



CROSS ROAD REVIEW

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Loving the world through Ministry and Missions

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January is here! It is 2023 and the 28th of this month will mark 4 years that I have been with you at CRBC! My, what a ride we have been on together as I look back over the last 4 years. God has certainly done much and taught us a great deal together. As I think about the coming New Year, I am always reminded God is a God who is alive and active in our midst. God, though it may sometimes be hard to recognize, is moving and working in our lives, in the life of our church, and in the world around us. A new year brings fresh opportunity. Opportunity to grow as a believer, grow as a family, grow as a church, a neighbor, a co-worker, and the list goes on. I hope you will find courage in the reality that God doesn't need you to complete his work, but He wants

you! God wants you to be a part of what He is doing! God wants Cross Road Baptist Church to be a part of what He is doing! What a privilege! So, it is with this in mind that we look to January and the year ahead; and though our position might not be what we would have planned or expected, there is no doubt God has plans to glorify Himself in and through us this year! So, let's pursue Him as individuals, as families, and as His church to see that happen. Let's expect God to move in mighty ways this year. I am looking forward to another year serving with you brothers and sisters! - *Pastor Justin*



January 5th Sunday Celebration

Churchwide

Potluck Soup Lunch

January 29th at 11:30am

We had such a great time last winter we decided to do it again! Bring your favorite crockpot of soup, other sides and desserts. We will provide the drinks!



Children's Ministry

Awana has really been going well all thanks to our team of leaders on Wednesday nights! We look forward to starting back Jan 4th. Parents, don't forget the special theme nights coming up this year. See the Theme Night list below. As we move into a new calendar year, Pastor Justin would like to put together a team for planning activities and events for our children's ministry. If you are interested please contact him and let him know!

Awana Theme Nights:

Jan. 11 - Wacky Tacky Clothes Night

Feb. 8 - Red Night (wear as much red as you can)

Mar. 8 - March Madness (wear clothing in support of your favorite sports team)

March 18 - Sparks-A-Rama and T&T Awana Games in Charlotte

April 5 - No Wednesday Meeting (Easter Week)

April 19 - Awana Car Derby (ask your leader about getting a car kit)

May 24 - Awana End of Year Awards Ceremony

Youth Ministry

The students finished out the year with a great time processing shoeboxes, caroling, and had a great party together. Thankfully, the meaning of Christmas remains all year long! So we will be continuing our study on the Advent of Christ and the meaning of His names this January. On the 14th-16th the youth are headed to Pigeon Forge for our Strength to Stand Winter Conference! This is always a ton of fun but a time for spiritual growth as well. Be in prayer for the students and leaders that weekend. January is typically a time when we consider the sanctity of life and so I am hoping there is something we as a student ministry can do to help out Your Choices Randolph this month. Some dates to put on your calendar: Feb 25th is WinterJam in Greensboro! The cost this year is \$40 and will be due Sunday Jan 22nd. Also Teen Extreme is back this March 10th-11th and we will have more info to come on that! Happy New Year!

Wed. Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25 6:15-7:45pm Aftershock Bible Study

Jan. 14-16 Strength to Stand Conference in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.

Sat. Feb. 25 Winter Jam in Greensboro.
Cost is \$40. Due by Sunday, Jan. 22nd.



Young Adult Ministry

Our College and Young Pros are beginning a study with Dave Ramsey on finances during our Life

Group meetings on Sundays at 8:45am.



Thank You

Cross Road Baptist Church, Merry Christmas to one of my most favorite group of volunteers—you all did an amazing job (the weekend before Christmas)! I want to especially thank John Canipe for taking care of the door which saved about 150 dollars to use on another project and I want to thank Fisher for all his hard work right along with the adults and him going the extra mile working on her back deck. Mrs. Patsy is very pleased and NC Baptist Aging Ministry is so thankful for all of you. **Shirley Carlson (NC BAM)**

Cross Road Baptist Church, I want to thank you for my new ramp. It is beautiful. The men did a wonderful job. Also the men who came were so nice and polite. I was needing a ramp. May God bless all of you.
Patsy Varner

Senior Adult Ministry



January 3 - 11:30am Senior Adult Lunch (Potluck) Please sign up on the Senior Adult Bulletin board with your name and what you will be bringing to the lunch.

WOW Women's Ministry

WOW Moms Meeting January 17 6-8pm. Moms of all ages, with or without children in the home, are welcome. If you need childcare, please let Candace Curry know!

Worship Ministry

I want to say **THANK YOU** to all who helped make this Christmas season so special at CRBC! We had a wonderful kids Christmas musical, adult Christmas musical, candlelight service, caroling outreach, and Christmas day celebration. I appreciate everyone who worked hard behind the scenes to make all of these events a success. From our directors, Taylor Wallace and Janet Harlee, to sound techs, to those who created props, and all those who attended rehearsals starting back in August... we couldn't have done it without all of you! May God continue to bless our time of corporate worship together in 2023. - Danielle Kelly



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2023 The Year of Intentional Prayer

Intentional--deliberate, calculated, conscious, purposeful; all of these imply a meaningful, planned order of an event one is involved in.

This is how I would like our prayer lives to be in this coming year. There is nothing wrong with short, shoot them upwards prayers of "Help me, Jesus, or Lord, please bless Mary or Joe, be with them during this illness". No sir, these types of prayers have their place. But, they do not bring us to the heart of God. And, that my friends is what is lacking in our lives for the most part in America today. We start our day without being fully dressed...dressed in the full armor of God. Without that armor, we are unprotected from the fiery darts of the enemy. These days there are many circumstances that can throw us off track and put us in a tailspin. Without being prepared by spending time alone with God in purposeful prayer, we leave ourselves open to the plans of the enemy. These plans are never what we would choose and can be devastating to our families, churches, our very lives.

To combat this, we need focused, intentional prayers by God's people to intervene and provide the protection available to us by God, our refuge, our strength, our protector. We have authority in Jesus to bind these evil plans of Satan and to make positive changes in our circumstances. But, to do that, we have to know the Word; to know the Word, we have to be in the Word. I challenge you to make this a priority in the coming new year. Determine to study and know your authority in Jesus. Defeat Satan's plans by speaking the Word; take authority over the things that kill, steal, and destroy. The spoken Word can turn disasters into victories!

Be deliberate! Don't leave it up to someone else, they may be leaving it up to you! If we do nothing different, we will get nothing different. We can be victorious and make a huge difference when we dress daily in the armor of God. Listen for His voice, hear and be obedient. Resolve to overhaul your prayer life this year and watch to see how the Lord will intervene in the circumstances of your life.

Focus on God and God alone, not on ourselves. Jeremiah 29:13 says "You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart." Let's be intentional about seeking Him this year. We need spiritual awakening and revival in our world. Let us be a conduit for that to begin. Colossians 4:2-- Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and thankful heart. It says Be alert! Be receptive to God's working and calling in your life. Listen!

I invite us all to engage in intentional prayer and bible study this year. Make time for God like never before. He has given and sacrificed for us so very much. I think it is time in 2023 that we submit ourselves to God. Let's see where He takes us!

(Joyce Blackwelder Prayer Team Coordinator)