



TLC CONNECT



CONNECT this Sunday, Feb. 21st through Worship "God, Why Them?"

Have you ever wondered why bad things happen to good people? They live good lives, make good decisions, and are good people yet things continue to not go their way? Or what about when innocent people become victims and while they did nothing wrong, were made to endure all sorts of suffering. Why God?

WEDNESDAY NOON ZOOM WITH PASTORS MARK & TROY

A chance for anyone to join a "virtual lunch" where you can interact with them about the message and what's coming next! To join the meeting, you will find the link on the homepage of our website. www.crosslakeefc.org

NEW CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28TH

11:30 am-1:30 pm (lunch will be provided). If Interested, call the church office at 218-543-4098 OR email sarah@crosslakeefc.org

... the latest inspirational update from our Missionary, Pastor John Gerhardt of Urban Impact New Orleans.



Yesterday, the importance of hope came in the form of a sign blowing into our ministry center that proclaimed, "I'm not a bum just a homeless per" What a powerful reminder that many people who are made in God's image are hurting and need hope. It is our responsibility – our calling – to respond with the hope and love of the gospel.

Your partnership throughout this unprecedented year has enabled us to:

- Provide over 6,000 meals for people;
- Re-open our youth programming in a safe and highly effective way;
- Begin a new men's ministry to encourage and empower the men of our community;
- Disciple and mentor youth and be a constant presence in their lives when everything else is changing rapidly;
- Employ 10 youth last summer and provide training and encouragement while giving them hope through the dignity of a job.

Like you, we are looking forward to 2021. With your prayers and financial support, we want to bring God's living hope to our community by:

- Continuing to expand our outreach to youth and families in a safe, productive manner.
- Growing our partnerships with local churches to support our neighborhood programming.
- Hiring a new education director. We want to add someone with social work expertise to help us bring family transformation to a greater level.
- Continuing to bring the bread for life and the hope of THE bread of life to the families of Central City.

God has shown us the big hope that He has for us. We are going to share God's living hope by continuing to love, give and tell His story.

To learn more about Urban Impact New Orleans, please visit their website urbanimpact.org

TECHNOLOGY FUND

Current goal for the video system upgrade, is **\$20,342.50.**

So far we have collected **\$6,628.10.**

We're off to a great start.

Thank you!



DIRECTOR FOR LITTLE LOGGERS NEEDED



Thanks to all our new volunteers that will be staffing our **Little Loggers Ministry** during our Sunday morning services.

We are still in need of someone to act as director of this ministry area. We have the volunteers and even

have a back up teacher, we just need someone who can select the video or Bible story that will be read each week. If this sounds like something you could help us with please contact Pastor Troy at troy@crosslakeefc.org or by calling the church office at 218-692-4141.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Please join the Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study at 6:45 am with coffee and doughnuts in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level of the church. The class begins promptly at 7am and conclude at 8am. Those who must leave early to get to work can certainly do so.

The study "**Stepping Up**" by Dennis Rainey of Family Life is our presentation of 2021 and will be completed in ten sessions. We are encouraging young men to answer this call from God in how to grow into courageous manhood. This spiritual process includes boyhood, adolescence, and manhood then growing into mentors and patriarchs! This study is for all men in all seasons of their lives. Here is the link to view the **Stepping Up** video: <https://www.familylife.com/stepping-up/home/> If you have any questions, call Andy Anderson at 218-821-6911 or the church office.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the 3rd Monday of each month in the Library located off the Gathering Room, to the right, from 1:30-3:30 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Denise Park at 218-821-1339 or the church office at 218-692-4141.

Friday - February 19, 2021

THIS WEEK'S DEVOTIONAL by Dan Edblad

I was asked to share a passage that is on my heart right now. I don't really have an all-time favorite or "life verse", for me there are verses or passages that speak more to me at different points in life. A verse that has given me comfort and hope over the last several years is:

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-14.

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

I find it comforting the God wants us to be informed about his plan for us and other believers who have gone before us. Paul specifically says he does not want them, or us, to be uninformed. I think this says a lot about the God we serve, He is not holding back, He wants us to understand what our future with Him holds.

God also says he will "bring with Him those who have fallen asleep".

Those who have died are currently with Him and will be returning to this world when Jesus returns.

Paul also lets us know it is OK for us to grieve over a loved one, however, it's a different kind of grieving, a hope filled grieving, that a non-believer does not experience. We can miss the person and the relationship we had but, we also need to keep in mind that it's only for a time. We will be reunited with both them and with Jesus in the future.

That points to the real reassurance from this passage... "For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again". This statement puts it all in context and is the point of this passage, and the entire gospel for that matter. Jesus died for us and as long as we put our faith in Him as our savior we no longer need to fear our death or the death of a loved one, the way we once may have.

*Lord, I thank you for the comfort of your Word and the fact that You love us enough to provide a way for us to be reconciled to You, for your glory, through Jesus Christ our savior.
Amen*

Youth
Ministry
Fundraiser

ONLINE AUCTION March 14th - 21st

Due to Covid-19, we lost all fundraiser opportunities for District Blitz and our Summer Youth Mission Trip. **We will be holding an ONLINE AUCTION!** We are getting creative and hope to offer some fun items and services for people to bid on. While we are gearing up, we are looking for more items/services to list on our auction! Do you have any of the following gently used or like-new items to donate for the auction:

- sports equipment, name-brand clothing
- nice pieces of furniture, quilts
- quality household items, etc.
- your services
- host a family for an afternoon to come use your kayaks
- take someone fishing on your lake
- host a family for a sunset cruise on your pontoon

We are looking for
ALL KINDS
of creative services!

If you would like to partner with us please contact Sarah at the church office and leave your name & number. We will call you about the item/service you have in mind! You may email her at: sarah@crosslakeefc.org