

CROSSROADS

newsletter



Growing in the Quietness

BY PASTOR BEN ELLISON

Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children—

Deuteronomy 4:9 (ESV)

A common theme in Deuteronomy 4 is remembering God's faithfulness. Here, Moses is imploring the Israelites to not forget how incredibly faithful, merciful, loving, and caring God has been to them. He begs them to not forget several times; otherwise, life will get hard again.

Moses' words to the Israelites still ring true today. We, as sinful people, so easily forget God's goodness and faithfulness in our lives over and over again. Whenever we face anything hard or difficult, we tend to try to fix things ourselves or go to God only seeking provision. We forget to be thankful and we forget how God has provided time and time again.

God has already proven Himself to us too many times to keep count - just think about it. Who are you today? What opportunities have you had? What gifts were you born with? How many people and things have you been blessed with over the course of your life? Probably too many to count. Yet, we often still live our lives in fear and anxiety of tomorrow...

Summertime is often a season of quietness for many - it's a time for easier reflection. Kids' activities have usually slowed down a bit, church has less going on, and you seem to have even just a few more moments in your schedule to fill, to some degree. It may not always feel that way, but there are usually less things going on in the summer months for most people. It's our nature to fill our time with more commitments or activities whenever we feel like we have the margin, but I'd challenge you to leave some of that time vacant and spend it in reflection. Even just a few minutes a day this summer, spend time remembering the blessings God has given you. This can look differently for different people - maybe it's spending more time in prayer with thankfulness as the theme, or it's journaling your blessings. Maybe it's reading through different areas of scripture or going on walks at lunchtime by yourself to reflect. Whatever it is, use the time you have to develop a habit of remembering God's faithfulness in your life, and you'll find yourself more trusting and less anxious this summer.

Serving Christ Together,
Pastor Ben

We exist to make disciples who **love** God,
grow spiritually, and **serve** others.

CRC VISION STATEMENT

Ministry Highlight

2025 ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

Our annual meeting is designed to be a time for our church family to look back at all God has done in the past year, look ahead at where God is leading us in the coming year, and make the logistical decisions that support where God is leading us. And of course, eat some good food along the way. Here's a quick recap of what we covered at the meeting on April 27th in case you were not able to join us:

Looking Back

God continues to be incredibly faithful to our church family. We opened the meeting with a few testimonies that gave us just a sampling of how God has been at work in the last year. Christi Horgen shared about how God used the generosity of the students to share the love of Christ with people in our community at their annual night of giving event. The students gave money and prayed over complete strangers who later shared with us the impact that this had on their lives. Trisha Grove shared about how God prepared her for her new role as Worship Director by changing her heart to be open to this calling, even when it was challenging. And Courtney Larsen shared about her experience in a new cohort that CRC offered this year to a small group of people looking to grow in their faith. And lastly, Dave Bjork shared about the generosity of our church in meeting our bold and challenging giving goal for the year. These testimonies reminded us of God's unwavering provision in our lives to give us the resources that we need, the leaders that we need, the courage that we need, and the growth that we need. There was much to give praise for!

Looking Ahead

Our pastors, Joey and Ben, took some time to share where they believe God is leading into the next year. Ben shared about our desire to increase meaningful connections and Biblical literacy through more intentional small groups. Joey talked about how the great commission encourages us to care deeply about both evangelism and discipleship.

Logistics

- We welcomed new members, Rob and Lee Hemming.
- We approved four new building projects for the upcoming year including: converting the building to LED lighting, metal clad windows in the sanctuary, parking lot reseal, and new AC units in the sanctuary.
- We approved the new budget which totals about \$518,000. This is 4.5% over last year's giving total of \$495,000.
- We approved nominations including Kris Veum on to the Board of Overseers, Paul Trout and Brian Draxten on to the Properties Council, and Marv Sawtell on to the Foundation.
- We approved the continuation of our \$30,000 faith promise to our sister church in Ukraine.

Thank you to all who contributed to the mission of our church in the last year and to all who call CrossRoads Church home. We are deeply thankful to God for his provision and to our church family for serving God together.



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Missionary Spotlight

PRAYER FOR JIM & LYNN JARMAN

Multiplication is better than addition!

This is the motto of their mission. The Jarman's have served in Sweden for many years and recently their leadership has expanded to other European and Mediterranean countries. Their heart is for equipping leaders and sending them out to where they can do the most good. Here is a quick update, in their own words, about how things have been going lately:

Greetings!

We are sometimes asked: How long will you two keep doing what you are doing? This is a thought provoking question. After all - we are at the age when most people step back, take it a little more easy, and do some of the things that constitute a "bucket list" of dreams.

Our current roles involve coaching, mentoring, and training next generation leaders and church planters in multiple nations. Most of them are in their mid thirties to late forties. They are brilliant and strategic leaders - capable, gifted, influential, making great progress for the gospel in the lives of people they reach. And yet, who can the leader turn to for advice and counsel, for encouragement and guidance when those are the very things that others expect from them?

Several times in the last few months we have heard leaders from several different nations say to us: "Thank You! I simply don't have anyone else like you in my life. I am so grateful."

And that is why we still do what God has called us to do - to make sure there is a new generation that will honor and praise our Lord - to help them be effective to run their own races as they serve God in an increasingly secular world. There may be some items on our personal bucket list that we will not get to in our lifetime. But those items pale in comparison to what God will one day reveal to us about the Kingdom influence those we mentor have accomplished.

We are so grateful for each of you - our partners for the good news of Jesus! Thank you for your support, your prayers, your encouragement, and your belief in God's calling on our lives. It is our joy to be together on the same team.

With Our Gratitude,
Jim and Lynn



CrossRoads is grateful to be able to partner with so many outstanding missionaries around the world! We want you to know that when you give to the [CRC General Fund](#) you are supporting our missionary partners as well. Every year a portion of our budget goes to these missionaries.

To learn more about our missionary partners you can go to crcff.com/missionaries.