

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.

Labor Day weekend – opportunity for one last trip of the summer? As I write I remember some of the trips I've made on previous "last weekends of the summer". Many of these were trips back to places I had once called home.

Some of these trips provided opportunity to reconnect with old friends, friends of my kids, and sometimes with friends with whom connection had been lost.

I remember a past trip in which I was able to reconnect with an elderly volunteer with whom I had served for more than 15 years, and who continued to serve faithfully in the church even though her hip caused her extreme pain and slowed her down immensely. As I visited with her God reminded me of the deep privilege I had been given in knowing her and calling her friend.

On a more recent trip I heard a familiar voice across a parking lot, and was surprised to see a couple I had not spoken with for more than 15 years.

I recall another trip I was stopped by a former youth group kid. He talked about memories I had long forgotten. Later a couple of youth who spent many hours in our home before basketball games gave thanks for the hours committed to making our home a sanctuary and safe place for all kinds of kids – neighborhood, church and school.

The common thread in all these stories and many more is the memories these friends and acquaintances recalled – memories I had long forgotten.

What's my point? Just this: in the daily routine of life it is easy to underestimate or simply forget the power of God's hand in working through the ordinary. In our world we are all too easily impressed by what appears to be the spectacular when it is really only a flash in the pan. Most of God's greatest work throughout history happens through the everyday simple quiet faithfulness of God's people daily doing what God places before them.

The temptation on this last weekend of summer will be to try and build great memories by the spectacular. Reality is, most spectacular things do not build character nor memory like the quiet everyday activities revealing character and integrity.

Pay attention to that which God gives you today and do it with integrity and faithfulness. Chances are He will bring about the rewards in His time!

Sunday

Sunday: This Sunday we continue our new series on the 10 Commandments. Our Scripture reading is from **Exodus 19.1-8**. Please join us as we Praise our God for His rich blessings!

A Music Sunday Special: In addition, this Sunday we will be doing something a little different during worship and singing some of our special old time favorite hymns.

Our offering will be for **Denominational Ministries** - In the Christian Reformed Church, one important way that we participate in God's kingdom work is through "ministry shares" - a way of sharing in the support of the important work of ministries within our denomination. The following ministries are part of Ministry Shares: Back to God Ministries International, Faith Alive Christian Resources, Home Missions, World Missions, and Special Assistance Fund to help smaller churches, Calvin College, Calvin Theological Seminary, chaplains and support of the disabled.

Check it Out!

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School begins next Sunday, **September 11th**. This year we will begin with a 6 session study of Jesus's parables. We encourage all adults, regardless of your Bible knowledge, to join us. If you plan on attending, please sign-up on the sheet on the table by the fellowship hall. If you have any questions, please talk with Mike, Mark, or Con.

All Youth Sunday School

The All Youth Sunday School from **4 years thru 12th grade** will start on **September 18th** at 11:00 am. Grades 1-Sr. High will meet in the Youth Room. Pre K-Kindergarten will meet in rooms 15-16. Come and bring a friend along with you.

Coffee Break Starts Next Week

Mark your calendar as both Coffee Breaks start in two week. Details will be include in our weekly bulletin.

Men's Life Breakfast

The Men's Life Breakfast will have their "kick-off" breakfast meeting on **Saturday, September 17th at 7:30 am**. Men's Life exists to support men in their walk with Christ. We come together for breakfast to discuss the issues and problems that are common to men, to support each other, to pray for one another, and to glorify God. All men of all ages are welcome. Please RSVP to Mark if you are able to attend this month's kick-off meeting.

All Youth Groups

Both youth groups will begin this Wednesday night from 6:15-7:45 pm. We have a tentative schedule for the Unashamed Youth group on the sign-up table. Please take one along for yourself and a friend.

Very soon, we will have a tentative schedule for the Kingdom Kids ready. Remember that events sometimes are subject to change. We try to keep you updated ASAP when this happens. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Ryan.

Bible League Retreat

The Bible League is sponsoring their annual retreat on Tuesday, September 20, 2016. It will be held at Trinity Reformed Church in Waupun, Wisconsin. Valerie Elliot Shepard is the featured speaker this year. Her parents were missionaries to the Quichua Indians in Ecuador where her missionary father, Jim Elliot, was speared to death.

A number of brochures are on the table in the foyer with additional details. I attended last year and it was a very enjoyable and uplifting day. I plan on attending again this year and encourage you to join me. If anyone wishes to car pool or has additional questions, please contact Helen.

Administrative Update

Labor Day Holiday

The church office will be closed tomorrow September 5th, to honor the [American Labor Movement](#) and for all the contributions that workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of their country.

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

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