

Thy Kingdom Come

A year of purposeful prayer



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Letter from the Senior Pastor

Robertson McQuilkin, esteemed missionary statesman, in his classic little book, *The Great Omission*, asks of the American church, "Why are we so weak and impotent? Are we not weak in impact for God because we are weak in time spent with God?" Why is prayer so difficult for us?

My grandfather, with whom I'm very close, will turn ninety-five soon. When I was growing up he was one of the few adults I ever heard pray out loud. He always began, "God is great; God is good; Let us thank Him for this food." I remember, even as a child, being slightly disappointed. From this venerable old man, I expected eloquence and depth – not a child's prayer.

But I'm growing to understand there was real wisdom in that prayer. Every hesitation or hindrance in prayer can be traced to doubting one or both of those two ideas:

Is God GREAT?
Is God GOOD?

If we believe that God is great but not good, we won't pray because we doubt such a great God could possibly care about our small concerns. If we believe that God is good but not great, we won't pray because we doubt it could make any difference.

Have you ever wondered why God chooses to make prayer a condition of His acting in our lives and in the world? Here's how Jonathan Edwards answered that question:

There may be two reasons why God requires prayer: one respects God, and the other respects ourselves. With respect to God, prayer is but a sensible acknowledgement of our dependence on Him to His Glory. With respect to ourselves, God requires prayer of us because it prepares our hearts; hereby is excited a sense of need...whereby the mind is more prepared to receive and rejoice!

Edwards is saying that prayer puts God in His place, as the Almighty God before whom we come as beggars. But prayer also puts us in our place, as needy children who come before our Father. We come expectantly because "He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" (Romans 8:32).

Is our God not great? Is our God not good? Jesus assures us He is both, so let us trouble heaven for God's glory and our joy. That's what this little booklet is for – prayers that God's Kingdom would come on earth.

Won't you join us this year on these fifty-two weeks of Kingdom Prayer?

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rankin Wilbourne". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rankin Wilbourne
Sr Pastor, Pacific Crossroads Church

April 3 – 9

Kingdom-Centered Prayer

Too often, our prayers are self-centered and short-sighted, only concerned with meeting our own needs. We need to see prayer as the means by which we can come to know, worship, and enjoy the Living God. It is through Spirit-led, prevailing prayer and Scripture that we can see God's overarching purpose is for the glory of His name and the advancement of His kingdom. How can we more effectively pray to this end? First, we must ask God to make us a praying people; that we would be intentional and compelled by His Spirit to pray individually and corporately. Then, we look to Jesus, who modeled prayer that is God-glorifying and kingdom-centered (Matthew 6:9-13).

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Pray that God's name would be honored in our lives, our church, and our city, and that we would see His glory.

**Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Pray that Christ's presence and reign would be manifested through His people in Los Angeles by personal transformation, social justice, and cultural renewal.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Pray that we would be bold and specific in presenting our daily needs and the needs of others to our Heavenly Father.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Pray that we would seek mercy through humble repentance before God.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

Pray that God would protect and deliver us from the enemy through the power of His Spirit.

**For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever.**

Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

April 10 – 16

Pacific Crossroads Church

Pacific Crossroads Church is a people called to worship the living God and sent to give witness to the good news that God accepts us as we are, not as we should be. Our vision is to be an authentic community manifesting the presence and reign of Jesus Christ throughout Los Angeles through personal transformation, social justice, and cultural renewal. We pray that we, as a church, would be a powerful force for Jesus in the city of Los Angeles.

“...For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.”

Ephesians 2:17-22



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the launch of the downtown service, and the new Westside worship space at John Adams Middle School.
- For forgiveness for our inherent individualism and selfishness that keeps us from lives of true sacrifice and community; for the ways in which we have not always reflected the passionate love of Jesus to our city.
- For God's blessing on the pastors, staff, and leaders of Crossroads and their families.
- For community united by a deep love for God and others; a hunger for God and His Word; a burden for the lost, broken, and needy; a love for the city and a longing for its renewal; and a commitment to live out and proclaim the gospel.

April 17 – 23

Hope for LA

We live in a city with numerous social concerns, from poverty and homelessness to gang violence and the AIDS epidemic. None of these issues escape God's attention. He is deeply concerned with the needs of the helpless and hurting. As believers and imitators of Jesus, we are to care for those in need, especially our neighbors. God calls Christians to engage the city, and to seek the welfare of the city by sacrificially serving those who live here.

Hope for LA, the mercy and justice ministry of Pacific Crossroads Church, was developed as a response to God's call. HFLA exists to address the needs of marginalized and disadvantaged people in the greater Los Angeles area by partnering with community ministries and mobilizing the church to serve through volunteer opportunities all over the city. HFLA seeks to empower Christians for service and bring hope and renewal to our city. HFLA's partners include organizations that address the needs of the homeless, the legally under-represented, senior citizens, at-risk youth, and health and adult literacy in the city.

"Thus says the LORD of hosts...Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare."

Jeremiah 29:4-7



Please Pray:

- Praise God who is concerned for each helpless and hurting person in our city.
- For repentance when we do not seek the peace and prosperity of the city by ignoring those in need around us.
- That people at Crossroads would have a genuine love for the city and a growing understanding of God's concern and care for the poor and disenfranchised.
- That volunteer team leaders who coordinate volunteer opportunities would have endurance in recruiting, and be encouraged in their roles.
- That HFLA will be a bold witness of God's love through community partnerships, church-wide projects, and recurring volunteer opportunities.

To Get Involved

Contact Dave at davidk@hopeforla.org or see <http://www.hopeforla.org>

April 24 – 30

John Adams & St. John's

In October of 2010, Pacific Crossroads Church moved our Westside location to John Adams Middle School and in June 2010, added a downtown evening service at St. John's Episcopal Cathedral (St. John's), to accommodate our growing congregation. We are blessed to have such a beautiful campus and church where we worship our Lord and Savior. We are thankful for the smooth transition and continue to hope that many lives will be transformed.

John Adams is a diverse middle school with approximately 1,000 students and 100 teachers that provides a smooth transition between elementary and high school years. The school motto, "What you are to be, you are now becoming," encourages all staff and teachers to utilize a variety of teaching strategies to meet the needs of their diverse student body. St. John's was built in 1925 in downtown Los Angeles and serves as a parish church for the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles.

"So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In Him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit."

Ephesians 2:19-22



Please Pray:

- Praise God for providing us with a place of worship and for opening the doors of John Adams and St. John's to us.
- For repentance for taking for granted these places of worship where we can come so freely.
- For the students, teachers, janitorial staff, and administration of John Adams, that they will sense Christ from the presence of Crossroads at their school.
- That John Adams may reach out to all students to enable them to maximize their academic, social, emotional, and physical potential.
- For Crossroads to maintain a good relationship with the leadership at John Adams and St. John's.

May 1 – 7

Downtown Women's Center

Founded in 1978, Downtown Women's Center (DWC) is the only resource in Los Angeles that is exclusively dedicated to serving the unique needs of homeless and very low-income women on "skid row." DWC provides a safe and healthy community fostering dignity, respect, and personal stability, and advocates ending homelessness for women. DWC is not a transitional shelter, but provides permanent housing as a solution to ending the cycle of homelessness. DWC believes that permanent supportive housing is a successful, cost-effective combination of affordable housing with services that help people live more stable, productive lives.

In December, 2010, DWC opened a new building that increased the number of apartments available to women from 47 to 71 units, and also expanded the Day Center to serve more women with 3 meals a day, showers, day beds, personalized case management, an on-site medical and mental health center, health workshops and screenings, computer literacy, government benefit advocacy, support groups, job counseling, and self-expression classes. Nearly 130 women visit the DWC Day Center each day and 2,500 women are served annually

To Get Involved

Prepare lunch the 3rd Sunday of each month
For more information, contact Margaux: margaux@dwcweb.org

"...[C]ome, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the Kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me...I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:34-36, 40



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the new building that opened in 2010.
- That DWC plays an integral role in ending homelessness for women in Los Angeles and serves as a model nationwide.
- For the leadership of DWC as it continues to expand the number of women served and the extent of services offered, particularly an increase in permanent supportive housing for women.
- For volunteers who could assist in the renovation and development of the new facility, the medical clinic, and the coffee shop.
- For the growth of the medical and mental health center and for the health of homeless and low-income women.

May 8 – 14

Oasis of Hollywood

The Oasis of Hollywood is a non-profit organization whose mission is to build mentoring relationships with the inner-city youth of Hollywood. The Oasis provides a safe and positive alternative environment where youth are encouraged and equipped to meet goals that support their spiritual, academic, and emotional development, while being directed away from the destructive lifestyle of gangs and drugs.

The Oasis runs several programs throughout the week, including a teen drop-in center, Sunday evening services where the Word of God is taught to junior high and high school students, an after-school program for 5-12-year-old inner-city kids, and tutoring and computer training sessions to encourage academic achievement.

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Prov. 22:6



Please Pray:

- Praise to God for His heart of compassion for disadvantaged youth and His power to redeem the lives of those who grow up in destructive environments.
- For repentance of our complacency towards the needs of the troubled and disadvantaged youth in our own communities.
- For the continued establishment of meaningful mentoring relationships between the staff of the Oasis and the youth they are serving.
- That the youth who participate in the Oasis programs realize the hope Christ offers them and turn away from destructive lifestyles.

To Get Involved

Dinner for Youth, 1st Friday of each month, 7:00-10:00pm
For more information contact, Jeff: jeff@pacificcrossroads.org

Impacting Hearts

In California, roughly 100,000 youths are in the foster care system. By the time these youths are emancipated, he or she has been moved or transferred 11 times on average, and 79% of them eventually spend time homeless, incarcerated, or they die an early death.

Impacting Hearts is an entirely volunteer-managed and operated non-profit organization committed to enhancing the quality of the lives of youths who are in the foster care system by providing them and their families with love, support, education, and mentorship. Practically, Impacting Hearts serves these youths through weekly Youth Club Nights, monthly excursions, and an annual summer Big Bear weekend retreat. The weekly Youth Club Nights are in Inglewood, Torrance, Compton, and Long Beach with plans to open two more locations before 2012.

“And He took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in His arms, He said to them, Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but Him who sent me.”

Mark 9:36-37



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the life of Ashlynn B. Jackson, a youth who participated in Impacting Hearts, who passed away in January, 2011, at the age of 17. Despite many health issues resulting from a heart transplant when she was 8 years old, Ashlynn lived her brief life with steadfast courage and love for Christ and desired that other youth would come to accept Jesus.
- For God to give guidance and wisdom as well as patience, perseverance, and encouragement to the leaders and organizers of Impacting Hearts.
- For God to work through the volunteers to connect with and share God's love with the youth and impact them one heart at a time.
- For the youth served by Impacting Hearts, most of whom are fatherless, to come to see that they are children of God.

To Get Involved

Mentor foster teens on Thursdays, 7-9:30pm
For more information, contact Marc: marcackerman@sbcglobal.net

May 22 – 28

Alegria

Alegria (Spanish for “joy”) was founded in 2001 in Silverlake to provide affordable housing and intensive support services for homeless and low-income families affected by HIV/AIDS.

At Alegria, families have access to essential services such as counseling, child development and parenting training, literacy and computer classes, and employment and legal assistance, all in an environment where families can stay together without the stigma attached to the HIV/AIDS diagnosis. The goal is not merely to help these families survive, but to give them the resources to live dignified, hopeful lives.

“A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side.

So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion.

He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.”

Luke 10:30-37



Please Pray:

- Praise God for His extravagance in meeting our needs and healing our wounds.
- For repentance for ways in which we ignore the needs of others out of fear and concern for our own safety and comfort.
- For families at Alegria to obtain the help they need to thrive.
- For Alegria to secure the funding, staff, and volunteers necessary to provide its services.

To Get Involved

Family game night 4th Saturday each month, 1-3pm
For more information, contact Natalie: nataliethenut@gmail.com

May 29 – June 4

Economic Recession

The United States is still recovering from its worst economic recession since the 1930s. The crisis is not just concentrated in this country, but it is being felt worldwide, and repercussions will likely be felt for years to come.

This economic crisis has understandably caused a great deal of suffering and anxiety throughout the world. Some people who cannot support themselves or their families are filled with a sense of shame and unrest, and there is an ever-growing distrust and cynicism toward our leaders. There is no clear consensus about if, when, or how the situation can be resolved.

Where is our confidence? Where is our security? Where is our treasure? Many people are discovering that their answers to these questions are weak and unreliable.

Even as Christians, we often have trouble remembering that God, our answer to these questions, is the only sure answer. It is easy to fall into the trap of believing that we control our lives, and when a crisis arises, we relearn how powerless we really are, and we are reminded that it is God, not us, who is our ultimate joy and provider.

“No one can serve two masters...You cannot serve God and money. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?”

Matthew 6:24-27



Please Pray:

- Praise God for being our salvation and our security, and for having a plan greater and better than we can possibly know.
- For repentance of our prideful urges to control our own lives.
- That God will intervene locally and globally in this recession, relieving people of economic hardship and financial anxiety, especially those living in poverty.
- That we will learn from past mistakes regarding money and our attitudes about money.
- That God will give His people peace and confidence during this economic crisis, and that others will seek Him as a result.

June 5 – 11

Reformed University Fellowship

Reformed University Fellowship is the campus ministry of the Presbyterian Church in America. It exists on over 120 college campuses nationwide, and now, thanks to Joe and Tiffany White, it exists at UCLA.

The college years are filled with many challenges and opportunities for young people to grow and explore. No longer under parental supervision, college students will often start asking existential questions and seeking truth in ways they had not considered before. RUF exists to reach and equip college students to love and serve Jesus Christ and His Church.

RUF welcomes students from all walks of life and backgrounds, both the “convinced” and “unconvinced,” believers, seekers, and skeptics.

Through weekly Bible studies and other fellowship activities, RUF UCLA provides a safe environment for students to grow in love for God and the world.

“For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.”

1 Corinthians 13:9-12



Please Pray:

- Praise God understanding the struggles of students and young people and for providing them the only real path to joy and truth.
- For repentance of our own immaturity in faith, being content with “milk” and reluctant to discipline ourselves to be ready for “solid food.”
- That RUF will be an environment for students to ask questions and grow in God’s grace.
- That God will work in the hearts of the students at UCLA and the other local universities, and that He will draw them to Himself.
- For Joe and Tiffany White, that they will reflect Christ’s love to UCLA, even as they struggle with the many challenges of a life of ministry.

For More Information

See: ruflosangeles.com

June 12 – 18

Orphans & Adoption

Due to poverty, famine, war, abandonment, and AIDS, over 143 million children are orphaned throughout the world. Many remain unprotected and uncared for and suffer from malnutrition, illness, and neglect. Some children become exploited for labor; some trafficked into prostitution; and others forcibly trained to kill as soldiers in guerrilla armies.

God protects and advocates for orphans. The Psalmist records how God sees the plight of every single abandoned child and acts righteously on their behalf: As God's people, we are mandated to seek out the welfare of the orphan. For as the book of James tells us, "religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world" (James 1:27).

God first loved us while we were still sinners, orphaned from God because of our fallen nature. However, Christ lovingly died for our sins and rose again, so that we could receive the "Spirit of adoption by whom we can now cry out to God: 'Abba, Father!'" (Romans 8:15b).

"For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the alien, giving him food and clothing."

Deuteronomy 10:17-19



Please Pray:

- Praise God that through the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, we have been rescued as orphans and are now children of His Kingdom.
- For repentance for our lack of love for orphans and for our lack of obedience to His mandate to care for the fatherless.
- That Crossroads commits to loving orphans throughout the world with the unconditional love that God the Father has for us.
- Pray for Christians worldwide to adopt more orphans into their own families so they may share the unconditional love of Jesus.
- That God would raise more Christians to serve as foster care families to children displaced from their families. In the United States, over 800,000 children each year pass through the foster care system.

June 19 – 25

Happy Life Children's Home

Happy Life Children's Home opened its doors in 2002 in the suburbs of Nairobi, Kenya, to help address the growing national epidemic of child abandonment. Hospitals face the problem daily, as mothers walk out without their babies and do not return. It is not uncommon for babies to be abandoned in a plastic bag or left in a roadside ditch. Even when abandoned children are found and rescued, there are not enough facilities to properly care for them. Kenyan culture does not generally view adoption in a positive light.

Over the past 8 years, the Lord has met the needs of Happy Life and has blessed Happy Life with being able to witness the “fruit of our vision – abandoned children being adopted into forever families.” Forty children are currently living at Happy Life Home, two-thirds of whom are under one year old. As of the end of 2010, twenty-three Happy Life children have completed the adoption process while thirty more children are in the adoption process and living with their forever parents!

For More Information

See: <http://www.happylifechildrenshome.com> and
happylifechildrenshome.blogspot.com

“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress.”

James 1:27

“For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.”

Romans 8:15-17



Please Pray:

- Praise God for adopting us as orphans in this world and showering us with love in that we may call him our Abba Father.
- For repentance for ignoring the issues that plague our world while resting in our own comforts.
- That each child may be adopted into a healthy and happy home.
- That the leaders of Happy Life know the Lord's will regarding expansion of the facilities.
- That the Church in Kenya will be used by the Lord to provide long-term solutions to the underlying problems that lead to the abandonment of children in Kenya.

June 26 – July 2

Water Missions International

Water Missions International is a non-profit Christian organization that provides sustainable access to safe and clean water all over the world. Roughly 884 million people worldwide lack access to safe water. In Uganda, 1 out of every 3 persons lacks access to safe water, and 1.8 million children die each year as a result of diseases caused by unclean water and poor sanitation. This amounts to around 5,000 deaths per day, or one death every 20 seconds.

Since 2010, Pacific Crossroads Church has been partnering with missionaries, Marten and Christiana Naaktgeboren, as they serve in Uganda as volunteers for Water Missions. In 2010, Marten and Christiana aided many communities in the installation of water filtration systems. Marten prepared local communities, worked with technicians in repairing water systems, and also helped with financial and logistical planning. Christiana educated numerous students on public health hygiene, water safety, and sanitation. In 2011, Marten will serve as the new Country Coordinator for Uganda Water Missions International and Christiana will serve as the Community Development and Research Coordinator.

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink...’ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?...’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’”

Matthew 25:34-40



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the blessings that many Ugandans receive through the work of Marten and Christiana.
- For continued opportunities for Marten and Christiana to share the gospel of Jesus Christ as they serve the Ugandan people.
- For the completion of their current project in the fishing communities in Uganda on Lake Victoria, and for wisdom in discerning which communities are the best fit for the project.
- That their future project with Water for Africa, a larger project for Water Missions, will serve thousands of people along the shores of Lake Victoria with safe water.
- For a safe relocation of their office and staff to Jinja, a city that is central to the communities.

For More Information

See: www.2010uganda.com

July 3 – 9

Our Nation's Leaders

Though our allegiance is to Christ and his Kingdom, we are instructed by the Apostle Paul to pray for our leaders and those whom God has placed in authority over us (1 Timothy 2:1-2). An abbreviated list of our current national leaders are:

President: Barack Obama
 Vice President: Joseph R. Biden
 Secretary of State: Hillary Rodham Clinton
 Secretary of the Treasury: Timothy F. Geithner
 Secretary of Defense: Robert M. Gates
 Attorney General: Eric H. Holder, Jr.
 Secretary of the Interior: Kenneth L. Salazar
 Secretary of Agriculture: Thomas J. Vilsack
 Secretary of Commerce: Gary F. Locke
 Secretary of Labor: Hilda L. Solis
 Secretary of Health & Human Services: Kathleen Sebelius
 Secretary of Housing & Urban Development: Shaun L.S. Donovan
 Secretary of Transportation: Raymond L. LaHood
 Secretary of Energy: Steven Chu
 Secretary of Education: Arne Duncan
 Secretary of Veterans Affairs: Eric K. Shinseki
 Secretary of Homeland Security: Janet A. Napolitano
 All Branches of the Armed Forces
 U.S. Supreme Court
 U.S. Congress
 U.S. Senate

“Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.”

1 Peter 2:13-17



Please Pray:

- Praise God for establishing order and government for the good of humanity.
- For repentance for not praying for our government leaders.
- That our leaders fear and honor God in their decisions, showing love to others by defending the poor and needy, and acting out against injustice and evil.
- That God grants wisdom and discernment to our nation’s leaders.
- That God protects our nation’s leaders and their families.

July 10 – 16

S.A.Y. Yes!

Every weekday, in nineteen churches around Los Angeles, at-risk youth gather for a holistic after-school program called Save America's Youth (S.A.Y.) Yes! Centers for Youth Development. The goal of S.A.Y. Yes! is to give at-risk children a solid foundation on which they can build a successful future. The hope is that a generation of inner-city youth would be transformed by the gospel lived out in their local church.

The nineteen churches have made a significant commitment to the children in their program, as they pledge to care for their group of children for the duration of their education – approximately fifteen years. For many of the children involved, the S.A.Y. Yes! Center is the most consistent presence of healthy role models in their life.

S.A.Y. Yes! ministers to children and teens during a time of day when they would otherwise be unsupervised and vulnerable to getting into trouble. S.A.Y. Yes! gives them a safe place to play games, eat a healthy snack, receive help with homework, and learn about Jesus. Currently, S.A.Y. Yes! is ministering to more than 3,000 children and teens across the country.

“At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, ‘Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?’ And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, ‘Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me.’”

Matthew 18:1-5



Please Pray:

- Praise God for providing love and grace through S.A.Y. Yes! Centers, which reach out to children in need.
- For repentance for failing to be mindful of the needs of our community and to reach out to those so close to home.
- For protection of the children involved in S.A.Y. Yes! Centers as they live and learn in unstable environments.
- That the S.A.Y. Yes! Center directors will persevere in loving children in their community and have the strength to endure many difficult situations.
- For committed volunteers to continue to provide assistance and care for the children at these centers.

To Get Involved

Tutoring Tuesday-Thursday, 3-5:30 pm
Saturday Work Projects

For more information, contact Meredith: mbrenholdt@yahoo.com

July 17 – 23

Serve the City

Last year, nearly one thousand volunteers signed up for Serve the City, a one-day event comprised of many small projects designed to serve and show God's love to the city of Los Angeles. On July 31, 2010, these volunteers worked with over 50 partner organizations on 62 different projects all over Los Angeles. These projects served a vast array of the city's needs, ranging from planting a vegetable garden for the homeless on "skid row" to playing a game of baseball with the blind.

Although one day cannot address the many needs of our vast city, there are many amazing stories of hope that have arisen from Serve the City over the years, and this event has been a gateway to developing ongoing relationships with Crossroads. It is exciting to think of what God will do at Serve the City on July 30, 2011. Sign up to volunteer at www.servethecityla.com.

"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with then thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Micah 6:6-8



Please Pray:

- Praise God for being a God of love, who cares about the needs of Los Angeles, and, through Jesus, understands and experiences suffering.
- For repentance of our lack of love, for averting our eyes from the needs of Los Angeles and focusing rather on our own wants and needs.
- That the organizers and project leaders of Serve the City will find projects and mobilize volunteers in order to make the day a success.
- That Christ's followers will act as one body in vision and action.
- That Serve the City will move its participants to serve the underprivileged all year round.

To Get Involved

Contact Gloria at: gloria@hopeforla.org or see www.servethecityla.com

July 24 – 30

Medical Missions in East Asia

Kathleen* is a physician who is currently serving in East Asia. She completed a two-month rotation in East Asia during her fourth year of medical school, and God used that experience to ignite her vision for serving Him in that nation, where she has been for the past nine years. Trained as a pediatrician, she has just joined the faculty of a family medicine residency training program where she will practice alongside and teach local healthcare professionals. This training program is transparently Christian and provides many natural opportunities for developing mentorship relationships, discipleship, and evangelism. She also continues to work with the non-profit organization she co-founded to help women and children involved in human trafficking.

East Asia continues to be a place of rich harvest for God's Kingdom when the gospel is shared, particularly from within academic and professional circles. Kathleen is deliberately placing herself in the center of a nation traditionally closed to the gospel to embody the love of Jesus to those that may otherwise never see or hear His message. She is serving at the intersection of justice and health to bring love, light, and hope in the name of the King.

**Pseudonyms are used to protect missionaries who serve in countries hostile to the gospel.*

“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, ‘Everyone who believes in Him will not be put to shame’...for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing His riches on all who call on Him. For ‘everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’”

R o m a n s 10 : 8 - 13



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the growing community of believers in Kathleen's village.
- For repentance of our complacency in light of the oppression and disease in the world.
- That God uses Kathleen to bring both physical and spiritual healing to her patients.
- That God grants favor to Kathleen, the other Christians on her staff, and her training program in the eyes of the government, which has traditionally been opposed to Christian mission.

July 31 – August 6

Union Rescue Mission

Established in 1891 and based in downtown Los Angeles, Union Rescue Mission is dedicated to serving men, women, and children experiencing homelessness by embracing them with the compassion of Christ and aiming to give hope and healing for a changed life. With poverty and homelessness at an all time high in Los Angeles, URM is igniting a movement to end them in our city by providing a comprehensive array of emergency and long-term services. URM provides food, clothing, shelter, showers, case managers who search for housing opportunities, and chaplains for spiritual care. It also operates free clinics that provide medical, dental, legal, and mental health services.

URM also runs Hope Gardens Family Center which was established to help homeless women and children become self-sufficient. Another life-rebuilding program is the year-long Life Transformation Program for men and women, where participants have access to learning centers, counseling, bible studies, and pre-employment training. Upon successful completion of the program, URM helps them secure stable employment, save money to cover initial moving costs, and connect to an outside support circle through church or family partner programs.

“He will defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; He will crush the oppressor. For He will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in His sight.”

Psalm 72:4, 12-14



Please Pray:

- Praise God for URM which has served the needy in Los Angeles.
- That partners, volunteers and members of the public have a heart change and no longer tolerate homelessness in Los Angeles.
- That URM will reach more men, women, and children experiencing homelessness in order to build trust and encourage them to give life another try.
- That graduates of the Life Transformation Program will continue to experience lasting change and lead productive, fulfilling lives.
- That URM's financial and volunteer needs will be met by generous donors and volunteers from the Los Angeles corporate and faith communities.

To Get Involved

Serve breakfast the 1st & 3rd Friday of each month
For more information, contact Jeff: jeff@pacificcrossroads.org

August 7 – 13

Media

The combined total revenue of the movie, music, and video game industries approaches \$30 billion a year, and the Internet instantaneously connects over 1.25 billion people to media communications, making the arts and entertainment among the most influential means of communicating to and uniting the world. Given the potential for media to distort truth, some Christians see the entertainment capitals of Los Angeles and New York City as ‘Sodom and Gomorrah,’ rather than as mission fields of people unreached by the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Yet the arts and entertainment are important to God. He created them as a means to declare His awesome beauty and glory to the world. Furthermore, He has entrusted them to His people to develop and employ for worship and pleasure. The arts constitute a part of God’s cultural mandate to “subdue, cultivate, and keep” the earth (Genesis 1:28; 2:15); they are fundamental elements of worship (Exodus 35:30-33; Psalm 150; Ephesians 5:19); and they are part of the world that God is redeeming and transforming for His Kingdom.

“Praise the Lord!
 Praise God in His sanctuary;
 Praise Him in His mighty firmament!
 Praise Him for His mighty acts;
 Praise Him according to His excellent greatness!
 Praise Him with the sound of trumpet;
 Praise Him with the lute and harp!
 Praise Him with the timbrel and dance;
 Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes!
 Praise Him with loud cymbals;
 Praise Him with clashing cymbals!
 Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!
 Praise the LORD!”

Psalm 150



Please Pray:

- Praise the Father for His beautiful and glorious creation, and for bestowing upon humanity the creative capacity of the arts and entertainment.
- For repentance for our poor stewardship of the arts and entertainment; for utilizing them for our own glorification, pleasure, and lusts.
- That the body of Christ would utilize the arts and entertainment as a means of communicating the truth of Jesus to the remotest parts of the earth.
- That God would call more Christians into the arts and entertainment industry to spread the gospel.
- For Christians who are in the arts and entertainment to have perseverance and graciousness, even when income is unstable, when their faith elicits prejudice, and when church members misunderstand them.

August 14 – 20

Reaching the East Asian Art World

Jacob* is a member of Crossroads and a distinguished art curator known for his eye for modern art and new and up-and-coming artists. His work has caught the attention of the art world many times, and he has won several prizes in the United States for his work as adjunct curator for a renowned museum in California. These achievements have placed him in the unique position to serve the Lord in a nation traditionally closed to Christian missions. Jacob has been awarded a grant that allows him to live and travel in an East Asian nation as a consultant to a number of local museums and to collaborate with emerging artists.

Jacob has always felt a particular fondness for the people of East Asia. His grandparents were missionaries to the nation where he currently resides, and he always had a desire to see and experience the country where his mother and grandparents lived. Jacob now moves in circles very different from the typical “missionary” and is able to reach those who otherwise would have little or no contact with the gospel.

**Pseudonyms are used to protect missionaries who serve in countries hostile to the gospel.*

“See, the LORD has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; and He has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, with intelligence, with knowledge, and with all craftsmanship, to devise artistic designs, to work in gold and silver and bronze, in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, for work in every skilled craft. And He has inspired him to teach, both him and Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan. He has filled them with skill to do every sort of work done by an engraver or by a designer or by an embroiderer in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen, or by a weaver—by any sort of workman or skilled designer.”

Exodus 35: 30-35



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the beauty that He has authored both through creation and through man.
- That God would provide deep relationships through which Jacob can share God's tremendous pursuing love in the face of modern-day isolation and alienation.
- That God would provide Jacob with Christian relationships for mutual encouragement and accountability.
- For continued excellence in Jacob's vocation so that he will gain further credibility.

Money

The Western church's response to the issue of money is often silence. In a culture characterized by affluence and consumption, it is easier to ignore the topic altogether than to confront our most cherished idol. However, Jesus spoke more about money and possessions than any other single topic—more even than faith, repentance, heaven, hell, prayer, or worship.

Why did our Savior say so much about how we are to view and handle money? Jesus meant to teach us that there is a powerful connection between our true spiritual condition and our attitude concerning money and possessions. What we do with our money is of utmost importance to God, because if Christ is not Lord over our money and possessions, then He is not our Lord. Accordingly, our credit card statements and household budgets may be a more accurate litmus test of our Kingdom affiliation than our professed creeds.

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also...No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

Matthew 6:19-21, 24



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the resources He has entrusted to us to use for His glory.
- For repentance for the ways in which money, possessions, comfort, and security have become our idols.
- For God to radically re-order our priorities and concerns, so that God's priorities will be reflected in the way we use our money and resources. May the story of our budgets and credit card statements be: Jesus is Lord!
- That our community would become known for its compassion and generosity toward the destitute in a city that is known for its extravagance and selfishness.

August 28 – September 3

Addiction

The very nature of sin tells us the lie that we need certain things more than we need God. However, we are called to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, and mind (Deuteronomy 6:5). God alone is worthy of our complete attention and love.

Addiction comes in many obvious forms, like drugs, sex, food, or alcohol. But addiction is actually any “idol” that is placed above our love for and service to the Lord. Material objects or physical pleasure will never truly satisfy the soul’s longing.

When we enter into a relationship with God, He takes everything that we are and makes us whole. The radical love of Jesus Christ and the transforming power of the gospel can heal all wounds and fulfill all needs. Rather than seeking false comfort, the Lord asks us to seek Him. God molds us, changing us into people He intended us to be. Gospel truth provides lasting change that comes from the inside out. When we experience this transformation, we experience freedom.

“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.”

Psalm 103:1-4



Please Pray:

- Praise God for His healing power and the freedom that comes from believing in Him because His grace is sufficient for us.
- For repentance for our lack of faith in God’s healing power and for the idols we have established in our lives.
- For those who are suffering from addiction, that they will feel the radical love of Jesus Christ and be freed.
- That we would be a praying community for those who suffer, often in silence, from addiction.
- For the strength of family members and loved ones who are watching someone dear to them battle with an addiction.

September 4 – 10

Strategic Church Planting

The global urbanization statistics are staggering. In 1950, New York City was the only city with more than 10 million people. Now, there are more than 20 such cities, with most having reached that threshold only in the past two decades, and with many more on the horizon. At some point in the middle of 2009, the number of people living in urban areas surpassed the number of those living in rural areas. According to the UN, the world's population is projected to increase by 2.3 billion people between 2009-2050. During the same period, the world's urban population is expected to increase by 2.9 billion. This means that the major cities of the world will absorb ALL of the growth over the next four decades...and then some, as people continue to move from rural areas to urban contexts.

Crossroads has partnered with Christian Nowatzky and Konstantin von Abendroth of the Berlinprojekt, a church plant in Berlin, Germany, whose congregation's demographics are similar to Crossroads; with Bryan and Terry Harms, who are spearheading a Brazilian church-planting movement in Londrina, Brazil; and with Gary Watanabe, a pastor planting churches that will serve ethnic minorities in New York City.

"...[T]his grace was given to me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the Heavenly realms, according to His eternal purpose, which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Ephesians 3:8-10



Please Pray:

- Praise God for His love for all the people of the world.
- For protection and safety of the pastors and leaders who have currently planted churches through their partnership with Crossroads around the world.
- That the pastors, leaders, and church plant coaches will learn from the city, celebrate diversity, and accept and love all people.
- That the church plants provide a community where they can share the message of reconciliation to God through Christ Jesus to religion-weary people.
- That there will be more and more church plants both in Los Angeles and around the world.

September 11 – 17

Community Groups

The church is a people. We were created to be in community—to be members of the larger body of Christ who suffer together and rejoice together. Community groups are a central part of Pacific Crossroads Church’s mission, as they provide an opportunity for us to come together in love to worship Jesus, and challenge each other to live out the gospel in ways we would not be able to do alone.

“For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,’ that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,’ that would not make it any less a part of the body...But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body...If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.”

1 Corinthians 12: 14-15, 18-20, 26



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the body of believers with whom we have the opportunity to share our lives and for the community groups at Crossroads.
- For forgiveness for the times we prioritize our own schedules ahead of our call to be active members of the body of Christ.
- That the community groups at Crossroads become places of connection, intimacy, authenticity, and growth – where people can truly meet God and be a part of the body of Christ.
- For wisdom and spiritual renewal for the community groups leaders.
- That more people will feel called to lead community groups to meet the needs of our growing congregation.

To Get Involved

Go to pacificcrossroads.org and see the community groups section

September 18 – 24

Poverty and Homelessness

Los Angeles County is truly a tale of two cities. According to the 2008 State of the County Report, Los Angeles County had more than 260,000 millionaires, but was also home to 1.4 million people living below the national poverty line of \$22,500 (for a family of four). It features world-class universities, but has the most undereducated workforce in the United States. It is the entertainment and international trade capital of the nation, but is also considered its homeless capital.

According to the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, there is nowhere else in the United States where the gap between the rich and the poor is greater than in Los Angeles County. According to a recent count, the homeless population of Los Angeles County was estimated to be about 42,700 people on any given night, about 3,100 of whom are children. Though these numbers have decreased by 38% compared to previous years, they are still drastically higher than the other major urban centers in the United States.

“...whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:43-45



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the provisions He has made for you personally.
- For repentance for seeking our own comfort to the detriment of others around us.
- That God would unite His body in Los Angeles to demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ to the poor of our city through our personal choices and through the established ministries serving the poor, such as Union Rescue Mission, People Assisting the Homeless and Samoshel.
- That poverty and homelessness will become an increasing part of our nation's public discourse and consciousness, and that the moral nature of public policies and national budgets will inform our leaders' decisions.

September 25 – October 1

Campus Ministry in East Asia

Ken and Jane,* both born in East Asia and raised under atheist ideologies, came to faith in Christ Jesus during their college years through campus ministries. They have since obtained theological training and returned to their home country as the Regional Directors of their mission organization, which specifically ministers to university students.

Although religion is tightly regulated in this East Asian nation, the gospel has flourished and continues to spread. With great passion for reaching the millions of college students who have never heard the gospel, Ken and Jane lead campus ministries in four different regions. They teach, equip, and train new believers, in hope that God will raise and mobilize missionaries and church planters from within their community to minister locally and abroad. In the last four years, their organization has planted seven churches.

**Pseudonyms are used to protect missionaries who serve in countries hostile to the gospel.*

“With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown, it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

Mark 4:30-32



Please Pray:

- Praise God for His love for the people of this East Asian nation, for calling Ken and Jane to carry His Good News to their people.
- For repentance for our disengagement from God's work in other parts of the world.
- For the gospel to continue to go forth with power and bear fruit in this East Asian nation, particularly amongst university students.
- For wisdom, discernment, courage, and protection for Ken and Jane as they minister in a nation hostile to the gospel.
- For strength and renewal for their family as they continue in the adoption process and as Ken works on his doctorate while working full-time in ministry.

People Assisting the Homeless

People Assisting The Homeless started with an invitation to gather in a church basement to discuss the growing problem of homelessness. “We realized that something had to be done because so many people were ‘falling through the cracks,’” said Claire West Orr, the founder of PATH.

What began in 1984 with a group of people who just wanted to help the homeless people in their neighborhoods is now a large regional agency serving over 1,800 people each month. PATH provides transitional housing, counseling, a job center, legal advocacy, healthcare, even a hair salon, all free of charge.

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’”

Matthew 25:34-40



Please Pray:

- Praise God, who loves the poor and disenfranchised through practical service and calls us to do likewise.
- For repentance for our failure to identify with those in need and to recognize the image of God in them.
- That churches, government agencies, and local organizations will receive the vision, funds, and support needed to effectively address the needs of the homeless.
- That volunteers, especially those from our own church community, are moved to serve at PATH.

To Get Involved

Cooking & serving dinner the 2nd Saturday of each month, 4:30 to 7:00pm
For more information, contact Nate: Heyyonate@gmail.com;
Cooking & serving breakfast the 4th Sunday of each month, 6-8:30am
For more information, contact Tom: tbajoras@artlogic.com

October 9 – 15

Campus Ministry in Paris

Arnold* is the director of Campus Crusade for Christ's Agape Campus Paris. He and his team seek to promote a spiritual revival among the 610,000 college students living in Paris (130,000 International and 480,000 French). They distribute Scripture and supplemental DVDs in more than 20 languages and meet with students in follow-up discussion groups, winning over four students on average per week. New Christians then connect with mentors and participate in Bible studies to further their growth with the ultimate purpose of commissioning them for service.

Paris is renowned for its elite institutions, drawing talent from within France and the world at large. By engaging this select group of individuals, Arnold and his staff believe that the gospel will have nation-wide impact as new Christians in positions of influence shape the future.

**Pseudonyms are used to protect missionaries who serve in countries hostile to the gospel.*

"And they sang a new song, saying, 'Worthy are You to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain, and by Your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and You have made them a Kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.'"

Revelation 5:9-10



Please Pray:

- Praise the Father for the ongoing work that Arnold and Campus Crusade for Christ are doing in Paris for the Kingdom of Jesus Christ.
- For repentance for our lack of prayer and inaction in proclaiming the gospel boldly to those around us.
- That God is glorified as students come to know of salvation through Christ.
- That God provides more opportunities for Agape Campus Paris to share the gospel, mentor seekers, and raise up new believers; that God meets the financial needs of the ministry and continues to strengthen Arnold and his staff.
- That God transforms Paris into a leading evangelical center in Europe.

October 16 – 22

Local Church Planting

We believe that cities are changed through the planting and proliferation of gospel-centered, missional, mercy-loving communities. We embrace our denomination's vision to create "a grassroots church planting culture that is exponentially reproducing a growing number of biblically healthy churches each year among the many diverse communities and people groups of North America through intentional evangelism and outreach ministries."

To this end, we have partnered with GracePoint Church in Santa Clarita, CA. While serving for a season at Pacific Crossroads Church as a Church Planting Apprentice, Pastor James Park moved to Santa Clarita to plant GracePoint Church, committed to reaching the Santa Clarita Valley with the love of Christ. While they are still in the early stages, they praise God for providing a worship space where they have been meeting since March, 2010.

We have also partnered with City Presbyterian Church in Long Beach, CA. After leaving his staff position with Crossroads, Pastor Jason Mather moved to Long Beach in May, 2005, to plant City Presbyterian Church. We have enjoyed a wonderful partnership with Jason and rejoice with that church for a season of wonderful growth.

"...I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Matthew 16:18

"You are the salt of the Earth."

Matthew 5:13



Please Pray:

- Praise God for using these church plants as salt and light in their local communities.
- That God will continue to bring more people of all walks into their communities, from seekers to young believers to those mature in the faith.
- That God will foster an outward focus in both communities and a desire to reach others with the love of Christ.
- For God's protection over the pastoral staff and their families.

For More Information

Visit <http://mygracepoint.org/> and <http://citypreschurch.org/>

October 23 – 29

California State Leaders

As believers, our primary allegiance is to our Lord and King Jesus Christ. We have been entrusted with the work of making disciples of all nations. As we spread the gospel of His Kingdom, Jesus instructs us to live in deference to our local rulers and governments—with a respect that is conducive to sharing His gospel.

The Bible instructs us to intercede on behalf of all people—including our leaders and rulers. Our prayers can result in the salvation of our leaders, which then will be a blessing to those whom they govern.

Please pray for the following leaders:

Jerry Brown, Governor of California
 Barbara Boxer, US Senate Representative of California
 Dianne Feinstein, US Senate Representative of California
 Gavin Newsom, Lieutenant Governor
 Debra Bowen, Secretary of State
 John Chiang, State Controller
 Bill Lockyer, Treasurer
 Kamala Harris, State Attorney
 Dave Jones, Insurance Commissioner
 Tom Torlakson, Superintendent of Public Instruction

“Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. He changes times and seasons; He removes kings and sets up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.”

Daniel 2:20-21



Please Pray:

- Praise the Father for the leaders He has elected to serve our state, acknowledge His sovereignty over all governments and authority structures, and thank Him for establishing and preserving law and order.
- For repentance of our failure to pray for those in authority over us and of the prideful condemnation we pass on our leaders, that prevents us from praying for their salvation.
- That our leaders will govern with wisdom, compassion, and the fear of God, forsaking personal gain and pride.
- That God would raise Christians to serve in all areas of leadership and authority—in both the public and private sector, to be the salt and light.
- That as Heavenly citizens, we will have discernment, wisdom, and perseverance when dealing with conflicts brought about by governing authorities that challenge our allegiance to Jesus Christ.

October 30 – November 5

Boxes of Love

For many families in Los Angeles and throughout the nation, a traditional Thanksgiving meal is well beyond their means. The holiday season can put extra strain on families struggling to meet basic needs, and can end up being a season of despair, rather than hope.

The purpose of the Boxes of Love outreach is to provide Thanksgiving meals to families who might not otherwise have one. Each Box of Love feeds a family of six, and includes vegetables, potatoes, juice, rice, fruit, dessert, and more. The assembled Boxes are given to churches located in neighborhoods with families in need. As caring Christians distribute the Boxes, they are able to share the hope of Jesus.

In 2010, Hope for LA coordinated 1,000 Boxes that were filled by Crossroads, Faithful Central, The Hollywood Church, Reality LA, Campus Crusade USC, Redeemer Mid-City, Ttokamsa Mission Church, and Shoreline Church. Crossroads assembled 700 Boxes and distributed them in partnership with Faithful Central Church throughout South and East Los Angeles. Churches and ministries that received Boxes were: Faithful Central, OASIS of Hollywood, First EV Free, Children of the Shepherd, Lighthouse Christian Fellowship, Alegria House, Greater Height Mission Bible Church, Ultimate Vision (youth ministry), and Faith in Christ ministries.

“Contribute to the needs of the saints
and seek to show hospitality.”

R o m a n s 1 2 : 1 3

“For in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints—and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.”

2 C o r i n t h i a n s 8 : 2 - 5



Please Pray:

- Praise God, for He is the defender of the weak and those in need. He hears our desires and answers our prayers.
- For repentance for our lack of prayer and compassion for the poor and those in need right in our own city.
- For the families who will receive a Box of Love, that God would prepare their hearts to hear about His love, and reassure them of His provision and care.
- For the volunteers distributing Boxes of Love, that they may be bold witnesses of God's love through this project.
- That in the midst of economic difficulties, Christians will be generous with their resources and time to help those in need.

To Get Involved

Contact Gloria at: Gloria@hopeforla.org

November 6 – 12

The Persecuted Church

Persecution for professing the Christian faith has persisted for the entire two thousand years of the Church's history. However, estimates hold that the majority of Christian martyrs gave their lives during the 20th century. Although persecution is most obvious when carried out with violence, murder, genocide, or forced conversion, it can also take more subtle forms like censorship or segregation.

Several organizations, including Open Doors International and Voice of the Martyrs, provide bibles, radio broadcasts, and other forms of aid, to encourage and empower Christians in persecuted areas. They provide relief to families of martyrs, help surviving believers rebuild their lives, inform the worldwide Church of the atrocities committed against Christians, and remember the courage and faith of those who have been persecuted or lost their lives.

Open Doors International publishes an annual World Watch List that ranks countries based on the degree of severity of their religious persecution. In 2010, North Korea was the highest ranked country—followed by Iran, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Maldives, Afghanistan, Yemen, Mauritania, Laos, and Uzbekistan. Operation World, a useful prayer resource, provides country-specific statistics about people, economics, politics, and religion.

“And those who know Your name put their trust in You, for You, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.”

Psalm 9:10



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the persistence of the Christian martyrs who have come before us and for the sacrifices that they have made.
- For repentance that we turn a blind eye towards the persecution happening in the world around us.
- That persecuted Christians will be strengthened and opposing forces will be weakened.
- For the perpetrators' hearts to soften so they may come to know and receive the love of Christ.

November 13 – 19

World Impact

As a freshman at UCLA in 1965, Keith Phillips began a Bible club for children in a federal housing project in the impoverished community of Watts, in South Los Angeles. Soon, neighboring housing projects asked him to expand his ministry into their communities. Keith's petitions to other Christian students from local college campuses elicited an enormous response; and as a result, hundreds of inner-city youth came to know Jesus Christ. Soon, career missionaries joined this inner-city youth ministry movement and expanded the outreach to teenagers and adults. World Impact then became established in March, 1971, as a formal missions organization dedicated to ministering to the urban poor in the United States.

Since 1971, World Impact has grown tremendously in scope, ministering to the spiritual, social, and physical needs of the urban poor by planting new churches, creating community centers, elementary schools, sports and recreation programs, medical and dental clinics, and food and clothing shops. Raising disciples and educating future leaders from within the inner-city has always been a high priority of World Impact.

In Los Angeles, World Impact continues to operate out of Watts, running its four church plants, a Christian elementary and middle school, and the Sunshine Shop, a thrift shop that provides clothing and household goods. An exciting development in 2011 is the resumption of quarterly health fairs in three neighborhoods in Los Angeles. Crossroads has been an active participant in these health fairs, and hopes to further deepen its involvement in this important ministry.

"Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When He saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.'"

Matthew 9: 35-38



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the resumption of the quarterly health fairs.
- For repentance for our lack of compassion when we look upon the people in our community suffering from sickness and disease.
- That local communities become aware of the quarterly health fairs, utilize the services, and develop a local Christian community.
- For consistent volunteers to provide the services at the quarterly health fairs.

To Get Involved

Health Clinic & Work Projects, one Saturday each quarter
 For more information: <http://www.worldimpactla.org>
 Contact: David Picciao, davidpicciao@hotmail.com

November 20 – 26

Revival in Los Angeles

During Jonah's life in the 8th century BC, Assyria was the world superpower with a reputation for violence and cruelty. Central to this empire was Nineveh, the Assyrian capital, which is described as an "exceedingly great city, a three days' walk." Similarly, Los Angeles is an exceedingly great city, a sprawling metropolis situated in the superpower of its time, and, like Nineveh, we know that God loves our city. Just as God pitied Nineveh, so too does He pity and love Los Angeles. The same God that moved that great city to repentance can do the same here today.

"Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, 'Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.' So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, 'Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, 'By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.' When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it."

Jonah 3:1-10



Please Pray:

- Praise God who is greater than any king of any age.
- For repentance for our complacency in the face of the poverty, homelessness, and injustice in Los Angeles.
- That the gospel will spread to the people of our city, and that those who do not know God will come to worship and love Him.

Grace City Church in Tokyo

Grace City Church is a new church plant in the heart of Tokyo, Japan, led by Rev. Makoto Fukuda, his wife Michiru, and Dutch missionaries Geert and Eline de Boo. Tokyo is one of the most influential cities in the world, with its position as a financial, media, and cultural center. However, Japan is a spiritually dark country desperate for the gospel, with less than 1% of its population confessing Christ.

Grace City Church seeks to provide relevant answers from a gospel-centered perspective to the spiritual questions that young professionals in City Center Tokyo struggle with on a daily basis, such as the meaning of work, stewardship of money and relationships, and coping with stress. The church plant has a vision for a greater church planting movement to take place in this spiritually hungry city and center of influence.

November 27 – December 3

“He found him in a desert land, and in the howling waste of the wilderness; he encircled him, he cared for him, he kept him as the apple of his eye. Like an eagle that stirs up its nest, that flutters over its young, spreading out its wings, catching them, bearing them on its pinions.”

Deuteronomy 32:10-11



Please Pray:

- Praise God for His power to bring light to the spiritually darkest places in the world, and for raising up Grace City Church to shed the light of the gospel in Tokyo.
- For repentance for our apathy towards reaching the lost and our failure to support our brothers and sisters in prayer and with our finances.
- For the renewal of Tokyo through Christ's gospel of grace and for a gospel-centered church planting movement in Tokyo.
- For faithful prayer partners and financial independence by the year 2014.
- For strength, grace, and wisdom for the leadership team as it seeks to build the church.

Samoshel

The Santa Monica Shelter, known as Samoshel, was established in 1994 to provide homeless men and women an alternative to living on the streets. The 70-bed facility provides emergency and transitional housing for the homeless. The program includes counseling, on-site case management, legal assistance, an on-site clinician for crisis intervention and therapy, twelve-step meetings, housing referrals, and employment assistance. Crossroads has had an eleven-year relationship with Samoshel.

Volunteers bake brownies and cookies for the monthly evening visits to the shelter. These evenings allow for times of encouragement, open discussion, prayer, and invitation to become a part of our church community. At Christmas, volunteers host a large outreach party and give gifts to the residents.

“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house, when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.”

Isaiah 58: 6-8



Please Pray:

- Praise God for how He has used Crossroads to minister to the residents of Samoshel.
- For repentance for the ways in which we do not care for the physical and spiritual needs of those around us.
- For strength of the believers at Samoshel, that they would become powerful witnesses to the other residents.
- That the residents of Samoshel would build relationships with the regular Crossroads volunteers and become part of a church community.
- For blessings on the partnership that Crossroads has with Samoshel through the monthly visits and the knitting ministry that provides scarves for the Samoshel residents.

To Get Involved

Cookies & games on the 2nd Friday of each month, 7:45-9:00pm,
For more information, contact Cody: jcdgibbs@gmail.com;
Ice Cream on the last Friday of each month, 7:30-10:00pm,
For more information, contact Allen: allen@pacificcrossroads.org;
Dinner on some Mondays, 3:30-5:30pm
For more information, contact Kyle: kylesalyer@gmail.com

December 11 – 17

Missions to India

The Indian subcontinent consists of over a billion people of which only 3% know Jesus Christ. Of the three percent, a majority of believers are concentrated in the southern State of Kerala, while most of India remains unreached by the gospel. Despite linguistic, cultural, and geographic divides among the twenty-eight different states and 4,000 people groups, God is moving in India in a mighty way.

In 2010, a team from Crossroads was sent on a short-term mission trip to India. In southern India, the team led a vacation bible school training for students at the bible college associated with the India Evangelical Mission. The training filled an important need as many of the students desired to work with children upon graduation, but had not received any training for leading events focused on children. The team also spent a week hosting conversational English classes for children at the Shanti Niketan Children's Home. The children will use their English skills in the future when they seek to enter college and secure jobs.

“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, ‘Your God reigns.’ The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion...The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.”

Isaiah 52: 7-8, 10



Please Pray:

- That we may display God's love to those who do not know God through Jesus Christ.
- That the Indian Church would be encouraged and strengthened in times of persecution and struggle.
- For political peace all over India, especially in the northern regions where Hindu Fundamentalists persecute Christians.
- For God to send people to India who will partner with Indian Christians through prayer, financial support, and commitment.

December 18 – 24

Evangelism

Moral relativism, political correctness, religious pluralism, and persecution threaten to undermine the evangelistic impulse of the Church, such that we are left paralyzed, intimidated, or worse, indifferent. Yet, we know there is an inherent quality to the gospel that moves us outward towards those who do not know Jesus. Roland Allen, a 20th century missionary, refers to this quality as a “certain natural instinct”:

“This instinct is admirably expressed in a saying of Archytas of Tarentum quoted by Cicero: If a man ascended to Heaven and saw the beautiful nature of the world and of the stars, his feeling of wonder, in itself most delightful, would lose its sweetness if he had not someone to whom he could tell it. This is the instinctive force which drives men even at the risk of life itself to impart to others a new-found joy...”

The “sweetness” and “wonder” of the gospel make it eminently shareable; it is not simply duty or obligation. Rather, what ought to motivate us to boldly share is a desire to more deeply comprehend the riches we have through the gospel. John Piper writes, “Passion for God in worship precedes the offer of God in preaching. You can’t commend what you don’t cherish.” Is the gospel sweet enough to share? “How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!’”

Romans 10:14-15



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the truth of the gospel!
- For forgiveness for bending to social pressures by not sharing the gospel.
- For courage to share our faith with those in our lives who do not know Jesus Christ.
- That we live our lives in such a way that our lives reflect the good news of the gospel and the grace of God.
- For a sense of gratitude that we know God; that gratitude compels us to pray for someone who needs to know God in his or her life.
- That God will prepare the hearts of those with whom we share our faith, that they may be receptive to the good news of Jesus Christ.

December 25 – 31

Racial Reconciliation

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” Martin Luther King, Jr.

Perhaps the most primal human need is to connect with others: to be seen, heard and loved. In its purest state, there is nothing wrong with seeking connection. However, when fear of the unknown impairs our ability to make healthy relationships with those unlike us, isolationism and prejudice arise, fracturing and dividing communities, leading to hatred, oppression, and persecution.

Los Angeles, is comprised of hundreds of diverse ethnic racial groups. Even in the city’s short history, racial dividing lines have formed, and run deep and long.

As children of God, we share a gospel that reconciles people to God and to one another, and that teaches God has created everyone equally in His own image. As we treasure our unity as creatures of God, we can then find joy in the diversity and beauty He has imparted to each of us in our physical and cultural differences.

“For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.”

Galatians 3:26-29



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the diversity and the beauty that diversity provides in our lives.
- For forgiveness for our lack of love for those who are different and the judgments we implicitly or explicitly hold in our hearts.
- For the ability to take others’ needs and perceptions into consideration, especially when deciding what is best for our church, community, and city.
- For healing and reconciliation in our community, that Crossroads would live more and more in the truth that Christ has already reconciled us.

Westside Pregnancy Clinic

An estimated 50% of all pregnancies are unintended. When faced with an unexpected pregnancy, women and families who lack resources and support may feel overwhelming stress and hopelessness. The Westside Pregnancy Clinic (WPC) was established in 1977 as a life-affirming clinic, providing counseling, support, and resources to those wanting to make informed decisions about their unplanned pregnancy. In 2004, the WPC converted to a licensed medical clinic, and is now able to offer a variety of free services to provide physical, emotional, and spiritual support.

WPC's complimentary services include pregnancy testing, obstetric ultrasound imaging, early prenatal care, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, and Reality-Check (a sexual integrity program for teens and single adults). WPC also provides lay and professional counseling support services that address pregnancy, single parenting, post-adoption and post-abortion recovery, and referrals for housing.

To Get Involved

Cleaning the clinic in South LA 4th Saturday of each month, 11:30 am-1pm
For more information, contact Harold: hjacosal@gmail.com;
Cleaning the clinic in West LA one Saturday a month
For more information, contact John: jchen514@gmail.com

“For You formed my inward parts; You knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are Your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in Your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.”

Psalm 139:13-16



Please Pray:

- Praise God for all the lives ministered to by the people who work and serve at WPC.
- For guidance and direction as WPC creates an agency-wide strategic plan.
- That God continues to use WPC to encourage healing for those who are hurting from a past abortion and to ignite a passion for the cause in Christians across the city.
- For volunteers who can speak for WPC's Reality-Check program, mentor new mothers, and serve in the clinic as a counseling or medical professional.
- For a spirit of humility and unity among the board and staff as they work together as a team and for an increase in the number of directors serving on the Board.

January 8 – 14

Human Trafficking

January 11, 2012 is National Human Trafficking Awareness Day and President Barack Obama proclaimed January to be National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

Second only to the drug trade, human trafficking is the most common form of organized crime in the world. Also known as modern-day slavery, human trafficking refers to a form of organized crime in which people are transported and held for the purpose of forced labor, the sex trade, or other forms of exploitation. It is difficult to estimate how widespread the problem is, but conservative figures estimate 12.3 million persons are currently trafficked worldwide, with most victims being women, and over half children.

Two anti-trafficking organizations that Pacific Crossroads Church has relationships with are the Not For Sale Campaign and the International Justice Mission. The Not For Sale Campaign was started when David Batstone realized the servers at one of his favorite restaurants in the California Bay Area were actually living in bondage as modern day slaves, leading him to establish a non-profit corporation to combat human trafficking by raising awareness and enhancing collaboration among anti-human trafficking groups. International Justice Mission exists to protect people from violent forms of injustice by securing rescue and restoration for victims and accountability for perpetrators.

“O Lord, You hear the desire of the afflicted; You will strengthen their heart; You will incline Your ear to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more.”

Psalm 10:17-18

“Seek justice, correct oppression, bring justice to the fatherless, plead for the widow’s cause.”

Isaiah 1:17



Please Pray:

- Praise God who saves us so that we may live in His freedom.
- For repentance for our willfully blind eyes to the victims in our midst.
- That God will mobilize members of our local community to contribute to the fight against modern-day slavery.
- For perseverance to seek justice and community transformation in the face of opposition, indifference, and corruption.

To Get Involved

For more information: www.ijm.org or contact contact@ijm.org
 For further reading: Good News About Injustice, Gary Haugen
 For more information: www.notforsalecampaign.org or contact
info@notforsalecampaign.org
 Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking, www.castla.org

January 15 – 21

Christian Unity

On the night before His death, Jesus prayed to His Father for the unity of His disciples and believers. The basis for this unity is the unity of God Himself. Therefore, the unity of all believers is a divine reality and not something we have to manufacture. Still, the church must actualize this reality, because the witness of unity speaks to the work of Christ to the watching world: “that they all may be one... so that the world may believe” (John 17:21). This is what made the witness of the early church so powerful as Jew and Gentile, slave and free, male and female, and rich and poor all gathered to share the same table in fellowship, communion, and worship.

Jesus founded one Church, of which He Himself is the foundation (1 Corinthians 3:10-11). Division among brothers and sisters in Christ damages the cause of the gospel. In the midst of these divisions, whether within churches or between them, let us pray with an awareness of our union with all of Christ’s disciples, here in Los Angeles and abroad.

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit...God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.”

I Corinthians 12:12-13, 24-26



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the union we have with Him and each other through Jesus Christ.
- For repentance on behalf of ourselves and the church for the many ways in which we cause division and damage to the purpose of the gospel.
- For patience and perseverance in our daily dealings with our brothers and sisters in Christ.
- That churches will constantly recommit themselves to pray and strive for the unity and peace willed by God “so that the world may believe.”

January 22 – 28

Repentance

In the first of Martin Luther's Ninety-Five Theses, he writes: "When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent'...he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance." We affirm with Luther that repentance is not a one-time act that occurs the moment we place our faith in Christ. Rather, the consistent pattern of the Christian life is repentance and faith, repentance and faith.

Repentance is not about a set of rules that we have broken as much as it is about a loving Father against whom we have rebelled. The goal of repentance then, is a restored relationship and not just a renewed resolve to improve our behavior. That is why the 'feel' of repentance is an outward movement of falling into the arms of a loving Father, and not an inward one of self-condemnation and resolve. Counterfeit forms of repentance say, "I broke God's rule," whereas true repentance says, "I broke God's heart." And the gospel drives us to repentance because the relationship that has been injured is secure in Christ Jesus. We are wholly loved, unconditionally accepted, and completely forgiven. The gospel is the motivation and provides the security. The grief over sin that accompanies true repentance does not yield despair; it does not crush the heart under the weight of the law, but rather, it melts the heart by the assurance of grace. We just need to believe that it's true.

"Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Luke 18:10-14



Please Pray:

- Praise God for His patience and grace toward us, for His kindness that leads us to repentance.
- For repentance for focusing on and judging the sins and failings of others.
- For a deeper understanding of Christ's death and resurrection and your need for God's mercy.
- For God to assure you of His love and forgiveness.
- For God to help you strive to obey Him in freedom and gratitude.

Berlinprojekt

January 29 – February 4

Once home to the Protestant Reformation, Berlin, Germany is now a highly secular, post-Christian, post-modern society. Berlin has risen as one of the most influential cities in Europe, a leading art and political center and magnet for the “emerging generation” of students, artists, and young professionals between 20 and 35 years old. However, only one percent of Berliners are professing Christians.

Until recently, few churches have attempted to reach this sector of Berlin society. By God's grace, Berlinprojekt is changing that. Christian Nowatzky and Konstantin von Abendroth started Berlinprojekt five years ago with the specific purpose of bringing Christ to young urban professionals and culture-shaping individuals in the creative arts. They started Berlinprojekt from scratch, but, now, 300 people gather weekly at their meeting place to worship and learn about God. They have even started a new church plant in Hamburg and have plans to plant more soon.

Matt Roush is the worship director and Corrie Roush is the church administrator for the Berlinprojekt. Before coming to Berlin from New York City, Matt was working as a musician, and Corrie as a fashion model. Their example of a Christian lifestyle in an urban setting is just what the people of Berlin need to see.

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 5:14-16



Please Pray:

- Praise God for using churches like Berlinprojekt as a means of revealing His message of love to the world.
- For repentance for our tendency to think too small when it comes to letting our light shine.
- For Matt and Corrie as they continue to integrate themselves into German culture and learn the German language.
- That the church body of Berlinprojekt will continue to grow, not just in number but also in depth of fellowship and faith.
- For Berlinprojekt's new church plants in Hamburg and elsewhere in Germany.

February 5 – 11

Cloud & Fire Ministries

Cloud and Fire Ministries is a faith-based organization that shares Christ's love with low-income youth and their families. They utilize a variety of practical methods to demonstrate the gospel message in tangible ways, and provide a holistic approach that meets the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of clients. Cloud and Fire provides transformational ministry that equips low-income urban youth to become thriving, productive members of the community. Their ministries include a tutoring center, YouthWork (which helps with job searches), Spark! performing arts workshops, YouthBuild, True Freedom, and others.

Cloud and Fire envisions a community in which a diversity of God's people work together to provide mercy, compassion, justice, and opportunity for the urban poor, and where youth and their families can be safe from gang violence and crime.

“On the day that the tabernacle was set up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the testimony. And at evening it was over the tabernacle like the appearance of fire until morning. So it was always: the cloud covered it by day and the appearance of fire by night. And whenever the cloud lifted from over the tent, after that the people of Israel set out, and in the place where the cloud settled down, there the people of Israel camped. At the command of the LORD the people of Israel set out, and at the command of the LORD they camped. As long as the cloud rested over the tabernacle, they remained in camp. Even when the cloud continued over the tabernacle many days, the people of Israel kept the charge of the LORD and did not set out.”

Numbers 9:15-19



Please Pray:

- Praise God that the tutoring center is reaching kids at a young age, which is an important factor in building academic discipline and preventing gang involvement.
- Praise God for the success of the YouthBuild program, which has not only given young men construction skills, but has also led them to know Jesus Christ.
- For the safety of the children and staff as the tutoring center is located in an area that has heavy gang activity.
- For adequate funding for the various programs of the ministry.

To Get Involved

Contact Morgan Kleiderlin at morgan.kleiderlein@gmail.com

February 12 – 18

Serving in Brazil

Bryan and Terry Harms are working in Southern Brazil to establish and direct a church planting movement called Thy Kingdom Come Ventures that will serve at least 25 urban centers in Brazil. Their primary role is to mentor and coach indigenous pastors and church planters in their mission to reach immigrants, the urban poor, and professionals in the business community. In addition, Bryan and Terry are also becoming involved with a ministry for street children.

With a population of approximately 180 million and several urban centers of global importance, Brazil needs a church-planting resource center focused on its unique cultural context and sociological needs.

“‘But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.’ And what they said pleased the whole gathering...These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.”

Acts 6:4-7



Please Pray:

- Praise God for blessing and providing for the Harms on their mission thus far.
- For wisdom and guidance in responding to an invitation to help with church-planting in Serra Gaucha, a very needy area of the country.
- For strength, wisdom, and perseverance as the Harms continue to lead several community groups, which reach out to various generations.
- For the completion of short videos, which a Crossroads team helped film. The shortfilms will be used to promote the vision that God has given the Harms for gospel and Christ-centered ministry.
- That the hearts of the people in Brazil will be open and willing to accept the gospel truth.

February 19 – 25

Pornography

God created us for His own glory and delight. Whenever we lose sight of this truth, we devalue ourselves and diminish our joy in Him. We turn to other things for satisfaction, such as pornography, which devastate our relationships with God and one another.

Nearly 90% of all legally distributed pornographic films made in the United States are either filmed or produced in the San Fernando Valley, just a short car ride from Crossroads. According to a poll conducted by ChristiaNet and reported by Marketwire.com on August 7, 2005, 50% of all Christian men and 20% of all Christian women are addicted to pornography. Its effects are ruinous, enslaving millions while subsidizing human trafficking and child abuse worldwide.

“As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” And if you call on Him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.”

1 Peter 1:14-20



Please Pray:

- That God is glorified in the deliverance and restoration of those enslaved to pornography.
- That producers and consumers of pornography repent before God and know that He is the only one who will satisfy our deepest longings for intimacy.
- That God would destroy the work of the enemy.
- That ministries like XXX Church and Celebrate Recovery, which offer a message of healing and freedom from sexual addiction, will reach those most in need.

February 26 – March 3

Optimist Homes

Optimist Youth Homes & Family Services (OYHFS) is a nationally accredited non-profit corporation with locations in three counties in Southern California. OYHFS seeks to provide culturally sensitive, comprehensive treatment, specialized education, and support services to abused, neglected, or at-risk children, youth, and their families.

Crossroads has a partnership with OYHFS's main facility in Highland Park, which houses approximately 100 boys. In addition, most of the boys also attend school at the facility. Lawrence Foy is a pastor employed by the home to assist with the boys' spiritual growth. He teaches a class on Thursday nights and oversees a Sunday service conducted by volunteers.

In the past year, God has been visibly working in OYHFS. Attendance at the Sunday evening service and Saturday bible study has been increasing. In addition, there has been transformation in the lives of the regular service attendees.

"How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to Your word. With my whole heart I seek You; let me not wander from Your commandments! I have stored up Your word in my heart, that I might not sin against You. Blessed are You, O LORD; teach me Your statutes! With my lips I declare all the rules of Your mouth. In the way of Your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. I will meditate on Your precepts and fix my eyes on Your ways. I will delight in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word."

Psalm 119:9-16



Please Pray:

- Praise God for increasing the number of students attending the Sunday evening services and the Saturday Bible Study, and for bringing personal transformation in the lives of the students hearing God's word.
- That God will support and encourage Lawrence Foy and also provide more volunteers to run the Sunday evening service.
- That God will use OYHFS to heal the boys and show them that they are loved, and that God's love would transform the boys' lives.
- That the OYHFS staff be perceptive to and support all that God is doing in their midst.

To Get Involved

Contact Craig at cthompson@lausd.net

Christian Legal Aid

Founded in 2005, Christian Legal Aid of Los Angeles is a non-profit organization which brings together Christian lawyers and other legal professionals to demonstrate God's love and justice to the poor in Los Angeles. CLA-LA was established to partner with local churches and other faith-based organizations to provide free consultation and advisory services; to encourage those who seek their assistance by praying with them, giving Biblical counsel, and sharing the gospel; and to solicit and train attorneys, legal assistants, law students, and others to fulfill their calling to defend the rights of the afflicted and needy.

CLA-LA provides free legal advice in a variety of areas: landlord-tenant, criminal law, immigration, trust and wills, public benefits, employment law, lemon law, real property, small claims, expungements, and name change. This ministry helps its clients analyze their legal issues, outline pertinent facts, draft letters, and complete forms. CLA-LA also provides spiritual encouragement and prayer to any client who expresses a desire to receive such services.

“Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow’s cause. Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.”

Isaiah 1:16-18



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the good that has resulted from the ministry of CLA-LA – for the lives restored both physically and spiritually.
- For repentance for our lack of love, compassion, and action for those who suffer economical, social, and spiritual injustice.
- That the gospel of Jesus would be shared through the efforts of CLA-LA in relieving the legal burdens of those in need.
- That CLA-LA would strive in humble reliance on the Spirit as they seek to expand their ministry and services to the poor.
- That God would raise up Crossroads volunteers in the legal profession to assist with CLA-LA legal clinics.

To Get Involved

Volunteer with the Legal Aid Clinic the 3rd Saturday of each month.
For more information, contact Irene: igotyourback@hotmail.com

March 11 – 17

International Students in LA

In 2010, the United States hosted approximately 750,000 students and visiting scholars from 120 nations, with California being the top host state; and the local University of Southern California, the top host university for international students in America. Many of these students represent the next generation of leaders in business, academia, and politics for their home countries. By one estimate, seven of the top ten countries that send students to the U.S. are “closed” to foreign missionaries. Quite simply, “the ends of the earth” have come to town.

International students face many challenges when they their home county behind to study here in America. Crossroads2AllNations is a ministry of Pacific Crossroads Church dedicated to welcoming, befriending, and loving these students. Through social outings, holiday meals, small group discussions, and a professional mentorship program, they seek to serve and minister to international students, sharing the love of Jesus Christ.

“He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing.

Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt.”

Deuteronomy 10:18-19



Please Pray:

- Praise God for the initiative and leadership of those who have launched this ministry and for their team of volunteers who lead discussions, host meals, and mentor these students.
- For repentance for the ways we have neglected to love those who are different from ourselves.
- For depth in the relationships with international students and for opportunities to share the gospel of Christ.
- That international students will clearly see and experience the love of Christ through this ministry.
- For more members of our church community to commit to serving and loving international students.

March 18 – 24

Loving the Wise

We live in a culture, particularly in Los Angeles, that glorifies the young and despises the old. Loving the Wise Elderly Ministries (LTW) exists to extend the love of Jesus Christ to the elderly who are cast away into convalescent care facilities. We seek to be Christ's hands and hearts so that these residents may encounter His unconditional love and forgiveness, and have the opportunity to receive Him into their hearts.

LTW servant volunteers visit a nursing home one hour a week, usually on a Sunday afternoon, where they lead a worship service for about 20 minutes and use the final 40 minutes to connect individually with the residents. The volunteers seek to impart love and a sense of dignity by holding the residents' hands, giving hugs, and calling them each by name.

Many Christians in Los Angeles live within walking distance of a nursing home, a "local Calcutta" of widows/widowers who may also be poor and orphaned by family for long periods. HFLA, in partnership with LTW, currently serves the lovely residents of Santa Monica Convalescent Center on Sundays from 3 to 4 p.m.

"When the ear heard, it called me blessed, and when the eye saw, it approved, because I delivered the poor who cried for help, and the fatherless who had none to help him.

The blessing of him who was about to perish came upon me, and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy. I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my justice was like a robe and a turban. I was eyes to the blind and feet to the lame."

Job 29:11-15



Please Pray:

- Praise God for His heart of compassion for the lonely, and that He, at great cost to Himself, reached out to us when we were alone and hopeless.
- For repentance for idolizing youth, closing our ears to the cries of the elderly, and keeping God's love to ourselves instead of extending it to those who so desperately need it.
- That the elderly residents of SMCC experience Jesus through the body of Christ.
- For volunteers to commit to serving this overlooked mission field, so that every resident in a nursing home in Los Angeles can enjoy weekly worship and love from the body of Christ.
- That God will sustain and refresh the LTW volunteers.

To Get Involved

Nursing home visit every Sunday, 3-4pm
For more information, contact Kathy: lovinkat427@yahoo.com

March 25 – 31

Reading to Kids

Reading to Kids is an organization committed to helping children from low-income and English as Second Language families become better readers, thereby enriching their lives and opening the door to opportunities for future success. Reading to Kids holds reading clubs every month, where volunteers read aloud to small groups of children at elementary schools near downtown Los Angeles. Reading to Kids donates books to the school's libraries and prize books directly to the children. In conjunction with the program, teachers at the schools also hold workshops for parents on how they can be good readers to their children at home.

“Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it. ”

Proverbs 22:6



Please Pray:

- Praise to God for His heart of compassion for disadvantaged youth and His power to redeem the lives of those who grow up in destructive environments.
- For repentance of our complacency towards the needs of disadvantaged children in our own communities.
- That God will continue to raise volunteers to minister to the children of Los Angeles.
- For the safety of everyone at the reading clubs and for opportunities to share Christ's love with all who attend.

To Get Involved

Reading w/ Kids, 2nd Saturday of each month, 9:00am-12:00pm
For more information, contact John: jchen514@gmail.com

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If you would like further information on any of the Hope for LA Partners and Projects, please visit www.hopeforla.org.

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If you would like further information on any of our Missions Partners, please email missions@pacificcrossroads.org