

UPDATE FROM PASTOR BYRON

Dear CP,

Greetings from your Church Planter/Missions guy located in Mid City Baton Rouge! I pray all of you are resting in the eternal joy of Jesus - even in the midst of concerns, burdens, and sufferings that exist within every congregation. Learning to live in the "joy" of Christ - no matter the circumstance - is the secret to learning contentment. Pray for me: that my *learning* to be content in Jesus will turn into *living* in contentment with Jesus. (Philippians 4)

On that backdrop, it is my honor to provide an update on the Grace replant. In the last few months, several in the congregation have experienced pain and suffering associated with death, depression, broken marriages, physical health, and difficulties at home. And these are the Christians. We are not exempt from living in a fallen world, suffering temporal effects of sin. We are, however, exempt from the eternal effects of sin. Praise God! We Christians live in Eternal Joy and Hope. We fix our eyes on the world to come where the Author and Perfector of our faith sits at the right hand of God's throne (Hebrews 12,13). Jesus, who endured and conquered sin, spurs us onward in the power of His Spirit to exclaim - even in tears - over and over again to ourselves, to one another, and to watching neighbors, "we are pressed but not crushed, persecuted but not abandoned, struck down but not destroyed."

These days at Grace, within the everyday realities of life, we are being conformed into the image of God's Son. Men (from 6th grade up) are going through discipleship material by Bill Hull, recommended by Pastor Nick. The Women (from 6th grade up) are studying *Spiritual Mothering* by Susan Hunt. The sermon series is 1 Corinthians. We begin chapter 13 on Sunday. We are enjoying a deep awareness of God's presence as we begin the worship gathering with confession and prayer. The men meet monthly to develop spiritual leadership. Prayerfully by year's end, we will formally install deacons at Grace, turning yet another corner in the replant effort. Speaking of year's end, it will be bittersweet. The three-year CrossPoint replant of Grace will conclude. **But there are 11 months left. Don't let up on your prayers. Don't let up on your giving.** God has entrusted many ministries to CrossPoint that cannot happen without prayer and financial support. Stay faithful with praying and tithing. If you don't pray or tithe, please begin. It's foundational to being obedient to God's design for stewardship with our time, money and energy.

I don't want to sign-off before giving an update on the family. Cynthia is now a certified labor doula and is helping pregnant women learn to enjoy pregnancy and birth. Ethan is enjoying 2nd grade of the Classical Conversations homeschool material. Arin will graduate from Mrs. Deanna's Kindergarten class in May. Liam shows his appreciation for superheroes by wearing his Batman costume. Rachel's survival skills are honed daily while playing with the big kids. And, Lord willing, toward the end of February, our home will be blessed with the presence of Townsend Kid #5.

We are so grateful for the way God shows His kindness and greatness to us through you.

Love in Christ,
Byron.

STUDY

ROMANS STUDY

Sunday Mornings at 9:00 AM

The truth in Romans will transform your thinking and convict your heart as you discover the power of the gospel for every area of your life and our world. Join us as we study God's word together in the book of Romans.

HOME GROUPS

The purpose of a home group is to provide an opportunity for Christian relationships to develop within our congregation. All of the home groups meet on Wednesday evenings at various times.

5:30 PM | The Whitehead Home | 70737 | 677-8139
5:30 PM | The Wicker Home | 70817 | 751-4544
6:30 PM | The Curry Home | 70816 | 241-3855
6:30 PM | The Green Home | 70816 | 293-3963
6:30 PM | The Morrison Home | 70810 | 761-1635

LADIES BIBLE STUDIES

Every Tuesday

9:30 AM "Women of the Bible" Call 924-8095 for more information.
11:00 AM "Women of the Bible: 2" Call 313-6074 for more information.
7:00 PM "Women of the Bible: 2" Call 313-6074 for more information.

SUNDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

Sunday Nights at 5:45 PM

Music & Missions in the Large Room on the 2nd Floor of CEB
Mission Friends on the 1st Floor of CEB
English As a Second Language on the 2nd Floor of CEB
Pastor Nick will host an on campus fellowship and ministry opportunity for parents of those attending Sunday Night Activities.

SERVE

BCM MONDAY LUNCH

Monday, February 25 | at the BCM Center

Each Monday a free meal is provided to students on campus as an outreach. CrossPoint will provide the meal on the 25th. We need volunteers to bring desserts and to help serve. If you are interested in helping, email info@crosspointchurch.org for more information.

CROSSPOINT CUPBOARD

The following items are needed: jelly, Bisquick, spaghetti noodles, spaghetti sauce & cereal. Thanks for helping to meet the needs of our community!

CONNECT

A NIGHT OF MUSIC

Friday, February 22 | 7:30 PM | at First Baptist Church of BR

Come experience a taste of music ranging from Appalachian to Tango. The BCM at LSU together with the Baton Rouge Latin American Quartet will hold a concert to benefit North American and International missions and OneLife Projects. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by calling the BCM at 343-0408.

YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, February 24 | 5:00 PM

All youth are invited to join us for a time of worship, food, and fellowship. You won't want to miss this!

M-JAM

Saturday, March 9 | Pineville, LA

M-JAM is a missions celebration for children, grades 1-6, to meet missionaries, worship, and participate in mission activities. The cost is \$25 and includes a t-shirt and lunch. To sign your child up, or if you are willing to be a driver, contact angela@crosspointchurch.org. The deadline to sign up is **February 22**.

SUMMER MISSIONS CAMP

Boys' Camp June 17-21 | Girls' Camp July 15-19

It's time to register boys and girls (grades 1-6) for Summer Missions Camp. Information and forms can be found at judsonretreat.org. The completed form and deposit of \$110 (or \$90 without horseback riding) are due by Sunday, April 7. The balance fee of \$105 will be due two weeks before camp. Please see Gay Ann Tate for more information.

REMINDERS

Deacon's Meeting | Saturday, February 9 | 8:00 AM
Sunday School Teacher Meeting | Tuesday, February 19 | 6:45 PM
Management Team Meeting | Thursday, February 21 | 6:30 PM
Quarterly Members' Meeting | Sunday, February 24 | 5:45 PM

WITH SYMPATHY

CrossPoint extends Christian sympathy to Danny and Gay Ann Tate and family in the death of her brother, Tom Fewell.

CrossPoint extends Christian sympathy to Cissy Wilson, Vicki Briehn and family in the death of their father, Bill Wilson.

CrossPoint extends Christian sympathy to Steven and Charlotte Stevens and family in the death of his cousin, Leo Cannon.

CrossPoint extends Christian sympathy to Durward and Chris Powell and family in the death of her sister, Nell Russell.

ANNIVERSARIES

It is our joy to celebrate the anniversaries of Pastor Byron Townsend and Jared Kingsley. Pastor Byron's leadership and Godly example, both at CrossPoint and Grace, have been a blessing to us over the years. We are thankful for the creativity and vision Jared brings to the publications and his faithfulness to serve in many capacities with a Christ-like example. Happy Anniversary! You are both greatly appreciated.



Byron Townsend
6 Years



Jared Kingsley
1 Year

BIRTHDAYS IN FEBRUARY

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 2 Henry Crouch | 16 Jayson Curry |
| 2 Cricket Case | 17 Tara Taylor |
| 3 Amy Dighton | 18 Lawana Blackwell |
| 3 Hannah Weaver | 19 Bill Taylor |
| 6 Bob Long | 20 Gay Ann Tate |
| 6 Gordon Stablier | 20 Steve Latino |
| 6 Christina Hebert | 21 Grant Weaver |
| 7 Karen Richard | 23 Jacob Whitson |
| 8 Shane Tucker | 24 Joshua Slayton |
| 9 Patrick Weaver | 26 Faye Smith |
| 9 Ella West | 26 Krysten Babin |
| 10 James Thomas | 27 Lynda Van Kerkhove |
| 10 Victoria LeBlanc | 27 Chantelle Whitehead |
| 13 A.J. Melendez | 27 Stephen Prewitt |
| 14 Pat Rea | 27 C.T. Taylor |
| 14 Gail Boyd | 29 Lucas Fridge |
| 14 Ben Nickens | |

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2012

- Tithes and offerings for December were \$60,368.77, while expenses were \$64,969.08 resulting in a deficit for the month of \$4,600.31.
- Through December, tithes and offerings for the year are \$638,971.17, while expenses are \$630,723.43, resulting in a surplus of \$8,247.74. Tithes and offerings have averaged \$53,247.59 while all expenses averaged \$53,560.28.
- Tithes and offerings for 2012 have equaled \$638,971.17. They equaled \$641,229.37 during 2011 for the same time period. Tithes and offerings for 2012 are \$2,258.20 less than 2011.

HELPING CROSSPOINT COMMUNICATE

To help foster better communication at CrossPoint, please take complaints or concerns to Lee Green, Moderator of the Management Team, or Jon Slayton, Chairman of Deacons. Contact Lee at (225) 671-3705 and Jon at (225) 235-8493.

study. connect. serve.



the connection

CROSSPOINT BAPTIST CHURCH



COMMUNITY FAIR

Sunday, February 17 | After the Worship Service

In the New Testament, we see Christians going to the temple together and later gathering in one another's homes. At CrossPoint we seek to model this biblical rhythm by gathering together on Sundays and hosting Home Groups during the week. On this Sunday, each Home Group and Sunday School class will have a station where you can meet leaders and get more information. New Home Groups will be advertised during this time. Our desire is to have home groups throughout the Greater Baton Rouge area. We hope to see all of our church members involved in these small group ministries.

We ask that each family attending bring 2 two liter drinks and one of the food items listed below. Please sign up at crosspointchurch.org/cfl.

- tray of sandwiches
- two bags of chips
- vegetable tray
- fruit tray
- finger desserts (cookies, cupcakes, brownies)

"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common." Acts 2:42-44

Nick Taylor, Senior Pastor
Kevin Whitfield, Associate Pastor
Al Jones, Elder
David Morrison, Elder

Byron Townsend, Missions & Church Planter
Angela Franklin, Minister of Music & Children
Gay Ann Tate, CrossPoint School Director
Sherry Wilson, Minister to Pre-School Children