

# The Good News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RUNNELLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH | SEPTEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 266

## RCC FALL KICKOFF

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

9:00AM - FELLOWSHIP COFFEE

9:30AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

10:30 AM - WORSHIP, BACKPACK BLESSING,  
BIBLE TRIVIA AND SNACKS

### Sunday School at RCC

- ⇒ **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. On Kickoff Sunday they will be having a picture scavenger hunt throughout the church. They will also be holding a discussion about the schedule for the school year.
- ⇒ **Preschool -5th Grade Sunday School**- Kick off Sunday will be with Tammy Gaudette and they will be having a kids version of Bible Trivia. Tammy will be asking the parents which Sunday works best to hold Sunday School one Sunday a month.

### Backpack Blessing

SEPTEMBER 11

Students of all ages, teachers, & school staff are encouraged to bring their bags to worship for a special school year blessing

### 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)*

# Pastor Katie's Notes



Dear RCC,

On August 28 the Board and Elders took an afternoon retreat beside the lake at the Christian Conference Center in Newton. Together we put the state of our church in perspective, talking about each of RCC's ministries and events and whether they are thriving, plateauing, or struggling. We also spent an hour or so dreaming about big questions like, "With unlimited resources, what would you want to see RCC do in the next 1, 5, or 10 years?" Then we talked through the items from both lists—the things we are *already* doing and the things we *dreamed* about doing—and we evaluated which seemed to be good investments of our time and energy, which seemed fruitful for our church and our community, which seemed practical and achievable, and which seemed like big dreams that still need a little more groundwork.

WOW, was it an incredible day! Your leaders dug in with honesty and creativity and laughter and joy. After more than four hours of talking, we stepped back and could see three themes emerging from our conversation:

- **We want to expand the ways our church engages our community.** There is a desire in our church to partner with more local organizations, to expand our outreach efforts from the Southeast Polk area into Des Moines and beyond, and to invite members of our community to participate in our service to others.
- **We want to be good neighbors to the town of Runnells.** We talked about how our community has grown and changed and how we can get to know our neighbors better. We want our church to be involved in, connected to, and supportive of the civic life of our town!
- **We want to offer more creative ways to explore our spirituality.** We talked about how meaningful our "special" worship services (Cross Raising, Ash Wednesday Prayer Stations, Outdoor Hanging the Greens, etc.) and studies (Lenten Bible study, book studies, etc.) are throughout the year. We realize our spiritual lives flourish when we seek to encounter God in new ways.

Your elected leaders and I have committed ourselves to planning and programming this year with these three themes in our minds and in our prayers. I hope that you will make them your goals and your prayers, too. Together, with God's guidance, I know this will be an exciting year at RCC.

*Blessings,  
Pastor Katie*

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## INTERNATIONAL MISSION NEEDS

Katie Temple will be returning to a clinic in Haiti with a medical mission group headed by Dr. Tami Gudenkauf of Dubuque to **Mountain Top Ministries**, September 24 through October 2. Below is a list of items that the clinic needs.

- 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! Monetary donations are always welcome! Please bring donations to the church by September 18. If you have questions, please contact Katie Temple.



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.

*Can you help?*

Volunteers are needed to ride the RCC float and walk in the Runnells River Bottoms Festival Parade on Saturday, September 24 at 10:00 am

Donations of candy are also needed - preferably candy that won't melt. (Tootsie Rolls, suckers, hard candy, gummy bears, Skittles, Starburst, etc.)

Please bring your candy donations to the church by Sunday, September 18. Contact Susan Martin (515-250-4675) with questions or for more information.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:  
*Cindi Leal*

For almost a decade, Cindi and Ben Leal have blessed the church with their multitude of talents. They started out volunteering as worship coordinators, then played in the bell choir, assisted with Vacation Bible School and now Cindi helps organize the deacons and prepare the annual harvest supper.

It only took a year of attending church before Cindi Leal was ready to jump in with both feet and start volunteering. She said it's a great way to meet others and get to know fellow volunteers better.

Leal loves the harvest supper the most, not just because the food tastes amazing but also for how it brings together the church family, the community and others.

Her favorite scripture happens to be Psalms 23:6 "Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

In Leal's family it's her husband Ben and his son Benny. In her free time, she enjoys gardening, creating stained glass, sports and crafting.

"Give volunteering a try - there are so many different opportunities, you will surely find something you enjoy," Leal said.



## 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  
Eleanor Hainline  
Marcie Huffman, friend of Jill Simonsen  
Sharon Lawson  
Ryan N.  
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.



## RCC BOOK GROUP

**Wednesday, September 28, 7 pm**, the RCC Book Group will meet to discuss *Fifty Words for Rain* by Asha Lemmie

From Amazon: **A Good Morning America Book Club Pick and New York Times Bestseller!**

**From debut author Asha Lemmie, “a lovely, heartrending story about love and loss, prejudice and pain, and the sometimes dangerous, always durable ties that link a family together.” —Kristin Hannah, #1 New York Times—bestselling author of *The Nightingale***

Kyoto, Japan, 1948. *“Do not question. Do not fight. Do not resist.”*

*Such is eight-year-old Noriko “Nori” Kamiza’s first lesson. She will not question why her mother abandoned her with only these final words. She will not fight her confinement to the attic of her grandparents’ imperial estate. And she will not resist the scalding chemical baths she receives daily to lighten her skin.*

*The child of a married Japanese aristocrat and her African American GI lover, Nori is an outsider from birth. Her grandparents take her in, only to conceal her, fearful of a stain on the royal pedigree that they are desperate to uphold in a changing Japan. Obedient to a fault, Nori accepts her solitary life, despite her natural intellect and curiosity. But when chance brings her older half-brother, Akira, to the estate that is his inheritance and destiny, Nori finds in him an unlikely ally with whom she forms a powerful bond—a bond their formidable grandparents cannot allow and that will irrevocably change the lives they were always meant to lead. Because now that Nori has glimpsed a world in which perhaps there is a place for her after all, she is ready to fight to be a part of it—a battle that just might cost her everything.*

*Spanning decades and continents, Fifty Words for Rain is a dazzling epic about the ties that bind, the ties that give you strength, and what it means to be free.*



### Upcoming selections for 2022

October 2022 - *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides

November 2022 - *The Noel Diary* by Richard Paul Evans

## Outreach Auction Coordinator Needed

Prior to Covid, our congregation hosted an annual Outreach Auction to raise money for families in our community who need assistance (for example help paying rent and/or utilities) or to help with special outreach events (like 5th Sunday Service Projects.) In order to hold the auction in 2022, we need someone to coordinate the Outreach Auction.

If you would like more information or have questions about coordinating the Outreach Auction, you may speak with Sheila Aukes or Mary Beth Martin, past auction coordinators. If you are interested in volunteering to be the Outreach Auction Coordinator, please contact Deb Bracewell.

# Playgroup Returns

Playgroup is returning to RCC on Wednesday, September 14, from 9am to 11:30 am. Play group is open to the public. Bring your child, grandchild, daycare kids. Bring everything your kid(s) will need (snacks and drinks) and let them socialize and play in the church fellowship hall (basement). If school is cancelled the playgroup will also be cancelled. Contact Tammy Gaudette with questions 515-707-3715.



## RCC Youth Events

Sept 18 - Ronald McDonald House Meal

Oct 16 - Pumpkinville Corn Maze

Dec 11 - Christmas Shopping



## 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.



## 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:  
[runnellsc.org/give](http://runnellsc.org/give)





# Runnells River Bottoms Festival

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2022**

**7:30A-9:30A BREAKFAST @ THE RUNNELLS COMMUNITY CENTER**

**10:00A-11:00A PARADE — NEW ROUTE THIS YEAR!**

**CONTEST FOR BEST DECORATED FLOAT AND MOST ENTERTAINING ENTRY**

**\$10 ENTRY  
TO BEER  
GARDEN!!**

## **PARK ACTIVITIES 11A-5P**

11A - FOOD VENDORS

11A - ADULT BEVERAGES

11A-NATHAN THOMAS BEREAN WORSHIP

11A - BAGS TOURNAMENT \$50 A TEAM (HOSTED BY THE LEGION HALL)

11A - OLE TIMERS SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT AGES 45+ (\$200 PER TEAM)

11A - CO-ED SOFTBALL REGISTER @ [RAPCOEVENTS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RAPCOEVENTS@GMAIL.COM) BY 9/1/22

12P-3P DJ BROUGHT TO YOU BY ALTON ENTERTAINMENT

2P JUDGING BEGINS FOR RIB COOKOFF (REGISTRATION REQUIRED)

SIGN UP BY 9/1 BY 5P. REGISTER @ [QUICJOS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:QUICJOS@GMAIL.COM)

**\$10 ENTRY  
TO KIDS ZONE,  
ACTIVITIES  
INCLUDED!!**

## **KIDS ZONE 11A-5P**

INFLATABLES

SPIN ART

FACE PAINTING

CLOWNS

SCAVENGER HUNT

KIDS GAMES AND PRIZES

## **BEER GARDEN 5P-12A**

LIVE MUSIC

FOOD VENDORS

MECHANICAL BULL

AXE THROWING



THE SHEET FROM 5:30-7:30P



MIKE MOODY & THE OUTLAWS  
FROM 7:30-9:30

**HEADLINER: MICHAEL MONCADA & WHISKEY HIGH**

FROM 9:30P-MIDNIGHT

## Mark Your Calendars for these October Events

# 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



## 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 [runnellsc@gmail.com](mailto:runnellsc@gmail.com)



## LET'S GO TO PUMPKINVILLE

Sunday, October 16  
4:30 - 7:30 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,  
and 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



# 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](mailto:runnellsc@gmail.com)  
[pastor.krussell@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.krussell@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.runnellsc.org](http://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.)*

## Looking ahead...

- ♦ October 2 — World Communion Sunday
- ♦ October 9 — Chili Cook-off and Apple Dessert Bake, 5pm
- ♦ October 16 — Pumpkinville, 4:30pm
- ♦ October 15—All Congregational Gathering at the Conference Center
- ♦ October 16 — DIY Sweater Pumpkin Making Workshop, Noon
- ♦ October 25 — Book Group, 7pm
- ♦ October 30 — Trunk or Treat, 6pm

The RCC Harvest Supper will be November 12th - Look for more information to follow!