

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!

The week that traditionally has marked the end of summer vacations, boating, swimming and the hopes of a more relaxed life, and the beginning of school, regular schedules and a return to the routine.

In all of this, we have deceived ourselves in that we believe this change of schedules will mean a slowdown in our lives, a saner pace, and a little time to let our soul catch up to our mind and body. We truly want to believe this even though countless years and changes in seasons have never produced the “spare” time we so desire and feel we need.

We have lied to ourselves about slowdowns in life ever since we left school. In school we believed a regular job would allow us more freedom in dictating our time commitments. When we got a job we told ourselves that once we got used to the routine it would be different, or once we moved up to the next level of management we would have greater flexibility. But nothing really changed.

Then marriage came along. We told ourselves that with two to do the jobs around the house new time would be found. What we discovered is two schedules are three times busier than one. We sighed and convinced ourselves that kids would slow us down, that babies would force us to reprioritize. Babies came and we wondered why we ever thought the college life was busy!

Funny thing about hope – it springs eternal, and many of us still hang on to this hope that in the changing of the seasons or schedules time will automatically open up for us.

At the risk of offending one or two of you, let me tell you truth: **It is not going to happen!** Time never automatically opens up! It doesn't even happen in retirement!

The only way schedules slow down and time opens up is when I become very deliberate about reprioritizing my life and say “no” to many good and noble things. Even then, the fight to maintain the necessary quiet time for my soul to stay abreast of my mind and body is constant. But it is well worth the battle!

So as the days become shorter and the weather a little cooler perhaps there is something deep inside you that senses the changing seasons. And accompanying this sense of change is that eternal hope that things will be different, that life will be saner, and you will not always feel you are trying to catch up to life. I encourage you to use that hope you feel to motivate you to take some bold steps – to take a hard look at your (and your family's) schedule. Lay out your priorities – what is truly most important and necessary in your life – and then make some deliberate decisions to open up the time needed to care for your soul.

Soul care does not happen automatically. It doesn't even happen automatically (or easily) for pastors. It always takes deliberate decisions to create space and time for God's Spirit to work and nurture.

Someone once said that if the devil can't make us bad he makes us busy.

Decide today to make a change. Your soul will bless you for it!

Sunday Service

Please join us for Worship at 9:30 a.m. We continue our stroll through the Psalms as we look at Psalm 25. I look forward to seeing you! **Make worship a priority this week – someone is depending on you to share this worship time with them!**

Our Offering: WNWC 102.5 Radio - Their mission is to lead people to Christ and to nurture believers in their spiritual growth.

Save the Date

September 9th - You may have heard that Paul Asche, director of *The Luke House* for more than 30 years, has retired. His successor, Matt Rogge, came from being the senior writer for the UW Foundation, and is excited about this new opportunity.

Matt will be joining us in worship on September 9th. Please join us as we welcome him in this exciting time of transition.

If you would like to know more about *The Luke House* and how you could become involved and blessed as you bless others please talk to Pastor Doug today.

September 9th - Adult Sunday School will be starting. This year we will be using the book titled **"Transforming Prayer: How Everything Changes When You Seek God's Face."** If you plan on attending please sign-up on the sheet near the fellowship hall so books can be ordered. If you already have the book please indicate this on the sheet.

September 9th - "YOU ARE INVITED: We invite you to come to our home on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 @ 6:30 pm for fellowship and a Hymn Sing. You may bring a plate of goodies to share if you like, beverages and snacks will be provided. COME AND ENJOY!" - Con and Mary

September 12th - **Women's Wednesday Evening Coffee Break Returns at 6:30 PM!** Come join us for fellowship and bible study. We will be studying Sermon on the Mount- how this equips us to live a kingdom life in a fallen world. This is a DVD series by Sinclair Ferguson.

September 15th - Men's Breakfast begins again. 7:30 a.m.

September 15th - Dominican Republic Team Dinner 2018

Come join your DR Team on September 15th, 6-8pm. Enjoy some authentic Dominican food and stories.
Please R.S.V.P to Pastor Doug or Vicki by September 8th.

September 20th – **Women’s Coffee Break Returns.** Fall is coming and so is the start of classes. The Thursday Morning Coffee Break will start the season with a two part series on the book of Mark. Part one explores the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus. Part two follows Jesus’ journey from Jerusalem to the cross. Mark is an action-packed gospel full of astonishing miracles. All women whether new to the Bible or long-time believers are welcome. Join this study group that grows spiritually by meeting God in His Word and support each other by sharing how God is using His Word to work in our lives. Thursday Morning Coffee Break meets weekly from 9 to 10:45 AM with time for fellowship with snacks, prayer and Bible Study. The group includes women from churches throughout the Madison and McFarland communities. Come and invite your friends. Please let me know in advance if you have small children that would like to participate in Little Lambs.

September 30th - It’s time for another family time discussion. Over the past year or so we’ve been setting aside the 5th Sunday of the month as a time to spend a little time together as a family talking about issues affecting us all.

Over the past couple of months individuals have been taking the remodel ideas expressed at our last family meeting and working these into some possibilities. Your Council believes we need to move ahead with some remodel work and would like to share these ideas with you and get your feedback.

In addition, new development possibilities are growing with the property to our east. These possible developments potentially affect our property, and your Council has requested and received some assessments on our current property. One possibility for us continues to be the sale of the acres between *LaPetite* and *Toby’s*.

We will meet after the morning service on September 30th. Please put this in your calendars and plan on attending. We value your participation.

November 7th - *We Are Leo* is a ministry focused band that sings about God’s love and finding hope in the everyday. They will be in concert at *Crossroads* on November 7th. Please mark your calendars and begin praying for whom you will invite to this wonderful, life changing evening.

Get Added to the List

If someone forwarded you this e-mail, and you are not currently on our church’s “e-mail list” but would like to be included in future mailings please send a return e-mail requesting this.

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