

Crossroads Church

a ministry of the Christian Reformed Church

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

Thanks to the two brave souls who sent me their stories last week. It was wonderful! Both stories have continued to resonate throughout this week. The power of the story! Which is one reason why so much of God's Story is in story form! And why each of us has been given a story that connects with God's Story.

On to something else today . . .

I just finished helping move a couch. This couch is on its third life. A third family is finding use for it, and it will have at least another life. It has spent its lives in a condo, a house, an apartment and now it is back in a second house. In one of its lives it moved with its owner from a house to an apartment.

In its new life begun today it will spend much of its time alone, without much activity, which is in contrast to its first life where it played host to two rather large cats. I'm sure it felt its share of scratches as well as cuddles.

All this imagination prompts me to wonder how many different situations God has placed each of us. Some, for instance, have lived in Madison all their lives (or at least the vast majority). Some have been bouncing around like a pinball, never seeming able to stay settled for more than a few years. Others have had different experiences as students, singles, young parents, empty nesters, and perhaps even grandparenting and great grandparenting. Whatever the situation, we have experienced many things, familiar and strange, and life often shifts to different moods about the time we became settled or comfortable.

I wonder if Father ever has a talk with Jesus that goes something like this, "I just moved Doug's couch. He's going to wonder where it is, and chances are, given his past reactions to my moving his furniture, will become somewhat agitated and stress-filled. Perhaps his time in stress-mode will be a little less after his last experience. Perhaps he is learning to trust a little more."

And I must confess that if I had my way all life's furniture would prove to be much more stable than it often seems to be. And I suspect that is precisely why God often finds reason to keep moving things on me – so that I continue to rest in Him rather than my own coping skills and habits.

Crazy how a task I have repeated many times in life – moving the couch – can generate some pretty basic questions about life, trust and the problems with self-reliance. Maybe I should be moving couches more often to keep the memories of God’s control more deeply embedded in my mind.

Well, on second thought, perhaps I’ll ask God to use something a little lighter to carry to bring His truth home.

What has God used today in your life to bring you into a deeper trust and reliance on Him?

If He can use a white couch, He can certainly use about anything! Keep your eyes watching! It’s amazing what you might just learn!

Tomorrow - Saturday

HELP BEAUTIFY THE PROPERTY

June 29th

8am - 1:00pm

We will have a Church Early Summer Clean-up! We will have outdoor work as well as indoor cleaning and brightening up and work for all ages. Join us for a time of working, and getting to know your work-partners better!

JOIN US FOR A GREAT DAY

and then in the evening . . .

Free Concert

Saturday, June 29th

7:00 p.m.

Christian songwriter, musician, artist and nationally recognized Native American, Bill Miller will be presenting a free concert at Crossroads Church.

Bill is a three-time Grammy Award winner. Children growing up in the 90's would recognize his talent in the flute solo in the song *Color of the Wind* in the Disney production of *Pocahontas*.

Bill has headlined the *Rock and Roll Hall of Fame* tribute to Johnny Cash, and has written and performed with Johnny's son John Carter Cash. He has also written and performed a symphony with the La Crosse Symphony Orchestra.

His Christian faith is instrumental to all he does, and his hope has deep roots in His Savior on whom he has had to depend during some very trying and painful times in his life.

His testimony and songs are sure to inspire and encourage.

Please invite your friends. We look forward to seeing you Saturday (29th) at 7:00 p.m. at Crossroads Church 3815 S. Dutch Mill Rd., Madison, WI 53714

This Sunday

Please join us for Worship at 9:30 a.m. This Sunday we continue our new series on the book of Chronicles. We will be covering the story found in Chapters 14-16 of 2Chronicles. I encourage you to read these 3 chapters before Sunday morning.

Make worship a priority this week – someone is depending on you to share this worship time with them!

Offering for the Month of May: Voice of the Martyrs

The Voice of the Martyrs is an international non-profit organization whose mission is to serve persecuted Christians.

This Week

Some from the Mission Team to the Dominican Republic this summer will be sharing their stories this Sunday.

Save the Date

Women's Mid-Summer Book Review

On Thursday, July 18th, all women are invited to meet in Crossroads Church Council Room at 9 AM to review "Love Lives Here: Finding What You Need in a World Telling You What You Want" by Maria Goff. If you don't find time to read the book you are still welcome to come join our discussion.

A snack will be served.

Women's Bible Study

Crossroads Coffee Break Bible Study will restart in the Fall on Thursday, September 19th at 9AM!

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