

The Light Community

Loving Others As Christ Loves

*A Ministry of Crossroads Community Baptist Church
Stearns, Kentucky*

Vision to Reality

The Light Community began as a vision in the fall of 2016 when our faith family began to have more individuals and families needing a safe environment to live. At least ninety-nine percent of the families connected with the ministries at Crossroads Community has immediate family members that are dealing with the effects of drug addiction. Individuals desiring help can get help at recovery centers out of the area.

Our problem exists for the individuals coming out of recovery centers and needing a safe place to land to reenter a functioning life. This is one of the needs The Light Community will address. We desire to be a safe haven for traction to be found. Spiritual discipleship will emphasize the one true healer is Jesus Christ. We will implement times of discipleship, training, and accountability through programs such as Celebrate Recovery. Job skills will be taught through working on the farm both with agriculture and livestock care. In addition, a crafting and blacksmith shop will be utilized to teach basic skills and generate income. Financial stewardship will be required through paying rent that will cover utilities. Through this business plan, our goal is to operate the ministry of The Light Community as a self-sufficient ministry.

On July 1, 2017, we closed on the purchase of 13 acres of land. The land is situated in a valley with creeks and majority usable land. The property also included some existing structures including a 2-bedroom cabin. We purchased the property for \$98,000. Work on the prayer chapel began weeks before the purchase was complete. Since this time, much work



has been accomplished to make the property usable. In the summer of 2018, volunteer mission teams donated time and resources to begin building the first four tiny homes. These four homes are nearing completion of the exteriors and still need to be finished on the interiors.

*A Vision + A Plan + Action =
A Spiritually Reproductive Ministry*

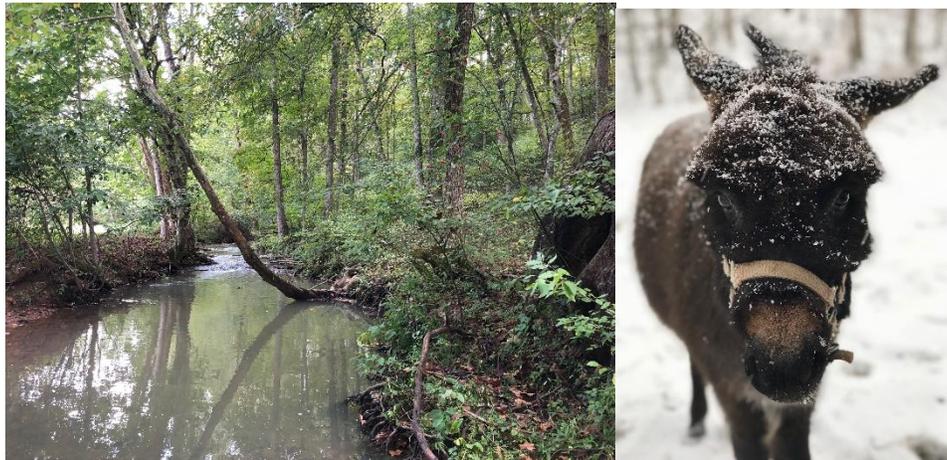
The Process

We will accept applications as homes become available. Each applicant will have to agree to the guidelines of the community including random drug testing, paying rent, responsibilities in the community, and cleanliness checks of homes. We do not anticipate an exit plan for individuals to leave the community. We will instill the importance of independent living.

Currently, we are working with mission teams from multiple states to get the homes and community pieces in place for our first residences. In 2019, approximately 20 mission teams have committed to come and work at The Light Community. There is much work to be accomplished. As a church, we are unable to supply the materials for team to come and work. If materials were supplied, we would be able to welcome more volunteers to come and help complete the project.

Life At The Light Community

The Light Community is designed to be a working community. Through operating a working farm, residences will gain knowledge on how to sustain themselves. Each resident will be assigned a task on the farm that will fit their abilities. The community will be divided into four sections. Each section of residence will have a chicken coop to maintain to get fresh eggs, a cow to raise for beef, goats to tend to milk to make products, and pigs to raise for meat. Garden boxes and green house will provide a place to grow fresh vegetables. Idle hands are a danger for many.



Tranquility to rest is an important part of a balanced life. The Light Community will incorporate equine therapy. Working with horses will not only continue to build a sense of purpose but working with horses provides a safe listening ear. Three creeks flow on the property to provide a serene environment. In addition, a pond is planned for fishing.

Each of these resources are a tool to draw individuals into a close personal relationship with God. Our faith family work with families to show them the love of Christ and to walk beside each resident as a friend. We will utilize the prayer chapel for both a personal place of prayer and for community Bible Study and worship (these times are in addition to our regularly scheduled gatherings on Sundays and Wednesdays).

God Size Vision

In addition to The Light Community, we envision a location near our current ministry and worship site on Highway 27 in Stearns. We envision a barn style store front to be built. This store front will be used to sell the goods and products from The Light Community. As a draw for tourist, demonstrations will be given in Appalachian crafts, blacksmithing, soap making, and more. This store front will not only provide a place for residence to generate income, but also, the gospel will be shared with visitors.

Crossroads Community Baptist Church

Crossroads Community first met on September 5, 2010, with prayer about becoming a church plant. As the faith family began, we began to pray that God will show us the needs in the area and provide the resources to meet both the spiritual and physical needs in the area. By February 2011, The Lord's Café property was acquired at first as a lease purchase, later purchase. On June 6, 2011, the doors of The Lord's Café were opened. The men of the church pulled together to completely remodel the commercial kitchen. The following week, we welcomed our first mission team. Since 2011, our mission team involvement remains very strong.



At The Lord's Café, we gather for worship and Bible Study on Sunday and Wednesday. We serve lunch two days a week during the school year, and four days a week during the summer. We average 80 to 100 during the school year per day and between 200 and 250 during the summer per day. On Wednesday, we open the doors for a grocery giveaway. On average, 140 families receive food each Wednesday. Everything at The Lord's Café is accomplished through volunteers and donations.

Our faith family has been growing both spiritually and numerically. As pastor, I am seeing a hunger and thirst for the Word of God. Many are beginning to step up into ministry leadership roles. We are excited to see what God has in store as we continue to pray, "God, show us the need and provide the resources." He is faithful.

Our Community

McCreary County, Kentucky, continues to rank in the top five poorest counties in the nation; one study ranks McCreary County as the poorest in the nation. When coal mining went out in the mid to late 50's, the major coal company sold their land to the federal government. Currently, approximately eighty percent of the land is managed by the park services as the Daniel Boone National Forest. This limits our counties tax and business base.

Over fifty percent of the 18,000 individuals in the county depend on government assistance each month. A very slow shift has been seen in the entitlement mindset. We strive to be excellent stewards of the resources God provides to shine His glory in the area.

In addition to physical poverty, our area is also suffering from spiritual poverty. On any given Sunday, over 13,000 people in the county chose not to attend one of 70 churches situated throughout the county. Many of individuals or families have been asked to change or leave the church. In addition, churches implement strict dress codes for members to attend church. If a person has a struggle with sin, the church will ask individuals to take care of the struggle, then return to church. Biblical training is not a priority for church life in our area.

Matthew 9:35–38

And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the

Tiny Homes Construction Estimates

4 Current Homes To Finish

Average \$6,000 per home

4 Homes = \$24,000

Build Ground Up

16 more tiny homes ranging from one room loft to two bedrooms

\$12,000 per home

16 homes = \$192,000

Interior Fixtures and Appliances

Kitchens

Compact Stove	\$500	\$10,000
Sink & Faucet	\$250	\$5,000
Compact Refrigerators	\$450	\$9,000
Washer/ Dryer Combo	\$900	\$18,000

\$24,000

Bathrooms

Fixtures	\$85	\$1,700
Sink	\$125	\$2,500
Toilet	\$90	\$1,800

\$6,000

Waste Water Systems

\$21,000 each (1 system per every five homes)

\$84,000

HVAC mini-split units

1 unit per every 5 homes

\$2,000 per unit

\$8,000 estimated cost

Water Main Line

\$3,000 estimated cost

Prayer Chapel

Flooring \$2,100

Ceiling Paint \$150

\$2,250

Community/ Farm Aspects

Garden Boxes & Greenhouse

\$5,000 estimated cost

Barns

8 - 12x12 stalls/ feed room/ tack room -

60'x36' barn size 2,160 sqft

Average cost \$25 per square feet

\$54,000 estimated total

Chicken coops

4 chicken coops

Estimated cost \$800 each

\$3,200 estimated total

Fencing supplies

(electric fence, fence wire, post)

\$700 estimated cost

Bee hives and equipment

\$500 estimated cost

Other Livestock Start-Up

\$2,000

Other Property Needs

Gravel Parking, Drives, Drainage

\$10,000

Property Mortgage

\$92,000

Future Store Front
\$200,000 property
\$250,000 storefront

\$450,000 estimated total

Transportation

\$30,000

Estimated Total

\$990,650