



CrossWay Community Current

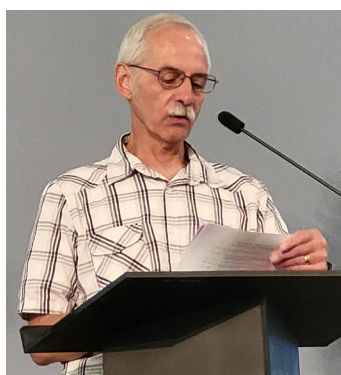
an Evangelical Free Church

3950 Burton SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546 • 616.949.5690

AED-equipped, wheelchair accessible • www.crosswaygr.com • crossway.communitygr@gmail.com

Getting down to business

CrossWay's congregation met on Sunday, May 19, to hear reports from the pastor and ministry leaders and approve the 2024-25 budget prepared by the Elder Board. We acted positively on the report of the nominating committee, retaining Scott Montgomery, Michael Stevens, and Dennis Veurink on our Elder Board and adding Wendell Gafford, all for two-year terms. The Board will elect its officers at its June meeting. We also received six new church members, bringing our official numbers to 74. Welcome, Jed and Jocelyn Ostoich, Sally Ehrhardt, Carol Gerlach, Alison Kane and Austin Snoeyink.



Great thanks to Bob Greenhoe, *left*, for his six years as our church treasurer. Bob is leaving the Board on a high note after several terms in leadership for CrossWay, managing our funds in lean times and years of great blessing, with detailed reports annually.



Mark Mohr brought a report to the congregation on a new home for the podcasts he has produced with Pastor Bob Manuel — CrossWay's internet "radio station" named "New Beginnings Music Radio." Mission Statement: "We share the

Ministry Coordination

Communication and effective ministry is the goal for Cody Hinkle's new role as ministry coordinator. He's already held two leadership meetings to get started.



Gospel with a needy and lost world around us, including those who have fallen away from the church over the years. And, to encourage believers to be lights in a dark world that stand by one another and serve Christ. To help us all prepare for Jesus's soon return."

This new outreach can be heard via a tag at the right side of the church website home page: **Podcasts, Radio and Blogs**. Enjoy Christian music, the pastor's sermons, and other features. Mark is seeking announcers from the congregation, particularly "younger voices."

Room Use Coordination



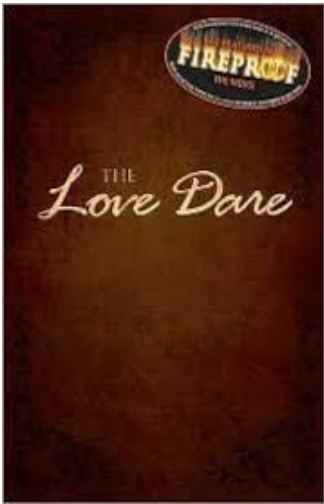
As our opportunities grow, the need to "coordinate" our room usage is also becoming apparent. If you want to schedule an event, ministry or social, at CrossWay, please contact Marcy Greenhoe to complete a room reservation request so that we don't overlap our activities.

Example: The recent meet-n-greet for Julia Stevens

Coming Up at CrossWay Community

Sundays • 9:30^{AM} • Prayer, south wing classroom
 Sundays • 10^{AM} • Gather for worship together
 Tuesdays • 1^{PM} - 3^{PM} • Neighborhood prayer walk
 Wednesdays • 6:30^{PM} • Underhill Club
 Sat., June 1 • 9^{AM} • Men's breakfast @ Bob Evans
 Sat., June 1 • 9^{AM} • Women's breakfast @ Russ's
 Sun., June 2 • 11:30^{AM} • All church prayer meeting
 Sun., June 9 • 11:30^{AM} • Summer Missions at CrossWay
 Wed., June 5 • 7^{PM} • Elder meeting
 Sat., June 15 • 9^{AM} • PRC Walk for Life
 Sun., June 23 • 11:30^{AM} • Summer Missions at CrossWay
 Sat., June 29 • Day of the Christian Martyr

New to the CrossWay library ... on the book table in the lobby



Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.
I Corinthians 13:7-8

Prepared like a diary, this quality paperback can be borrowed and supplemented with your own notes on your own paper (please don't write in the book's pages!). *The Love Dare* is a journal with plenty of scripture and lots of wisdom to ponder about love and relationships. Intended to strengthen marriages, it is "a 40-day challenge for married couples to understand and practice unconditional love."

The book's name might ring a bell; it was published in conjunction with the blockbuster movie *Fireproof* and was featured in that groundbreaking film as an aide to the rescue of a marriage on the rocks. To quote the publishers: "Whether your marriage is hanging by a thread or healthy and strong, *The Love Dare* is a journey you need to take ... to learn the keys to finding true intimacy and developing a dynamic marriage."

Thanks for a job well done!

A beautiful day and several willing backs and hands spruced up the outside of the church on May 18, and we've been enjoying the results ever since.

Trimmed and mulched gardens with new borders, welcome us and visitors from our newly repaved parking lot.



And lots of willing arms and backs moved our "Evening in Bethlehem" set pieces to off-campus storage to free up the space in our south wing.

thank
you



more photos on our last page!

An opportunity to make a difference

The annual Walk for Life, to raise funds and awareness for the Pregnancy Center of Grand Rapids, will step off at 9 a.m. from the PRC office at 415 Cherry St. SE, on Saturday, June 15; that's Fathers Day weekend. Collect donation pledges from friends and walk with others to honor and aid the life-saving work of the PRC – or just use the occasion to make your own donation to boost the work of this Christ-honoring ministry. Theme for this year's walk: "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Rom. 12:12
If you'd like to sponsor a walker, please contact Bernie Burt.



Summer Missions Double Header

Leading off our Summer Missions at CrossWay series will be our own Matthew Robles, who spent five days in Budapest, Hungary, encouraging our church planting missionaries Kate and Matyas Kondor. Matthew will be sharing photos and insights and generally reporting to our congregation, which supported his April visit. The Kondors have been generous in their praise for the support Matthew brought them, and he has many stories to tell of the vibrant work of the Kondors and the Budapest City Team deployed by EFCA/ReachGlobal, our denomination's mission advance arm. **11:30 a.m. June 9.**



Peter and Debra Bors paid CrossWay a brief visit in April and plan to return this month to bring us a program concerning the work of our denomination's service team approach to natural disasters.

The couple works directly with Mark Lewis, who responded on behalf of EFCA to Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and birthed this branch of ReachGlobal. He and his staff organize volunteer teams from EFCA churches to assist local congregations in putting lives back together in the wake of hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, and even wars, both stateside and internationally. **Meet the Borses 11:30 a.m. June 23.**

You're welcome to add to CrossWay's support for the Kondors. Write tax-deductible checks to
EFCA - ReachGlobal
attn: Donor Services - gift designation #2348 — Kondors
901 East 78th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55420
or
Online -- <http://bit.ly/kondorgiving>

Check out opportunities to serve with Crisis Response:
<https://crisis-response.ministries.efca.org/>

The Borses do not receive financial support from CrossWay. However, they welcome individual support. Write tax-deductible checks to
EFCA - ReachGlobal
attn: Donor Services - gift designation #2203—Bors
901 East 78th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55420

Marking the day



According to church tradition, June 29th is the anniversary of the Apostle Paul's martyrdom. Christians around the world reflect this day on the legacy of those who have given their lives to spread the Good News of Christ's death and resurrection, paving the way for our salvation.

This year, The Voice of the Martyrs commemorates the day by remembering the Christians who were persecuted in Mosul, Iraq, ten years ago. At that time, militants from the self-proclaimed Islamic State (ISIS) advanced across Syria and northern Iraq. As they entered each village, they marked Christians' homes and businesses with the Arabic letter "N," or ن, for "Nazarene."

This symbol served to identify and threaten Christians, who then had a difficult decision to make: Convert to Islam, leave the area or be killed. This month, we honor the costly stand many took to bring glory to God in a dark time and place.

Save the dates...

- June 9 ... Matthew Robles, short-term encouragement trip to Hungary
- June 23 ... Peter & Debra Bors, ReachGlobal Crisis Response
- July 21 ... Tom & Dora Becker, ReachGlobal Roma Network
- August 11 ... Mike Ward
- August 25 ... Melva, retired from East Asia
- September 8 ... Dr. Luke & Nancy Cutherell, retired from Bach Christian Hospital, Pakistan

Persecuted pastor released!



Pastor John Cao, an American citizen, was imprisoned for 2,555 days by the Communist Chinese government for his work in assisting North Korean refugees. The Voice of the Martyrs announced he was released in March. Praise the Lord!

More photos from
our great workday crew!



*A big thank-you
to all our work
crew & to Bob
Johnston for his
stewardship as
Bldg & Grounds
elder!*

