

# THE BEACON

Harrisburg Christian Church  
201 E Sexton St. PO Box 36



## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

**August, 2025**

Greetings HCC,

The end of July marked the end of our time with our summer staff and our youth minister Alex Lukefahr. I appreciate the investment that these staff members have made in our youth and also am aware of the gap that they leave in our ministry.

One of the things that our congregation has always agreed on is that we want to be a church that helps children and teens know about the Lord and grow in their relationship with Him. For several of our families, one of the primary motivators for their attendance is to help their children know the Lord.

Over the past 12 years we have hired college students in the summer to help with the task of reaching and teaching our youth. We have employed a part-time youth minister since 2012 and hired Alex in 2024 as our first full-time Youth and Children's minister. Alex resigned from the position this summer.

What is our plan for moving forward? Most likely, it involves hiring a new Youth and Children's minister. Most likely that candidate will not be found immediately. This creates some challenges and opportunities in the months ahead. Here are some next steps for us that I would like to invite you to participate in:

1. Join me on August 20th, Wednesday night at 6:30 for a time to look back and look forward.

a. Look back: What are some things that have gone well? What are qualities that Alex and other former staff have possessed that have fit well with our congregation. What is not a good fit? Many have wondered what led to Alex's resignation and I'd like to have some time to answer questions and help clarify the circumstances that led up to his resignation and suggest some ways we can try to learn from the experience.

b. Look forward: What do we hope to get done in the area of youth and children at HCC? In what ways would a staff member be helpful? What are our next steps? Let's pray together that God will meet our needs and guide us.

## CONTINUE...

# THE BEACON

## JOHN'S TIDBITS

2. Help our youth and children participate in Sunday school which is the one age specific event we have planned in the fall. Do you know someone who you could invite or give a ride to church on Sunday morning?

3. Look for ways to share Jesus with our children and youth. We are heading into the school year without a Youth and Children's minister and without someone leading Children's Church during our second service. As of the writing of this article there is nothing planned outside of Sunday School for our youth and children. This is an opportunity to try something. Invite your child's friends to your house for cookies and a Bible story. Plan an after the game party for teens where you invite a teacher, coach or former student to come share their testimony. Use some of the resources we have at church to have spiritual conversations with your child. Read the Lamb book together or watch the Chosen series together. Do a google search for ideas. Lead children's church. Grab some students for a service project. Get involved. If and when we do hire a Youth and Children's minister it will be helpful to have a group of people who have been active in reaching out to students in our community. Staff members need volunteers. Why not start now?

4. Bring children and teens to our worship service, let them see you sing and pray to the Lord, learn from His word, and remember His sacrifice through communion.

God loves you!  
John Gillman

1. Great job once again to Jaimie Sublett and our 60+ VBS volunteers. What a fun week!
2. Thank you to all the financial supporters of this ministry that allow us to have staff and a summer program.



***Let's be in prayer for  
teachers, staff, and  
students as they  
begin to head back to  
school.***

JOIN US ON SUNDAY  
MORNINGS AT  
9AM OR 10:30AM

# Harrisburg Christian Church

## IN OTHER NEWS:

### Operation Christmas Child:

We will have a committee meeting after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service on Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to serve on the committee, or just want more information, please join us.

As school supplies go on sale, stock up for our Shoebox donations!

### Baby Bottle Results:



**BABY BOTTLE  
BOOMERANG**  
Benefiting My Life Clinic

**THANK YOU HARRISBURG  
CHRISTIAN**

**YOU RAISED \$1,175.70  
FOR MY LIFE CLINIC.**

**WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



**It's All About Jesus!**

# UPCOMING EVENTS



*You can be apart of it*



Find an event and get connected!

## Feed the Teachers

01

August 13<sup>th</sup> bring dishes of food to feed our teachers.

## Youth Small Groups

02

Note that Youth Group has ended for all 6-12 grade students.

## Senior Luncheon

03

August 12th in the church basement from 11-12.

## Septemberfest

04

Mark your calendar for September 5-7th.

## Back to School

05

Our students return to school August 19th. Be in prayer for a great school year.

## Harrisburg Cemetery

06

They are accepting donations.  
Jan Sublett  
PO Box 83  
Harrisburg, MO 65256