, Sunday School begins, Backpack Blessing, Bible Trivia, & BBQ
- ♦ September 14—RCC Board Mtg, 7 pm
- ♦ September 24—Runnells River Bottom Festival
- ♦ September 28—Book Group, 7 pm