



Kevin's Korner

We have a General Board meeting scheduled for next Sunday, May 1st, after worship. We have some important financial/investment decisions to make after selling the College Place apartments. We have reports from our visit with Rosario Ibarra, and from our Core Values inventory to review. We also have some big events coming soon, which will need support from all of us to help impact our neighborhood. You are all invited to attend Board meetings!

It is really exciting to see a "blossoming" of new ideas, new energy and new possibilities, in this "new beginning" at First Christian Church. But, gathering and trying new things will also bring challenges. Believe it or not, we sometimes have different ideas, different priorities and even different values. That's not a bad thing! It makes for a richer community when we find ways to communicate and work together.

Shannon shared one of her daily devotions with me, where Kirsten Holmberg tells about someone asking her about her politics. Seeing the possibility of divisiveness, Kirsten responded, "Since we're both believers, I'd rather focus on our unity in Christ." She reflected on Paul's Letter to the Romans, where people were divided by differing beliefs and practices around eating meat that had been sacrificed to idols. Paul didn't choose to judge either side in the debate but reminded these Christians of their "common ground: living for Jesus" (Romans 14:5-9). He encouraged the church to "do what leads to peace and to mutual edification" (v. 19).

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As we move forward with important administrative decisions and new ministries for our church and our neighborhood, good communication will be essential throughout the church, if we're to display Jesus in our neighborhood and community. Yes, our leaders need to communicate what they are doing. But they need the rest of us to listen well, read the "Crosswords," emails and other communications; and ask questions. If you

don't know what is going on, please contact me or Riecke Claussen our Board Moderator, or other Board members. Please come to any church meeting that you see on the calendar! You are invited to come and listen, speak or ask questions, even if you are not invited to vote. The Board meeting on Sunday will be just the place to contribute to the exciting future of First Christian Church through your participation. We need everyone to volunteer your ideas, your time, and your resources toward making our ministries effective.

Music update: The Fruita Fourth Friday event happened indoors last Friday, except for the band: myself, Chip Ferron and Tom Musgrove from Guitar Club. We were cold and wet, but happy about the good response. We hope we'll be invited again! Thank you, to all who braved the cold and wet to come and support us!

Shannon and I will take a week of vacation to see my dad in Salt Lake City from May 20th to 26th . Annie Grogan will preach on the 22nd.

Blessings! Pastor Kevin