



Kevin's Korner

Wow! What a party!

Our Block Party on June 25th was a great event for many reasons: Lots of our folks committed to help in many ways. We worked together, figured things out, sweated some, smiled a lot, invited people (even strangers), baked, organized, grilled, served, greeted, welcomed, smiled, shared, teased, snacked, hydrated, listened to others, shared stories, played games, smiled, sang along, set-up, tore-down, cleaned-up, prayed, invited again, had fun!, celebrated, and smiled! Oh yes, I think we learned a bit too.

In other words, it was a great start at reaching out to our Sherwood Park neighborhood. As Melanie Ferron shared, 'It was a leap of faith, trusting that we were answering God's call by reaching out and serving others.' She also shared, 'Our faith calls us to watch out for how God might use this event and all our efforts, and how God is calling us forward to whatever comes next.' (paraphrase).

In Matthew 28:19—20, just before Jesus ascended to heaven, he commissioned his followers, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." How do we make disciples? I think we did a lot of things in preparation and practice during our Block Party to make disciples.

Think about how we bring people into closer relationship with God. That is disciple making. And that can be done in many ways. But, disciple making almost always requires building a relationship. Every one of the list of actions from Saturday could be counted toward disciple making. I think everyone who came felt the Spirit of God through the hospitality that was offered.

I just want to say "Thank you!" to all of you who helped in our disciple making party (Block Party), including those who kept it all in prayer!

I read an article this morning that said, at least 1 in 4 Christians don't know that God calls them to make disciples. Now you all know. So, now we can all look for more ways that we can accomplish that commission from Jesus. Great start everyone! Let's keep it going!

Oh yes, Jesus also promised in his commission, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Blessings! Pastor Kevin