

**DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY'S REPORT to the
CONSISTORY of RICHVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

November 7th, 2022

This month began with an immediate gathering of either RISE and/or junior high youth to help serve at the Fall Festival, particularly the rummage sale portion. I reached out to ALL our youth divisions and gave each the opportunity to help at this event on October 1st. In recent days, I've had splendid reactions to service from our junior high level. We are interacting and communicating as I would our RISE youth group.

I attended the rescheduled CE meeting on October 11th at 6:30PM at the church. Our Sunday School educators were placed in positions for the month. Even though it didn't happen this month, I'm consciously keeping in mind to seek and have alternate staffing to serve our Sunday School lineup and help our main core of teachers!

I did have a couple of readers ready in advance for October's Youth Service Sunday on the 16th. One of the two were able to attend with the understanding of varying schedule changes closer to the date. I landed a replacement and offered others kiddos positions of service in worship. Our RISE youth had difficulty meeting on this same date at 6:30 PM. I therefore offered an option of Zoom for a coming imminent date, but our group text method trumped that option this time. My feature presentation this month was preparing and promoting our annual October 30th event called Trunk or Treat/ Best Dressed Pet contest. I was diligent in reaching out and making personal invitations to guests and our own fellowship. We did have the addition of the two horses to ride as an added feature to the venue for this year. As a side note, the horsemen were originally scheduled an hour before the event to get set up, but called me during worship to say they had a slight delay with logistics complications. I asked their ETA and they were planning 12:00 to 12:15 PM. However, overall reactions were good and enjoyable.

Once again, I've been working this past month with Zion UCC to re-create our Youth Blast event for November 19th at their church campus. It has purposely been kind of an under-the-radar, not in the Messenger/and or bulletin event until now! Covid basically collapsed the first try, but the biggest challenge is getting RSVP from our young people. Details to come in all forms of social media, typical publications (electronic & hardcopy) + next month's report!

**Respected submitted,
Gary Bickel
Director of Youth & Family Ministries**