

WELCOME TO CROSSROADS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

- What we believe
- How can I get connected
- How can I serve at Crossroads?

OUR VISION: Crossroads exists to invade our community with Christ's unconditional love; fully believing that one changed life will change another.

OUR MISSION: Helping people take their next steps toward Christ!

CORE VALUES:

Loved People | Love People

Once you experience Christ's unconditional love, the only response is to love one another unconditionally

(1 John 4:19)

Saved People | Serve People

Grace and freedom trigger a response to serve those around us

(Galatians 5:13)

Forgiven People | Forgive People

The loving forgiveness from God, our Father, allows us to forgive others

(Colossians 3:13)

The Generous | Live Generously

Thankfulness for the gifts we have been given produces
an out flowing of generosity
(Proverbs 11:25)

Neighborhood Focused | Living Life Together

A community that produces love and good works impacts
it's neighbors and strengthens the community
(Hebrews 10: 24-25; Romans 15:2)

PILLARS

PILLARS | What We Believe:

THE BIBLE is the inspired word of God, written by man through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. It reveals the origin and purpose of man and his relationship with a loving God. It is the collection of God's complete revelation, without error, "living and active", speaking to every present circumstance in our present lives. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12; Psalms 19:8; Psalms 119: 105; 2 Peter 1:20 - 21; Isaiah 40:8)

- **2 Timothy 3: 16-17** – All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.
- **Hebrews 4:12** – For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
- **Psalms 19:8** – The commandments of the Lord are right, bringing joy to the Lord. The commandments of the Lord are clear, giving insight for living.
- **Psalms 119:105** – Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

- **2 Peter 1: 20–21** – Knowing this first of all, that no prophesy of scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.
- **Isaiah 40:8** – The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.

We believe that **GOD** is a triune (*John 14:16–20*) who is the Creator of the universe and every living thing in it. (*Genesis 1:1*)

- **John 14:16–20** – And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.
- **Genesis 1:1** – In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

We believe that **JESUS** of Nazareth is the Messiah, the Son of God, and God in human form. That he was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died for our sins, was buried, rose from the dead in three days, and is coming again. He is both fully God and fully man. (*Philippians 2:5–7; John 14:9; John 8:58; John 1:1, 14; and Colossians 2:9*)

- **Philippians 2:5–7** – Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in human likeness of man.
- **John 14:9** – Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.

- **John 8:58** – Jesus said to them ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.’
- **John 1:1, 14** – In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- **Colossians 2:9** – For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily.

We believe the **HOLY SPIRIT** is given to all who believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and marks you as a child of God. And that through the Spirit, you will be given gifts and abilities to be used for the Kingdom of God for ministering and building up the body of Christ.

(2 Corinthians 1:21-22; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6;

Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Peter 4:10; Romans 12:6-8)

- **2 Corinthians 1:21-22** – And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.
- **1 Corinthians 12:4-6** – Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but the same God who empowers them all in everyone.
- **Galatians 5:22-23** – But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self – control.
- **1 Peter 4:10** – God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them to serve one another.

- **Romans 12:6-8** – Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them; if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in his generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

The **TRINITY** is a basic doctrine of the historic Christian faith. The word “Trinity” appears nowhere in Scripture, but evangelical theology embraces the doctrine of the Triune God because of the teaching of the Bible as a whole. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit each possess full and equal deity, and yet are together as one God. Christianity is monotheistic, not tritheistic. We believe in one God not three. When Scripture is put together, God is seen as one in three and three in one – one essence or substance and three persons. They all work together with one mind in all things. Many people have tried to give illustrations to clarify the concept of the Trinity of God, but we should recognize that no illustration will ever do the Triune God justice and may diminish the complexity of his character

One picture that might be helpful for a child might be that God’s triune nature is like an egg. Three parts yet one whole; shell, white, and yoke. An illustration that might help an adult might be that of the environment; light, heat, and air. If you hold your hand out and look at it, each of these three things is present. Each of these is distinct. They obey their own laws and may be studied separately. Yet here on earth, it is impossible to have any one of them without the others. They are three and yet one, and make up our environment.

We believe that because of Adam's **SIN**, man now possesses a sinful flesh (*Galatians 5:16-24*) that is present and active within our world. Because of sin, without God's intervention, every person is destined to an eternity of punishment and separation from God unless they accept the free gift of **SALVATION** through faith in Jesus Christ. This gift restores a person's relationship with God and through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit one's life can be transformed into the character of Jesus Christ.

(*Romans 3:23; Romans 5:8; Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 6:3-4; and Hebrews 9:27*)

- **Romans 3:23** – For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from the works of law.
- **Romans 5:8** – But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
- **Ephesians 2:8-9** – For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.
- **Romans 6:3-4** – Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.
- **Hebrews 9:27** – And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment.

THE SANCTITY OF LIFE: The Bible teaches that every human being is created in the image of God and therefore all human life is sacred. Life begins at conception and all life has value; including pre – born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition. Therefore, we will protect, defend, and value all human life. (*Genesis 1:27; Psalm 139:13-16; and Proverbs 6:16-17*)

- **Genesis 1:27** – So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.
- **Psalm 139:13-16** – For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb.
- **Proverbs 6:16-17** – There are six things that the Lord hates; seven are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood.

We believe God created **MARRIAGE** as a bond between one man and one woman; and that extramarital relationships desecrate that sacred bond to God. Scripture teaches marriage takes place in the form of a ceremony and not acknowledged through common – law only. (*Genesis 2:24; Isaiah 62:5; Mark 10:9*)

- **Genesis 2:24** – Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.
- **Isaiah 62:5** – For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your sons marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.
- **Mark 10:9** – What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.

The Bible says that God made male and female as two distinct **GENDERS**, complementary of each other, and reflecting of God's intended image of relationships when together; living in Christ. (*Genesis 1:27; Leviticus 20:13; Leviticus 18:22; Romans 1:26-27; I Timothy 1:9-19; I Corinthians 6:9-10*)

- **Genesis 1:27** – So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.
- **Leviticus 18:22** – You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination.
- **Leviticus 20:13** – If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination.
- **Romans 1:26-27** – For this reason, God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their woman exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with woman and were consumed with passion for one another; men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.
- **I Timothy 1:9-10** – ... understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine.
- **I Corinthian 6:9** – Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality.

THE LOCAL CHURCH is the living body of Christ on Earth, whose purpose is to continue the mission that Jesus had when he was here. We believe that everyone has different gifts, given by the Holy Spirit, to be used to make-up the whole of the body of Christ; called the Church. Out of thankfulness, we support the church generously with what God has blessed us with. (*Ephesians 4:1-6; Hebrews 10:25; Ephesians 5:23b; Acts 2:42-47; Matthew 28:18-20; I Corinthians 12:27; Matthew 16:18; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7, Romans 15:27b*)

- **Ephesians 4:2-6** – I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit – just as you were called to one hope that belongs to your call – one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all.
- **Hebrews 10:25** – ... not neglecting to meet together, as in the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near.
- **Ephesians 5:23** – Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself as Savior.
- **Acts 2:42-47** – And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling all, as anyone had need. And day by day, attending the Temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their numbers day by day those who were being saved.

- **Matthew 28:18-20** – And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.
- **I Corinthians 12:27** - Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.
- **Matthew 16:18** - And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
- **2 Corinthians 9:6-7** - The point is this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
- **Romans 15:27b** – For if the Gentiles have come to share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material blessings.

We believe **BAPTISM** is a command from God and the perfect expression of your faith. We baptize by immersion only, and believe that it was the clear practice of the New Testament church as an integral part of the conversion experience. (*Acts 2:37-38; Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 6:3-4; Mark 16:16; I Peter 3:21*)

- **Acts 2:37-38** - Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles. “Brothers, what shall we do?” And Peter said to them, “Repent every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

- **Romans 6:3-4** – Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the death by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.
- **Mark 16:16** – Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.
- **1 Peter 3:21** – Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Why is baptism by immersion? – In the Greek language, from which our New Testament was translated, the word “baptize” literally means to “dip, plunge, or immerse.” The early church practiced immersion because Jesus was baptized this way. Every baptism in the New Testament was by immersion. (*Matthew 3:16-17; Acts 2:41; Acts 9:17-19; Acts 8:38-39; Acts 10:44-48; Acts 16:31-32; Acts 19:1-5*)

- **Matthew 3: 16 – 17** – And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending on him like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”
- **Acts 2:41** – So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

- **Acts 9:17-19** – So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized, and taking food he was strengthened.
- **Acts 8:38-39** – And he commanded his chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.
- **Acts 10:44-48** – While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the Word. And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, “Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have. And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.
- **Acts 16:31-32** – And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family.

- **Acts 19:1-5** – And it happened while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said, “No, we have not even heard there is a Holy Spirit.” And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They said, “Into John’s baptism.” And Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus.

Who should be baptized? Every person who believes in Jesus Christ should be baptized. Believers realize their sin separates them from God. They believe that Jesus Christ’s death on the cross bridges the gap between them and God. Having decided to trust Jesus alone for their salvation, they follow him in baptism as a marker of their new life in Christ.

What about children? The New Testament shows no example of baptism when the person didn’t request it. All Biblical examples of baptism involve an individual’s decision to trust only Christ for their salvation (*Acts 2:41; 8:12; 10:47-48*). At Crossroads, we wait until the child begins to ask questions, shows concern for their salvation, recognizes their own personal sin and desires to become accountable for their sin.

Once ***they realize they need to repent*** and take responsibility for their life by following the Biblical example, we then meet with them begin to listen and share with them God’s plan for salvation. Hopefully this leads to a new life through baptism. (*2 Corinthians 5:17*)

What about infant baptism? In the Bible we find many examples of people bringing children to Jesus. He held them, loved them, and told us to welcome them. There is no biblical example for baptizing an infant and therefore we do not, in any circumstance, practice this custom.

However, if you have never experienced a believer's baptism but you were been sprinkled as an infant, the full meaning and significance of baptism has yet to take place in your life. We strongly encourage you to be baptized following the Biblical example of baptism by immersion.

COMMUNION, also known as the Lord's Supper, is a meal that Jesus ate with his disciples before he was crucified. The Bible teaches that the 1st Century Church participated in the Lord's Supper on the first day of each week, which is Sunday. (*Acts 20:7*) At Crossroads, we offer the Lord's Supper every Sunday. We do this by passing the emblems; a cracker representing Christ's body and grape juice representing his blood which was poured out for us for the forgiveness of sins. (*Matthew 26:26-29; I Corinthians 11:23-25*). Communion is available to anyone who professes Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of their life.

- **Matthew 26:26-29** – Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body. And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

- **I Corinthians 11:23–25** – For I received from the Lord what I have also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way he took the cup, after supper saying, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink, in remembrance of me.”
- **Acts 20:7** – On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them, intending to depart the next day, and he prolonged his speech until midnight.

We believe the church is not regulated or dominated by any agency, but is an autonomous body that is overseen by local **ELDERS of each local church** (*Ephesians 5:23b; Acts 20:28; Philippians 1:1; I Timothy 3:1–7; Titus 1:5–9; I Peter 5:1–4*).

- **Ephesians 5:23b** – Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.
- **Acts 20:28** – Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.
- **Philippians 1:1** – Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons.
- **I Timothy 3:1–7** – The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage

his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

- **Titus 1:5-9** – This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you – if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.
- **I Peter 5:1-4** – So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partner in the glory that is going to be revealed: shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

Our **CROSSROADS STORY** began all the way back to the 1870's when the church was officially founded on March 23, 1879 as the Church of Christ at Washington C.H. Their stated objective was to "enjoy the privileges and keep the ordinances of the Lord's house, trusting that, by the Divine blessing, we will do ourselves good, while laboring to save others". Their first building on the corner of Temple and

North streets began in September 1884.

Due to growth and the need for more space, a new building was erected in 1929, with a new wing added in 1969. Over the long history, the church has held different names but kept the name First Christian Church the longest.

In the late 1990's, it became apparent that limited facilities was negatively impacting church growth and function and plans for remodeling were considered. Early in the new century, consultants completed community surveys and provided data to the church leadership who, in turn, developed short and long term goals which included ambitious growth goals.

CROSSROADS CHRISTIAN CHURCH HISTORY

- **2005** – In November, two different consulting firms completed inspections and recommended the church relocate and build.
- **2006** – In February, a “consensus” vote was taken and 99% of the church agreed to relocate.
 - The Nehemiah Project, a plan to relocate and build, was first introduced to the church in February of that year.
 - A 24 hour Nehemiah Prayer Project was held on May 6 – 7
 - In July, a land search team was commissioned and they identified the best building site to be at the intersection of routes 41 and 35
 - An offer was made on the 41 & 35 property in September and a special “land” offering was taken in November with \$140,000 received

- **2007**
 - On March 15, it was announced that an agreement was reached to purchase the Halliday property on routes 41 & 35
 - In August, budget, construction, and finance teams were created to lead the project
 - In September, a company was contacted to lead the capital campaign and in November, a construction firm was also selected
- **2008**
 - The church voted to change its name to Crossroads Christian Church on January 6
 - In February, a three year capital campaign began with a “victory day” celebrated on March 2, when it was announced that \$715,000 had been pledged
 - Master Church Builders was selected to design and build the facility and building plans were produced
- **2009**
 - The economy went into a tailspin and all sources of funding “dried up” and most construction projects ceased
 - Final building plans were completed and revisions were made to “downsize” the building to reduce the scope of the project
- **2010**
 - In January, Church Development Fund approached our leadership and offered to finance the project.
 - Building plans were finalized and the project was “bid out” in March of that year

- A 24 hour prayer watch was held on the property on May 15–16 and a “ground breaking” event was held on Sunday, May 16
- Excavation of the site began in June and the first steel was erected in August
- A “Better Together” celebration was held inside the roofed-but-incomplete building in October – the first gathering inside the new worship center
- **2011**
 - The first worship service inside the completed building took place on August 7, and a “grand opening” was held on August 7, with 404 in attendance

CROSSROADS is a non–denominational, independent Christian church whose heritage is deeply rooted within the Restoration Movement.

As a result, the following values are not only a part of the Restoration Movement, but they are equally shared by Crossroads Christian Church:

- **NO CREED BUT CHRIST** – The creeds or confessions that many denominations have their members subscribe to are human expansions of Scripture, but Christians ought to be able to find agreement by standing on the Bible itself.
- **IN ESSENTIALS, UNITY, IN NON-ESSENTIALS LIBERTY** – There are only a few things we consider absolutely essential (e.g. the Trinity; the Bible as the inspired, revealed Word of God; the Virgin Birth; the Bodily Resurrection of Christ), while there are several things about which we can have differing opinions. We need to give one another room to differ without it becoming a test of whether or not we can be in biblical