

**News and Current Events :: `Emergent' churches seek a looser approach**

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FEASTERVILLE, Pa. - (KRT) - The church is a converted machine shop in an industrial park. The choir is three young women, accompanied by drums and guitars. There is no offering plate. Communion is self-serve.

Sunday worship at the Well in Feasterville, Pa., is coffee-house casual, complete with couches and computer stations and an artists' corner. The 40 parishioners, some of whom carry their coffee and doughnuts into the candlelit worship area, favor jeans and shorts. Most are under 30.

The Well is one of a growing number of churches in the "emergent" movement, a disaffected segment of evangelical Christianity that rejects what it sees as the rigidity of the religious right and the timidity of liberal mainline churches.

Brad Jackson, a 33-year-old former seminarian who is the pastor, doesn't so much deliver a sermon as lead a discussion. Today's topic: Christian identity.