



crossroads farm

Down on the Farm



The Quarterly Newsletter of Crossroads Farm
October, November, December 2024

Gold, Frankincense, and Deep Fried Oreos

“He shall be called Emmanuel...God with us.” At Crossroads Farm, we get to share this truth! On the third Sunday in December, we answered another of the monster questions we are tackling all year. Question: Why a baby? Truth: Jesus gets us. Verse: Hebrews 2:17 *(continued on page 3)*



Drive-By-Prayer

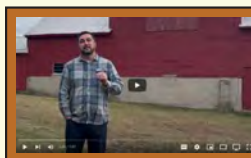


“I wanted to thank you for having Audrey participate in the drive by prayers last week. She had a wonderful time. She has *(continued on page 6)*

Put a Pin In It

It's hard to express the emotion that goes with the following words: 'paid in full.' By God's grace, Crossroads Farm has received the final gifts that make it possible for us to finish our expansion and add much-needed space to CRF The Lanes - Kalkaska County, MI. We now have space for 50 more seats in our gathering room (capacity to 200 now!).

New offices and small group meeting rooms. Storage. A beautiful new entrance to welcome students. All of this allows us to more effectively do one thing...give every secondary student in our surrounding area to hear the Gospel of Christ and have the opportunity to say “yes” or “no” to that message! 🙏



Scan Here for a Special Thank You.



For the ongoing work in the lives of rural youth, special gifts were given:

In Memory Of

*Sonia Tubbs
Donna Boyd
Millie Bamford
Amy Beverly*

In Honor Of

*Becker Family
Tim and Betty Clawson
Andrew Redlawski
Ron & Joyce Cieslak*



In case you didn't get the memo, Crossroads Farm celebrated 25 years in May! As a special feature, until we turn 26, we will be inserting one of our first four newsletters (this is the third) ever published in sequential order. Please enjoy these significant opportunities to see the past and the present side by side, and to pray into the future even while reading them. May we keep in step with the Spirit (Gal. 5:25). 🙏

Chickabola Virus - A Murder Mystery Outreach

Imagine someone telling you that you could be involved in a ministry where on four nights, in three locations, over 600 rural youth would assemble and over 106 of those would take a first time step in faith in Jesus Christ! If you are holding this newsletter, you ARE a part of that miracle story, possible because of the great miracle story of Jesus Christ Himself, through Crossroads Farm. A Murder Mystery outreach can't be qualified or quantified. It is hundreds of hours of manpower, creativity, church involvement, volunteerism...turning fields and forests, barns and garages, into an atmosphere of love and fun that exceeds expectations year after year.

On high school night, two students got there just as the talk part of the night began. They had been invited by two girls who came with a visiting church last year. They came in matching flannel, and booked it to the barn. Even though they had only been there for a few minutes of the talk, they heard the Gospel. Both responded! 🙌



"I can't believe our team won. We didn't have a clue what we were doing!"
-6th grade girl



"I was at my uncle's wedding for like 10 minutes, just long enough to say 'hi' and let them know I was there. Then I ran over here so I could be in time for the concert. I really didn't want to miss this year's Murder Mystery!"
-11th grade boy



Scan Here for The Mine Student Testimony

"I think I actually pooped my pants when that chicken jumped out of the woods and scared me. That was terrifying!" -10th grade boy



Scan Here for The Shed Student Testimonies



"Best Murder Mystery ever!"
-6th grade boy



Scan Here for The Lanes Student Testimonies

"The chicken scared me like four times tonight. I wanted to scare kids, but I couldn't stop being scared by the chicken!"
-Community Volunteer



"Is this the one where the giant chicken sprays you?" (MS Student)
"Howdidyouknow?" (Me)
"My mom did this!" (student)



"Guys, we might be in the negative (when counting team score)."
"How many of you were infected?"
"All of us!!!"

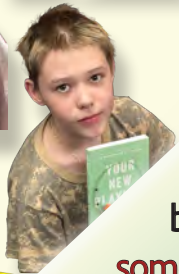


("Gold, Frankincense, and Deep Fried Oreos" continued from page 1)

Students were given an opportunity to respond to the Gospel, and 26 made first time decisions! Around the Gospel was incredible food, generous gifts for every student, creative games, Christmas book reading in character, and worship-in short, four amazing celebrations of Christmas to love the rural teen.



"Thank you so much and have a very Merry Christmas to all the people who made the gifts for us." "Everybody smiling and so happy, and singing as a big group" "You guys are so generous. My favorite gift was the hats and gloves."



"My favorite gift was the toiletries bag" "Handmade hats, because you know someone took their time on them" "Christmas is all about giving." "I loved my nerf gun." "Learning about Jesus" "Christmas is about celebrating Jesus' birthday." "Christmas is about spending time with family and friends and Jesus!" "Driving here- not really funny, it was scary.



It was really foggy" "Christmas is the most peaceful time of the year!" "Fellowship- I like being able to see everyone and hangout" "Thank you for everything you do- my mind was blown. This was my first party. I've only been coming a couple months. And you guys had ribs!"



From a Mom

Good morning, I just wanted to share a picture of one of your students snuggled into one of the beautiful quilts you handed out last night [at the Christmas Party.] Thank you for all the hard work and dedication to our kids. They are loved on by Jesus through your kindness. Thank you and Merry Christmas!





crossroads farm

From the Desk of the President

December 2024

Where Have All The Miracles Gone?

As the calendar year, 2024, winds down, I wonder how many of us would rather kick it to the curb rather than celebrate it. This particular annum has felt a bit like the ball in Times Square. You know how it starts at its highest point and then slowly descends until it rests on the bottom of its trajectory?

Now I tend to be a "glass half full" kind of guy. I'm not Pollyanna by any stretch, but I do have a tendency to look for the good in a situation. I'm also not often disappointed with the reality of a situation, but sometimes, it's hard to find the silver lining. In fact, this year has taken many of us beyond our abilities, strength, resolve or emotional wells. That is perhaps where God has always intended to place us. You see, God promises to be in the place I just described. This is because I do not rely on Him to do something when I think I can. Hope springs out of despair. Light springs from the darkness and glory springs from bleakness. Hang in there for a second. I promise this letter will become hopeful.



Crossroads Farm was birthed to meet a great need. People rose to meet the challenges of a rural reality for many in rural America. Here we stand, 25 years after the start, and we look back at those difficult challenges and praise God. He not only has repeatedly delivered, but He has created a thriving narrative. The best stories come at a point of hopelessness. Remember the Red Sea? The Giant who challenged a boy? The God who was hung on a cross? This has been the story of a small start up ministry called Crossroads Farm!



Just last week, Dawn and I traveled to Wisconsin. We participated in an area leaders meeting designed to talk about a future CRF plant. 13 leaders attended! They asked questions. They laughed and smiled and ate lunch together. The meeting wasn't a challenge and these leaders understood that work was coming, but the excitement in the room was palpable. Two of the pastors in the group told our area champion, "I'm in!"

In these two words we can summarize the nature and hope of the miraculous. You see, people who watched the Red Sea part, but didn't walk through it did not experience the miraculous. They simply saw it. It was amazing to watch but it was better to live through the rescue. These pastors who responded with the, "I'm in," were ready for the barriers because this is where God is preparing to part seas! They desire the experience of knowing the hand of God! I knew God would be at the meeting because God had arranged for one of those pastors to be at a church I was speaking in (and it bears being stated, I only speak there once and occasionally twice a year). He was visiting relatives 500 miles from his home. Our meeting had been set for weeks before. God arranged his, "I'm in."



We recently have accepted a young couple as missionary candidates. God's light. All God's glory. Our platform has grown as we have been extended grace by denominations, colleges and churches. God has spotlighted our ministry in order to show his luminance. As more people say, "I'm in," God has poured himself out, and I am convinced His body wields more power in our unity than we ever could imagine. Did you know that in the month of October, 109 students accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior?! Did you know we have begun meetings with several high capacity leaders to help CRF move into the miraculous? Did you know that in the months of October and November CRF was represented to thousands of people? Many of those have said, "I'm in!"

CRF is screaming, "We're all IN!" God's response has been to demonstrate himself in a more powerful way. In fact, Dawn and I have said we are experiencing God in a way we have not since



our first few years of struggle. I can feel the waters parting. We can see giants being toppled. Even though we understand, with God's blessing comes the attention of the adversary. The desperation will mount as we cry out to our God.

If you have read as far as this, I want to challenge you to two very specific things. We are needing cheerleaders to change their perspective to that of participants. As we move toward our two upcoming branches, we covet your prayers for directors. We desperately need your financial gifts. Not because we are in some kind of trouble, but because God is opening rural communities He intends to change for his glory. We need friends to walk with us through the sea! The second thing we need from you is for you to become knowledgeable about our mission. In this newsletter, there are multiple QR codes. Just use your cell phone's camera to scan them. These allow you to hear first hand, about the work God is doing among our students and staff! Listen to a few stories, and then pray for the person who just shared.



Miracles are right there. A click away. A walk away. A gift away. A prayer away. Are you in?

Your friend between the waterwalls,



Oops and Yahoo!

Have you ever just missed something completely?! We did. The prior newsletter, July-September edition, was our **100th edition!!** 75 of those newsletters were done at the hands and monitors of our Visual Arts Communications Director, Richard Carpenter!

Rich has been with CRF in some capacity all but one of our 25 years, from volunteer to intern to full time missionary staff! That's a lot of CRF DNA!

Q: How long does it take to design a newsletter? *In the early years, with a slow lap top, it would take about one day per page. Currently, it depends more on my creativity flow than on technology. Typically, it takes two days, plus time for edits.*

Q: From a missionary standpoint, what is your hope for those who read the newsletter? *I want the design to help with the flow of reading, to not distract, but to draw in the reader to what God is doing in the lives of rural students.*

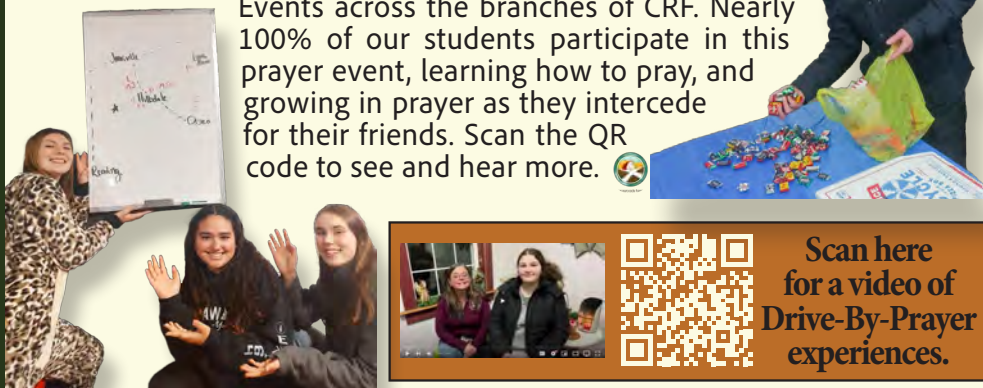
Q: What has been the biggest "goof" in a newsletter? *(Ha, reference beginning paragraph of this article) I suppose it was forgetting to put a critical name of a person of whom an article was written.*

Q: What keeps you inspired for designing newsletter 76...and beyond? *I get to relive the moments shared when I design a newsletter. I get to celebrate a student holding a Bible for the first time, a big event...I get to feel it again, and then share those with you. I scroll through thousands of photos and get to choose what will best share each story written by another staff member. It's my visual storytelling for you as the reader. Thank you for reading all these years. Thank you for praying-I know that happens-I know God is moving. 🙏*

("Drive-By-Prayer" continued from page 1)

been enjoying youth group. We appreciate your time. You put in a lot of miles!" -Audrey's Mom

Prayer. One of our core values at Crossroads Farm. Drive By Prayer is one of the annual Prayer Events across the branches of CRF. Nearly 100% of our students participate in this prayer event, learning how to pray, and growing in prayer as they intercede for their friends. Scan the QR code to see and hear more.



Give now to love the rural teen.



www.crossroadsfarm.org



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Reading, MI 49274
(517)283-3982
www.crossroadsfarm.org

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Loving The Rural Teenager



Prayer Closet

Yahoos:

- 135 students made a first time decision to follow Jesus in this last quarter across our three branches!
- Construction is well underway for CRF The Lanes - Kalkaska County, expansion! Dedication being planned for April 12, 2025.
- The freedom to celebrate the birth of God's Son coming to earth for all of us



Take It To Jesus:

- The follow up process with new believers
- Winter Retreat Feb. 21-23, 2025
- Called missionary staff needed for new branches of CRF, national development, and increased ministry reach at our current branches.



**DOWN
NO
OUT
DRAFT**

The Quarterly
Newsletter of
Crossroads Farm... a
Michigan Nonprofit
Corporation

Crossroads Farm
5520 West Card Rd Reading,
MI 49274

Crossroads Farm Mourns a Loss

Board Member Larry Coy Went to be with his Lord and Savior this last month. Larry had served with the inaugural board over the last six months and was instrumental in the beginning phases of what we had hoped would be along lasting and life changing partnership. The funeral was a testimony of Larry's similar ministry in hundreds of other organizations.

The three hour testimonial service was directed by Rev. Lon Solomon, Sr. Pastor of Larry and Carol's home church in Mclean, Virginia. The eulogy was delivered by Rev. Dan Mercaldo. Comments were given by David, Larry's son, Dr. Jerry Falwell, Rev. Terry Angles, Ric Ackerman, and close to 30 friends who were in attendance along with over 300 others. Doug Oldham, Denise Cadle, and the Mclean Bible Church Choir sang.

To say that each one who knew Larry felt as if they were his most important friend is to state what was obvious; Larry loved and was loved by so many.

We offer our prayers and condolences to the Coy family. To Carol, Sharon, Cheryl, David, and Karen we cannot possibly express our gratitude to you clearly enough. Thank you for selflessly sharing your husband and father with us. He truly defines being a great man.

A plaque honoring Larry's life and service will be hung in the building that will bear his name. The Coy Prayer Chapel will be under construction within the next few years. The plaque will read as follows...

*"No matter what tasks God calls you to do,
He will use them to help somebody if you do them in
the power of the spirit and for His glory. You may not
even know about it, but you can trust your Father to
see to it that nothing is ever wasted that is done in
the will of God and for the love of God"*
-Larry Coy-



We will miss Larry's jokes, wisdom, godly life and friendship. We know that Larry has left a lofty legacy for the rest of us. We will miss our friend.

His Ministry, Design for Successful Living, will continue to provide tapes and printed materials. For information on this tremendous ministry, write to: Design for

Successful Living, PO Box 219, Sterling, Virginia 20167.



Pastor Dennis Dubendorf contemplates a point during the first training session.

Training Gets off to a Great Start

At the first ever Hillsdale County Youth Training Seminar over 30 students and nearly 10 adults showed up for a morning and afternoon of Youth Leadership Training! For nearly two hours students and adults answered the question, "Why Bother?"

The series continued with a training segment on "Getting Started, Placing Christ's priorities in your Youth Group." The March training Focused on placing a priority on prayer in our ministries.

Next month (Sat. April 29th) we will be discussing "Developing a great group image!" The focus will be on how we attract others by applying Christ's principles. For more information about how you can get your students or leaders involved in the free training, please call the Crossroads office @ (517) 283-1492.

Inside this issue...

- Pella Windows and Doors by Horn donates renovation materials, plus other renovations updates
- Earning Trust from your Parents
- Upcoming Farm Events /Speaking Schedule
- Ten things that Parents don't want to hear.
- Volunteering For Results
- For Laughing Out Loud

"What we crave is not mere enjoyment, but a supreme purpose that will give direction to our life. Joy is found in the conviction that our life is significant - not a meaningless episode."

In short, the best thing to do is to behave in a manner befitting ones age. If you are sixteen and under, try not to go bald.

-Woody Allen-

Top Ten Questions

That A Parent Would Rather Not Hear...



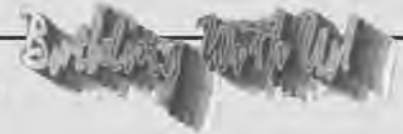
10. Mrs. Smith, Do you know where your son is!
9. Dad, exactly how much is on your credit card?
8. Our senior class is taking tis trip to the Mediterranean Sea for a cruise. Isn't that great?
7. What grade would really make you angry?
6. He's from a huge family that is very popular. You saved for my wedding didn't you?
5. Mom, what smell should the dryer make?
4. If I started dating a guy who just got out of jail, you wouldn't hold that against him... Would you?
3. Dad, you've always wanted a new car, right?
2. Did you know that Joey likes riding int he washing machine?
1. We're doing a paper drive. Can you help?

COMING EVENTS

Here is a nearly up to date list of activities that Crossroads is involved in.

Come on out to any of these opportunities.

- April 5th @ Hillsdale Rotary Club Lunch
- April 9th & 16th @ Mason First Baptist Church... More about Jesus you didn't know
- April 11th Reading High School assembly
- April 29th @ Reading High School ... Youth Leadership Training... 10:00am. students 1:00 pm adults
- May 3rd-7th @Reading 1st Nazarene... Making Sense of Jesus-Revival Series
- May 12th and 13th Youth Retreat in Ohio



First Baptist of Mason! Ir we didn't know any better we would have sworn that this ministry was your project! You have given hours and dollars and prayers to the Hillsdale Community. Thank you!

That is not to ignore the help we have received from many other churches, or each of the individuals that have poured themselves into this venture. If you, your church, or club would like to become involved in one of our workdays, please contact us at the Crossroads Office. (517) 283-1492.

During the summer we will be entertaining youth groups from around Michigan what would like to work for a few days at Crossroads Farm. If you



would be interested in housing a student form these work groups, please let us know. The Crossroads Hospitality House/ Directors home is moving toward completion. Wiring and walls are going back up. Window and

do0rs. thanks to Pella Windows ans Doors by Horn

- May 20th @ Crossroads Farm! Youth Leadership Training 10:00 am Students... 1:00 pm Adults
- May 21st @ Mason First Baptist Church
- June 19th-23rd MT Clemmons Bethany Bible Church
- June 24th @ Crossroads Farm! Youth Leadership Training 10:00 am students 1:00 pm Adults
- July 16th @ North Reading Baptist Church
- July 30th-Aug. 5th @ Hiawatha Youth Camp

The First Farm Outreach!

This may seem a bit early, but in October, The Farm will be hosting a Mystery Madness Game. More details will be coming each month.

REMEMBER
THAT AS A
TEENAGER
YOU ARE
AT THE
LAST
STAGE IN
YOUR LIFE
WHEN YOU
WILL BE
HAPPY TO
HEAR THE
PHONE IS
FOR YOU.

-Fran

Lebowitz-

Continued from page 2-Building

Will be installed shortly. Plumbing and bathrooms are also being placed in the house now.

As you can see, we have our work cut out for us. We certainly can always use your help! Drop by and see what we're up to.

An open house for the community is being planned along with another open house for the supporters of this ministry.

Here is a list of the days that we have scheduled for our Church and community families to be involved. Please call and tell us which one you or your group would like to attend.

Workdays for you and your Group

- April 1st 9:00 am -4 :00 pm tearing down a barn across town for the wood/electrical work
 - April 15th 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
 - April 29th 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
 - May 6th 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Women's Day
 - May 20th 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
 - June 3rd 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
 - June 28th - July 2nd Fairlane Youth Work Camp @ Crossroads
- Arrange one NOW for your group!



Here are a few of the workers at one of the more recent work days. Notice the smiles!

Integrity

In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

Titus 2:7,8

Dontcha Trust Me?



Okay. Let's face it. The answer to that question is probably, "NO!" For some reason however, we feel compelled

to give excuses rather than solutions. Shouldn't it be our goal as parents and as kids to trust our family members. Why is it then, that we seem to have such a difficult time doing it?

In the following paragraphs I hope that we can give some practical steps to building a trust relationship in your home.

1. Trust is a gift that has to be earned!

You can earn trust points by doing what is expected of you. The problem is that we most often have very unclear expectations for each other. In each situation try to be very clear about what is expected from each other. You may even want to write it down. Establishing a set of expectations is often what my wife and I do as we set up our weeks schedule. We then go back and confirm those expectations daily. **Example A:** "You know that I have a dance fit class on Tuesday and need for you to watch the girls form 4:00 to 5:30."

Example B: "Dad You know that I have a date for Friday night. I will need the car form 6:30 until 10:00."

Be sure to give each other plenty of lead time and if necessary, ask for permission. Communication builds trust points.

2. Whenever possible a phone call helps soften the failure to meet the expectations.

Did you notice that I didn't say it eliminates the problem? There may still be disappointment, but it is better than anger and worry. When we value a family member by

-continued on page 4 -

Your gifts to Crossroads Farm are tax deductible and greatly needed.

"Children obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your Father and Mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth. Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."

Ephesians 6:1-4

Crossroads Farm will be needing to meet a \$25,000 balloon payment in June. Pray about how you can help.

Continued "Dontcha Trust Me" - page 3-

recognizing and respecting their expectations we raise their ability to trust us. Our family member may be very disappointed but will believe that you had their feelings on your mind. Trust is about someone believing that you have their interests at stake.

Even Jesus informed his disciples about things that He knew would disappoint them. It was not a question of authority for him. It was a matter of caring about how others would feel. 3. Parents need to earn the trust of their children too!

Love is to be given without strings attached. It is automatically given. Honor should be given without rules attached. It is an automatic responsibility. Trust and respect however are earned commodities. Jesus loved his disciples but He didn't give them the authority to do what He did until they had been committed to him and had demonstrated responsibility.

I would not only be crazy, but I would be a bad father if I let my 3 year old daughter drive a car. She isn't ready. She will spend the next 15 years earning the trust of her parents and the state before I hand her the keys to the family car. It should work the same way for dating, friends, free time use, spending money, and so on. The problem is that we most often have not given our kids a gradual road to responsibility. They get to date when they turn 16 but we have never taught them how to behave around the opposite sex. When they are 18 they can vote

but without the process of learning political responsibility. When they turn 21m the law says that they can drink alcohol but if they haven't learned restraint or the strength to say no to things that they don't need they're in trouble.

It is not the case of "too much, too soon." It is a case of "too much before any".

Here are some ideas as to how you can help each other develop the responsibility of trust.

1. At a family meeting discuss which activities and events are the most important for each. Find out if your kids or parents would like for you to be there. Calendar those events and then make the appropriate arrangements to be there.
2. Discuss what is expected in terms of behavior around the opposite sex. Model that behavior. Dad take your young daughters on dates and treat them the way they need to expect to be treated. Moms take your young sons on a date and show them what they need to act like around young women.
3. Talk through trouble scenarios. When you get a flat tire... when you can't find a phone... when your are in a compromising situation.
4. Always be willing to talk before you react. One of the best ways to develop trust is to listen, listen, listen. When necessary use discipline but be willing to calmly explain.
5. Parents develop your relationship before trying to establish authority. You have the authority. It is a trusting relationship that we all need to develop.
6. Be consistent and fair above all. Be willing to make concessions within reason.

Did You Know

The following are statistics of how our kids in the Hillsdale County are doing. Some of these are cause for prayer and them some action. Here we go.

According to the 1998 Kids Count in Michigan Data Book

- 123 kids, ages 10-17 were arrested.
- 131 girls, ages 15-19 were pregnant
- 86 gave birth, 25 had abortions

A 1999 study of 8th graders in rural America (NCASA)

- Rural kids are 70% more likely to have gotten drunk than big city kids, 83% more likely to use crack cocaine, twice as likely to smoke, and 5 times more likely to use smokeless tobacco.

THE DIRECTORS CHAIR



Financial Update

It is the commitment of Crossroads Farm to carefully monitor each dollar and to uphold the highest standard of fiscal responsibility.

Grant Proposals: What a miraculous venture we are on! Since the start of this vision in May of last year, we have seen God provide through a variety of people, churches and businesses. By the end of March, Crossroads Farm will have sent over 25 grant requests, and that is just the beginning. Some of the Foundations that we have, or are approaching are as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Granger Foundation | Doulos Foundation |
| Arthur P. Demoss Foundation | The Herbert and Grace Dow Foundation |
| Mustard Seed Foundation | The Carls Foundation |
| Hillsdale County Youth Foundation | The Sage Foundation |
| Simpson Foundations | The Longwood Foundation |

As of this date Crossroads Farm has raised approximately \$360,000 in financial and in kind donations of services and materials. As we push toward our eventual goal of just over \$900,000 in phase 1, we ask that you pray. If any of you can be of additional assistance with our grant proposals, please contact us.

Monthly Support Partners: Thank you for your continued support. We count on you remembering us each month. If it will help you to remember, when you send in your envelope mark on it to send you additional envelopes. We'd be happy to do it.

Over the last 16 or so years of working with High School and Junior High School students I have seen some great things. The greatest of these things is when volunteers really experience that break through moment with a kid. It not only changes the student but it changes the volunteer. Just this last weekend Dawn and I were able to be with a few of our former youth staff. We sat and listened in amazement as they shared their spiritual pilgrimage stories. We heard about how God had brought a young woman into the life of one of our friends and how they now were engaged. We saw pictures from one young man's trips to Costa Rica and Mexico. We are touched by their tears and smiles. I realized upon reflection that what my wife and I have experience over and over, has been the thrill of being significant in the lives of those we love. This is what Crossroads Farm is all about. Getting close enough to touch someone, staying long enough to love someone, and being transparent enough to have others see Jesus through you.

In Christ, Doug Routledge

Volunteering for Results

You have so little time, why would you ever volunteer to assist someone else to do something that is not your job? The answer to this question is found in the question itself.

There is so little time. Most of us claim to have a selfless set of ideals. We want to make the world a better place... help those who need it... serve God with our lives, but our lifestyles tell a different story. According to George Barna, there is little lifestyle difference between those who claim to hold these ideals and those who don't. But why is that?

Again the answer is that most of us live our lives on a selfish level. In our attempt to get ahead we neglect the needs of those around us. Here is the secret to successfully volunteering in the lives of others:

1. We gain character strength by helping others. Think of the ideal person. How much of what makes them ideal is selfless character?
2. The world cannot change unless you do. Michael Jackson said that he was looking at the man in the mirror. He really was taking a biblical concept found in James 2.
3. Personal fulfillment comes from knowing that we matter, not that we have what we want.

By focusing on what is really important we are rewarded with the gift of people!

The Back Door... Down on the Farm



A great way to support us is by supporting the businesses that sponsor us! For a list of those businesses call us (519) 283-1492

Crossroads Farm
5520 West Card Rd.
Reading MI 49274

Place U.S.
Postage
Here

Crossroads Farm is a Michigan Nonprofit corporation



On the Front: **Why did
the Chicken...?**

On the Back: **Crossroads
Farm**

For Laughing out Loud!!

My 3 year old daughter was playing in our den a few weeks ago. When she was done I told her that she needed to put her toys away. She responded by saying that she didn't want to put her toys away, so I let her know what her options were. She began to clean her things up but she was throwing them into her toy box in a fit of last defiance. I explained to her that I wanted her to put her toys away, but without the attitude.

Her response? "But daddy, I need the attitude! That's what girls do!"

If you have a funny story that you'd like to share with us, then send it off to us. You may be the one selected! Hey, we'll even throw in a T-shirt if your story is the one chosen.

Order your Crossroads Farm T-shirt in your school colors and help make a miracle happen!

That's right! You can get your very own T-shirt in your school colors and support the Farm by being a walking advertisement. To order simply write to us at our address, specify your school or favorite colors, size (medium-XXL) send us a check or money order (a suggested donation of \$10.00 made out to Crossroads Farm) and wait for 10-14 days. Join the Chicken Army!

Red/Gold Blue/White Blue/Gold Orange/Black
Purple/Gold Purple/White Green/Gold Red/White