

Chris Kern

Your Caring Prosper Neighbor

By: Leslie Scott

If you don't know Chris Kern, it's more than likely you've seen him somewhere in Prosper. Listing his dedication to organizations and how much he is involved in the community takes some time. Incredibly humble, you have to pull them out of him and even remind him of a few as well. You are likely to see Chris at a Prosper Town Council Meeting, a local parade or festival, running errands for an organization, giving his time for a cause, or attending a meeting for an organization. Whatever he is involved in, his heart is guided by a purpose.

Chris is a past deacon at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Plano and although not currently a deacon, he said, "once a deacon, always a deacon." His commitment to the church and its congregation did not end when his position did and he appreciates that. Chris is treasurer for the Prosper Lions Club, supports Bethlehem Place through donations, is a member of Prosper Historical Society, volunteers for Clothe a Child, is on the County Commissioners Park's Board for Myers Recreation Center, and is actively involved in many different aspect of Cornerstone. Chris said he likes to "focus on what the family can be involved in. It's important that my children are engaged and understand issues that others have. They have a blessed life and live in relative safety areas." The organization Chris has been involved with the longest is The Miracle



League. A board member and bowling director, he has been committed to volunteering for over eight of its ten years being offered locally.

When asked what motivates him, Chris answered without hesitation it's his faith. "Jesus told us to love God and love our neighbors and I feel it's really important, especially when we are in such a blessed situation, that we don't just sit there and be blessed, but rather we share our blessings. As people we are imperfect, but the good things that God wants us to do brings lights to other people lives and reflect on Him and not on us." Chris is proud to live in Prosper, "there are so many really good organization and so many great people, and that's one of the reasons we love it here. People are not afraid to jump in and help. Sometimes the bigger organizations don't even get a chance to help because the neighbors in Prosper already took care of it."


Chris has a history of political work in college in Georgia and worked at the state capital. Lately he has become involved in politics again. This background and passion is "why I have a hard time not doing stuff when we see opportunities to jump in and help. Gina and I are doers, bad at being observers, and we just have to jump in and be involved" he said. Chris concentrates his time with organizations that the whole family can be involved in. Going on 17 years of marriage to Gina, she is his partner in giving their time and parenting their three children. Elizabeth



is 16, Ethan 13, and Caroline 10. Chris said, "I like the kids to see organizations like Cornerstone work because they can be involved with every aspect in sorting coats, food, toy sorting and then see the good that's being done for families. We try to help when people are looking for help, not necessary involved holding a position, but help with communication, spreading the word of an event however I can, run an errand, or any smaller assistance."

When asked what Chris does for fun he replied, "we are the most boring people really. For fun we like to be together as a family, having friends over, playing games. We truly enjoy getting together with our neighbors." Chris looks to his Christian strength when imparting life lessons for he and Gina's children. He said he wants them to continue to learn and live by "the two greatest commandments that Jesus shares, to love God and love your neighbors, and those be the guiding principles that help in work, personal life, family, friends and neighbors." Chris said he talks with Elizabeth, his oldest daughter, about what she wants to do with her life he tells her "whatever you do, if you're honoring God and loving your neighbor, it's a motivating factor. There are lots of reasons to go into careers and or do different things with your life, but that should be a guiding principle."

So what's next for Chris? He wants to continue to focus on fine tuning the ways he serves the community, continue to get their kids involved, make sure they don't spread themselves too thin and perhaps get a little deeper into what they are already doing. Chris hopes to "solidify the ways we can help, continue what we are doing and yet keeping an eye on the balance which is important." Chris's family is currently trying to get more involved via a church organization called Embrace Texas. Chris said, "not being foster parents ourselves, but support foster parents. The foster system requires special people and a lot of attention, specifically the foster care program and helping the parents and foster families because they have urgent needs as well."

Prosper is lucky to have Chris. If you don't already know Chris, make sure to introduce yourself when you see him, because you are more than likely to run into him if you live in Prosper. 



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