



Kevin's Korner

What is a favorite memory of something that happened at First Christian Church? That was the opening discussion question during our Ice Cream Social/Cabinet/Congregational Conversation, on August 7th. If you missed out, be sure to share your memories with someone soon! Some that we heard were, family rituals – weddings, baby blessings and baptisms; the 125-year Church Anniversary; Bazaars; and “Warm welcomes, inclusive, hospitable, helpful,” the DNA of our church. Then came the things that keep us coming: 90th Birthdays; Dear friends/People; Love and Support, caring “God’s here;” Disciples of Christ; Pastor; Reaching out to the Community; Lamar and Crew; Stained glass, message, cross; Weekly Communion; opening our building to community groups. We Strongly Believe In: Power of God; Faith in the “Imaginable”; Hospitality; Community; Power/Support of friends; Taking risks/new beginnings. And We Love: Each other; our Loving God; and Kevin and Shannon. This all led us to say “As a Congregation, we take pride in: Giving; Fellowship Friendliness; Supporting each other; Church Leadership; Disciples of Christ Heritage; Men and Women’s groups; Commitments and involvements; Fellowship in Christ; Commitment to Connection; Planting for the future; Hope; Sharing God’s love; Loving God, loving others; Special worship programs; Giving boxes; Garden; Connection with Homeward Bound and food drives; Bazaars and yard sales; Willingness to try new things; New Minister who has found at First Christian Church a “Culture of Kindness.

I bring all this up to invite you to look again at our Core Values we’ve identified so far. Do they reflect these memories, beliefs and priorities that we’ve identified? If not, what should we add as a Core Value? If so, what should we prioritize as our greatest values at First Christian Church? I’ll remind you of the Core Values we’ve arrive at so far: Spiritual Growth; Worship; Love for neighbor; Faith/Faithfulness; Compassion; Teaching; Service; Putting God first; Communication; Hospitality and Gratitude. Which of these is God calling us to prioritize? Who is God calling us to be at First Christian Church? Who is God calling us to reach, or connect with, or

serve? Pastor's Note: We can't do everything as a church. If we try to do everything we've always done, we won't do anything well. But, if we focus our attention, our energy, and our resources, on a few important ministries and purposes – with God's power and guidance – we will change lives and change the world around us. Please give me your feedback or share with one of our church leaders, so we can better become the church God is calling us to be. Thank you for being an important part of our church!

God Bless You!

Pastor Kevin