**A response to the question “why we dance at North Coast Church First Friday events.**

Dear Friend,

Thanks for taking the time to share your thoughts on our First Friday meeting.   I respect your perspective on dancing and hear where you are coming from; we have people from a wide range of theological backgrounds - from conservative to liberal, attending each First Friday event.  We try to present an event that is Christ centered in how we worship and what we teach,
one that is safe for all, and one that is entertaining.

Here is my response to a couple of your thoughts:

First, our building is not a sanctuary in the sense you may be using it since we use our buildings as multipurpose rooms.   Theologically, I believe that a building is not sacred but our bodies are God’s temple since the time of Jesus resurrection and His gift of the Holy Spirit to believers.  We could meet in a warehouse, which is what our church did for many years.

Regarding the sensual nature of some dancing, I agree that the potential is there for sin.  However, the reality is that there is potential for sin with every activity we engage in… eating, talking, the use of phones or guns, etc.  I believe dancing can be something good or it can be neutral (a form of exercise and good clean fun), or it does possess the potential to be sinful.  It really depends on each individual’s heart, attitude and behavior.

**Our “First Friday” events serve several purposes:**

* **It is a place for refreshing and inspiring worship**
* **It is a  place for teaching of God’s Word that targets Single Adults lives**
* **It is a  safe place for socializing for Christian Single adults, especially in an era when very few Christian churches invest the effort to provide such a place**
* **We also make an effort to make FF a safe place for Christian Singles to meet other Christian Single Adults who may be looking for a Christian relationship.   I believe the Church is a very good place to meet a  potential mate, maybe the best.  The truth is wherever you meet someone, that is only the starting point for building a friendship which may or may not lead to a relationship.**

You mentioned “encouraging…” in your note.  I believe that our ministry is accomplishing the purpose of Hebrews 10:25, encouraging Christian Singles to live lives that honor Jesus one another as the day of Christ’s return approaches.  Especially through our Growth Groups, our weekly Saturday4Singles church venue, our activities as well as our First Friday.   We offer many touch points for Christian singles to interact with other Christian singles that are making the effort to live lives of commitment and purity.

Finally, our dances during our First Friday after venues may not be for everyone.  That’s OK, many people come to enjoy the worship, teaching and dessert and skip the dancing when it is on the schedule.  Let’s celebrate what we do agree on, that’s the cool part of being part of the Body of Christ.

Respectfully,
Jim Bouck
Pastor with Single Adults, North Coast Church, Vista, Ca.