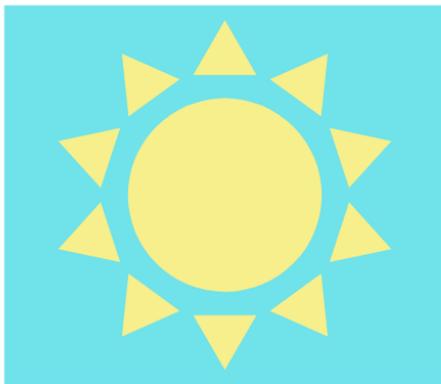


The Good News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RUNNELLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH | JULY 2020 | VOLUME 242

OUTDOOR WORSHIP AND ONLINE AT 9:30 AM



Church Events

- July 6-10 —Youth “DIY Mission Experience”
- July 15 —7 pm Council Meeting
- July 19—Diaconate Meeting outdoors after worship
- July 20—3-6 pm RCC at food pantry
- July 29—7 pm Book Group

Outdoor Worship @ RCC

Begins July 5 - 9:30 am

Social distancing guidelines will be observed

Bring your own communion

In case of rain, outdoor worship will move online

Weekly online worship will still be available for at-home worship

JOIN US FOR

AN AT-HOME/VIRTUAL VBS

August 2-6, 2020

Daily videos from the RCC VBS volunteers you know and love!

DIY activities you can do at-home, on your own schedule, with the whole family!

Registration information to follow.



Pastor Katie's Notes



Dear Runnells Christian Church,

I am overjoyed to worship with you in-person this week! When we first cancelled worship on March 15, I thought we would be taking a two—maybe three—week break from in-person gathering. I fully expected that we would be back in our sanctuary for Easter Sunday. Those two or three weeks turned into four months that we have been physically apart—something far beyond anything I imagined! Now, thanks to warm weather and a large parking lot, we will be able to gather again. It will not be the same, but it will be good.

We are, however, asking you to follow several public health precautions to make our return to worship safe. The medical professionals in our congregation can tell you why what we're doing is important for physical health. As your pastor, I want to take this opportunity to tell you why what we're doing is important for our spiritual health.

The New Testament book of Philippians is a letter Paul writes to one of his churches when he is imprisoned and cannot visit them. It's a beautiful letter telling them how much he loves them, how much he prays for them, and how he hopes that they will conduct themselves in his absence. He urges them to be united in God's spirit, to struggle together to remain faithful to the gospel, and to have courage in adversity. Then Paul gives this great piece of advice:

Don't do anything for selfish purposes, but with humility think of others as better than yourselves. Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others. Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 2:3-5, Common English Bible)

Jesus adopted an attitude that was sacrificial. He put other people before himself. Paul says we should adopt that same attitude. Just because we can, or just because we want to, doesn't mean we should. Instead, we should always be thinking about what we can do for others.

What does "thinking of others as better than ourselves" mean in the time of Coronavirus? It means even if we want to go to church, we'll choose to stay home if we're sick or know we've been exposed to illness. It means that even if we want to give our friends hugs when we finally see them again, we'll observe social distance. It means that even if we find masks uncomfortable and hot, we'll wear one when we're around others. It means even when we want to sing our favorite hymns in worship, we will choose to listen quietly instead. It means we'll adapt our ways of worshipping, even if it's hard or we don't like it very much. Instead of watching out for our own good, following our own rules, or clinging to our own preferences, we'll "watch out for what is better for others."

I have seen the spirit of church that Paul writes about at Runnells Christian Church. I know you are a community that loves each other, strives to live in unity, and struggles together to remain faithful to the Gospel. That is why I feel confident that returning to outdoor, social distanced worship is a good and safe choice for our congregation. I believe you will be faithful to God and to each other, following the guidelines and putting the needs of others and our community first!

Thank you for being so awesome!

Blessings,

Pastor Katie

RCC Youth Group News

Youth “DIY Mission Experience” - July 6-10

Since Youth Mission Trips were cancelled this summer due to Covid-19, several Disciples of Christ congregations in Des Moines are joining together for a "DIY Mission Experience" July 6-10. Youth in grades 6-12 are encouraged to participate at home with a daily devotional, video message from an organization in Des Moines working to make our community more just and equitable, and a small project you can do at home. Each day's activities should take about an hour (or less) to complete. If you or your youth would like to participate, email Pastor Katie to get signed up!



A big “THANK YOU!” to everyone who donated cans and bottles and to the **Carter Phillips, Anna Simonsen, Jacob Martin, Joseph Martin, Nicklas Martin, and Bob Miller**, for helping **Pastor Katie** sort the bottles and cans. Once again, the truck and trailer were full. Thank you Bob Miller for transporting the cans to the recycling center.

This is a fundraiser for our youth group, so we would love to have different youth families sort throughout the summer. If you'd like to help with the next round, let Pastor Katie know!

Thanks to your generous donations of cans and bottles, the youth received \$1,461 in the last year.



With Prayers and Heartfelt Sympathy

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

Linnwood Morecock,
Sarah Robinson's father,
who passed away on June 28

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

Extending the life of the Easter Lilies

Every year after everyone has claimed their Easter Lilies, Katie Temple takes the leftover lilies home and plants them in her yard. She shared this picture of just a few that are beautiful right now. Thank you Katie!



All Military Personnel and Veterans

Merlyne Ackes
Jim Adams
Jason Adkins (recently diagnosed with kidney cancer)
Betty (Sheila Ankes' aunt)
Gary Beck
Lisa Bistline
John Browers
Theo Bullington
Barb Calhoun
Debbie (Sherry Johnson's friend paralyzed after back surgery)
Greg Frye (nephew of Colleen & Jim Adkins)
John & Norma Grinstead
Carol Bartelma Holcomb (began chemotherapy)
Julie Hodges (Ben Leal's friend receiving radiation)
Eugene Hunter (Tonya Boos brother-in-law, recovering from back surgery)
Kevin Huss (Jason Boos' co-worker)
Jamie (Susan Martin's cousin)
Jessica (Ann Hammen's daughter)
Kaiden (Jane Charls' grandson recovering from surgery)
Sherman Lane (Shannon Lane-St.Pierre's father)
Jennifer Lessard
Dale Miller
Joyce Miller
Wanda Mitchell
Shawna & James Murell (Tonya Boos' niece)
Linda Phelps (Steve Bishop's cousin, undergoing breast cancer treatment)
Doug Redhead
Mari Rowe

Prayer Concerns



David Sanburn
Shirley (Sheila Ankes' cousin)
Betsy Simonsen
Stan Simonsen
Tim (co-worker of Jack Merkle)
Tom (Tonya Boos father experiencing health problems)
Jan VanDyke (Pam Jordan's friend whose cancer has spread to her brain)
Jay Wilson (Tonya Boos' uncle)

The family and loved ones of George Floyd; for safety for protesters and police responding to Mr. Floyd's death; for our nation to do the hard work of repenting for, responding to, and healing from our sin of racism. All those whose employment has been affected by Covid-19. The health and safety of health care workers. The leaders who must govern during this crisis.

Prairie Vista Village
2785 1st Avenue South
Altoona, IA 50009

Dorothy Bowers—#231
Bill Henry—#122
Doris Miller—#237
Nancy Moore—#242



The Shores at Pleasant Hill:
John & Norma Grinstead
1500 Edgewater Dr,
Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

Valley View Village:
Jeanne Vermie
2555 Guthrie Ave. Bldg. C
Des Moines, IA 50317

Home Communion—Due to Covid-19, our elders are currently unable to take communion to our remote members. Once it is safe again, please contact elder chair, Katie Temple at 515.966.2580, 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. Thanks for your



The RCC Book Group is reading:
The Beantown Girls by Jane Healey

A novel of love, courage, and danger unfolds as World War II's brightest heroines—the best of friends—take on the front lines.

1944: Fiona Denning has her entire future planned out. She'll work in city hall, marry her fiancé when he returns from the war, and settle down in the Boston suburbs. But when her fiancé is reported missing after being shot down in Germany, Fiona's long-held plans are shattered.

Determined to learn her fiancé's fate, Fiona leaves Boston to volunteer overseas as a Red Cross Clubmobile girl, recruiting her two best friends to come along. There's the outspoken Viviana, who is more than happy to quit her secretarial job for a taste of adventure. Then there's Dottie, a shy music teacher whose melodious talents are sure to bring heart and hope to the boys on the front lines.

Chosen for their inner strength and outer charm, the trio isn't prepared for the daunting challenges of war. But through it all come new friendships and romances, unforeseen dangers, and unexpected dreams. As the three friends begin to understand the real reasons they all came to the front, their courage and camaraderie will see them through some of the best and worst times of their lives.



Reading List for the RCC Book Club

- July 2020 *The Beantown Girls* by Jane Healey
- Aug 2020 *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson
- Sep 2020 *Beartown* by Fredrik Backman
- Oct 2020 *He's Gone* by Deb Caletti
- Nov 2020 *Christmas Bells* by Jennifer Chiaverini



Thank
you!

THANKS TO PENNY EDWARDS AND
SUE WILSON FOR PLANTING AND
MAINTAINING THE FLOWERS AT
CHURCH!



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—515-669-6036

Council Chair: Tammy Gaudette

Church Secretaries:

Deb Bracewell/Sue Howard

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

Kristin Danley-Greiner/Denise Pfister

—Education Co-Coordinators

Jon Gaudette

—Finance Coordinator

Sheila Aukes

—Missions/Evangelism Coordinator

Jeff Robbins/Blair Phipps

—Property Co-Coordinators

Jill Simonsen/Katie Temple

—Worship Co-Coordinators

JUNE 2020 COUNCIL SUMMARY

The council met on June 10th 2020 at 7:00pm-
via Zoom.

The council worked on the 2020-2021 budgets.

We are planning a virtual VBS.

Check your calendar for more important dates
in July.

Next council meeting is July 15th at 7:00pm.

All are welcome to attend the council meetings

—Submitted by Tiffany Phillips