



The Good News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RUNNELLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH | JANUARY 2023 | VOLUME 270

New Year's Brunch Worship

IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Potluck-style - bring a breakfast dish to share!

01.01.23 - 10:30 am



Pastor Katie's Notes



Dear RCC,

At the end of 2022, one of my favorite seminary professors retired. She was known and loved by her students for many things, including her almost-daily Facebook posts asking, “What’s the word of the day?” At her Zoom retirement celebration, her former students were asked, “What’s the word for Viki’s retirement day?” I was deeply moved hearing students from decades of her career speak words like: sanctuary, hospitality, and love. My word for Viki’s day was “compass,” because Viki is the professor who assigned me to my internship church, which is where I fell in love with congregational ministry. I didn’t want to be a pastor before that conversation with Viki! Like a compass, she guided my life in a new direction...for which I am eternally grateful.

“What’s the word of the day?” reminds me that words are powerful. Words describe what we do and how we feel. They also give our life focus and direction. It is no wonder that the Gospel of John describes Jesus as “the Word” through which all things came into being. Words make things happen!

In the last few years we have started a tradition at Runnells Christian Church of handing out “Star Words” on the Sunday we celebrate Epiphany. These words are meant to guide, inspire, and challenge your spiritual life throughout the new year. Yes, I believe a single word can do all of those things because I know that words are powerful! Without words, nothing happens. Without the Word, not one thing comes into being.

This year we will be celebrating Epiphany on January 8. You can receive a Star Word in worship that day or by emailing the church office to have one drawn for you.

“What’s the word for 2023?”

*Blessings,
Pastor Katie*



Prayer Concerns

All Military Personnel and Veterans

Residents of Ukraine

Aislinn, Jane Charls' daughter

Joan Allsup

Dave, friend of Sue Howard

Roxanne Baker

Gary Cooper

Merri Costello, step-sister of Mike Bracewell

Connie Dunn

Tammy Feeley

John & Norma Grinstead

Shawn Hunter

Marcie Huffman, friend of Jill Simonsen

Sharon Lawson

Ryan N.

Cristie Scarnatti, friend of Suzanne Morecock

Jennifer Sieck

Jaque Tate

Denny Wing

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!

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.

Noisy Offering Update

Thank you for your donations to the Noisy Offerings. Your generosity is making a difference in the lives of others, here and around the world. In November we raised \$117.64 for Heifer International

We were able to purchase 5 flocks of chicks and have the remaining \$17.64 used where it was most needed. Thank you for supporting the noisy offering and our ministries around the world.

The January Noisy Offering will be donated to the Altoona Food Pantry in the Altoona Library.



Thank you to everyone who purchased poinsettias!

Jerry Adams	In memory of Carol Adams, Jon Adams & Jeanne Beck
Bracewell Family	In memory of Gary Bracewell and Gene Reed In honor of Nancy Bracewell and Dorothy Reed
Jon & Tammy Gaudette	In memory of Donald Kain, Rosie Gaudette, Mark Mikkelson In honor of Alex Gaudette
Floyd & Ilene Hays	In memory of W.B. Tabor, Howard & Dorothy Hays
Janice Kain	In memory of husband Donald Kain
Susan Martin	In memory of Grandpa Marian Martin In memory of Carol, Dick and Bob VanAernam
Tom & Joyce Miller	In memory of Our Parents
Cheryl Northway	In memory of John, Eric & Our Parents
Harry Robbins & Jeff Robbins	In memory of Betty Robbins
LaDonna Russell	In honor of Eleanor Hainline
Irene Simonsen	In memory of Betsy Simonsen
Jill Simonsen	In honor of Deanna Cole & Brenda Stanton
Katie Temple	In memory of Katie's grandmothers: Mary Stewart & Wiebre Temple

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

Joseph Martin

Volunteer Spotlight: Meet Joseph Martin

Teenagers are swamped with homework, extracurricular activities, family time, chores and other obligations. They also tend to sleep a lot. So when a teenager carves out time to help volunteer with his or her church, people tend to notice.

Joseph Martin has been attending the Runnells Christian Church for more than a decade but he and his family officially joined in June 2014. That includes dad Donny, mom Mary Beth and his brother Jacob.

As a volunteer, Joseph has helped sort donated cans, served as a junior diaconate, a greeter, helped assemble meals at Meals from the Heartland, portrayed Joseph at the youth Christmas program and as one of the roles in the church's live nativity, sang during worship service, delivered May Day baskets, helped with trunk or treat, and assisted with crafts and games during Vacation Bible School.

"I enjoy helping others and making a difference," he said.

His favorite tradition at church includes helping his mom decorate for the harvest supper and interacting with the kids and assisting at Vacation Bible School.

Joseph's favorite guiding scripture happens to be Proverbs 3:5-6 – "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

In his free time, Joseph enjoys running, fishing, gaming and most outdoor activities. For others who are considering volunteering but haven't yet taken the first step, he strongly recommends it.

"Just do it. It will make you and those you help happy," he said.



2022 Advent at RCC

Pre-decorating



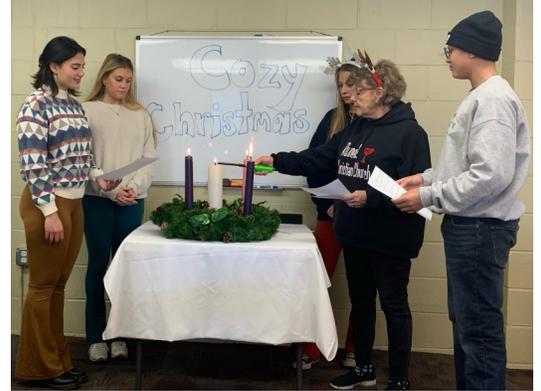
Hanging of the Greens



Outdoor Christmas Market & Tree Lighting



Lighting the Advent Wreath



Shopping for families



Honoring our Grandmothers



Christmas Eve



Cozy Christmas Morning Worship



Register For The
**RCC WOMEN'S
 WINTER RETREAT**

February 17-19, 2022
 Christian Conference Center



Now is the time to register for the 2023 Winter Women's Retreat at the Christian Conference Center! To register, email Pastor Katie (pastor.krussell@gmail.com) with your name and your roommate preference (if any). We will gather at the CCC in the late afternoon on Friday, Feb 17 and be done by noon on Sunday, Feb 19. The cost is \$65 to attend, which includes all meals and lodging. Thank you to the RCC CWF for sponsoring this retreat and helping to keep costs low!

Dear RCC:

Thank you to the congregation for my monetary gift for Christmas. Sharing the gift of music with each of you in worship every Sunday is such a joy for me. Blessings! Tammy Feeley

Dear RCC family,
 What a blessing to be part of this caring church family. Thank you for thinking of me at Christmas and for the monetary gift. Love—Deb Bracewell



Dear Runnells Christian Church,
 Thank you so much for the stapler you gave me for Christmas. Your generosity and thoughtfulness is very appreciated. Have a very Merry Christmas! Thank you!
 Love—Krista VonBank

RUNNELLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Statement of Financial Position
For the Six Months Ending November 30, 2022

	<u>November</u>	<u>Jun - Nov</u>
Offerings, misc	\$7,856.50	\$55,040.03
Expenses	\$11,306.50	\$64,920.58
Operating Revenue(Loss)	-\$3,450.00	-\$9,880.55

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: runnellsc@gmail.com
pastor.krussell@gmail.com
Website: www.runnellsc.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.)

Book Group

The Book Group will meet on January 25 at 7 pm in the fellowship hall and will be discussing *A Prayer for Owen Meany* by John Irving.

“A remarkable novel. . . . A Prayer for Owen Meany is a rare creation in the somehow exhausted world of late twentieth-century fiction—it is an amazingly brave piece of work . . . so extraordinary, so original, and so enriching. . . . Readers will come to the end feeling sorry to leave [this] richly textured and carefully wrought world.” —STEPHEN KING, Washington Post

A PBS Great American Read Top 100 Pick

I am doomed to remember a boy with a wrecked voice—not because of his voice, or because he was the smallest person I ever knew, or even because he was the instrument of my mother's death, but because he is the reason I believe in God; I am a Christian because of Owen Meany. In the summer of 1953, two eleven-year-old boys—best friends—are playing in a Little League baseball game in Gravesend, New Hampshire. One of the boys hits a foul ball that kills the other boy's mother. The boy who hits the ball doesn't believe in accidents; Owen Meany believes he is God's instrument. What happens to Owen after that 1953 foul ball is extraordinary.



Looking ahead to February...

- ◆ Soup Supper—February 4
- ◆ Women's Retreat—February 17-19
- ◆ Ash Wednesday—February 22
- ◆ Katie Temple Mission Trip—Feb 24-March 3