

CONNECTIONS

November 2011

A monthly publication of Crossroads CRC

“ He said WHAT? TO WHOM? ”

One of the first cartoons I remember from the “funny pages” was one of “Dennis the Menace,” that precocious, mischievous yet lovable five year old. As best I can remember, Dennis was coming out of church with his mom and dad, and behind them were cranky Mr. Wilson and his lovable wife. As the Wilsons shake hands with the pastor, Mr. Wilson gruffly says to the preacher: “I hope that sermon will straighten my wife out once and for all.” Dennis’s mom and dad have a look of surprise on their faces, knowing full well who needed the straightening out. Even I, as a young child, knew that.

So how do you listen to sermons?! And what kinds of responses do you have afterward?

The easy way to listen to a sermon is, unfortunately, the wrong way. Yet all of us have listened to sermons in that way from time to time. We listen to the sermon as if it were simply a speech by a person. We judge whether it is interesting or not, whether we agree with it or not, and whether it has anything of value for the week ahead. When we listen to sermons in this way, we usually can make those judgements quickly and then forget about the sermon before we get out the church doors.

But sermons--even the most common--are intended to be something far more important and mysterious. They are intended to be the very human way that God chooses to speak to us. So, through the words of a common human being--sometimes interesting or bland, clear or misspoken--the Spirit of God seeks to have us hear something very important for our lives.

Imagine that a young child gives a drawing to her dad. Perhaps the drawing has her hugging her dad, or her dad playing soccer with her at the park. In that drawing, something greater than the daughter speaks--let’s call it Love.

And Love itself might be saying to the dad, “Know that you are loved dearly,” or it might say, “Your daughter longs to spend time with you at the park. Be sure you make time for her.” If the dad hears Love rightly, the dad won’t look at the imperfections of the drawing, or at the style of the pictures that he may or may not like; instead, he’ll see an important message given for his life. And he’ll reflect and grow with that message.

Sermons are something like that. Very human--and sometimes very imperfect or long or common--through which God desires to have you and me hear something important for our lives.

So here is an encouragement to always ask the question--before, during and after a sermon--“God, what

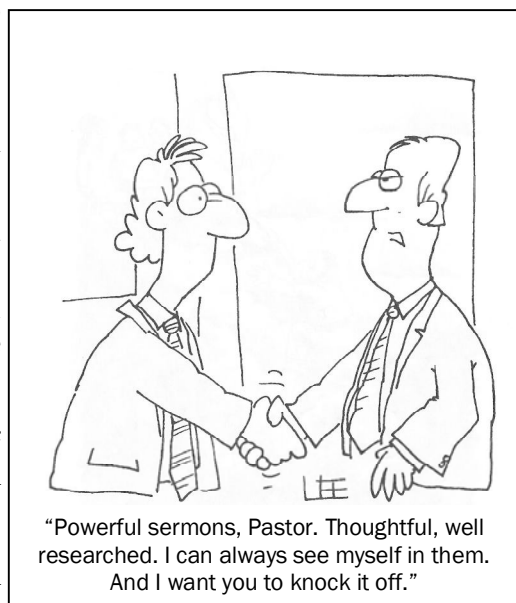
do you want me to hear from you today?!” Usually, God will try to speak to you through the main point(s) of the sermon, but not always. But if we ask that question and are humbly open to whatever that Word may be--whether gracious or challenging or paradoxical or timely--God’s people testify that they can hear God leading them in ways that are good and important throughout their lives.

And if a sermon seems to leave you stumped or uncertain, perhaps God invites you to meditate on the text again before God, to ask further what God intends for you to hear. And if a sermon is very upsetting to you, perhaps God’s desire is for you to ask deeper questions about why this is

disturbing to you, and what may be a deeper truth to explore about your life or faith.

Because a sermon isn’t intended to be over when it’s over. The sermon is a beginning of a conversation that you and God will have as the days continue and your life grows in Jesus.

Which is why the “He” in the title of this page is not the preacher, but the living God. And the “Whom” is me and you. And the question is not really shocking at all. It’s just the natural one we ask when we read God’s Word or hear it preached. To me. To you.



Pastor Mark Vermaire

november church calendar

Contact the church office for
Life Groups meeting time
information.

Wednesday, November 2

7:00PM Administrative Committee
Singers meeting
at Lapka's house

Saturday, November 5

9:00AM Gems Rally
5:00PM High School Youth
7:00PM Middle School Youth

Sunday, November 6

9:30AM Morning Worship Service
7:00PM High School Youth

Wednesday, November 9

7:00PM GEMS & Cadets
Women's Book Group

Thursday, November 10

9:30AM Mom's Group

Friday -Saturday, November 11-12

3:15PM Departure-Cadet Campout

Saturday, November 12

8:00AM Life Groups Service Project
(See Page 4)
5:00PM High School Parent
Leadership Meeting

Sunday, November 13

9:30AM Morning Worship Service
5:00PM High School Youth

Wednesday, November 16

7:00PM Council Meeting

Saturday, November 19

8:00AM Life Groups Service Project
(See Page 4)
7:00PM Middle School Youth

Sunday, November 20

9:30AM Morning Worship Service

Monday, November 21

7:00PM Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, November 23

7:00PM Elders Meeting

Thursday, November 24

9:30AM Thanksgiving Day Worship

Saturday, November 26

1:00PM Middle & High School Youth

Sunday, November 27

9:30AM **1st Sunday of Advent**
Morning Worship Service
7:00PM High School Youth

Wednesday, November 30

7:00PM Women's Book Group

happy birthday

Johanna Homeyer	11/03
Mel Turner	11/03
Joshua Nelson	11/04☺
Barbara Lebl	11/05
Kayla Van Engen	11/07
Jerry Upham	11/08
Josiah VanderWerf	11/11
Rebecca Ligtenberg	11/14
Erik Tostado	11/14
Robert de Jong	11/14
Christoph Lebl	11/15
Mark Jasperse	11/16
Frances Ayers	11/17
Cyrus Van Zante	11/17
Bryce Verhoeven	11/19
Owen VanderWerf	11/20
Allison West	11/21
Henry Vander Pol	11/22
Gable Nelson	11/26
Marjorie Arendse	11/28
Erin Cooper	11/28
Sue Orsburn	11/30
Laura Cardona	11/30

☺ = A "Special" Birthday

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 once or twice a month on Wednesday evenings; watch the bulletin for specifics. We take turns hosting and spend time as friends as well as discussing books. Our meeting on November 9 will be at Suanne's home and will include a discussion of *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks. We welcome visitors and new members at any time for just one book or for a longer period. A car pool often leaves from Trena's home in Escondido. Check with Suanne Varvel or Trena Boonstra if you have questions.

happy anniversary

Gary & Anita Heading	11/10
Ned & Dorinda Vander Pol	11/11
Barry & Denise Diehl	11/25
Mike & Lois Vander Pol	11/26
Tony & Dicky Bons	11/27
Levi & Christina Faber	11/27

☺ = A "Special" Anniversary

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.

Mom's 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 meeting for November is on the 10th at 9:30AM at church. On November 10th we will have a Sewing Day. Come and learn some basic sewing tips *On November 24th we will not have a meeting.* Happy Thanksgiving! Nursery and toddler classes are provided. Talk to Dorissa Radersma and Sarah Verhoeven with any question-ns.

STEPHEN MINISTRY AT CROSSROADS

Stephen Ministers are trained, lay, Christian care givers. We are available to listen to, pray with, and support Crossroads members or friends during times of crisis and difficulty.

Stephen Ministers are available for visits at home or in the hospital or care facility. Call Trena Boonstra if you have questions or a need. Fliers explaining SM are also available in the foyer literature rack.



november events calendar

November -and- December Special Holiday Services

Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November 24;
9:30AM

Advent Sunday Services
November 27,
December 4, 11 & 18;
9:30AM

Christmas Program
Sunday, December 11;
6:00PM

Christmas Eve Service
Saturday, December 24;
6:00PM

**Christmas Morning
Service**
Sunday, December 25;
9:30AM

Interfaith Community Services invites you to attend
the Transitional Youth Academy's

PARALLEL VISIONS ≈ VISIONES PARALELAS

— YOUTH PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT
Oceanside Museum of Art
Saturday, November 12, 2011
6:00 to 9:00 p.m.



100 Captivating Images Live Entertainment Hosted Bar and Hors D'oeuvres Silent Auction
RSVP to Larry Christiansen at 760.489.6380 ext. 224 or email at lchristensen@interfaithservices.org

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

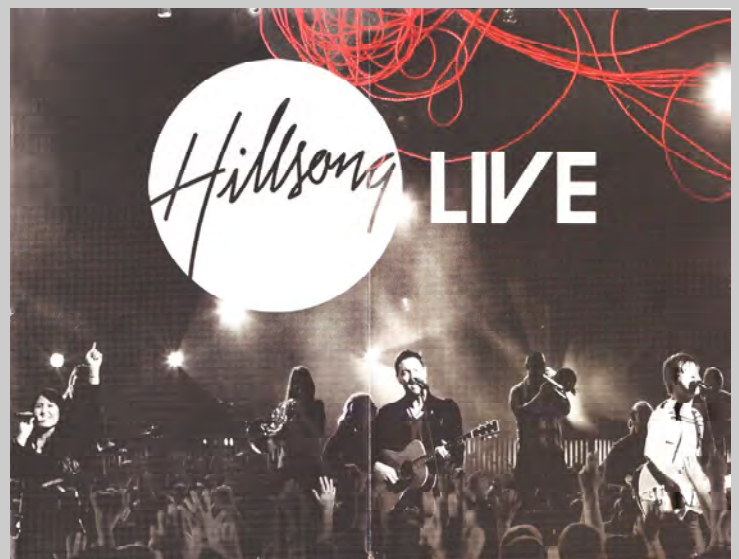
As always, anyone who has suggestions and/or questions for the Service Group, or would like to participate in any of the above service projects, can contact the group leader Pat Medendorp at 760.747.2257.

WHERE:
San Diego, CA
The Rock Church

WHEN:
Tuesday, December 6th, 7:00PM

HOW MUCH:
Ticket Prices:
VIP: \$35.00
Advance: \$24.00
(Groups 10+: \$18.00)

To purchase call 1.800.965.9324 or 619.226.7625
Or go to www.premierproductions.com



Don't miss this rare live appearance by Hillsong LIVE from Hillsong Church out of Australia! You will recognize some of Hillsong LIVE's most popular worship songs such as "Shout To The Lord", "Hosanna", and "Mighty to Save".



Let us be the hands and feet of Christ!

Mark your calendars now so that you can be a part of a service project that will minister to our neighbors in the Twin Oaks Valley.

We are holding a church wide service project on the mornings of **November 12 and 19** for some of our Crossroads' neighbors. You are welcome to come for one or both of these mornings. Our Twin Oaks Valley neighbor Susan has a farm type property that is in need of help due to the death of her husband 10 years ago and her own degenerative disease condition. The farm has been managed as much as possible by her daughter Kimberly. It needs a lot of work. The plan is to help with repairs and the removal of weeds and bushes etc. Pizza will be provided for lunch.

When Pastor Mark and I (Kim Bakker) visited their property and prayed with them before leaving, they were so moved that someone would pray for them and come and care for them. We have been given a wonderful opportunity to make an impact in our own community in the name of Jesus.

Here's a list of items needed to get the work done:

- Hammers
- Shovels
- Wheelbarrows
- Nail Pulls
- Flat Bars
- Rakes
- Loppers
- Hoes
- Chainsaws
- Pole Saws
- Dust Masks
- Cordless Sawzalls
- Log Splitter
- Gas Hedge Trimmers

Cookies
(for any needed "break time")

Location: 761 LadyBug Lane
Time: 8:00AM-12:00PM NOON

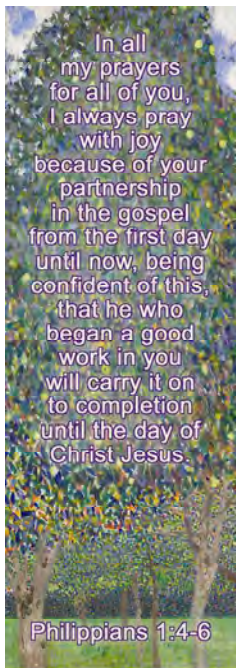
There will be an email reminder sent out including this list of needed items.

Please **RSVP** to the email with which date(s) you will be joining us and which items you will be able to provide.

Or, you can call the office or Kim Bakker to let us know.

Please consider offering your gift of service to our neighbors.

If anyone has ideas or suggestions for a Spring Term Life Group activity or topic, let the church office or Kim Bakker (Life Groups Coordinator) know.



“In all my prayers...”

From the beginning of Paul's letter to the Philippians, it is clear that he believes in the importance of prayer. In our first week of "Dwelling with Philippians," Pastor Mark taught about four reasons that prayer is important in the life of the believer. Prayer is important because:

- Jesus prayed, and we are called to be his disciples and make prayer a part of our lives.
- Prayer helps teach us that faith is an active dependence on God, not just a list of action items.
- We have so much to be thankful for, and it gives us a chance to express that gratitude to God.
- God wants to work in us in a way that we cannot work in ourselves.

This fall, we encourage you to begin—or extend—your practice of prayer by praying for the people, ministries and life of Crossroads for 5 minutes a day. We have created a bookmark with prayer suggestions for each day of the week. There is also a place to write the name of someone that you'd like to pray for regularly, that they might come to know Christ and that you might be open to being a "bold Jesus proclaimer" in their life.

If you are in a Life Group, you can get a bookmark there (if you haven't gotten one already), and if you are not, you can pick one up in the church lobby. Will you join us praying this fall?

Connect,



Grow, Serve.

YOUTH EDITION

middle school youth

Middle School Youth Leaders:

Danae Lapka 760.432.8876
Dorinda Vander Pol

Our meetings this month will be:

November 5: 7:00-9:00PM Meeting at church. Seventh Graders take a snack to share with the group. (Parking lot: Miller)

November 19: 7:00-9:00PM Meeting at church. We will rehearse the Christmas play for part of our meeting; come familiar with your lines. Sixth Graders take a snack to share with the group. (Parking lot: Steenstra)

November 26: 1:00-3:30PM Playground ministry at Pioneer School with Mision Vida Nueva. Drop-off and pick-up will be at Pioneer School in Escondido.

high school youth

High School Youth:

Anna Vos 760.317.7034

Our meetings this month will be:

November 5 - Justice Day (Human Trafficking and Justice Awareness) at Kit Carson Park. Meet at the World Vision vendor kiosk at 5:30PM. This event will run until 8:00PM.

November 6 - Youth Group Meeting at Vos home from 7:00-9:00PM. Goodies: M&J Van Solkema. Student Leadership Team - please arrive at 6:30PM to pray and go over the lesson.

November 12 - Parent Leadership Meeting at Vos home from 5:00-7:00PM (Anna changed the time on this event). Bring a pot of soup/chili to share.

November 13 - Pizza Night at Vos home from 5:00-7:00PM (This meeting replaces our regular youth group meeting).

The High School Youth Group has been blessed to be involved with the food pantry ministry of Mision Vida Nueva. Students participated in leading singing before the Bible story. Students also engaged in games with the children whose parents were benefiting from the services of the food pantry. We invite individuals and families of Crossroads to join us on the fourth Saturday of each month at Pioneer School in Escondido for this event.

This is also an exciting time of taking on leadership roles. Our newly formed Worship Team blessed us with the gift of music with Christian Schatz on guitar, Ryan Bons on the Cajon percussion instrument, and Jodi Van Solkema on violin. Please pray for God to raise up student leaders who will lead the next generation in their walk with the Lord.



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. It's not too late for boys from 4th to 8th grade to join the cadet club!

Head Counselor: Mark Steenstra 760.703.2929

- **November 9** meeting at church
- **November 11-12** Cadet Campout
WHERE: At Melrose Ranch (24596 Crown Hill Lane Escondido)
WHEN: 3:15PM, November 11-3:30PM, November 12
(See passed out flier 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.

Head Counselor: Sue Wagenveld 760.738.0819

- **November 5**
Rally at CrossPoint Chino, CA 9:00AM-1:00PM
- **November 9** meeting at church. (Lesson/Badge)

Watch the weekly bulletins for more details!

Update from our Missionary



Mexico

Scott & Marcia Geurink

The members of Agua Viva are grappling with the departure of a church leader following the leader's fall into sin. Pray for healing within the church and God to raise up someone to fill this leadership gap. Pray for the former church leader to seek reconciliation and restoration.

CALVIN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Your contribution helps make these programs available:

- +Master of Divinity
- +Master of Arts
- +Master of Theological Studies
- +Master of Theology
- +Ecclesiastical Program for Ministerial Candidacy
- +Doctor of Philosophy
- +Certificate Programs

What are Ministry Shares?

Each month we will be featuring another item that Ministry Shares make possible. Last Month we had a two page feature about Ministry Shares in general, so in the following months we will continue to explore what Ministry Shares look like. If you ever have any questions, please contact the church office or one of the Deacons.



OUR MULTIPLIES

PLANTING CHURCHES BEHIND BARS.

While a student at Calvin Theological Seminary, Rick Admiraal visited a prison and found his destiny. He was inspired as he listened to pastors from prison ministries describe their model of ministry. "We heard their stories, and heard how empowering it was for inmates. They're not just ministered to, but they become servants of God, leaders in the church, active participants."

Now, Rick is the Pastor of New Life Prison Church, a church plant within the Newton (Iowa) Correctional Facility. He hosts a weekly prayer group and Bible study. "People think of prison as a dark place, but it's also a spiritually fruitful place, and that very much energizes me," says Rick. "I felt a call from God not just to do ministry, but prison ministry, specifically."



By contributing to Crossroads through your General Fund Offerings (which in part go to Ministry Shares) you add a solid foundation for lives of service.

Calvin Seminary has been challenging and equipping ministers since 1876. A holistic approach nurtures minds, hearts, hands, and relationships. Calvin's curriculum integrates solid biblical, theological, and ministry perspectives for a strong foundation and effective ministry.

Calvin Seminary also offers theological training and continuing education for CRC ministry positions around the world, supporting congregational pastors, evangelists, church planters, ministers of education, youth pastors, and specialized ministries not requiring ordination. The solid spiritual and theological footing Calvin's graduates receive equips them for a life time of relevant, world-changing service.

Update on Crossroads Church Life

Happy Thanksgiving!

These are the words that American missionaries will say this month on the mission field as they celebrate God's goodness. It's also another holiday celebrated away from loved ones 'back home.' Thank you for your prayers, for strong relationships and fruitful ministry on behalf of your missionaries. Below are their addresses and emails in case you feel led to write them an encouragement note this holiday season.



Rev. Melvin & April Jackson

1850 W 54th St
Los Angeles, CA 90062
Melvin:
bchrist4u@aol.com

Scott & Marcia Geurink

Daniel, Melissa, Karissa
PO Box 531276
San Diego, CA 92153
smgeurink@gmail.com

Rev. Bob & Patti Harris

Andrew, David
OCPO Box 12712
Ortigas Center
1605 Pasig City,
The Philippines
harrisfam6@hotmail.com

Zakka & Habiba Chomock

Plot 6575 Corner
Chainama & Kasangula
Roads
Olympia Extension,
Lusaka, Zambia
zcho001@aol.com



Gardens, (the site of our marriage); did many hikes (once to the peak of the mountains so we could look down to both sides of the island); snorkeled in the warm clear water; and sampled many varieties of "local" food, at many different beach parks. We love Hawaiian music and were able to attend several local outdoor concerts (per our request the Keawe Ohana group sang "Kanaka Waiwai"--a Hawaiian song which tells the story of Jesus and the rich young ruler)."

—Stewart and Connie Lanting

Crossroads Library and Book Cart

Looking for something to read? Looking for something to keep you company while you drive or travel? The Crossroads Library has a large selection of both print and audio books. We have theology books, novels, biographies, books about Christian living, devotional books, books about finance, books about child rearing, and more. Magazines, DVDs, and videos for adults are also available. Some titles are available on the cart in the foyer, but a much larger collection is in the library room next to the nursery in the adjacent building.

In addition to the above materials, we also have books and videos for children. Please, assist your children in their use of the library.

Checkout for all materials is on a self-serve basis. Instructions are posted.

A computer is now set up in the library as a card catalog. Searches can be by title, author, or subject. Directions are posted. However, Trena Boonstra, Rebecca Ligtenberg, or Rick DeBaan will be glad to help you use the system—just ask.

Questions about the library, suggestions for more titles, and concerns about titles should be directed to Trena Boonstra.

Green Oak Ranch and Crossroads

The Crossroads and Green Oak Ranch Bible study is now meeting as a Life Group on Sunday evening at 5:30 in the GOR Library/Conference room. We are studying Philippians with the rest of the Crossroads community. Feel free to join us there on any Sunday. Questions should be directed to Trena Boonstra, Doug Kallemeyn or Susie Orsburn.

Green Oak Ranch is also looking for one on one tutors for their education program. This could be help with GED, reading, math, computers, or other areas. The help could be as little as an hour a week or much more if you have time and inclination. Check with Trena or Marilyn Faber who can put you in touch with the coordinator at the ranch.

Stewart and Connie Lanting...

traveled to Oahu, Hawaii. Picture included here shows Stewart and Connie with long time friend Carol Lamse and her daughter Noi, outside the First Presbyterian Church of Honolulu, at Ko'olau.

"During our visit there we had a mini-reunion with several of our friends from the former Honolulu Christian Reformed Church. We also visited Haiku Gardens, (the site of our marriage); did many hikes (once to the peak of the mountains so we could look down to both sides of the island); snorkeled in the warm clear water; and sampled many varieties of "local" food, at many different beach parks. We love Hawaiian music and were able to attend several local outdoor concerts (per our request the Keawe Ohana group sang "Kanaka Waiwai"--a Hawaiian song which tells the story of Jesus and the rich young ruler)."

—Stewart and Connie Lanting

Have You Met...?

We joyfully welcome Henry, Lindsey & Anna Vander Pol as members at Crossroads! Here is their story...

1. What brought you to Crossroads?

Lindsey's version: When we decided to move to Escondido last fall we knew we would need a good church family. We visited Crossroads once in July and attended again when we moved down at the beginning of September. We were planning on trying out several churches, but never felt the need. Crossroads was warm and welcoming and we quickly felt like we were a part of the Crossroads family.

Henry's version: My job brought us to the San Diego area. Being CRC took care of the rest.

2. Where were you before?

Lindsey's version: I grew up near Manhattan, Montana. Henry grew up near Seattle, Washington. We met at Dordt College, fell in love and got married (very original, huh?). We moved into a small condo in a Seattle suburb and lived there for 3 years. Henry worked for the family business and I taught math at Seattle Christian Schools. I quit my teaching job last May after we added Anna Grace to our family. Henry accepted the terminal manager position at his company's San Diego terminal, requiring us to make the move to Escondido. And here we are!

Henry's version: I grew up in the Seattle WA area. Upon completion of high school, I "tried out" a few colleges, and finally settling at Dordt. The very last semester I met Lindsey and just under 2 years later we were married. We moved to the Seattle area and settled in. 3 years and a baby later, it was time to make a move. Despite Lindsey's initial misgivings about Southern CA (too many people, traffic!, smog, etc.), I took a job here in San Diego. One week of sunshine and we were hooked.

3. What are you doing now?

Lindsey's version: Henry is still working at his company's San Diego terminal. I have been a full time mom for the past year. It has been such a blessing to be able to watch Anna grow and change. It has also been a blessing to have the time to develop such wonderful friendships with some of the other moms in our church! I recently accepted a part time position at Calvin Christian School teaching 6th grade math and am excited to be teaching again.

Henry's version: Work. That, and exploring the San Diego area.

4. How has God been working in your family's life?

Lindsey's version: We have definitely seen God working in our family's life! Over the past 18 months we have been blessed with a healthy baby girl. We have found ourselves living hundreds of miles from either of our families, yet God has blessed us with our own kind of 'family' here in such a short time. We see God's hand in our lives every day!

Henry's version: I think our move has shown us just how much the Lord will provide. No matter what the situation or problem, the Lord continues to provide solutions from the most unexpected places.

5. What do you enjoy most at Crossroads?

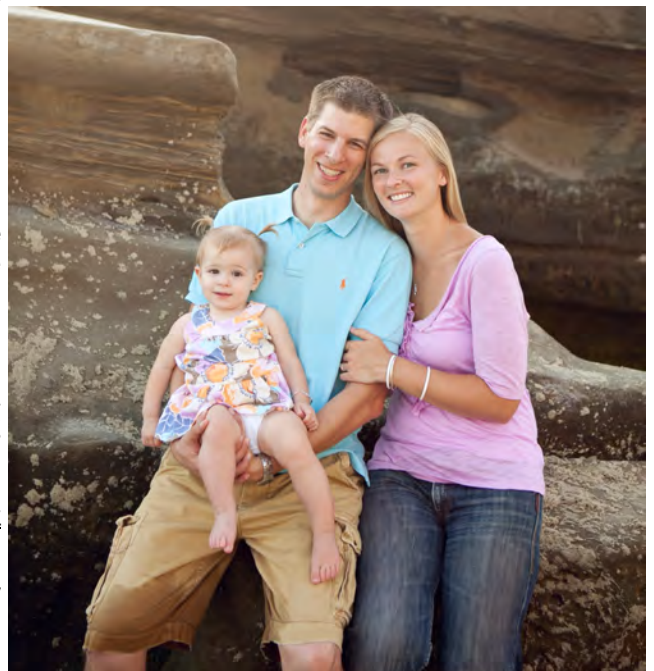
Lindsey's version: We love a lot of things about Crossroads, but one of the things we enjoy the most is the community that we've become a part of. It's such a blessing to have good friends to worship and fellowship with.

Henry's version: Certainly we have enjoyed being embraced by the Crossroads family. Life Groups have given us a chance to connect and grow with other members. Overall I think seeing God working through the church's different ministries.

6. What would you like the Crossroads family to know about your family?

Lindsey's version: We want them to know how much our family appreciates them!

Henry's version: Ditto



november serving schedule

Worship Team [Danae Lapka]

November: Singers meeting: Wednesday, November 2, at 7:00PM at Lapkas' house

- November 6: Anita Termaat, Nichole Beutlich, Cindy Kroon, Paul Lapka, Ryan Bons
November 13: Vicki Van Essen, Rebecca Ligtenberg, Bill Stout, Denise Van Dyk, Ashley Van Zante, Graeme Koch
November 20: Guitarists, Jeremiah Stout, Danae Lapka, Rebecca Ligtenberg, Jake Bons
November 24: (Thanksgiving) Sarah Verhoeven, Paul Lapka, Bill Stout, Denise Van Dyk
November 27: Anita Termaat, Paul & Danae Lapka, Emily & Maddie Salzman, Ryan Bons

Jr. Trailblazers [Kari Plaisier & Christina Faber]

- November 6: Levi Faber, Jeremiah Stout, Emma Vander Pol
November 13: Christina Faber, Jodi Van Solkema, Trevor Vander Pol
November 20: Sherry Schwab, Dalia Tostado, Eric Tostado
November 27: Dotti Hejka, Sophie Kraus, Niels de Jong

TRAILS [Sylvia Bons]

- November 6: Kristin Brown, Nettie Steenstra
November 13: Pat Medendorp, Nettie Steenstra
November 20: Pat Medendorp, Drea Arendse
November 27: Pat Medendorp, Drea Arendse

Nursery/Child Care [Heidi Vermaire & Jenny Varvel] (*denotes person in charge)

- November 6: Infant: *Dorissa Radersma, Marlys Hickox, Madeline Salzman
Toddler: Dicky Bons, Brian Verhoeven, Henry Kraus
November 13: Infant: *Sherry Schwab, Jonathan Beutlich, Sarah Katje
Toddler: Grant Spoelstra, Mike Wagenveld, Nannette Steenstra
November 20: Infant: *Dalia Tostado, Mike Carlson, Sophie Kraus
Toddler: Bill Stout, Gary Radersma, Luke Steenstra
November 24: (Thanksgiving) Infant: *Candy Van Zante, Sandy Geerdes
Toddler: Carol Beezhold, Anna Van Solkema, Megan Van Solkema
November 27: Infant: *Dorinda Vander Pol, Sue Wagenveld, Johnny Steenstra
Toddler: Sylvia Wilgenburg, Kari Plaisier, Cyrus Van Zante

Ushers [Marlys Hickox]

- November 6: Brian Verhoeven (D), Gordon Geerdes (D)
Jim Kroon, Warren Van Dam, Mike Plaisier
November 13: Gordon Geerdes (D), Levi Faber (D)
Terry Kok, Steve Katje, Mike Carlson
November 20: Linda Van Solkema (D), Jayne Kok (D)
Lyle Gorter, Eric de Jong, Kevin Vos
November 24: (Thanksgiving) Adrian Voorkamp (D), Brian Verhoeven (D)
Doug Van Solkema, Frank Zuidema, George te Velde
November 27: Linda Van Solkema (D), Adrian Voorkamp (D)
Mark Steenstra, Dotti Hejka, Henry Vander Pol

Refreshments [Suanne Varvel]

- November 6: (Silva) Anita Termaat, Dotty Van Iwaarden, Ineke Burrie,
Dorissa Radersma
November 13: (Dicky) Kathie Turner, Connie Lanting, Amy Jongetjes, Sylvia Bons
November 20: (Anna) Lorraine Koch, Kristin Brown, Jayne Kok, Christie Roberson
November 27: (Suanne) Elsa Stout, Cindy Kroon, Carol Beezhold, Nettie Steenstra

Opening/Closing [Jeff Hickox]

- 11/06 George Henry
11/13 Jeff Hickox
11/20 Brian Duyst
11/24 (Thanksgiving) Tanno Gomolka
11/27 Gary Burrie

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

Sunday Greeters [Kathy Zuidema]

November:

Mark & Nettie Steenstra
Jim & Carol Beezhold

Sound Crew [Frank Bons]

- 11/06 Frank Bons
11/13 Rick De Baan
11/20 George Tostado
11/24 (Thanksgiving) Randy Nagel
11/27 Frank Bons

Projection Crew [Marlys Hickox]

- 11/06 Rod Koelewyn
11/13 Jeremiah Stout/Marlys Hickox
11/20 Jeremiah Stout/Marlys Hickox
11/24 (Thanksgiving) Mike Schwab
11/27 Mike Schwab

Video Crew [Danae Lapka]

- 11/06 Haley Voorkamp
11/13 Sara Wagenveld
11/20 Niels de Jong
11/24 (Thanksgiving) David Gomolka
11/27 Trevor Vander Pol

Open Table [Elsa Stout]

November: George & Sue te Velde

november offering schedule

- November 6:** General Fund & Calvin Christian School Tuition Aid
November 13: General Fund & Rev. Melvin & April Jackson (CRHM)
November 20: General Fund & Calvin Christian School
November 24: General Fund & Thanksgiving Envelopes (Zakka Chomock-CRWRC, Interfaith Community Services, Benevolence Fund, Other: write in your choice)
November 27: General Fund & Chaplain Development Fund

- 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 '11-12 Budget commitment requires an average weekly offering of about \$7,642.77.**
- **Calvin Christian School Tuition Aid** is used to assist families from our church who are unable to pay full tuition. Our 2011-2012 school year commitment is \$18,000. Please prayerfully consider making a donation to this fund throughout the year.
- **Christian Reformed Home Missions—Rev. Melvin and April Jackson:** An offering will be received on November 13 to support the Jackson's ministry in Los Angeles at Grace Unlimited Church. We have committed to support them with \$2,000.00 per year.
- Crossroads CRC is a supporting church of **Calvin Christian School**. We recognize the important connection between home, school, and church for teaching our children about God and His world. To be a supporting church, Crossroads must take at least one general offering a year for the school. Please consider this important cause in your giving.
- **CRWRC—Zakka Chomock** works with the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC) as the Justice Education Coordinator for West Africa. We have committed to support with him as our CRWRC missionary with prayers and offerings. Please pray for Zakka and his family at this time as he has been diagnosed with liver cancer.
- **Interfaith Community Services** is a non-profit organization meeting the needs of individuals with food, shelter and job training. Please remember this ministry in your giving.
- **Benevolent Fund** collections are used for those in our church or in our community who may have special needs. Please contact a Deacon if you know of a need. This information will be confidential.
- **Chaplain Development Fund** Chaplains, who now make up about 10% of our ordained ministry workers, carry the love of Christ to people who are on battlefields, in hospitals, in prisons, in distress and pain, and in the shadow of death. Chaplains are required to obtain special training over and above the normal Seminary education. This training is usually referred to as Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) and entails from two to four units (800 – 1600 additional hours) of focused exposure to the unique realities of pastoral care in crisis environments. These can cost up to several thousand dollars per unit. This fund was created to help offset the cost of this training for up and coming chaplains, and the costs of an annual training conference or continued education for existing Chaplains.

from the deacons

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

September '11 General Fund Offerings: \$	25,212.95
Year To Date General Fund Offerings: \$ (Fiscal Year June 2011-May 2012)	158,280.07
<u>Other September Offerings</u>	
Calvin Christian School Tuition Aid	\$ 1,193.00
Green Oak Ranch Scholarship Fund	\$ 3,581.40
Mirtha Villafañe (CRHM)	\$ 634.25
CRWRC (East Africa Starvation)	\$ 934.00

from the office

Purchase Dwelling with Philippians by John Witvliet and others: This beautiful, artistic book seeks to help us meditate on God's Word in new ways. (\$15, available at Crossroads; if you can't afford this, contact Pastor Mark or Life Groups Coordinator Kim Bakker--we want anyone who would benefit from a copy to have one.)