

Testimony continued.....

That has led us to facilitate Grief Share, a Bible-based grief support program. It allows us to lend to others the support & hope that they need at such a difficult time. When they understand that there is no right or wrong way to grieve, it gives them comfort & helps them start the path towards healing.

We are so thankful for the healing that God has given & continues to give to us & that he has made a way for us to share with others. That's what he calls us to do.

After Jesus' resurrection, the disciples didn't recognize him until they saw the scars on his hands, & that's still how the world recognizes Jesus today...when we show our scars. There is power & purpose in our scars.

Don't be afraid to show your scars. They show others the healing that the power of Jesus has done in your life.

Steve & Deb Rhodes

If you have a testimony about how God has worked in your life that you would like to share with your Cross-Wind family, please let the office know. Spreading the word about all of the GREAT things our GREAT God is doing in our lives is vital to our fellowship and discipleship.

SUMMER SACK LUNCH PROGRAM

Free student summer sack lunches will be provided on Mondays and Wednesdays at Huston Park by Cross-Wind members. The distributions will be between 11 a.m.- 12 p.m.. The lunches will be given out during the months of June and July with the first day of sharing and caring being on June 3rd.

Please see the list of donations in the lobby and sign up to help. There are jobs for all ability levels and age groups. Let's show Cass County kids some love by filling their bellies and sharing the Word.

This program is in conjunction with Vineyard Community Church which will provide meals at Franklin School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.



The Cross~Wind Connection

June 2019

The Discipline of Meeting Together

By Pastor Nick Robinson

There are many meaningful ways to connect with God. People grow in their faith through reading the Bible on their own, individual devotional time, praying on their own, seeing God in nature, or through individual acts of generosity and service. Part of Jesus' work on earth was to tear down the barrier between God and humans. We no longer need a priest or church to negotiate our relationship with God - we have Jesus. Taking ownership of our faith journey through study, prayer, and service is the surest way to grow in our faith, but connecting with God on our own does not meet all of our spiritual needs.

The theme of needing each other is everywhere in scripture from the very beginning to the very end. God is always in community. The doctrine of the Trinity reminds us that God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are always three-in-one, never acting without each other. Genesis reminds us that we were made in God's communal image, and that we were also made to be in community with one another. The book of Hebrews implores us not to give up meeting with each other as some have done. God knows, scripture knows, and we know that community is important to following Jesus and growing in our faith.

Church attendance, however, is often overlooked as a way to connect with God and often for what seems like good reasons. Church attendance can get messy since other real, imperfect people show up at church. Church attendance takes more time and asks more of us than many of our solo study practices. We can even mislead ourselves into thinking that meeting God in other ways can replace meeting God (and other believers) through church attendance and participation.

I have witnessed this attempt many times in my ministry. Once I received a call to visit a person in the hospital whom I did not know. They had requested a Methodist minister come pray with them because they had once been a part of a Methodist church. I fit the bill, and I was happy to meet them. They were not far from home, but they did not have a church family to support them even though they were hungry for that support. I asked what had happened, and they gave a non committal statement about connecting to God through other means. I imagine they either slowly fell away from church over time or the church wounded them in a way that made it impossible for them to go back. Either way, I do not blame them for where they are on their faith journey, but I do know there is another way. I hope they find that way.

One family at Cross~Wind has recently experienced the reverse situation of the stranger I met in the hospital. Their words of thanks to this congregation, and the many other Christians who have supported them, have been a real encouragement to me and bolstered my pride in the congregation I get to call home. I hope you will check out their letter which is in this newsletter. I know I am even more excited to live a life of faith lived within a community of believers after reading their words and witnessing the events that led to them giving thanks.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Nick

THINK ORANGE Children's Ministry

**2nd through 4th (and 5th) Sundays we offer:
Children's Church: 10:50am**

Children in grades K-5 are welcome to join us.

***The first Sunday of each month is Family Communion Sunday.
We encourage you to attend worship service and receive Communion together as a family.***

***NOTICE: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:45AM) DURING THE MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY & AUGUST. WE ARE ON SUMMER BREAK.**



FREE EVENT: CATCH THE BRASS RING!

SUNDAY, JUNE 23rd, 1pm – 3pm

Free Carousel rides and cookies!

CASS COUNTY DENTZEL CAROUSEL

1208 Riverside Dr.

All Children, Teens, & Adults come join the fun!

June's Memory Verse:

The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace.

- Galatians 5:22a

June's Life App:

Life App—What God is doing in you to change the world around you



Linda Eshelman- Director of Children's Ministry

linda@crosswindministries.net



Do you ever look around & wonder why some people have a pretty easy/blessed life & others seem to have one trial after another? I used to do that, specifically wondering why I was the one with an easy life. What I've come to realize is that we all WILL have trials...in time. Starting in 2002, we had a decade of trials. But God is faithful. He saw us through each & every one of them, & I know he will continue to do that for us & for you.

A concise run down of that decade includes: Our 21 year old daughter was diagnosed with cancer, Steve was diagnosed with cancer, My mom suffered cardiac arrest twice & spent 2 months in the hospital, I had neurosurgery for a very painful nerve condition, Our daughter had a recurrence of her cancer, Our daughter died, and My mom died.

God's word tells us that he gives power to those who are tired & worn out & he offers strength to the weak. (Isaiah 40:29) We were tired & worn out many times, & counted on his strength to keep us moving forward...actually at times, just to keep us standing!

Testimony to God's faithfulness includes: He surrounded us with loving, supportive people who were strong prayer warriors & who showered us with meals & gifts as acts of kindness. He provided financially while we had to take time off work, & for travel to Indianapolis & New York for treatment. He put my mom at the hospital registration desk when she had her 2nd cardiac arrest, with her cardiologist in the hospital! He blessed our daughter with a wonderful husband who took such good care of her & showered her with love. He guided the surgeons to perform life-saving surgery when Steve's initial surgery caused internal bleeding. He put wonderful doctors & nurses in our lives, some of whom we still keep in touch with. He showed us his timing & worked things out just when it was needed. In calling our daughter & my mom home to heaven, He restored them to perfection, freeing them from the diseases that took so much from them here on earth.

So since 2011, we've lived without our daughter here with us, which is the most painful thing a parent can do. Men & women grieve differently, mothers & fathers grieve differently, and so it was/is with Steve & me. Our grief journey has taken us on different paths at different times. But God is faithful even in this. Whether we lean into him or push him away for a while as we try to understand how to live this new life & how God fits into it all, He is patient & faithful to be there when we are ready to turn to him. He is there to provide healing when we're ready, & hope. I've read hope described as a golden chord that connects us to heaven, helping us hold our head up high even in the midst of trials. (Continued...)

Youth

The month will be a very busy month for the youth. We will start out with heading to Crooked Creek Trails to go horseback riding. **June 23rd**, we will be doing free rides at the **carousel** from 1-3 pm at the McHale Complex at Riverside Park for all families. Later that night, we will be going to Monticello UMC to have a **combined youth group night** to meet one more time before camp and go over what to bring and rules! (Same time meeting at Cross-Wind UMC just taking a bus over to Monticello.)

For our service event this month we will be helping to make food for **loaves and fishes** on **June 15th**.

Camp Notes:

Senior high camp is June 30th- July 5th and we are going with Monticello UMC this year.

The middle schoolers are going to pine creek July 7th-12th

We ask our congregation to pray for us especially during this time. We hope this camp experience brings all our youth closer to God.

Please remember that Father's day is this month and that means no youth on **June 16th**.



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

There are a variety of ways to become involved in the ministry life here at Cross-Wind. The following are jobs that are available and ways that you can join others in working together. Fellowship is a great form of ministry. Please consider using your gifts to further God's work here at Cross-Wind.

LANDSCAPE TEAM:

There are opportunities to dig and spray weeds all summer long. If you enjoy watering pots, pruning, or pulling a weed, please **NEW** and join the team. Prayerfully consider donating an hour or two of your time this summer.

FUNERAL DINNERS:

Funeral dinners are a FREE ministry that Cross-Wind offers to our community. There are many ways to be involved with funeral dinners. If you are not part of the team and wish to join the fellowship, please contact Judy Best or Lois Gwin. They will get you on the list and help you get involved!

SMALL GROUPS:

Would you be interested in being involved with or leading a small group? Since our small groups are ending after Easter, we would like to encourage everyone to continue that fellowship. If you have an idea for a group or would be interested in leading, please see Pastor Nick. Small group fellowship builds relationship through the study of the Word.

YOUTH:

The youth are ALWAYS looking for mentors and people to help with activities. If you have a heart for children and would like to make snacks, attend meetings or events, or support them financially, please see Lizzy. She will be happy **NEW** to help you get involved.

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT:

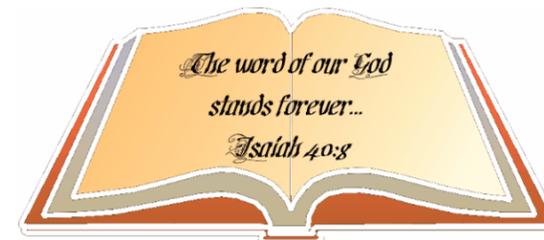
We are looking for a talented and interested individual who might be able to spend some time working on our Cross-Wind website. If that person is you- see Pastor Nick!

COMMUNION SERVERS:

Sharing the blood and body of Christ is such an honor and privilege. We offer this time of forgiveness and repentance once a month. Would you be interested in serving your brothers and sisters in Christ sometime this year? Pam Collins is always looking for help. Please contact the office or Pam if you would be willing **NEW** to serve.

LAWN CARE :

ARE YOU ABLE to run a weed trimmer or leaf blower? Would you be willing to help the mowing crew clean up a little after they finish mowing? There are jobs for all ages and abilities. Please see Barry Prentice or contact the office if you are interested.



FREE BIBLES!!! If you or someone you know wants or needs a Bible, please let us know. We have Bibles for all ages available at no cost. Give them to friends and colleagues. Let's get the Word out!

THANK YOU CROSS~WIND!!



~A heartfelt thank you~

This is the letter to which Pastor Nick referred in his article.

Dear Church Family,

Words cannot begin to describe how loved we all felt during Mom's brief illness and passing in May. There are so many people and groups to thank.

First, to Pastor Nick, who visited Mom in the hospital twice and prayed with our family, thank you! And, the eloquent message you gave during Mom's funeral service really captured who she was and how much she meant to so many.

Second, to my Thursday night Bible study group, who graciously and generously provided and abundance of food for so many, thank you! We were even able to give the leftovers to a hungry group of Boy Scouts that evening.

Third, to the amazing team that lovingly prepared the delicious funeral dinner, thank you! Everyone loved the home-made chicken and noodle dinner, complete with mashed potatoes, green beans and desserts!

Fourth, to Kelly Spencer, who organized all of the pictures, made sure we had plenty of time with our family, and took care of all the details to make both the viewing and the funeral flow so smoothly- thank you!

Finally, to the entire congregation who visited, attended the funeral or just lifted us up in your prayers, thank you! You were truly the church to us. We are humbled and grateful for all of your love, care, and concern, food, flowers, cards, chimes, blankets, and fellowship. We love you all!!!

God Bless you always!! Jay, Peggy & Nathaniel King & Family.

THANK YOU For the prayer quilts. They were so lovely and it was kind of you. Berniece is my cousin. We are very close. Carolyn L. Bundy and Hanna L. Bundy.

The Landscape Team would like to thank all the volunteers who helped lay the mulch on May 18th. We appreciate your time on such a hot day. Special thanks to Kay Thomas for heading that up. Thanks to Kelly Spencer for the use of his vehicles to haul the mulch and save us a LOT of money! Those who attended this special time of fellowship were, Tod & Becky Groff, Kelly Smith, Jim & Julie Layman, Pastor Nick, Xavier Beety and Lindsey, Wayne and Kay Thomas, and Stan Maloy. Thank you to the Scout leader, Jay Vandeburg for joining us with four Scouts- Sam, Anderson, Josh and Bradon.

Many blessings to you all.
-The Landscape Team

Discipleship Challenge: Share Love

Please continue to turn in your discipleship hours. We are over half way to our goal of 10,000 hours in just 89 days! (As of the printing of this newsletter) What an awesome testimony to how God is using us in the lives of others. Remember any act of love or service to others, our church, or your own family counts! Names are not required on the cards- simply put down a number of hours and you're all set!

Some of the awesome ways we have served so far include taking care of a neighbor's recycling, babysitting a child for parents who need daycare, shopping for a shut in, mowing the lawn of an elderly gentlemen in the neighborhood who can't do it himself or afford to pay for it, mentoring children at school, serving at a funeral dinner, picking up a stranger who had her arms full of groceries and giving her a ride home, making phone calls to check on shut ins, taking friends to doctor's appointments, volunteering at the hospital, and many, MANY more. What a thoughtful and caring family we have here at Cross-Wind. Keep sharing the love of Christ through service. Less than 5,000 hours to go!

SENIOR NOTES



Logansport Memorial Hospital's Senior Series is available to all seniors in Cass County. June's session will be with Dr. Stephen Beck of the Urology Department and will focus on Men's Health.

Proud to be 100% Employee Owned



YOU KNOW???

Miller's Merry Manor has a new fitness facility and swimming/fitness pool that is made available to ANYONE 55 and older from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. every day? To enjoy the facility, you simply need to attend a brief introduction and training on any Thursday at 12:00 p.m. If you are unable to attend those trainings, call Sadie between 8 and 4:30, she will arrange a private training for you at your convenience. Her number is 722-4006. This new facility is beautiful and is being offered to improve mobility and health of seniors. Take advantage and live every day to its fullest!!

IMPORTANT SUMMER CALENDAR NOTE: If your group has any changes to the calendar for the summer months, please let the office know. It is very important that we arrange to have the building securely locked if there are no groups meeting in the evening. If the office isn't notified, we may have an open facility all night long. Thanks for your help in keeping things safe! -Cross-Wind Trustees