



CrossRoads  
**Connect** QUARTERLY

**Ministry Reports Edition**

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## OUR VISION

**We want to give everyone in Central Alberta an opportunity to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and by following Him together, impact our world with compassion and hope.**

Undergirding our vision are four priorities for ministry from Isaiah 58, which is as clear an expression of God's heart as you will find in the Bible. This chapter states God's priorities for His people with refreshing clarity. Following these priorities ensure we will not only fulfill our vision, but we will also keep in step with the Spirit of God.

### **Living Godly Lives**

We believe God's grace is available to all without exceptions. His grace grabs us where we are but doesn't leave us there. He gives us His empowering presence to live godly lives.

### **Loving Each Other Deeply**

We believe love is very practical (1 John 3:16-20). The best place for practical expressions of love is in caring for and showing grace to one another.

### **Giving Priority to the Lost, the Last, the Least, the Little and the Nearly Dead**

This priority has two facets: participating in sharing the Good News of Jesus that brings new life and hope to all people and also, attempt to unleash unprecedented amounts of compassion both locally and globally.

### **Delighting Ourselves in the Lord through Worship**

At the heart of worship is a desire to make Jesus' name great. It is His name we want lifted high in Central Alberta and around the world.



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# New to CrossRoads?

If you are new to CrossRoads and would like to explore any of the areas below, please let us know by filling out the "Connect With Us" form at [crossroadschurch.ca/welcome](https://crossroadschurch.ca/welcome).

- Having a personal relationship with Jesus
- Baptism and other next steps in my faith
- Joining a group
- Serve Opportunities
- Children's Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Young Adults
- Alpha
- Celebrate Recovery
- Outreach Missions



Receive weekly updates by email or text message.  
For details, visit:

[crossroadschurch.ca/receiveupdates](https://crossroadschurch.ca/receiveupdates)



At CrossRoads,  
all are welcome  
to enjoy great  
worship, great  
teaching, and great  
fellowship.



## Sundays @ CrossRoads

Our regularly scheduled Sunday services happen at 9:00am, 11:00am, and 6:00pm, and include programming for kids from 6 months up to Grade 6 for the entire service and for youth during the message portion of the service. The morning services are also broadcasted live at [online.crossroadschurch.ca](https://online.crossroadschurch.ca).

If you are new to CrossRoads and attending a Sunday service, please stop by **The Hub** in the foyer for a welcome package including details on our ministries and how to get connected into community.

### **Summer Series: Worship on the Way** Starting June 11

We will be travelling through the Psalms of Ascent this summer as we hear from Pastors Dan, Denise, Jordan, and Julie, and possibly some other special guests. Visit [crossroadschurch.ca/worshipontheway](https://crossroadschurch.ca/worshipontheway) for a series preview and some helpful resources.

### **Outdoor Service & Baptism** July 9, 11am

We are excited to have you join us for a time of worship, baptisms and fellowship under God's glorious sky. When we celebrate baptisms at CrossRoads, it's an opportunity for us to rejoice in what God has done in people's lives. On baptism Sundays we encourage those who are making public declarations of their faith in Jesus by obeying His command to be baptised. As a church family, we remember and celebrate with the newly baptised and praise God for His salvation and faithfulness!

The Outdoor Service will be at 11:00am (one service only, no children's programs). A hotdog lunch will be provided. We encourage you to bring chairs, family games, and enjoy some visiting over lunch following the service. If necessary due to weather, we will move the service inside. Be sure to dress for the weather and bring items as needed such as sunscreen, umbrellas, chairs, blankets, etc.

To learn more about our upcoming baptisms, visit [crossroadschurch.ca/baptism](https://crossroadschurch.ca/baptism). To learn more about our upcoming baptisms, visit [crossroadschurch.ca/baptism](https://crossroadschurch.ca/baptism).

### **Tailgate Party: August 13**

Last year, we brought back a much-loved summer activity right here in the CrossRoads parking lot. Bring some food to share and enjoy music, bouncy castles, and the company of your church family as we eat, play, and have a great afternoon of fellowship. Bring some food for yourself and some to share, as well as games and activities. Event runs 4pm – 7pm in the CrossRoads Church parking lot and green space. There is no 6pm service this day.



# Executive Reports



**Dan Cochrane**  
Senior Pastor

Recently, I had the opportunity to be a part of a gathering of Senior Pastors from Western Canada. We talked together, worshipped together and prayed together. It was life-giving!

One of the questions we wrestled with was, "What kind of a world are we entering?" The church in Canada faces massive challenges in the days ahead. How do we articulate the gospel to a world that is disoriented and disintegrating at every level? These are relevant questions that are put another way by the writer of Psalm 11. In verse 3 he asks, "When the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do?" We didn't come away from our gathering with any specific strategies, sermons or specifics. What we did come away with was a renewed commitment to what really matters. It might sound somewhat familiar, but the main things are still the main things.

## 1. Prayer Matters

Prayer moves the hand and heart of God. As one pastor stated from Matthew 7, "Jesus said, 'Keep asking, keep seeking, and keep knocking.'" At CrossRoads, we used to pray urgently and intently for our community, our neighbours, and our friends, and God answered our prayers. Our church grew numerically and spiritually as a direct result of our prayers. Many times we were up against it financially, we prayed, and

God provided. There are so many more examples of answered prayer here at CrossRoads.

Let's do everything we can to rekindle that flame of prayer in our personal and in our church life. I wonder what difference it would make in our lives, families, and community if we began praying the Lord's Prayer from our hearts every day.

## 2. Surrender Matters

It is the beginning of everything good. Just check out 2 Chronicles 7:14. The forgiveness of sins and healing of the land begins with surrender (humble yourself). A wise person once said, "He who is on the floor cannot fall." Good point! A fresh surrender to the Lordship of Jesus in our lives is what I believe the Holy Spirit is calling us to.

## 3. Caring for our Marriage and Family Matters

Relationships always come first in the Kingdom of God. Recently I read and was impacted by Nehemiah 4:14. It is worth looking up!

Someone I know from Vancouver recently said, "Right now one of the most counter-cultural things you can do in Vancouver is marry someone of the opposite sex and stay married."

I don't think you can do anything better for your children and grandchildren than

to love your spouse and stay together for life. Covenant. Security. Place of Refuge. Beautiful.

Of all the challenges facing the church in Canada today is the potential loss of a whole generation to the kingdom of God. Marriage and Family matter!

## 4. God's Word Matters

In a world swarming with lies, we need to be immersed more than ever in the Word of God. If we don't know it, believe it, and live it, we will quickly and easily cave into the lies of the culture.

Sundays will always be a day where the Word of God takes center stage and is read, preached and applied.

One of my greatest joys over the last year is listening to Julie, Denise and Jordan C. as they brought us the Word of God with excellence, passion and relevance. As we move forward, we will increasingly be using a 'teaching team' model that will allow us to develop other solid young communicators of God's Word.

## 5. Unity Matters

COVID wreaked havoc in the body of Christ. We must never forget that unity was what Jesus prayed for among His people just before He went to the cross. Let's be diligent in forgiving, welcoming back and praying for unity.

(Cont'd on page 6...)

(...Dan Cochrane, cont'd from page 5)

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**We want to give everyone in Central Alberta an opportunity to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and by following Him together, impact the world with compassion and hope.**

## 6. Vision Matters

God gave us a wonderful vision at CrossRoads Church. You know it, I hope... Is it still valid? Absolutely!! We need to reignite that vision in our hearts and church. As Ron Pearce said recently when he spoke here, COVID was a wonderful opportunity for the gospel - except in Canada and the USA. Instead of focusing on our neighbours, we lashed out at each other, our government and leadership in general at every level of our society. Time to remember and refocus that lost people still matter to God, and they must matter to us.

As elders, we still believe God is going to pour out His Spirit. That is why we want to be ready. It is why we still want to pray for our neighbours and friends. It's why we want to have strong leadership at Celebrate Recovery, Alpha, Foundations and our Children and Youth Ministries. It is why we still plan on expanding our facility.

Remember:

- Our Vision is Biblical - Matthew 28:18
- God has affirmed it and confirmed it to us many times

- It keeps us focused on a lost world
- It involves all of our friends, family, co-workers, fellow students, and all the people most precious to us.
- To be part of CrossRoads is to live with this vision. It is so important to us we have embedded it into the DNA of our church. Future leadership will take us further than we have ever gone before with this vision, but they will not take us off course.

Well, much more could be said about what matters, but I am convinced that to embrace and give ourselves to these “six matters” would be to be confident and unashamed before Him at His coming.

After 26 years as Senior Pastor at CrossRoads Church, I want to say thank you for the support, kindness and encouragement you have shown to Ginny and me. We are humbled and grateful to have served the Lord here with you all these years.



# Executive Reports



**Jordan Polson**  
**Executive Pastor**

It is a real blessing to be part of what God is doing here in Central Alberta and right here at CrossRoads Church. The last few years has taught me that we live in a world of fast, never-ceasing change. Therefore, I am acutely aware of the importance to be attentive to the leading of the Spirit of God. Your support over the last year has been a blessing and I am grateful for your many encouraging and thoughtful words and connections throughout the year.

Last year we saw a return to life as we knew before COVID and our church attendance consistently grew as the months went on. Ministries were able to offer more programs and in-person connections again. Please read their reports to hear about how God has been faithful and good here at CrossRoads and in Central Alberta and beyond. We are currently running about 70% attendance versus pre-Covid numbers, and yet our financial picture has been significantly stronger and is running at a much greater ratio than attendance, which allows us to meet our commitments and provide effective ministry.

## Staffing

I am so incredibly thankful for the committed, hard-working and dedicated staff. This past year we welcomed Luke Dutchak, Hannah Blomgren and Kennady Vander Leek to the facilities team. Unfortunately, Kennady chose to leave after a short while to pursue her schooling and we wish her much success. We also welcomed Heidi Rew, Robyn Friesen and Chris Moellenbeck in ministry support roles. All have been such great additions to our team and serve God daily through their contributions here on staff.

Pam Halvorson, who has worked here on staff, in many roles most recently as the ministry assistant in Hope Ministries, for over twenty years retired at the end of April. We are excited for her and Glenn and they move into this next season of life and we know that God has great plans for them both. She will be greatly missed on staff her love for serving God, assisting others in their time of need, infectious laugh and sense of humor are a testament to her character and servant-heart.

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**Please continue to pray for our pastors and staff, that we would be constantly seeking after the heart of God in all that we do here at CrossRoads.**

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I would ask you to be faithful in encouraging them and lifting them up before the Lord. They labour hard for you and consistently go above and beyond expectations.

## Finances

The giving over the fiscal year has been consistent with the previous years overall with a slight increase. Because of your generosity, we were able to offer our staff a cost of living increase in October 2022. As we moved out of Covid and began to return to regular ministry activities, we have managed our expenses accordingly and anticipate a balanced statement at year end.

The budget for the next fiscal year will be a higher than the current year, mainly due the increased costs for tools and resources, much due to inflation.

## Senior Pastor Search

This dedicated team has been spending

many hours listening to and discerning through sermons, seeking the Lord's guidance on who may be potential candidates to replace Dan. As we continue our search we would be remiss not to mention how grateful and appreciative we are to Dan for all his dedicated and hard work leading our church over the last twenty-five years. He is leaving some big shoes to fill, but we are confident in God's plan for us as we move into 2024. We wish Dan and Ginny much joy and happiness as they began this new season of life. They have both served God well here at CrossRoads Church and will be greatly missed.

## Worship Pastor Search

The Worship Pastor Search Committee has been continuing to promote the position through current ministry job board postings as well as networking through churches and personal connections to keep the search active. We are confident that in God's timing, He will provide the right person for the role. In the meantime, Dave Grobe is doing a fantastic job leading the ministry, with the support of Ashley Lehman and others on the worship team. We are very grateful for how they have all stepped up to the challenge.

## Final Thoughts:

I would like to end by thanking you for your continued prayers, love and support for me and my wife Kathleen. We value you, our CrossRoads family, and feel blessed to do life with you. I ask for your prayers and encouragement as we move forward with both the search to replace Dan at the end of this year and for a new worship pastor. This year has not been without its challenges, but through it all you have been faithful and committed to the work CrossRoads is doing here in Red Deer, Central Alberta and around the world. Thank you!

# Executive Reports



**Brad Vonkeman**  
Board Chair

**“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts, and whatsoever you do, whether in work or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”**  
**Colossians 3:15-17**

We have so much to be thankful for as a Board and as CrossRoads Church. God has shown Himself faithful to us again over the past year. To see all the restrictions removed that had been in place for the building and meeting with people, including having fellowship around coffee and meals, has been wonderful. We have also seen many faces showing up in the building that we had not seen in a long time; what a joy to be able to fellowship with these people in person and welcome them back!

I believe we are starting to see healing in relationships that had been strained, and we are grateful for a God that is interested

in restoring and not condemning people. May we be like Jesus as we see people come back into fellowship. We are also seeing that God is bringing new people into the building. What a blessing to welcome these people in and begin to build relationships with them.

We are grateful for each of you who have been faithful in your giving and in listening to what God would have you donate to the work that He has called us as CrossRoads Church to do. We continue to stand amazed at God's faithfulness in the finances and that we continue to “run in the black” in all ministries.

As a Board, we had one of our members ask to step down so that he could focus on some personal things going on in his life, and so we reluctantly released Trevor Schultz from the Board to work through the things he needs to at this time. This leaves us seeking to fill two positions on the Board, and so we have been diligently seeking the Lord in prayer, refining the role profile for an Elder, and tapping a couple of people on the shoulder to consider if God is calling them to serve in this manner.

The Central Alberta Outreach sub-committee had a couple of people move on, creating an opening for some new members. We welcomed Paul Rew and Chantel Mangan to serve on the committee and a new Board representative Benno Fath to review applications from organizations requesting funds in Central Alberta. A great big thank you to each person who serves on this committee, including Gord Kingcott (Chair) and Rob

Mudde (staff representative), who are so vital to this important yet fun work.

As a Board, we have also added a Search Committee, which is busy working on the succession plan for replacing Dan as our Senior Pastor. This committee is chaired by Jordan Polson and has Brad Vonkeman, Doug MacDormand, Justin Muchinsky and Kendra Berniko as members to represent various areas of the church from our membership, families, and leadership.

As an update on the search that is going on, the committee has put a role profile together for the next Senior Pastor along with an opportunity profile. We have job postings on some select sites and areas. This committee also analyzed the work that our young adults, the congregation as a whole, and our Pastoral Team did last spring as to what was important to each of these groups. The committee has also spent much time researching and listening to people who could potentially fill this vital role. We have also been looking at what characteristics are critical, important, and nice to have in the next Senior Pastor.

In all of this, we have tried to carve out more time for prayer in our meetings and personally around this important work, for we know that God has a plan, and we need to take the necessary time to listen to what He is saying to us and to work at moving our own personal bias out of the way.

There is still much work to be done, and we continue to work hard at this task, but we know that God is well-able and already has a divine plan. May we hear Him well.



# Giving @ CrossRoads Church

The mission and purposes of CrossRoads are funded by the generosity of its people. By creating a place for worship and community, individuals, families and visitors experience God's presence every week.

As presented in the Annual Budget the cost for carrying this out is substantial. The average monthly giving required to our general fund is \$322,225. This enables us to carry out the vision we believe God is calling us to.

The fiscal year runs from August - July here at CrossRoads Church. During the month of March, each ministry leader spends time creating a ministry plan and then in turn a ministry budget. These are

reviewed by their supervisor and Director of Finance. Then they are compiled and presented to the Finance Committee and the Church Board for review and input over the months of April, May and June. Lastly, this budget is presented to the congregation at the congregational meeting at the end of June where it is voted on by the membership. The budget is available to be viewed on the website along with quarterly updates on our current finances.

If you have any immediate questions regarding CrossRoads Church finances or giving please feel free to contact Kendra Berniko at: 403-967-2504 or by email: [kendrab@crossroadschurch.ca](mailto:kendrab@crossroadschurch.ca)



## Pastoral Succession Update

Over the last year, the CrossRoads Church Board has been prayerfully considering how to move forward as Pastor Dan will be stepping down from his position at the end of this year. We have been reviewing what is important to us as a church and have established a Search Committee.

This committee consists of:

- Pastor Jordan Polson
- Justin Munchinsky
- Kendra Berniko
- Doug McDormand, and
- Brad Vonkeman.

Each of the committee members, along with all the church board members, are available to have discussions and answer questions around what is happening in the search process. Please feel free to engage and connect with them.

You can find short bios on each of the search committee members, as well as frequently asked questions, and more at [crossroadschurch.ca/succession](http://crossroadschurch.ca/succession).

Some of the questions addressed are around the search process, what happens

if we don't find someone by the end of the year, and how the congregation can be involved. This last question is an important one: please continuously pray throughout this process. Prayer points can be found on the succession page. And, if you know of someone that you feel the Search Committee should explore, you can speak to any one of the Search Committee Members, or send an email to Kendra at [kendrab@crossroadschurch.ca](mailto:kendrab@crossroadschurch.ca) and she will ensure that the committee receives your suggestion.

# Community Life

As we get bigger... we need to get smaller.



**Jordan Cavanaugh**  
Pastor of Community Life

The Soup is on! One of the highlights of this past ministry year in Community Life has been the overwhelming response by the congregation in joining us monthly for a hot bowl of soup and meaningful conversation. Not only have we consistently fed thousands of people over the last year, but we are seeing many among us buy into creating a culture of invitation here at CrossRoads. For instance, one Sunday, a brand new couple took the risk of coming to Soups On, not knowing who they would sit with. As they walked past a table full of people, they were quickly invited to pull up a chair and share the meal together. What a gift to them to be noticed and invited.

On another Sunday, as a family waited in line, they struck up a conversation with someone behind them and realized they didn't have anyone to eat soup with, so they invited them to join them for soup that Sunday and a great connection was made (lines are not always a bad thing!).

This is exactly how it should be! Taking risks, inviting others to join us for a meal and building connection with one another. As a church, we often say that as we grow and get bigger, we have to find ways to get smaller. If we continue to extend invitation

to people around us, CrossRoads won't feel so big!

We love seeing this culture of invitation spill over into other areas of community life. A few months ago, my phone rang and on the other end of the line was a facilitator of one of our long-term life groups (A life group is a group of people who have decided to meet regularly to invest in one another lives and spur each other on in faith). She shared with me that their group had been doing some thinking and praying and wanted to make room for another couple who could use consistent community. Within the month, their group welcomed with open arms a couple who had been longing for community but didn't know where they might fit. It has been a perfect fit for everyone, and we are so grateful that Jesus is burdening our groups to make room for others! Let's keep it up!

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**As we look forward to this coming year, we are praying that Jesus would continue the work of helping us find ways to get smaller.**

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We are praying that Jesus would give more of us the courage to invite others to join us for a meal and that He would help us make room in our lives for those who need community. We look forward to the day when people consistently say things like, "CrossRoads is a growing church, but it feels like a small church because we are known here."

We are grateful for all 140 of our group/ mid-size community facilitators, who are working hard to make this a reality. If you are in a group, make sure and tell your facilitator thanks for serving! We would also encourage you to begin thinking about how you, too, can personally embrace this culture of invitation and take the next step in making room for others in your life.



**Groups** We believe people find hope and grow in their faith the most if they are surrounded by a loving community. Stay connected by joining a group or participating in a course. Groups will start up again on September 10th. Invite people to host a group as well.

To explore groups available, visit [crossroadschurch.ca/groups](https://crossroadschurch.ca/groups)

You can also browse the catalogue by downloading the Church Center app on your iOS or Android device. Scan the QR code to learn more.



**Soup's On!** We would love for you to come for our monthly meal as a church family. This is a great opportunity to build community at CrossRoads by inviting others to join you for soup. Soup's On happens the first Sunday of the month, after each morning service and before the evening service. [crossroadschurch.ca/register](https://crossroadschurch.ca/register)



**Alpha Course** Alpha is a place to explore the Christian faith with others. Each session has a video, a talk, and space to discuss and ask questions. The next session will start in September and will run every Tuesday through the fall. Visit [crossroadschurch.ca/alpha](https://crossroadschurch.ca/alpha) for more information.



**Men's Retreat** We'll be gathering at Rivers Edge Camp & Retreat Centre for the weekend of October 27th - 29th. Join us as we take a step out of the busyness of life with the intent of creating memories, building community and deepening our faith together. Mark it on your calendar and check out Weekly Updates for details as the date draws near.

Community Life Events

# Spiritual Formation



**Denise Snyder**  
Pastor of Spiritual Formation

In Spiritual Formation, our goal is to always be growing in our relationship with Jesus. We want to know more about who He is and what He is like as we walk with Him and invite others to know Him too.

We've had a great year of getting to know Jesus better in a variety of ways.

Baptisms continue to be an exciting step for believers who want to publicly declare their faith in Jesus. We baptized nearly 50 people in the past year and are encouraging those who were baptized to get connected into Christian community as we follow Jesus together.

Our Foundations course ran in the fall and again this spring. We've had a lot of people attending this course, desiring to learn more about foundational beliefs and practices of Christianity. Through our time together, we understand better, grow in community and then put what we have learned into practice.

This winter, I ran a smaller group of deep discipleship, which we called *In Step*. Our goal was to keep in step with the Spirit (Galatians 5:25) as He grows fruit in us. We read the New Testament together, learned about church history, practiced memorizing Scripture and fasting, and entered into community in a special way. This group was a great opportunity for us to take a deeper dive into our faith, and I'm excited to see what comes of it in the future!

We've continued our annual spiritual

formation activities, which help prepare our hearts for the high points of the Christian year—Christmas and Easter.

We put out beautiful Advent calendars this year as we counted down to the arrival of the King!

During Holy Week, we celebrated two Passover Seders, which were extra meaningful this year as we had been spending time in the book of Exodus together on Sundays.

My highlight this year was the God's Story Worship Night that we did during Holy Week. I have wanted to do an event like this for a long time, and it was a beautiful evening that allowed us to walk through the drama of the biblical story through worship, word and Scripture. My prayer was that we would experience God's work and come away amazed at what He has done! We will be doing this event again next year during Holy Week, and I am excited for it already!

I want to thank all of you for your continued support of CrossRoads and our ministry. This past year has been busy but wonderful as we were able to step back into full ministry schedules. I take great joy in Sundays when I get to see all of you—those who make up our church family as we follow Jesus together, step by step.

We do our work for Him because He is worthy—His story is the one that is true and best and most beautiful.



**Come and see what God  
has done, His awesome  
deeds for mankind!**

**Psalm 66:5**





# Hope Ministries



**Dave Morin**  
Pastor of Hope Ministries

**“I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.”**

**Ephesians 3:16-17**

Greetings in the mighty name of Jesus!

I am so thankful for how the Lord empowers us for His work. This past year, we have experienced once again how Jesus leads us and invites us to rely on Him in this work that He has prepared in advance for us to do: to provide soul care for people by creating safe places where Jesus' presence is active, and He grows people to be more like Him.

## **Prayer Team**

Did you know that there is a dedicated team of people who are praying regularly for CrossRoads Church and the needs in our community? When people submit prayer requests online, these are then shared with the prayer team. This team serves behind the scenes and remembers these requests in prayer.

In addition to those serving in this way, perhaps you have seen prayer team members who serve with the altar prayer team at the close of Sunday services. Presently, we have nearly 20 people regularly serving in this role. This team gets to be on the front row of seeing how the Holy Spirit moves in people's lives in real time there in the sanctuary. We are thankful.

Prayer for Inner Healing is yet another expression of Prayer Ministries at CrossRoads. These are extended times of prayer (2 hours or more) where a person is walked through intentional steps as the facilitators ask them questions, read Scripture, and pray for them. These prayer times are all about people coming face to face with Jesus and experiencing His healing.

I appreciate your prayers for these prayer ministries at CrossRoads. In the coming year, I am asking Jesus to double the size of our altar prayer team with pairs of people regularly serving together and young people having opportunities to be mentored in this way. I am asking Jesus to grow a team of intercessors for each of the Sunday services who pray for the services and also for all of the ministry areas on Sundays. To this end, we have set aside Sundays at 8:30 am as a time to pause and pray in the Prayer Room. Thank

you for praying for us as we serve in these prayer ministries.

## **Hope Groups**

Hope Groups are those groups under the banner of Community Life at CrossRoads that have a unique connection with Hope Ministries. These groups include Celebrate Recovery (CR), GriefShare, DivorceCare, Special Needs Community, and the Life & Heart Coaching Group.

The Celebrate Recovery Leadership TEAM (CR TEAM) is one of the most effective and well-organized teams that I have witnessed in my life. This dedicated group of people serves tirelessly 52 weeks out of every year. They prayerfully pursue a “come as you are” environment, where Jesus is front and center as people bring their hurts, habits, and hang-ups to Him. This past January, CR celebrated 14 years of ministry here at CrossRoads.

In GriefShare, the amazing team of facilitators seeks to provide a supportive environment where people can grieve the loss of their loved ones. I would describe the environment as holy ground. We presently have two teams of facilitators who alternate in caring for the 13-week groups.

DivorceCare is a vital ministry that helps people walk through the pain of

(Cont'd on page 14...)



(...Hope Ministries cont'd from page 13)

separation and divorce. I am thankful for the facilitators of this group and how they pray for the participants and point people to Jesus. I regularly hear reports of how people are opening up and sharing their stories.

Special Needs Community is a group that has met monthly over the past year. I appreciate how Jesus has led us as a community in creating an environment where we come together to sing worship songs, share stories, laugh and cry together, and walk away with encouragement from His word. Bev McNab's input as a co-facilitator of this group has been immensely valuable.

Life & Heart Coaching Group met for eight weeks this year. Group members were invited to pause with Jesus and explore His word. Don Albers led us through content that helped participants dig deeper into their stories and journeys with Jesus. It

was a rich time to hear more of what Jesus was saying to people and their steps of obedience in response to Him.

I am praying that God would continue to raise up additional facilitators for these groups. I also appreciate your prayers for those who presently serve, that Jesus would continue to strengthen and encourage them in this vital work.

#### **Team Update**

Our team is presently walking through a significant change as Pam Halvorson retired at the end of April. Pam served at CrossRoads for 21 years, specifically with Hope Ministries for 16 years. Pam is a woman of character in Christ who fervently prays for the Lord's will to be done in and through CrossRoads Church. We will miss her and are so thankful for the opportunity to have served with her this past season. As we prepare for this

next season, the Lord has seen fit that Chris Moellenbeck step into the Ministry Assistant to Hope Ministries role. We are glad that Chris is here and that she was able to learn from Pam in her first two weeks in the role.

As you have read this, I wonder what Jesus has caused to stand out to you. Perhaps Jesus is inviting you to serve in some way with Prayer Ministries or Hope Groups. Can you picture yourself serving with the altar prayer team? Or perhaps you would like to learn how to be a facilitator with a Hope Group? If you have any questions or would like to sit down for a conversation with us, please know that our door is always open.

The Lord bless you today!

**FREEDOM**

**FROM YOUR HURTS, HANG-UPS AND HABITS**

Fellowship with others and celebrate God's healing power in our lives.  
Fridays: 6pm Details: [crossroadschurch.ca/celebraterecovery](http://crossroadschurch.ca/celebraterecovery)

**C/R**  
Celebrate Recovery

Check [crossroadschurch.ca/hopegroups](http://crossroadschurch.ca/hopegroups) for the dates and locations of other Hope Groups.

# Hope Ministries



**Ken Lehman**  
Associate Pastor of Hope Ministries

Over the past year, the call of Christ has strengthened in me. He has reminded me often that as He brings broken people my way, He wants me to empathize with them, inviting them to receive His healing touch and place their hope in Him. I am witnessing this happening in the following areas of my role in Hope Ministries.

## Pastoral Care

In contrast to the year before, it has been refreshing to meet people face to face. Dave and I have become more aware that many are struggling with anxiety, depression and fear. They feel like the future has become unclear and frightening. Psalm 23:1 and Matthew 11:28 have become a foundation of what the Holy Spirit is highlighting in people's hearts as the way forward. I marvel every time I witness someone trusting our Lord for exactly what He promises in these two passages and seeing Him show up keeping His word. Hallelujah! What a Saviour!

## Funerals and Weddings

Up to the end of 2022, there was an average of a funeral a week; that has slowed now in 2023. We have witnessed the 'homegoing' of some dear saints and miss them while at the same time longingly anticipating meeting them again in the grand reunion with our Lord in heaven.

After a slow wedding year in 2022, I am seeing a slight increase this year, and I find myself working with several married couples in coaching them to experience revitalization in their relationships with the Lord and each other.

## Hospital and Hospice

I have resumed my role as a volunteer chaplain, and a goal of mine in each interaction is that the patient has gained a deeper sense of the peace of Christ and the hope He provides when I leave a room in contrast to entering it. I continue to facilitate chapel service at various times each week in several senior facilities: Points West Living, the Hamlet's, Victoria Park, and Parkvale Lodge. I find great joy in this ministry as I witness these dear seniors grabbing hold of Christ and His promises and experiencing Him holding them secure and steady among their peers who haven't yet embraced Jesus as Saviour and Lord. It is a great mission field! Pray for them to bear much fruit of new life in Christ in these facilities.

## GEMS (Genuinely Enthusiastic Missionary Seniors)

Since last September of 2022, GEMS have been able to meet again in the church building on a monthly basis and enjoy a delicious meal and program that encourages a supportive Christ-centered

community and outreach to those who are their neighbours. This year has been a rebuilding year in bringing together a new planning team which is slowly being formed, so we anticipate that by the fall of 2023, there will be a strong, active GEMS ministry.

## Freedom Session

Over the year, I have taken a group of young men through the study of Freedom Session. We have trained in becoming free and healed through discipleship with Christ. I am waiting on the Holy Spirit as to the future of this ministry.

My ministry verses from 1 Corinthians 2:4-5 continue to influence me in all that I find myself doing. I pray that "my communication will be plain and simple, not using clever and persuasive speech, but rather rely only on the power of the Holy Spirit so that others will not trust in my wisdom but in the power of God."



**Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.**

**Matthew 11:28**

# Outreach Missions



## Julie Cavanaugh Interim Pastor of Outreach Missions

As I think about our global mission focus this last year, I am reminded of the opening words of the parable of the Sower in Matthew 13. "A farmer went out to sow his seed." This farmer scatters the seed, rather indiscriminately, in order to make sure every part of the field is covered. We are later told that the seed he is scattering is the word of God, namely Jesus. It is a picture of Jesus-seeds being lavishly sprinkled into every corner of our world. What an incredible mission to be a part of! Just as in the parable, CrossRoads' Missions' efforts have quite a broad scattering. Let me highlight a few of them for you:

### Outreach Partnerships

We resource five global partnerships involved with evangelism to unreached people, equipping local pastors and supporting persecuted believers. Here are three highlights:

#### Pakistan (Partners International)

We support local evangelists, and the harvest is ripe. Just under 4000 people responded to the Good News of Jesus through their ministry this year. Many have been baptized, and thousands have received copies of the New Testament. The work is dangerous. In talking to our on-the-ground partners, we expressed concern to them that our financial support of their ministry might ultimately put

them at risk of imprisonment or risk of violence. Their response was powerful and humbling.

”  
Tell the church—we are willing to put our lives on the line for Jesus either way. Your support just increases our opportunity to be fruitful.”

Please pray that the Holy Spirit would reveal Christ in powerful ways.

#### Ethiopia (Empower Ministries)

We continue to receive responses that are truly "overwhelming, with hundreds of thousands of people accepting Jesus this year alone through underground church planting networks." We help support these church planters financially, but please remember to pray that God would equip them to disciple and nurture these planted seeds.

#### Lebanon (Bridges of Love)

Our partners have been actively involved in crisis relief work due to the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. The money we sent them enabled them to support some of the most vulnerable through the love of Christ. They said, "Please thank the church for their prayers and support. It feels like we have five loaves of bread and two fish and are trying to feed all these people... but God is good... Please continue to pray with us!" Stay tuned this summer as Gaby and Samia from Bridges of Love will be joining us here in Central Alberta for the month of July.



Statistics reported by Partners International

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## Global Compassion Partners

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Another scattering of seeds falls on the soil of Haiti, Uganda, and Rwanda through our three long-term Global Compassion Partners.

### Haiti (Haiti Arise)

While almost every NGO has had to pull out of Haiti due to ongoing violence and anarchy, incredibly, we recently had the opportunity to have first-hand information that our partner—Haiti Arise—is thriving! The technical school is full as people are fleeing the capital city and desperately need practical training to escape poverty. Kids are being rescued from slavery and trafficking and are being placed in loving homes in the children's village. Please pray for Haiti Arise. God is using them as light on a hill in a very dark place. We have the privilege to stand with and support our brothers and sisters in Haiti!



### Uganda (International Needs)

In March, we had a team on the ground in Uganda, and they came back overflowing with stories of the bountiful harvest being produced through our partnership in gospel-centred education. Most recently, our partnership with International Needs Uganda enabled the Buikwe Secondary School to construct housing for female staff, allowing the school to increase their quality of education. To follow up on these stories, visit [crossroadschurch.ca/missionsblog](https://crossroadschurch.ca/missionsblog).



### Rwanda (World Relief)



World Relief desires that the local church be stronger and healthier so that they can reach out into their community. Last summer, a small team from CrossRoads was in Rwanda to see the progress of the great ministry happening there and then together with several other partners, they participated in the annual staff retreat with all of the WR Rwanda staff. We are awaiting dates for another short-term outreach trip to Rwanda, potentially in February. Maybe you will join us!

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## Missionaries

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Our global and local missionaries are themselves tiny seeds whom God has planted around the world. What a gift to have many of them join us here in May this year. Every three years, we gather our missionaries for a retreat to hear what God is doing in and through them and to provide them with a space for refreshing and fellowship. If you haven't met or connected with our 22 missionary units, take a moment to check out their bios at [crossroadschurch.ca/missionaries](https://crossroadschurch.ca/missionaries) or pick up their prayer cards in the café by the missions kiosk.



Missionary Retreat 2023

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## Local Equipping

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Lastly, if the parable picture is that every part of the field is scattered with Jesus-seeds, that includes right here in Central Alberta. A few local outreach highlights are:

### The Bako Family

Our current sponsored refugees from Syria recently had a baby girl! They have now been with us for nearly a year. Pray for them as they continue to learn English, find work, and transition to life here.

### Missions Spotlight During Soup's On

If you've never popped in the chapel to hear from our missionaries or outreach partners during Soup's On, you are missing out! This last year we hosted several of our missionaries and partners—keep your eyes out for more to come! You won't regret taking the time to hear what God is doing around the world.

### Impact of Short-term Outreach



In October, we sent a second team to Moldova to work with those displaced by the war in Ukraine. By watching how the church was mobilizing to meet the needs, our teams felt equipped and inspired about how WE can be salt and light to the displaced people coming to Central Alberta. You can read more here: [crossroadschurch.ca/blog/3553/moldova-after-camp](https://crossroadschurch.ca/blog/3553/moldova-after-camp)





(...Outreach Missions cont'd from page 17)

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### **What seeds does God want you to plant?**

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There are countless ways to be on mission, from the neighbours on our street to our partners around the world. However, the busyness of life can easily crowd out our heart for mission. If you need a boost in passion for global and local mission, sign up for the Kairos course. This short course will teach, inspire and equip you to see where God is on the move, planting seeds, and how you can join Him! [simplymobilizing.outreach.ca/courses/kairos](http://simplymobilizing.outreach.ca/courses/kairos)

**BOTTLES**  
for Missions

June 11  
July 9  
Aug 13

Drop-off anytime  
from 8:30 am - 7 pm

Thanks for your support!

HAITI  
UGANDA  
RWANDA  
CENTRAL AB



# Outreach Missions



**Laurie Whitaker**  
**Director of Local Initiatives**

As I have spent some time gathering stories from our local partners to share with you, I marvel at the privilege we have as a congregation to call these amazing organizations our partners. These organizations and the individuals who work for them are passionate about their calling and compassionate in their interactions with others, and their desire is to see the ones they are in contact with reach their full potential. To be better, to be healthy and to be whole.

## **Central Alberta Youth Unlimited (Stepping Stones)**

In the past six months, Red Deer Stepping Stones has more than doubled in size and continues to grow. Your generosity has equipped Stepping Stones to offer a breakfast program, educated speakers, resource materials, life coaching and counselling support.

Bible study resources were purchased, and a large percentage of the women are also participating in a weekly Zoom study.

Funds have also allowed for a few larger events such as the Galentines Day (a Valentines women's event discussing self-worth and how God sees us)

During the healthy eating segment, mothers were invited to work with a mentor to learn how to meal plan, budget and then grocery shop together.

Stepping Stones is in the process of creating a lending cupboard for Christian books on parenting as well as other essential items.

Launching a new program can feel slow and, at times, discouraging. Your partnership has done wonders.

Now we are racing to try and find enough volunteers to hold all these babies. We are beyond grateful. We see God working in mom's lives every week and feel excited for all He is doing in Red Deer. The impact of your support is being felt on many levels. We praise God for this!

## **Youth Engagement**

The Relaxation Room in Lindsay Thurber High School has taken on a new life since purchasing new bean bag chairs. These chairs might seem like a trivial thing, but they have allowed increased capacity, which changes the whole atmosphere of the place. About 34 youth fit in the room now, and more food options are available for the students. Sometimes, this is the only food they get all day because they don't feel comfortable going to the office to receive some of the free lunches they can get from there. Along with the food, hot chocolate has been a huge barrier breaker for many Arabic-speaking youth.

We have also been able to help a handful of youth receive counselling with your funds.

These youth come through the Relaxation Room, and as they share their stories, the staff are able to point them towards appropriate help.

One of the staff has been using the funds to buy strings for youth she is helping to teach guitar. She connects with them personally and plays worship songs with them as she teaches them. It's a great connection point, and the kids light up as they play with a guitar that sounds so much better having fresh strings.

## **Maskwacis**

Thanks to the partnership funds from CrossRoads, the Maskwacis team held a Youth Alpha Holy Spirit weekend getaway at a Central Alberta camp with 14 youth and five leaders. The funds from CrossRoads helped to provide meals, a speaker, the cost of the camp, transportation, and supplies. It was a very special weekend.

## **Central Alberta Pregnancy Care Centre**

The Central Alberta Pregnancy Care Centre continues to offer reliable support, counsel and tangible places of refuge and growth to women facing unexpected pregnancies and their families.

The story on page 23 highlights the importance of having the Pregnancy Care Centre and The Aerie Maternity Home in our community.

# Mark Your Calendar!

Full event details: [crossroadschurch.ca/thisweek](http://crossroadschurch.ca/thisweek)

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4 Communion Soups On @ Home	5	6	7	8 GEMS Luncheon	9	10
11 Bottles for Missions Faith @ Home Gr.6	12	13	14 Sr. High Youth Ends	15 Jr. High Youth Ends	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 K-6 Missions Fest	26	27	28 Summer Cong. Supper & Meeting	29	30	

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2 Communion Move-Up Sunday	3	4	5	6	7 Kids Camp (7-9) →	8
9 Outdoor Service Baptisms Lunch & Learn	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 K-6 Outdoor Sunday	31					

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Communion	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Tailgate Party	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Child Dedications K-6 Outdoor Sunday	28	29	30	31		

# Ongoing Events

- Sunday Services: ..... 9am, 11am, 6pm
- Young Adults: ..... Mondays, 7pm
- Senior High Youth: ..... Wednesdays, 7pm
- Junior High Youth: ..... Thursdays, 7pm
- Celebrate Recovery:..... Fridays, 6pm
- Bottles for Missions:..... 2nd Sunday of every month
- CrossRoads Café..... Open Sundays, 10:15-11am  
(except for "Soup's On" Sundays)

Event details will be updated as they become available at: [crossroadschurch.ca/thisweek](http://crossroadschurch.ca/thisweek).

# Upcoming Events

## SEPTEMBER

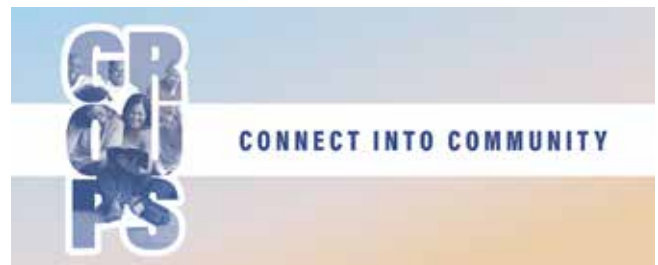
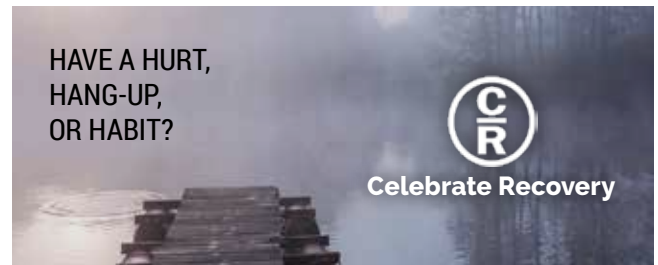
- 2.....K-6 Back to School Blessing
- 3.....Connect into Community
- 3.....Soups On!
- 6.....Youth Starts
- 9.....Gr. 6 Grad / 56ers Event
- 17.....Special Needs Community
- 17.....Grade 1 Faith@Home
- 19 .....Alpha starts
- 21 .....GEMS Luncheon
- 24.....Serve Leader Training

## OCTOBER

- 1.....Soup's On!
- 3.....Engage
- 15 .....Special Needs Community
- 19 .....GEMS Luncheon
- 23.....Pickles and Ice Cream
- 27-29..Men's Retreat

# Connect & Learn

[crossroadschurch.ca/connectandlearn](http://crossroadschurch.ca/connectandlearn)



(...Local Initiatives cont'd from page 19)



Before coming to Hope Mission, the kids would be at home playing alone. They were doing the same thing every day, and there was nothing to look forward to. So many afterschool programs are not in our family budget. The meals and food staples they give us makes our family so grateful.

- A Grandma raising her grandchildren

Last summer CrossRoads highlighted Julietta's Place and held a "house warming" in our Foyer. Your gifts and donations to help furnish the apartments were gratefully received.



### Hope Mission

A growing ministry of Hope Mission is providing nutrition to children and families in our community experiencing food insecurity. They do this through school breakfast programs, after-school programs, frozen meal delivery to families and sometimes in-person family dinners. Over the past year, they have provided food to approximately 900 people monthly. This spring, they increased that number by 350 additional people monthly, bringing the total to 1250 a month. Hope Mission is also thrilled that their long-awaited dream of a family Centre will soon be coming about, with groundbreaking happening in early summer. This will provide a permanent home for Hope Mission staff and a commercial kitchen. It will be a place where children, youth, and families can participate in programs, learn new skills, develop healthy relationships and ultimately know they are loved.

### Outreach Centre

**Julietta's Place** is a safe, secure and affordable facility for women and children fleeing domestic violence, which is under the umbrella of our partner, Outreach. Here families are offered in-home case management; providing support, skills, and wrap-around resources to transition into living a life free from domestic violence. While sobering to know that there is a need for a place like Julietta's, we are grateful for

the opportunity to be able to support both the staff and clients.

**The Dragonfly Centre** provides age-appropriate therapy for children who have been affected by domestic violence, homelessness and suicide.

It is the goal of Dragonfly, through collaboration with partners, that children and youth who have experienced potentially traumatizing events or patterns of events have the opportunity to heal and develop healthy skills and behaviours.

### Schools

I am very pleased to report that this '22/'23 school year opened doors again for serving within a few public schools. The opportunities have increased through food packages and clothing requests for students, to provide literacy support and help with breakfast programs in schools, and more people are stepping forward to serve in these ways.

"Please extend our gratitude to your team for their service to our families and community so faithfully. You truly have been His hands and feet in such a humble and heartfelt way. It has not only made an impact on our families but with our staff as well. Thank you" - Red Deer Public School Principal

### Continued Support Needed

In talking to our partner agencies just recently, they have all indicated that mental health issues are very much on the rise amongst the populations they are involved with. Life is challenging to navigate for many people, and the services and supports our partners provide are a beacon of hope in a dark time and a source of encouragement to those who need to know that someone is in their corner.

Our partners value our support and need our prayers. They also need us to get involved through serving. Please visit their websites or pick up a postcard in the missions corner in the café to see how you can get involved. I can also be contacted and provide you with information so you can find a good fit for serving.



Central Alberta  
**PREGNANCY  
CARE CENTRE**

A young mom came into the program with the goal of reuniting with her child. Her baby girl had been apprehended by Children's Services (CS) due to the high level of domestic violence in the home and the risk to the baby.

This young mom has quite the story as she began running away from home when she was 16 years old. She is now almost 30. She spent quite a few years lost in addiction, her drugs of choice were crystal meth and cocaine. She gave birth to a child when she was still a teenager and that baby was given into adoption. This is one of her biggest regrets, although she knows that she did not have the skills to parent the child at that time. She was in and out of addiction, and at some point in her street life, she contracted HIV.

When this mom came into Aerie, she was very malnourished, extremely thin, and riddled with high anxiety and other disorders. One thing in her favour at that time was her commitment to be sober, remain sober, and take part in all

programming offered so as to get her child back into her custody. We were able to offer her stability, parenting skills, love, safety, and acceptance. We worked with her, supporting and advocating for her. After doing a lot of work, following all recommendations set out by CS, this mom was able to take back full custody of her child after nine months. It was a slow process, whereas she had short supervised visits here at the Aerie, then slowly parenting time was increased. Now she has her child full-time with no involvement whatsoever from Children's Services.

As she had run away at such a young age, her education was not completed. In spite of that, she put in all the effort to make sure she is stepping up, for herself and for her child. She is on AISH, due to multiple diagnoses, yet she is choosing to do her best to provide a better future and example to her child. She is now enrolled and working hard in a College Program and hopes to graduate in February of 2024 with a certificate in Business Administration.

## CrossRoads Missions Overview

### COMPASSION

#### Global:

- Haiti Arise
- World Relief (Rwanda)
- International Needs (Uganda)
- Relief/Disaster Response

#### Local:

- Hope Mission
- Central Albert Youth Unlimited
- Outreach Centre
- Schools

### OUTREACH

- Missionaries
- Refugee Sponsorship
- Persecuted Believers
- National Pastors & Leaders
- Partners International
- Hellenic Ministries
- Global Disciples Canada
- Empower Ministries
- Bridges of Love

If you would like to offer your support in any way, be involved directly, or serve with CrossRoads in any of our local partnerships, please let us know through our Serve Application at [crossroadschurch.ca/serve](https://crossroadschurch.ca/serve) or by contacting Laurie at [lauriew@crossroadschurch.ca](mailto:lauriew@crossroadschurch.ca)



# Worship Ministries



**Dave Grobe**  
Worship Music Director

## Two Davids Praise the LORD

I admire King David's honesty. Many of the songs he wrote include the highest highs and the lowest lows. They include a spectrum of emotions, from fear and anxiety to anger and confusion, to awe and wonder and joy. As we in worship ministry, like David, seek to celebrate and admire the Lord, we too, experience a wide range of victories and challenges.

One of my favourites of David's Psalms is Psalm 145. I seek to live out the invitation to daily bring my praise to God and exalt His name. To declare His greatness and worth and to faithfully commend His works to generations after me. Our God is gracious and compassionate, and His kingdom, which we are privileged to participate in, is everlasting.

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**His promises are sure,  
His provision is abundant,  
and His presence is with  
us. In all the highs and all  
the lows.**

---

In the past year, we have sought to bring expectant hearts into each gathering we've had the privilege of serving at and to steward God's presence in a way that sees His kingdom come to earth as it is in heaven. Let me recount how the LORD has been "trustworthy in all He promises and faithful in all He does" (Psalm 145:13b).

Over the summer of 2022, it was refreshing to meet as a worship family to sing around campfires in backyards. With lighter worship-leading commitments

during July and August, we as worship ministry staff spent time seeking the Lord for the year ahead, 'checking the pulse' of our leaders, and making plans.

## Worship Ministry Values

We felt peace about continuing to pursue these five values as a worship ministry:

1. Worship and prayer
2. Community
3. Creativity
4. Service
5. Skill development

In the fall, we planned a kick-off event that included reminiscing along a giant timeline of the worship ministry milestones throughout the history of Oriole Park/ CrossRoads, laying out the new Thursday plan, and then enjoying a time of prayer and prophetic words for each individual worship family member present.

We put the updated plan into action and began a rotation of Thursday night gatherings with musicians and technicians that focused on one of our five values at a time, including a once-per-month church-wide worship night that quickly became a treasured staple for us. In fact, at the beginning of 2023, we added a second worship night per month. These meetings include worship mixed with intercessory prayer for our church, city and nation on the first Thursday of each month, plus an extended time of worship through song, testimony and prayer for individual needs on the third Thursday of each month.

## Worship Pastor Search

As many of you know, we have been searching for a Worship Pastor since October of 2021, and in the fall of last year, our dedicated search committee found a promising candidate. Unfortunately, things fell through, and we all had to work through our disappointment, but as our Psalm says, "The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their [worship pastor] at the proper time" (verse 15). He will provide! We got on with the work the LORD has entrusted to us, and by His great grace, He has stretched me and allowed me to grow in unexpected ways as the interim pastor of this ministry.

## Welcoming New Worship Leaders

The Advent season is always full but fun, and this year, even more so, thanks in part to the opportunity we had to welcome our CrossRoads Kids to the big stage on a Sunday! This has become a beloved recurrence, with kids joining us on Palm Sunday with plans in place for them to join us as many as 4 or 5 times through the coming year. Psalm 145:5 tells us that "one generation commends Your works to another," we often think of this being older to younger, but truly when our kids join us, the opposite is true.

Another group of young people, our junior high musicians, have joined us once a month to rehearse and lead their peers in worship on Thursday nights. Several have begun to serve in other musical capacities around the church, and we couldn't be more proud of them! Make sure to welcome and encourage them when you see them at work serving with music!

### 2023: A Year of Praise

During our Christmas Day and New Year's Day services, I received a word from the Spirit that 2023 would be a year of praise. So, we introduced some new 'high praise' songs and are learning about the seven Hebrew words for praise. "Every day I will praise you" (Psalm 145:2a), "Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise" (verse 3a), and "My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD" (verse 21a). He is praiseworthy! He is enthroned on the praises of his people, and our praise can shift atmospheres!

### 6:00pm Service Change

In February, we began a new adventure. Did you know that since we added the 6:00 pm service on Sundays a few years back, our technicians and musicians have served at all three services when scheduled, for a total of about 10 hours at the church, including rehearsal time? Plus, personal prep time at home. They are a seriously dedicated group of people! So in February, we took the plunge to schedule one team for Sunday mornings and a separate team for Sunday evenings. This new structure has somewhat lightened the load for our worship family and made it possible for a few new and returning musicians to join us due to the reduced time commitment! One challenge is that there are now more positions to fill than we have musicians and techs (but the door has been opened for new people to jump in!) This new approach also transfers increased weight to staff in our area.

### Please pray with us:

- That our current technicians, musicians and staff would be refreshed, filled with the Spirit and equipped to serve with excellence
- For more musicians and technicians to join our crew
- For the Father to raise up skilled worship leaders, in particular, to help lead our Sunday gatherings

Scattered throughout the year are many more opportunities to lead God's people in worship! We have a small but mighty crew of dedicated Celebrate Recovery worship leaders who serve week after week. Our worship family also serves at funerals and weddings, conferences, Alpha retreats, worship and prayer events (there were

two 12-hour worship events this year), and at mid-sized groups like Deeper and Foundations. They serve outside the church at the Dream Center, the Mustard Seed, inter-church gatherings and at other churches around Central Alberta.

### Here's another little-known fact:

CrossRoads worship ministry schedules teams, chooses sets, builds charts and plans rehearsals for at least 19 recurring services every month, plus all the additional special events mentioned above! No wonder we get a bit worn out in busy seasons! But we know that "The LORD upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down" (Psalm 145:14).

### Gratitude

I am so grateful for every person who is part of our music and technical team, for their faithfulness and the heart of worship that each one brings to their work. I'm grateful for those who have served a long time and for those who have joined us over this past year. Working alongside Ashley Lehman, Leanne Walker, Wally Hildebrandt and William Knelsen (from Communications) on our Service Planning Team and Eric Halchik, who serves us so well on our tech team, is a joy. Please pray for this team of staff and volunteers; we want what we do to contribute to the building of God's kingdom both in us and through us at CrossRoads Church and beyond; we want to grow

»

**We want to grow in our understanding of what it means to worship in Spirit and Truth.**

in our understanding of what it means to worship in Spirit and Truth; we want to see darkness pushed back by the Light of Jesus as we declare his praises both personally and corporately. May we continue to "call on Him in truth" so that He will be near to us (Psalm 145:18) and "so that all people may know of [His] mighty acts and the glorious splendor of [His] kingdom" (Psalm 145:12). Amen!

From a lesser-known worshipper also named Dave (with significant help from Ashley Lehman)



Skill development is an important part of our rhythm in Worship Ministry.

# Family Ministries

## Marriage & Family



**Barry Oram**  
Pastor of Family Ministries

### Pre-Marriage Mentors

CrossRoads Church pre-marriage mentors get paired up with couples preparing to marry. Mentors have a minimum of five meetings with these couples in the mentors' homes. Our current marriage mentors are Dan and Christa Dyck, Dean and Shauna Willoughby, Dean and Janella Spearing, and Milt and Terry Thulien. These mentor couples have been very active and are just barely keeping pace with the high demand for this mentorship. I am very thankful for the couples serving Jesus this way. Supporting them has been rewarding and worthwhile. I was really blessed to see firsthand the difference this preparation has made for my daughter and son-in-law in 2022.

In addition, the pre-marriage mentors were on stage at one of our young adult nights. The four mentor couples had mini lineups of young adults waiting to ask questions after the presentation. The young adults had many questions about finding a mate and being married well.

### Engaged Encounter

The Engaged Encounter team has been busy renovating and updating this awesome pre-marriage experience. It has been a long while since we have been able to run the weekend. We have been working on recruiting some new leaders to bolster the existing team. Dean

and Janella Spearing are one of the new additions to our team. Right now, we are planning to offer the weekend in the fall of 2023 if there is enough demand to fill it. The Engaged Encounter weekend allows soon-to-be-married couples to get away from the daily grind, pause and take a fresh look at how to communicate with one another. Couples learn a technique of communication that allows them to explore many areas of their relationship in a spirit of love and understanding.

Through communication, every couple gains insights, tools and confidence for building a future together. This weekend is organized by Sharon Wiebe. This event happens at Camp Silversides on the shores of Gull Lake.

### Marriage Enrichment Weekend

This spectacular event was finally able to happen again on November 25-27, 2022. This weekend almost didn't happen because of a lack of leaders and leaders that got sick. But the team was tenacious, though, and prayed for God to supply. Thankfully it all came together at the final hour, and many couples were deeply impacted and helped in their marriages.

This weekend takes place offsite at Ghost River in the Rocky Mountains. After the event, one of our newly minted leader couples, Benno and Wendy Fath, commented, "As a church, we

are engaging in local compassion by supporting local organizations that serve single-parent families and vulnerable or at-risk youth. I saw marriage enrichment as a complementary but preventative measure – supporting couples before marriages break down with the resulting single-parent families, and children and youth at greater risk. All couples can benefit from the content and processes introduced during the weekend. Stronger marriages contribute to stronger families and to children better equipped for life and living. These stronger couples and their stronger families can become salt and light in their extended families and communities as they model in their marriage relationship and in other relationships what they have learned."



I liked everything! The food, the knowledge & tips, the getaway from the kids, the new tools to use in our conversations moving forward, and the people.”

“I am surprised that I cried at almost every session! Each session touched me deeply. And I didn’t even realize I was hurting in that area.”

- Comments from our fall 2022 Alpha Marriage Course

#### The Alpha Marriage Course

The course is designed as a “date night” where couples sit at private tables for two where they enjoy a relaxed meal together, and is the same night every week for seven weeks. The Marriage Course video creates the opportunity for couple-based discussion to discover things about themselves and each other and then apply tools to enjoy and strengthen their relationship.

Many couples have benefited from this course over the years, including the people that serve Jesus by facilitating these events. The next Marriage Course will be starting in October, 2023. The current Marriage Course facilitators are Henk & Tamara Bos and Brian & Janice Rypstra. The team could use one more couple to help them set up and take down. If you have attended the Marriage Course in the past and you would like to help, please let me know.

## Engaged Encounter

Take time to prepare for the rest of your life together!

Watch for the Engaged Encounter details coming in June

[crossroadschurch.ca/marriage](https://crossroadschurch.ca/marriage)

## Marriage Enrichment Weekend

Escape to a beautiful mountain retreat and take time to refocus on God each other.

Coming Nov, 2023

## The Marriage Course

Coming Oct, 2023

*Enjoy a nice dinner in a romantic setting with a video series & private discussions with your partner.*



# Family Ministries

## Early Childhood Ministries



**Tammy Grobe**  
**Pastor of Early Childhood Families**

What a privilege to share with you some of the highlights from our Early Childhood area!

We keep busy with the pre-k children and their families of CrossRoads Kids! We have a committed volunteer culture made up of seniors, grandparents, parents, young adults, and juniors! We have a total of 145! I appreciate their passion and care for the "littles" of CrossRoads! We have several teams: Baking, Cleaning, Curriculum Prep, Room Organizers, Prayer, Welcome, and Sunday Morning CrossRoads Kids. A huge THANK YOU to all of our amazing volunteers; we could not do what we do without YOU!

We have several engaging events throughout the year: Daddy Daughter, Teddy Bear Adventure, Sock Wars, Meet

and Greet/Pickles and Ice Cream! All of our events were well attended, and it is our prayer that strong bonds were made between parents and their children.

Faith at Home happens twice a year and is an integral part of our engagement for our families! Once a year, parents have a chance to go to church with their child! During this event, parents learn about their child's Sunday experience and also are challenged to carry what they learn home with them. Parents are reminded of their responsibility in the formation of the faith of their child. Blessing and Prayer are the Pre-K themes; they get to make an awesome craft to take home to help them with their role of bringing "Faith at Home."

Our "littles" had the opportunity to help lead in worship in the big house during the

Christmas season and on Palm Sunday. What a blessing to see "littles" worship! Worship is a special part of our Sunday mornings... Thank you, Mr. Bruce!

It's amazing how many people come to CrossRoads when they find out they are having a baby. We have several young families who want to dedicate their children to the Lord! We dedicated a total of 35 children this year. Please pray for our young families and their children.

Looking ahead, we are excited to see more families and children coming to CrossRoads. Because of this, we will also be adding to our volunteers! If you would like to be a part of this exciting area of the church in any capacity or on any of our several teams, please fill out the application at [crossroadschurch.ca/serve](http://crossroadschurch.ca/serve).





Mom & Son Sock Wars (top left photo) is always a huge hit with our families. Another favourite is "Daddy-Daughter Date Night, with this year's theme being a Tropical Luau (top right). Child Dedications are also highlights for Early Childhood Ministries, with 35 children being dedicated this year (bottom right).



## Child Dedications

Child dedication is about acknowledging that you need God's leadership in raising your child. It's making a commitment to pray for and teach your child God's ways, asking for the support of family, friends, and the church in raising your child. If you are interested in dedicating your Little at CrossRoads or at your home, let us know!

Register at [crossroadschurch.ca/register](https://crossroadschurch.ca/register).



# Family Ministries

## Kindergarten to Grade 6



**Priscila Pascoal**  
Pastor of K-6 Families

As we look back over the last year, we think of the growth, challenges, victories, and how much fun it was to be serving the Lord with the children and families at CrossRoads.

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**We have experienced God at work in our children's lives as we see them come to know God, grow in their love for Him, and live to serve Him.**

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To highlight a few important moments from this year, we would have to share about our Camp Days in July and August. We had a total of 247 kids joining us over the two days, 46 of which do not attend church! We were blessed by the 40+ volunteers who served with us each day.

Our kids continue to show us their radical generosity through their giving to Haiti Arise. So far this year, we've raised \$1200 to support two families in the Children's Village in Haiti. While speaking of generosity, in October, we introduced the Kids-Giving project. Our goal was to collect granola bar and juice box donations for the School Lunch Program through the Mustard Seed. Together, we collected 584 granola bars and 194 juice boxes to bless students all over Red Deer!



Our ministry has had a couple of opportunities to gather with the large church to worship together in the Big House. At Christmas and Easter, our kids joined the worship team to praise our King together. We have loved these opportunities to bring life and joy to the people of our Church through the worship of our kids. Also, at Easter, we created the Holy Week Family Experience designed to help families understand and reflect on the Easter Story, engage and serve our community, and celebrate victory over death.

It's so impactful when we can see our kids experience the love of God in a new and life-changing way. Our 56ers (grades 5 and 6) are growing and thriving. Over the last few months, we've seen our pre-teens group grow on Sundays and through our 56ers Connect Events, we've had a chance to intentionally engage with this age group. In the last few months, eight kids in grades 5 and 6 have made a decision to follow Jesus, and 12 kids have been baptized! It's such a privilege to see the next generation grow into an authentic

and passionate relationship with the God who created them.

God has answered our prayer as we see people rising up to join our team. We are beyond thankful for the many people who serve so faithfully in K-6. They serve week after week to guide and disciple kids. None of this would be possible without our dedicated team. Truly, we are so grateful for each one of them. As the ministry grows, our need for help also grows. If you want to be a part of our team, get in touch with us. We would love to invite you to rise up with us.

As we continue with the mission God has given us, we desire to share God's love by partnering with families and expanding outside of our walls to reach the last, the lost, the least, the little and the nearly dead. We look ahead to the future with excitement for what the Lord will continue to do as we help raise up a generation of world changers who will impact Central Alberta and the world with compassion and hope.



GET READY "FUR"  
A GRRREAT KIDS CAMP!

**PETS UNLEASHED**  
WHERE JESUS CARES FUR YOU

JULY 7-9  
REGISTER BY JUNE 30 AT:  
[CROSSROADSCHURCH.CA/REGISTER](http://CROSSROADSCHURCH.CA/REGISTER)



# FAITH *at* HOME

Faith at Home events offer you an opportunity to invest in the spiritual life and development of your growing family. Events are offered once a year for each grade/age. On a Faith at Home Sunday, the event will be the only programming offered for this grade/age level.

**The next Faith at Home events are:**  
June 4 - Kindergarten: "God Cares for Me" led by Pastor Tammy  
June 11 - Grade 6: "Intro to Youth" led by Josh Sissions



# Youth Ministries

## Senior High & Young Adults



**Rob Mudde**  
Pastor of Young Adult &  
Student Ministries

This year, I have had the opportunity to stand in two pastoral roles, Senior High Youth Pastor and Young Adults Pastor, so this year's report will encompass both.

Our Sr. High Youth leaders are truly some of the most talented and caring shepherds you could ask for. This year we had 8 youth leaders serving, and they have a combined total of 22 years of experience leading youth. The depth they bring is incredible. I have felt so incredibly blessed to have this team as they haven't just made sure I have not dropped balls, but they have elevated so much of what we have pursued this year at youth.

In Sr. High Youth, we grew from a weekly attendance of 30 at the start of the year, and now we average low 60s. – In Young Adults, we average 60-85 students a week.

We continue to be a sanctuary for our youth and young adults. Our students are under huge pressure as they navigate an incredibly complex world with many waring agendas and messages. In addition, they carry a load of their failures and or the failures of significant, impactful people in their life. The weight is always present, but some days it becomes incredibly enormous. And so, as Jesus' hands, feet, ears, and voice, we lift burdens, we ask ourselves at debrief,

”

Our students are under huge pressure as they navigate an incredibly complex world with many waring agendas and messages.

“Did they leave lighter than when they came?” Sometimes our youth just need to play, blow off steam, laugh, and goof off with friends. They often need to talk it out and give their burdens and their failures to Jesus. We feel privileged to represent Jesus weekly in this way.

We are in the process of hiring a Sr. High Youth Pastor. We had some great applications come in, and we have narrowed it down to one person. They will be candidating here June 6-13th. If all goes well, we hope to have this position filled in the summer so that we are ready to go by the next school year.



Pastor Rob Mudde took a group of Young Adults to Kananaskis Country, where they are seen here atop of Highwood Pass. The trek took 80 minutes of pedalling nearly all uphill, and only 25 minutes to coast back down!



Here is some rapid-fire information to better understand what Sr. High & Young Adult Ministries were up to this past year:

**Events:** Down Hill Luge / Kick Off / Lake Days / Youngs Farm on the Cliffs / 2-Step Lessons / Christmas Banquet / Scavenger Hunt / Sylvan Lake hang out / Ultimate Frisbee / Slip and Slide Kick Ball / West Edd. Mall Hunt / Glow Tribes / 90's Lip Sync / Hawaiian Luau / Food Bank Serving / Pool Party / Sr. High Youth Retreat / Nerf Wars.

**Snacks:** Pizza / Smores / Skittle Bar / Banana Splits / Pumpkin Pie / Crackers-N-Dips / Ice-cream Sandwich Cookies / Apple Pie / Potato Bar / Fries n Gravy / Ice-cream Treats / Chicken Burritos / Strawberry over Sponge Cake / Candy-Cane Deconstructed Cheese Cake / Nachos / Pizza / Donuts / Sugar Cereal / Ice-cream Cones / Italian Sodas / Chocolate Fondue / Grilled Cheese / Bagel Bar / Pizza Pockets / Cheese n Carmel Popcorn / Cinnamon Buns.

**Ice Breakers and Games:**

Hide and go Squeak / "Duck Hunter" / Rope Swing Teambuilder / Tortilla Slap / Wits-N-Wagers / Pull-Apart "Deconstruction" / Penguin Basketball / Mario Wars / Clue / Mennonite Dancing / Gift Exchange / Zip-Tie Lego Copy / Blind Leading the Blind Obstacle Course / Bucket Ball / Uno Competition / Shopping Cart Jousting / Stick Bridge Building / Sock Wars / Wackum Hockey / Pumpkin Bash / Capture the Flag / Bouncy Castle / Real Life Mario Cart / Kajabe-Can-Can / Cocoon Your Leader / Jeopardy / Slimed / Bob Ross Art In Fastforward.

**Talks:** Identity in Christ Part 1 and 2 / The God Who Speaks / Taking God's Gifts vs. the World's / Who's Fighting Your Battles / What's Your Spiritual Plan / How Pickled Are You? / Who is in Your Corner? / How Can I Live My Best Life Now? Pt 1, 2 and 3 / Life on Purpose / Boredom vs. New Life / Shame / The God Who Hides / Perfect Love vs Fear / No Boring Conversations / Life "With" God / Outward Focus; 1-Praying 2-Caring 3-Sharing / God's Cheque Book / Breaking a Habit / Living Free of Judgment / The Pains of a "Puffed Up" Life / Testimonies / Dating: Pursuing a Win vs. Avoiding a Failure / Missionary Sharing.





## YOUTH NIGHTS

### Junior High (Gr. 7-8)

Thursday 7-8:30pm

Last day of Jr. High Youth before  
summer break: June 15

[instagram.com/crjhyouth](https://www.instagram.com/crjhyouth)

### Senior High (Gr. 9-11)

Wednesday 7-9pm

Last day of Sr. High Youth before  
summer break: June 14

[instagram.com/crshyouth](https://www.instagram.com/crshyouth)



# Youth Ministries

## Junior High



**Josh Sissons**  
Associate Pastor of Student Ministries

What a year! 2022-23 was, in my mind going to be the first "normal" year I would have had since arriving here in August, 2020. Yet, this year in Jr. High has been more than I could have ever expected! Here are some highlights from the year and how Jesus has been guiding Jr. High youth at CrossRoads Church.

### Youth Alpha

The year before, God was making it clear that students had many questions and needed an outlet for that. So, we started the year off by engaging in Youth Alpha! This was a great opportunity for students to gradually get into bigger issues without jumping into the deep end. Sometimes the challenge was to fit all of it into a night! I remember the first night was cool when I had several parents come up and say they felt like they should invite their student's neighbour, not knowing it was Alpha! Seeing how some students were praying for the first time was cool! I also remember one small group telling their leader they wanted to start a bible study. I appreciated how Alpha was able to help us engage with youth who knew nothing about Jesus and a relationship with him; and those who had a relationship but wanted to grow in their faith.

### Growth

After the Christmas break, we had our

annual Glow Tribes event, where we saw over 70 youth come out! Our next major event was parents vs students. This event was a surprise for us as approximately 30 parents and 50 students came out. It was awesome to have parents have fun, engage with their students and understand a little more about what they do when they come. The parents really got into tug-o-war, and if it hadn't been for the leader's help, the parents might have won!

Another great part about this was the connection of parents with other parents. This has been a big struggle in recent years, so we were excited to see families connect and reconnect. Lastly, this event was a great opportunity to answer parents' questions about the upcoming mission trip.

Next, we had the luau, where we saw 90+ students come, our largest event so far! This growth has greatly encouraged us, and we understand that students invite their friends because they like coming. But it's not only on event nights where we have seen growth but to our general youth population. Our regular youth nights have grown from an average of 45 to 60+; in a recent week, we had over 80 youth in attendance! Sunday Youth has been growing too; between 60-80 youth are coming between the three services. It is evident that youth want to be here, and we rejoice in that!

### Outward Focus & Jr. High Missions Trip

In the New Year, we talked about how the church was so loving to each other and how there was no need among them because they were united in Christ! After this, I was seeking God; what do we do in light of this? I felt that the Spirit led me to talk about stories as an important part of getting to know students and for them to start understanding how they can share the gospel through sharing their lives with others.

One Sunday at youth, we talked about what was one way we wanted to grow in our faith, and many students said they wanted to be bolder. So, we started a series on James that connected these dots on how to be active in our faith. This overlapped with our Jr. High Missions trip to Salem Acres Bible Camp over spring break.

This being the first mission trip I have led, I was asking God for help on what would be the best use of the time we had there. We ran a camp at Salem Acres Bible Camp last year in partnership with them and Delburne Gospel Church for the first time. It was a good experience for the students; they were great to partner with! We noticed while we were there that some projects and updates needed to be done. When I approached them about the idea of coming there to do work projects for our

(Cont'd on page 36...)

(...Junior High cont'd from page 35)



We talked about how being on mission can be our worship to God and that He will lead us where we are called to serve and care for the world God created.

mission trip, they got really excited! We planned on having 12 students, myself and two leaders. Unfortunately, both leaders cancelled at the last minute, and even the backup female chaperone cancelled! In desperation, we reached out to parents a week before and had a mom who agreed to come as our female chaperone. This also turned out to be a blessing because she brought her vehicle, which we packed with bags. We saw God's provision again and again on the trip!

The students worked really hard. The camp was so impressed with the work that they had done to clear the way for their new archery range. It was so much scrap wood that the director told me the scrap pile had never been so full. On the trip, we also talked about what it meant to be on mission by reading the great commission in Matthew 28:16-20 and listening to a rap song about being on mission as an act of worship. One thing I said again and again to students was that being on mission

didn't end with the trip; it was only the beginning! We talked about how being on mission can be our worship to God and that He will lead us where we are called to serve and care for the world God created.

#### **Gratitude**

We are grateful for the support that we receive from the broader CrossRoads community in many ways, which include: prayer, tithes and offerings, people who serve, those who support youth going to camp and many other ways. I want to thank all who help make youth a safe place for students to connect, have fun and walk with God! We know that your support makes a difference, no matter how small or big it may be. We are beyond grateful for the numerical growth we have seen this year, and we ask God that he would continue to work in youth leaders and staff as we pour out the life-giving word of Jesus through the time we are blessed to spend with them.



Junior High mission trip to Salem Acres Bible Camp east of Red Deer. The kids worked extremely hard helping the camp clean up and prepare space for a new archery range.



# Facilities



**Kyle Reed**  
Director of Facility Operations

Greetings on behalf of the facility team here at Crossroads. This past year was a year of continued growth not only in the amount of people we welcomed back on a Sunday, but also in how the building was used day to day and week to week. The facility team meets Monday mornings in order to lay out expectantly the week to come and through the start of 2022 we spoke so much about “scalability” and “room to grow,” and the last 12 months has seen us put these pieces to the test. We have seen our building use rise 60% in the last eight months, over the previous eight months as we came out of the pandemic. Our current building usage is also approximately 20% higher than it was pre-pandemic.

## **So what keeps the building busy you may ask?**

We are so fortunate to be able to utilize the space for so many variations of ministry, and outreach, and community events. Bible studies, sermon groups, wedding, funerals, business meetings, affinity groups, retreats, concerts, and the list goes on. If I look at our bookings calendar for the first quarter of 2023 for example, it shows that our church housed on average 37 bookings per week. This is outside Sunday services and children's programming on a Sunday. This shows that there is such a desire to be in this beautiful space gifted through God's

abundant goodness where His name is spoken above any other.

A large project that was undertaken recently was the replacement of our fire water storage tanks. As we are on well water, there is a certain storage capacity needed for our facility to have fire flow available in case of emergency. These tanks became compromised and therefore we had to undergo a large excavation to unearth and replace the tanks. The new fiberglass holding tanks, made here in Alberta, are expected to give us a longer lifespan than what we had initially. This project allowed us to upgrade some piping and valves as part of our water system in the basement as well.

Another large expenditure in the last year was the replacement of a roof top heating and cooling unit. The unit replaced served the upstairs offices of our children's and family pastors and support staff as well as our finance team.

The rest of 2023 and into 2024 sees us taking on numerous mid-size projects as we continue to deal with a building starting to age and equipment meeting its life cycle end. We will be doing repairs in the parking lot, some aging roof membrane repairs, as well as facelifts to many spaces throughout the church. Paint, flooring and furniture in spaces like the NE

It's through the continued and faithful giving of so many that we are able to confidently have all these projects in the budget and be able to refresh our well-loved spaces for many more people to come and enjoy and be blessed.

entrance, the youth center and the prayer room are updates that you can expect in the coming months. Also an update to the theater room lighting is on the horizon. It's through the continued and faithful giving of so many that we are able to confidently have all these projects in the budget and be able to refresh our well-loved spaces for many more people to come and enjoy and be blessed.

## **Thank you for supporting our team.**

Whether it is the hosts, or janitorial staff, or the team taking bookings, or the kitchen cooking for an event, or the maintenance staff going about a project in the halls or setting up for an event, we love our church community and serving all of you. We cherish and appreciate the “Hello's” and the “Thank you's” that we receive as we are going about the numerous activities throughout the church building and grounds.

# Baptism @ CrossRoads

Baptism is a significant step in your faith journey. As a church community, we look forward to celebrating with you!

When we celebrate baptisms at CrossRoads, it's an opportunity for us to rejoice in what God has done in people's lives. On baptism Sundays we encourage those who are making public declarations of their faith in Jesus by obeying His command to be baptized.

As a church family, we remember and celebrate with the newly baptized and praise God for His salvation and faithfulness!

The next baptism service is Sunday, July 9th (outdoors). If you're interested in being baptized, visit [crossroadschurch.ca/baptism](https://crossroadschurch.ca/baptism).



Pastor Denise Snyder celebrates with one of the baptizees at the Baptism Service on April 23, 2023.



# Stay Connected

The best way to stay informed about what's happening at CrossRoads is to check our Weekly Updates page which is updated constantly at [crossroadschurch.ca/thisweek](https://crossroadschurch.ca/thisweek).

You can receive updates by email as well, which is sent out each Friday. You can opt-in to these emails by scanning this QR code with your phone, or visit [crossroadschurch.ca/receiveupdates](https://crossroadschurch.ca/receiveupdates) and click on the 'receive updates by email' link on that page.



If you would like a weekly text message reminder to check the updates, we sent out a text every Friday evening. Sign up by texting 'updates' to 1-833-460-1788.

If you would like to see all our church events and activities in a calendar format, check out our online calendar at [crossroadschurch.ca/events](https://crossroadschurch.ca/events)





**JULY 9, 11AM**

Bring a chair & let's worship together!  
 Stay for FREE hot dog lunch.  
*(No services at 9am or 6pm)*

[crossroadschurch.ca/outdoorservice](http://crossroadschurch.ca/outdoorservice)



**YOU'RE INVITED**

# Tailgate Party

*Come for a great time of connecting!*

**SUNDAY**

**AUG.**

**13<sup>th</sup>**

**BEGINS @ 4PM**

at **CrossRoads Church**  
Parking Lot

MUSIC • BOUNCY CASTLES • FUN

**BRING** Food for you & some to share



[crossroadschurch.ca/connectquarterly](https://crossroadschurch.ca/connectquarterly)

