It's Your Move 2023

## FOR GOD LOVES A

## CHEERFUL GIVER

2 Corinthians 9:7



# GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER

Our theme for the **2023 It's Your Move** generosity initiative is both surprising and simple. Surprising, in that we have never used the theme before. Simple, in that the theme needs no explanation.

Our theme is *For God Loves a Cheerful Giver*, and we find it in Paul's second letter to the Church at Corinth.

Paul writes,

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

*For God Loves a Cheerful Giver* is a good fit for CrossPoint. It is a good fit for us for multiple reasons.

First, the theme, *For God Loves a Cheerful Giver*, describes us. We are a generous church. We are a cheerful church. Combine those traits and you have a church that gives cheerfully.

Second, the theme, *For God Loves a Cheerful Giver*, helps us. It helps us to grow in our knowledge and faith as givers.

For example, check out our sermon topics:

October 8 Cheerful Givers Please God October 29 Cheerful Givers Get More Than They Give

2 Corinthians 9:7 Luke 6:38

October 15 Special Guest, Dr. Robert Smith November 5 Cheerful Givers Become More Like God

Beeson Divinity School John 3:16

**October 22** Cheerful Givers Know It Is More Blessed to Give Than to Receive

Acts 20:35

Third, the theme, *For God Loves a Cheerful Giver*, motivates us. It describes our future. It defines our direction. It inspires our motivation. It increases our opportunities.

There it is, the theme for 2023: *For God Loves a Cheerful Giver*.

In closing, Vonda and I look forward to taking this journey with you. We are excited about the opportunity to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ together. We are also ready to make our **It's Your Move** commitment for 2024. Our commitment includes being a cheerful giver.

Additionally, we want you to know that we love you. We love you because you are so easy to love. Thank you for loving us.

Finally, we thank the Lord for you. You are a gift from God, and it is a joy to serve with you.

Grace always, Ryan







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## 2 Corinthians 9:7

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VOLUME 12

IT'S YOUR MOVE MAGAZINE

## CROSSPOINTER TESTIMONIES

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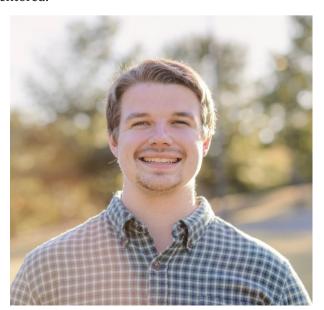
2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

## GOD'S FAITHFULNESS AND LOVE

**AUSTIN SANDFORD** 

Since my family first came to CrossPoint in 2017, It's Your Move has been crucial to our lives. Ever since I was a child, my mom has taught me the importance of tithing, which has always stuck with me. When I started making my own money, I would think back to my upbringing and remember that God is the one that has blessed me with the money in the first place, and it is my duty as a Christian to give a portion of it back to him. Obviously, this is not always easy, but I have seen the Lord's faithfulness time and time again, no matter what life has brought my way.

I started working at the age of 15 when I started my own lawn business. The following year, I started working at Chick-fil-A. This 3-year journey laid the foundation of my vocational career and helped me develop a drive and passion for serving others. After Chick-fil-A, I worked at ALDI (local accounting firm in Mountain Brook) and eventually, CrossPoint. Through each of these seasons, the Lord has reminded me that if I put Him first with my time, money, etc., He will always be faithful to lead me where He desires me to be. Currently, I am blessed to have a job with LUCA LLC in their tax department and CrossPoint as a Student Ministry Assistant of Worship, where I can grow as a young professional and be mentored.



Since I am young, finances may seem like something I am not super concerned about because many people my age tend to spend more than they make. But, my mom taught me the importance of using money wisely. I have not always been perfect with this, but I have grown in maturity as I have progressed through college and work. The first few years of working taught me that money does not come easily. My first few jobs were not high-paying, but they quickly taught me the importance of hard work and dedication. In today's world, the appeal of having money instantly is so enticing, but I would not trade earning my own money for anything. I am thankful that the Lord has given me the drive to work hard and I trust Him to provide for me. The Lord promises never to leave or forsake us. No matter what may come our way, if we trust the Lord, He will always see us through!

I may not be rich in money, but I am rich in blessings. Everything blessing is a gift from God and we are called to use our time, money, and gifts wisely and in a way that would glorify the Lord. We all come from different backgrounds and endure various struggles and difficulties. But, as the Psalmist says in **Psalm 100:5**, "For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations."

No matter what we may face, He promises to make a way. I pray that the Lord will guide us all as we go throughout CrossPoint's generosity initiative. I pray that He will open our hearts to see how we can give whatever He is leading us to give back to Him so that He may be glorified.



## GOD'S GENEROUS SALVATION

### **BLAKE & TAYLOR EARLEY**

In 2007, at thirteen years old, I was baptized but the gospel didn't take root in my heart at this time. In 2009 my family and I joined CrossPoint Church. Pastor Ryan's correct doctrine, pure theology, and gospel-centered preaching started permeating the tough exterior of my heart. I remember thinking I was a Christian, but also looking at those of great faith and feeling like I was on the outside. I had to force myself to read the Bible and prayed sparingly. I wanted the desire to do these things because I knew I needed to do them, but ultimately did not. I saw spiritual disciplines as a want, not a need.

Blake and I got married in October 2016 and had our first baby girl in November 2017. Becoming a mother was one of the many ways the Lord worked through my life to lead me to Him. As time moved forward, He continued to soften my heart. I joined the staff at CrossPoint as an Administrative Assistant in January 2020. I am certain God led me here to continue working in my heart. After working here for two years, Bible reading and praying began to become a habit that I enjoyed. I also started appreciating the art of journaling my prayers. These things are how the Holy Spirit worked through me to grasp the necessity of the gospel.

So, on the morning of March 7, 2022, I had the joy of receiving salvation and journaled about the experience. Before that morning I was never sure of my salvation. But on that morning, Jesus revealed to me that I never fully gave myself to Him. I never did fully trust Him or His plan for my life. I had realized that I had been slowly moving toward Him my whole life. I knew that my sole purpose in life is to glorify Him! I had heard the gospel, knew the gospel, but had never felt the gospel, until March 7, 2022. After giving my life to Jesus I felt the weight of my sin lifted and the chains lifted off my heart. I also felt a calling on my life, but did not know what it was at the time. I walked around that day with purpose.

The realization hit that I was living my life as a "Christian" but I had never fully put my trust in God. I was like the antagonists in the parable Jesus spoke about in Matthew 13, 'You will be ever hearing but never understanding, you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.' I had grown weary in the world and found comfort in the Lord. He is my peace and my portion forever. It is ALL because of Jesus and His love for me and grace extended to me. I owe ALL to Him. In Him is the fullness of joy. He is my rock and my salvation. I was Baptized at Shocco Springs in May 2022 and knew I wanted to dedicate my life to Him and His work, but was not sure how to do that or what it would look like.

It felt like God was calling me to more than just avocational ministry. The desire for ministry was placed in my heart and it began to consume me. I felt such a hunger for learning more about Him and His Word, to help others learn more about Him and His Word, and to serve others. So, for a year I began praying about it consistently.

I began taking some extension ministry training classes from Samford University's Ministry Training Institute in August 2022. These classes caused me to spend more time in prayer and learn how to study my Bible more deeply. I loved it and tried to find ways to share with others. I started praying for opportunities to minister to people and have more opportunities to help in other ministry areas.

I HAD HEARD THE GOSPEL, KNEW THE GOSPEL, BUT HAD NEVER FELT THE GOSPEL, UNTIL MARCH 7, 2022.

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Around January 2023, I began to ask God to take away my desire for ministry if it was not of His will because I felt like He had not given a firm "yes" or "no." I was beginning to think that it was my selfish desire and not His. I asked Him consistently for many weeks because I did not want to pursue something that was not His will. Not to mention, I had a husband and two kids to think about. But on March 5, 2023, during my morning prayer time, He gave me a peace about pursuing vocational ministry. The previous thoughts I had been struggling with (that God wouldn't use someone like me because that would be impossible) seemed to disappear in this instant. Of course it was His will. He placed that desire in my heart as soon as He saved me.

I told Blake (who was supportive and affirming) and several other people (including other ministers who affirmed the call) about the call and experience. Soon after, Blake and I met with Pastor Ryan (again) to discuss the call and to seek guidance. In this meeting, he affirmed my call and noted that "it wasn't the call to ministry wrestling with me, but me wrestling with the call."

After this the Lord placed a desire in my heart to go to seminary. So, I began working on a Masters degree at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in May 2023. A few weeks after beginning seminary, Layne approached me and asked if I would at all be interested in the vacant Associate Preschool Minister position. After a lot of prayer I felt like the Lord was leading me there. The more I prayed about it and thought about it, it felt right. God mixed my passion to help, serve, love, and guide children with the desire for ministry. Everything He has done in my life has been to prepare me for this.

Although I have loved serving the church in an administrative capacity, I am so thankful and excited to be able to serve CrossPoint in a new capacity as the Associate Preschool Minister. The Lord gave me a passion to dedicate my life to serve, disciple, and educate others for His glory.

So teach us to number our days
that we may get a heart of wisdom.
Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days
Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,
and for as many years as we have seen evil.
Let your work be shown to your servants,
and your glorious power to their children.
Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,
and establish the work of our hands upon us;
yes, establish the work of our hands!

Psalm 90:12-17





## GOD'S VALUABLE LESSON

#### **CARFY & FRAN MORGAN**

When Ryan asked us to write our testimony for this year's It's Your Move, we felt we might have a story that could encourage someone. Yet, this is not so much about us as it is about what God has done for and through us. Neither of us was raised in a Christian home. My father was an alcoholic. I was saved at age 9, as a result of my mother having taken me to church as a young child. I loved going to church. Since I lived close enough to walk, I continued to go by myself. But by my high school and college years, I pretty much dropped out except for Christmas and Easter. I knew I was saved and should be in church, but with no support or encouragement, I drifted away.

Carey's family, while not as dysfunctional as mine, were not Christians, and only went to church at Easter and Christmas. Carey told me he never understood why they went. We had been friends for several years before we started dating. At that time, I asked him to go to church with me, and he did. I shared the gospel with Carey, but he didn't understand it. It was the first time he had heard the gospel. A coworker also witnessed to him, and he was saved at the age of 21.

We were married three weeks before he left the military service and one week before I finished student teaching. He brought home his final paycheck of \$75.00. I had a part-time job while student teaching, but neither of us had any money or help from family. That led to us getting a credit card to buy clothes for job interviews. Which, over time, led to huge credit card debt.

We knew we should be in regular church, and I knew we should be tithing. But...we could barely pay our bills and buy groceries. Entertainment was playing cards with another young, broke couple on weekends. No chance of a vacation. We did start attending church regularly after the birth of our daughter. We contributed a little, but only what little we had left over each month. Over time, we realized we should be tithing. But we felt it was presumptuous to give a tenth of our income and then ask 6 God to pay the bills we had made.

So, we decided to try to gradually decrease our debt and increase our giving. That didn't work. We were trying to do it in our own power. It was a few years later that we became intentional about tithing, and asked God to help us. It seemed that God was waiting for us to be serious about giving because once we were determined to do it, He provided the resources for it to happen. It was amazing how in only a few months we were tithing, first our net income and soon our gross income. We were then happy and satisfied that we were doing well. We never thought about giving beyond our tithe, except for Lottie Moon (Baptist International Missions Offering) and Annie Armstrong (Baptist North American Missions Offering), of course.

We were both very independent and self-sufficient never asking for or receiving help, even when it was much needed. It was not until our oldest son was diagnosed with cancer at the age of six that God taught us a valuable lesson in giving, receiving, and our utter dependence on Him. At that time we had 3 children, were both working, and still living paycheck to paycheck. Our son had surgery to remove a kidney, and then weeks of chemotherapy. Health insurance in those days did not cover all the costs of chemotherapy, and every week when I took him for his treatment, I was handed a bill of almost \$200 that was not covered by insurance, at a time when our income was greatly reduced. Being the proud, independent people we were, we certainly did not let anyone know of our dire circumstances. About the time our situation had become desperate - we literally had no money for food - a Christian couple with whom we were friends left several hundred dollars in cash in our mailbox, with a note saying that God had led them to help us! At first, we were so embarrassed and reluctant to accept their money because we knew they didn't have any "extra" money themselves, and because we knew it was our own fault that we were in that position.

But it seemed we had no alternative, and it certainly seemed to be a gift from God. In talking to them and explaining our embarrassment and reluctance, we learned that they were greatly blessed by the giving and that they would be hurt if we didn't accept their gift. At first, our intention was to pay them back as soon as possible, but before we were able to we realized that doing so would have taken away from the blessing they had received. In the next few weeks, we were again blessed by gifts from other church friends who were led to help us. It was very difficult for us to accept the help because it meant we were not "self-sufficient"- which we thought was the highest virtue. Accepting became easier when we recognized the hand of God in all of it, and thanked Him for providing us with friends who followed His leading. The only explanation of how we got through the next several years was God meeting our needs.

It took us many years to completely recover from that financial setback, but we learned so much from it all. After that experience, we felt that God wanted us to begin a life of giving to others. We asked Him to show us who He wanted us to help. We started small and tentatively, and He blessed our efforts. Over the years, we have learned that we truly can't out-give God. He has more than repaid us for every dollar and every minute of time spent on others. The more we give, the more we have to give. Most of the time our giving has not been charity work, but has been people, much like us, who had a temporary need that God led us and enabled us to meet - for His glory.





ACCEPTING BECAME EASIER
WHEN WE RECOGNIZED THE
HAND OF GOD IN ALL OF IT,
AND THANKED HIM FOR
PROVIDING US WITH FRIENDS
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LEADING.

When It's Your Move began, our first thought was, "We can't do this, we're already giving all we can." But after much thought and prayer, we decided we could manage to increase our giving just a little more. And for the next few years, we had the same first thought, but each time God showed us that we could, indeed, give a little more. Now we actually look forward to It's Your Move, and the opportunity to increase our giving and encourage others to do so. We truly have become thankful and cheerful givers.



## GOD'S FAITHFUL TO OPEN DOORS

#### MICHAEL & LAUREN SONNTAG

In 2011, I was given the awesome opportunity to work part-time as CrossPoint's first Children's Ministry Assistant. CrossPoint was growing rapidly, and Beth Howe, the Children's Minister, needed help. Beth and the other members of CrossPoint's staff mentored me and gave me my first independent ministry experience! I loved being part of the children's ministry team at CrossPoint, under the direction of Beth and, later, Layne. In 2012, while still working at Crosspoint, I graduated with my teaching degree from Samford University and also worked as a full-time teacher at Hewitt Trussville Middle School. Unfortunately, working two jobs became too much, so I resigned from my part-time job at CrossPoint but continued to be an active member of the church.

In 2014, God opened a door for me to move to South Korea where I served for two years as a missionary teacher. CrossPoint sent and supported me in pursuit of this missionary calling in my life. While there, my heart longed to be in full-time children's ministry, so I began looking into seminary programs that I could do online in hopes of obtaining a master's degree that would give me more ministry opportunities. From the moment I left CrossPoint, I always hoped that God would open the door for me to come back and be a part of the team here fulltime. Each time I came back to visit, I felt so welcome and at home, but the opportunity never arose for me to stay.

Over the nine years I've been away, God grew my relationship with Him through ministry opportunities, meeting my husband, and most recently, starting a journey in foster care. He also closed some doors in my life that were for my good even though they didn't feel good. All of these experiences taught me many lessons in trusting Him and letting Him lead my life no matter the cost.

The last three years, while living in Texas, I've wanted God to open the door for me to come home to Alabama! To get a call to join the CrossPoint staff was my dream, but God did not open that door during this time. But He did do a lot of healing for me with a job as a Junior High Bible teacher and in my church through Bible teaching, serving on the Praise Team, and having my church become my Texas family. When God called us into foster care, our church rallied behind us and did all the things needed to be able to help us with the kids God had placed in our home. Serving in foster care was the toughest assignment God has given thus far in my life. While we loved the girls in our home and will continue to love them, we did not feel called to adopt them. In fact, Michael, was longing to move closer to family and we were both ready to go wherever God's will took us.



One day I received a call from Layne.... "Hey, Lauren! Any chance you're interested in getting back into church ministry?" I responded with, "Actually, yes! If that's what God wants. Do you know someone that's looking for someone like me?" I said this assuming she knew of someone else looking for a children's minister. She responded that CrossPoint was about to do some restructuring and wanted to hire a children's ministry associate! While a call from CrossPoint was the dream, I was content with where God had placed me. So, it wasn't an easy "yes" as I had always dreamed. At the time of the call, I had finally become happy with where God had me in Texas. We were raising two girls who needed us, we loved our church family, and I was in love with my job and enjoyed the students I was teaching. However, I did not want to shut a door that God opened since He is the author of our stories and knows what's best for us.

Before committing to CrossPoint, there were a few things we needed God to confirm that coming to CrossPoint was His next adventure for us:

- 1. To make time for us to visit and be sure Michael felt comfortable at CrossPoint.
- 2. To interview and be offered the job at CrossPoint.
- 3. To provide a safe place for our girls to live once we moved.
- 4. Michael to get a new job in Alabama.
- 5. For our Texas house to sale.

God did all of those things at exactly the right time.

One of the passages we studied in the Junior High Bible study class over the last few months was Matthew 6:25-34. It's a famous passage about worrying and a part of The Sermon on the Mount. But during this season with all of these worries, God really used verse 34 to be my anthem in these days:

THEREFORE DO NOT BE
ANXIOUS ABOUT
TOMORROW, FOR
TOMORROW WILL BE
ANXIOUS FOR ITSELF.
SUFFICIENT FOR THE DAY
IS ITS OWN TROUBLE.



Through the study of this passage, I realized that just like God encourages us to take things one day at a time, He also takes care of things one day at a time on the days they are needed. He's never early. He's never late. He's always right on time. When we live in the moments that He has given us and use them to follow Him and give Him glory, He works it all out for our good and His glory. Each of the things that we needed to happen to make this move possible happened at the exact right time it needed to happen. It doesn't mean it was easy for us. I loved those girls, and I did not like leaving them. I loved my job, our house, and our church family and friends and it was hard leaving them, too. However, when God opens the door and keeps opening the door in so many different ways like dominoes falling one at a time.... You go with it. He's the master creator and I look forward to seeing what this next adventure at CrossPoint holds for us!

## GOD'S PERFECT PLAN AND **TIMING**

On a normal Friday morning in Spartanburg, South Carolina, Corey and I were awaiting a call from a plumber, so when Corey received a call from a Birmingham area code, he assumed the call was from the plumber. Corey answered, and it happened to be Brian Harris. Brian asked Corey if he would be interested in becoming the recreation minister at CrossPoint. Corey replied, "Well, I'll be honest with you, we're not really looking to leave where we are, but we certainly don't want to be closed off to anything God may be calling us to." And Corey really thought he meant that, but the Lord would reveal to both of us in the coming weeks that we were not totally surrendering to His timing, will, and purpose as we thought.

Corey was serving on staff at First Baptist Church of Spartanburg as the associate minister of recreation when he was called into ministry, which was unexpected. In fact, Corey took the associate job in 2017 as "just a job." Not long after working there, the Lord gave Corey a passion for reaching people for the Gospel through the means of sports and recreation. In 2019, the passion grew into a love and desire for pastoral care. It was amazing to see this transformation take place in my husband – as the Lord continued to grow Corey's passion for vocational ministry and illuminate to him His call on his life, He also grew Corey's abilities and passions and harnessed them for His purpose.

Growing up as a pastor's daughter, I learned at an early age what it meant to serve the Lord in full-time vocational ministry. It is a familial call, not just a call on the life of my dad. The Lord moved my family to a few different churches in Georgia and South Carolina during my childhood. There was even a time my parents thought the Lord may be calling us overseas to serve Him on the mission field and my family was fervently seeking the Lord's guidance and leadership at that time. So, I knew what it looked like to surrender to God's timing and will. During this season of spiritual growth, my mom and dad clearly modeled what it meant to surrender to God's call on your life, no matter what it required.

### **CORFY & JESSICA SIZEMORE**

After the conversation with Brian Harris, we were trying to be open to the Lord's leading, but thought that the Lord wasn't going to call us to Alabama. In Spartanburg we were near all of our family, had the best friends, and loved serving there. That same week, I finally got the opportunity to work dayshift after two years of waiting and received a raise and bonus. Corey loved his job, was growing in it, was given opportunities to preach and teach, and was being groomed to likely become the next recreation minister, after the retirement of his boss. Life for us was good, even great! Surely God wasn't calling us away from the roots He had planted for us.

On that Friday morning, after speaking with both Brian and Ryan, Corey told them we would prayerfully consider coming to CrossPoint. His conversation with Ryan had Corey excited and encouraged about CrossPoint. So, we arranged to meet with them in Atlanta the following week for lunch.

Before our lunch meeting with them we prayed alone, together, and with our families. We were expecting God to close the door on the possibility of going on staff at CrossPoint. But we meditated on a verse my dad encouraged us with, Luke 9:23:

AND HE SAID TO ALL, 'IF ANYONE WOULD COME AFTER ME, LET HIM DENY HIMSELF AND TAKE UP HIS CROSS DAILY AND FOLLOW ME.'

We had a great lunch with Brian and Ryan learning about the body of believers at CrossPoint. The meeting went well, too well. We could not believe how well our convictions aligned with CrossPoint's. I knew it was likely that God was leading us to serve there.

On the ride home, Corey did not say a single word. He was unable to converse about anything Ryan and Brian had told us and I knew God was leading us to serve there. It was very evident to me that Corey was fighting the Holy Spirit. He did not want to leave his home, comfort, job, family, or friends. He could not believe God would call him away from such a great place. This day was a difficult day for me, as his wife, because Corey is a strong spiritual leader, someone who is fully devoted to the Lord and His word, and someone who always seeks to honor and glorify God in all that He does. His struggle with this call was a time of great growth for Him, and of course, God has a reason for everything He does.

The Lord did a tremendous work in Corey in just 24 hours. Brian and Ryan asked us to take the weekend to pray and discuss coming to CrossPoint and take the next step by meeting with the personnel team and staff. Corey and I spent much time within that 24-hour window praying and seeking wise counsel. I was specifically praying that the Lord would not allow us to move outside of His will, but that we would be obedient to Him and to His plan for us. We prayed for clarity, that the Lord would help us clearly discern what His will for us was.

The next night, at a church event Corey was co-leading, he spoke with his boss and some close ministry friends. God used one of those conversations to speak to Corey. He was given an opportunity to preach in April 2023 and knew about it several months in advance. Corey told me in January that he felt like the Lord was leading him to preach on Acts chapter 20, in which Paul gives his farewell address to the Ephesian elders after doing ministry with them for several years. Corey's friend reminded him that he had been planning for months to preach on Paul's farewell address and that maybe this was supposed to be his "farewell address" to our congregation at First Baptist Church of Spartanburg. This was one of many affirmations the Lord had given us over the course of that day. As we sought the Lord in His word, through prayer and conversations with those we trusted, He overwhelmingly affirmed this call to CrossPoint. He answered our prayers and gave us both great clarity.

We came to Trussville for the first time a few weeks later and had no idea what to expect, considering we had never even heard of Trussville! We were relieved and excited when we finally saw the area, church, and staff. We instantly felt welcomed and connected, and this was affirmed even more after we met with the personnel team. We felt so grateful that the Lord was calling us to be on staff at such a healthy church, and to serve such an incredible body of believers. After our visit and official interview, we left already missing our new church home, and so excited to come back.

Although we left that day with an overwhelming excitement and sense of peace about where the Lord was leading us, the next several weeks were difficult. Now that the move to Alabama was official, there was much to be done. It was at this point in our journey that I began to doubt the Lord's timing and faithfulness. How could I, when the Lord had already provided for us and answered for us an innumerable number of prayers? But in my flesh, I began to become overwhelmed and bogged down by the many logistical factors that went into organizing our move. One week in particular I was stressed about so many things: getting everything in line to be approved for a loan, having our Spartanburg home ready to go on the market, finding a new job as a labor and delivery nurse, finding a new home in Alabama, etc. In trying to balance my to do list and busy weeks at work, I began to rely on my own strength instead of the Lord's. I had lost sight of the big picture and forgotten to trust the Lord's perfect timing and provision, and in doing so, was missing out on the blessing of seeing the Lord provide for us. The Lord gently revealed this sin to me, and redirected my focus to be on Him and His plan alone. From that point on, everything fell into place, and the Lord answered every prayer and opened every door we needed to move to Alabama.

Now that we are here, and able to finally serve and walk through life with the people God has called us to join, we see even more how faithful God has been to us, and how His ways are always higher than ours. To the world, it made no sense at all for us to pack up and leave our home that we loved. But thanks be to God that He called us and has kept us in His will, which is the only place we want to be. It is such a blessing now to be a part of the CrossPoint family.



## GOD'S ABUNDANT BLESSINGS

### TYLER & SYDNEY WILBANKS

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 states,

EACH OF YOU SHOULD GIVE WHAT YOU HAVE DECIDED IN YOUR HEART TO GIVE, NOT RELUCTANTLY OR UNDER COMPULSION, FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER. AND GOD IS ABLE TO BLESS YOU ABUNDANTLY, SO THAT IN ALL THINGS AT ALL TIMES, HAVING ALL THAT YOU NEED, YOU WILL ABOUND IN EVERY GOOD WORK.

Sydney and I were both blessed to grow up in the church with families that helped build firm foundations for our faith, which included giving to the kingdom of God and being a good steward of what we are given. We were fortunate to watch our parents tithe and support missions consistently since we were young.

Growing up, I was a member of First Baptist Center Point and then later CrossPoint. Sydney joined CrossPoint shortly after we got married in 2013. We would drive across town on Sunday mornings because of the gospelcentered messages and the fellowship with the community of believers. In 2015, both of us were struggling with contentment. We were unhappy with our jobs, our home, and our cars. We were constantly searching for more. What we failed to realize at the time is that what we were searching for was a deeper relationship with Christ. We both remember one Sunday when Pastor Ryan presented a lesson on contentment. Sydney and I looked at and "nudged" each other during the entire sermon. The Lord was working in both of our hearts. Looking back, that really started a journey for us to get plugged in and serve at CrossPoint. A few Sundays later we started trying out a small group. The first Sunday we went, another CrossPointer welcomed us with "This is the small group if you are trying to have a baby or sell your home." It was like God spoke directly to us. Unbeknownst to them, we were in the depths of infertility and had just listed our home so we could move closer to CrossPoint and family. We knew at that moment that God had placed us exactly where we were supposed to be.

Even though we were plugged into a small group and were serving, we were still making excuses about not giving as consistently as we should have been. Instead of focusing on God and his promise to provide, we allowed selfishness and worry to creep in and keep us from tithing every week. Over the last couple of years, God has truly transformed our mindset and understanding that what was given to us by God is not ours. We made a commitment to be better stewards of what He entrusted to us. Going back to 2 Corinthians 9:6-8, giving went from something that was sometimes a cause of stress and something "we have to do" to something that is a source of joy and something we are blessed to do. The It's Your **Move** initiative has had a major impact on us, turning our worries over to the Lord and trusting him with our finances. We have loved seeing how our giving, and the giving of CrossPoint as a whole, has helped us be here, there, and everywhere. We have been blessed to hear testimonies for programs like Backpack Buddies, which helps serve kids in a community that is very dear to me or experience things like the missions expo this year, which was an amazing event. We were able to meet and fellowship with missionaries from across the globe and see the impact of the Missions stream.

We truly believe that we are saved to serve and give cheerfully for Christ's glory. Though life has had challenges, God remains good and has proven over and over that he will always provide. We love this church and the people we serve with. It has abundantly blessed us.



# IMPACT OF CROSSPOINT'S GENEROSITY









JUST ONE MORE TO BECOME A FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWER OF JESUS CHRIST









## RIVER OF STEWARDSHIP

EACH ONE MUST
GIVE AS HE HAS
DECIDED IN HIS
HEART, NOT
RELUCTANTLY OR
UNDER
COMPULSION, FOR
GOD LOVES A
CHEERFUL GIVER.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

# TEN REASONS TO GIVE GENEROUSLY

Joe McKeever
Taken from *crosswalk.com* 

#### 1. When we give, the Lord takes it personally. We are handing it to Him.

And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

**Matthew 25:40** 

#### 2. We give because we have received so freely.

You received without paying; give without pay.

Matthew 10:8

#### 3. We give because the Lord makes it a condition for His giving us further blessings.

...give, and it will be given to you.

Luke 6:38

#### 4. We give to increase our love for the things of God.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21

#### 5. We give to increase our reward in Heaven.

...but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Matthew 6:20

#### 6. We give because of what Jesus said.

And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Mark 12:41-44

#### 7. We give to support the saints in their work of the Lord.

For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do.

Hebrews 6:10

#### 8. We give because money is an earthly possession with a temporary value.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!

2 Peter 3:11-12

#### 9. We give as a rebuke to our self-centeredness.

Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor.

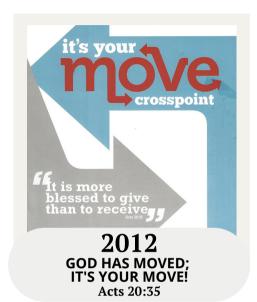
Proverbs 22:9

#### 10. Giving is fun.

... for God loves a cheerful giver.

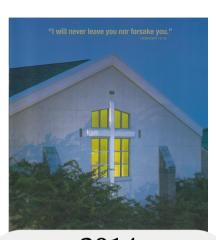
2 Corinthians 9:7

## THREE STREAMS





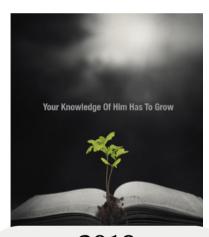
2013
LIVING GENEROUSLY
Acts 20:35



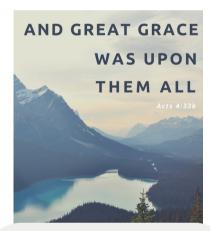
2014
OUR COMMON CONCERNS
Hebrews 13:5



2018
ENJOY WHAT GOD HAS
GIVEN YOU
1 Timothy 6:19



2019
GOD IS ABLE
Ephesians 3:20a

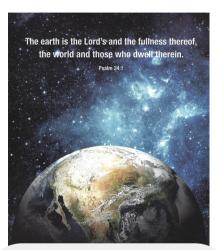


2020
AND GREAT GRACE WAS UPON THEM ALL Acts 4:33b

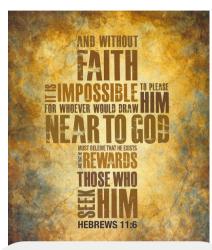
Three streams constitute the **River of Stewardship** at CrossPoint and provide the essentials for ministry. The three streams include the **Ministry**, **Missions**, and **Manna** streams. These three streams feed our **River of Stewardship**, which is a current of generosity flowing through our church. When we give, God receives the glory.

The **River of Stewardship** matters because it is a significant feature of our vision to reach **JUST ONE MORE**. Without it, CrossPoint would be limited. CrossPointers are never forced to give. Instead they give voluntarily and generously. Their giving is a beautiful picture of God's grace.

## ONE RIVER



2015
FIRST PRINCIPLE OF
STEWARDSHIP: OWNERSHIP
Psalms 24:1



2016
FAITH REQUIRES ACTION
Hebrews 13:5



2017
CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP
Deuteronomy 8:18a



2021
FOR ALL THINGS COME
FROM YOU
1 Chronicles 29:14



2022
ENLARGE THE PLACE
OF YOUR TENT
Isaiah 54:2



2023
FOR GOD LOVES A
GENEROUS GIVER
2 Corinthians 9:7

Ministry Stream Tithes (10%)

Missions Stream Above & Beyond

Manna Stream Above Tithes Includes funds to support the ongoing ministries of CrossPoint, such as: programs for all age groups, supplies, special events, personnel expenses, facilities maintenance, equipment, & utilities.

Includes funds to support missions. In 2024, we will give 40% to International missions, 20% to North American missions, and 40% to CrossPoint missions.

Stream that includes gifts above your tithe. These gifts will help CrossPoint respond to those things God sends us which are big, good, and unexpected.

## MINISTRY STREAM SUMMARY

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2024: **\$3,298,970** 

2023 BUDGET: **\$3,236,714** 

It is with great excitement that our Stewardship Team presents the 2024 Ministry Stream Budget! Detailed copies of the budget are available at the Connector desk.

The **Ministry Stream** is the financial lifeblood of our church. It is the largest of the three streams and is where our members give their tithes. We have often said that **CrossPoint** is not a rich church, but it is a generous church. It takes all of us to meet the many ministry needs of our church and community.

We will be adopting this budget and making commitments to support it on **Harvest Day**, **November 5**. On **Harvest Day**, every CrossPointer will be given the opportunity to make their 2024 giving commitments by turning in their commitment card, in person or digitally, and Harvest Day Offering. Please begin praying for and planning about your commitment for 2024!

## Missions: \$292,600

Supports the Cooperative Program of the SBC, St. Clair Baptist Association, benevolence, new church starts, The Alabama Baptist Children's Home, local community impact, and community mission projects.

## Education & Organizations: \$342,650

Supports the program expenses for the various ministries, including: Bible study, discipleship, age group ministries, worship ministry, recreation ministry, leadership development, etc.

## General Promotion: \$158,500

Supports all CrossPoint ministries through printing, postage, publicity, kitchen supplies, First Responder Ministry, Wednesday night suppers, events, and promotions.

## Personnel: \$1,947,320

Supports CrossPoint employee (Ministerial, Administrative, Facilities, Recreation, Kitchen, and Paid Childcare) salaries and benefits, etc.

## Buildings & Equipment: \$377,900

Supports CrossPoint campus expenses including: utilities, insurance, equipment, maintenance contracts, and transportation.

## Property Development Reserve: \$180,000

Supports CrossPoint campus repairs and major maintenance projects.

## **Adult Ministry**

**Chris Howell** chowell@crosspointchurch.info Includes Sunday Bible study groups and mid-week spiritual growth opportunities.

## Wednesday Nights in Winter & Spring:

October 4 - November 8: Lord's Prayer Study with Ryan Whitley.

**November 15:** Thanksgiving Dinner

November 22: No Wednesday Night Activities

November 29: Advent with Dr. Mark Gignilliat

**December 6:** Advent with **Dr. Mark Gignilliat** & Family Conference

December 13, 20, 27 & January 3: No Wednesday Night Activities

**January 10 & 17:** Mission Expo Testimonies

January 24: Spring 2024 CrossPoint University Orientation

January 31-April 24: Spring 2024 CrossPoint University Classes

March 27: No Wednesday Night Activities



For more information. please use this OR Code to visit our Adult Ministry webpage or feel free to contact Chris Howell. Minister of Adults.







**2024 Events: SMASH** Children's Fun Days

**Date Nights** Preschool Play Days Kids' Camp

## Children's & **Preschool Ministry**

Layne Ferguson Iferguson@crosspointchurch.info





Our goal is to raise up **IUST ONE MORE** child for the glory of God.

For more information, please use this QR Code to visit our **CrossKids** Ministry website or feel free to contact Layne Ferguson, Minister of Preschool & Children.

## **Senior Adult Ministry**

**Buck Poole** bpoole@crosspointchurch.info

CrossPoint's **SAM** Ministry seeks to build up the church of Jesus Christ through fellowship and service. We seek to accomplish this by offering fun and innovative socials, events, and trips that allow our seniors unique times of fellowship. We also seek to reach JUST ONE MORE through providing opportunities for service and outreach that allow our seniors to minister to others in the church as well as in the community.

For more information, please use this OR Code to visit our **SAM** Ministry webpage or feel free to contact **Buck Poole**, Minister of Missions & Senior Adults.





**2024 Events:** 

Monthly SAM Sack Lunches On-campus Socials **Annual Spring Fling Picnic** Celebrator's Conference Travel Opportunities



FELLOWSHIP







For more information, please use this OR Code to visit our Family Ministry webpage or feel free to contact Jen Burks, Minister of Families.



## **Family Ministry**

Jen Burks iburks@crosspointchurch.info

Connect church and home to create fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ and help families grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ to fulfill their mission to reach JUST ONE MORE.

## **Coming Soon:**

Parent Conferences CrossPoint University classes Family Ministry Resources



## **Recreation Ministry**

**Corey Sizemore** csizemore@crosspointchurch.info

## **2024 Events:**

5K

Golf Tournament Pickleball

Disc Golf Basketball League for Adults & Children



For more information, please use this QR Code to visit our **Recreation Ministry** webpage or feel free to contact Corey Sizemore, Minister of Recreation.

## **Student Ministry**

**Daniel Brown** dbrown@crosspointchurch.info

CrossPoint Student Ministry exists for the purpose of reaching, discipling, and sending out JUST ONE MORE student for the glory of God.

#### **2024 Events:**

Winter Retreat **DNow** Guatemala Mission Trip **Atlanta Mission Trip** 

For more information, please use this OR Code to visit our Student Ministry webpage or feel free to contact Daniel **Brown**. Minister of Students.

**FUGE Camp** Hang Night **Local Mission Days** Senior Trip









## MANNA STREAM SUMMARY

During the forty years of wandering in the wilderness before entering the Promised Land, God miraculously provided His people with "bread from heaven," which was called "manna." The manna appeared each morning, and the Israelites were given specific instructions for gathering it.

#### What is manna?

Interestingly, the Israelites asked the very same question: "When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, 'It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat" (Exodus 16:15).

The Manna Stream is the second stream that contributes to CrossPoint's River of Stewardship and its purpose is to provide financial resources to respond to the activity of God. That can include mission opportunities, support of a ministry event, or meeting an urgent need. The objective is to proactively support what the Lord places before our family of faith. Our 2024 Manna Stream Goal is \$500,000.

Thus far in 2023, you have generously and faithfully given to the Manna Stream. Thank you for your generosity! Join God where He is working by praying about what you plan to give to the Manna Stream in 2024.

Let's see how **JUST ONE MORE** has been blessed by your generosity to the **Manna Stream** this year...



























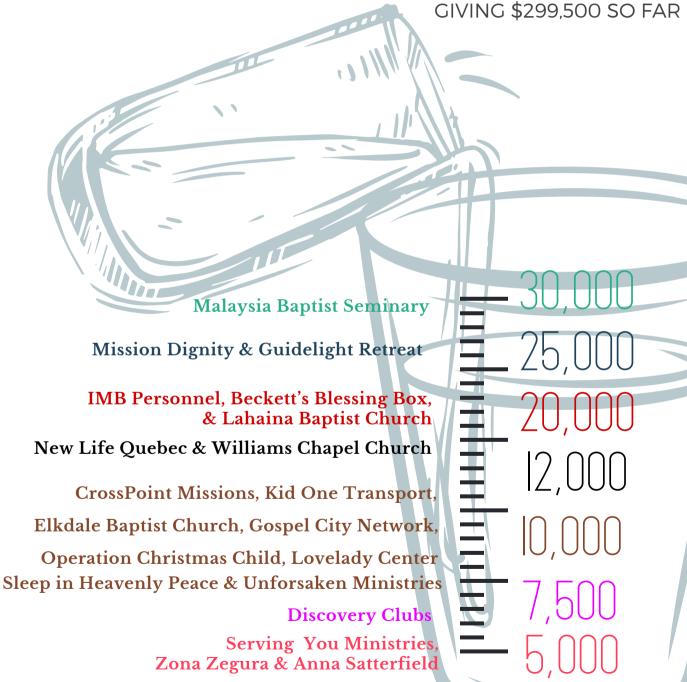






## MANNA STREAM BLESSINGS 2023

BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROSITY, OUR FAMILY OF FAITH HAS BEEN ABLE TO BLESS OTHERS BY GIVING \$299,500 SO FAR IN 2023



## MISSION STREAM SUMMARY

While we are missional with our Ministry and Manna Streams, the Missions Stream is 100% dedicated to sharing God's message and love around the world. In 2023, we are on pace to give over \$400,000 to the Missions Stream – which would constitute the highest total given to this Stream in CrossPoint's history. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Amounts given to the Missions Stream are allocated 40% to the International Mission Board's Lottie Moon Offering, 20% to the North American Mission Board's Annie Armstrong Offering, and 40% to CrossPoint Direct Missions. CrossPoint Direct Missions giving has been utilized historically to provide support to our direct mission partners, supplement mission trip costs through scholarships and meet needs and opportunities that arise related to our various mission endeavors. It is truly amazing to see what God is doing through your generosity to the Missions Stream.

What an opportunity we have as a church family and what an opportunity you have as an individual or as a family to join God where He is working at home and around the world! Pray about what God would have you give to Missions in 2024!















## LOCAL COMMUNITY IMPACT

This supports our Ministry Stream budget for a variety of ministry opportunities that come to us from our community. Below is a sample of some of the projects we are involved in this year so far...

<u>2023:</u>	
Kingdom Partner Gift Cards	. \$2,500
Wellhouse	.\$12,000/year
Decisions Choices & Options	.\$5,625/year
Alabama Baptist Children's Home	
Deaf Pastors Conference	
Trussville Movie Night	.\$1,000
Built for the Wild	
Community Grief Support	
Odenville Elementary Literacy Camp	. \$500
Springville High School Sports Program	
Clay-Chalkville Middle School Teacher Appreciation	
Trussville Athletics Sports Program	
Odenville Intermediate School - Classroom Maintenance	.\$3,000
Alabama Vocal Association Lunch	. \$170
Community Grief Support	
Special Olympics	
	•





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## PRAYING, GIVING & GOING

"HERE I AM! SEND ME" - ISAIAH 6:9

At CrossPoint, every member is a minister in the church and is called to be a missionary in the world. There are various ways to answer this missionary calling as a CrossPointer.

We must PRAY. We are instructed in the Bible to pray for our brothers and sisters in the mission field (2 Corinthians 1:11). We must cover our Mission Partners in prayer so that they will be strengthened in the midst of spiritual battles and so that the Word of the Lord will speed ahead with clarity and conviction.

We must GIVE. At CrossPoint, we are encouraged to give generously above our tithes to the Missions and Manna Streams. As a new debt-free day dawns for our church, we are looking for God to open unimaginable new doors for ministry and missions through your generous giving.

We must GO. The opportunities to engage with our Mission Partners face-to-face, to encourage them and to serve alongside them are ever-expanding. Many of you have had the blessing of going on mission for the sake of the gospel. In 2023, we have sent mission teams to...







## MISSIONS EXPO JANUARY 2024

CREATED FOR GOOD WORKS

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10

CrossPoint Missions seeks to reach **JUST ONE MORE, HERE, THERE** & **EVERYWHERE!** This means that as we take the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we also recognize the opportunity and responsibility we have to minister to the local community. The **2024 Missions Expo** will celebrate our local mission partnerships! **Where will you serve in 2024?** 

Alabama Baptist Children's Homes





Serving You Ministries





NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

CenterPoint Backpack Buddies







The Lovelady Center

Decisions, Choices & Options





The Wellhouse







Trail Life







## SERMON NOTES

EACH ONE MUST
GIVE AS HE HAS
DECIDED IN HIS
HEART, NOT
RELUCTANTLY OR
UNDER
COMPULSION, FOR
GOD LOVES A
CHEERFUL GIVER.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

## CHERFUL GIVERS PLEASE GOD

**OCTOBER 8, 2023** 

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

#### THEME

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

1.	Cheerful givers give with the	
	3	

6 The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. 9 As it is written, "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." 10 He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

2 Corinthians 9:6-10

## 2. Cheerful givers give to \_\_\_\_\_

11 You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. 12 For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. 13 By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission.....that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others. 14 while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. 15 Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

**2 Corinthians 9:11-15** 

## HAVE YOU BEEN TO HOREB?

DR. ROBERT SMITH JR, BEESON DIVINITY SCHOOL 1 KINGS 19:1-18 OCTOBER 15, 2023

#### THEME

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly of compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.  2 Corinthia	r under n <b>s 9:7</b>

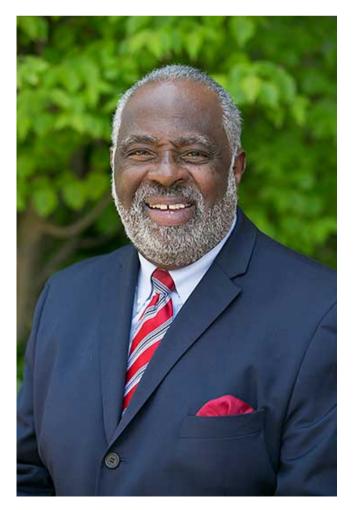
## DR. ROBERT SMITH, JR.

Dr. Robert Smith Jr. is no stranger to CrossPoint. He has preached here several times, and has also been an occasional guest for worship.

Dr. Smith serves as the Professor of Christian Preaching and holds the Charles T. Carter Baptist Chair of Divinity at Beeson Divinity School. Previously he served as the Carl E. Bates Associate Professor of Christian Preaching at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

Smith has spoken at more than 135 universities, colleges, and seminaries in the United States, Great Britain, the Middle East, Africa, Australia, New Zealand and the Caribbean. He has taught congregations in several countries including Greece, Turkey, Rome, the Holy Land and Switzerland. Smith brought the closing message of the 22nd Baptist World Congress/Baptist World Alliance, which was scheduled to be held in 2020 in Rio de Janeiro and transformed into a fully virtual event held on July 7-10, 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

He and his wife, Wanda Taylor-Smith, Ph.D., are the parents of four adult children (two in heaven).





# MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE

OCTOBER 22, 2023

ACTS 20:35

#### THEME

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

1. Cheerful givers are freed from
33 I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. 34 You yourselves know that these hands ministered to mecessities and to those who were with me. 35 In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak  Acts 20:33-35&
2. Cheerful givers are like Jesus
2. Cheerful givers are like jesus
and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"  Acts 20:351
3 Cheerful givers are invested in

36 And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. 37 And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, 38 being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship.

Acts 20:36-38

# KNOW THAT THEY GET MORE THAN THEY RECEIVE

OCI	OBE	2 29	2023
		\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	2023

**LUKE 6:38** 

#### THEME

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

1. Cheerful givers know when they give, God \_\_\_\_\_

give, and it will be given to you.	Luke 6:37-38a
2. A good steward knows that stuff can	

Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.

Luke 6:38b

# CHEERFUL GIVERS BECOME MORE LIKE GOD

NOVEMBER 5, 2023

3. Cheerful givers \_\_\_\_\_

**JOHN 3:16** 

#### THFMF

Each one must give as he has decided in his compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.	s heart, not reluctantly or under <b>2 Corinthians 9:7</b>
1. Cheerful givers	·
For God so loved the world	John 3:16a
2. Cheerful givers	
that he gave his only Son	John 3:16b

...that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16c

## 2023 HARVEST DAY

NOVEMBER 5, 2023

Harvest Day is an annual event for the CrossPoint family as we come together to mark the culmination of the "It's Your Move" generosity initiative. On this day we will GIVE, we will ADOPT, we will COMMIT and we will ENJOY a great time of fellowship as we celebrate God's goodness!

On **November 5**, we encourage everyone to participate in the **Harvest Day Offering**. We are challenging every member to practice being a cheerful giver by giving a special offering on that day...above and beyond our regular tithes and offerings. God will honor our faithfulness!



FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE CROSSPOINTERS, WE ASK YOU TO GIVE.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO GIVE NOTHING, WE ASK YOU TO GIVE SOMETHING.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO GIVE SOMETHING, WE ASK YOU TO GIVE A TITHE OF YOUR INCOME.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO GIVE A **TITHE** OR MORE, WE ASK YOU TO GIVE AN **ADDITIONAL SPECIAL OFFERING ABOVE YOUR TITHE**.

We will also make our generosity commitments for **2024** by turning in our commitment cards during worship. This will take place right after we, as a church family, adopt our **2024 Ministry Stream Budget**. The Commitment Card is mailed to each CrossPointer each year before Harvest Day.

As a part of the **Harvest Day** activities, we will be serving a **Celebration Breakfast** from **7:30 AM until 11:00 AM in the Connector and in the big tent on the patio.** Everybody is encouraged to stop by and enjoy a great time of fellowship with the CrossPoint family. A bountiful breakfast will be served by Barbra Ash and our Hospitality Team. We hope to see every member of the CrossPoint family in worship and at breakfast on **Harvest Day**!



Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

## 2023 BIG EVENTS

#### **Fall Festival**

On **October 29**, from **3:30 - 6:00 PM**, CrossPoint will host our annual Fall Festival. We will have games, inflatables, food, music, trunk or treat, and much more.

### **Act of Congress**

On **December 3**, in the **9:15** and **10:45 AM** worship services, CrossPoint will host Act of Congress as our musical guest. They have been voted one of the "Must See Live Acts of Alabama," performed in eleven different countries, and are currently performing original music at live venues, festivals, and national symphonies.

#### **Christmas Music Celebration**

On **December 10**, CrossPoint Worship Ministry will present a Christmas Music Celebration in both worship services. This celebration will include familiar Christmas carols and more.



#### **Babbie Mason**

On **December 17**, Babbie Mason will be leading CrossPoint during worship in both services. She is a two-time Dove Award winning Christian singer, songwriter, author, speaker and TV talk show host, who remains a favorite to millions the world over. A Christian Music Hall of Fame inductee, Babbie Mason has 26 recorded music projects to her credit and she is the author of 9 books.

## **Candles, Carols & Communion**

CrossPoint's annual **Candles, Carols & Communion** will be held at **10:00 AM** on Christmas Eve, **December 24**.

## **New Year's Eve Worship**

On **December 31**, CrossPoint will hold one worship service at **10:00 AM**.



## 2024 DATES TO REMEMBER

## **January**

12-15: Student Winter Retreat 28: Missions Expo Celebration

## **February**

16-18: Student DNow

#### March

17: Parent Seminar

25-29: Student Guatemala Mission Trip

31: Resurrection Day

## **April**

20: Student Fun Day

## May

5: Student Senior Recognition

12: Family Dedication

19: Picnic at Shocco Springs

## June

8-12: CentriKid Camp

10-15: Student FUGE Camp

## July

13-18: Student Atlanta Mission Trip

21-24: CrossKids SMASH

## August

4: 1st Grade Bible Presentation

11: Advancement Day

18: Parent Seminar

#### October

27: Fall Festival

#### **November**

10: Family Dedication &

Parent Seminar

20: Thanksgiving Dinner

#### **December**

5: Christmas Banquet

15: Christmas Music Celebration

24: Candles, Carols & Communion

CrossPoint's 20th Anniversary:

January 5, 2025

## CROSSPOINT

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