

IT'S YOUR MOVE 2021

VOLUME 10



FOR ALL
THINGS COME
FROM YOU

1 CHRONICLES 29:14

But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you.

1 Chronicles 29:14





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WHEN GOD MOVES!

A LETTER FROM RYAN

There are times when God will do something in a church that only He can do. He sometimes does it suddenly and unexpectedly. At other times He does it slowly and deliberately. Yet, when He does move, His people know it.

For example, we know God is doing something in CrossPoint. We know it because we have been waiting on Him to do it for a long time. We also know it because we see it.

Thus, this work of God does not surprise us. The Lord has been leading us in this direction for more than a decade.

All the while, we have been diligently working and praying for this day to come. Thanks be to God, that day is finally here.

Rejoice, CrossPoint! **Rejoice** with me, for we are finally debt free!

Take a deep breath and say it with me, "We are **DEBT FREE!**"

Breathe in. Breathe out. Now say it again, "We are **DEBT FREE!**"

What does this mean?

What does it mean for us to be debt free? What does it mean for us to no longer have a mortgage?

In real-world terms, being debt free means we no longer owe the bank **\$76,600** a month. It means we are no longer a slave to the lender.

In otherworldly terms, being debt free means we can trust God more completely. It means we can give more, share more, and invest more for the kingdom.

Yes, it has taken us some time to get here. Yet, the journey has been worth it. The process has made us stronger. It has also made us more appreciative.

What's next?

What do we do next? Where do we go from here?

In the pages to follow are our next steps. Our prayer is that these actions will inspire you. We also pray for the plan to challenge you, for we believe the Lord is leading us to do something few churches ever attempt to do.

Although our knowledge of the future is unknown, our expectation is unquenchable. So, read with anticipation. Then, ask the Lord to show you where to connect.

In closing, Vonda and I want you to know we are with you. We were with you in the beginning, and if the Lord is willing we will be with you in the future.

Once again, let us **rejoice**. We are finally debt free.

Grace always,
Ryan

it's your
move
crosspoint

GOD HAS BLESSED US BEYOND MEASURE

Lloyd & Nedra Wright



We have chosen to be faithful to our Lord and He has blessed us.

We have made tithing and giving beyond our tithe a part of our marriage of 50 years. And God has blessed us beyond measure with family, friends, and church experiences. We have chosen to be faithful to our Lord, and He has blessed us in the business world and with our family.

Was it tough during the early years? Yes, to write the tithe check before buying groceries seemed like a big test many times.

But God was always faithful, and we never lacked for anything we needed.

Here we are at **"It's Your Move"** again. The commitment to our Lord's business is so much easier now that we have done it for so many years. Nevertheless, it is still just as important that we be obedient and joyful about giving back to the church (the bride of Christ) and to those in need.

So much good is happening at CrossPoint; within our church fellowship but also in missions and discipleship. More funding is available now that the mortgage is paid off. The contribution we make to the Ministry, Missions, and Manna streams will ensure that the gospel is delivered Here, There & Everywhere!



GOODNESS OF GOD

Lauren Stearns

One of the things that I love about God is the different way He reveals His plans for each of us. Sometimes things come all at once, and sometimes it's a longer process. He knows just what we need and how we need it. My story is one that has been in the works for the past six years (23 if you want to get technical). Right before my senior year of high school, I went on a mission trip with CrossPoint to the Dominican Republic. It was there that the Lord called me to a life of full-time ministry and missions.



I worked to navigate that calling further throughout my college years both serving on staff at CrossPoint and participating in a global missions group at Samford University. Because of the generosity of our church, I was able to serve in Iceland during the Summer of 2018 and discern that God was leading me to life and ministry in Europe. Since then, I have continued to grow and learn more about what ministry in a European context might look like. One of the most influential things during this time has been my friendship with Taylor and Lydia Whitley.

As people who practice ministry and evangelism in a European context daily, they have become not only friends but mentors as well. I praise God that He provided such a wonderful relationship with these two and that He put me just a few years behind them so I can gain wisdom from their experiences. In 2020, Taylor and Lydia asked me to seriously consider joining their church planting team in Germany. It was hard for me to say "yes" fast enough. This was a huge answer to prayer.



God had stirred up in me passions for Europe, for the church, for international peoples, and for different cultures. He knew that the passions He began in me years ago would eventually be brought together for His glory in the planting of an international church in Berlin.

Throughout 2020 we walked through what this partnership would look like and determined it would be best for me to be sent through a missions agency. Over the years, Greater Europe Mission has been weaving itself into my life through friendships, stories, and prayer. When it came time to choose who would help send me, I knew that these people were who I wanted to be tied to. I was appointed by Greater Europe Mission in March of this year and have since been preparing to make the big move to Berlin to join Taylor and Lydia in their church planting efforts.

Part of my preparation has been raising monthly support for the work there. I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to speak about the goodness of God in provision. I remember receiving my monthly budget goal and wondering how on earth it was all going to come together. Piece by piece, partner by partner, dollar by dollar God has chipped away at this number.

I have been blown away by God's goodness in provision, not just financially but relationally as well.

CrossPoint, as a body, has been so generous due to your faithful and consistent giving to the Missions stream. CrossPoint, as individuals, has also given sacrificially to help support the making of disciples in Berlin. I have been blown away by God's goodness in provision, not just financially but relationally as well. CrossPoint is a generous church. I cannot overstate that. CrossPoint as the body and as individuals understands the call of the Great Commission to make disciples of all nations. Though many are not able to go, they are more than willing to send, and for that I am eternally grateful. Thank you, CrossPoint, for allowing me to do the work that God has called me to.



GOD'S PROVISION

Edwin & Deanna Young

We were very fortunate to grow up in Christian homes with parents who taught of God's grace, provision, and love. As we discussed how we could share our testimony, one of the main topics that surfaced was how we were both taught about being committed to **"Trusting God"** and a quote from childhood, "You can't out-give God." God places things in our path to remind us to trust Him and giving is not always giving monetarily, but also giving of ourselves, to serve others. We have a deep heartfelt desire not only to tithe, but to give sacrificially, as the Bible instructs.



We saw our parents be caregivers to their parents. At that time in our life, we had no idea what God had in store for our later years. Fast forward through 38 years of marriage, raising two children and twenty years (1998-2018) faced with one set of parents living in our home. We came through some very trying years in 1995 and 1996 with marital situations. However, during 1997 we truly learned the importance of the verse:

*"Trust in the Lord with all of your heart and lean not on your own understanding."
Proverbs 3:5*

God provided us with the opportunity in 1997 to work through these struggles by going to a Christian counselor who led us through a journey which improved our commitment to God and each other, as well as our understanding of the importance of communicating with God through prayer. Of course, we learned about the other "C" word that isn't usually a favorite: compromise. Compromising with each other shaped so much of what our future path would be between the years 1998 and 2018. God was laying a foundation for raising our children, while at the same time, becoming full-time caregivers for aging parents. I can assure you; we had to trust God because we had no clue, nor did we have other friends that were experiencing this situation.



Often, we would turn to the things we learned through our year of counseling. God provided in ways that we could never have imagined. We had a great support system with our church family, good jobs, and a home that was sufficient. **God's provision** continued as we felt led to move to a home that would allow our parents to have their own apartment, which was a huge blessing. During this time, our other set of parents were facing health concerns. They lived in the Shoals area and their health was declining.

God provided again and again. There was a career change in 2002 for Deanna, which at times, had us on our knees. But we stood firm in our commitment to trust the Lord. With a career change, one year after relocating to a larger home, the devil crept in, placing doubt and fear. However, we were reminded how God had provided, often referencing **Matthew 6:25-34**. As time moved on, we remained committed to serving God through honoring our parents. Many days were filled with traveling between the nursing homes in Muscle Shoals and Oneonta, playing tag-team parents while holding down full-time jobs.

Again, **God's provision** was immeasurable. There were times we wondered if the money would be there, but leaning on **Matthew 6:34** "*Therefore, do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself,*" we continued to give. Reminding ourselves that "you can't out-give God," but **TRUST HIM**.

God never left our side
and continued to provide.

God led us to CrossPoint at a pivotal time in 2006. We knew beyond a doubt that this was where God was leading us. Our two teenagers connected immediately, and we found areas to serve. We knew, as a family, our relationship with Christ would become stronger through the vision of CrossPoint - *Connect with God through worship, God's people in a small group Bible study, and God's Plan through identifying your ministry and mission.* Ultimately this means "**SERVE**."

God opened doors and closed doors, but never left our side. We truly could not have made it through the things we have encountered without the relationship we have with our family of faith and our relationship with God. We no longer are faced with the parent responsibilities. They have a new resting place, and we rejoice that we will be together again.

Therefore, do not be anxious
about tomorrow, for tomorrow
will be anxious for itself.

Matthew 6:34

The blessings from God are immeasurable and continue to be. As we look for ways we can **SERVE** others, we remind ourselves not to be anxious. "**TRUST**" and always remember, "You cannot out-give God."

BABY STEPS OR LEAP OF FAITH

Robin Rogers

My journey with my Christian faith has consisted of a lifetime of “**baby steps**.” I grew up in a family of parents and grandparents who all knew the Lord and who wanted my brother and me to know Him as well. But your family can only guide you; they can’t make your decisions for you.

So, baby steps. I do not remember when I first believed in God. It wasn’t a grand, enormous event in my life. I was baptized into the church as a child, but that was probably because my brother was being baptized and I didn’t want to be left out.

I don’t think I was truly saved until after I graduated from high school, and again, it was not a monumental occasion. Rather, it was just a quiet knowing that God was calling me to come to Him. A new calling or a return - I don’t really know. I just knew it was time to get right with God.

I joined CrossPoint back in 2006. It was the first “church” I was truly invested in. I wanted to go to church; I wanted to be a part of church; and I wanted to get involved. This from a person who has never had roots deeper than topsoil.

Rather, it was just a quiet knowing that God was calling me to come to him.

My family moved around a lot while I was growing up. Dad would be transferred with his job, and we would pull up our roots and move. Great fun as a kid, getting to go to all these new places, see exciting new things, and meeting all kinds of people. But the other side of that coin was that we left a lot of things behind - friends, family, schools, etc. It was not until I was out of high school and working full time that I realized I was not living the way God wanted me to live. I wasn’t sure that I was saved and, as an adult, I privately asked God to bring me into his family.



Backing up a little, I have had three great pastors in my life. The first was **Brother Livey Cope** in Memphis, Tennessee, who was my grandparents' pastor and who baptized me when I was a child. The second was **Gary Hollingsworth**, who was at First Baptist Trussville when we first moved to Alabama and who opened the scriptures to me in an A, B, C, 1, 2, 3 teaching method - Oh what a joy! The third is CrossPoint's pastor, **Ryan Whitley**, who excels at breaking down scripture verse by verse and teaching the applications of those verses, from the Old Testament, as well as the New Testament. There is a true joy to be found in a church where the pastor teaches scripture in such a way!



When I joined CrossPoint, I wanted to do the "right" thing. The Holy Spirit was nudging me to get involved in a Bible study group (which I had never cared for due to some bad experiences), find a place to serve, and to tithe. I decided to give something from every paycheck. I could not give a full tithe at the beginning - I had to get some bills under control and learn how to trust God with my finances. It took me about a year to be able to give a tithe from my income, **but I was consistent and faithful with what I could give.**

The next year I increased my giving to a tenth of my gross wages. A year or so later, I began giving above my tithe to the Missions and Mortgage streams. A couple of years after that, I began giving to a couple of ministry projects outside of the church. In all that time, God did not condemn me for having been cautious in my giving. I wasn't made to feel inadequate for holding back. He just kept providing for all my needs and nudging me towards a love for giving.

Romans 8:1 says: "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Thank you, Lord, for loving me, even in my doubtful, rebellious times, and for calling me back each time I stray.

GOD REMAINS GOOD

Roseman, Crystal, Avery & Tre Deas

Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

Malachi 3:8-10

Both Crystal and I were saved at an early age and grew up in the church. Unknowingly, both of us were taught the importance of giving, specifically tithing, from the same portion of scripture - **Malachi 3:8-10**. During our pre-marriage years, when we talked about money, we discovered that we shared this mutual scriptural text - hidden in our hearts.

For Crystal, **Malachi 3:8** was a verse she was taught as a child. She held on to its principles throughout adulthood as an encouragement to have a spirit of giving. This verse was printed on the offering envelopes from her home church and remains there to this day. For me, **Malachi 3:10** was a challenge verse that I clung to beginning in my college years. From that time, I have kept this verse in my heart as reassurance and a challenge to cheerfully give to God and have confidence in His endless provisions. Thus, from a young age, we both brought a commitment to tithing the first fruits into our marriage.

Giving sacrificially above a tithe, however, was a challenge in our early marriage years. The turning point for us as a young married couple, in the area of sacrificial giving, came during our discipleship class at our local church when we were stationed in Little Rock, Arkansas.



We grew in our knowledge and relationship with Christ and made a commitment in the class to “try God” in the area of sacrificial giving to support the local ministry of the church and missions giving. We are a testament to the truth that time and time again, God has shown up in amazing ways once we’ve committed to tithing and sacrificial giving. In some instances, we have prayed about and committed to a sacrificial gift and God has almost immediately provided a means to fulfil the commitment. A vivid memory that Crystal and I often talk about is when we made a commitment for a sacrificial offering during our first year of marriage to support a ministry of our church.



The offering commitment was well above any reserve funds we had after bills were paid. Later that same week, we received a check in the mail from a prior overpayment that was exactly five dollars above the amount of our committed sacrificial gift. We could do nothing else but praise God and thank Him for His faithfulness!

We could do nothing else but praise God and thank him for His faithfulness!

Despite the many hardships of life, God remains good. He performs miracles in our lives every day. We give as an act of thanks and obedience to God. Our gift is just a small portion of the many blessings He’s given to us. We also give to model faithfulness to our children. Both Avery and Tre have a save, spend, and give jar at home that we use to teach them to tithe, give sacrificially, and save. We are thankful to God for CrossPoint, where the Word of God is truly preached, and we are thankful for a church family who believes in and encourages us all to worship God through the act of giving.



GOD'S DESIGN

James, Brooke, Mason & Meredith Buxton

It's Your Move at CrossPoint has always been a special time for our family. Where many may dread the call for members to increase their tithe and give above the normal offering, it has always been a matter of the heart for our family. I attribute that to the way both Brooke and I were raised as children...and later in life to how we have been "raised" as adult CrossPointers.

The action of giving sacrificially was instilled in me at an early age. I can clearly remember my mom giving me my own tithe envelope to put in the offering plate at First Baptist Center Point. I am incredibly thankful that my parents taught me how giving is an act of worship of our Lord. We have tried to do the same with our own kids, Mason (16) and Meredith (12).

Giving sacrificially is part of CrossPoint's DNA, so it's no accident that we are known for being such a giving church. With each **It's Your Move** campaign, it has never been a question of if we can increase, but how much will we increase each year.

However, our faith was tested in a major way in 2020 with my (James) job. In 2019, I left a very secure job to work in software sales, and all was going great until the pandemic hit. Like many in sales, everything came to a screeching halt. We had so many plans and high expectations for a record-breaking year, but God had other plans. Our company went through restructuring on many fronts, and my time in sales had come to an end. However, by God's divine appointment, I was able to move to a new up-and-coming team within the company where I can serve clients in an even greater capacity.

“The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.”
Psalm 16:9

During this same time at CrossPoint, I had the privilege of leading the Ministry Team as we navigated the pandemic. Even though I felt more like a facilitator, my faith was strengthened by having a front row seat to some of the most challenging times in CrossPoint's history. I witnessed our Ministry Team and Administrative Teams work incredibly hard through difficult circumstances. Seeing them serve without question demonstrated what it means to be a believer at CrossPoint. It's simply in our DNA.



It's Your Move means different things to different people each year. This year is special to us as we reflect, remember, and recognize that God uses circumstances to increase our faith in immeasurable ways. It's by no accident that what we have all experienced has been by **God's design**.

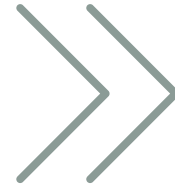


“ So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor. Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. 1 Peter 5:6-7 ”





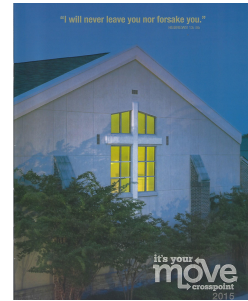
A LOOK BACK...



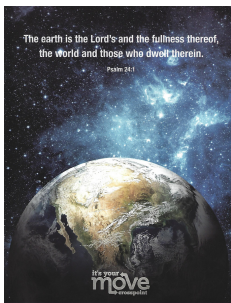
2012
**GOD HAS MOVED;
IT'S YOUR MOVE!**
Acts 20:35



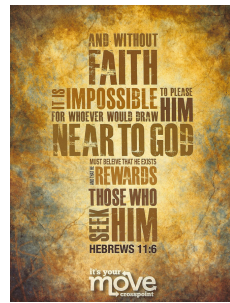
2013
LIVING GENEROUSLY
Acts 20:35



2014
OUR COMMON CONCERNS
Hebrews 13:5



2015
**FIRST PRINCIPLE OF
STEWARDSHIP: OWNERSHIP**
Psalms 24:1



2016
FAITH REQUIRES ACTION
Hebrews 13:5



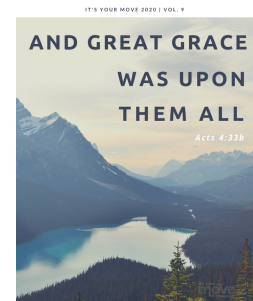
2017
CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP
Deuteronomy 8:18a



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 — ONE RIVER

HOW WE GIVE EACH WEEK

Rivers are important. Rivers are obvious and significant features of the landscape. Rivers transport water by gravity from small streams to large oceans. Water rushing through a river is a relentless image. The natural process of a river is poetry in motion.

Without rivers America's transportation system would be drastically limited. Water transportation is still one of the cheapest forms of transportation today. Rivers matter also because they produce energy. A majority of the electricity supplied in Alabama is produced by hydroelectric power. In addition to transportation and energy, rivers are a major supplier of irrigation, recreation, and drinking water. In short, rivers matter because they quench an ever-increasing thirst of civilization.



In the same way rivers matter to civilization, the River of Stewardship flowing through CrossPoint matters to our church. CrossPoint's River of Stewardship is poetry in motion. It is a significant feature of our vision to reach **JUST ONE MORE**. The natural process of CrossPoint's stewardship is poetic indeed. Our members are not forced to give. They do so voluntarily and generously. Their giving is a beautiful picture of God's grace.

CrossPoint's River of Stewardship matters because it provides the resources necessary to fulfill our vision to reach **JUST ONE MORE**. Without CrossPoint's River of Stewardship, we would be limited. Without the generosity of God's people giving together, we would lack the essentials for ministry. That is why we view our stewardship as a current of generosity flowing through our church. When giving to CrossPoint's River of Stewardship every Sunday, our family of faith gives to three streams that feed our River of Stewardship.

We give our tithe to the **Ministry Stream**.

We give our offerings above our tithe to the **Missions** and **Manna Streams**.

And when we give, God receives the glory.



Ministry Stream

Tithes (10%)

The Ministry Stream includes funds to support the ongoing ministries of CrossPoint. This includes programs for all age groups, supplies, special events, personnel expenses, facilities maintenance, equipment, utilities, etc.



Missions Stream

Above & Beyond

The Missions Stream includes funds to support missions. In 2022, we will give 40% to International missions, 25% to North American missions, and 35% to CrossPoint missions.



Manna Stream

Above Tithes

What is it? The Manna Stream is a new stream. It includes gifts above your tithe. These gifts will help CrossPoint respond to those things God sends us which are big, good, and unexpected.

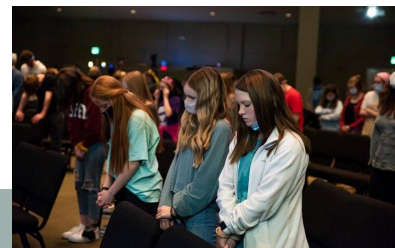


JUST ONE MORE



HOW DOES YOUR GENEROSITY IMPACT THE THREE STREAMS?

It's Your Move



2022 Ministry Stream Budget

It is with great excitement that our Stewardship Team, led by Lloyd Wright, presents the 2022 Ministry Stream Budget! We have been looking forward to this budget for a long time...**a budget that does not include a mortgage payment.** Even though the total amount of the 2022 budget is the same as the 2021 budget, our ministry resources are increasing significantly as a result of the elimination of our mortgage debt. This budget reflects increases in several key areas. Detailed copies of the budget are available at the Connector Desk.

The first area of increase is in our Missions line items. We have increased this section of the budget by **387%**. Yes, that is not a typo. We are now going to be able to increase our cooperative missions efforts, as well as our local ministry partnerships and new church starts.

The Education and Organizations and General Promotion line items have been increased over **\$100,000** from the 2021 budget. These sections of the budget are described on the next page.

The Personnel budget has been increased over **\$150,000** to allow for the addition of much needed support, facilities, and ministry staff. CrossPoint continues to be generous and supportive of our faithful and competent staff!

The Buildings and Equipment budget line items have been augmented by almost **\$50,000**, and a new Property Development Reserve line item has been added for large maintenance projects in the future.

The Ministry Stream is the financial lifeblood of our church. It is the largest of the three streams, as it is where our members give their tithes week after week, month after month, year after year. 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 this budget on **Harvest Day, November 7**. A copy of the commitment card is shown below.

The commitment schedule is for a quick calculation of weekly, monthly, and yearly giving. No one should feel confined to this schedule.

Giving Chart		
Weekly	Monthly	Annually
\$5	\$21.67	\$260
\$10	\$43.33	\$520
\$15	\$65.00	\$780
\$25	\$108.33	\$1,300
\$35	\$151.67	\$1,820
\$50	\$216.67	\$2,600
\$75	\$325.00	\$3,900
\$100	\$433.33	\$5,200
\$150	\$650.00	\$7,800
\$200	\$866.67	\$10,400
\$250	\$1,083.33	\$13,000
\$300	\$1,300.00	\$15,600
\$400	\$1,733.33	\$20,800
\$500	\$2,166.67	\$26,000
\$1,000	\$4,333.33	\$52,000

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My It's Your Move Worksheet

What I give in one year to....

\$ _____ Ministry Stream

\$ _____ Manna Stream

+ \$ _____ Missions Stream

= \$ _____ **My total annual giving**

+ \$ _____ **My INCREASED annual giving**

My total It's Your Move annual giving \$ _____

This commitment schedule is for quick calculations of weekly, monthly, and yearly giving. No one should feel confined to this schedule.

It's Your Move giving for 2022

My It's Your Move giving Envelope Number _____

\$ _____ Ministry Stream Yearly Total

\$ _____ Manna Stream Yearly Total For all things come from you...

\$ _____ Missions Stream Yearly Total 1 Chronicles 29:14b

I will give my tithes and offerings (please circle one)
 Weekly Bi-weekly Bi-Monthly Monthly Other _____

My total It's Your Move annual giving \$ _____

Signature _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

it's your move
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This statement of intention may be revised or cancelled should circumstances make it necessary.

← 2022 Ministry Stream Summary

Proposed Budget for 2022: \$3,150,133

2021 Budget: \$3,150,133

Missions \$344,600

Missions is at the heart of all we do at CrossPoint. Our budget includes funding for the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention, the St. Clair Baptist Association, Local Benevolence, New Church starts, The Alabama Baptist Children's Home, and local community mission projects. Over half of this section is allocated to a new line item, Local Community Impact. We will seek to adjust to the activity of God as we reach out to our local community at a level far beyond previous years!

Education and Organizations \$331,244

Program expenses for the various ministries at CrossPoint are covered in this section of the budget. This includes Bible study, discipleship, age group ministries, worship ministry, recreation ministry, leadership development, and other program related ministries.

General Promotion \$155,900

Printing, postage, publicity, kitchen supplies, First Responder Ministry, Wednesday night suppers and events, and promotions are included in General Promotion. This section of the budget supports all of our CrossPoint ministries.

Personnel \$1,769,979

Salaries, benefits and other related personnel expenses are covered in this section of the budget. CrossPoint employs over 30 people, full-time and part-time, in the following categories: Ministerial Staff, Administrative Staff, Facilities Staff, Recreation Staff, Kitchen Staff, and Paid Childcare Staff.

Buildings and Equipment \$373,410

The CrossPoint campus includes over 25 acres of land and buildings with over 100,000 square feet of space. This section of the budget includes utilities, insurance, equipment, maintenance contracts, and transportation expenses.

Property Development Reserve \$175,000

These funds are being set aside for repairs and major maintenance projects on the CrossPoint campus. They will be held in a restricted account for these needs, many of which have been deferred in recent years.

Missions Stream Goal

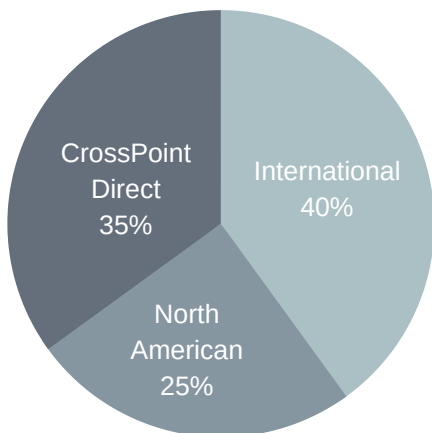
New Goal, New Allocation, Increased Impact!

The Missions Stream is one of the three streams in CrossPoint's River of Stewardship. **The goal for 2022 has been increased from \$350,000 in 2021, to \$500,000 in 2022, and \$500,000 in 2023. That means CrossPoint will give \$1,000,000 over the next two years to this stream! Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

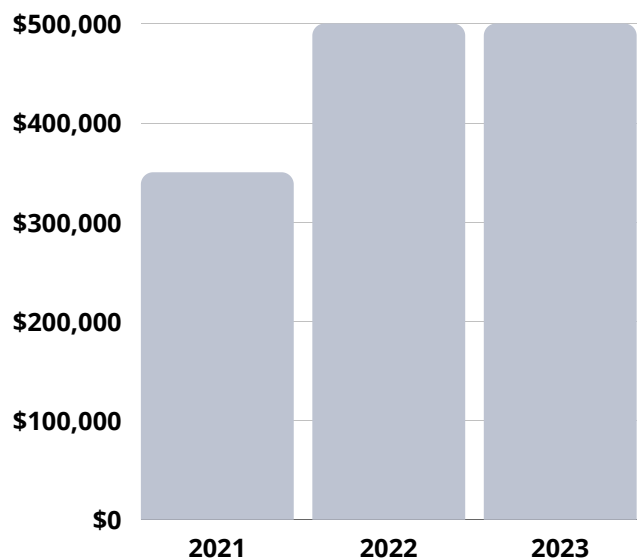
Along with the new goal, our teams have adjusted our percentage allocations to include **40% to International Missions, 25% to North American Missions, and 35% to CrossPoint Direct Missions.** That means that by the end of 2023 we will give \$400,000 to International Missions, \$250,000 to North American Missions and we will have \$350,000 available for CrossPoint Direct Mission initiatives. The increased goals and these updated percentages will result in significant increases in all three categories...**WOW!**

As a member of CrossPoint, you have the flexibility to give to missions at your own pace. You can give **weekly, monthly, or annually** to support these exciting mission opportunities based on your personal cash flow patterns. You can also teach your family to generously give to missions. 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 2022!**

Missions Stream New Goal



Increased Missions Goals



← Missions Stream Partnerships

Praying, Giving, and Going to Support Our Mission Partners

As we look forward to a new era in the life of CrossPoint, we prayerfully anticipate the ways that the Lord will expand and enhance our ability to take the gospel **Here, There, and Everywhere** through our Partnerships in the Gospel. Imagine the possibilities...

Here **local and surrounding areas**

Enhance our support for area ministries such as Alabama Baptist Children’s Homes, The WellHouse, Lovelady Center, Discovery Clubs, the Argo Food Bank, Serving You Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, and more. Continue to grow CrossPoint Direct ministries such as the CrossPoint Construction Ministry, Stitches of Grace, Center Point Backpack Buddies, and Trail Life/American Heritage Girls. Expand our ministry in our local schools through providing assistance with student nutrition, faculty care, and school supplies. Support the growth of local churches within our area through partnerships with new church plants and church revitalizations. Increase our work through the St. Clair Baptist Association.

There **the state and across the country**

Increase our giving to the Cooperative Program of the SBC and to the North American Mission Board of the SBC. Expand our involvement with existing church plants, such as City on a Hill Church in Boston and City View Church in Atlanta. Identify new church plants and other domestic mission partners to come alongside in prayer and support. Increase our involvement in Alabama through the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions. Locate and support ministry opportunities in our state, such as prison ministries, campus ministries, statewide benevolence, and relief projects.

Everywhere **around the world**

Enhance our participation and support of the International Mission Board of the SBC. Continue to support churches and ministries around the world in places like Germany, Peru, Guatemala, India, Romania, Ecuador, Iceland, and Quebec through our prayer, giving, and going. Prayerfully seek new churches and mission partners around the world to partner with in taking the gospel to the ends of the earth. Support CrossPointers who have been called to medium-long term assignments, such as Taylor and Lydia Whitley (Germany), Michaela Hunter (Uganda), Lauren Stearns (Germany), Gina Leonardi (Guatemala), and Rick and Jesse Kennedy (Boston). Identify, encourage, and support other CrossPointers whom God is calling to go into the mission field through prayer, training, and financial support.

Manna Stream - What is it? —————→

We are renaming the **Mortgage Stream** to the **Manna Stream**

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** or “What is it” is the retrofitting of CrossPoint’s **Mortgage Stream**. Its purpose is to provide financial resources to respond to the activity of God.

Sometimes we may respond to a missions opportunity. At other times, we may support a ministry event. The objective is to proactively support what the Lord places before our family of faith.

You can give **weekly, monthly, or annually** to the **Manna Stream** based on your personal cash flow patterns. By doing so, you can join God where He is working! Pray about what God would have you give to the **Manna Stream** in 2022!



Manna Stream Vision

\$2.7 Million for 2022 & 2023

(COMBINED TOTAL FROM ALL THREE STREAMS)

International Partnerships

Peru, Guatemala, China, Germany, Canada, Here, There, and Everywhere.

Church Planting & Theological Training

Berlin (Germany), Wenzho (China), Cusco (Peru), and beyond.

Community & Cooperative Program Impact

Schools, First Responders, Partner Ministries, Cooperative Program, International Mission Board, North American Mission Board, St. Clair Association, Wellhouse, Backpack Buddies, Lovelady Center, and so much more!

CrossPoint Capital Needs

Roofing, carpeting, painting, decorating, vehicles, HVAC, and all with cash!



What If...? Sermon Series

What if is a phrase that can strike fear in our hearts and minds. It is a question that can cause panic and anxiety, especially when we think about our future.

That is why it is a basic human instinct to crave security. We naturally seek safety for fear of the unknown.

But **what if** the **what if** question was not about fear, but about faith? **What if** the question was not about problems, but about possibilities?

That sort of **what if** question would be worth asking. For example:

What if we fully trusted God with our future?

What if we believed God could do far more than imagined?

What if we asked God to do the extraordinary?

What if we allowed God to have complete control of our lives?

I invite you to join me in this groundbreaking series, **What if...?**, where we will be imagining what God would do through us if we would really trust Him with what He has given to us.



But who am I, and what is my people, that

For all things come from you, and of your

What If...? Sermon Outline

August

- | | | |
|----|--|------------------------|
| 15 | <i>What If...We Renamed the Mortgage Stream?</i> | Exodus 16 |
| 22 | <i>What If...We Faithfully Served One Another?</i> | 1 Peter 4:7-11 |
| 29 | <i>What If...We Generously Gave to the Kingdom of God?</i> | Proverbs 3:9-10 |

September

- | | | |
|----|---|------------------------------|
| 05 | <i>What If...We Humbled Ourselves & Prayed?</i> | 2 Chronicles 7:14 |
| 12 | <i>What If...We Did Something Extraordinary?</i> | 1 Chronicles 29:10-22 |
| 19 | VERITAS concert | |
| 26 | <i>What If...We Blessed Others?</i> | 2 Corinthians 8:1-15 |

.....○

we should be able thus to offer willingly?

own have we given you.

1 Chronicles 29:14

THEME

But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own you have given us.

1 Chronicles 29:14

An Explanation of the Manna Stream

1. We want to continue to be a _____.

2. We will use it to participate in the _____.

3. The activity of God includes _____

and _____ He invites us to do.

4. We will establish three new goals for CrossPoint's River of Stewardship:

Ministry Stream \$_____

Missions Stream \$_____

Manna Stream \$_____

5. We ask you to give to the Manna Stream above and beyond your _____.

6. We will use it for the _____.

Understanding God's Manna

1. We will let God _____.

They set out from Elim, and all the congregation of the people of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt. And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Exodus 16:1-3

2. We will watch God _____.

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily."

Exodus 16:4-5

3. We will ask God to _____.

On the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers each. And when all the leaders of the congregation came and told Moses, he said to them, "This is what the Lord has commanded: 'Tomorrow is a day of solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to the Lord; bake what you will bake and boil what you will boil, and all that is left over lay aside to be kept till the morning.'" So they laid it aside till the morning, as Moses commanded them, and it did not stink, and there were no worms in it. Moses said, "Eat it today, for today is a Sabbath to the Lord; today you will not find it in the field. Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, which is a Sabbath, there will be none."

Exodus 16:22-26

Saved 2 Serve

THEME

But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own you have given us.

1 Chronicles 29:14

1. We must be _____.

The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.

1 Peter 4:7

2. We must _____ one another earnestly.

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

1 Peter 4:8

3. We must show _____.

Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.

1 Peter 4:9

4. We must _____ one another.

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:10-11

Seven Facts About Spiritual Gifts

1. Every Christian is _____ by God – *As each has received a gift...*

2. Our spiritual gift is just that, a _____ – *has received a gift...*

3. We are gifted to serve the _____ – *use it to serve one another...*

4. We must be good _____ of our gift – *as good stewards of...*

5. God's gifts are _____ – *God's varied grace...*

6. There are two categories of gifts -

_____ **gifts** – *whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God...*

_____ **gifts** – *whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies...*

7. We use our gifts for God's _____, not ours - *...in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

THEME

But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own you have given us.

1 Chronicles 29:14

1. When we give generously, we _____.

Honor the Lord...

Proverbs 3:9a

2. When we give generously, we are acknowledging that the Lord _____.

...with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce...

Proverbs 3:9b

How to Know I am Giving God Enough

1. Am I giving to God _____?

But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own you have given us.

1 Chronicles 29:14

2. Am I giving God my _____?

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31

3. Is what I am giving to God costing me _____?

But the king said to Araunah, "No, I but I will buy it from you for a price. I will not offering burnt offerings to the Lord my God that costs me nothing."

2 Samuel 24:24

3. When we give generously, we have _____.

*then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine.*

Proverbs 3:10

Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. 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 6:37-38

We should never ask, "How much am I going to _____ to God?"

Instead, we should ask, "How much of what God has given me am I going to _____?"

THEME

But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own you have given us.

1 Chronicles 29:14

1. God calls His _____ to Himself.

...if my people who are called by my name...

2 Chronicles 7:14a

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

1 Peter 2:9-10

The Three-fold Nature of Being God's People

Our _____ – *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession...*

Our _____ – *that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*

Our _____ – *Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

2. God calls His people to _____.

...humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways...

2 Chronicles 7:14b

The Four Conditions of Revival

1. _____ – seeing my true condition before God.

2. _____ – seeking God with all my heart.

3. Seek His _____ – to hunger after God.

4. Turn from our wicked _____ – a deliberate change in direction.

3. God promises to _____ His people.

...then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14c

God Promises to...

... _____ – *then I will hear from heaven...*

... _____ – *... and will forgive their sin...*

.... _____ – *and heal their land.*

THEME

But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own you have given us.

1 Chronicles 29:14

1. Everything _____ to God.

Therefore David blessed the Lord in the presence of all the assembly. And David said: "Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all."

1 Chronicles 29:10-11

2. Everything is a _____ from God.

Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

1 Chronicles 29:12-13

3. Everything is for the _____ of God.

But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. For we are strangers before you and sojourners, as all our fathers were. Our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no abiding. O Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own. I know, my God, that you test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. In the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things, and now I have seen your people, who are present here, offering freely and joyously to you. O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep forever such purposes and thoughts in the hearts of your people, and direct their hearts toward you. Grant to Solomon my son a whole heart that he may keep your commandments, your testimonies, and your statutes, performing all, and that he may build the palace for which I have made provision.

1 Chronicles 29:14-19

THEME

But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own you have given us.

1 Chronicles 29:14

1. We should consider what others are _____.

We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia...

2 Corinthians 8:1

How the Churches of Macedonia Blessed Others

They gave in spite of their _____ (8:1-2).

They gave _____ (8:3-4).

They gave _____ (8:5).

They gave as an act of _____ (8:6-7).

2. We should consider what _____.

I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:8-9

3. We should consider what _____.

And in this matter I give my judgment: this benefits you, who a year ago started not only to do this work but also to desire to do it. So now finish doing it as well, so that your readiness in desiring it may be matched by your completing it out of what you have. For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have. I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened, but that as a matter of fairness your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, that there may be fairness. As it is written, "Whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack."

2 Corinthians 8:10-15

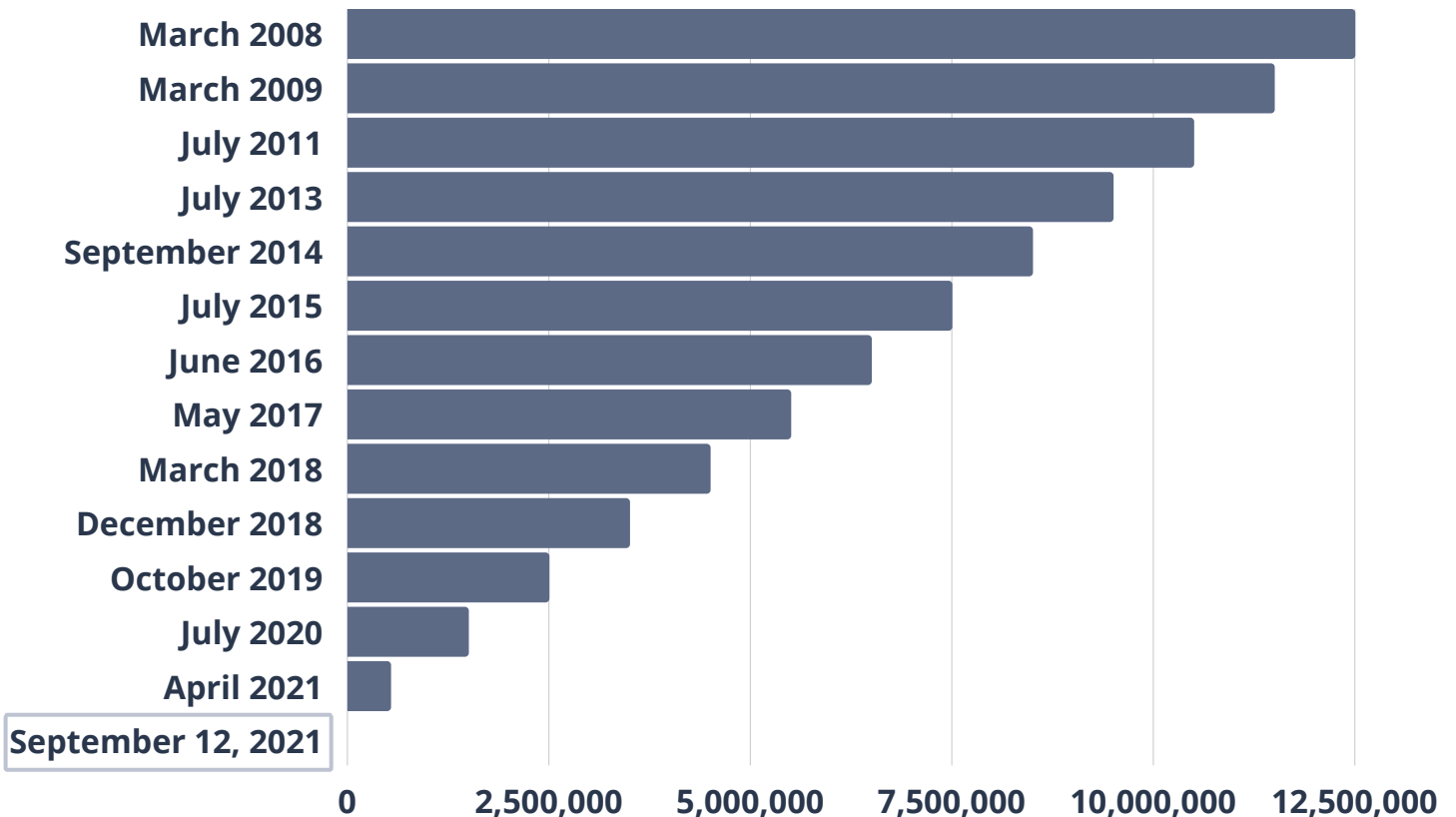
How We Should Bless Others

- 1. We should keep our _____ (8:11-12).**
- 2. We should bless them with what we _____ (8:12).**
- 3. We should bless them the way we would want someone to bless _____ (8:13-14).**
- 4. We should bless others knowing God will _____ (8:15).**

Mortgage Celebration

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

THE BIG PAYOFF!



Veritas

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Since 2012, **Veritas** has captured the ears and hearts of listeners across the globe with their highly artistic musical arrangements. With backgrounds in opera, musical theater, rock, gospel, and pop, the five voices join together to create the “wall of sound” for which they have become known.



Veritas has performed at Carnegie Hall, on Caribbean and Alaskan cruises, and with the highly acclaimed Miami Symphony. **Veritas** recently released their third full-length album, *Simply Veritas*, a collection of a cappella standards, patriotic tunes, and classic hymns, dear to their hearts.

Harvest Day

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

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 November 7, we encourage everyone to participate in the **Harvest Day Offering** to celebrate and acknowledge that all things come from God. We are challenging every member to give a special offering today...above and beyond our regular tithes and offerings. God will honor our faithfulness!

November 7, we will come to celebrate in knowing that all things come from God.

As part of the Harvest Day's celebration, we will be serving breakfast. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, our breakfast event will look much like it did last year. Everyone is invited to drop by the connector and the patio for a time of fellowship as we celebrate Harvest Day 2021!

The Celebration Breakfast will be served beginning at 7:30 AM and will continue throughout the morning ... let's celebrate!

For those who are **CrossPointers**, we ask you to **give**.

For those who give **nothing**, we ask you to give **something**.

For those who give **something**, we ask you to give a **tithe**.

For those who give a **tithe**, we ask that you give **above your tithe**.

Every CrossPointer giving will make a Kingdom-wide impact, not only in CrossPoint but also in our community and in the world.



Future Sermon Series

OCTOBER - DECEMBER

Kingdom Living: A Study of the Sermon on the Mount

October

- 3 Germany Update - Taylor & Lydia Whitley
- 10 *Kingdom Citizenship: Matthew 5:1-16*
- 17 *Kingdom Righteousness: Matthew 5:17-48*
- 24 *Kingdom Worship: Matthew 6:1-18*
- 31 *Kingdom Treasure: Matthew 6:19-34*

November

- 7 *Kingdom Relationships: Matthew 7:1-12*
- 14 *Kingdom Entry: Matthew 7:13-23*
- 21 *Kingdom Foundation: Matthew 7:24-29*
- 28 *For the Lord is Good: Psalm 100*

Christmas Invitation: A Study of Isaiah 9:6-7

December

- 5 *They Call His Name Child and Son: Isaiah 9:6a*
- 12 Christmas Worship Celebration
- 19 *They Call His Name Wonderful and Mighty: Isaiah 9:6b*
- 26 *They Call His Name Everlasting and Peace: Isaiah 9:6c*

**BUT WHO AM I, AND WHAT
IS MY PEOPLE, THAT WE
SHOULD BE ABLE THUS TO
OFFER WILLINGLY? FOR ALL
THINGS COME FROM YOU,
AND OF YOUR OWN HAVE
WE GIVEN YOU.**

1 CHRONICLES 29:14

CROSSPOINT
just one more

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