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Note from Pastor Kevin

Encouraged to See CrossBridge Church in Action

There has been great joy to see the love of Christ between the brothers and sisters in the church body. People of CrossBridge have been getting meals and encouragement out to those in need. The words of encouragement and checking up on each other has been a beautiful thing to see. The love for one another in the church is pleasing to the Lord.

Psalm 133 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brothers to dwell together in unity! 2 It is like the precious oil upon the head, Coming down upon the beard, Even Aaron's beard, Coming down upon the edge of his robes. 3 It is like the dew of Hermon Coming down upon the mountains of Zion; For there the Lord commanded the blessing—life forever.

Thank you for the patience and faithfulness I see in His Church. Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ as there is need for healing, for health in marriages, for financial stresses and for opportunities to share the good news of the Gospel.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Kevin

Generosity to Pastors in South Africa

There was some disappointment when all the travel arrangements were cancelled and my trip to South Africa was found to be impossible at this time. Though, Lord willing, there will be another trip in the future to go and encourage our pastors in South Africa. I had hoped to encourage the pastors with their history in pictures at their 120th anniversary (correction from last newsletter as I said, "100th anniversary") as a group of churches. Also there were plans to preach the Gospel and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior. Finally I had hoped to bring certificates of scholarship to the pastors.

Praise God for the 18 scholarships for pastors to go to Bible Training for a year! Thank you CrossBridge and friends for your generosity to give to these 18 pastors in a faraway place. Pastors who you may never meet until heaven give you thanks for their chance at training through ZEMA. I mentioned last month that the ZEBs Bible training made available in their language, Zulu and Xhosa, gives the pastors a great confidence in the Scriptures. The Bible training scholarship costs \$7 a month for training materials, food and lodging. That is \$84 a year for a pastor studying toward a 4 year degree. The ministers pay for their own transportation. Your gifts bring Glory to God and joy to the hearts of churches in South Africa.

Please pray for the thousands of churches and their people in South Africa as they face the Covid-19 virus and shutdowns due to it. The economy in South Africa is in great despair at this time. The people are trusting Christ as they seek to be faithful while under tremendous financial stress. We love our brothers and sisters in Christ and pray for God's provision and containment of the virus. May the Lord strengthen them as they face this trial.

News from the Millards in Uganda

Blessings to you all! Wow, what an unexpected turn of events for the world. We thank you all for praying for Bre's mom to safely get here and return! Our team met together at the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic. It was still nonexistent here in East Africa and thus Bre's mom, along with a couple others, felt fine coming for our team meeting. It was such a blessing. Bre's mom and her helpers did an awesome job loving and leading the kids all week. The night the meetings finished up the President of this country decided to shut down the airports the following day. All of our guests had to leave in the middle of the night on flights that were not their original ones. However, God was good. Everyone got home safely and were able to quarantine and were healthy.

After our visitors left we all prepared for worst case lockdowns. We were able to get food, water, and other goods before anything shut down. At first our family wanted to return to our house in the North, but the night before we were supposed to leave the President declared no more than 3 people in a car at one time. This meant that we might be able to get up there creatively, but we would not have been able to safely leave with our team if something happened. We knew that was only the beginning of the restrictions so Dave loaded the car with pet food and contingency food and went up North. He was able to help our staff get their necessities and help our teammates come down safely to the capital. Directly after that the restriction was announced that we could no longer use our cars. We have seen God be so gracious to us in so many ways!



1. We were able to get our children's visas renewed before the Coronavirus pandemic (government offices are now shut down).
2. Our team was able to safely have our team meetings and prepare for lockdown before anything happened.
3. God opened the door for us to have a team house that comfortably houses two families in the capital city.
4. Dave was able to bring food and supplies to our house up North so we don't have to worry about things there. Our staff is doing well and have what they need.
5. Our teammates all have good, safe housing in the capital during this time.
6. We are in walking distance to a grocery store!! Unlike the U.S., our stores have remained pretty stocked. We have also been able to help out local farmers by buying produce from neighbors. We even harvested bananas from our own yard!!
7. God has allowed us to stay healthy, and this country is doing pretty well at handling their cases.

We praise God for all the ways that He has led us through and provided for us during this time. We currently have stuff to do remotely in the capital so that we can make progress. Coronavirus has changed our plans a bit. We are missing our home up North. It has made homeschooling a little interesting. We did not anticipate being in the capital for this long and a lot of our school material is still up North. We thank God for all the free educational videos online right now! Our family is grieving not being able to go see friends and move around freely. We have gone through the transition and are trying to make a new normal for an unknown period of time. We are grieving plans that may not happen due to how Coronavirus is affecting countries around us. This time is not easy. However, God is still good. We are excited to see what God does and how we can be used and transformed by Him during this time.

How you can pray:

1. Things have been peaceful even though it is getting harder for people here as most jobs are shut down or reduced. Pray for continued peace and wisdom/discernment for the President and his advisors.
2. Pray that we, as a family and team, are able to process everything going on around us. Pray that we will be seeking God to shed light on areas where we need to grow and repent. That we will be able to hear what He wants us to do next every day.
3. Pray for our kids as they grieve not seeing their friends for so long even though they are relatively close.
4. Pray that God will prepare hearts for the gospel through this trial. May the people we serve have ears to hear as Scripture comes into their language.
5. Pray that the joy of the Lord reigns in our hearts above the loss of control and loss of relationship.
6. Pray for our roles on the team. Pray that we may lead, encourage and serve graciously and with His love.

We are praying for you all. As we see your stories on Facebook or follow the encouragement of our pastors, we pray for God's peace and strength for you. May you realize how present God is with you now in this and may it draw you closer to Him.

LIFE GROUPS

Kid's Quest and all Bible study groups are cancelled until further notice.

Online Bible Study- Wednesdays at 7:00PM through Zoom. If interested in joining, please text Pastor Kevin at (906) 420-1000 to be sent the Zoom invitation.

Online Youth Group- There will be youth group online through Zoom this Sunday from 4:00-6:00PM. If youth want to join, email Casie Hill at andycasie@hotmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

As CrossBridge Church faces this struggle of the Coronavirus, we want to be respectful of the authority God has placed over us. The government has asked us not to meet together in the church building at this time. Therefore we will be having service online each Sunday at 10:00AM at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8zCu71u3kczOtgwdGTvcg>

We are praying for you, and if you have specific needs, text or call Pastor Kevin at (906) 420-1000.

If you are needing help in some way, contact Frank Bailey, our Deacon of CrossBridge Church CrossCare, at (906) 235-5846.

Offering- To give, mail your check to P.O. Box 222 or give through PayPal by using the 'Donate' button on our website: upcrossbridge.com. You can now give through Tithe.ly on our website as well. Use the 'Click Here for Online Giving Through Tithe.ly' button to make a contribution.

Encouragement Time- Will be posted on our YouTube channel in the days to come. We have several people in the church who will be spending a few minutes sharing scripture and their encouragement to our church. Again, the YouTube channel can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8zCu71u3kczOtgwdGTvcg>.

Caring For One Another- Please take a minute to check up on others in the church and ask how you can be praying for them. This is a great time to build each other up and encourage one another.

Hebrews 13:13-14—13 But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end.

Homeschool Help- Laura Birkmaier has set up a Facebook resource page called UP Homeschool Help for homeschool questions. For more info or questions, you can also email birkmaierhomeschool@outlook.com.

RightNow Media-- A huge library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want. You will have free access to thousands of video resources. Use this link to set up your free account: www.righnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/CrossBridgeMi

Brooke Robertson Concert- Sat., May 30 at 6:30PM here at the church. Tickets will be \$9 & will be available for purchase soon.

Time to Draw Near to God- Some websites to explore as you consider the Lord with your extra time: exploregod.com, biblegateway.com, equip.org, and discoveryseries.org.