

# The Crossroads



October 2008

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We exist to **reach** others with the Message of Christ, **connect** them with the community of believers, and **challenge** everyone to grow closer to Jesus through faith, knowledge of His Word and service.



**A FREE EVENING  
FOR THE FAMILY!**

(Trunk or Treat /Games for 6<sup>th</sup>  
grade and under)

# October 18\*

**6:00 – 8:00**

**The FREE night includes:**

Trunk Treating, Door Prizes, Puppet Show, Family Photo Booth, Refreshments, Games and More

\* Please no fake guns, swords, knives or scary costumes.

\* Please e-mail [children@rosscc.org](mailto:children@rosscc.org) or call 738-1512 if you have any questions.

*\* Costumes are encouraged but not required.*

\* Rain Date – October 19



**Church Address & Information** - Ross Christian Church - 3756 Herman Rd. - Hamilton, OH 45013

Phone: (513) 738-1512 - [www.rosscc.org](http://www.rosscc.org)



The "Love to Pray" series has begun and we have had a lot of encouraging responses so far. Everyone in church received a prayer journal and has been following along with the sermon using their outlines. Over 40 people attended the Sunday evening DVD series and small group classes. Now each of us is challenged to be in daily prayer. A special thanks goes to Tom Young who shared his personal testimony of how God answered a prayer in his life.

We have had several people volunteer to be in the prayer room during the worship service and God has been hearing our prayers. Jeremy and Trisha Gottlieb and their family joined the Ross Christian Church family. Then Stephanie and Cory Wigal, the following Sunday, were baptized into Christ. If you would like to participate in the prayer room during the morning worship time please see Dave Bunn or use the sign up sheet in the front foyer.

We also have a prayer team that prays when we have specific prayer needs such as health issues, family members, or community needs. It is simple to be a part of the team. E-mails are sent out when a specific request is given, when you receive the e-mail...pray. It is just that simple. A monthly prayer list is given to the team with church, missions, youth, and world concerns that need our prayers. If you want to be a part of this exciting ministry again see Dave Bunn or use the sign up sheet in the foyer.

I like how Richard Foster describes prayer: "God welcomes us home: home to serenity and peace and joy, home to friendship and fellowship and openness, home to intimacy and acceptance and affirmation. He invites us into the living room of his heart, where we can put on old slippers and share freely. He invites us into the kitchen of his friendship, where chatter and batter mix in good fun. He invites us into the dining room of his strength, where we can feast to our heart's desire. He invites us into the study of his wisdom, where we can learn and grow and stretch...and ask all the questions we want. He invites us into the workshop of his creativity, where we can be co-laborers with him. He invites us into his bedroom of rest, where new peace is found."

**The key to this home, this heart of God, is prayer.**

I John 5: 14 says, "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us." Philippians 4: 6 states, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

My prayer is that we become people of prayer. So I challenge you to stop for just a moment now and pray.

Don



Christy Nunn, 738-4164

# Women's Christmas Party

**December 4 at 6:30**

Please come for our annual Christmas party. We will be serving a wonderful dinner. Cost is free.

We will also have the Secret Sister gift Exchange (Limit of \$20) that night for those who participated in the Secret Sister program for 2008. It's always fun to see who had who for the year. For the rest of us, you may bring a \$10 themed gift exchange if you want. We also have devotions and a fun game.

Our annual Christmas party is always a favorite of all the women. Planning is underway for our theme. Keep checking the newsletter for more information about this great event.



We are so excited for our auction this year! This auction is an annual event that raises money for needy Ross families during the holidays.

We coordinate with the school counselors and our minister to target families who might need the help of food and/or gifts for Christmas. Last year we raised over \$2000 and were able to help 21 families. In order for this to be successful again, we need your help. We need people to make something, bake something or grow something that we can auction off.

**November 13, 6:30 – 8:30**

**Items we are looking for:**

Baked Goods  
Flower Arrangements  
Quilting  
Sewing  
Gift Baskets  
And Much more!

Come and do some early  
Christmas Shopping



**RCC Children's Ministry**  
**Growing Kids in Christ**  
Terri Millard, 896-1159

## Upcoming Events:

October 11 – Junior Jam

October 18 – Trunk or Treat

October 26 – Girls going to see HSM3

Boys going to the Air Force Museum

December 7 – Children are going to the Children's Theatre

### BIBLE BOWL TEAM IS UP AND RUNNING



Our Bible Bowl team has been formed with 8 kids and we are very excited. But there is still room for more (grades 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>). Bible bowl practice is on Sunday nights at 5:00. Sharon Tabler is doing a great job leading the kids in their questions and they are having a ball.

### TURN 180 CONTINUES!



The mission of *Turn 180* is to provide a positive environment for youth grades 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade. This great program had a great kick-off in September with 25 kids. Turn 180 is being lead by John & Terri Millard and Maribeth & Lance Pennekamp. We are having lots of fun with the games and the lessons. We are using the Grapple curriculum from Group Publishing again this year which includes access for each child to our own website where they can chat with their friends, play games and vote on things we are doing in class. We encourage all 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders to come and invite a friend.

### NEW KIDS PROGRAM STARTED IN SEPTEMBER



Last month we announced the start of Club 56 which is a great program for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. We also announced that this program would only be on 2 Sundays a month. Thanks to Jeremy Gottlieb who volunteered to help with the program, we are now able to offer it four Sundays a month. The 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays are always Family Sundays where all kids (1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>) attend service. After worship, we will introduce a biblical topic and then we will discuss it in more detail, allowing the students time to interact, ask questions and discuss the material.

### JUNIOR JAM – OCTOBER 11

We will be taking a group of kids to Cedarville University for Junior Jam. Junior Jam is a one-day, high-energy, event that includes music, videos, games, hands-on activities, lunch, and one-on-one time with university students. All of these activities converge to encourage kids to not be a **Sink'n Scallywag**, but to **Follow the Cap'n to Stay Afloat** and learn that there is long lasting treasure to those that obey the ultimate Cap'n, Jesus Christ. We must register by September 28. Please Terri Millard if you have any questions.





**Melanie Moore, 309-6139**

[melaniemore@zoomtown.com](mailto:melaniemore@zoomtown.com)

## **Upcoming Events:**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Service Project – “Warm Hands, Warm Hearts”**

We are collecting hats, gloves and scarves to donate to the Serve City shelter in Hamilton. We will be collecting these in October and November and taking them down to Serve City in December.

### **October 12<sup>th</sup> – Cornerstone Luncheon**

Mark your calendars NOW! This luncheon will be held right after church, and will be hosted by Merrill and Janet Sorrell. Please make plans to join us, we all have to eat somewhere....why not with your Cornerstone friends! As usual, it will be potluck....please bring a large dish to share and a dessert (if possible).

**\*\*NOTE\*\*:** *The intent of these luncheons when we decided to do them was to create an outreach venue where we could invite the Senior Adults in our community to attend. These first few luncheons (since July) were supposed to get us into the “groove” with how they work and what to do when we do host them for the community. Our plan is still to make this an outreach for our Senior Adult community, but we need your help! These luncheons are ALWAYS **the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month, after church**. Please mark your calendar now for the rest of the year (Oct 12<sup>th</sup>, Nov 9<sup>th</sup>, and Dec 14<sup>th</sup>) and plan to attend. We start at 12:30pm and end by 2pm each time....just like if you went out for lunch after church. Please join us, we need your help to make this a success.*

### **October 18<sup>th</sup> – Trunk or Treat**

This is the largest outreach event RCC does the entire year! We have over 500 people attend the event each year! Please mark your calendar now to come and support this awesome church event! Get involved somewhere! The Sorrells are running the hotdogs and drinks stand! Sharon Tabler has already signed up to do a trunk! How about you? There are soooo many ways you can be involved in this event. Don't sit back and let other people have all the fun! Each year the stories are endless on how we have touched the community with this outreach. In this time when so many are struggling it is a blessing and gift to the community that we can provide a FREE outreach such as this. It is a time for all families to come, have fun and forget their worries. Get involved – do a trunk, pass out food, bag popcorn, work the registration table, paint faces, work a game booth, take pictures, the list in endless....and so are the possibilities! Come and be blessed!

### **October 25<sup>th</sup> – Trip to Mr Jim's Steakhouse and Songfest**

We will be leaving RCC at 3pm and head to an early dinner at Mr Jim's Steakhouse in West Harrison, Indiana. We have been there before as a group, and the food and atmosphere are AWESOME! Following dinner we will be heading to Songfest 2008, starting at 7pm. This is an event presented by the churches in Harrison that combine to create one huge choir for the purpose of Songfest. This is also a fundraiser for Love INC (Love in the Name of Christ), Melanie's new non-profit organization she works with. They will take a love offering during the concert.

### **Looking Ahead:**

November 9<sup>th</sup> – Cornerstone Luncheon (Hosted by Lloyd & Stella Potter and Clara)

November ? – Cornerstone trip to serve in a Soup kitchen or Serve City - Have ideas? Let Melanie know!

December 14<sup>th</sup> - Cornerstone Luncheon (Hosted by Lewis and Penny McVay)

December ? – Christmas play or event (hosted by Glenn and Barb Warfield) – Have ideas? Let them know!

December ? – Delivery of Warm Hands, Warm Hearts donations to Serve City



Many people say, "I struggle in my prayer life" or "Prayer has become a ritual to me." or "I have difficulty in keeping a consistent prayer time." Have you ever said or thought this? Well, you are probably not alone --- the average Christian prays only three to four minutes per day, and that is normally at meal times. But the normal Christian prayer life and the typical Christian prayer life are two completely different things.

Most all of us have the desire to a person of prayer, but don't know where to begin. If you fall into this category, the Prayer Ministry Team has the answer for you. Last Sunday evening we began an eight week session on "Love to Pray" --- it was a great evening, attended by about 50 people. After viewing a DVD, we broke into four small groups for study and discussion. It was a great time well spent.

"Love to Pray" is about prayer and the different aspects of prayer --- "The Requirements of Prayer"; "Prayer as a Way of Life"; "The Difference Prayer Makes", to name a few. We would love to have you join with us as we learn to "Love to Pray." Each session covers different aspects of prayer, so if you can't attend all of them we encourage you to attend as many as you can. You will find them very helpful in growing in your prayer life and also in your spiritual life.

These sessions are accompanied by a "40 Days of Prayer" devotional which is for your use during the week. Each Sunday morning for eight weeks, Don will be bringing a message on prayer which will introduce us to our Sunday evening sessions. We encourage you join us as we learn to "Love to Pray."

Speaking of prayer --- what a wonderful privilege we have of being invited into His presence and having a time of communion with Him. We don't have to be a great theologian or a great orator to be a great intercessor, because prayer is not communication of the intellect. Prayer is a communion between two hearts --- the heart of God and the heart of man (us)! God is looking for a humble heart -- one that longs to know and love God and desires to be one of His intercessors.

And speaking of intercessors -- we are in need of people to be in intercessory prayer during our Sunday Worship services. We have had 20 / 25 people during the last three months who have occupied our Prayer Room during the Worship services. If you were to ask them, they would tell you they have been truly blessed. We are still in need of more people to occupy the Prayer Room during the Worship services -- you can be one of them by putting your name on the sign up sheet which is on the bulletin board in the hallway or the one on the welcome desk. What a privilege it is to lift up our Worship services to the Lord that He may be praised!

The mission of our Prayer Ministry Team is to make the RCC a Prayer Driven Church --- the "Love to Pray" sessions; the "40 Days of Prayer devotionals; the Prayer Room; the emailing of prayer requests, are part of our attempts to accomplish our mission. If you would like to be a part of this ministry you can sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway or contact me ([daveosu@fuse.net](mailto:daveosu@fuse.net)) or Lewis McVay ([lewmcvay@aol.com](mailto:lewmcvay@aol.com)).

"Lord, teach us to Pray."

Dave <><





Worship Leader - Chris Curry, 887-7993  
Special Music/Praise Team Coordinator - Melanie Moore, 309-6139

Do you love to worship with your voice? Do you love Christian music and love to sing? We are arranging new Praise Team schedules to invite even more people to participate in this wonderful service. The new Praise Teams will serve on Sunday a month (i.e. – the first Sunday). Praise team members must be baptized believers, members of RCC and actively walking in Christian faith. If you are interested in serving on the Praise Team one Sunday per month, please see Melanie Moore, Chris Curry, or call the church office at 738-1512.

**SPECIAL MUSIC:**

If you would like to sing in October or November, please see Melanie Moore. Songs are performed during offering time of the worship service. Solos, duets and group performances are all welcome.

Praise Team members should attend worship practice the week of your scheduled rotation:

Wednesday before: 7-8:30pm

Sunday morning of: 8:30am (before Sunday School)

\*If you are unable to sing during your assigned week, it is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement from another praise team week. If you are unable to attend practice, you must let Chris or Melanie know ASAP.



Melanie Moore - Delivery Day Team and Host Site Relations  
Darita Hall - Order Taking Team Leader  
Terri Millard - Office Team Leader  
Sharon Tabler - Pick Up Team Leader

Final Order Date: Sunday, October 12  
Distribution Day: Saturday, October 25, 9-10am

Melanie Moore, 309-6139  
[melaniemore@zoomtown.com](mailto:melaniemore@zoomtown.com)

**ANGEL FOOD CLOTHING GIVE-A-WAY DAY!**  
Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 10am-2pm at RCC

Please start cleaning out your closets and drawers for this annual event. We will separate the clothing by sizes on the tables and open it up to the entire community for FREE clothing. Perfect time to purge your fall and winter clothes! If you are interested in helping that day, please see one of the Angel Food Team leaders above.



Jenny & David Tackett, 896-9424

There is still room and time for more puppeteers to join the team. We meet at 7:00 until 8:30 Tuesday nights in room 102. Preparing for our Christmas production "Count Down Till Christmas". which we will be taking on the Road to REACH the world at both Fairfield Lane

Library and Twin Towers, to CONNECT those to the message of salvation as we also CONNECT ourselves to become a Christian Team Ministry, and to CHALLENGE ourselves to discover and use our gifts fully in our ministry. If you are interested we can still plug you in, call David Tackett on 513-207-2942 for more information.

## Food Pantry Update

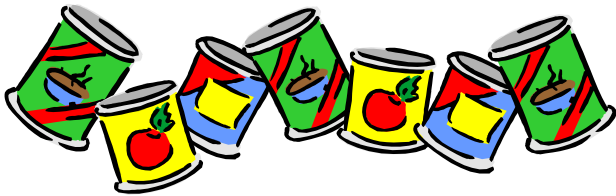
Have you checked out the Food Pantry in 107 lately? Special thanks to Stella and Lloyd Potter for hanging the shelving to enable us to store and better organize more supplies. Thank you to each of you that have kept the Food Pantry supplied with such a variety of food and personal hygiene items.

Preparation for the Christmas Project will begin soon and although we have a generous supply of food at this time it will not be enough to fulfill the needs for the upcoming fall season and Christmas Project. If you are a member of a club, organization, school or business of which is seeking to do a service project I would like to encourage you to consider donating to the Food Pantry.

Items needed:

mayonnaise-ketchup-mustard-cooking oil-sugar-flour-salt-pepper-peanut butter, pastas, pasta sauces, children's cereals, juice drinks-tomato juice-canned chicken/ham-canned fruits-shampoo-hair conditioner-body soaps-toothpaste-toothbrushes/children-money to purchase perishable items such as milk.

For more information please contact Debbie Sauerland, Food Pantry Coordinator



## Helpers Needed

As summer comes to an end and fall approaches it's time for fall cleaning. We are in need of individuals to adopt a room or rooms to thoroughly clean. You clean at your convenience and our goal is all to be done by the end of October. We need the following done: windows, walls, touch up painting, painting, wash plants, clean furniture, cabinets, shampoo carpet, wash baseboards, wash toys, etc. Contact Sharon Tabler if you would like to help clean the sanctuary and Debbie Sauerland for all other areas.

Adopt A Room: Several individuals or families have adopted rooms or spaces within the church to clean on a weekly basis. If you would like to serve in this ministry one time a month or each week please contact Debbie Sauerland. The Restrooms and Family Life Center are areas in need of adopting at this time.

**Special thanks to Jack Flannery for donating the tools to strip, wax and buff the gym floor and training several volunteers of how to use the equipment. Although a time consuming task this was a week of fun fellowship as well. Thank you to all the volunteers that took the time out of their busy schedules to accomplish a job well done.**

Debbie Sauerland  
Custodial Coordinator



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## FINDING PEACE IN THE MIDST OF THE NATION'S TURMOIL

Right now, it seems that gasoline prices, the cost of food, the war in Iraq, house prices, and the struggling economy are on the top of most people's minds. There's so much chaos going on around us! And it's in times like these when many can start to lose hope. Can you relate? I want to remind you that in the midst of all the bleak news we hear and see every day, the Bible provides us with good news... that Jesus is our ultimate hope! And today, more than ever, you and I need to be reminded of the peace we can find from God.

In Philippians 4:6-7, the apostle Paul commands us... *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

God promises us... when we present our requests to Him with thanksgiving... He will guard our hearts and minds with peace! And 1 Peter 5:7 encourages us by saying, "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." As followers of Christ, you and I are free to give God all of our cares and concerns! This is the challenge to you and me, that if indeed we truly trust God and take Him at His word, then He says we can leave our worries with Him.

And in place of those worries, God wants to fill our hearts with good things and He wants us to fill our minds with everything that is holy. As Philippians 4:8 says, "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things." Then verse 9 ends with "And the God of peace will be with you." If only we all would spend more time meditating on God's Word and spend more time with Him, listening to His voice speak to us!

I am reminded of that beautiful hymn called "In The Garden." The chorus describes the peace and joy of sharing time with God...

*And He walks with me, And He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own;  
And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
None other has ever known.*

I pray you will find that peace that passes all understanding... as you invest your time wisely waiting on the Lord... and listening to His voice speaking to you.

Article courtesy of [www.seniorlivingministries.com](http://www.seniorlivingministries.com)