

The Good News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RUNNELLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH | NOVEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 268



Runnells Christian Church

HARVEST SUPPER

DINE-IN OR DRIVE-THRU

Saturday, November 12, 4-7 pm

DINNER INCLUDES: ROAST BEEF, MASHED POTATOES AND GRAVY, CORN, GREEN BEANS, SALADS, AND PIE

\$12 for adults & \$5 for kids

Runnells Christian Church
309 Brown St, Runnells, IA 50237
515-966-2587

Outdoor Christmas Market & Tree Lighting

A Community-wide Event
at Runnells Christian Church

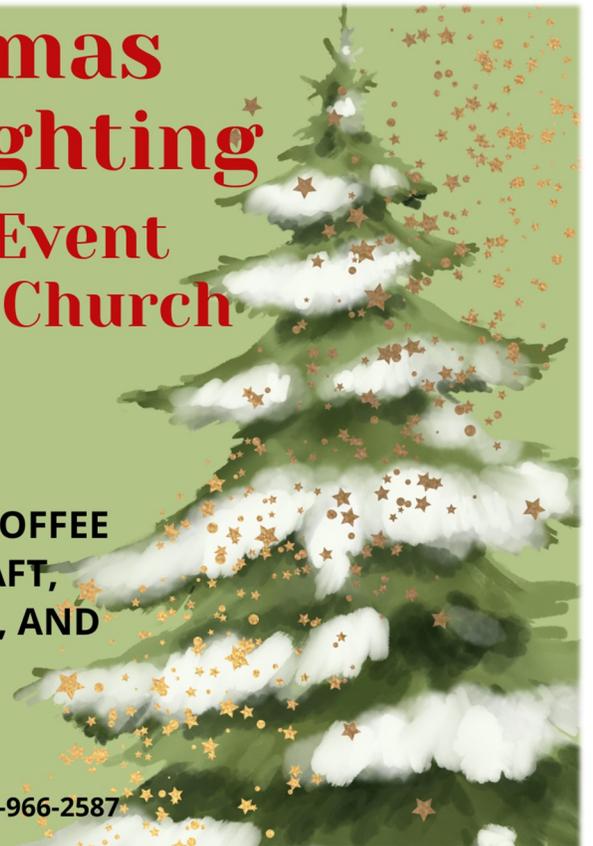
NOVEMBER 27, 2022

3:30 CHRISTMAS MARKET

CRAFT SALE, HOT COCOA AND COFFEE BAR, MAKE-AND-TAKE KIDS' CRAFT, BAKE SALE, CHRISTMAS CAROLS, AND SANTA & MRS. CLAUS

4:30 TREE LIGHTING

RUNNELLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH | 309 BROWN ST | RUNNELLS | 515-966-2587



Pastor Katie's Notes

Dear RCC,

Meister Eckhart, a German theologian who lived in the 13-14 th century, once said, “If the only prayer you said was ‘thank you,’ that would be enough.”

This is a quote I often think of when we turn our calendars to November. The approaching Thanksgiving holiday becomes an opportunity for many of us to practice gratitude more intentionally. Years ago, I even took on the challenge of sharing something I was grateful for on social media every day in November.

The early days of the month were easy—I shared words of thanksgiving for my immediate family members and my closest friends. But as the month drew on, it became more challenging and I started having to look for things to be grateful for. I think that was the point of the challenge, because once I started looking I discovered moments of gratitude everywhere. I was grateful for a really pretty tree in my neighborhood, for a TSA agent who handled Thanksgiving travelers in the airport security line with humor and joy, and for the church administrator who corrected the mistakes in my newsletter article! I suspect that many of us could create vast lists of things for which to be thankful.

But even if—or when—our gratitude lists are hard to make, there is one thing for which we ought to be thankful: God. That may sound trite, but I have found those who can acknowledge God in times of difficulty are often those with deep, resilient faith. In Psalm 7, the Psalmist begs God to save them from their oppressors, who are bent on their destruction. For 16 verses the author laments the wickedness of their enemies and questions why they are being persecuted. Then abruptly in the final verse they write, “But I will thank the Lord for his righteousness; I will sing praises to the name of the Lord Most High” (CEB). Even in the worst circumstances, the Psalmist thanks God for being good.

If the only thing we put on our gratitude list, or said at the end of a hard day, or prayed in our entire lifetime was, “Thank you, God, for being you,” it would be enough.

*Blessings,
Pastor Katie*



*Happy
Thanksgiving*

Haitian Mission Trip

At the end of September a team from the USA traveled to Mountain Top Ministries in Haiti for a medical clinic. While Haiti is in turmoil, we were safe in our travels and at the clinic. Two doctors, 4 nurses, 2 physical therapists, and 9 others were able to treat 1,025 patients in the week the clinic was open. There were four stations to treat patients, an intake area, a lab, and a pharmacy. Four of the volunteers built and repaired desks and chairs for the school. More than ever, your thoughts and prayers were essential. Please join me on November 20 in worship when I will share about the trip. Mesi (thank you), Katie Temple

September Noisy Offering Update

In September, RCC collected \$147.72 for the Runnells 3G Food Pantry. Here is more information about the Runnells Food pantry. In September they served 87 individuals and over 40 families. They are open the 3rd Thursday of every month from 5:30-6:30 & the 3rd Saturday of every month from 9am-2pm. If someone is needing food assistance, they can go to the pantry on either of those days and times, or leave a message on the 3G Food Pantry Facebook page, or leave a voicemail. Our donation will be used for groceries to help those needing food. Runnells 3G Food Pantry also carries basic toiletries.

Save The Dates RCC WOMEN'S WINTER RETREAT

February 17-19, 2022
Christian Conference Center



Are You Interested in the RCC Women's Retreat?

Pastor Katie has reserved space at the Christian Conference Center for an RCC women's retreat on February 17-19, 2023. The theme "Many Ways To Pray" will explore creative approaches to prayer. Participants will stay in comfortable hotel-style rooms (with one roommate), fellowship with other RCC women, discover prayer methods that best fit their interests and personalities, and enjoy the beauty of the CCC in winter! To help estimate costs and the number of rooms needed, Pastor Katie would like to hear from all RCC women who are interested in participating--just email her at Pastor.KRussell@gmail.com by Nov 30 or put your name on the list in the narthex. The event is open to women of all ages and formal registration will occur in January.

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:

- Aug— \$132.67 for Mountain Top Ministries
- Sept—\$147.72 for Runnells 3G Food Pantry

The November Noisy Offering will be donated to Heifer International, which provides livestock and farming expertise to families in need. Thank you again for your generosity.



RCC'S Grandmothers

This year's Advent theme is called "Grandmothers of God." Each week leading up to Christmas we will tell the story of one of the women listed in Matthew's account of Jesus' family tree. For a special decoration in our sanctuary this year, we want pictures of *your* grandmothers. If you have a digital copy of a photo of your grandmother, email it to Pastor Katie (pastor.krussell@gmail.com) along with her name. You may also drop photos in the basket in the narthex (write her name + your name on the back) and they will be scanned and returned to you OR you can bring one into the church during office hours (M, W, Th 9-12) to have it scanned.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

Katie Temple

World Traveler Makes Difference at Home, Abroad

For more than 20 years, members of Runnells Christian Church know that in a time of need, they can turn to Katie Temple. Always willing to help, Katie has been an elder and has also been a Sunday school teacher, served as director, teacher and guide for Vacation Bible School, chair of the board, chair of the committee for community engagement, youth group leader, worship leader and Easter sunrise service leader. Still today she sings in the choir, plays in the bell choir and nurtures the high schoolers in their spiritual growth as their Sunday school teacher.

As a true testament to Katie's helping hands and heart of compassion are the numerous international mission trips she's taken when she has sometimes risked her safety in order to provide medical care to those in need.

Katie has volunteered at RCC for close to 30 years after she joined around that time. Her favorite part of volunteering is meeting new people, sharing interests and commonalities with others, and making a difference in the lives of others as well as growing personally.

Her husband Al Reeve and children Emma (Aaron), Sam, Seth and Leah (Yadi) have all witnessed Katie's selflessness over the years. Her favorite activity at church is playing the handbells with her children at the late Christmas Eve service.



Her favorite guiding scripture happens to be John 3:15 "For God so loved the world he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

"Although I am anxiously awaiting the day that Proverbs 31:28 becomes a reality - 'Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her,'" Katie said.

Armed with a wonderful sense of humor, this former registered nurse recently wrapped up her 20th international mission trip.

"The teams I have gone with have been wonderful. I grew up in a congregation with many international missionaries, so volunteering in foreign countries seemed the norm. I have been so enriched by these trips," she said.

For those interested in volunteering but aren't sure how to help, Katie recommends picking one thing to try and then build upon it. Or else "jump into the deep end and go big."

Prayer Concerns

All Military Personnel and Veterans

Residents of Ukraine

Aislinn, Jane Charls' daughter

Alice & John Bolen's family

Joan Allsup

Dave, friend of Sue Howard

Connie Dunn

John & Norma Grinstead

Eleanor Hainline

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!

Thank you

Dear RCC,

Thank you for all the ways you honored Pastor Appreciation Month this year. I particularly loved reading all the notes and cards--your words meant a lot to me. Every year I say that Pastor Appreciation Month is an opportunity for me to reflect on how much *I* appreciate *you,* but that is especially true this year. As I have navigated balancing my role as pastor with my new role as mother, I have been so grateful to serve such a flexible, supportive, and loving congregation. Thank you for letting me--and our whole family--be part of this community. -Pastor Katie

Dear church family,

Thank you for your continued support for the Haitian mission trip I took in September. The \$750 from the budget was a big part of my plane ticket. The people of Haiti are in serious need and the medical team was able to treat 1,025 patients!

Mesi (thank you) Katie Temple

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.

RCC BOOK GROUP

Wednesday, Nov. 30, 7 pm, the RCC Book Group will meet to discuss *The Noel Diary* by Richard Paul Evans

From Amazon: A *Good Morning America* Book Club Pick and *New York Times* Bestseller! In this holiday-themed novel from the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Mistletoe Promise* and *The Walk*, a man receives the best Christmas present he could ask for: the chance to rewrite the past.

Bestselling romance author Jacob Churcher hasn't been home for almost twenty years—not since his mentally ill mother kicked him out of the house when he was just sixteen. When a lawyer calls, days before Christmas, to inform him that his estranged mother has passed away and left her house to him, Jacob returns not just to settle the estate but to try and reconcile with the past and the pain and abuse he experienced as a child. Also, maybe cleaning out her house will be slightly less depressing than spending the holidays alone, watching re-runs of Christmas classics.

But as it turns out, the house holds more than just difficult memories, Jacob's mother had become a hoarder and he must excavate through two decades worth of clutter. As Jacob digs through the detritus, like an archaeologist, he uncovers many puzzling items including a diary left by someone named Noel, a young woman he has no recollection of, who stayed with Jacob's family during her pregnancy. That's not the only echo from the past. Jacob has an unexpected visitor, Rachel, a woman looking for the mother who put her up for adoption thirty years before. United by their quest to make sense of the past and rewrite their futures, Jacob and Rachel begin a search for Noel. Along the way they find more than they possibly imagined, including grace, forgiveness and a chance at love.



ELEANOR RUTH HAINLINE
 WAS DEDICATED ON
 OCTOBER 9, 2022
 IN THE PRESENCE OF
 RUNNELLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
 RUNNELLS, IOWA
 WITH HER PARENTS
 JACOB AND KATIE HAINLINE



2nd Annual Chili Cook-off and Apple Dessert Bake-off!
 Thanks to everyone who participated and congratulations to the winners!



Apple Dessert Bake-off winners: Susan Martin, Joyce Canney, Sue Howard, and Mary Beth Martin
Chili Cook-off winners: Pam Jordan, Mike Miller, and Tyler Ingle

Poinsettia Order Form

In order to decorate our church for Christmas, we are offering the opportunity to order a poinsettia.
 Poinsettias may be dedicated **in memory of** a loved one **or in honor of** a living person.
 You are welcome to take your poinsettia home after worship on Christmas Eve.

Last day to Order is Sunday, December 18

6 1/2" Poinsettia # ___ @ \$9.00 Total\$ _____

Ordered by: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Orders may be left in the church office or in the collection plate. Checks payable to **RCC** with **poinsettia** written in the memo area.



DIY Sweater Pumpkin Workshop



Thanks to Denise Pfister for the leading the workshop and furnishing supplies and lunch.

Campfire & Communion

Marshmallows were roasted, hymns were sang, prayers were said, and communion was shared...all around the campfire



PUMPKINVILLE 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: 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.)

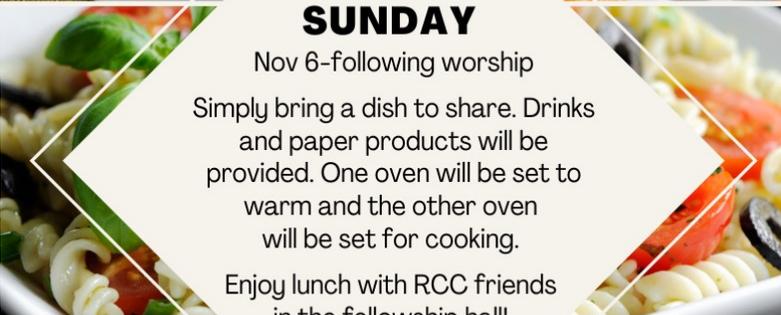


POTLUCK SUNDAY

Nov 6-following worship

Simply bring a dish to share. Drinks
and paper products will be
provided. One oven will be set to
warm and the other oven
will be set for cooking.

Enjoy lunch with RCC friends
in the fellowship hall!



Looking ahead to December...

- ◆ Youth Christmas Shopping—December 11
- ◆ Christmas Caroling in Runnells—
December 20
- ◆ Christmas Eve Services—December 24 at
5:30 pm & 10:00
- ◆ Christmas Day Services—December 25, no
Sunday school, worship at 10:30 am

