

“There’s Room for More!”

The Chiefs are in the Superbowl! This is an exciting time in our city. You cannot go anywhere without seeing people decked out in red and sporting brand-new AFC Champions gear. Flags hang from houses, flag poles and even car windows. The skyline downtown and buildings all throughout the area are awash in red. The top stories on the news are all about Chiefs excitement and Superbowl coverage. Nearly every person you meet can tell you about their favorite player (typically Patrick Mahomes), favorite game this season, and how they never lost faith, even when the Chiefs were down 24-0 to Houston.

The other day I made the mistake of looking at some of the coverage of the Chiefs on social media – Facebook and Instagram specifically. While most of it was positive, I was disappointed to see some fans questioning others and complaining about so-called “bandwagon fans.” The same sentiment was popular when the Royals had their great playoff runs in 2014 & 2015. “Bandwagon fans” is the term longtime fans use to complain that “new fans” don’t have the right to enjoy a team’s success as much as they do because “new fans” haven’t suffered through the heartbreaks of longtime fans—they haven’t taken the full journey with the team. Personally, as one who has followed the Chiefs for only 10 or so years, I am not sure if I’m considered a “new fan” or seasoned veteran. But, either way, it is fun to see the Chiefs doing so well and to see so many people excited about their success.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus shared a parable about “bandwagon fans” of God. There was once a landowner who hired some workers at the beginning of the day to work his field. The landowner and the workers made an agreement about wages, and off the workers went. After a few hours, the landowner noticed that there was more work to be done than the workers he hired were going to accomplish. He went back to the town square and hired more workers. After lunch, he hired some more. Finally, with about an hour left in the workday, the landowner hired even more workers to help finish the work by day’s end. Four sets of workers, hired at four different times, performing the same work for the same wages.

The landowner gathered all the workers at the end of the day and began to pay them. First, he paid those who worked the least number of hours. These newbies got the same rates negotiated by the original workers. Because the original workers had worked much longer and harder, they thought they would get a higher wage. So, they were pretty upset to learn that their wage was the same as those who had been hired later in the day. The landowner asked if he had cheated them, “I am not being unfair to you. Didn’t you agree to work for (that amount)? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don’t I have that right?” (Matthew 20:13-15)

Jesus's parable reminded those who were following him that it doesn't matter when you arrive to God's party, all are welcome, and all will receive the same reward. This might not feel fair to those have been faithful to God their entire lives, but it is great news to those who are a little late to the party. God's love doesn't change based on how long we've been faithful. In God's Kingdom, there is always room for more.

Chiefs Kingdom and God's heavenly Kingdom are big enough for all of us. It doesn't matter how long we've been loyal; we all get to share in the joy. As you get excited this week about the Superbowl and cheer on the Chiefs, I encourage you to say a prayer for those who are still deciding if they will accept God's invitation into his Kingdom.

It is an honor to be you pastor and to ride on God's bandwagon with all of you.

Blessings,

Chris

Also, don't forget to wear your red and Chiefs gear Sunday to church. We will have some pre-game fun as we prepare for the big game!



This Sunday is going to be the most fun you ever had at Church!

Why you ask??? Because we are going to have a Pre Super Bowl Party complete with games, snacks and a selfie wall for fun Super Bowl memories. Get your Chiefs shirts on and come party!



February 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26 Services 8 & 10:00	27	28 Church Council 7 pm	29	30	31	1
2. Services 8 & 10:00 Super Bowl Wear your Red! Souper Bowl Collection	3	4	5 Be An Angel Yoga 6:15 Women's Bible Study 7:15 7:15	6 Men's Bible Study 7:00	7	8
9 Services 8 & 10:00 Scout Sunday 10 Souper Bowl Coll.	10	11	12 Be An Angel 10 Yoga 6:15	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day	15 Harvesters 10:00
16 Services 8 & 10:00	17	18	19 Be An Angel Yoga 6:15 Women's Bible Study 7:15	20 Men's Bible Study 7:00	21	22

Prayer



Les Case	Katie May
Donald Cohan	Derek Petty
Dorothy Conn	Don Raymond
George Cromer	Steve Raymond
Wade Davis	Nancy Rowe
Chad Elmer	Erin Scott
Janet Ford	Larry Sparks
Richard Fuerst	Ray Trowbridge
Winnie Fuerst	Marc Willis
Harvey Geary	Elaine West
Michael Hatfield	Dorothy Wilson

Congregation de Mellier
Heart and Soul Children's
Learning Center
All Ministries
of the Church

Souper Bowl Soup Collection

February 2 & 9

Benefiting the
Hillcrest Food Pantry



Come join us as we gather together
to lend our helping hands at Harvesters Food Network.

Saturday February 15th @ 10:00 am

Sign up sheet in the CONNECT area

We will meet at the Church at 9:00 if you want to carpool