

Family Focus

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

Sharing the Hearts of the Elders – Connecting You to Growing People to the Glory of God

What is most dear to the hearts of the elders is for the Fairview family to grow people to the glory of God. Above all else, we desire that the Fairview family grows in love for the Lord, love for each other, and love for those that don't yet know Christ.

To promote our love for the Lord, for each other and for those that don't yet know Christ, the elders have set some goals that will help us get there. This year, our two major goals for the Fairview Road congregation to work toward are:

1. Grow our young people by encouraging member participation in our Family-Based Youth Ministry.
2. Serve and Teach others as Christ would, by encouraging member participation in our Mission Columbia ministry.

You might be asking yourself, "Why is my participation required for the success of these two goals?" Let's try to answer this question by using the analogy of a baseball team. YOU are a vital part of the TEAM in this analogy. Say the Cardinals have a runner on 3rd with one out in the bottom of the ninth in a tie game. Several TEAM members have to effectively execute their responsibility in order to score the winning run.

The manager must develop a plan and communicate it to the players responsible for the plays. This is done through the coaches who in turn signal the plays to the players. If the play called for is a squeeze bunt to get the runner on 3rd base home, then the batter must receive the signal to bunt and DO so. Likewise, the 3rd base coach must signal the runner on 3rd how far to lead off and when to run home. As you can see, all of the team members are required to participate in the plan for it to succeed.

Isn't this the message Paul gives us in I Cor. 12:12? He says, "The body is a unit," and in verse 14, "...the body is not made up of one part, but of many." Please think about verse 18, "But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be." So, YOU, & I are parts of the body (a team). If the team is to succeed in growing people to the glory of God, then ALL parts must effectively execute the role God has assigned! To achieve our Fairview Road goals we must:

- 1) Find where EACH one of us can participate in the goals, and
- 2) Take some action to do so!

James said, "...faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead (Jas. 2:18)." For example:

- Commit to praying for Mike and the Youth
- Commit to speaking to a Youth each Sunday to encourage their Christian walk.
- Volunteer to host one youth event
- Volunteer to come to one youth event
- Donate at least X amount of hours of time in church service activity
- Invite a person to have a meal with us at "Join us at the Plate"

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Our Shepherds

Glen Godsey, Charles Martin, Britt Newby, Don Osburn,
Jerry Templer, James Treece, Dee Vanderburg