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*A discipling community glorifying God,
Serving seekers, Building believers, and
Mobilizing ministers*

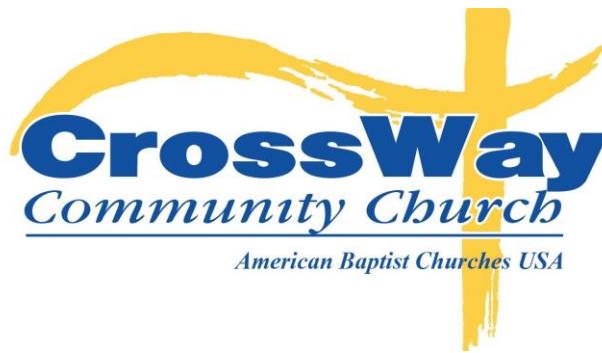
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Our Mission

*To inspire and empower
ordinary people to
experience full and
spiritually productive lives
as followers of
Jesus Christ*



Values

CrossWay Community Church aims to be a discipling community which values

- The Bible**— Recognizing the scriptures of the Old and New Testament as the authority for Christian beliefs and practices, we aim to be **biblical in orientation**, basing all we believe and do on scriptural principles. (2 Tim. 3:16).
- Evangelism**— Understanding that God’s “Great Commission” calls us to make disciples by baptizing (winning people to public commitment to Christ) and teaching, we aim to be **evangelistic in nature**, reaching individuals who are not actively connected to another Christian church. (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8).
- Relationships**— Following God’s “Great Commandment” that we love God with all our being and love our neighbors as ourselves, we aim to be **relational in character**, enabling people to make meaningful “connections” with God and with one another in an atmosphere of genuine friendship, care and concern. (Matt. 22:37-40).
- Relevance**— Believing the relevance of God and His Word must be communicated and demonstrated to people in ways that attract their attention, hold their attention, and are understandable to them, we aim to be **relevant in style** by employing the best of both traditional and contemporary methodologies and resources to effectively communicate God’s good news. (Acts 17:22-24).
- Unity in Mission**— Acknowledging that God intends His world-wide church to transcend barriers of race, ethnicity, gender, and nationality, we aim to be **international and multi-cultural in scope**, welcoming all people and engaging our members in financial support and personal involvement in the worldwide mission of American Baptists. (Gal. 3:28).



Vision

CrossWay's vision for ministry, through which our mission will be accomplished, involves four primary ministry objectives

- Glorifying God** by worshiping and living in obedience to His will and direction (*Exalting*);
- Serving Seekers** by demonstrating and communicating God's love and presenting the good news of Jesus (*Evangelizing*);
- Building Believers** by providing emotional and spiritual support (*Encouraging*), communicating biblical truth (*Educating*), and training for Christian living and ministry (*Equipping*).
- Mobilizing Ministers** by involving believers in ministry (*Engaging*) and supporting and facilitating their involvement in ministry (*Empowering*).



Statement of Faith

We believe that being a disciple (follower) of Jesus Christ is not a matter of affirming a detailed doctrinal statement or living by a list of rules and regulations, but of having a growing personal relationship with God made possible by Jesus Christ. We do, however, hold to a basic consensus on key theological issues. This Statement of Faith expresses the core understandings that shape our life together as a discipling community.

•**The Bible:** We believe the Bible is the inspired, authoritative, and infallible Word of God and look to it as our only authority for what we believe and what we practice. As individual believers and as a church, we enjoy both the right and the responsibility to accurately read, interpret, and apply the scriptures. (2 Tim. 2:15, 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20–21; 1 Jn. 4:1).

•**God:** We believe there is one true and living God who is manifested in three eternal and coequal persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Deut. 6:4; Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14).

•**Jesus Christ:** We believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God, fully human and fully divine. Jesus died on the cross as a sacrifice for the sins of humanity, was raised from the dead in victory over death and sin, and ascended to God's side in heaven. He will one day return to bring to completion the Kingdom of God. (Acts 1:11; 1 Cor. 15:3–5; Phil. 2:6–11; Heb. 1:3).

•**The Holy Spirit:** We believe the Holy Spirit works in individuals' lives that they may acknowledge their sin and turn to God for salvation. The Holy Spirit indwells every believer at the moment of salvation, fills every believer as he or she yields to the Spirit's guidance and instruction, and empowers every believer through spiritual gifts for effective living and ministry. (Acts 1:8; Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 12:7,13; Gal. 4:6, 5:16,25).

•**Humanity:** We believe humanity was created in the image of God and that all human life, therefore, has value and dignity. However, humanity has rebelled against God and fallen into sin, so that all persons are by nature and by choice separated from God, powerless over sin, and in need of personal reconciliation with God. (Gen.1:26–27, 3:1–19; Rom. 3:23, 7:5).



•**Reconciliation with God:** We believe that individuals may be reconciled with God only by turning to Him for the forgiveness of their sins and being justified through the redeeming work of Jesus Christ. This experience is a gift of God's grace which cannot be earned, but is received by faith as a person trusts in Jesus Christ. (Jn. 1:12, 14:6; Rom. 3:23-25; Eph. 2:8-10; 1 Jn. 2:2).

•**Christian Life:** We believe that the Holy Spirit's indwelling, filling, and empowering of believers makes it possible for every Christian to experience a full life characterized by growth toward spiritual maturity and spiritual productivity. Every believer may relate directly and personally with God, and may also have the privilege of helping others relate to God. (Jn. 10:10; Rom. 8:29-30; 2 Cor. 5:18-20; Gal. 5:16-26; Eph. 2:10, 4:13; 1 Tim. 2:5).

•**The Church:** We believe the Church is the world-wide fellowship of believers in Jesus Christ, commissioned by Jesus to make disciples throughout the world. A local church is a community of believers characterized by love and unity, and committed to worshipping God and making disciples through evangelism, education, encouragement, and empowerment of believers for ministry and service. (Matt. 28:18-20; Jn. 13:34-35, 17:11; Heb. 10:24-25).

•**Christian Influence:** We believe that as Christians living in a democratic society, we have the responsibility to exercise our rights so that biblical principles of peace, justice, love, mercy, and morality may improve the character and quality of life for all persons. The integrity and mission of the church are best protected, however, when the church and state are separate and distinct institutions. (Matt. 22:21; Acts 5:28-29; Rom. 13:1-7).

•**Human Destiny:** We believe that all persons will ultimately be judged by God. Those whose sins have been forgiven through faith in Christ will enjoy an eternal state of blessedness in Heaven, and those who never turned to God will experience eternal separation from Him in Hell. (Jn. 3:16,18; Rom. 6:23; Heb. 9:27; 1 Jn. 5:11-12).

•**Ordinances:** We believe Jesus ordained that the church observe two practices on a regular basis: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism (immersion) is an initiatory observance through which a new believer publicly professes his or her identification with Christ and the church. (Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:4-5). The Lord's Supper (Communion) is a recurring ceremony through which

Crossway's Pastor Expectations

1. *Providing a teaching ministry that is based on theological, educational and historical foundations (Education). **PS080***
2. *Communicate a comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology in terms relevant to persons lives. (Interpreting the faith) **PS130***
3. *Seek to lead persons to make decisions for Christ encouraging their identification with participation in the local church community. (Evangelism) **PS090***
4. *Support the preaching ministry with time for preparation/reflection on the Word, and commitment to listen for the Words power and its implications for individuals, the church, the community and the world. (Preaching) **PS230***
5. *Provide by word and presence an empathetic understanding and concern for persons in the routine and joys as well as crisis and transitions of life, giving assistance where appropriate and feasible. (Pastoral care). **PS210***
6. *Encourage and provide opportunities for the congregation/individual to be informed and involved in Christian witness at home and abroad. (Missions). **PS170***
7. *Provide opportunities (a place/or persons) for individual, couples, families and or groups, to enter a healing relationship. (Counseling) **PS060***
8. *Make formal and informal connections with church members or others in their homes at work or in other settings (Visitation) **PS300***

Our Pastor is accountable to the CrossWay Community Church Board. The Pastor's performance reviews will be handled by the Pastoral Relations Committee who will also recommend salary adjustments that must be approved by the Board and the membership.

The Pastor shall be the spiritual and administrative leader of the church. Our church sees the role of a Pastor to be a strong leader and motivator that shares leadership with others. The Pastor will need to embrace and enable our congregation to fulfill our mission of Glorifying God, Serving Seekers, Building Believers and Mobilizing Ministers



Organizational Chart

Paid Staff Positions:

1. Interim Pastor (Dale West)
2. Administrative Assistant (Gina Burnett)
3. Treasurer (Natalie Baum)

Executive Team

1. Board Chair (Lois Creech)
2. Treasurer (Natalie Baum)
3. Church Clerk (Ann Halusek)
4. Financial Secretary (Marcus Tyree)

Church Board:

1. Vice Chair (Bill Halusek)
2. Member at Large (Scott McHenry)
3. Member at Large (Bill Halusek)
2. Asset Stewardship (Mike Creech)
3. Membership Committee (Lisa McHenry)
4. Personnel/Nominating Committee (Sue Kowalski)
5. Pastoral Relations (Tammy Creech)
6. Facility Maintenance (Scott McHenry)

Ministry Teams:

1. Prayer Ministry (Linda Reiter)
2. Children's Ministry (Melissa Long)
3. Youth Ministry (Kelly Branscome/Gina Burnett)
4. Hospitality (Mark and Charlotte Tyree)
5. Scout Troop #293 (Scott McHenry)
6. Womens Ministry (Lisa McHenry)
7. Worship Music Team (Dale West)

Chapter 1

1998-2005



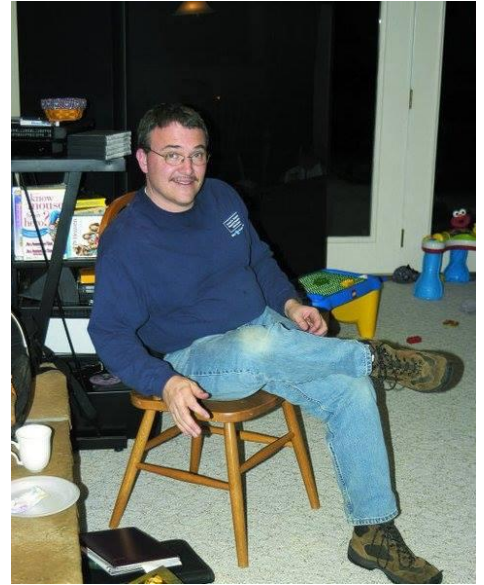
1998 – First meeting of the Church. Under the leadership of Pastor Jim Bell and with the financial support and encouragement of the Miami Baptist Association, the first meeting of Crossway Community Church was held in January in the basement of Pastor Bell's home. The small group of 19 people continued to meet there on Saturday evenings through May 1998. Beginning June 1998, the group began Sunday Morning Worship service in Crosby Elementary School.

2000 – Became a self -sustaining church. With the addition of new members came the resources to financially support the body and launch new ministries.

2001 – Began Community Outreach. From the beginning, Crossway was a church with a strong held belief that community is a vital part of worship. Over the past 22, years we have offered a wide variety of community outreaches including parades, backpack ministries, construction work, Christmas gift wrapping, providing toys and clothing to the community, summer reading workshops for children in the community, Thanksgiving dinners for foreign students at the local University, and many other events.

2002 – First International Mission Trip. Members of Crossway feel not only a call to local ministries but also realize the need to spread God's word abroad. To answer that call, 13 members of Crossway traveled to Bluefields, Nicaragua to help construct a multipurpose building for the first Spanish Speaking Baptist Church. Since 2002 the church has participated in many international trips to countries including Mexico, Haiti and Kosovo. The goals of our mission work consists of spreading the gospel and meeting the material and physical needs of those we encounter.

2005 – Pastor Jim Bell Departs. Pastor Bell was offered the opportunity to work for ABC International Ministries and since International Ministries had always been very important to him, he felt this was where God wanted him to be. It was difficult for the church to let him go but we wanted him to answer God's calling for his ministry. He has a wonderful and fruitful career with ABC International Ministries and today he is the Associate Executive Director of Global Missions.



Chapter 2

2006-2022



2006 – Call New Pastor. After a year of searching for a new pastor we were able to call Pastor Mark Larimer. During the coming 15 years, Pastor Mark ministered to the church, started new ministries, cared for us in hard times, rejoiced with us in good times, taught, disciplined, and grew us in many ways.

2007 – Start of Small Groups. One of the first ministries that Pastor Mark started was that of Small Groups meeting in homes. The Small Group ministry expanded not only to homes but to local restaurants, coffee houses, online, etc. This has been one of the major avenues for the spiritual growth of the members.

2008 – Purchase of Building. A marked period of growth occurred in the church as we went through the process of purchasing a place we could call our permanent home. Through the faithfulness of the members and God's working in a Bank President, we were able to purchase a beautiful, historic church building for our worship services. This church, first built in 1831, housed the New Haven Methodist Church. Rebuilt in 1888, it is in the center of a community that has many physical, spiritual, and emotional needs. With a mobile home park in our back yard we knew God put us there for a purpose.

2008 – First Event for our Church Neighbors. To put into action what we felt God had called us to do, we held a late summer picnic in our back yard. This was to be the beginning of an opportunity to bring a special ministry to those living in the mobile home park. Since then, we have offered a variety of events such as outdoor movie nights, cook-outs, fall gatherings around the fire pit, Easter Egg hunts, and Spring and Fall Festivals. These events allow us the opportunity to meet and minister to many of those in our own back yard; from the Vietnam Vet who found quality of life in his last years through our ministry to the clothing and toys we give away to the community each year.

2010 – Purchase of Adjoining Property. As our members stayed faithful to God, He remained faithful to us; once again the opportunity to purchase additional property opened up. We were able to purchase a house with acreage next door to the church. With some renovation on the house we made a beautiful and useful place to house our Children's Ministry. It was given the name, "The Lighthouse", and today serves as a meeting place for the Boy Scout troop we sponsor.



Chapter 2

2006-2022



2010 – First Organized Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Build.

After years of church members participating individually in Operation Christmas Child, we partnered with Nelson Randolph to build 500 boxes in one day. This became an annual event for us and until the last couple of years we were building 1500 a year. During recent years this became a semi-annual event and we build a total of 3000 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child.



2012 – First National Mission Trip. We already experienced local, community, and international ministering and now it was time for us to take our first trip within the borders of our own country. A group traveled to the heart of the Appalachian Mountains, taking much needed new and used clothing to Freedom Center Ministries in Cumberland, Kentucky. This was the first of many trips to aid this ministry in a variety of ways. Not only have we completed several trips to Appalachia, we have also traveled twice to Tuscaloosa, Alabama and twice to Indiana to aid in tornado relief. We traveled to North Carolina and Mississippi to help build homes alongside Habitat for Humanity. We traveled to West Virginia along side Matthew 25 Ministries to complete repairs on a remote school and to provide a week of summer programs for the local children.



2018 – Paid off The Lighthouse. One of the spiritual principles our congregation learned and put into practice is the call to tithe 10th of their income. Because of this, our financial resources for the past several years grew to the point that we could pay off the mortgage note for “The Lighthouse” and adjoining property well before it was due.

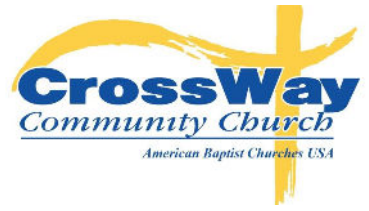
2020 – Paid off Church Property. Only two years later, and in spite of the fact that Covid closed us down for nearly a year, we would once again experience the blessings of God with the resources to pay off our Church Building – We were now debt free!!!!

2022 – Pastor Mark Larimer Departs. After 15 years of service at Crossway, Pastor Mark felt God was calling him to pastor in New Jersey. Once again, it was difficult for us to let our beloved Pastor go, but we knew that it was best for everyone if Pastor Mark followed God’s all to New Jersey.



Chapter 3

2022-present



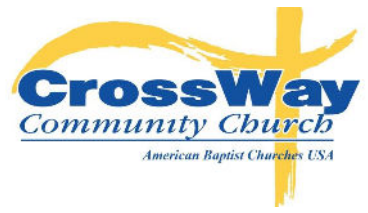
2022 – Pastor Dale West is Appointed Interim Pastor. Pastor Dale has been a member of Crossway Community for many years. Six years ago God called on Dale to leave the world behind and follow Him. Crossway agreed to walk alongside Dale through the process of ordination and eventually appointed Dale as Interim Pastor.

2022 – Pastoral Search Team is formed. A seven member team was tasked with the honor of searching and calling our new Pastor

2023 – Interim Pastor Ordination. Pastor Dale is officially Ordained as an ABC Minister



Pastor's Report: 2022



2022 Brought much change to CrossWay as we said tearful goodbyes to our pastor and friend, Mark Larimer, who was called to Seaview Baptist Church in New Jersey. The Larimer family will be greatly missed here at CrossWay. It was a pleasure to serve the duration of three years under Pastor Mark as the Associate Pastor for CrossWay while working towards ordination. I have also been honored by the opportunity that CrossWay has extended to serve as pulpit supply and as Interim Pastor.

Over the past several months, members have come together to repurpose what was once a storage room located off the foyer, converting it into an office space to serve the interim and whomever God may call as the future Senior Pastor of CrossWay. This will enable us to better serve our community by having a presence at our location and offer availability to our neighbors. The new arrangement has already opened up the opportunity for us to partner with the Crosby Community Center in a gift-wrapping event geared towards needy families in our neighborhood. We have also experienced several "drop ins" who have stopped by from the community and from the church family.

We have continued with many of our ministries during 2022. Our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Build went as planned and we contributed over 1300 new shoeboxes in the fall which we added to our build in the spring, bringing us to nearly 3000 boxes built. With these added to Nelson's collections for OCC it totaled 44,885! We look forward to partnering with Nelson again in the spring and fall of 2023. In addition to the shoebox build, we had our fall festival event which drew its largest turnout yet. Many neighbors came to see what was happening. We also decided to bring back some fellowship events like the White Elephant Christmas Party. Additionally, we gained a lot of exposure entering the Harrison Christmas parade with a tractor pulled float. With all that has happened in our church, we have had more than nine new visitors from our community with three becoming regular attenders.

Several new things have been implemented in 2022. One is our new website, which has been designed by our CrossWay friends, Dennis and Emily Alejo. Service times have been changed to 10 am to better serve and attract younger seekers in our community. New materials have been ordered and begun for our children's ministry. Funds have been rearranged in the budget to support more outreaches in 2023. With much optimism we look towards an even brighter new year. Our goal is to serve seekers, build believers, and mobilize ministers in the name of Jesus Christ.



Crossway began involvement with Operation Christmas Child by packing individual boxes from home. In 2010, Crossway joined forces with Nelson Randolph allowing us to increase the amount of children reached world-wide. 2023 is our 14th year and we now come together in the spring and fall to pack 1500 boxes at each event. We see this as one of our biggest outreach events; a lot of effort is put into this worthwhile project. This packing event blesses the recipient of the box and is a way for extended family, boy scouts, baseball teams, etc to volunteer for a worthwhile project. It is our honor and privilege to minister to children in faraway places who need the love of Christ.



Operation Christmas Child

- *Contents of Box provided by Nelson Randolph*
- *1500 boxes packed in spring*
- *1500 boxes packed in fall*
- *Community event including fellowship, fun and food*
- *Crossway hand delivered boxes to children in Kosovo*





Missions Around The World

- *La Paz, Mexico*
- *Haiti*
- *Kosovo*
- *India*
- *Nicaragua*





Missions Here At Home

- *Tuscaloosa, AL*
- *Indiana*
- *North Carolina*
- *Mississippi*
- *West Virginia*
- *Lynch, KY*





Missions In Our Back Yard

- *Clothing and Toy Giveaway*
- *Gift Wrapping*
- *Loving Hands of Christ*
- *Back Pack Giveaway*
- *Hands Against Hunger*
- *Matthew 25*
- *UC Student Meals*





Baptisms

- *Well over 30 Baptisms*
- *Kiddie and Backyard Pools*
- *Ice Plunge (broke heater)*
- *Borrowed Baptistries*
- *Custom Built Baptistry by member*

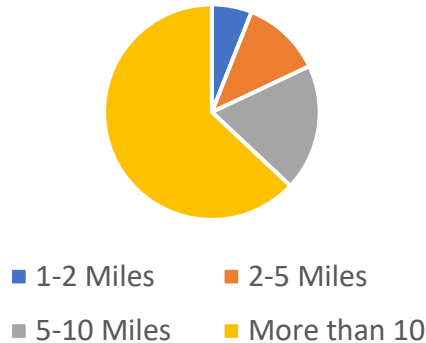


Baptisms

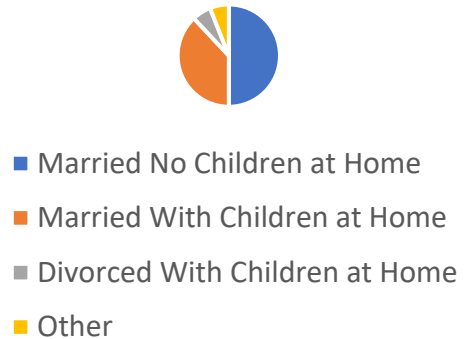


Crossway's Demographics

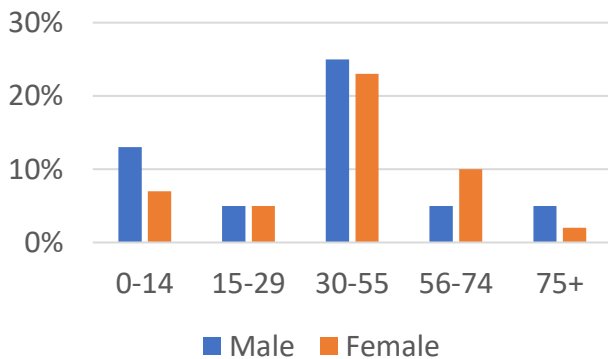
Commute to Church



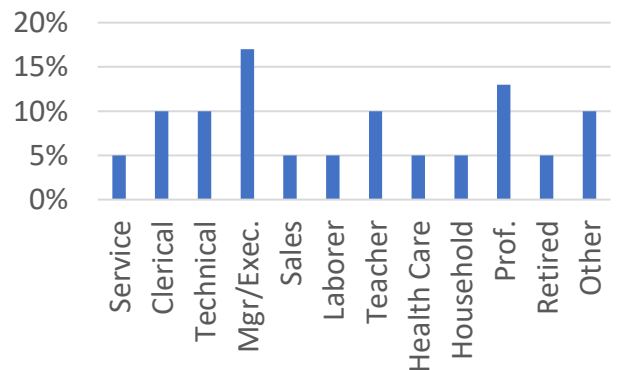
Household Status



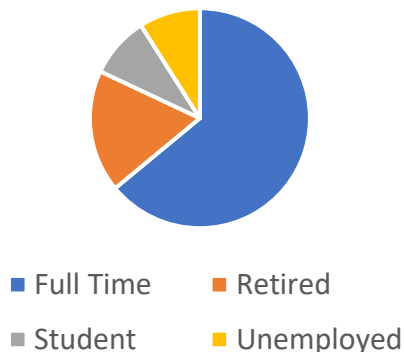
Average Age of Congregation



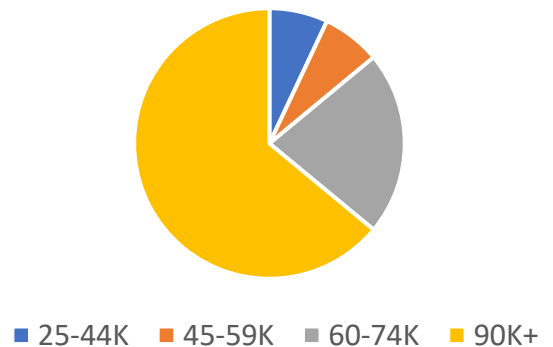
Occupation



Employment Status



Family Income





- *25 minutes to downtown Cincinnati*
- *30 minutes to CVG airport*
- *Amazing local colleges:*
 - *University of Cincinnati*
 - *Miami University*
 - *Xavier*
- *Top Ranked Hospitals:*
 - *Cincinnati Children's is ranked No. 3 in the nation in the 2022-23 list of Best Children's Hospitals published by U.S. News & World Report*
 - *Christ Hospital, Voted #1 Hospital in Cincinnati by U.S. News and World Report*
 - *UC, Mercy, and Good Sam*
- *Church is located walking distance from Miami Whitewater Forest (greatparks.org)*
- *Two direct access points to Interstate 74, minutes from I-275*
- *Steady housing growth (2018: 65 new homes; 2019: 144 new homes; 2020: 150 new homes)*
- *Newest Developments within 1 mile of Crossway*
- *Home to Cincinnati State Harrison Campus for aviation and other general classes*
- *Home to Cincinnati West Airport with general aviation and corporate hangars*
- *Home to Southwest Local School District's Wm. Henry Harrison High School, named by Newsweek Magazine as one of America's Top Public High Schools for 2015, 2016 and 2017*



- *In 2010, Harrison's population was approximately 9,000. It is expected that the 2020 Census figures will reflect a population of approximately 13,500, or a 50% increase in 10 years.*
- *The population in the 45030 zip code is estimated at 18,841. The Harrison/Harrison Township 5-mile radius market area population (from I-74 exit 1) is approximately 30,000.*
- *In 2020, there were 19 new commercial projects in the City of Harrison. The largest of these was the \$5 million LifeSpring Community Commons project which contains a coffee shop, daycare, community space, and the LifeSpring Church. Other notable projects approved or initiated in 2020 included the \$2 million Cincinnati Asphalt Headquarters Building with 35 employees; DrewFab Fabricators; Carefirst Urgent Care; Five Guys Restaurant; and a new UDF Store prototype.*
- *In 2020, three new businesses opened in the Downtown District. A new restaurant, The Valley House, is currently under construction in the District for an August 2021 opening.*
- *For the week ending March 12, 2021, homes in the 45030-zip code sold on average for \$378,478 and the average price per square foot for houses sold was \$143. On Jan. 3, 2020, the average price per square foot was approximately \$108.*
- *As of March 12, the unemployment rate was 3.8%. The median age of residents in 45030 is 40.5.*
- *In 2019, City Council approved the expansion of the City's pre-1994 Community Reinvestment Area (CRA), by adding 400+ acres where Cincinnati Asphalt is locating. This CRA provides abatements for up to 100% of the building taxes for 10 years. In 2020, that CRA was expanded for the second and final time, to include about 460 additional acres of commercial and industrial property*

Pastoral Search Team

Marcus Tyree (Chair): *I have been a member of Crossway for half of my life. I have had the joy of serving in multiple rolls, various board positions, Board Chair, and currently serve as financial Secretary. I am happily married with 4 grown (out of house) children. I care deeply about Crossway and feel honored to be a part of this process, for our future*



Melissa Long (Clerk): *Hello! My name is Melissa Long. I am married, 13 years, to my husband Matt. We have a little girl, Ellie, who is 10. I have a dachshund named, Jack-Jack who is my BFF and cuddle buddy. We have been attending Crossway since 2008. I did not know Jesus until I came to Crossway. I gave my life to the Lord and was baptized here. I began serving in Children's Ministry as a preschool teacher. For the last 5 years, I have been the Children's Ministry Leader. I am so blessed to be able to love on these kids!*



Gina Burnett: *I first began attending Crossway Community Church in 2015. I was baptized for the second time (I was raised Catholic) in February of 2019 and became an official member shortly after that. I became the Administrative Asst. for the church in 2019. I am the mom of three kids, 2 sons who are now adults, and a 16-year-old daughter. We have lived in Harrison since 2011.*



Tammy Creech: *I began attending Crossway in 2018 and became a member in 2019. I am married with a step son. I am the chair of the Pastoral Relations Committee.*



Pastoral Search Team

Scott McHenry: *I live in the nearby community of Okeana, OH with my wife and the youngest of our three sons. I have been a member of Crossway Community Church since October 2019. In addition to serving on the Pastoral Search Committee, I am the liaison between Crossway Community Church and Scout Troop 293, which Crossway Community Church proudly sponsors. I have been heavily involved in the troop for many years because of my sons' involvement. I also recently accepted the responsibility of overseeing maintenance needs of the church properties. I am the owner of "A Helping Hand Handyman Service", therefore my service in this role comes quite naturally.*



Lois Creech: *I am a wife, mother of two, grandmother of four and great grandmother of four. I have been retired from the University of Cincinnati since 2006. I have been in my Christian walk since I was 10 years old, and a member of Crossway Community church since 2000. I have served in many different capacities in the churches I have attended in my journey: Choir Director, Sunday School Teacher, Youth Leader, Children's Ministries, Pianist, Organist, Small Group Host, Board Member, along with serving on a variety of committees and participating in several mission trips. In all of this, I have experienced an immeasurable joy in allowing God to work through me.*



Mark Tyree: *I have been married to my wife for 51 years! I have 2 children and 7 grandchildren. I retired from Premier Ink Systems in 2018 after 30 plus years with them. When I'm not working outside or spending time with my wife, you can find me fishing or golfing. My family has been a part of Crossway since the beginning, and I have served the church in multiple roles over the years. I served on our first Pastoral Search Team and I look forward to being a part of this time as well.*

