



1524 W Main St
Riverton, WY 82501

Office: 307-856-2334

www.rivchristian.com

A Vested Interest

Dear Church Family,

I looked up the definition of “vested interest” and here’s what I found: “A special interest in protecting or promoting that which is to one’s own personal advantage.” If a person has a vested interest in something that means that they are willing to protect it or promote it because it is to their advantage to do so.

Last month I wrote about the first part of our Church DNA, having a relationship with Jesus Christ. That is our primary goal as a church body. We want to “Make disciples who make disciples”. This month I am moving on to part two of our Church DNA, Commitment or Church Membership. Not only do we want to see people come to a relationship with Jesus Christ, but we want to see each Christian plugged into a local body through church membership.

So for starters, do you have a vested interest in the Christian Church of Riverton: i.e. a special interest in protecting or promoting this body of Christ? Do you have a stake in what we are doing? Are you willing to invest your time, talent and treasure, through this local body of believers to help build up God’s kingdom in Riverton, Wyoming?

If you believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and you have been baptized by immersion into His name we would love to have you as a member of the Christian Church of Riverton and help us build up the body of Christ here in this city.

Nobody will twist your arm or force you to join a church body and we will serve and minister to you if you decide not to become part of our body. But we would

love to have you be a formal part of what we are doing.

For me being a church member means that I formally state that this is my church family. I am willing to stand and serve and bleed and if necessary die with and for these people. I think I wrote a few months ago that if called upon I would give my life for you. Why would I do that? Because in order for me to be 100% committed to Christ I must love His bride as He loves His bride. If He was willing to die for the Church why should my commitment be less.

Church Membership for me also means that I am plugged into a group that has the right to hold me accountable for my faith. I submit to the leadership of the Church and I know that my family here in Riverton will look out for my spiritual (and physical) welfare as I look out for theirs as well.

Membership for me also means making a statement to the world that I am in a covenant, a sacred agreement, with other Christians. As a member of the Christian Church of Riverton: 1. I will protect the unity of my church by acting in love toward other members, by refusing to gossip, by following the leaders. 2. I will share the responsibility of my church, by praying for its growth, by inviting the unchurched to attend, by warmly welcoming those who visit. 3. I will serve the ministry of my church, by discovering my gifts and talents, by being equipped to serve by my leaders, by developing a servant’s heart. 4. I will support the testimony of my church by attending faithfully, by living a godly life, by giving regularly.

The above paragraph was taken directly out of our DNA booklet. If you have not had the opportunity to go through the DNA class or missed a week in January please call me and set up a time that we can go through the material together – 840-1630. Part of being a team is all of us following the same playbook and that’s what our DNA class is meant to do.

If you have any questions about Church Membership or would like to become a member of the CCR please talk with me or the elders this week about doing that. Let’s work together to reach those outside of Christ in Riverton.

One final comment from #4 above: I want to ask you to focus on this part of the membership covenant this month. Make it personal.

I will support the testimony of my church: By attending faithfully (If everyone living in Riverton reading this made a commitment to attend every week in May we would be full every Sunday and it would be an encouragement to all who are part of the CCR. If you are not out of town, come to church EVERY Sunday this month.)

By living a godly life (people watch how you live. Are you being a good witness to your friends and neighbors? Can people see Jesus in you?)

By giving regularly (what a blessing it was to see the offerings from March!).

Are you tithing? Are you investing your time, talent and treasure into the CCR?

All three are important.

May God bless you in mighty ways as we continue to serve together!

On The Journey,

Pastor Todd

The church
has left
the building.



Servant Evangelism

Have ideas on how we can reach out to our community in May see Todd or Charlette.

We will be doing a water give-away at a baseball tournament the first week in May.

Watch your bulletins for other opportunities for Outreach!

Church Leadership:

The New Testament Deacon class will begin on April 13th and will last five or six weeks. If you are interested in being a Deacon make plans on attending this class.



Family Movie Night:

The Astronaut Farmer

May 23rd at 7pm

An enduring story about the trials and triumphs of one family that is bound and determined to stay together.

May 8th: Cleaning, Katie & Cake 5:30-8:00PM – Join us for a cleaning party at the church building. Let's do those once a year things that put a little extra shine into our building. This will also be Katie St. John's last Thursday night with us so come say good-bye and have

some cake as well. The grade school age class will still meet at 7PM and the adults will continue working and break at the end of the evening for some fellowship and cake.

30/30: We are taking the Natural Church Development Survey again in May. I am asking for 30 people to give up 30 minutes to take a survey this month to measure our Church health so we can set goals for the next year. In order to save time and not plan another evening to do this I would like 30 people to volunteer to stay 30 minutes after the board meeting on May 18th and finish a survey.

It works best if the surveys can be completed at the church building together. It is only 30 minutes of your time, please help with this need!! If you can stay an extra half an hour on the 18th please let me know as soon as possible so I can make a list of who will be there. If you really can't be there at this time and would like to complete a survey set up a time with me to complete one at the church building at a time that works for you before the 18th. (No take home surveys as they don't return...) I know this just adds to your already busy schedule, but surely you have 30 minutes to give.

Thanks in advance! Only the first 30 get to take the survey – adults only please..... Todd

Jesus loves the Church...

"When we say, 'I love Jesus, but I hate the Church,' we

end up losing not only the Church but Jesus too.

-Henri Nouwen

It is so easy to say that we love Jesus... but we forget that the church comes with Him. They're a package deal... You can't have one without the other.

Jesus loved the Church... enough to die for it! How much do you love the Church (those in the body of Christ)?

You see, its not just about loving Jesus. The Bible doesn't just say, "Believe in Jesus and love Him," it also says that we are to serve one another (Gal 5:13), to serve as Christ served us (John 13:13-15). We are commanded to love Jesus and the Church both...

What does this mean though?

Dave Branon wrote:

The New Testament gives us some practical suggestions about becoming the kind of person who demonstrates Christ's love.

We are told to give preference to one another (Romans 12:10), edify one another (Romans 14:19), care for one another (1 Corinthians 12:25), serve one another (Galatians 5:13), bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2), forgive one another (Colossians 3:13), comfort one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11), and pray for one another (James 5:16).

There should be only one kind of Christian: the "love one another" kind. What type are you?







I don't know about you, but that's home... This month, focus on loving the people that Jesus loved enough to die for... the bride of Christ... the Church...

Are you loving the Church?

In Christ,

Isaiah

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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<p>27) Music: C Text: Eph 2 9am Sunday School 10am Worship</p>	<p>28)</p>	<p>29) 7pm Men's LTG</p>	<p>30) 1pm Minister's Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>1) 12pm National Day of Prayer at Library 7pm Mexico Trip Presentation from Stephanie and Daniel</p>	<p>2) 7am: Men's Prayer Breakfast 8am Elder's Meeting</p>	<p>3) Yard Sale at the Parsonage for youth and CWF</p>
<p>4) Music: A Text: Eph 3 9am Sunday School 10am Worship</p>	<p>5)</p>	<p>6) 7pm Men's LTG</p>	<p>7) 10am Classes for Crafty Christians 1pm Minister's Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>8) 7pm Y.G. 6pm Cleaning Night</p> 	<p>9) 7am: Men's Prayer Breakfast</p>	<p>10)</p>
<p>11) Music: B Text: Eph 4:1-24 9am Sunday School 10am Worship</p> <p>Happy Mother's Day</p>	<p>12)</p>	<p>13) 2pm Homestead Services 6pm Ladies' Mother's Day Tea with Salad buffet 7pm Men's LTG</p>	<p>14) 10am CCC 1pm Minister's Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>15) 7pm Y.G. 7pm Home Group 7pm Circle of Friends group</p>	<p>16) 7am: Men's Prayer Breakfast 8am Elder's Meeting</p> <p>Todd out of town</p>	<p>17)</p> <p>Todd out of town</p>
<p>18) Music: C Text: Eph 4:25-5:20 9am Sunday School 10am Worship, Carry-in dinner-Business Meeting 30/30 follows</p>	<p>19)</p>	<p>20) 7pm Men's LTG</p>	<p>21) 10am CCC 1pm Minister's Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>22) 7pm Y.G. 7pm Home Group 7pm Circle of Friends group</p>	<p>23) 7am: Men's Prayer Breakfast 7pm Movie Night: The Astronaut Farmer</p>	<p>24)</p>
<p>25) Music: A Text: Eph 5:21-6:24 9am Sunday School 10am Worship</p>	<p>26) Memorial Day</p>	<p>27) 2pm Homestead Services 7pm Men's LTG</p> 	<p>28) 10am CCC 1pm Minister's Prayer Meeting</p> 	<p>29) 7pm Y.G. 7pm Home Group 7pm Circle of Friends group</p> 	<p>30) 7am: Men's Prayer Breakfast 8am: Elders Meeting</p> <p>Todd out of town</p> 	<p>31)</p> <p>Todd out of town</p> 

Birthdays and Anniversaries in May

May 8th: Elizabeth Vick
 May 27th: Sean Foley
 May 28th: Ethyl Godfrey
 May 29th: Dean & Charlene VonKrosigk
 May 30th: John & Kathleen Holbert
 May 31st: Stephanie Joy and Eliana Jo Santee

Major Events in May:

May 1st: Daniel and Stephanie's Trip to Mexico
 May 3rd: Yard Sale at the Parsonage - Setup ~6am
 May 8th: Church Cleaning Night
 May 13th: Ladies' Mother's Day Tea with Salad Buffet
 May 18th: Carry in dinner, Business Meeting following
 May 23rd: Movie Night - The Astronaut Farmer

Date	Meditations	Prayer	Nursery	Children's Church	Music
5/4	S. Huddleston	Dean VonKrosigk	Lori Santee	Michelle DesEnfants	A
5/11	Dean VonKrosigk	Rita Schmidt	Sara Henni	Melissa Smith	B
5/18	Archie Tank	Retha Reinke	Autumn Vick	Carol Stelzner	C
5/25	Barney Himes	Dean VonKrosigk	Charleen VonKrosigk	Henni's	A
6/1	Rod DesEnfants	Rita Schmidt	Sara Henni	Michelle DesEnfants	B

Men's Prayer Breakfast Chefs:

Date	Chef	Date	Chef	Date	Chef
5/2	Rod	5/9	Barney	5/16	Dean
5/23	Todd	5/30	Isaiah	6/6	Rod

If you would like to do meditations, prayer, CC or Nursery, please see Todd, or Isaiah, respectively.

One of the biggest reasons people do not attend Church is that they have not been invited. Invite someone to Church every week this month!



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rivchristian@wyonet.net
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307-856-2334

Minister - Todd Smith H: 857-7561 M: 840-1630
Youth Minister - Isaiah Henni H: 857-7563 M: 851-9956
Elder, Dean VonKrosigk H: 856-3125
Elder, Val Reinke H: 856-6990