

First Christian Church

September Newsletter

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Over a hundred years of serving Christ in the Hill Country.

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Expanding the Mission: Supporting our Seven-Days-a-Week Church



JAY DOZIER
Senior Pastor

I love this church. I love the church's history; I love who we are today; I love who we will be in the future. The mission of our church includes so many things. Obviously first and foremost, we worship together and we learn together on Sunday mornings. And we eat, study and sing on Wednesdays. Tuesday nights, our budding drama teams meet to practice. We pray and study on Thursday mornings and our praise team practices in the evening. We craft and fellowship on Fridays. We feed people on Angel Food Sat-

urdays. But that doesn't begin to highlight everything of which we are a part.

We host Covenant Academy, a first through sixth-grade private Christian school, led by our Sunday School superintendent Kim Smith, five days a week beginning in September. Journey to Freedom, a noon recovery meeting, meets every day but Sunday at the church. On Mondays, a vibrant boy Scout Troop meets at the church. We open ourselves up to the Emmaus community whenever asked (we'll have the next Emmaus worship event on September 17).

Whenever the Texas Chainsaw Ministry needs to

meet, they meet at our church.

I could go on and on. Our doors are open to those who love the Lord and wish to serve him. We offer our biggest financial asset - our church building - for mission. We do not ask those who share our mission to be obedient to Jesus in following his command to love God and neighbor to pay for using our building. I have never served a church like ours. We embody the spirit of unity that I believe the Christian community should have. I am so honored to be your pastor.

This month, we will have a capital campaign to support our mortgage payments on our building. Unlike any

church I've ever served, our building serves our mission with dignity and integrity. I believe that God is blessing us for our generosity. The spirit of our church is strong and loving. I believe that this capital campaign is going to bring us closer together than we ever have been. As we clarify our vision to be a leader in shaping the culture of Kerrville, we will have more confidence in one another, a greater respect for who we are as a people, and a deeper humility on account of the blessings that come not from us, but from God.

Enjoy this month as we celebrate what it means to be a part of First Christian Church!

Start a new school year encouraging our youth

JASON JOHNSON
Youth Director

Well, it is September and the kids are back in school. We have had a great summer with many of the youth going to camp, volunteering with Vacation Bible School and various youth trips.

My prayer for all of the youth, and their parents, is that this will be a great year of growth for the whole

family. Often there is a fine line between wanting to encourage young people to live up to their potential and not recognizing or appreciating the efforts they are making. While having high expectations for your child is fine, remember to encourage and motivate them through positive reinforcement.

When I first began working with "special needs kids" at a Residential Treatment

Center back in 1999, two very important things were instilled in my heart and mind forever. The first was a technique called "Laser beaming." This entailed clearly explaining to the child what your expectations for them are. Once you see that child doing what you asked them to do, you vibrantly praise them for it. The concept is simple. When a kid realizes that he

or she will receive positive attention for doing what is expected of them, they tend to do those things more often. Make it easy for them to feel good about themselves and their confidence will go through the roof and their performance is sure to follow. The second very important fact reminds me of Proverbs 18:21, "The

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