

CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH

COMMUNICATOR

GATHER, GROW, GIVE, GO!

SEPTEMBER 2017, VOLUME 10, ISSUE 9



SEPT
17

—A—
PLACE
TO
Belong



NATIONAL
BACK TO
CHURCH
SUNDAY

September 17 is going to be a big day in the life of our Crossroads family, and we need your help! Your help is needed to reach out to the community and invite people to come back to church. Invite your friends, family, work colleagues, your fellow classmates and neighbors. It will be a great day here at Crossroads!

DEACON ELECTION

September

24

We will be holding elections for our new deacons on Sunday, September 24. Please be in prayer for this process as we approach this time in our church family's life.

DISCOVER CROSSROADS

LEARN MORE ABOUT CROSSROADS!

New Member Orientation Class

This class, taught by Dr. Ken, is for our new members and prospects who are considering joining our church.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

6:00 - 7:30 p.m In Room 6 of The Barn

To register, contact Leah Harrison at 229.242.7636
or online at crossroadsbaptist.com/discover



Crossroads
BAPTIST CHURCH

3001 Country Club Drive - Valdosta, Georgia 31602

Office: 229.242.7636

Prayer Request Line: 229.249.PRAY (7729)

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DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER WE WILL HAVE TWO MAJOR OUTREACH EVENTS AT CROSSROADS, the first of which will be our Men's Steak Night on Monday, September 11. Our very special guest speaker that evening will be Kelvin Cochran, the former chief of the

Atlanta Fire Department. Brother Kelvin made national news in 2015 when he was fired from that prominent position because of his Christian convictions. He had written a book directed at Christian men, and in just a few pages of that book, he had presented the completely conventional and orthodox position that sex outside of a male-female marriage relationship is contrary to the will of God. Because of that biblical stance, he was first suspended without pay, and then fired without due process. Kelvin Cochran's life story is truly remarkable, and he has a powerful testimony! On a date when we cannot help but honor and remember firefighters — September 11th — how fitting it is that our men will have the opportunity to hear from this brother in Christ, who at one time was the highest ranking fire official in the United States, running the Fire Administration, a division of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Guys, I urge you to get a ticket for yourself and one or more for friends. Let's use this annual Steak Night as a great outreach tool!

ON SIX DAYS AFTER THAT MONDAY NIGHT EVENT, WE WILL BE OBSERVING "BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY." As a part of our participation in this national emphasis, we are encouraging our members to be intentional in inviting as many people as possible to join us for worship on that Sunday. Three tools to help in facilitating our efforts are as follows: (1) small "invite cards" that you can hand out to people, (2) large postcards promoting "Back to Church Sunday" that you can mail to people, and (3) door hangers for selected neighborhoods that you can distribute during the two weeks leading up to that special Sunday. Crossroads family members, the truth is that YOU are our most effective outreach tools! I urge you to be praying for people whom you will invite to join us on September 17, and then be sensitive to opportunities to give them a simple invitation to join us in church on that Sunday. I can't wait to see what God will do as we reach out to our friends, relatives, associates, classmates, and neighbors and invite them to be with us on "Back to Church Sunday"!

ON SEPTEMBER 17, "BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY," I WILL BE BEGINNING A 12-PART SERIES OF MESSAGES. I am calling this series, "Dealing with Damaging Emotions." We will examine God's word as it relates to the following negative emotions: loneliness, stress, depression, anger, discouragement, insecurity, worry, frustration, grief, bitterness,

guilt, and fear. My prayer is that this upcoming series will be greatly used by God to teach all of us how to deal with these problematic feelings that can afflict any of us!

You are loved,

Dr. Ken
Dr. Ken

Follow me on Twitter
@drkenalford



RESPIRE CARE
Crossroads Baptist Church
Friday, September 29, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

This is a time for families with special needs. We will provide care for your special needs children and their siblings. Space is limited! This care is for any age child. Dinner, snacks, and drinks will be provided.

For those interested in helping, we will have an informational meeting on Sunday, September 10, at 4:30 p.m.
Sign up online at crossroadsbaptist.com/respire

Crossroads Men's Ministry

MEN'S STEAK NIGHT



**September 11, 6:00 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall**

Kelvin Cochran, Guest Speaker
**Former Administrator of
the United States Fire
Administration.**

**Former Fire Chief,
Atlanta Fire Department**

**\$15
Tickets
On Sale in the
Worship Center**

Sign up online at:
crossroadsbaptist.com/steak

Mark Avery Administration/Outreach Pastor



Dear Crossroads Family,

You probably know that I'm a process guy; I like "next steps." For the last few weeks, I've been staring at a 5-step process on my office white board for bringing folks from outside the church

into the church. It goes like this: **OUTREACH**

(leads to) → **ATTENDANCE** (leads to) → **CONNECTION**

(leads to) → **SERVICE** (leads to) → **MEMBERSHIP**.

Membership is the end of the assimilation process for followers of Jesus to link with a local church, but it is just the beginning of a life of service to others for fully-devoted disciples of Jesus.

Membership at Crossroads has two big entry requirements: salvation (in Jesus Christ alone, through faith alone) and believer's baptism (representing our death, burial, and resurrection alongside Jesus as our first act of obedience after our salvation experience). Once you're in, though, what's next? Well, there are plenty of ways to get plugged in; it just takes a little effort!

Thom Rainer wrote a wonderful little book entitled *I Am a Church Member*. (You should go out and get a copy.) In it, he wrote six "I will" statements that should be foundational for every church member. The chapters in that book, based on those statements, are as follows:

- I Will Be a Functioning Church Member
- I Will Be a Unifying Church Member
- I Will Not Let My Church Be about My Preferences or Desires
- I Will Pray for My Church Leaders
- I Will Lead My Family to Be Healthy Church Members
- I Will Treasure Church Membership as a Gift

Our time on Earth is fleeting, our God is awesome, and the mission is massive. Guests: Do you know Jesus as Savior? Do you have a place like Crossroads to belong? Regular Attenders: What's holding you back? Are you ready for the responsibility, challenge, and blessing of membership? Members: Are you all in? Have you made the commitment to the six statements above and beyond?

Church members aren't perfect, but we serve a God who is. What is your *Next Step*? Pray about it – then do it.

Blessed beyond measure,
Pastor Mark

Sign-up for a Discover Crossroads class at
crossroadsbaptist.com/discover

Ladies Wednesday Morning

BIBLE STUDY SEVEN CHURCHES OF REVELATION

Meets each Wednesday from 10:00 - 11:10 a.m.
in The Connection. Contact Paula King
at 229.245.1416 for more information.

Class begins Sept. 6. No Childcare is available.

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT

Thursday Evenings from 6:15 - 8:00 p.m.

Genesis, Chapters 1 & 2

For more information or to request
childcare, contact Frances Strite
at 717-658-4369 or
strite5@att.net

LADIES THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

"PROVEN"

by Jennie Allen

Meets from 6:15-7:45 p.m. Led by Jess Bowen.
Begins September 14.

Contact Jess at 229.326.1448
for additional information.

Childcare is available with reservation.

MEN'S THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Meets in The Connection every
Thursday evening 6:15-7:45 p.m.

"Life Principles from the Kings of the Old Testament"
Begins September 14.

Crossroads Baptist SCHOOL NEWS

Grandparents Day Chapel

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, AT 10:00 a.m.

Picture Day at CBS!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Chick-Fil-A Spirit Day

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Crossroads Baptist School will receive a portion of the proceeds from sales all day at the Perimeter Road location!

See You At The Pole!

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27, AT 8:30 a.m.

Join us for this prayer event as our boys and girls pray together for our school, teachers, students and nation. We will see you at the pole!

CBS

Mark your calendars now for

Parent & Baby DEDICATION

Dedication
Sunday: Oct. 29



Parent & Baby Dedication is a very special observance for parents and young children. Be looking for details about how to sign up for this additional observance this fall!