

CONNECTIONS

March 2011

A monthly publication of Crossroads CRC

How Grows Your Tree? (Part 2 of 2)

Last month we began this reflection on the idea of spiritual growth. Just as we evaluate our fruit trees or gardens to see how well they are bearing fruit, we also evaluate our own lives so that we bear beautiful fruit to God, God's people and the world.

Surely one person that you wouldn't think needed to keep growing spiritually was the Apostle Paul! He had been raised in the best of religious environments, by his own admission was supremely moral, had a stunning encounter with the exalted Christ, and became the great missionary and author of books of the Bible. Does he need to grow?

Yes! Paul kept growing spiritually, meaning in all of the ways he lived his life. Listen to him. "We...are being transformed into [the Lord's] likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord" (2 Corinthians 3:18). "Not that I have already...been made perfect, but I press on.... Straining toward what is ahead...toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:12-14).

So let's reflect on how well we're growing. But how do we do that?

Throughout the history of the church, God's people have asked some regular questions of themselves in order to consider this. The answers we give help us praise God for the ways we have grown, and spur us on to grow in areas we need work.

Donald Whitney has written a short, simple, yet very helpful book for this: Ten Questions to Diagnose Your Spiritual Health. Reflect on his questions. And maybe, more importantly, ask someone who knows you well if they see these things in you to help you get a good perspective.

Here we go:

- 1. Do you thirst for God?** Whether from feeling spiritually empty or dry, or from longing for more and more of the wonder and goodness of God, do you thirst for God with great longing?
- 2. Are you governed increasingly by God's Word?** Is God's Word a life-giving and life-correcting Word for you, and do you grow in being changed by the life Christ shows you there?
- 3. Are you more loving?** Not just to your family and friends (that's natural to everyone). Are you more loving to people different from you, to the suffering, to the lost?
- 4. Are you more sensitive to God's presence?** Do you enjoy talking with God in prayer? Are you more aware of God's living presence within you and in the world?
- 5. Do you have a growing concern for the spiritual and temporal needs of others?**
- 6. Do you delight in the bride of Christ?** That is, do you delight in the church and her ministry? Are you drawn to be with God's people and minister to them with your gifts?
- 7. Are the spiritual disciplines increasingly important to you?** Are disciplines like prayer, hearing God through Scripture, corporate worship, and serving others growing in importance for you?
- 8. Do you still grieve over sin?** Do you see, deeply regret, and turn from those ways that are not Christ-formed or God-honoring?
- 9. Are you a quicker forgiver?**
- 10. Do you yearn for heaven and to be with Jesus?**

Like a doctor's "check-up," you don't need to do something like this every day. But occasionally it's very important. God bless your reflections, and, even more, our growth as God's people together.

-Pastor Mark Vermaire

march church calendar

See page 4 for
Life Group information.

Wednesday, March 2

7:00PM Women's Book Group

Saturday, March 5

9:00AM Cadet Pinewood Derby
- GEMS Rally

7:00PM Middle School Youth

Sunday, March 6

9:30AM Morning Worship Service

Wednesday, March 9

7:00PM GEMS & Cadets

Thursday, March 10

9:30AM Mothers of Young Children

Saturday, March 12

6:30PM Ladies Game Night

Sunday, March 13

9:30AM **1st Sunday of Lent**
Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Morning Worship Service
10:45 Singers Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 16

7:00PM Administrative Committee
Women's Book Group

Saturday, March 19

1:00PM Middle School Youth

Sunday, March 20

9:30AM **2nd Sunday of Lent**
Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Morning Worship Service
10:45 Guitarists Rehearsal

Monday, March 21

7:00PM Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, March 23

7:00PM Elders Meeting
GEMS & Cadets

Thursday, March 24

9:30AM Mothers of Young Children

Sunday, March 27

9:30AM **3rd Sunday of Lent**
Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Morning Worship Service
10:45AM Middle School Youth Parent's
Meeting-Car Hop

We share our facilities with **Camino al Cielo**, a Spanish speaking congregation led by Pastor Jose Balderas. They use the facilities on Sundays at 12:30PM, Thursdays at 7:00PM, and Saturdays at 6:00AM.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

The Women's Book Group usually meets twice a month at Suanne Varvel's home at 7:00PM. A car pool leaves from Trena Boonstra's home at 6:45. We usually read novels, but also enjoy other genres occasionally. This month we are reading *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese on March 2 and *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell on March 16. We welcome visitors and new members at any time for just one book or for a longer period. Check with Suanne or Trena if you have questions.

Mothers of Young Children Group

Are you a mother with young children at home? Do you want a place where you can go to have honest discussions about the joys and challenges of being a mother? Come to the Mothers of Young Children Group! Our meetings for March are on the 10th and the 24th at 9:30AM at church. Nursery and toddler classes are provided. Talk to Dorissa Radersma and Sarah Verhoeven with any questions.

happy anniversary

03/02 Eric & Silva de Jong
03/10 John & Denise Van Dyk
03/20 Josh & Candy Van Zante
03/22 Kevin & Anna Vos
03/24 Rich & Trena Boonstra

☺ = A "Special" Anniversary

happy birthday

03/01 Phil Vander Werf
03/01 Harvey Budd
03/01 Dale Nelson
03/01 Denise Van Dyk
03/02 Dotty Van Iwaarden
03/02 Erika Wilgenburg
03/02 Jake Bons
03/02 Megan Van Solkema
03/02 Andrew Fritzsich
03/04 Anna Vos
03/06 Lonnie Gorter☺
03/08 Maria Gomolka
03/08 Anita Termaat
03/08 Joshua Bakker
03/09 Brian Fritzsich
03/09 Jenny Anderson
03/10 Shaun Katje
03/11 Michael Wagenfeld
03/14 Vicki Van Essen
03/15 Henry Kraus
03/15 Cindy Kroon
03/15 Luke Varvel
03/15 Adam Schwab
03/16 Jet Gailey
03/16 Denise Diehl
03/19 Donny Lovette☺
03/25 Rachael Vander Werf
03/26 Sharon Upham
03/28 Trena Boonstra
03/28 Joshua Mulder
03/29 Quentin Verhoeven
03/31 Levi Faber
03/31 Erin Spoelstra

☺ = A "Special" Birthday

crossroads service group

The **Crossroads Service Group** is active every week in a variety of service and outreach ministries in our community. Feel free to join them for any of the following service opportunities this month—more volunteers are always welcome!

- **Thursday, March 3:** Serve breakfast at Interfaith
- **Thursday, March 10:** Serve dinner at Merle's Place

As always, anyone who has suggestions and/or questions for the Service Group, or would like to participate in any of the above service projects, can contact the group leader Pat Medendorp at 760.747.2257.

upcoming events

IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE PANCAKES THOUGH...



Crossroads is sending Bibles to China.

Help us get Bibles to China! Help Crossroads send Mike and Michael Wagenveld to courier Bibles into China this June. Come enjoy some pancakes before the service on April 3rd. All donations will be used to get 12,000 Bibles into China this summer. Every breakfast served could get a bible into the hands of a new Christian in China.

Donations will be accepted at the breakfast.

Ladies **BUNCO niGHT!**

Saturday, March 12 - 6:30 PM
@ Crossroads!

Ladies of Crossroads, you are invited to **Bunco Night!** Bunco is a dice game that is easy to learn and fun to play, **PLUS - there will be PRIZES!!** This evening is a chance to have fun together and meet others from Crossroads. It would be a great event to invite a friend or neighbor!

DETAILS: *Cost is a suggested donation of \$3 in advance or \$5 at the door (FREE for friends and neighbors, but please sign them up!) Crossroads ladies, please bring a snack or sweet to share Coffee and cold beverages will be provided*

Please sign up in advance if you can! This will help us know how many tables and chairs to set up. You can sign up after church on **February 27** or **March 6**. We hope you'll join us for this fun night! Questions? Contact Cindy Kroon, Erin Spoelstra, or Rebecca Ligtenberg.



Connect,



Grow, Serve.

Below are the groups that are meeting for the Spring Term. If you have any questions or interest in joining a group, please call the office. 760.744.4673

**If you are already involved in a Life Group,
Grow, Connect and Serve!**

Grow

Connect

Serve

The True Story of You

All our lives are shaped by stories. Sometimes these stories are long tales that we love to hear again and again. At other times, these stories are captured in a single word, a descriptive sentence, or a vivid picture.

Our nation tells stories of fierce independence, self-reliance and freedom. Our culture broadcasts vivid pictures of happiness being found in certain possessions or a model of physical beauty. Family stories recount to some that they are better than most, while others pass down the idea that people are only cogs in an economic machine that controls them. Some stories are created in our own minds: stories of hope or hopelessness, of boring routine or endless possibilities.

But these countless stories create a difficulty. Often, these well-told stories don't fit our experiences, or they conflict with each other. At times, we find ourselves wondering: Are these stories really true?!

And then we hear of one story—**The Great Story**—that is more important than all these stories combined. **The Great Story** is God's true story, written for us in the Bible. It is this story that is given to us, that we might shape our lives by it. **The Great Story** affirms, or corrects, or challenges the other stories so that we can live the life God always intended for us.

For three months, we are going to hear and consider the wonderful chapters that are part of **The Great Story**. For some, it will be a wonderful introduction to the whole Bible; for others, it will be a reminder of the God-given story that shapes our lives. As we read and listen, we will find ourselves learning more about ourselves and how we fit gloriously into God's story for the whole world. For it is this story – **The Great Story** – that is **The True Story of You**.

1. Sermon Response—Paul Robb & Rod Koelewyn

See "The True Story of You" description above. Additional devotional resources will be provided.

Place: Crossroads

Time: Sundays/11:00AM

2. Hiking—Terry Kok

We will take hikes each Sunday. They will differ slightly in difficulty, although most will be relatively easy. We will have a devotional sometime during the hike each week that will focus on the creation with an emphasis from Psalms.

Place: To Be Announced weekly by email

Time: Sundays/1:00PM

3. Photography—Kristin Brown

Come learn some basics to taking better pictures in a small group setting!

Place: Kristin Brown's

Time: Mondays/7:00PM

4. Tuesday Morning Bible Study— Nettie Steenstra

See "The True Story of You" description above. Additional devotional resources will be provided.

Place: Nettie Steenstra's

Time: Tuesdays/8:45AM

5. Sermon Response – Anna Vos

See "The True Story of You" description above. Additional devotional resources will be provided.

Place: Dave & Kim Bakker's

Time: Tuesdays/7:00PM

6. Men's Book Group—Vic Varvel

Men of all ages, come join us for a time to challenge and encourage each other in our Christian lives. Over the months, we'll read and discuss Michael W. Goheen and Craig G. Bartholomew's book *The True Story of the Whole World* to complement the sermon series.

Combining this with prayer, Biblical reflection, and friendship, we'll grow in the life of Christ together.

Place: Vic Varvel's

Time: Tuesdays/7:15PM

7. Sermon Response—Pastor Mark

See "The True Story of You" description above. Additional devotional resources will be provided.

Place: Crossroads

Time: Wednesdays/1:00PM

8. Crossroads Men's Group— Mike Wagenfeld

See "The True Story of You" description above. Additional devotional resources will be provided.

Place: Eric de Jong's

Time: Thursdays/7:30PM

Connect,



Grow, Serve.

YOUTH EDITION

middle school youth

Middle School Youth Leaders:

Danae Lapka 760.432.8876
Jonathan Vermaire
Dorinda Vander Pol

Our meetings this month will be:

March 5: 7:00-9:00PM Meeting at church. Sixth graders take a snack to share with the group. (Parking lot: Van Zante & Salzman)

March 19: 1:00-3:00PM Service project with Mision Vida Nueva at Pioneer School in Escondido—providing activities and games for children ages 3-13 whose parents are picking up food from the food bank. *Some adults will be needed; talk to Danae if you can join us.

March 27 (Sunday): 11:00-11:30AM Car Hop meeting in the sanctuary for all parents. Talk to Danae if you cannot attend.



high school youth

High School Youth:

Sue Wagenveld 760.738.0819

Our meetings this month will be:

March 4-6: Winter Retreat



March 13: No meeting

March 20: Meeting, location TBD

March 27: Spring Break, no meeting

Watch the bulletin weekly for more information!

cadets

Cadets Boy's Club is for all boys in grades 4th-8th. They meet on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month from 7:00-9:00PM at Church.

Head Counselor: Lauren Jongetjes 760.761.4857

- March 5: Pinewood Derby
 - Check in and registration: 9:30AM
 - Races begin at 10:00AM at the Escondido United Reformed Church (1864 N Broadway Escondido, CA)
- March 9: Meeting at church.
- March 23: Meeting at church.

Watch the weekly bulletins for more details.

gems

GEMS Girl's Club is for all girls in grade 3rd-8th. They meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 7:00-9:00PM at Church. Come and learn how the "Feed the Fire!"

Head Counselor: Sue Wagenveld 760.738.0819

- March 5: GEMS Rally
- March 9: Meeting at church.
- March 23: Meeting at church.

Watch the weekly bulletins for more details!

Requests & Updates from our Church

Save the Date!!

50's Car Hop

A fundraiser for the
Middle School Youth Group

Saturday, April 30
5:30-8:00pm

Dinner, Dancing,
Hula Hoops, Hot Rods, Oldies
Music and more! (For all ages)

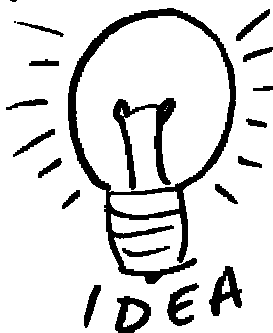
have something to share?

We welcome and encourage news from the congregation for the newsletter.

All submissions are subject to approval by the office staff or the council (as needed).

Any items for the newsletter are due the 15th of each month for publication the following month.

A BRIGHT



IDEA
FROM YOU!

Let us know what fun, inexpensive things there are to do around the Escondido, San Marcos and San Diego area! We will share your idea in the April Connections.

Interview with Ned Vander Pol: Update on his Trip to Mississippi

1. What group did you go to Mississippi with?

International Relief Teams from San Diego.
(Go to irteams.org for more information.)

2. Why did you go to Mississippi with this group?

Four years ago International Relief Teams approached the Vista Firefighters requesting we donate a dinner at the fire station for a fundraiser. The dinner for six was auctioned off at a fundraiser and the winner came to the station for a meal along with 6 friends. That's when I was introduced to the group.

3. What did you accomplish with this group?

We reroofed a Katrina damaged roof, replaced drywall damaged by the hurricane and built a home from the ground to frame and roof for a family that lost their home from Katrina.



Here is a picture of Ned and the group he was there with.

4. Why did you decide to go on this trip?

IRT sends teams every other month to Mississippi. I sent an email to all the members of the Vista Fire Department and within 12 hours we had a group of 9 volunteers ready to go. The entire IRT group was 25 with 9 from the fire department.

5. How did this trip impact your life?

It is great to see people come from all over the country to help those in need.

6. How was the Lord's name praised through the work you did?

Each day we began with devotions and prayer at the Van Cleave United Methodist Church. We ended the day with prayer and devotions. The common theme was that everyone was grateful for the blessings they had but even more importantly blessed by the ability to go out and help those in need.

Update from Interfaith



Winter Shelter Sack Lunch Maker

On weekends during the Winter Shelter months, Interfaith provides a hot breakfast, showers and laundry for the winter shelter guests. The participants are also able to take a sack lunch to go as they work on their case management plan for regaining their independence. By making 80 complete sack lunches you will be supporting these individuals and families, in their efforts to improve their lives. We need about 80 sack lunches to be dropped off on Fridays through January, February and March; this is a new request. Volunteers are responsible for supplying all of the following ingredients: lunch meat such as turkey or ham and cheese slices AND/OR peanut butter and jelly, bread (wheat and/or white), granola bar or other healthy snack, juice box or pouch, a piece of fruit (banana, apple, orange, etc), packets of mustard, mayo, etc may be included if desired. *Please do not put any condiments on the sandwiches.* Please call the church office or Nusrat Symons at 760.489.6380 ext. 221 if you are interested in this opportunity.

Comfort Food Specialist for Emergency Shelters

Bring a comforting meal for those who are at Emergency shelters. By providing a meal and a smile, you will restore hope and dignity to the lives of these wonderful individuals. At this time, sharing a meal with the residents is not permissible; however, greeting them is highly encouraged. Provide a nutritious meal and a gallon of 2% milk for the residents. Contact Nusrat Symons at nsymons@interfaithservices.org.

Interfaith currently needs donations of:

hearty soups, canned chili, beef stew, canned beans (not green beans), and jelly.

library & bookstore news

A variety of print and audio books is available to borrow from the Crossroads Library. Check the Book Cart in the foyer for a changing display of titles or go to the Library room next to the nursery to peruse the whole collection. Books are classified using the Dewey Decimal system and since it is a church library, the majority of titles fall in the 200 (Religion) category. Devotional and Christian Living books are in the 242-242.8 sections. Study materials are in the 220-230 sections. There is a biography section. Audio books are filed on the shelf next to the print copies. Magazines are also available for checkout.

Both the Bookstore (Left side of the cart) and the Library operate on a self-serve basis. Instructions are posted. See Trena Boonstra if you have questions about books or need help finding a particular title.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Crossroads is a Stephen Ministry Church. Stephen Ministers are trained, Christian, lay, volunteer care givers. Literature about Stephen Ministry is available on a table in the foyer. Stephen Ministers at Crossroads are also available for situations such as visiting in the hospital or at home for extended confinements.

Contact Trena Boonstra if either you or someone you know might benefit from the help of a Stephen Minister.

Also check with Trena if you have interest in being trained as a Stephen Minister. Stephen Ministers are now part of the prayer team after the worship service. Usually an elder and a SM will be waiting at the bottom of the steps on either side of the platform after the service. They are available to listen to concerns and pray with anyone. It may be difficult to write down a concern on the clipboard cards so the prayer team members are available to listen to the concerns and pray with the person bringing the concern. The elder or SM will only share the concern with others if permission is given to do so; the prayer concern will not automatically be added to the church e-mail prayer line.

march volunteer schedule

Worship Team [Danae Lapka]

March: Singers rehearsal Sunday, March 13 until 11:45AM.

Guitarists rehearsal Sunday, March 20 until 11:45AM.

March 6: Anita Termaat, Ella de Jong, Paul & Danae Lapka, Megan & Jodi Van Solkema, Graeme Koch
March 13: Anita Termaat, Danae Lapka, Rebecca Ligtenberg, Dorissa Radersma, Ryan Bons
March 20: Anita Termaat, Nichole Beutlich, Cindy Kroon, Bill Stout, Jake Bons
March 27: Guitarists, Jeremiah Stout, Ella de Jong, Paul & Danae Lapka, Ryan Bons

Children's Worship [Tami Schemper]

March 6: Christina Faber, Kara Steenstra, Trevor Vander Pol
March 13: Heidi Vermaire, Dan Stout, Emma Vander Pol
March 20: Dotti Hejka, Levi Faber, Niels de Jong
March 27: Dorissa Radersma, Ashley Van Zante, David Gomolka

Nursery/Child Care [Heidi Vermaire & Jenny Varvel]

(*denotes person in charge)

March 6: Infant: *Sherry Schwab, Denise Diehl, Ryan Bons
Toddler: Christina Faber, Niels de Jong
March 13: Infant: *Dalia Tostado, Barry Diehl, Sarah Katje
Toddler: Levi Faber, Henry Kraus
March 20: Infant: *Kathie Turner, Dawn Gomolka, Ashley Van Zante
Toddler: Lyle Gorter, Anna Van Solkema
March 27: Infant: *Candy Van Zante, Tanno Gomolka, Cyrus Van Zante
Toddler: Joy Jasperse, Charlotte Lebl

Ushers [Mike Carlson]

March 6: Luke Varvel (D), Brian Verhoeven (D), Mike Carlson, Terry Kok, Doug Van Solkema
March 13: Josh Vermaire (D), Lois Vander Pol (D), Dotti Hejka, Kevin Vos, Warren Van Dam
March 20: Rebecca Ligtenberg (D), Levi Faber (D), Joy Jasperse, Eric de Jong, George te Velde
March 27: Luke Varvel (D), Brian Verhoeven (D), Mark Steenstra, Frank Zuidema, Lyle Gorter

Refreshments [Suanne Varvel]

March 6: (Anna) Nettie Steenstra, Anneke de Jong, Pete De Baan, Marilyn Faber
March 13: (Dicky) Christina Faber, Danae Lapka, Linda Van Solkema, Marlys Hickox
March 20: (Suanne) Lois Vander Pol, Serena Carlson, Kim Bakker, Denise Diehl
March 27: (Silva) Betsy Salzman, Anne DenOuden, Jonneke Van Dam, Kari Plaisier

Opening/Closing [Jeff Hickox]

3/06 Brian Duyst
3/13 Tanno Gomolka
3/20 Brian Roberson
3/27 George Henry

1st Substitute: Jim Kroon
2nd Substitute: Tony Bons

Sunday Greeters [Kathy Zuidema]

March Tony & Dicky Bons
Jim & Carol Beezhold

Sound Crew [Frank Bons]

3/06 Frank Steidl
3/13 Rick De Baan
3/20 Randy Nagel
(Guitarists Rehearsal)
3/27 George Tostado

Projection Crew [Marlys Hickox]

3/06 Linda Van Solkema
3/13 Mike Schwab (Singers Rehearsal)
3/20 Rod Koelewyn
3/27 Dan Stout/Marlys Hickox

Video Crew [Danae Lapka]

3/06 Jacob Stout
3/13 Haley Voorkamp
3/20 Michael Wagenveld
3/27 David Gomolka

Prayer of God's People [Office]

3/06 Pastor Mark Vermaire
3/13 Elder Dave Bakker
3/20 Bill Stout
3/27 Marlys Hickox

Open Table [Elsa Stout]

3/06 Jeff & Marlys Hickox
3/13 Rich & Trena Boonstra
3/20 George & Jo Henry
3/27 Gary & Dorissa Radersma

march offering schedule

March 6:	General Fund & Calvin Christian School Tuition Aid Fund
March 13:	General Fund & Bob & Patti Harris (CRWM)
March 20:	General Fund & Multiplication Network-Wagenvelds' trip to China
March 27:	General Fund & World Hunger Sunday

- The morning offerings are for our **General Fund**. Moneys collected pay for our own church's operating expenses (wages, insurance, utilities, etc.) as well as our denominational Ministry Shares (The Back to God Hour, CR World & Home Missions, Calvin Seminary & College, etc.) **Our '10-11 Budget commitment requires an average weekly offering of about \$7,689.81.**
- **Calvin Christian School Tuition Aid** is used to assist families from our church who are unable to pay full tuition. Our commitment for the 2010-2011 school year is \$21,915.48. This number has increased as we have been able to help one more family this year. Please prayerfully consider making a donation to this fund throughout the school year.
- **CRWM—Bob and Patti Harris:** An offering will be received on March 13 to support the Harris' ministry in the Philippines. (We have committed to support them with \$2,000.00 per year.)
- **Multiplication Network-Crossroads sends Bibles to China** March 20's second offering is to support the mission trip to China which Mike and Michael Wagenveld will be going on in June. Along with a group of 19 from the Multiplication Network Ministries, their goal is to get 12,000 Bibles into the country over 10 days. Crossroads is partnering with them in this important work to bring scriptures to millions of Christians who have none. Many Chinese Christians have no scripture of their own, so please consider giving towards this effort.
- **WORLD HUNGER CAMPAIGN:** Though on March 27 we conclude our special World Hunger program with an offering, this does not end our Lord's commission to "answer the call". The problem of hunger and justice around the world continues, as does the need for our contributions of prayer, action, time and financial gifts. Through today's World Hunger offering, we join thousands of others around the world who are doing their part to live justice and to love mercy so that families and communities in need can experience God's love. Remember we are partners with Christ in our response – please give generously.

from the deacons

The Deacons report the following offerings from the past month with thanks:

January '11 General Fund Offerings:	\$	33,767.35
Year To Date General Fund Offerings:	\$	269,165.73
(Fiscal Year June 2010-May 2011)		

Other January Offerings

Calvin Christian Tuition Aid Fund	\$	1,133.00
Mirtha Villafaña (CRHM)	\$	566.72
Multiplication Network	\$	426.25
Cadets	\$	100.00
Interfaith Community Services	\$	844.00
Zakka Chomock (CRWM)	\$	579.30

special offering

Dear Friends,

It is comforting to know that when people are in trouble, others will step forward to help them weather the storm. We are so grateful for your gift of \$844.00 We could not do our work without your help. Together, we can accomplish more than any individual or faith center could working alone. Every day people line up at our doors, many of them referred to us by a faith center, and a miracle mix of staff, donors, faith centers and volunteers help change their lives for the better.

We provide shelter from the cold, job training for the unemployed, groceries for those suffering from hunger, and other carefully planned programs that help our neighbors who are hurting.

As an active donor, you are helping to make our community a healthier, happier, safer place! I want you to know that you have a special place in my heart.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Stewart Pohlman
Executive Director



Feed the Fish



Send Food to the World

Support **CRWRC**'s efforts to end world hunger by feeding spare change to the **Peter Fish Bank**. Pick up a bank and devotional guide on **March 6**, read the guide to help you learn about and pray for the needs helped by the work of CRWRC around the world, and **Feed the Fish** for three weeks. Bring your bank to Crossroads for a special offering on **March 27**.

CRWRC (Christian Reformed World Relief Committee) reaches out in God's name to people in North America and around the world who are struggling with poverty, hunger, disaster, and injustice to help them find lasting ways to improve their lives. Funds raised during the **Peter Fish Campaign** support efforts around the world to reduce poverty and hunger by teaching farming techniques and adult literacy, providing small loans to business people, and working to find long-term solutions to poverty. Learn more at <http://www.crwrc.org>