



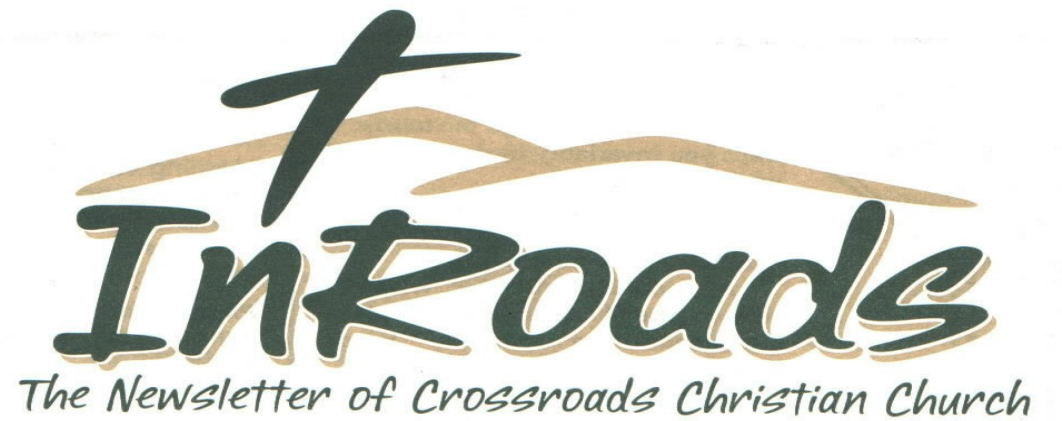
1300 Suncrest Drive
Gray, TN 37615

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Contact us by telephone at:
423-477-2229

Visit us on the web at:
www.crossroadsgray.org

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May 2012

Crossroads Student Ministry

The Greenhouse- The new name for the Student Ministry area is "The Greenhouse: where Christ takes root". 1 Corinthians 3:4-9 tells us that as Christians we are to be involved in the planting (telling Jesus' story) and watering (encouraging others in the faith) and God will make it (faith) grow.



Upcoming Events-

- May 5- Make-up work day for those attending mission trips (@ Camp ACC)
- May 16- Senior Night @ Youth Group
- May 23- Epic Nerf Battle
- May 30- Arts Showcase (students submit artwork)

Weekly Events: Crossroads Student Ministry is for those in grades 7-12

Sunday:

Worship @ 9:30 am

Sunday School @ 10:55 am- All start in The Greenhouse

During the summer months we will combine everyone in The Greenhouse for Sunday morning Bible studies.

Student Life Groups @ 5:45 pm- Meeting in homes

Wednesday: see below

Wednesday Night Youth Group:

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. We are wrapping up the series: Searching for Happiness. May is also the wrap up for regular Youth Group (which will resume in August). Over the summer we will still meet Wednesday nights but every night will have a different look! You won't want to miss out!

- 2 Searching for happiness in Appearances
- 9 Searching for happiness Despite Circumstances
- 16 Senior Night in the gym (families invited to join us)
- 23 Epic Nerf Battle @ Crossroads
- 30 Arts Showcase (students submit artwork, play music, etc.)

Student Life Groups- Life Groups meet Sundays in homes from 5:45 pm - 7:30 pm. We will take a break over the summer from Life Groups. May 13 will be the last one before summer. We will resume Student Life Groups in August.

- 7-8 grade gals at the Aurigema home
- 7-8 grade guys in The Greenhouse
- 9-12 grade gals at the Hunigan home
- 9-12 grade guys at the McNeely home
- 9-12 grade mixed gender group at the Craig home



The Garden @ Crossroads- CCC is planting a ¼ acre garden to help provide vegetables to families in our community who couldn't otherwise afford them. This is a whole church endeavor and we encourage families to get involved in the planting, harvesting, etc. of The Garden. Please contact the church office for more information on how to get involved.

PARENTS- Parents please email andy@crossroadsgray.org so that we can add you to the Parent Email list. These are informational emails that will be sent out regularly. This is an additional means of communication paired with The Table.

Crossroads is using a new platform to communicate church events, prayers, service projects, etc. and we have created a group specifically for parents of 7-12 grade students. Please join us once you have become a member of The Table. To become a member simply go to www.crossroadsgray.org and click "get connected" then select "the table". This will be the primary mode of communication for parents to receive information about Student Ministry events.



Come join us for another great VBS week as we reach out to the Children of our community with the love of Jesus! It takes the entire church to come together to pull off a great VBS! We will be needing over 100 volunteers this year! We will be having two informational meetings. Please plan on attending one of them. There is one last meeting that all volunteers need to attend.

Informational Volunteer meetings:

- **Sunday, May 20**
3:00 PM in the Student Ministry Center.
- **Sunday, May 27**
3:00 PM in the Student Ministry Center.

Last Volunteer meeting (Everyone Attends):

- **Sunday, June 3**
3:00 PM in the Student Ministry Center.

VBS Date:

Monday, June 4 - Friday, June 8

VBS Time:

6:15 - 9:00 PM

Child Registration: YOU CAN REGISTER YOUR CHILD EITHER AT THE VBS TABLE AT THE BACK OF THE AUDITORIUM OR IN THE DIG SITE. (Child registration will begin on May 6.) (Ages 3 - completed 6th grade)

Event Contact: Jim Goehner Phone: 477-2229 ext. 32; Email: jim@crossroadsgray.org



The Right Turn!

by Clint Andrews

No Excuses...

“It’s easy to hide behind excuses, because if your excuse is particularly painful, who’s going to argue with someone who’s been through tragedy, or someone who’s been

emotionally scarred?” That thought is not original with me. (I should only be so sensitive!) I basically swiped that line directly from Kyle Idleman’s sermon series **Not a Fan**. But the reason I latched onto it was...it rang true in my ears. What I mean is, suppose someone offered the reason he or she could not concentrate on becoming a follower of Jesus was because they were going through a particularly painful divorce? Or what if the reason they offered was because they had just lost a child? What if the person was losing their home because of the financial problems in our nation? To use a line from a former President, “Who wouldn’t feel their pain?”

Isn’t that what we do? We put ourselves in their shoes. Who’s going to blame them if they don’t use this tragedy in their life as a springboard to a deeper relationship with God? No one that I know. Most of us would say to that hurting person, “I completely understand. You have good reason to be hurting. I know it’s difficult. I will be praying for you.”

Perhaps we think that way *because* we aren’t in their shoes. We’re afraid that if we were...we wouldn’t even handle things as well as they are handling them. Someone once told me that we “underestimate our ability to handle trials...and over estimate our ability to handle temptation.” Perhaps they are right.

All I know is...when Jesus asked some folks to follow...and they gave excuses...he did not sympathize with them. One man said, “Before I can follow you, I need to be reassured that I’ll be taken care of.” And Jesus said, “If it’s material things you are looking for...look at me. I don’t even have a home.” Another man said, “Before I can follow you, I need to make sure that my family is taken care of.” To which Jesus replied, “Now’s the time to obey.” And still another said, “Before I can follow you, I need to take some time for me.” And Jesus answered him, “Only those who choose to follow right now are fit for the Kingdom of Heaven.” (My paraphrase of Luke 9:57-62)

Not a lot of sympathy for their plight on Jesus’ part.

I’m sure those folks weren’t just making up “my-dog-ate-my-home-work” excuses. On the contrary, I am positive their “excuses” were real and immediate. But Jesus makes it crystal clear that the choice is completely ours. That he will not take second place in our lives. As he said elsewhere, we must love him more than anything or anyone else. That we can’t serve two masters. We must choose.

And so Jesus comes to Matthew the tax collector...and says to him, “Come follow me.” The Bible tells us Matthew was sitting in his tax-collector’s office at the time. And Matthew’s response becomes the model we ought to pay attention to. He doesn’t find someone to take his place. He doesn’t give a two-week notice. He doesn’t even inform the authorities he is taking another position. He simply leaves everything to follow Jesus. I picture him sitting at his desk with two piles of money in front of him. One belonging to Rome. The other his. Matthew doesn’t even sweep his pile from the desk and into his suit pocket. He simply leaves it all to follow the rabbi Jesus. No excuses.

What about us? Every day we can see the evidence of our choice in the things we do...or don’t do. A bright and sunny Sunday finds us at the lake, not in church. A ball game for our kids sends us to the park...and not to Wednesday night services. A day of hard work finds us relaxing in front of the TV and not having prayers with our kids. We may say we are followers...but what does the evidence of our life say? Or are we just offering real and immediate excuses?

Crossroads Christian Church
477-2229
www.crossroadsgray.org

Larry Albrecht, Adult Discipleship Minister
483-5503

Clinton Andrews, Senior Minister
791-1234

Rob Aubrey, Community Involvement Minister
791-2719

Tempa Bader, Music Minister
926-0325

Curtis Booher, Associate Minister
543-7989

Jim Goehner, Children’s Minister
557-6385

Andy McNeely, Student Minister
217-521-5768

Carter Warden, Worship Minister
753-2222

Robin Johnson, Secretary
477-2229

SUNDAY STATISTICS

April 1, 2012

Morning Worship	553
General Offering	\$14,541.85
Covenant Offering	\$2,246.00

April 8, 2012

Morning Worship	925
General Offering	\$20,883.69
Covenant Offering	\$6,302.00
Special Covenant Offering	\$9,090.00

April 15, 2012

Morning Worship	571
General Offering	\$13,913.40
Covenant Offering	\$9,228.00

April 22, 2012

Morning Worship	574
General Offering	\$19,742.03
Covenant Offering	\$2,858.33

Please note: The 2012 General Fund budget requires an average weekly offering of \$16,134.62. The weekly Covenant needed—\$7,307.69.

Sunday, May 27, 2012, 6:30pm

Boones Creek Christian Church

305 Christian Church Road, Gray, TN 37615

An area-wide mass choir will be featured in this concert. The choir will include members from the Crossroads Adult Choir.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS!
The Gray Community Chest is in need of the following food items:

- Canned Meats
- Spaghetti & Sauce
- Boxed Mac & Cheese
- Chef Boyardee products—ravioli, spaghetti & meatballs, etc.

If you would like to donate items, please place them in the designated container in the Lobby. Your help will be greatly appreciated.



Thursday, May 3
6:30 p.m.

Carry-in salad supper

Entertainment:
Storyteller—Linda Poland

Please bring a salad to share (meat, pasta, jello, green/veggies, etc). Bread, crackers, drinks and desserts will be provided. THIS IS A FREE EVENT, however, we’re asking everyone to sign up in order to know how many people to make arrangements for. This event is for women and girls of all ages! Bring friends, neighbors, mothers, daughters, aunts, cousins, nieces....all are welcome! Sign-up in the lobby.

The King’s Kids
present



and

The Cherub Choir
presents

THE FRIENDSHIP FESTIVAL

Sunday, May 6
6:30 p.m.

5. Summer Church Camps at Camp ACC -

If you haven't registered your child to attend a session at Camp ACC, please pick up a Camp ACC brochure and take a look. Children's lives are brought closer to Jesus during each day they spend at camp! There are several sessions to choose from. Camp ACC brochures can be found at the Children's Check-In Centers.

6. Important Dates for Your Spring/Summer Calendar -

Thursday, May 3	Club 56 Prayer Breakfast at Sittin' Bull
Sunday, May 13	Baby Dedication Sunday
Sunday, May 20	Vacation Bible School (VBS) Volunteer Meeting
Sunday, May 27	Vacation Bible School (VBS) Volunteer Meeting
Sunday, June 3	Vacation Bible School (VBS) Volunteer Meeting
June 4-8	Vacation Bible School (VBS)
Sunday, June 17	Young Discipleship Team Meeting
Tuesday, June 19	Terrific Tuesday
Tuesday, July 10	Terrific Tuesday
Tuesday, July 24	Terrific Tuesday
Sunday, July 29	Young Discipleship Team Meeting
Saturday, August 4	Club 56 Kick-Off Party
Sunday, August 5	Promotion Sunday
Sunday, August 5	7th Grade Orientation to Student Ministry
Wednesday, August 15	Wednesday Night Fall programming starts

- Please look in the bulletin and Newsletters for more details.

DECISIONS

April 1, 2012

Baptism

Calvin Wingate—3 Parwood Ct.
Johnson City, TN 37601

Chris Chalkley—226 Douglas Chapel Rd.
Jonesborough, TN 37659

April 8, 2012

Baptism

Matthew Miller—169 Buchanan Rd.
Jonesborough, TN 37659

Matthew Sinkes—709 Ballards Pvt. Dr.
Blountville, TN 37617

April 15, 2012

Baptism

Haddie Lunsford—154 Dean Archer Rd.
Jonesborough, TN 37659

Laine McGriff—7 Grassy Circle
Gray, TN 37615

April 22, 2012

Baptism

Nathan Jones—13054 Hwy. 226 N
Bakersville, NC 28705



News

1. Parents! Check out the May Issue of the Parentlink Newsletter!

It is packed full of information and activities for you and the entire family! Pick one up at the Children's Information Center! We will be printing the Parentlink monthly and will be available to you the first Sunday of each month!

2. Club 56 Prayer Breakfast -

The 5th & 6th graders along with their parents are invited to a special time of worship, devotion, prayer & breakfast as we honor National Day of Prayer. I will be making arrangements at the schools for excused tardiness on that day for those that attend. All 5th & 6th graders should be receiving a letter in the mail no later than Wednesday, April 23. Please let me know if your child is planning on attending no later than noon on Tuesday, May 1 by either calling me at 477-2229 (ext. 32) or by emailing me at jim@crossroadsgray.org.

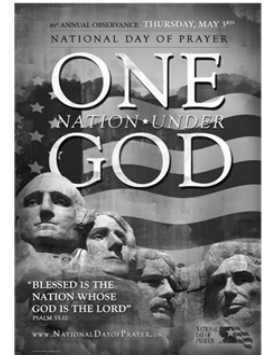
Date: Thursday, May 3

Time: 7:30 AM

Place: Sittin' Bull Restaurant in Gray

Event Contact: Jim Goehner **Phone:** 477-2229 ext. 32;

Email: jim@crossroadsgray.org



3. Baby Dedication Day -

Date of Event: Sunday, May 13

Time of Event: During the Morning Services

Place: Worship Center

We will be devoting part of the service that day to introduce all the babies that were born from May, 2011 to the present and their families to the church. If you have a baby that you would like to be a part of this special day, please let us know by either placing your name, baby's name and phone number on the list that is located at the Check-In Table in the Nursery or you can call the church office at 477-2229 and leave the details or you can email us at jim@crossroadsgray.org.

4. Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Come join us for another great VBS week as we reach out to the Children of our community with the love of Jesus! It takes the entire church to come together to pull off a great VBS! We will be needing over 100 volunteers this year! We will be having two informational meetings. Please plan on attending one of them. There is one last meeting that all volunteers need to attend.

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