

Crossroads Church

a ministry of the Christian Reformed Church

3815 S. Dutch Mill Road Madison, WI 53718-6805 (608) 222-1159 E-mail: crossroads@crossroadscrc.org

Website: www.crossroadscrc.org

Christians passionately dedicated to impacting our world with God's love, one person at a time.

While driving, I often listen to the news or talk radio. Lately, the news feels like watching Soap Operas – a lot of drama, but very little resolution.

Raising 5 daughters who learned early to watch Soap Operas, I was always amazed how little ever resolved in the plot line of these stories. For instance, for those of you old enough to remember, *General Hospital* took years to resolve Luke and Laura's relationship which was on again off again more times than one changes the kitty litter. I cannot tell you how often I would come home to find the girls glued to this story, only to learn from them that once again the show ended with nothing different than it had been the day, month, or year before.

The political drama that Wisconsin and our nation are going through lately is beginning to appear much the same. About the time you think one story line is about to be resolved, another piece of it appears, and keeps everything going. And like the Soap Opera dramas, everyone has their perspective – the lens through which all future events gets focused.

This is understandable. Yet, the danger appears when I refuse to recognize that I am wearing lenses which cause me to believe I am the one who sees most clearly and most objectively. When this occurs, polarization inevitably begins to set in, creating impasses and situations where we believe the end justifies the means. No society or community can exist long in such an environment.

I have been alive long enough to know that the pendulum swings. I also have seen God active and alive through every administration, be they federal, state or local. Therefore, I do have confidence that God is still on the throne, and He will have His way.

What I do wonder, however, is what the current environment is doing to your and my ability to be the People of God we are called to be – People of God who know the limits of our own wisdom, People who are called to live by a higher standard than our individual preferences may be, People who are not only called to, but measured by God in how we care for those society tends to cast aside or marginalize.

Two of the realities I am facing again today are: 1. a deep recognition of my need to pray diligently for wisdom, discernment and love in the midst of the drama; 2. a renewed recognition that I do not want to be remembered as one who simply went along with the "Burger King" way of "having it my way."

I invite you to join me in this.

Peacemakers are blessed according to Jesus. Today I am reminded of how difficult it is to be a peacemaker without insisting on having it my way.

Sunday

Sunday: This Sunday our Scripture passage is about fishing and forgiveness – places where most of us have lived. I invite you to come and discover God’s grace evident in fishing and forgiveness. Our Scripture Passage is John 21.1-19.

Our offering will be for **Classis Ministries** - Classical Ministry Shares helps to provide support for various mission projects within Classis Wisconsin such as the 3 new church plants in WI communities, educational and training opportunities for members of WI churches and Scholarship funds for WI Seminary students.

Check it Out!

Kingdom Kids

All children ages 4 through 5th grades are invited to Kingdom Kids on every Wednesday night from 6:15 -7:45 pm. Snacks are provided for all. In addition, we have a Bible lesson, some challenging crafts and some super fun games. Invite your friends to come too.

Unashamed Youth

Please join us every Wednesday night from 6:15 – 7:45 pm. This Wednesday we start a new study series entitled **Science, Evolution, and Origins**. Our goal is to help the boys and girls grow spiritually and have fun by learning. For more detailed information and if you have any questions, please contact Pastor Ryan.

Opportunity to Serve

We are in need of volunteers to join our Luke House groups. Each group serves dinner one night in a quarter, with a commitment of just four times a year. It's a great time of fellowship as well serving those who come in for a meal. We need volunteers in all capacities: provide food (some assembly required at times), serve or work in the kitchen and cleanup, help with costs, or even helping on occasion as a substitute. Please contact Diane, Bette, or Pastor Doug for details. Join us! Meal included!

Wednesday Evening Coffee Break Starts

Welcome Back! Mark your calendar as this week Wednesday, April 13th, the evening Wednesday Coffee Break meets again starting at 6:15 pm. If you have any questions, please call Sue.

Reserve the date:

We will be holding an Art Camp June 15th – 17th from 5 - 7:30 p.m. Volunteers are welcomed and appreciated! No artistic ability necessary! More information will follow.

Pillowcase Dress Workshop Offered

Ladies and Gentlemen...Boys and Girls....

There will be a workshop offered Thursday, April 28th at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. The evening will be spent showing interested persons how to design, cut and sew the pillowcase dresses for the children in the Dominican Republic.

The dresses will be delivered this summer during Crossroads youth and adult mission trips to the DR. Whether you are an accomplished seamstress or want-to-be volunteer, come join us for an evening of fun. Any questions, please contact Merle.

Have a wonderful Weekend! Enjoy the gifts God has given you. Honor Him in all you do, and I look forward to seeing you Sunday!!

May Jesus' love be your strength.

Pastor Doug

[if you no longer wish to receive these weekly e-mails please send a return e-mail with "[unsubscribe](#)" in the "subject" line. If you enjoy these, consider passing them on to someone who may be encouraged as