

The Good News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
RUNNELLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
APRIL 2022 | VOLUME 261

PALM
SUNDAY



APRIL 10

Sanctuary & Online
Worship
10:30 am

MAUNDY
THURSDAY



APRIL 14

Sanctuary & Online
Worship
6:30 pm

GOOD
FRIDAY



APRIL 15

Outdoor Cross
Raising Service
6:30 pm

EASTER
SUNDAY



APRIL 17

Outdoor Sunrise
Service - 6:15 am
Sanctuary & Online
Worship - 10:30 am

**Breakfast will be served on Easter Sunday from 9 am - 10 am
Sunday School will not be held on Easter Sunday**

Pastor Katie's Notes

Dear RCC,

“You can’t get to the empty tomb without going through the cross.”

I don’t remember who first said these words to me, but I think of them often this time of year. As Holy Week is fast approaching, it’s easy to get swept up in thoughts of Easter: the smell of lilies, the sound of “Alleluias,” the taste of ham once the church service is over!



But before we get to all of that, we must go through Holy Week: the washing of feet, the bread and cup, the commandment to love one another, the prayer in the garden, the betrayal and denial by friends, the conviction of an innocent man, the crucifixion. These things are important to our Christian story because we can’t get to the empty tomb without going through them.

As I write this, I am thinking of all that is going on in our lives together. Locally, we are watching neighbors still clean up after the tornado last month. You don’t have to drive far in our community to see its devastating effects. Globally, we are watching our neighbors in Ukraine flee for their lives or stay home to resist a war that has arrived on their doorsteps. Things feel heavy right now.

Our culture does not always deal with hardship and suffering very well. We are encouraged to embrace positive thinking, to always look on the bright side, and to ignore or repress things which are unpleasant. But the story of our faith acknowledges the reality of our broken and hurting world, even as it shares the Good News of resurrection. Because before we get to that empty tomb, we go through the cross.

This means that the events of Holy Week prepare us for days like these. When we suffer, Holy Week reminds us that our Savior also knew suffering and that our God mourns when the world is violent and hurting. Holy Week teaches us to love one another as Jesus loved us and to be a servant to all, especially in times of adversity. Holy Week gathers us at tables together, even when the world is chaotic and divisive, and reminds us that the body and blood of Christ unites us.

Love and service, prayer and community are the things which sustained Jesus through the events of Holy Week. And they sustain us through the hard—and holy—weeks of our lives, too.

Blessings for these hard and holy times.

Pastor Katie

RCC YOUTH

Upcoming Youth Dates:

- ◆ Sunday, April 3, Youth Group at 11:30 am at church
- ◆ Sunday, April 10, Youth Parent Meeting with Pastor Katie, 9:30 am at the church
- ◆ Sunday, May 1, Youth Group at 11:30 am at church

Youth in grades 6-12 are welcome and we encourage the youth to bring a friend. For more information on any youth activity, please contact Pastor Katie 515-669-6036 or Sheila Aukes at 515-707-7590.

Runnells Christian Church Scholarship Fund

In 2010 a scholarship fund was established for eligible youth in our congregation for higher education.

Applications are now available for the 2022-2023 academic year. Contact the office for an application.



Guidelines to Apply for the Runnells Christian Church Scholarship Fund

The high school student must be accepted by an accredited college, university, or technical school, with a "C," or 2 point grade average. The student must be enrolled in a course of study leading to an accredited degree, associate or undergraduate.

Eligibility for Scholarships:

1. Be an active member of the Runnells Christian Church, (Disciples of Christ), Runnells, Iowa.
2. Strive to attend church at least once a month.
3. Should maintain a minimum of regular attendance, at least once a month, in youth group. (prior to Covid-19)
4. Consideration for aid will be based upon character and personality, grade point average, and involvement in church activities.
5. Scholarship applications are due by **April 30, 2022** for the 2022-2023 academic year.



April 24 - May 22 during Sunday School
Baptisms on June 5

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

Jason Boos

When the Boos family first began attending Runnells Christian Church four years ago, they claimed the back corner row for their family of four. It didn't take long before they began to become active in the church with Jason singing vibrantly in the church choir, serving as a deacon and both Jason and his wife Tonya helped the team of volunteers with Vacation Bible School.

Jason and Tonya's kids Jaisa, 17, and Jacobe, 11, are involved in Sunday School and youth group, while Tonya holds volunteer positions of her own. Jason also serves as an elder.

He shared that he loves volunteering because he's "answering God's calling."

Jason's favorite verse that guides him and offers reassurance is John 3:16: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

His favorite church activity is the lighting of the outdoor tree, a tradition that began during the coronavirus pandemic when everyone couldn't pack the church for the Hanging of the Greens and tree lighting.



When he isn't busy working and volunteering, Jason adores watching Jaisa play softball and going to the races with Jacobe. He also does an amazing job of smoking meat, another favorite pastime.

If anyone is on the fence about volunteering, Jason encourages them not to hesitate.

"Everyone can volunteer in their own way. God gave each one of us a special gift or talent," he said.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Seed collection for Central Iowa Shelter and Services

Spring is on the way! When you are purchasing your garden seeds, pick up a few extra. Or simply buy some. One way to help feed the residents and keep Central Iowa Shelter and Services self-sustaining, is to donate seeds for their community garden. A box will be in the narthex for the donations. Thank you!



Volunteer Workers Needed at the Christian Conference Center

The Christian Conference Center in Newton is hosting a work retreat on April 29, 30 and May 1. RCC would like to put together a group to help. Below are the details of the work weekend. Please talk to Katie Temple if you are interested in volunteering.

Come make a difference on Holy Ground!

We have projects for every age group and ability level. Pre-registration is very much appreciated. *Come for the entire weekend or a few hours.* Food and lodging will be provided free of charge for all volunteers. Individuals and groups are needed! Youth groups are welcome (must provide an adult sponsor). More information can be found below.

Work Projects

- Putt Putt Course: Repair obstacles that were damaged in the December wind storm, repaint signs
- Painting: in College Avenue Worship Center lobby and the meeting rooms of the cabins
- Chi Rho Country: chainsaw work and wood splitting, clean out huts, clean Shelter House, prepare for camp
- Grounds: clean up flower beds, install park grills, install gates at entrance to Chi Rho Country, debris cleanup, wood splitting
- Indoors: Cleaning and organizing CCC office and filing work, setting up Camp Store, washing windows
- Carpentry: cutting out chair patterns for our summer camp curriculum entitled "Build More Chairs"
- Whatever else we find!

Schedule

Friday and Saturday

8:00 - 10:00 Registration and Check-in Open

(Continental breakfast provided)

Work projects begin shortly after 8:00 until lunch

12:00 Lunch (provided by CCC)

1:00 Work projects resume until a good stopping point is reached, or until volunteers need to leave

6:00 Supper (provided by CCC)

7:00 Campfire fellowship

Sunday

9:00 Worship led by Tiff

10:00 Finish up work

12:00 Depart

Again, you do not have to commit for the entire weekend—you can volunteer for a few hours or whatever works for you.

Mission Blessing

Please keep Katie Temple, Mike Bracewell, Deb Bracewell and the mission team from West Des Moines Christian Church in your prayers April 2-9, as they travel to Craig Spring, Virginia, to do God's work.



Prayer Concerns

All Military Personnel and Veterans

Residents of Ukraine

Aislinn, Jane Charls' daughter

Gary Beck

Joan DeGroot

Connie Dunn

John & Norma Grinstead

Eleanor Hainline

Mark Mikkelson, Jon Gaudette's brother-in-law

Bob Miller

Leonard Northway

Jeri Sanburn

Jennifer Sieck

Jackie 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

Our elders are now able to deliver home communion. Contact elder chair, Deb Bracewell at 515-669-8739 or the church office, if you or someone you know would like to receive communion at home.



RCC BOOK GROUP

Wed, April 27 at 7 pm, the RCC Book Group will meet to discuss *Apples Never Fall* by Lianne Moriarty.

From Amazon: If your mother was missing, would you tell the police? Even if the most obvious suspect was your father? This is the dilemma facing the four grown Delaney siblings. The Delaneys are fixtures in their community. The parents, Stan and Joy, are the envy of all of their friends. They're killers on the tennis court, and off it their chemistry is palpable. But after fifty years of marriage, they've finally sold their famed tennis academy and are ready to start what should be the golden years of their lives. So why are Stan and Joy so miserable? The four Delaney children—Amy, Logan, Troy, and Brooke—were tennis stars in their own right, yet as their father will tell you, none of them had what it took to go all the way. But that's okay, now that they're all successful grown-ups. One night a stranger named Savannah knocks on Stan and Joy's door, bleeding after a fight with her boyfriend. The Delaneys are more than happy to give her the small kindness she sorely needs. If only that was all she wanted. Later, when Joy goes missing, and Savannah is nowhere to be found, the police question the one person who remains: Stan. But for someone who claims to be innocent, he, like many spouses, seems to have a lot to hide. Two of the Delaney children think their father is innocent, two are not so sure—but as the two sides square off against each other in perhaps their biggest match ever, all of the Delaneys will start to reexamine their shared family history in a very new light.

Upcoming selections for 2022

May 2022 - *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah

June 2022 - *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes

July 2022 - *The Summer Girls* by Mary Alice Monroe

August 2022 - *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion

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

EASTER LILY ORDERS

Return this form with cash or a check payable to RCC for \$10.00 per lily by Sunday, April 3.
(You may pick up your lily after worship on April 17.)

_____ Lily / Lilies at \$10.00 each.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

I would like to dedicate this Lily(s)

in MEMORY of: _____

in HONOR of: _____

Lilies will decorate the sanctuary on Easter morning. Lily dedications will be listed in the May newsletter.

Please return your order form and payment to the Church Office. Thank you!





**Serious FUN.
Powerful PURPOSE.**



SUMMER CAMP 2022

From an overnight for grandparents and grandkids, to weeklong sleep away camp for elementary, middle and high school students, to a weekend of faith and fun for the whole family, we've got a camp for you! Art, High Adventure, Rustic Camping, Leader Development camps and more are offered in the Christian Conference Center's summer program. We have a lot of SERIOUS FUN, all while growing in faith and learning to live and love with POWERFUL PURPOSE. Visit our website for dates, prices and in depth information about every offering.

Christian Conference Center ~ www.newtonccc.org ~ 641-792-1266 ~ office@newtonccc.org

Registration is open!

The **preferred method of registration** for camp is to register and submit your payment through the camp website at: www.newtonccc.org

Once you have completed your registration you can forward your confirmation email to the church office and the church will pay their share. Runnells Christian Church and our CWF will pay **50% of one camp** each child or youth wish to attend. The camper pays 50%, the church pays 30% and CWF pays 20%.

Please register for camp by **Sunday, April 24**. The church will then submit their portion of the payment before the May 1 early registration deadline.

If registering online is not an option for you, you may pick up a registration form from the church office and return your completed registration and your payment share (**payable to RCC or Runnells Christian Church**) to the church office by **April 24**.

Descriptions of the camps, costs, a typical day, what to bring and more are available on the Upper Midwest Region website listed above. If you have problems with online registration or payment, please call 641-792-1266.

SUMMER CAMP SESSION DATES AND PRICES

Grand Camp (Children ages 4 through 2nd grade)

Session 1: June 25-26
Session 2: July 16-17
Cost: \$60 per person

Family Camp (Children ages 0-18 who are accompanied by an adult family member)

June 3-5
Cost: \$75 per person, \$275 family maximum (Children 3 and under free!)

Beginners Camp (Grades 2-3)

June 5-7
Cost: \$140

Junior Camp (Grades 3-5)

Session 1: June 13-18
Session 2: July 11-16
Session 3: August 1-6
Cost: \$280

Chi Rho Camp (Grades 6-8)

Session 1: June 13-18
Session 2: June 20-25
Session 3: July 11-16
Cost: \$280

CYF Camp (Grades 9-12)

Session 1: June 20-25
Session 2: July 18-23
Cost: \$280

Adventure Camp (Grades 6-12)

June 27 - July 2
Cost: \$280

ADAM Camp (Grades 6-12)

July 25-30
Cost: \$280

Standing Rock Study Trip (Grades 9-12)

June 6-12
Cost: \$280

Senior Adult Retreat (Ages 55+)

September 19-21
Cost: \$155

Pastor Katie will be directing CYF Camp, Session 1 (high school camp) this summer, June 20-25. She would love to have Runnells Christian Church youth there with her!

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.)

COVID COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Covid Committee met on March 27 to review RCC's Covid mitigation efforts. Following current CDC guidelines, masks are not required at RCC at this time. Masks are still recommended, particularly for individuals who are at high-risk or who live with someone at high-risk of serious Covid infection. Please keep in mind this may change if the CDC's risk assessment for Polk County changes. Changes in Covid protocols will always be shared in the weekly email and on our website at www.runnellsc.org.

Feel free to contact any of the COVID committee with your questions or concerns. Members include Bill Ingle, Deb Bracewell, Denise Pfister, Katie Temple, Sheila Aukes, Tammy Gaudette, and Pastor Katie.

Looking ahead to...

- ◆ May 1—Youth Group
- ◆ May 1—Community Engagement Mtg
- ◆ May 1—Congregational Life Mtg
- ◆ May 8—Mother's Day
- ◆ May 11—Church Board Mtg
- ◆ May 25—Book Group 7 pm
- ◆ May 30—Office Closed for Memorial Day

