



The Good *News*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
RUNNELLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
JUNE 2021 | VOLUME 252

**Worship at 9:30am in person
or livestreamed on YouTube or Facebook Live**

June 6, 2021

After over a year of holding worship exclusively online, outdoors, or limited in-person, changes are happening on June 6 to restore some normalcy to our time together on Sunday mornings.

Phase 4 of Covid Plan Begins

RCC will move into Phase 4 of the Covid plan which removes masks for fully-vaccinated individuals and no longer limits the number of people in the sanctuary. You can read the entire Covid Plan on the church website, posted in several places around the church or you can contact the church office for a copy.

Nursery Reopens

The RCC nursery will open again for child care beginning June 6. Children under age 5 are welcome in the nursery during the 9:30 worship service.

Fellowship Time Resumes After Worship

Fellowship Time is back, but with a twist! This summer coffee and treats will be served *outside after worship* (weather permitting). Tables, chairs, and a canopy for shade will be set up for anyone who would like to sit and visit awhile. **Volunteers are needed** who could arrive at church at 9:15 each week to help set up the fellowship space outside; if interested, contact the church office.

Pastor Katie's Notes

Dear RCC,

One of the most important days in the life of our church is coming up at the end of this month: our congregation's annual meeting, which will take place June 27, 2021.

This is important not only because we have business items we must attend to (like approving a budget and electing new leaders), but because it gives us an opportunity to celebrate and dream together.

At the annual meeting we celebrate the year that we have just shared. And what a year it has been! 2020-2021 was a year of challenge and disruption to "church as usual." It was also a time of great creativity, innovation, and experimenting with what "church could be." For me, some of the highlights were:

- Pumpkin Painting with 50 of our neighbors in October
- Pie-in-the-Parking Lot, which helped the youth group raise over \$1,000 for Caring Hands
- Our first-ever live nativity (with a horse and a goat!) in December
- Ash Wednesday Prayer Stations, the first time many of you returned to the sanctuary in nearly a year
- Livestreaming worship services from the sanctuary (something we thought was impossible in Runnells!)
- Returning to in-person worship in March

In addition to celebrating these things, in June we also look forward to what the year ahead might bring. The annual meeting is a time for us to "dream dreams" (as the Pentecost story says!) and listen for what God is calling RCC to do in 2021-2022. Your church leaders have already begun this work and some of the things we are hoping and praying for are:

- A restructured church board that will inspire new ideas and include more members of RCC in the ministry of the church
- A safe return to some of our normal ministries, like Sunday School, this fall
- Some capital improvements to the property, including repairing or replacing the church sign
- New ministries that will help RCC meet our neighbors and engage our wider community

What about you? What things do you celebrate about the year we have shared at Runnells Christian Church? What do you hope and dream for our church in the year ahead?

Everything we did last year happened because of the leading of God's Spirit and the gifts—of time, talent, and treasure—from our congregation. Everything we hope to happen in the year ahead will only be made possible if we faithfully follow the Holy Spirit and receive our congregation's support. Please be prayerfully considering the gifts you might share with RCC in 2021-2022. Then attend (online or in-person) the June 27 congregational meeting to celebrate and dream with us!

Blessings,

Pastor Katie



RCC Youth Group News

On May 2, the youth delivered May Day flowers to church members in the community. The Youth Group ended the year on May 16 with pizza and mini-golfing. Many players got a hole-in-one!



Thanks to all of the youth who participated throughout the year and to parents who provided meals & transportation. We will see if there is interest in getting together sometime in the summer. Look for our kick-off event next September.

Congratulations to our 2021 High School Graduates!



Pictured: Jacob Martin, Carly Phipps and Lauren Pfister. Not pictured Myles Beattie.

Scholarships presented

The Runnells Christian Church Scholarship Fund was proud to present three scholarships to our graduating seniors on Sunday, May 16.

Jacob Martin, Carly Phipps and Lauren Pfister applied and qualified for our 2021 scholarships.

Bill O'Brien, a long time member of our congregation, felt called to help the young people of our congregation and our scholarship fund was his dream. His initial gift got The Runnells Christian Church Scholarship Fund started. Memorials when he died in August 2010, along with memorial gifts from **Iola Weaver, Katy McGowen, and Kip Williams**, helped to establish the fund. Since that time we have added memorials from **Shirley O'Brien, Ed & Lilith Thomas and Harry & Evelyn Winegar, Lois Howard, Burt Hunt, Virginia Lovell, Joyce Thompson, Dwain DeReus, Dick Thomas, John Northway, Eric Northway, Bob Hershey, Donald Kain, Morgan & Vesta Mae Chapman**.

All funds received now and in the future will be invested in a **permanent trust at the Christian Church Foundation** and the income will be used to provide scholarships for higher education.

It is the hope of the Memorial Committee that one day the fund will grow large enough to offer some support for any member of our congregation who is pursuing a higher education.

Anyone is welcome to contribute to the RCC Scholarship Fund at any time.

On Pentecost Sunday we celebrated the Spirit's Gifts...

**The gift of the Holy Spirit and
the birth of the church**



**The gift of
RCC Musicians
Mike Miller &
Tammy Feeley**



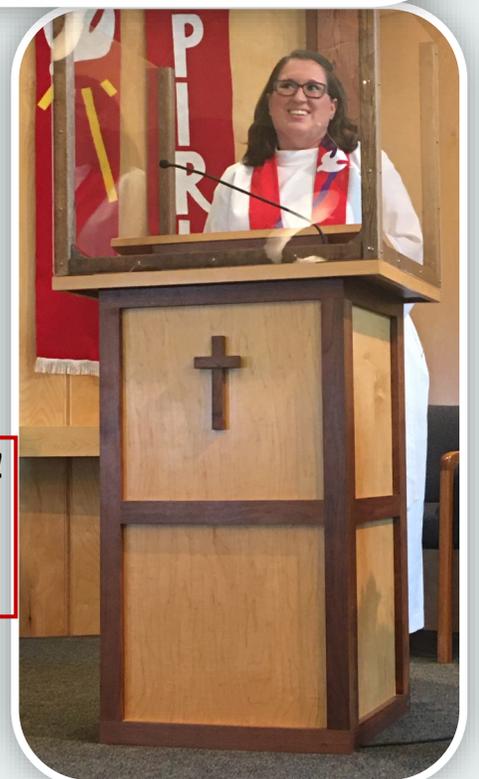
**The gift of
RCC Youth
Leaders Jake
Hainline, Pastor
Katie Hainline
& Sheila Aukes**



**The gift of
RCC "retired"
staff member
Sue Howard**



**The gift of new life!
Pastor Katie and
Jake are having a
baby!**



International Mission News

A medical mission trip is scheduled September 26 thru October 3, 2021, at Mountain Top Ministries in Haiti. Both medical and nonmedical workers will be put to use! This trip is organized by doctors who have worked at the clinic for many years. I have gone to Mountain Top a number of times. It is essential, meaningful work.

Another mission trip is planned for February 23 thru March 4, 2022, with Many Hands for Haiti. This organization's USA base is in Pella. While it is not known for sure what type of work the group will do, know that Many Hands has had mission groups come to their compound in eastern Haiti for a number of years. This trip is organized by the Disciples of Christ of the Upper Midwest.

If you interested in local "international" mission work, consider volunteering, donating and or shopping at the Many Hands for Haiti Thrift stores, one in Grimes and one in Clive. Silver cord hours are available for high school students. See their website for more information.

Please feel free to contact me if you want to talk about any of these opportunities.

—Katie Temple

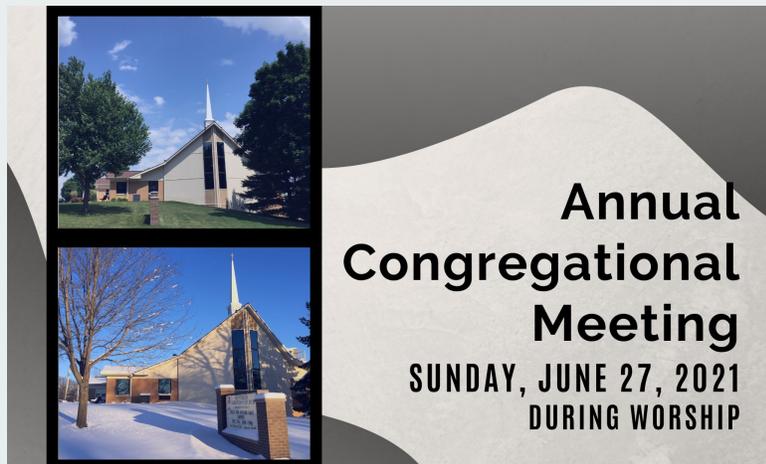


Online Giving

- 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:
runnellsec.org/give

Thank you for donating your redeemable cans and bottles !

Redeemable cans and bottles can be donated in our permanent enclosure on the SE corner of the church. Please bring them in "tied up" plastic bags, as they will be open to the weather. These donations support our youth groups!



**Annual
Congregational
Meeting**
SUNDAY, JUNE 27, 2021
DURING WORSHIP

RCC BOOK GROUP

On **Wednesday, June 30 at 7 pm** we will discuss *Beach Read* by Emily Henry

From Amazon: A romance writer who no longer believes in love and a literary writer stuck in a rut engage in a summer-long challenge that may just upend everything they believe about happily ever afters. Augustus Everett is an acclaimed author of literary fiction. January Andrews writes bestselling romance. When she pens a happily ever after, he kills off his entire cast. They're polar opposites. In fact, the only thing they have in common is that for the next three months, they're living in neighboring beach houses, broke, and bogged down with writer's block. Until, one hazy evening, one thing leads to another and they strike a deal designed to force them out of their creative ruts: Augustus will spend the summer writing something happy, and January will pen the next Great American Novel. She'll take him on field trips worthy of any rom-com montage, and he'll take her to interview surviving members of a backwoods death cult (obviously). Everyone will finish a book and no one will fall in love. Really.

2021 Upcoming Books

July—*Becoming* by Michelle Obama

August—*The Last Anniversary* by Liane Moriarty

September—*The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett

October—*Daisy Fay and the Miracle Man* by Fannie Flagg

November—*Seven Days of Us* by Francesca Hornak

The book group typically meets on the last Wednesday of the month and everyone is welcome.

With Sympathy

With Prayers and Heartfelt Sympathy

Our prayers & Christian sympathy go out to the family & friends of:

Joan Molyneaux,
Ann Hammen's mother,
who passed away on May 5

Betsy Simonsen,
Stan Simonsen's mother,
who passed away on May 27

May God's peace comfort you in the time of your loss.

Prayer Concerns

All Military Personnel and Veterans

Gary Beck
Jeanne Beck
Doris Boos
Brian Chittendon
Connie Dunn
John & Norma Grinstead
Tami Hess
Leonard Northway
Alicia Robbins & her baby, Beau
Jeri Sanburn
Dan Schultz
Jennifer Sieck
Tristan Spangler-Dunning
Jackie Tate
Tom & Marilyn Wilson

Home Communion

Our elders will begin delivering home communion in June. 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.



In an effort 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 called the office to ask 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, just contact the church office. Thank you!

Thank you

Dear RCC,
Thanks to Joel and Chloe for the special delivery of my May Day flower!

Barb Miller



Dear RCC,
Many thanks to Pastor Katie and the RCC Youth for the sweet May flower! French Marigolds are one of my favorites. And delivered right to my door! I can't wait to plant it! This is one of the perks of being a senior citizen! I am so blessed to belong to this very special church family!
God Bless,
Sue Howard

Dear RCC,
I would like to say "Thank-you" to the RCC Youth for my pretty yellow marigold flower for May Day. I will plant it and enjoy watching it grow.
Thank you again,
Cheryl Northway

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

Council Chair: Tammy Gaudette

Church Admin/Bookkeeper: Deb Bracewell

Choir Director: Mike Miller

Children's Choir Director: Tammy Feeley

Bell Choir Director: Sheila Aukes

Pianist: Tammy Feeley

Custodian: Leonard Northway

Nursery Attendant: Ann Hammen

Address Service Requested



Has your address
changed?



Keep us
posted!

(U. S. Post Office requires P.O. Box 30 on all church mail.)

2020-2021 COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Tammy Gaudette—Chairperson

Bill Ingle—Vice Chairperson

Pam Jordan—Secretary

Deb Bracewell—Elder Chair

Jon Gaudette—Finance Coordinator

Kristin Danley-Greiner/Denise Pfister

—Education Co-Coordinators

Tiffany Phillips

—Membership Coordinator

Sheila Aukes

—Missions/Evangelism Coordinator

Jeff Robbins/Blair Phipps

—Property Co-Coordinators

Jill Simonsen/Katie Temple

—Worship Co-Coordinators

MAY 2021—COUNCIL SUMMARY

The council met on May 12, 2021 at 7 pm in person & on Zoom. Jon Gaudette explained that the bylaws were never changed to match our fiscal year ending May 31. Jon proposed the bylaw change, it passed, and will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Sheila is researching holding a garage sale at the church to benefit Caring Hands. If we could host one during Runnells Garage Sales in September we will consider it.

Jeff Robbins reported that Chad Clark sprayed for weeds in parking lot and that Leonard Northway has resigned as custodian.

Bill Ingle got another quote in the \$20k range and recommendations for the new sign. Bill is contacting SignPro based in Newton, who put up an electric sign in Prairie City in the \$10K range.

A financial review was held May 12, 2021 to review financial procedures. Budgets are due to Jon G. May 31. Annual Reports are due to the office by June 13. The council voted to temporarily suspend (for 1 year) the bylaws regarding our governing structure, to implement a new governing structure for the next fiscal year. This will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Pastor Katie reported livestream worship continues to hold steady with 15 devices connected during worship. There has been an increase in views on YouTube, indicating more people may be watching the worship service later in the week. In-person attendance remains between 30-40 people each week. Pastor Katie will be working with the Nominating Committee over the next month. Pastor Katie will be on vacation June 7-13 and will be counseling camp June 20-26.

—Submitted by Pam Jordan