



# CrossWay Community Current

an Evangelical Free Church

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AED-equipped, wheelchair accessible • www.crosswaygr.com • crossway.communitygr@gmail.com



asked to sign in to make sure we have a quorum for doing business.

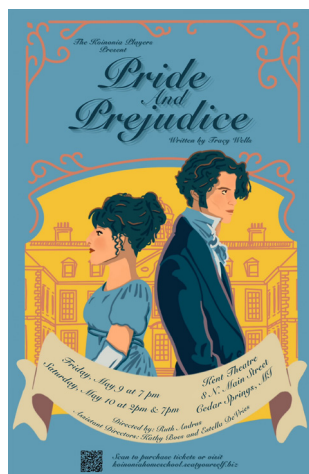
What business? you may ask. We'll be receiving ministry reports from our pastor, our treasurer, our ministry leaders, and our ad hoc nominating and audit committees, as well as admitting new members, approving the church's budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year that begins that day, and electing the elder board.

We'll also open the floor for discussions, including any new business that members might want to bring to the congregation's attention.

Refreshments will be available before the meeting, and child care will be provided.

If you're worshipping at CrossWay regularly, you are encouraged to attend so that you can learn more about the life of our church and listen for the Lord's leading on how He's calling you to participate.

## We're invited...



Enjoy an outing to Cedar Springs and support CrossWay's Caleb Ward as he performs in the Koinonia Players' theatrics, offering Tracy Wells's play *Pride and Prejudice*. It's at the Kent Theatre on Fri., May 9, at 7 p.m. plus two performances on Sat., May 10, at 2 and 7 p.m. Tickets at [koinonia-homeschool.seatyourself.biz](http://koinonia-homeschool.seatyourself.biz). Should be fun!

Hear ye, hear ye! The annual congregational meeting has been set for Sun., June 1, after our worship service. All are welcome; members will be

## Time for spring cleaning



Our congregation's tradition of an outdoor spring workday at CrossWay is scheduled this year for Sat., May 3, after the breakfasts on 28<sup>th</sup> Street, from around 10 or 10:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We'll be doing the usual spring cleanup along with a little painting. Please bring general yard tools and your sunny disposition!

## It's recital time . . .

This Spring, CrossWay's sanctuary is the site for a pair of piano recitals by our talented worship leaders.

Jocelyn Ostoich led the way on April 27 with her afternoon offering of classical favorites (pictured here).

Next up is Annie Lash's offering, scheduled for Sat., May 10,



beginning at 12:30 p.m. Even if you missed Jocelyn's, consider joining CrossWay friends for an early afternoon of memorable music, from Annie's heart to ours.

## Coming Up at CrossWay Community

Sundays • 9:30<sup>AM</sup> • Prayer, lobby classroom  
 Sundays • 10<sup>AM</sup> • Gather for worship together  
 Tuesdays • 1<sup>PM</sup> • Ladies Bible Study  
 Thurs., May 1, 15, 29 • 6:30<sup>PM</sup> • Small group @ Le's  
 Sat., May 3 • 9<sup>AM</sup> • Men's breakfast @ Bob Evans  
 Sat., May 3 • 9<sup>AM</sup> • Women's breakfast @ Russ's  
 Sat., May 3 • 10:15<sup>AM</sup> - 1<sup>PM</sup> • Outdoor Workday  
 Sun., May 4 • 11:30<sup>AM</sup> • All-church prayer meeting  
 Thurs., May 8 • 6<sup>PM</sup> • Elder meeting  
 Sat., May 10 • 12:30<sup>PM</sup> • Annie Lash piano recital  
 Sun., May 11 • Mothers' Day (no Sunday School)  
 Sun., May 18 • 11:30<sup>AM</sup> • Sunday School, all ages  
 Sun., June 1 • 11:30<sup>AM</sup> • Annual Congregational Meeting

## A message for you, CrossWay

In early April, our Missions Steering Committee met to decide which organization should receive the dollars we had set aside for this fiscal year to begin our congregation's support of the trending missions model: Indigenous church planting – that is, supporting the evangelistic activity of individuals who best know the language and culture where they are serving for efficient spreading of the Gospel. We chose Mission India during a “match” period that doubled our impact. Here's their response:



### *Easter Match Thank You*

#### **Thank you, Crossway Community Church!**

Your generous gift of \$1,005 to our Easter 2025 Matching Challenge will **DOUBLE** your impact, bringing the Gospel to twice as many children in India through 10-Day Children's Bible Clubs!

For many children in India, summer break means instability as parents work long hours to provide. These Bible Clubs, comparable to a U.S. Vacation Bible School, offer a safe, joyful space where boys and girls experience fun skits, action songs, Scripture memorization, and prayer. Children will hear the life-changing message of Easter, discovering the hope and love of Christ—many for the first time!

The impact goes beyond 10 days. These Bible Clubs often lead to year-long programs, opening the door for entire families to hear the Gospel.

**2,010 Indian boys and girls get to attend a 10-Day Children's Bible Club and hear the Easter message, because of you!**

Here's how God worked through donors like you at 10-Day Children's Bible Clubs last year:

128,426 Leaders Trained      6,868,670 Scripture Materials Placed      6,408,612 Children Reached

~ *MISSION INDIA*



## Taking our mission personally

*“For you created my inmost being;*

*you knit me together in my mother's womb....*

*all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.”* from Psalm 139

During April, as I was preparing a proposal for the next year's missions budget as CrossWay's Missions Coordinator, I was struck by a fresh understanding that brought me up short:

All my life, even before I asked Jesus into my heart and became His adopted daughter, my life has been shaped by the God of the universe. He has invested His time, His talent, His wisdom, His love into making me into the person I am today.

What kind of return on investment has He seen from my life? Have I been like the servant in the parable that took the amount his master entrusted to him and invested it for a rich return, or do I more closely match up with the servant who hoarded what was entrusted to him and had nothing to show but the master's own original investment?

Challenging thought, isn't it? How about you? Do you recognize the mission field you enter as you drive onto Burton Street each Sunday? ❤️ *Pam Reed*

## Tell me some stories

At Mission India's 2025 Banquet of Praise, you'll meet others in West Michigan who are passionate about God's work in India, enjoying fellowship over a meal. Then, you'll hear special updates on the latest happenings in India from our leadership, including stories that are sure to inspire you in your own faith!

**You're invited to join the Banquet at the time and location most convenient for you. Dinner at the Pinnacle Center in Hudsonville on Tuesday, May 6 or gather for lunch or dinner at Frederik Meijer Gardens on Monday, May 12.**

If you'd like to enjoy the event with a friend, bring your own or join Pam Reed at the Pinnacle Center on May 6 for dinner or Mike Ward at Meijer Gardens on May 12 for lunch.

You've already given to this ministry through your support of CrossWay. Now it's time to hear some heartwarming stories of Gospel witness and salvation.



## Opportunity to bless

Tom and Dora B. were sent to the mission field in the Czech Republic more than 25 years ago. Their initial commitment led them into ministry to the Roma people at first in Europe and, more recently, around the world.

The 14 million Roma (commonly known as Gypsies) in Europe are descendants of the Banjara tribal people in India. With a history of enslavement and roaming, they are spread across Europe. Marginalization has sometimes sustained a cycle of poverty. Education and employment can break this cycle.



Tom and Dora have spent many years of working with the Roma and organizing a network of ministry leaders from the U.S. and abroad who similarly serve God by bringing the Gospel to them through word and deed. During April, Tom contacted us at CrossWay to bring our attention to a new opportunity to bless the Roma people in Latvia:

*I wanted to let you know of a Gospel initiative called The HERO Project. It is a local church initiative in Latvia that uses social enterprise to connect with people, share the Gospel with them, and disciple them. They have seen some really good success in growing their church and discipling Roma believers. The HERO Project is designed to help the Roma in the area get and keep jobs. Latvia has a 70% unemployment rate among the Roma people, because they have not been integrated into society well. This project works with local churches, missionaries, and the labor department to provide job skills and an internship to increase their practice of the new skills. The men learn wood working and the women learn sewing.*

*We are raising another \$18,000 towards this project that could affect hundreds of Roma in Latvia (and other countries as we expand).*

The program will be housed in the Roma Activity Center in Aloja, Latvia. The local church that meets there provides laundry and shower services, social support, counseling, education, and training. It has become a meeting place for the community.

This worthy project does not fit into the CrossWay missions budget. But if it moves your heart, you're welcome to donate individually.

You may do so securely online at: <https://give.efca.org/now?des=5913> or by writing a check to EFCA and addressing your contribution by postal mail:



Evangelical Free Church of America  
Donor Services  
901 E. 78<sup>th</sup> Street  
Minneapolis MN 65420

Note on the memo line of your  
check: #5913

