



## Kevin's Korner

What an exciting day last Sunday! I was glad I paused my vacation for the morning and joined you for worship and conversation at First Christian Church. Thank you, Annie (Grogan) for sharing the Good News for the time and place we are in! We know where our hope lies. We know how this story ends, with God bringing all things together into relationship with Him. And, really, we know what our calling is, for our church and for each one of us, to work together with God to build community and grow God's kingdom on Earth, as it is already in heaven.

Tagging on to Annie's message, I want to share again my reflection, from Sunday, on how we can best come together with God in this work that we are called to today. "What can we be sure of when we gather as Christ's church? We can be sure that God wants to guide us, and God wants us to follow His guidance. Do you believe this? Do you expect this? Do you practice this? I want to invite you to breathe, big, deep breaths; to breath in God's love, God's presence, God's guidance, and God's peace; kind of like rebooting your computer or phone, when they get loaded with so much stuff that they can't think straight. We each come (today) to talk about our church. We each have history, sacred moments and memories, opinions, preferences, even some frustrations, bias', irritations and other stuff that might confuse us. These concerns, including fear for our survival, can distract us to the point of not noticing that God is guiding us and asking us to follow His Guidance, or even believing that God is guiding us. This can then challenge our expectation that God will whisper that guidance into your ear or your heart (maybe through someone else's comment), and thus hinder our practice of following God's guidance. Let's breathe all that stuff out today and reboot our spirits for a moment before we let God guide this conversation.

My favorite Christian mystic, Richard Rohr, invites us to begin with the one thing we can control and be certain of, our breathing. Let's begin by breathing, in and out, and recognizing that we are then exercising the only power and certainty that we ever can (while we can). Everything else is in God's hands! So, let's let our hearts beat together. Let's let God speak to us, guide us, comfort us and care for us, our neighborhood, and all creation, as best as God can.

As we continue this conversation, moving forward into plans for building improvements and ministry opportunities, including wise stewardship of the resources God has placed in our hands; I invite you to be in regular prayer and practice breathing and sitting with God, seeking His presence and waiting for His guidance for First Christian Church. Then please share what you've experienced and what God places in your heart and mind. Make sure that you share any ideas or concerns with our decision makers so they can make informed decisions.

Let's trust God for our future. Let's trust God for Good!

Pop Corn Provided!

As a follow up to our New Beginnings Bible Study, Ern and Ruby Eachus have offered their video of Sight and Sound Theatres: "In The Beginning."

It will take 2 hours to watch on Wednesday, June 15, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Then we can talk about it with those who want to stay.

How is it similar to our study? How is it different? What is most important?

Even if you didn't participate in the Bible study, you are welcome. Come get some popcorn!

Blessings! Pastor Kevin