



Growing A Vibrant Youth Ministry

About eight years ago I was sitting at dinner with the Pastor Search Committee asking about their dreams and hopes for the future of their church. They were interviewing me, but I was also interviewing them. I heard a number of things, but one of the most striking was this repeated refrain: "I raised my kids in the church, but now none of them go to church. Some of them have no faith at all."

It's a common story in our time. Fewer and fewer people are walking into the doors of any church on Sunday morning. There are numerous dynamics contributing to this. Many are asking how to instill a life-giving faith into their children and teenagers. Studies have been done to explore what contributes to an active faith for teens and millennials. While there is no one answer, there are things that make a difference.

Lyndsay (our youth minister) and I have been having more and more conversations about Dayspring's youth ministry. Our deep desire is to see each of our teenagers develop a vibrant and life-giving spirituality, deeply in love with God, and committed to becoming more like Christ. But we cannot do that without help.

In order to have a vibrant youth ministry churches need two basic ingredients: financial resources and committed leaders. Most churches fail on the first, never fully funding their youth ministry. Dayspring, on the other hand, has done an excellent job funding our youth ministry. We have not done as well with the second ingredient, the necessary adult volunteers. It's time to change that.

A youth minister alone cannot create the rich texture of relationships needed for a vibrant youth ministry. **Research has shown that one of the greatest indicators of a teen's faith taking root is the number of adults they are in relationship with who are actively expressing their own faith to the teenager.** In other words, our youth ministry is most likely to have an impact if we have committed volunteers present and engaged in our youth ministry and our teenagers' lives.

Last month I preached a series of sermons about becoming like Christ. In that series I repeatedly said that our deepest calling as a church is to be a community of people helping one another become more like Christ. If we aren't doing that, then I'm not sure why we're here. This is true of every stage of life, especially with children and youth.

This school year I'm hoping to begin a new phase in our youth ministry. We are going to put together a Youth Ministry Team. To do so, we're looking for a handful of adults committed to seeing a life-giving faith and vibrant spirituality grow in our teenagers. We need some adults to commit to simply being present when our youth are gathered, both on Sunday morning and Sunday evening. We need others who will commit to meeting with Lyndsay to help plan and support the programming side of our youth ministry.

Will you begin praying for our youth? They are wonderful and fun people to be around. They are full of hopes, dreams, and challenges. They are in that exciting season of life where they are making decisions that will shape them for decades to come. Eight of them will be going to camp this month, but there are more than that hanging around our congregation. Pray for them. Let your heart for them grow. And allow yourself to wonder: is God calling me to help in some way?

With Deep Hope,

~ Pastor Chris

July at Dayspring

July 4, Wednesday

Independence Day
Office Closed

July 8, Sunday

5:00 p.m. Fellowship and Swim Party

July 9-13, Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. Preschool Summer Camp

July 15-21, Sunday - Saturday

Youth Camp
Greensboro, NC

July 22, Sunday

12:00 p.m. Quarterly Business Meeting

July 29, Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship at Southern Union
Missionary Baptist Church
5:00 p.m. Manna Family Dinner

Weekly Events

Sundays

9:30 a.m. Sunday school
10:45 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. Coffee and Conversation

Wednesdays

10:30 a.m. Intercessory Prayer Ministry

Sunday worship average
attendance for June: 89

Quarterly Business Meeting

Sunday, July 22

The quarterly business meeting will take place in
Anniversary Hall after worship.

Worship at SUMBC

Sunday, July 29, 10:00 a.m.

We are gathering once again for Sunday worship with
our sister congregation, Southern Union Missionary
Baptist Church. The address is 2701 Cole Street,
St. Louis, MO 63106

Manna Family Dinner and Swim

Sunday, July 29, 5:00 p.m.

All current and former Manna families are invited to join
for dinner and fellowship at the Chadwick Swim Club.
Parents of elementary aged children and younger are
asked to stay on the pool deck or in the pool when their
children are swimming. The address is
1048 Briarhurst Dr. Ballwin, MO 63021.



Fellowship and Swim

Sunday, July 8, 5-7 p.m.

Gale and Gary Dollar invite everyone to a church-wide
fellowship at their home. Come on July 8 with a side
dish or dessert to share. Meats and drinks will be
provided. Be sure to bring your suits and towels if you
would like to swim!



John Hussung
Mike Roland
Colin McDonough
Kaitlyn Hartig
Monica Daloco
Mary Lea Eck
Anne Allgood
Cecelia Norris

Zaydn Williams
Erica Williams
Marylee Baygents
Rich Lusk
Jacob Dofing
Sean Ward
Brenda Hamm
Hannah Jensen

Meet Our New Members!



Kristie and Grant met in Lexington, Kentucky in 2005, while Kristie attained her cosmetology education and Grant attended The University of Kentucky studying psychology. They were married in 2009. Graduate school in clinical psychology led the two lovebirds to the humidity of Tuscaloosa, Alabama where Grant attained his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology in six short years, with Kristie longing for a child with the setting of every sun. Ripley was born in October of 2013 as Grant's education continued at the Memphis Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The trumpets of St. Louis called and the Harrises answered. They arrived in 2015. Grant took his dream job as a psychologist in the Geriatric Primary Care Clinic at the St. Louis VA Medical Center at Jefferson Barracks. Following a quiet two years with only one child, Kristie and Grant wanted a little more hectic schedule and lot less sleep, so they welcomed Loxley in March of 2018. The family has loved their experience of St. Louis and especially the welcoming spirit of Dayspring Baptist. They hope to continue their journey on the road of happy destiny with their fellow St. Louisans and Dayspringians for the foreseeable future.

Variety Show and Dessert Auction



On a practical level this is a fundraiser for youth and children's camp, but throughout the years, this event has become so much more than that. It is a time when much of our congregation comes out to laugh, play, and celebrate with one another. Your children and teenagers are helping cultivate an environment that inspires and gives permission for a part of ourselves that we so often lose sight of as adults. Our youth and children, your youth and children, are vital to the life of our congregation and this is one (of many) moments where they are leading and guiding us adults toward creativity, laughter, play, and imagination.

~Lyndsay Williams, Youth Minister



2018 Youth Camp
July 15 – 21
Greensboro, NC

PASSPORT
Empowering Students • Embracing the World • Extending Grace

Please pray for our youth and adults as they travel to and attend camp this month.

Ben Crow	Eliza Sullivan
Mara Crow	Liam Sullivan
Noelle Fillingham	Brett Summa
Cecilia Norris	Darin Williams
Jakob Robinson	Lyndsay Williams

The Ennea-what?!

Have you been wondering what Chris means when he mentions the Enneagram? Have you learned about it but want another look into the ways your friends and family see the world?

In August and September Jessi Fillingham will be leading a 5-week discussion of *The Road Back to You*, written by Ian Cron and Suzanne Stabile. The book introduces the Enneagram and delves into each of the nine numbers. Be on the lookout for dates and information!



Happy Retirement

Dayspring celebrated Marsha Hussung's nearly 35 years of ministry with breakfast and a musical morning of worship on June 17.

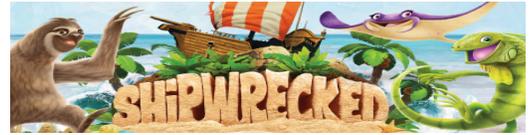


Volunteer Opportunities

Help make our first preschool summer camp a success! Youth and adults look below for 2 ways you can help.

1) Youth camp assistants (6th grade and older) are needed July 9-13 from 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Spend your mornings having fun, playing games, and mentoring preschoolers as they learn more about Christ. You will be entered to win a prize each day you volunteer! If you are interested sign-up in the narthex.

2) We are also looking for anyone who wants to bless our youngest friends with a snack during camp. Volunteers are needed to purchase and prepare a snack for 5 kids each day. You don't have to be a chef to help. A recipe and ingredient list are provided for each day. Snacks will need to be delivered to the church by 10:00 a.m. Sign-up sheet and recipes can be found in the narthex. If you have any additional questions contact nursery director, Brenda Hamm.



Music Minister Position?

Dayspring has been fortunate to have Marsha Hussung as our Music Minister for almost 35 years. In honor of her retirement last month, we celebrated all the gifts that she has been and given to our church as a staff member. It was a wonderful and blessed day!

The Leadership Team knows that any time there is a change in staff, many questions begin to emerge about the future. This is especially true when you have had a staff member for decades. We also know that when staff members change, it is important to pause and ask fresh questions about what the church needs going forward. In order to give us the space and time to do that, the Leadership Team has decided not to enter a search and hiring process immediately. Before beginning that process, we anticipate seeking congregational input around questions such as:

- What do we value most about the music and worship at Dayspring?
- What new things might we explore in the future?
- What skill set is most important when searching for our next Music Minister?



For now, we are blessed to have several musicians on staff and within the congregation. We continue to have an excellent musician at the keyboard each week, Stephanie Allee. Both our pastor and youth minister have music degrees. Our pastor has been actively involved in worship planning for Dayspring for seven years. We also have volunteers who have expressed a willingness to continue to help. We will continue to lean on these staff and volunteers as we work to clarify our priorities and the job description for a future minister of music.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a member of the Leadership Team.

Steve Lorberg (Moderator), Jr Stover, Joan Barth, Kate Hanch, Joanne Cuddeback, and Pastor Chris Fillingham (ex-officio)

Reflections on my term as Moderator:

About half way through my term as Moderator, I realized that I was having a great time. I almost felt guilty about it. I'd heard from some of my predecessors that it was a relief to pass the leadership into other hands, but I was not anticipating the end of my term with great glee. I've spent several months considering what it looks like to transition out of leadership in a healthy way and what my role looks like in that process. Now I'm no longer dreading leaving leadership, because we have such a great team in place.

I don't want to be disingenuous. Church life can be frustrating. We all have different perspectives and sometimes it is hard to see another's point of view. But a healthy church listens to one another. Sometimes that means slowing down when we want to press forward, and sometimes that means stepping up when we want to drag our feet. Sometimes that means discovering a new path that we must imagine together. Only God can help us find the right path, and only forgiving one another and "bearing with one another in love" can make healthy church life possible.

Serving in leadership was a lot of work. I was busy, but it felt like useful work. I love my church, and I had lots of chances to work with a variety of members. I prefer to get to know people by working side by side with them, and I had lots of chances to get to know people. But that also means that I had a lot of help. Our congregation never left me hanging. I found out how often the members of our congregation say yes, and it is so heartening. We are a community that serves together and that made leading enjoyable.

What I loved most about being Moderator is that it helped me see myself differently. When we studied the Enneagram, I learned my personality type believes that our presence doesn't matter. It was painful to face that belief, and it was a relief to really consider that it wasn't wholly true. Serving as Moderator helped me to live out that new perspective, and that is something I'm hoping to keep from the experience: the sense of being connected to God through my community of faith. I really love feeling connected to everyone. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Sincerely,
Trisha Crow



Fun at Children's Camp!



Mission and Outreach

Mission Offering: Our July offering is designated for Care and Counseling, which provides support to area clergy and congregations and delivers more than 12,000 hours of affordable counseling, professional training, and community education. Please make your check out to Dayspring Baptist, designated for "Care & Counseling."



Circle of Concern Food Pantry: Circle of Concern feeds the hungry and provides assistance to low-income families living in west St. Louis County.

Current critical needs:
(no glass, please; place in bins in Narthex)

Jelly	Canned Chicken	Aspirin
Cereal	Peanut Butter	Bar Soap
Body Wash	Salad Dressing	Hand Soap

Dayspring collected \$300 in the month of June to support the West Virginia mission project.



Your Church Staff:

Chris Fillingham, Senior Pastor
Lyndsay Williams, Youth Minister
Stephanie Allee, Accompanist
Hannah Allee, Manna Director
Valerie Strate, Administrative Assistant
Brenda Hamm, Nursery Director

Your Leadership Team:

Steve Lorberg (Worship liaison)
President/Moderator
Joan Barth (Hospitality liaison)
Jr Stover (Missions liaison)
Kate Hanch (Spiritual Formation liaison)
Joanne Cuddeback (Stewardship liaison)

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