

The Good *News*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RUNNELLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
OCTOBER 2022 | VOLUME 267

CAMPFIRE & COMMUNION

Sunday evenings in October

Runnells Christian Church

A new, outdoor worship experience is coming to RCC in October! There will be songs, scriptures, stories, and s'mores....and, of course, communion around the campfire. Bring a chair & invite a friend! On Oct 2, Campfire & Communion will be held at 7 pm.



Pastor Katie's Notes



Dear RCC,

There are so many things to love about trick-or-treat night: costumes that are cute and clever, the spirit of community when the whole town participates in an event, and—of course—all the great candy! But one of the things I love about trick-or-treat is that it helps us live more fully into the kingdom of God.

That may sound strange to you, but it's true!

In Jesus' sermon on the mount he says, "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find, knock and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened." (Matthew 7:7-8, NRSV)

We live in a world that always expects us to do something to get something. To receive a "free" drink at your favorite coffee shop, you have to earn it by purchasing 10 drinks first. A BOGO deal at your favorite store requires that you "buy one" to "get one." Years ago soda companies printed codes on their bottle caps for a free 20 oz drink; I remember redeeming one at the gas station and being surprised that even my free drink still required me to pay tax and a bottle deposit!

But trick-or-treat night is different. It is a night when we open our doors for everyone who knocks and we give to everyone who asks. We do not put any conditions on generosity and we do not turn anyone away. On trick-or-treat night, everyone is welcomed as a neighbor.

In the same section of his sermon Jesus also says, "Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for bread, would give a stone? Or if a child asked for a fish, would give a snake? If you, then who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!" (Matthew 7:9-11, NRSV)

This year on trick-or-treat night, give good gifts to the children of our community and live in the kingdom of God!

*Blessings,
Pastor Katie*

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

Joel Greiner



Being born into the Runnells Christian Church family, Joel Greiner remembers following after his two big brothers to head up front for children's story time, attending Vacation Bible School and playing different roles in the church's youth Christmas program. Now as a teenager, Joel has changed roles to become a young leader at RCC.

Joel enjoys attending Sunday School and youth group when his schedule allows, along with going on church outings like Pumpkinville. He began officially volunteering with the church when he graduated out of VBS and could help with games, as well as helping with mission projects through youth group.

Joel has helped the youth group and teen Sunday School class gather canned goods for the food drive, sort pop cans, assemble kits for the homeless, make chew toys and blankets for animal shelters, pull weeds and rake acorns for senior congregation members, deliver potted plants to seniors, and more. He also helps seniors in the community with projects they can't physically tackle.

Now in his third year as a junior deacon, Joel also has enjoyed being a part of the church's live nativity, shopping for adopted families with other youth, and fishing at the Dawsons' pond. He's also helped at the harvest supper and one time sang a duet with his sister for a special musical performance for the church. "I love helping the seniors with their projects, like raking Sally's acorns and pulling weeds at Bernie's and Dorothy's," he said.

Joel lives with his mom and sister Chloe in the country outside Runnells. Big brother Seth attends Iowa State and oldest brother Luke lives in Des Moines. He loves sports and now in his senior year of high school plays football, plans to wrestle again, and runs track. He is involved with the PCM Fellowship of Christian Athletes, dances co-ed with the PCM dance team, was recently named to the homecoming court at PCM, and sang with the school choir for three years. He was a member of PCM's Key Club and Stand for the Silent clubs until they folded. He loves working with his hands and learning to fix things.

His favorite scripture that guides him daily is Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Joel believes everyone should volunteer because it allows them to share their skills, expand their interests and enjoy time with others. "You'll find yourself hanging out with others you might not have gotten to know and it feels great to help others."

Prayer Concerns

All Military Personnel and Veterans

Residents of Ukraine

Aislinn, Jane Charls' daughter

Joan Allsup

Dave, friend of Sue Howard

Connie Dunn

John & Norma Grinstead

Marcie Huffman, friend of Jill Simonsen

Sharon Lawson

Ryan N.

Leonard Northway

Cristie Scarnatti, friend of Suzanne Morecock

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!

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.



Thankyou

Dear Friends in Faith,

I want to thank you for your generous donation to the Upper Midwest region for the children's ministry program at the Iowa State Fair. With your help, we touched the lives of 1,100 children with a Bible story that they can relate to. Hallelujah! You are making a difference! Building the kingdom with you,
Rev. Gail Aurand, Elkhart Christian Church

*And we certainly honored JoAnn's memory

Runnells Christian Church Youth,

Thank you so much for taking time to make a delicious meal for our families at Ronald McDonald House! Your generosity brought some ease & comfort to their day.
—RMH Staff

Runnells Christian Church,

The people walking through the doors of Central Iowa Shelter & Services have often hit rock-bottom. Your donation helps provide them the foundation they need to rebuild their lives.

Thank you,
Meredith, CISS Volunteer

RCC BOOK GROUP

Wednesday, September 28, 7 pm, the RCC Book Group will meet to discuss *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides From Amazon: **A Good Morning America Book Club Pick and New York Times Bestseller!**

An unforgettable—and Hollywood-bound—new thriller... A mix of Hitchcockian suspense, Agatha Christie plotting, and Greek tragedy." —*Entertainment Weekly*

***The Silent Patient* is a shocking psychological thriller of a woman's act of violence against her husband—and of the therapist obsessed with uncovering her motive.**

Alicia Berenson's life is seemingly perfect. A famous painter married to an in-demand fashion photographer, she lives in a grand house with big windows overlooking a park in one of London's most desirable areas. One evening her husband Gabriel returns home late from a fashion shoot, and Alicia shoots him five times in the face, and then never speaks another word.

Alicia's refusal to talk, or give any kind of explanation, turns a domestic tragedy into something far grander, a mystery that captures the public imagination and casts Alicia into notoriety. The price of her art skyrockets, and she, the silent patient, is hidden away from the tabloids and spotlight at the Grove, a secure forensic unit in North London.

Theo Faber is a criminal psychotherapist who has waited a long time for the opportunity to work with Alicia. His determination to get her to talk and unravel the mystery of why she shot her husband takes him down a twisting path into his own motivations—a search for the truth that threatens to consume him....

The last book of 2022 will be our November selection, *The Noel Diary* by Richard Paul Evans.



Sunday School Update

- ⇒ **Adult Sunday School**—will meet in the fellowship hall every Sunday, with Bob Miller and Bill Ingle as the teachers.
- ⇒ **6th - 12th Grade Sunday School**—will meet in the class room near the sanctuary piano, with Katie Temple and Kristin Danley-Greiner as the teachers. We are asking 6th-12th graders (or their parents) to please contact the church so you can join the group message system where the leaders will communicate whether or not the class is meeting based upon the kids' schedules each weekend.
- ⇒ **Preschool -5th Grade Sunday School**— will be meeting the first Sunday of every month, with Tammy Gaudette as the teacher. Please reach out to Tammy if you'd like more information.

SOCTOBER

Please donate new or gently used socks for Central Iowa Shelter and Services. Now that the weather is cooler, socks become more important for those living in camps and on the streets. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



The bell choir will start rehearsals this month. You don't have to be able to read music to create beautiful praise for God! Practices are usually held twice a month and we share a lot of laughs in the process. Contact Sheila Aukes if you are interested in joining!!

Save The Dates RCC WOMEN'S WINTER RETREAT

February 17-19, 2022
Christian Conference Center



Indianola Heights Christian Church on the south side of Des Moines closed last month. In an effort to share their assets with others, they gave Runnells Christian Church a candlelighter holder, which was handmade by a member of their congregation. You can find it hanging just outside the sanctuary doors.

2nd Annual RCC Chili Cook-Off & Apple Dessert Bake-Off

Sunday, October 9 at 5 pm

Do you think you have what it takes to beat last year's winner?



Categories:

- Most Unique
- Best Presentation
- Best Traditional
- Most Creative

Open to the public and to any age!

- 5:00 pm - Entries accepted in the fellowship hall
- 5:15 pm - Appearance judging
- 5:30 pm - Tasting begins
- 6:00 pm - Voting ends
- 6:15 pm - Winners announced and awards given

Sign-up in the narthex or contact the church office.
Contact Tonya Boos (515)306-5151 for more information

LET'S GO TO
PUMPKINVILLE
Sunday, October 16 from 4:30-7:00 pm
The church has reserved a fire ring and picnic area at Pumpkinville and *you are invited!*

Join us for:

- a bonfire
- hayrack rides
- corn mazes
- straw jump
- inflatables
- hot dogs
- s'mores
- fellowship around the fire

New this year - Campfire and Communion will be held at Pumpkinville.
Pumpkinville is located at 618 Center Avenue S. in Mitchellville
Please sign up at RCC

DIY SWEATER PUMPKIN MAKING WORKSHOP

October 23rd at noon
\$5 suggested donation per person

Recycle your old sweaters into fabulous fall décor using simple steps to create fun repurposed sweater pumpkins!

Bring a sweater to upcycle, or we will have some available to choose from. All other materials will be provided.

Pizza lunch provided.
Feel free to bring a snack.

Please register by emailing the church at runnellscc@gmail.com



TRUNK OR TREAT!

Runnells Christian Church parking lot
October 30th, 6-8 pm



YOUTH GROUP NEWS



The youth group prepared a meal at the Ronald McDonald house in September. The families staying there were very appreciative!



On October 16, the youth are invited to RCC's annual gathering at Pumpkinville in Mitchellville. RCC will pay for the corn maze for any youth members and their friends. We hope to see you there!



2022 RCC Youth Events

Oct 16 - Pumpkinville Corn Maze
Dec 11 - Christmas Shopping



Can and Bottle Update

The collection of cans and bottles for recycling redemption began at RCC as a fundraiser for our youth group. Thanks to the generosity of our church and our community, the cans and bottles have raised enough money to sufficiently fund the youth group's activities for the foreseeable future.



Therefore, at the September Board Meeting, the Board approved a motion to create a new account called the "Fundraiser Account." This account will be funded by the cans and bottles and will be spent only by Board approval. It will provide a source of revenue that can be used for non-budgeted items, such as new ministries, unexpected property repairs, or large-item purchases. It could also be available if the Outreach Account runs low or if offering does not cover expenses. Church members, Board members, and the pastor are all welcome to submit proposals to the Board for use of this money.

RCC Community-Wide Playgroup

- 9 am - 11:30 am every Wednesday
- In the fellowship hall (basement) at Runnells Christian Church
- Playgroup is open to the public
- Contact Tammy Gaudette with questions 515-707-3715





Runnells River Bottom Festival 2022

RCC was awarded "Best Decorated Float" in the parade!

Thank you to Susan Martin, Mary Beth Martin, Todd Buck, and Bill Ingle for the idea, the decorating, and making it happen! Thank you to all the float riders and walkers and for all the candy donations!





BIBLE TRIVIA

Test your Bible knowledge in the
**Fall Kickoff Team
Trivia Challenge**
during worship September 11

*Your word is a light to my feet and a
lamp to my path. (Psalm 119:105)*



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.)

RCC Board Meeting Summary

The board met on Sept 14, 2022

Items voted on:

- Minutes and Financial Reports approved
- Cans/Bottles money-It was approved to keep the money already raised in the youth account and to start a new account called "Fundraising Account" which would be available for special needs that come up throughout the year. This would be effective 9/14/2022.

Items discussed:

- No Live Nativity this year-there was not a enough interest last year
- We will not hold the Outreach Auction if a coordinator does not step up in Sept.—need to find other ways to raise money for Outreach.
- World Communion Sunday on Sunday October 2 we will be having a Ukrainian theme.
- Cheryl, Pastor Katie's friend will co-preach with Pastor Katie (on Oct 9) for Eleanor's Baby Dedication.
- Sunday October 15, 23, & 30 – Spooky stories from the Bible.
- All Saints Day is November 6.
- In person service on Christmas day will be a relaxed day. No Sunday School. The same for New Year's Day.
- Campfire & Communion will be held the first 4 Sundays of October.

Looking ahead...

- ♦ November 6—All Saints Sunday
- ♦ November 12—RCC Harvest Supper
- ♦ November 9—RCC Board Mtg
- ♦ November 20—Bible Sunday
- ♦ November 24 —Happy Thanksgiving!
- ♦ November 27—Hanging of the Greens, Outdoor Christmas Tree Lighting and Market