



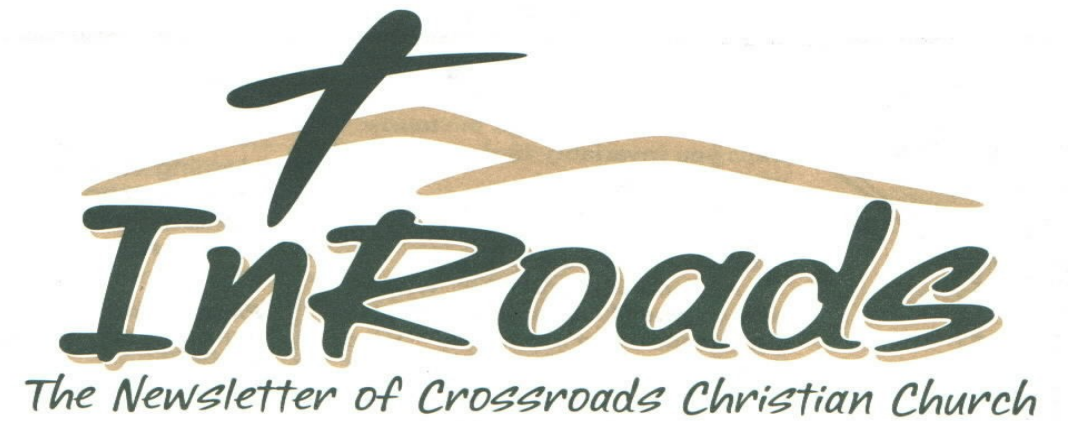
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Contact us by telephone at:  
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Visit us on the web at:  
www.crossroadsgray.org

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September 2011

## Crossroads Student Ministry

### 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 Youth Room

Small Groups @ - Meeting in homes

7-8 grade students at the Aurigema home

9-12 grade guys Purity Group at the McNeely home

9-12 grade gals Purity Group at the Caraway home

9-12 grade mixed gender group at the Craig home

Wednesday: see below

### Wednesday Night Schedule:

9/7: Creation vs. Evolution

9/14: How do you know if the Bible is true?

9/21: POTLUCK! Bring a side dish. We will answer student questions about life, the Bible, and anything else.

9/28: God's Word: Authoritative and Accurate

**Small Groups Kick-off Night of Service-** To commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of September 11, 2001 the Student Ministries will be focusing on serving our community. Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm all of the Small Groups will be doing acts of service throughout Gray. Meet at the church and wear clothes to work in. If you're interested in being in one of the Small Groups please sign up in the Youth Room.

**Sunday School-** School has begun and we have lots of students joining us on Sunday mornings, so starting September 4 we will be splitting into several Sunday School classes. 7-8 grade students will meet downstairs beneath the gym in a classroom and so will the 9-10 grade students. 11-12 grade students will meet in the Student Ministry Building. This semester we will be studying Old Testament Characters.

**Youth Group-** Wednesday nights from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm we will be taking a look at some difficult questions people have about Christianity. We'll have different speakers throughout the study and we'll have break out discussions so you can join the conversation.

**Fall Retreat-** As we gear up for the Fall Retreat, October 14-16 is fast approaching. If you're thinking about attending, please sign up in the Youth Room. If you would like to create a music video to be shown on the retreat please submit it to Andy by October 1.



Church doesn't end just because the worship service is over. "Church" is the body of Christ seeking God's kingdom, not just an event on Sunday morning. Prayer, service, study and fellowship are important aspects of faith that shouldn't be restricted to the hour we sit in church. That's what the Table is all about. It's a private social network, just for our church, that enables us to connect 24/7, not just on Sunday.

The Table is our new online community at Crossroads. Pull up a chair!

### **How do I join?**

Starting Sunday **September 4th** you will be able to sign-up for the Table. This can be done one of two ways. The first is to go to [www.crossroadsgray.org](http://www.crossroadsgray.org) and click on the "Get Connected" button. From there just select "The Table" tab and follow the sign up instructions. If you get stuck there are helpful tutorials along the way. After you sign up find your class or group and join in on the conversation. The second way to get signed up is to visit the information center on September 4th where someone will assist you in the process. Remember, to access The Table you will need an email address and an internet connection.

### **5 reasons to sign up for the Table:**

1. *Connect names and faces. Let's face it, most of us are horrible with names, but the Table gives us a cheat sheet (assuming you upload your profile picture!).*
2. *With two services and multiple buildings, it's easy to feel like those 10:55 people belong to a different church. The Table allows us to connect even if we never do on Sunday.*
3. *The Christian life is not a broadcast of information from the church staff to the members. It's a conversation. The Table gives everyone a voice in that conversation.*
4. *The Table is a way for you to find out about volunteer opportunities and needs in our community. You won't have to wait for the Sunday bulletin to get involved in the ministries at Crossroads.*
5. *Many of our Sunday School classes and LifeGroups will be using the table to connect. Groups will be able to post prayers, have discussions, volunteer to serve, post lessons, and so much more.*

To join The Table just go to [www.crossroadsgray.org](http://www.crossroadsgray.org) and click on the "Get Connected" tab. From there just click on "The Table" and follow the sign-up prompts.

We look forward to seeing you on The Table!



# The Right Turn!

by Clint Andrews

## CrossRoads Christian Church

Just in case you are not aware, we are approaching a very big day in the history of our congregation! Our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Yeah! All of us on staff are in the process of planning the celebration...and while I don't want to give away any details...I can tell you it is an occasion you won't want to miss. So look for announcements in the near future. And mark your calendar. The BIG DAY will be November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011!

In the mean time...I recently ran across an article by Will Mancini, who writes for ChurchLeaders.com, that caused me to spend some time thinking about our next ten years. Mancini's words forced me to wonder whether or not our vision is still relevant when it comes to ministry for the next decade? That is, is it time to recast our original vision...or is it time to come up with an entirely new one?

Before I address those questions, here's Will Mancini's short article:

### 6 Signs You Are Coasting on Original Vision

By Will Mancini

<http://www.willmancini.com/2011/08/6-signs-that-you-are-coasting-on-original-vision.html>

*I was recently dialoguing with a very successful pastor about the ten-year vision horizon of the large church he pastors. He made a striking comment. "I don't want to coast on original vision." It made me wonder, how do you know if you might be coasting on a vision that "used to be"?*

1. You use adjectives that position the vision as historical: original, founding, previous, last season, former chapter, etc.
2. You have increasing realization of how far God has taken your ministry in the last five or ten years.
3. You actually feel less excited about the ideals, aspirations, or pictures of the future you used to have.
4. People around you express more questions about the future and show increasing curiosity for things like clarity.
5. You don't hear younger generations say anything that resembles the vision as it was previously expressed.
6. You have updated your campus or changed your key players once or twice without revisiting the vision.

Like most folks, as the years have passed, my eye sight has started to fade. No. I'm not going blind. I'm trying to make a point. Each year my eye doctor ratchets up my prescription a smidgen. It doesn't bother me. Except in one area of my life. The shooting range.

I have noticed the last couple of years that I can no longer look down my handgun and see both the sights and the target. I have to choose one over the other. If I look at the bull's-eye...my sights are blurred. If I look down the sights the target is a little fuzzy. So I have to choose. The way I compensate is to look at my sights first. Line them up the way they are supposed to go...then look downrange at the target...all the while taking care not to tilt my gun. And if I've been successful, I can come pretty close to the bull's-eye. But as you can guess, I'm not very successful. In fact, I've come to the place where I'm happy if I just group my shots in about a 4 inch circle at 25 feet.

I rather think church vision is very similar. You can look at where you are aiming...or you can look at the present reality. But it's hard to focus on both because they are often mutually exclusive.

My vision has always been to see a younger congregation that catered to families of small children. Adding Jim Goehner and Andy McNeely to Crossroads' staff was a huge part of that dream. But the reality is we are a congregation that draws people from all age groups.

Perhaps it is time to focus on a new vision...one that takes into account a healthy ministry to people of all ages and needs. One that still works under the modus operandi of Go, Show, Grow and Know. In any case, I'm thinking and praying about it...

What was it Paul wrote...about trying to be all things to all people? Not sure we can do that, but still, it's time to revisit our vision.

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Jim Goehner, Children's Minister  
557-6385

Andy McNeely, Student Minister  
217-521-5768

Carter Warden, Church Administrator & Worship Leader  
753-2222

Robin Johnson, Secretary  
477-2229

## SUNDAY STATISTICS

### August 7, 2011

Morning Worship	603
General Offering	\$21,653.00
Covenant Offering	\$10,106.00

### August 14, 2011

Morning Worship	600
General Offering	\$14,014.00
Covenant Offering	\$1,146.00

### August 21, 2011

Morning Worship	607
General Offering	\$14,552.75
Covenant Offering	2,784.95

### August 28, 2011

Morning Worship	579
General Offering	\$15,418.50
Covenant Offering	\$19,034.31

**Please note:** The 2011 General Fund budget requires an average weekly offering of \$15,575.00. The weekly Covenant needed—\$7,307.69.

## DECISIONS

### August 7, 2011

#### Baptism

Bill Dunlop

There will be a



## BRIDAL SHOWER

for  
Alex Coffey

Sunday, September 11

3:00—4:30 p.m.

Lower Auditorium

She is registered at Target and Bed, Bath & Beyond.



CrossRoads Christian Church

## Mark Your Calendar for Crossroads 10th Anniversary Weekend!!

\*\*Nov. 19th—9:00-Noon

### Service Day in our Community

Part of the weekend celebration will involve service in our community. We'd like to have hundreds (Yes, hundreds) plan to serve in Gray as we work together on community projects.

\*\*Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>—Combined

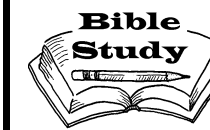
### Worship Service

9:30—10:15 a.m. Fellowship Time in Student Ministry Room — Juice, Coffee, Doughnuts — Photograph displays of past years.

10:30—Noon—Combined Worship Service. Celebrating God's Faithfulness—Looking Forward to What God Has For Us in the Future.

Continue to watch for more details in the coming weeks.

## Women's



## New Fall Women's Bible studies are beginning!!

Please sign-up at the Information Center.....pick the time and study that fits YOUR needs.

➔ Priscilla Shirer's One in a Million: Journey to Your Promised Land. (lasts 7 weeks). "Experience your deliverance. Conquer your wilderness. Claim your inheritance. Priscilla encourages participants to fully engage in the abundant life God has waiting for those who will allow Him to take the lead in daily living." Member books can be purchased at LifeWay. This study is being offered at the following times:

**Wednesday Morning:** starts September 14th at 9:30 AM in the lower auditorium—Leader: Portia Sams (477-8598)

**Thursday Evening:** starts September 15th at 7:00 PM in a downstairs classroom (depending on the size of our group) - Leader: Cindy Freeman (477-2729)

➔ No Other Gods by Kelly Minter—Looking for a relational yet deep approach to Bible study? Ready to merge Scripture with "real life"? Are you longing for something that will feed your soul? Then come join us as we begin a journey that makes room for God by confronting the modern-day idols that clutter and claim our hearts. Our new study of No Other Gods, was written by Kelly Minter who is an acclaimed author, songwriter, worship leader, speaker and musician. Books can be purchased at LifeWay. This study is being offered at the following time:

**Wednesday Night:** starts September 14, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in Room C (downstairs) - Leader: Sandy Carty (833-2793)

➔ It's time...to begin the new Once-A-Month Bible Study series!! This is a great opportunity for those who are short on time or who want to "try out" a Bible study. **We will meet the last Monday of each month** at 7pm in the Lobby classroom **beginning August 29th**. Our study, "Wising Up Wherever Life Happens," includes sessions on wisdom with our money, wisdom with our friends, wisdom at work, and wisdom as a wife and mom. No book to buy, no sign-up necessary, just show up and wise up! This study is based on Proverbs and is led by Beth Moore via DVD teaching. We will add some group discussion, laughter, and prayer for a fun and God-filled evening. If you have questions, please contact Twyla Trujillo at [joetwylat@gmail.com](mailto:joetwylat@gmail.com) or 477-3314.



(for adults close to 50 & older)

Due to unforeseen circumstances we're canceling the Sept. 10th outing.

➔ We'll have a time to enjoy fall foliage on October 22. More details to come.

➔ December 17—2:00 p.m. - Barter Theater—"A Christmas Carol" - reservations will need to be made early. More details to come.

**5. Parents! Check out the September 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!

**6. Important Dates for Summer/Fall Calendar -**

<b>Saturday, September 10</b>	<b>Club 56 Creeper Trail Bike Ride</b>
<b>Sunday, September 18</b>	<b>KidZone (Children's Ministry) Volunteer Lunch/Workshop</b>
<b>Sunday, September 25</b>	<b>KidZone (Children's Ministry) Volunteer Lunch/Workshop</b>
<b>Sunday, September 25</b>	<b>Young Discipleship Meeting</b>
<b>Saturday, October 15</b>	<b>KidZone (Children's Ministry) Volunteer CPR Training</b>
<b>Sunday, October 23</b>	<b>Young Discipleship Meeting</b>
<b>Monday, October 31</b>	<b>Candy Carnival</b>

**7. Crossroads Kids Children's Ministry - A GREAT PLACE TO SERVE:**

With the opening of the Dig Site, there comes many opportunities for us to get involved in serving. Several areas of the Children's Ministry are looking for volunteers. If you are interested in being a part of the Children's Ministry please contact Mr. Jim. There are many blessings just waiting for you! Please contact Jim Goehner (Children's Minister) for more details: Call 477-2229 ext. 32 or email [jim@crossroadsgray.org](mailto:jim@crossroadsgray.org).



## News

**1. CrossPath Children's Ministry Programming Has Started!**

When: Wednesdays

Time: 7:00 - 8:00 PM (Nursery opens at 6:30)

Who: Babies - 6th Grade

Come out and join us as we grow in our relationship with God and each other!

Contact Information: Mr. Jim at 477-2229 (ext. 32) or [jim@crossroadsgray.org](mailto:jim@crossroadsgray.org)

**2. Club 56 Bike Hike on the Creeper Trail**

**When: Saturday, September 10 from 7:00 am – 3:30 pm**

**Where:** We will meet in the lower parking lot at 7:00 AM

**What to Bring:** Your bike, helmet if you have one, water bottle for on the trail and a jacket (wear appropriate clothing—it will probably be chilly).

**Cost:** \$18.00 for adults; \$14.00 for kids 12 and younger (This includes the trail fee & pizza afterwards.) If you want to purchase a snack along the way at one of the stores, please bring some extra cash.

**Sign Up:** At the KidZone Information Table on the 2nd floor of the Dig Site. **(Must sign up by Sunday, September 4.)**

**Parents Are Needed:** We are in need of adult supervision and transportation. We will be using the church trailer to transport all of the bikes. If you can help, please let Mr. Jim know by either placing your name on the sign-up sheet, emailing [jim@crossroadsgray.org](mailto:jim@crossroadsgray.org) or by phone at 477-2229 (ext. 32).

**3. "Eat Lunch with Mr. Jim"**

In an effort to get to know the kids better, I will be going into the elementary schools to eat lunch with the children of Crossroads. This Sunday, there will be information forms at the Children's Information Table on the second floor of the Dig Site. If you have a child in Kindergarten – 6<sup>th</sup> grade, please fill out one of the forms and drop it in the box (one per child). I will be picking a different name out each week.

**Event Contact:**

**Name:** Jim Goehner **Phone:** 477-2229 ext. 32

**Email:** [jim@crossroadsgray.org](mailto:jim@crossroadsgray.org)

**4. Young Discipleship Meeting:**

**Date of Event:** Sunday, September 25

**Time of Event:** 4:00—5:00 PM

**Place of Event:** The Lab 56 Room of the Dig Site (Building #2)