

em **POWER**

WINTER 2022

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF JCREMC



TOGETHER AGAIN

JCREMC's Annual Meeting is slated for an in-person return in 2022.

Welcome!

Welcome to *Empower*, the new official publication of JCREMC. Here at your electric cooperative, we're always looking for ways to improve our service to our members. That includes the ways we communicate with you. Look for *Empower* in your mailbox twice each year with supplemental content at jcremc.com.

We're also working on improving our electronic communication and will begin sharing important information via email in the future. If you don't have an email address on file with us or your email address has changed, let us know at custservice@jcremc.com or 317-736-6174. We'll be happy to update your contact information. And don't worry: We won't be overwhelming your inbox.

We look forward to telling the stories of your electric cooperative, keeping you up to date on the ongoing JCFiber expansion, and making sure you have access to the information you need about JCREMC. We're glad you're a member and we're excited to continuously improve the ways we serve you.



Jennifer Stewart-Burton
Marketing and Communications Coordinator
Empower Editor



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Giving Back

Members give back via Operation Round-Up®

The 450 kindergarten through eighth grade students at Greenwood Christian Academy are getting their first library.

The academy, one of 16 organizations to receive a grant from the JCREMC Community Fund in Fall 2021, will use the funds for their "Ready to Read Library Project" to purchase books.

Operation Round-Up® grants are made possible by JCREMC members who elect to have their monthly electric bills rounded up to the nearest whole dollar. The rounded up amount is placed in the JCREMC Community Fund to provide financial support for charitable causes and non-profit organizations in the communities served by JCREMC. The average amount each participant contributes in a year is \$6.

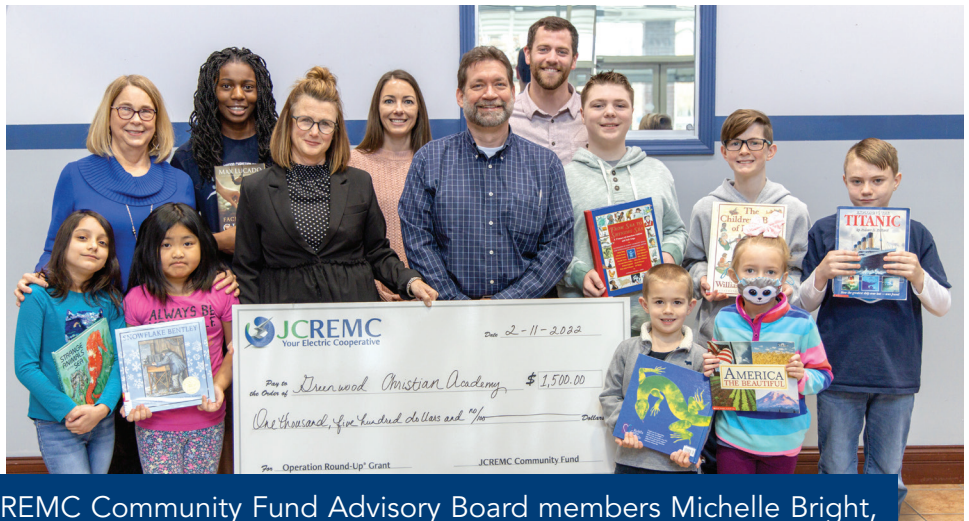
Local organizations can apply for up to \$5,000 in project-based grant funding each April and October. Learn more by visiting jcremc.com and clicking Operation Round-Up® under the Community tab.

Recipients of these funds are chosen by an independent advisory board operating on behalf of the JCREMC Community Fund. The program is administered through the Johnson County Community Foundation.

Other Fall 2021 grant recipients:

- **ASSIST Indiana Inc.:** Bathroom Renovation and Soft Spaces Creation
- **Bargersville Community Fire Protection District:** Dive and Rescue Team Provisions
- **Bluff Creek Christian Church:** Shoes for Souls

- **City of Franklin Fire Department:** Super Vac Valor Battery PPV Fan
- **Edinburgh UMC - Two Hearts Ministry:** Meals for Community Need



JCREMC Community Fund Advisory Board members Michelle Bright, Levi McNeely, and John Gates (center) present a grant check to students, faculty, and staff at Greenwood Christian Academy.

- **Franklin Community School Corporation:** HOPE Bag Project
- **Girls Inc. of Franklin/Johnson County:** Teaching Kitchen and Laboratory Creation
- **Greenwood Little League:** Sidewalks and Walking Paths
- **Greenwood Veterans' Memorial Inc.:** Veterans Memorial Projects
- **Indian Creek Intermediate School:** GaGa Ball Pit
- **Indiana FFA Leadership Center:** Volleyball Area Update and Pedal Boats Replacement
- **Johnson County Community Cats:** Trap, Neuter, and Return Stray Cats
- **Resources of Hope Inc.:** The Clothing Closet Restructuring
- **Trafalgar Community Gardens:** Two Raised Garden Beds Materials
- **Webb Elementary PTO:** Sensory Paths for Students

Powering

JCREMC Annual Meeting R

The JCREMC Annual Meeting will return in-person on April 2, 2022, at Franklin Community High School.

The meeting is a time for cooperative members to come together to celebrate the previous year's accomplishments and learn about plans for the future. It includes breakfast and entertainment, board of directors election, and the yearly cooperative business meeting.

The 2022 theme, "Powering Possibility," is a nod to the cooperative system's commitment to diversifying energy sources and the evolution of beneficial electrification.

"We're excited for the opportunity to be back together in person," said John Sturm, JCREMC CEO and JCFiber President. "We're also excited about all the new things coming down the pike for our electric consumers. Technology in energy production and electrification are advancing every day. We look forward to sharing more with our members about how we're using those advancements to their advantage and



JCREMC Customer Amy Key registers for the Annual Meeting. The in-person return on Franklin Community High School.

the programs we offer to help reduce their monthly electric bills."

ON *the* AGENDA

8-10 AM

Registration
Breakfast
Voting Open

9 AM

Cody Ikerd & the Sidewinders

10 AM

Business Meeting

Attendees will learn about JCREMC programs designed to help electric consumers save money, including rates options and rebates. The cooperative's EV Team will be on-hand to answer questions about electric vehicles and JCREMC's EV-friendly rates and rebates.

JCFiber expansion progress updates are on the agenda, and members of the Fiber Operations Team will be available to answer questions about the service and its availability.

Districts 5 and 6 are up for re-election this year with incumbents Lee Ann Wilbur (District 5) and Stephen Watson (District 6) on the ballot.

The meeting will follow the traditional format of registration, breakfast, voting, and mingling 8-10 a.m. and entertainment provided by

Possibility

Returns In-Person for 2022

Cody Ikerd and the Sidewinders at 9 a.m. The business meeting kicks off at 10 a.m.

There will be a few changes to this year's event due to pandemic protocols.

One such change is in kids' activities. In lieu of the traditional Kids' Space, JCREMC will provide activity and snack bags for children to take into the Performing Arts Center or cafeteria during the business meeting. A live feed will be available in the cafeteria for overflow seating.

Members will also receive their coin purses at the same location where gifts are handed out just outside the Performing Arts Center.

“The health of our members, employees, directors, and guests is a priority,” Sturm said. “Our staff have worked incredibly hard to give our

mer Service Representative
ters members at the 2019
. The event is slated for an
on April 2, 2022 at Franklin
n School.

members a fun and productive event. We look forward to seeing everyone and think our members will have a great time.”

Similar to the virtual 2021 meeting, grand prizes for 2022 will be monetary:

- **\$2,000** (one winner)
- **\$1,000** (one winner)
- **\$500** (one winner)
- **\$250** (two winners)

Meeting registration cards are mailed to all member households in March. Attendees should bring the cards to the meeting to receive an annual report, ballot, gift, and coinholder, and to be included in the grand prize drawings.

Franklin Community High School is located at 2600 Cumberland Dr., Franklin.



CODY IKERD & THE SIDEWINDERS

Cody Ikerd and the Sidewinders is a country/honky-tonk band from Indiana.

The group has performed throughout the Midwest over the past few years, opening for several national artists, including Kid Rock, Hank Williams Jr., the Kentucky Headhunters, Drake White, Mo Pitney, and Casey Donahew. They play popular songs from artists such as Hank Williams Jr., Alan Jackson, Dwight Yoakam, and Chris Stapleton, as well as their own originals.

The band released their second album, *You Can Find Me in a Honkytonk*, in 2019. They also released two singles in 2021, *Guitars and Whiskey* and *Losing my Mind*.

Learn more about the band and find their music on all major streaming platforms by visiting codyikerdmusic.com.

Join the Stream Team

Streaming is easier than ever with JCFiber

JCFiber consumers are giving up their satellite and cable TV subscriptions in favor of streaming shows and movies. And why not? Streaming services offer higher quality video and audio with few, if any, commercials.

Not to mention, subscribing to multiple services can be less expensive than a single cable TV bill.

Streaming is easy and places massive libraries of movies, documentaries and TV shows at your fingertips. Many major movies are available through streaming services at the same time they premiere in cinemas.

What exactly is streaming? Simply put, it's a way of transmitting or receiving data over the internet. With the lightning-fast speeds available through JCFiber, you'll be able to continue watching TV or movies without the lags or frozen screens common with non-fiber internet service.

If you have a smart TV, some streaming apps may be preinstalled, so getting started is as simple as subscribing or logging in. If you don't have a smart TV, you can purchase a streaming device to access these apps.



Some JCFiber plans come with a Roku streaming device. To use it,

plug it into your TV's HDMI port and a power outlet, then log into your home's wi-fi internet network.

But the Roku isn't the only streaming device. Other options include Amazon Fire, Apple TV, and Google Chromecast—just to name a few. Typing "streaming devices" into your favorite search engine will provide information on what's available.

No matter the device you choose, JCFiber will enable a family movie night or allow everyone to access their preferred content, whether it's sitcoms, live sports, or the complete library of your favorite medical drama. Happy viewing!

We're Here to Serve You

After a transitional period in late 2021, JCREMC now provides all customer service for JCFiber residential consumers. JCFiber made the switch with excellence of service in mind, said Nick Stainbrook, Director of Fiber Operations.

"We decided to manage residential customer service through JCREMC in the interest of providing the highest level of service to our consumers and to streamline the billing and payments process," he said.

JCFiber customers can now access accounts and make payments through *myJCREMC*, the same mobile app and online portal used by electric

members. When consumers choose JCFiber, their accounts will automatically be available in *myJCREMC*.

The *myJCREMC* mobile app is free and available for both iPhone and Android. To create an account on the app, click "Register now." To create a *myJCREMC* account via the online portal, visit jcremc.com and click "New User" in the embedded login at the top.

JCFiber customer service was previously provided by our partners at NineStar Connect. NineStar's technical experts will continue providing top-notch technical support for JCFiber customers.



ON *the* CALENDAR

MARCH 8 @ 5:30 PM

JCFiber Tech Talk
750 International Dr., Franklin
jcfiber.com/tech-talk

APRIL 1-30

Operation Round-Up®
Grant Application Period
jcremc.com/annual-meeting

APRIL 2 @ 8 AM

JCREMC Annual Meeting
2600 Cumberland Dr., Franklin
jcremc.com/annual-meeting

MAY 18 @ 6:30 PM

CEO Town Hall
750 International Dr., Franklin
jcremc.com/news

JULY 17-23

Johnson County Fair
250 Fairground St., Franklin
jocofairin.com

SEPTEMBER 10 @ 11 AM

EV Day
750 International Dr., Franklin
jcremc.com/EV

Talking Transparency

JCREMC, JCFiber Leader to Host CEO Town Hall

As part of JCREMC and JCFiber's commitment to transparency, John Sturm, JCREMC CEO and JCFiber President, will host a CEO Town Hall on May 18.

Sturm will summarize the state of the cooperative, highlight member programs, and give an update on the continued JCFiber expansion during brief prepared remarks. He will then open up the floor for member questions.

"The purpose of the CEO Town Hall is to give members an opportunity to engage with their electric cooperative," Sturm said.

"We want our members to understand what

is going on at their co-op, be familiar with programs we offer to benefit them, and to have a chance to offer feedback and ask questions."



Questions can be submitted ahead of time to custservice@jcremc.com with the subject "CEO Town Hall" or asked during the event. Account-specific questions cannot be answered during the town hall and should be directed to Customer Service at 317-736-6174 or custservice@jcremc.com.

The CEO Town Hall is at 6:30 p.m. in the JCREMC Conference Room

at 750 International Dr., Franklin.

Did you know?



JCREMC offers options when it comes to the rates you pay for electricity.

Single-Phase Service, or SPS1, is our standard rate. Single-Phase Time-of-Use, or SPTOU, is an optional rate structure designed to save money for consumers who can shift some electricity use to off-peak periods.

Both SPS1 and SPTOU offer a super off-peak period from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m., during which electric prices are deeply discounted. Consumers with programmable appliances, thermostats, and EV chargers can pay less for electricity used during the super off-peak period.

Members enrolled before September 1, 2020 are grandfathered into the now-retired Seasonal Single Phase Service, or SPS, which does not have a super off-peak component. Members enrolled in SPS can opt to switch to SPS1 or SPTOU.

Our on-staff energy advisor can talk through your usage and help you choose the rate that's right for you. Call us at 317-736-6174. Rates information is also available at [jcremc.com/savings](https://www.jcremc.com/savings).