

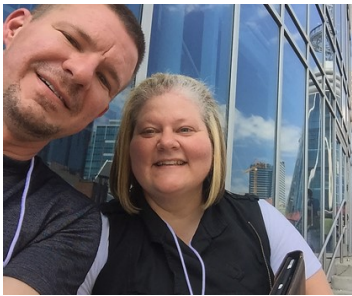
Only He Gets The Glory

Summer 2015 Update

Maybe it is getting older, or maybe it is just life, but summer flew by quicker this year than any in previous years. This summer we completed our fifth year of summer missions. This summer was one of the most adventurous summer ever. This summer, we welcomed several returning teams as well as many new teams. We enjoyed catching up with old friends and meeting new friends. All in all, God blessed us with great teams this summer.

Family Life

This summer Gina and I switched roles. Gina took care of errands, shuttling teams to projects, landscaped the house and both ministry facilities, and held down the home front. I ran The Lord's Café, pastored, and helped with the mission teams. We both survived. Obviously, by the end of summer, we were both ready for a break.

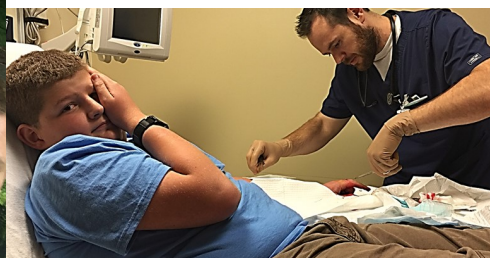


June started with a bang. Literally. I was rear-ended while stopped at the red-light near our house. The wreck totaled our van. We were four months away from paying off the van; the van had nearly 200,000 miles.

Amanda worked this summer part-time. She quickly learned many lessons about work and saving. We are very proud of her work ethic. Amanda continues to learn more about art; her interest in culinary art is developing into a dream for college. Amanda is inching closer to 16 and driver's licenses. Amanda starts the tenth grade this year.

Harrison worked many hours helping Gina with the landscaping duties at both The Lord's Café and The Learning Center. Many days were spent working at Day Camp and The Lord's Café. But this year, he was able to spend time at home as well. Harrison turned 13 at the end of July; he is entering the eighth grade.

Mia stuck with her Mom most of the summer. Mia spent time with me working at The Lord's Café. She also learned more about landscaping and using lawnmowers. Her love for praise and worship is developing as well. We would love the opportunity for Mia to learn to play piano. She taught herself several chords. Mia will turn 11 the first of September and is starting the seventh grade.



I ended the last week of summer missions with an overnight stay in the hospital with a kidney stone. I am very thankful for pain medication and procedures to remove kidney stones. The week after summer teams, Gina had one last surgery. Thankfully, we have no more out of pocket expense on our medical insurance. Harrison also sliced his finger open while sharpening a knife. Four stitches in the ER and a little time, he is all good now.



The Lord's Café

On June 6th, we celebrated fourth anniversary at The Lord's Café. It is hard to believe the number of lunches and prayers provided for those in our community. God has provided the volunteers and food to always keep the doors open. The Lord's Café is a place of hope and refuge. We have seen many changes in individuals and the facility.



This Summer @ The Lord's Café...

- Average of 250 lunches 5 days a week
- Average of 120 families receiving food each week at the food giveaway
- Countless prayers offered

This summer provided to be very busy again. We averaged about 250 lunches a day. God continued stretch my faith leading The Lord's Café team this summer. I am very thankful Gina helped me come up with creative menu options when the freezers were low of food. Each day, we seemed to have enough food for all those who came to eat. This summer, more of our faith family helped throughout the summer. It was great to see our faith family involved with community but also the mission teams.

**From Vision,
To Reality!
The Hair Salon
is open for
business.
Thank you to
all who made
this possible.**



God provided a hair and nail salon. The salon building provides a place for hair stylist to come share the gospel. The building is complete with running hot water and electricity. Throughout the summer various mission teams provided the resources and labor to get this new ministry building operational.



Smile Faith Dental Bus visited this summer! Pray for this new ministry and our developing partnership.

The ministry closets continue to be used not only in the summer months, but year round. We have an ongoing need for baby care and adult care items. We continually give away baby diapers, wipes, adult diapers, and other adult care items. In addition, the clothing porch is a very active place when new shipments of cloths arrive.



if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday.

Isaiah 58:10 (ESV)

Day Camp

We were excited to see Day Camp grow this year! Over eighty children were registered for Day Camp. Thankfully, not all the children came on the same day because each day was full of adventure. When the Gospel is lived out by loving children, expect each child to know love. When the Gospel is sung during worship, expect each child to be motivated to worship. When the Gospel is spoken in conversation, expect spiritual battles from the evil one. The goal for Day Camp is the Gospel.

Again this year, the evil one continued to cause distractions. His influence came out through a couple of the children. We are thankful for the power of prayer and for leadership aware of spiritual battles. We are the most thankful for having victory through the blood of Jesus Christ! As the evil one attempted to cause distraction, victories were won! Several children placed their faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior.

The mission teams provided Bible lessons, worship, crafts, and recreation. Most Mondays started out with the children pushing their limits; by Thursday, tears flowed as good byes were said. Day Camp ran for ten weeks this summer. Through the course of the summer, over seventy Bible lessons were taught. Each day the children engaged in two times of musical worship.



The Learning Center

This summer much work was accomplished on The Learning Center. The youth room is now complete with new lights, paint, drop ceiling, and HCVA. A play ground has been added in the back of the building. The hallways near the mission dorms have been repainted. The worship area walls are complete up the roof line and painted. We also have a new stage!

In just a few short days, work is scheduled to install the long awaited pump station! Once this equipment is installed, the shower room will be completely operational! We are so thankful for everyone who has given resources, time, and energy to get The Learning Center from a dream to reality. We are still working towards flooring, painting the shower area, and painting the dorm rooms. If you would like to help with any of these projects, please contact me. Some of these projects will have to be completed during the fall and winter months.

University Of The Cumberland

"Grateful" is the one word to describe the summer team from UC. This summer, UC provided six college students the opportunity to come dive in missions with Crossroads Community. This allowed us to have extra help for each area of ministry. During the summer, each team member worked in various areas of ministry to see God at work.

The UC team went above and beyond to help make this summer flow as smooth as possible. These six students sacrificed their summer and comforts of home to come follow God's calling. Our family had the privilege of hosting the UC team for lunch, laundry, and staff meeting each Sunday. We know God has incredible plans for these group! With all the twist and turns from mission teams and our family life, the UC team was essential!

Laundry

Laundry ministry provides loads of opportunities for the teams to share the Gospel. This year, the owners of the laundry mat opened their business an hour early each Tuesday and Thursday. During laundry ministry, anyone in community can bring an unlimited amount of dirty clothing. Obviously, laundry ministry is not about dirty clothing, as each customer's clothes are being washed, the Gospel is shared. This summer, many came in to faith with Christ as Lord and Savior. In addition, many people were able to experience the love of Christ which met them at the point of need.

Mission team members provided the laundry detergent and quarters for each person. Each night at debrief following laundry ministry days, many shared their experiences of sharing their faith. For some younger team members, learning to wash clothes was an adventure. Many also experienced humility handling others underwear and other dirty clothes.



One particular customer brought six months' worth of dirty laundry the first day of summer. It is easier for many people in our county to find free clothing instead of spending money to wash laundry. Some of the customers during the summer were surprised to have their clothes washed for free. Laundry ministry is a simple way to love people while taking care of a basic need.

Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.
2 Thessalonians 3:1-5 (ESV)



Other “Without A Box” Ministries

Ice Cream Fellowship

Multiple Block Parties

Hair Cuts

Nail Salons

Concerts

Horizon

Horizon is the local adult day care that provides a safe place for support for individuals needing some assistance during the day. They open their doors for mission teams to come and love on their clients. The staff and clients have a close bond of care and concern.

Teams are usually greeted by Roger. After a quick tour, others engage in conversation like Smiley. During the course of the time at Horizon, mission team members are challenged to play pool (many lose), join concerts, or dance. Some of the clients simply want someone to sit and talk.



No one has ever asked not to return to Horizon. Of course, the goal for Horizon is to love as Jesus loves. Mission team members learn how easy individuals with special needs are to love. The Gospel is not only demonstrated, but also spoken through the testimonies shared.

Mission Teams

Entering the fifth year of summer mission teams, we should have come to expect the unexpected. Teams provided a great balance of returning teams and rookie teams. Even the returning teams brought new team members. We were able to reconnect with friends from years past and make new friends. "Be Fluid" is the requirement for missions here for both the mission teams as well as us. Being fluid allows us to each conform in to the role God desires for us, and not into the comfortable places of familiarity.

As pastor, I am excited to see God shape the hearts and lives of individuals. It is encouraging to hear teams discuss the adjustments not in their personal walk with God but also in their church life. I love hearing of new ministries being birthed to reach out of the walls of the building. I am so thankful we serve an awesome creative God!

This summer we welcomed teams from over nine states. Many weeks we welcomed more than one church to come serve. It is absolutely amazing watching brothers and sisters in Christ serve together. The Holy Spirit unites the hearts and lives of those coming to serve. Construction teams pull together to share resource and expertise. Day Camp workers shared ideas and even worked all day together. At The Lord's Café, team members prepped, served, and cleaned together. In each area of ministry, the body of Christ worked together. On Sunday, the body worshiped with musical worship and time in the Word.

We were heartbroken by the cancellation of one team. Days before Flat Springs from NC were scheduled to return, an unexpected death changed the plans for the team. We were all saddened not only by the cancellation, but also because we had to say good bye to a great guy who loved missions in Kentucky. We know that through all the twist and turns, our God is in control and so faithful.

**Currently We Are Booking
Thanksgiving Dinner and all of
2016 (including summer).**

AR

FL

GA

IL

IN

KY

NC

OH

PA

SC



Is God calling you to make a radical change in your life? We are looking for individuals and families to invest their lives here in Kentucky. Do you have a church planter's heart? Do you love working with kids? Are you passionate about making disciples? Do you love serving others? We are praying God will provide more labors for the harvest. Matthew 9:37,38; Acts 1:8

Partnership

We are so thankful for the individuals and churches that continually support both Crossroads and our family! Someone asked me, "What was the greatest lesson I have learned as a church planter here?" Without hesitation the answer is FAITH! It takes great faith in God knowing He is ultimately in control and not any of us. He will continue to provide for needs and beyond. We, however, must be good stewards in whatever resources He provides.

On a personal note, my faith has greatly increased having to depend on God's provision for both my family and the faith family. We continually seek individuals and churches to come along the journey with us. You can make a difference in the ongoing ministry and serving here.

Partnership begins with prayer. We ask for your continual prayers. Many spiritual battles take place on a continual basis. Simply put, we are dependent on prayer support. Prayer alone does not help meet the ongoing financial responsibilities of our growing family or ministry. God uses many people to come along side and support financially. We pray we are great stewards of the resources God provides through others. Participation in the ministry is huge! We love visitors and mission teams throughout the year. Send us some dates, and come on up to visit!

Upcoming Opportunities

Missions does not end when the last summer mission leaves. God continues to provide mission teams to come throughout the year to help. This fall is shaping up to a great time to connect with missions! We welcome our first team from Louisiana in just a few short days. In addition, almost every week of October we will welcome teams. Of course, we are planning on the Community Thanksgiving Dinner and Christmas outreach event.

Ongoing ministries will look a little different this fall. The Lord's Café will be open for lunch and food give away on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. We will have a few breaks for holidays, travel, and weather. This year, we are cutting back on After School @ The Learning Center. We will only be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are making this adjustment because we need more volunteers. This will also free up our family to focus more time on our school.

October The Fall Coat Giveaway will be held on Saturday, October 24. We have already begun collecting coats, hoodies, gloves, scarfs, and hats. Last year, over 1,200 coats were given away during the winter months. We expect to have the same need again this season. Before the event, we will be collecting all the winter items. It takes quite a bit of effort to sort and prepare for the giveaway day. On the day of the event, volunteers become personal shoppers and evangelist. The day of the coat giveaway is an exciting days to meet community and to see God meeting the basic need of warmth. Be involved with donations and serving! ***Here is the challenge, 12 churches with at least 100 coats.***

November On Saturday, November 21, we will host our annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner. We will have limited numbers of volunteers. There will be a sign up on our website for any group or individual wanting to come serve (CrossroadsCommunityBC.org). This year, we are looking for donations to help cover the cost of the meal. We do expect to exceed last year's meal serving 1,162.

December We are planning our Christmas Backpack Outreach. Our target goal is the first weekend in December. We are still making plans now for this event. We are expecting between 800 and 1,000 backpacks this year.



*God Give us McCreary County
And Do This IN Such Away Only
You Get The Glory!*

International Partnership

We are making plans now to return to India at the end of December into the first part of January. We will continue to work with our existing partnership. Our goal is rapid house church plants and disciple making. As a family, we are raising additional support to take at least three of us if not all five of us. In addition, members from the UC Summer Team will be joining us on this trip. We are excited to see how God is going to continue to use us for His glory! Donations can be sent to Crossroads Community (memo: Hasty India).

Staying Connected

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606-310-2299

Donations can be sent to:
Crossroads Community Baptist Church
PO Box 52
Whitley City, KY 42653
(Memo: Pastor Support)