



Crossroads Connections

Crossroads Community Church

October, 2016

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Crossroads Community Church
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Office Hours: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.

Senior Pastor: Rev. Michael Quillen

Sunday Worship Services
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School / ESL
9:45 a.m.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

It was a pretty exciting story – worthy of the best Hollywood dramas. There were sudden deaths, mob riots, dramatic rescues, beatings, and soldiers. There were trials, conspiracies, and a nighttime flight to safety. There were courtroom scenes and a dramatic appeal that led to a sea voyage, a shipwreck, a snakebite, and a man chained to a soldier as he awaited trial. Then the story ended.

How did the trial turn out? Did he get away? Did he get killed? What happened next?!

The story is the book of Acts. It ends with Paul in chains. There is no resolution as to how his Roman imprisonment turns out beyond the reference to “two full years in his own rented quarters” (28:30).

Ironically, the very last word of the book (in Greek) describes Paul as “unhindered” (28:31). Surely this refers to his tongue and his pen as he welcomes all comers and writes what we know today as the Bible letters of Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon.

Yet, “unhindered” refers to more than that. Ultimately, it refers to God's purposes, which cannot be chained. The book of Acts is not actually focused upon its leading men (Paul, Peter), or the supporting stars (Stephen, Philip, Ananias). The point of the whole book of Acts is to present the leading man and superstar of all history, Jesus (cf. Acts 1:1-2; 2:22-36; etc.).

Whether it is the disciples (Acts 1), Peter (chapters 2-6), Stephen (chapter 7), Philip (chapter 8), Paul (chapters 9-28) or anyone else, the message about Jesus goes out. Whether in chains (Acts 20-28) or chased from town (e.g. Acts 17:13); in dealing with criticism for accepting Gentiles (Acts 10-11; 15) or persecution for good deeds (chapters 4 and 5), the message about Jesus and the kingdom advances.

That is why even though the book ends with Paul's fate up in the air, it ends in an utterly positive manner. Despite the *chains*, despite the *hostility*, despite the *charges*, Paul proclaims the kingdom and teaches about its king, Jesus.

Jesus remains unhindered in His mission, so there is nothing that can ultimately hinder a Christ-centered life. Even as battles are won, the war is really over. Victory is assured. Jesus is *already* King.

-- In His Service, Pastor Mike Quillen

Session Report



The Session met on September 12th together with the Deacons. The meeting opened with prayer and an exhortation from Scripture by Pastor Quillen. Those present divided into groups to pray for their respective flocks. Afterwards, they discussed various facility related matters as well as the upcoming Prayer Vigil scheduled for September 23rd and 24th. All officers were encouraged to participate in this time of corporate intercession as a church family.

The Session and Deacons separated to address matters of particular concern to them. The Session met with Zack Groff to discuss his recent acceptance of an internship with Covenant Presbyterian Church in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. This is an excellent opportunity for Zack with a congregation that will be able to use his gifts and talents in many ways. The Session thanked Zack for his time of service in multiple capacities over the past few years and encouraged him as he continues with his seminary studies. This portion of the meeting closed with the elders laying hands on Zack and praying for him and Jocelyn, Zoey, Abigail and Judah for God's continued blessing and direction upon them.

The Session continued their meeting and discussed the upcoming fall calendar and preaching schedule including Pastor Quillen's planned leadership development class. They also discussed the children's ministry on Sunday evening for the kindergarten and elementary school students. Pastors Quillen and Van Merebeke plan to work on reorganizing this ministry for the fall term together with the current ministry team.

It was noted that in the past month some have voiced concerns about excessive movement in and about the sanctuary during the worship services. After discussion, it was agreed that this is a matter to be addressed and that the congregation should be encouraged to consider one another and to seek to avoid distracting movement in and out of the sanctuary. We should all endeavor to tarry for one hour.

The Session noted the upcoming joint Presbytery Meeting among the four Philadelphia area presbyteries on Saturday September 17th.

The meeting closed with prayer for the matters discussed and for the congregation.

Missions Highlight



Missionaries representing the Lord Jesus Christ and Crossroads Church serve all over the world, including some of the most dangerous fields in Africa and Asia. By necessity there is an extra level of caution required in bringing their work to our attention. Our most recent visitors, Lee and Emma, are typical of those whose conviction and dedication to bringing the Gospel to those who have never been permitted to hear it, requires that they remain circumspect when they report to us in order to protect their safety and that of the local friends with whom they minister.

They shared with us that there is an interesting dynamic at work in the effect of the radicalization of Islam on evangelism. The brutality and lack of respect for life that is evident in the forced conversion of non-Muslims has had the consequence of the disillusionment of many ordinary Muslims with their faith, who want no part of a

religion whose God sanctions a murderous disregard for even its own adherents. Many have quietly expressed a desire to learn more about a God with a loving nature who converts by the power of His Spirit, not force. They are consequently much more open to dialogue with our missionaries, ironically yielding more witnessing opportunities in the midst of greater risk.

The concept of grace is foreign to Islam so the redemption offered by God Himself at the cost of the life of Jesus (who is recognized in many references in the Quran) is intriguing to many Muslims. Their disenchantment is an opportunity for the Holy Spirit to move in hearts that might not be opened in ordinary times. We must continue to pray for them as we continue to pray for the success and safety of our missionaries who serve them.



For most of a century, Child Evangelism Fellowship® has shared the love of God and the message of Jesus Christ with children and adults around the world. One of our primary methods is through Good News Clubs (GNC) held in schools, as permitted by the United States Supreme Court in a 2001 decision. The decision specifically ruled in favor of the right of Good News Clubs, stating that the First Amendment affords the right to meet on the elementary school campus just like other after-school programs or clubs.



Last year, there were over 77,800 Good News Clubs held around the world reaching boys and girls with the message of the Gospel. Our very own Crossroads GNC team runs two of those clubs, and the next six-week club will be starting at Stonehurst Hills on Thursdays, October 13th through November 17th from 3:15-4:45pm. More than 60 students are expected to attend the club faithfully and tirelessly staffed by 10 volunteers from Crossroads.

Maybe you're asking yourself "HOW CAN I HELP?" Well...PRAY, PRAY, PRAY!!! We need several more helpers! Even if you can only serve once or twice!! We are also asking for SNACK DONATIONS. Appropriate snacks are fruit snacks, cookies and pretzels. You may put your donation in the plastic GNC box in the Narthex. Has your interest been piqued? Take a peek at a day in the life of the Good News Club®...

It's Thursday afternoon and Julie Reese is going over her check list one final time: name tags, GNC schedule, attendance clip boards, Bibles, CEF lessons & song visuals, CD players with CD's, SNACKS (Kids love the snacks and are starving by the time they come to club), jugs of water, paper supplies, "God Can" with paper & pencils. Check! Everything is ready!

Then the phone rings and on the line is a lady with a thick accent asking if her child can attend the GNC today even if his registration form is late. She is assured it is no problem as long as the parent signs the permission form and brings it to the first meeting. She goes on to tell Julie how grateful she is for the Good News Club. This student is from a Buddhist family but they want him to attend the club and learn about Christianity.

A few hours later the team gathers with nervous anticipation by the Principal's office of Stonehurst Hills. Without these 10 volunteers, the GNC would not be a reality. Since there are over 60 kids registered, the club exceeds the capacity of the library so the team needs to split into 2 teams: Grades 1-3 in the library; and grades 4-5 in a large classroom.



How grateful Julie is for their wonderful volunteers from Crossroads:

TEAM 1: Grace Ellis, David Van Meerbeke, Fran Sine, Ashley Aris, and Julie

TEAM 2: Dotty Kelly, Lyle Sine, Fran Froelich, Pat Cavaliere, and Josiah Reese

Every week, the 90-minute schedule is filled with small group time, songs, prayer time, Scripture memory, the Bible lesson, counseling for salvation and fun review games!

Dealing with children is never boring or predictable and each week always presents challenges & surprises. Julie says "I am humbled and grateful for the amazing opportunity to share the gospel with these precious students right in the neighborhood of our own church. CEF® fully equips and trains us for running these clubs. How thrilled I am that we at Crossroads can partner with CEF to reach these schools with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Would you consider joining us? The GNC has blessed me with the privilege of sharing the gospel with kids who may never hear about Jesus and planting seeds that we trust will bear eternal fruit".

Mighty Men's Ministry



During the last year the Mighty Men's Ministry was very active with monthly Men's Breakfasts from October 2015 thru April 2016 on the first Saturday of each month. We have been studying the book series, "Every Man a Warrior: Helping Men Succeed in Life".



In October and November, 2015 we studied Book 2, "Marriage and Raising Children".

In December we had a guest speaker, missionary Cal Rensch, who shared some of his special insights with us. We also had a small men's group (SMG) meeting at Bob Styer's for a Christmas / winter cookout.

January through April 2016, we continued with the series, "Every Man a Warrior", into Book 3, which included the topics: money, sex, work, hard times, and making your life count.

In May we had our Married Couples Dinner.

In June we had a joint softball game / barbecue fellowship with the men of Springtown Lake Presbyterian Church.

In July we held a Mighty Men's Bachelor Barbecue Fellowship to celebrate Nathaniel Nelson's wedding.

Finally the Mighty Men's Ministry sponsored the showing of the movie "War Room", a church-wide event on August 21st as part of "Crossroads in the Summer".

We look forward to the new 2016 / 2017 season when we will continue in Book 3 of the "Every Man a Warrior" series in our monthly Men's Breakfasts, conduct small group meetings, and hold a Men's Fellowship on the third Friday night of each month for an evening of fun and fellowship.

We praise the Lord for His blessing and guidance, and thank all of the men who helped make this ministry a success.

Please join us for the first Mighty Men's Ministry Breakfast of the new season on **Saturday, October 15, 2016 at 8:00 a.m.** at the Applebee's Restaurant in Havertown, in conjunction with the C.E.F. fundraising breakfast.

Brother Eric Wilson
Director, Mighty Men's Ministry

Crossroads Kid's Fair



Nearly thirty years ago a ministry idea was birthed at Crossroads. There was a need for a safe and fun alternative for the traditional trick or treating that many people in our community do on Halloween Evening. The purpose was not to celebrate Halloween but to be hospitable and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed. Pam and Bernie Widger helped get the Kid's Fair on its feet along with the help of many members of our church. After years of service they eventually stepped down in formal leadership. Special thanks to Nancy and Myron Pross and their family for stepping up to continue the ministry for the past several years.

The evening is filled with hundreds of children playing simple carnival type games, and getting candy for their efforts. Snacks are also provided as well as free prizes to a select few. But the main purpose of the evening is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This year we will have David Braun from Open Air Campaigners using his "Gospel Sketch Board" to share the gospel with the children and their parents.

It is a wonderful evening with many youth and adult volunteers needed from the church to help make the Kid's Fair a success, giving glory to God.

Please contact Nancy Pross or Pastor Dave about your willingness to help with this year's Kid's Fair on October 31 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.



Letter from Zack Groff



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is in a bittersweet spirit that I write to you with news of the plans that Jocelyn and I, in God's good providence, have been making for the coming months as I continue my preparations for ministry. In August, I accepted a part-time call to serve as an intern at Covenant Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Cherry Hill, NJ. I have accepted the call, and as a result, Jocelyn, the kids, and I have been worshipping at Covenant on Sunday mornings.

The "bitter" aspect of this recent development is that we are not worshipping at Crossroads. The "sweet" aspect is the support and opportunity that Covenant is providing to me as a seminary student.

The primary responsibility for my internship will be to provide musical leadership during Covenant's Sunday morning worship service. I will also be involved in their worship service planning during my time with them. The congregation has recently combined their two services (contemporary and traditional) into one (blended musical style) in order to promote greater congregational unity and spiritual growth.

In light of this recent change, one of my goals is to encourage the other contemporary musicians to adjust graciously to the blended style of their current worship service. This presents the musicians with a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate Christian charity and love. This is why I think that it's a "wonderful opportunity" into which I'm excited to involve myself.

The Bible presents corporate worship as both an expressive (i.e. Psalm 84:2) and a formative (i.e. Ps. 100) activity. In both aspects, God-pleasing and God-honoring worship is defined and regulated by God's will for worship, as outlined in the Bible. The Bible *never* pictures God-pleasing worship as something to be governed by our own stylistic preferences.

This is a challenging teaching for many of us. And yet, central to our individual and corporate spiritual development is the concept of self-denial for the cause of Christ. Recall Christ's words in Matthew 16:24 – "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me." Certainly this can be applied to our musical preferences in times of public, corporate worship. As we all follow Christ more closely as individuals and as a body, we will also walk together with a greater degree of unity, even though we may trip over each other a little bit along the way.

As I serve as an intern at Covenant, we will continue to attend community events at Crossroads as we are able, and we look forward to seeing you. Finally, please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to check in.

Grace & Peace,
-zg

Finances & Attendance



Report for September, 2016

Date	Attendance			Offerings			
	8:30 a.m. Service	11:00 a.m. Service	Total	Current Fund	Missions Fund	Deacons Fund	Building Fund
4	74	156	230	\$ 5,714.33	\$ 2,195.45	\$ 793.00	\$ 870.00
11	72	148	220	\$ 2,939.75	\$ 881.26	\$ 270.00	\$ 475.00
18	62	169	231	\$ 4,301.09	\$ 1,344.69	\$ 586.00	\$ 375.02
25	71	175	246	\$ 2,839.00	\$ 893.00	\$ 303.00	\$ 517.00
September Totals:				\$ 15,794.17	\$ 5,314.40	\$ 1,952.00	\$ 2,237.02
Current and Missions Fund September Budgets:				\$ 23,477.69	\$ 4,382.23		

Dates to Remember



Church Picnic

Saturday, October 1 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

At Ridley Creek State Park, Pavillion/Site 11-B. Bring a late afternoon meal and a covered dish to share. Beverages will be provided or bring your own. Softball game, kids games and lots of fellowship. **Join us!**

Communion Services

Sunday, October 2 at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Together Experiencing a Ministry (T.E.A.M.) Nights

Wednesdays, October 5 and 19

Come join us in intercessory prayer, dynamic evangelism, friendship and encouragement, discipleship, and spiritual mentoring. Everyone can participate in one of five teams: Prayer; Encouragement; Evangelism; Discipleship; or Hospitality.

Elders' Planning Meeting

Saturday, October 8 at 7:30 a.m.

Officers' Meeting

Monday, October 10 at 7:15 p.m.

Amnion's 33rd Annual Fundraising Banquet

Thursday, October 13 at 6:30 p.m.

At Drexelbrook in Drexel Hill. Guest speaker Leah Raup, a local young woman with a story of forgiveness and grace that will move your heart. See Jack Matsinger for more information.

Mighty Men's Ministry Breakfast &

C.E.F. Flapjack Fundraising Breakfast

Saturday, October 15 at 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

At Applebee's Restaurant in the Manoa Shopping Center. Cost is \$7 per person (\$5 for children under 10). Contact Brenda Smith for more information.

Kid's Fair Setup

Sunday, October 30 at 12:30 p.m.

Pizza will be provided.

Kid's Fair

Monday, October 31 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

A chance for all children to have a safe and enjoyable alternative to Halloween, as well as to hear the Gospel. If you can help, please sign up in the narthex.

Crossroads Sermon Schedule October 2016

October 2

"Coming Back to Earth"

The Lord's Prayer, Part 2
Pastor Mike Quillen

October 9

"Entering Into Your Life"

The Lord's Prayer, Part 3
Pastor Mike Quillen

October 16

"Going Out to the World"

The Lord's Prayer, Part 4
Pastor Mike Quillen

October 23

"So Close, Yet So Far"

Romans 9:1-5
Pastor David Van Meerbeke

October 30

"Mercy!"

Romans 9:6-18
Pastor Mike Quillen



October Birthdays

01 – Jocelyne Keke	11 – Jenny Widger	25 – Ashim Sesay
02 – Michael Batzel	13 – Elijah Ellis	25 – Maragret Zarella
02 – Fran Froelich	15 – Devadatta Gorde	26 – Crystal Rosander
03 – Anne Kelly	15 – Josephine Weah	26 – Onell Traub
03 – Josh Van Meerbeke	16 – Melissa Louis	27 – Kiyah Hill
04 – David Styer	16 – Debbie Matsinger	29 – Judith Njiki
05 – Joyce Buchanan	19 – Zoe Batzel	29 – Daniel Styer
06 – George Hagner	20 – Rosie Ladeau	30 – Dana Coffin
07 – Zach Ellis	21 – Joe Barr	30 – Ellie Quillen
08 – Lisa Needs	21 – Blessed Gbolo	30 – Mark Sarracino
09 – Brahim Mansaray	24 – Marge Madrak	31 – Delores Simmons
10 – Mary Sue Barr	25 – Mark Dolan	

October Anniversaries

02 – Hellen Appio & Joshua Sabiti	21 – Marc and Pamela Wheeler
07 – Brandon and Traci Burks	27 – Dolapo and Gloria Olowu
12 – Jeff and Lisa Needs	

Nursery & Greeter Lists



Report at:

Nursery

Greeters

Oct. 2

8:10 a.m.	Sue Robinson; Amalia Robinson
9:30 a.m.	Sarah Coffin; Heather Smith
10:40 a.m.	Bob Styer; Jhansi Chikkala; Inf.: Naomi Mureria

Fran Froelich; Doris Goe
Maddie Barch
Onye Briggs; Ami Gbolo

Oct. 9

8:10 a.m.	Sarah Melbourne; Shari Melbourne
9:30 a.m.	Joyce Buchanan; David Van Meerbeke
10:40 a.m.	Jermaine Jones; Cindy Van Meerbeke; Faith Ellis; Inf.: Alayna Jones

Mary Finnerty
Sarah Melbourne
Lynn Brown; Ron and Lynette Vessels

Oct. 16

8:10 a.m.	William and Gloria Jarwood
9:30 a.m.	Aminata Sesay; Julia Quillen
10:40 a.m.	Julie Reese; Beth Mulgrew; Inf.: Colleen Kelly

Zonia Smith; Victoria Goodlin
Louines Louis
Helen Davies; Udo Umoh; Emilia Adah

Oct. 23

8:10 a.m.	Pam Widger; Jen Widger
9:30 a.m.	Pam Bronson; Bobbie Smith
10:40 a.m.	Udo Umoh; Uzezi Omuyeh; Inf.: Christy Nelson

Ken Wilson; Anthony Yeboah
Esther Cooper
Kathy Ford; James and Susanna Mahn

Oct. 30

8:10 a.m.	Brook Barzel; Traci Burks
9:30 a.m.	Fran Froelich; Victor Sesay
10:40 a.m.	Peggy Styer; Grace Ellis; Inf.: Chimwemwe Doctor

Brad Wilks; Oretha Dahn
Anne Cherian
Jocelyne Keke; Debbie Barrolle;
Betty O'Dero



October 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Women's Call-In Prayer Line Tuesday at 9:00 p.m. Phone: 605-475-6006 Enter Code: 333732</p>						1 2:00 – 7:00 Church Picnic at Ridley Creek
2 COMMUNION Gospel Praise Rehearsal 12:10 pm	3 7:00 p.m. Prayer at Centennial House	4 9:00 p.m. Women's Prayer Line	5 6:00 Discipleship 7:00 pm T.E.A.M.	6 10:00a.m. Women's Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Revival Prayer 7:30 p.m. CHOIR	7 8:45 am CHEER	8 Elders' Planning Meeting 7:30 a.m.
9 12:10 pm Missions Committee Mtg. Gospel Praise Rehearsal 12:10pm	10 7:15 p.m. Officer's Meeting	11 7:00 p.m. Prayer at Centennial House 9:00 p.m. Women's Prayer Line	12 GROWTH GROUPS	13 11:00 a.m. Revival Prayer 7:30 p.m. CHOIR	14 8:45 am CHEER	15 MMM Breakfast with CEF at Applebee's in Havertown 8:00 a.m.
16 MMM Leadership Meeting 12:15pm	17 7:00 p.m. Prayer at Centennial House	18 9:00 p.m. Women's Prayer Line	19 6:00 Discipleship 7:00 pm T.E.A.M.	20 10:00a.m. Women's Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Revival Prayer 7:30 p.m. CHOIR	21 8:45 am CHEER	22
23	24 7:00 p.m. Prayer at Centennial House	25 9:00 p.m. Women's Prayer Line	26 GROWTH GROUPS	27 11:00 a.m. Revival Prayer 7:30 p.m. CHOIR	28 8:45 am CHEER	29
30 12:30 p.m. Kids Fair Set Up	31 7:00 p.m. Prayer at Centennial House 6:00 p.m. Kids Fair					