

Welcome to

Starting Point

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Our Vision

To Develop Fully-Devoted Followers of Jesus Christ Who Want to Transform the Triangle and the World

This is our “why.” This will always be our end goal. Not only do we want to develop fully devoted followers, but we also want make disciples by sharing this hope with others.

The Five Behaviors of a Disciple

In your journey to becoming a fully devoted follower of Jesus, we want to help you grow in each of these five behaviors of a disciple:



CONNECT (Build Relationships)

It is so important to connect to others! We are meant to do life together and we want to help you find ways to connect to other believers, deepen your relationships and find your place to belong.



GROW (Learn About God)

There are always new things to discover about our relationship with God! Everyone has a “next step” - a new thing to learn about God or their walk with Him. Whether you are just starting in your walk with the Lord or you’ve been following Him for many years, we want to help you find your “next step” in growing in your faith.



SERVE (Help Others)

Get involved! No matter how big, or how small, serving reaches people with the love of God. Crossroads provides many opportunities for you to serve others here in the local church, through our online church, our community, and even abroad. When you help meet the needs of others, you are reflecting the love of God and growing toward becoming fully devoted in Christ.



PRAY (Pray for Others)

We believe in the power of prayer and the God who hears and answers.



GIVE (Sacrificially)

One of the ways we show our love for God is in giving of our time, our talents and our treasure. When we trust God with our finances, we know that He will meet our needs and use our generosity to impact others with the love of God.

Our History - The Crossroads Fellowship Story

God has been writing the story of Crossroads Fellowship every step of the way. We invite you to take a look back at His faithfulness and guidance from the very beginning.

Beginnings

Crossroads Fellowship's story began in August 1987 when our founding pastor, Billy Riggs, sensed the Lord's leading to begin a new church – thoroughly Biblical, but clearly contemporary in style, and dedicated to reaching those who do not normally attend church. In January 1988, nearly eighty people attended an informational meeting on a snowy evening. Just two weeks before the very first service was to be held on June 5, 1988, God established a temporary home for Crossroads by miraculously opening the doors for us to meet at Athens Drive High School. (Athens Drive had already turned down requests from 30 other churches, including two earlier requests from us!)

The Early Days

About 250 people attended the first worship service. A week later, Sunday school classes began with classes separated by only makeshift curtains. Nursery areas were formed by turning cafeteria tables on their sides at the end of hallways to form barricades. Despite the rustic conditions, the church thrived. By January of 1990, 800 people were regularly jamming the auditorium, which was designed to seat only 550. Needing more space, we moved from Athens Drive to a larger rented space in Sanderson High School. God blessed the ministry even more and we exploded to over 2000 people while at Sanderson High School.

Location, Location, Location

With the exponential growth, we needed some more elbow room, so we purchased land off of Gresham Lake Road with the intention to build. But, God had a different plan for Crossroads. In May 1995 he provided us with a home of our own through the Black and Decker Warehouse Building (our current Millbrook Campus facility). The sale of the land helped fund the purchase. We built out 37,500 square feet of ministry space and held our first worship service in December 1996.

What were we going to do with a giant warehouse? Again, God had many plans in store for us. Crossroads grew by leaps and bounds! God provided the resources to build an additional 67,000 square feet of ministry space in 2000 and, through the generous gifts of our church family, we built out an additional 50,000 square feet of much needed space in 2008.

The Wake Forest Campus

There were so many people coming from the northern part of Wake County that we launched our first multisite campus at Heritage High School in September 2010. Several years later, God provided the opportunity for the Wake Forest Campus to move to a permanent location on Keith Store Road in Wake Forest.

Our History (continued)

What about that Giant Warehouse?

When we first moved into the Millbrook Campus, it seemed hard to imagine ever filling all the space in this gigantic building. We had already built out a great deal of ministry space, but God had more for us to do for our community! The Missions Thrift Store opened in a section of the Millbrook Campus warehouse in 2011. Proceeds from thrift store sales help fund our short-term mission teams, community partners and our partnership with DOOR International which plants churches for the deaf in India, Africa, and Asia.

Leaders Along the Way

God has given Crossroads several inspiring Senior Pastors over the years, including our founding pastor Billy Riggs (1988 -1995), Steve Breedlove (1997 – 2001) and Chuck Milian (2001 - 2016).

Andy George has joyfully served as our Senior Pastor since December 2016. Andy first joined the Crossroads staff in 2005 and, along with his wife Stacie, has been in full time ministry for 25 years. Before becoming our Senior Pastor, Andy served in several different roles including Student Pastor, Campus Pastor of our first multi-site campus in Wake Forest, and as Associate Senior Pastor. A driving force in his ministry is seeing people believe in the God that can do exceedingly, abundantly more - and that this truth will transform their lives AND their communities!

Investing in People

Crossroads Fellowship is much more than buildings, budgets, or programs; Crossroads Fellowship is people! From its inception, our church has intentionally invested in people so that lives are transformed.

Our vision at Crossroads Fellowship is to become fully devoted followers of Christ who want to transform the Triangle and the world, so this is what we are all about! This means that every aspect of our lives is centered on and around Jesus Christ. As we work at our jobs, go to school, get married, have kids, serve in our community, coach soccer, go to the grocery store, etc. ... every moment we seek to submit to and live in the awareness of our Lord Jesus Christ and to point others to Him.

God has sent us people from every walk of life and now YOU are a vital part of our story too. We cannot do the next steps God has for us to do without you as part of it! We are so blessed to have you along for this incredible journey!

Our Leadership Structure

Elders

Crossroads Fellowship is a Pastor led and an Elder protected church. This simply means that our pastor and pastoral team lead the church with vision and mission as they believe God through His Spirit are leading them to do so. An Elder is a volunteer position. The Elders maintain our overall protection to be sure that we are on point in our doctrine, theology, and practice. This also means that we are not a Congregational Church in that our church congregation does not vote or make churchwide decisions. Those decisions rest in our pastor and elders.

The role of an Elder:

"Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task." - 1 Timothy 3:1

Elders should be men who are:

- Above reproach
- Not pugnacious
- Not contentious
- Self-controlled
- Prudent
- Able to teach
- Not quick-tempered, Just
- Devout, Hospitable, Gentle
- Respectable, Temperate
- Able to manage their household well
- Husband of but one wife
- Not lovers of money
- Not addicted to wine
- Not self-willed
- Not a new convert
- Lovers of what is good

As an Elder:

- **Be One Thing:**
A fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ at home, at church, and in the world.
- **Do Three Things:**
 1. **SERVE:** Participate in a specific Ministry area.
 2. **SHEPHERD:** Protect and nourish the Vision of the church and the Body of Christ.
 3. **LEAD:** Partner with the Staff and other Elders in leading and making decisions.

Our Leadership Structure (continued)

Spiritual Authority Organizational Structure

Spiritual leadership is humble service exercised in the power of God according to spiritual giftedness in response to specific needs. *(Matthew 20:25-26; 1 Peter 4:7-11)*

The Pastor/Elder Relationship

- Staff "directs" / Elders "protect"
- Pastor/Elder accountability
- Pastor/Elder monthly meetings and spiritual formation

Ministry Teams and Small Groups

Our Motivations:

- Acts 2:42-47
- Ephesians 4:11-16
- Exodus 18:6-26

What We Model

- A group of 3 or more people who Connect, Grow, Serve, Pray and Give together.
- Encourage, Equip, Empower
- Examples of Small Groups:
 - Serve Teams
 - On Campus Groups
(Community Bible Study - CBS, Mothers of Preschoolers - MOPS)
 - Passion Groups
 - Offsite Small Groups

Giving

The Bible has a lot to say about generosity and tithing. Generosity is a powerful vehicle for spiritual growth. It helps us maintain a healthy perspective on where our resources truly come from, what we are supposed to do with what God gives us, and how we can love and bless the people He puts in our lives.

What Does it Mean?

If you are new to church, maybe you aren't familiar with the word "tithe." What does it mean? A tithe literally means ten percent. In the Old Testament the Israelites were required to give ten percent of their resources.

At Crossroads, we believe that God still calls us to good *stewardship* (the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care) and believe the Bible challenges us to test Him in our generosity (Malachi 3:10-12). If this is a new concept, setting aside ten percent of your income to give to the church can be daunting, so some like to take baby steps toward it. You can work up to tithing in small steps by giving 1% more to the church than you gave the previous year.

Financial Freedom

The world often teaches a much different approach to money and, as a result, many of us find ourselves entangled in debt and huge financial burdens when we meet difficult times or unexpected hardships. Crossroads is committed to seeing people become financially free. The Financial Freedom Ministry provides classes, workshops, resources and budget coaching to help people realize financial freedom by getting out of debt, establishing a budget and learning about God's view of money.

Trusting God with our finances and through our generosity can be life-changing. It can provide incredible freedom and peace. Giving of our time, talents and financial resources is a reflection of our hearts and recognition that God is truly Lord of every part of our lives.

Missions

Our church is also committed to missions. We invest over 20% of our income in local and global outreach, but desire to grow that to 51% over time. In other words, we desire to invest more to reaching our community and the world than we spend on our own internal needs.

The Crossroads City Reaching Foundation currently gives more than \$300,000 per year in grants to local agencies who are effectively impacting our cities and communities. We partner with 60+ area organizations and ministries who are actively meeting the needs of people in our community in a myriad of ways. We send local missionaries to represent us as community chaplains to local businesses and schools; and foreign missionaries all over the world.

Small Groups

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." - Matthew 18:20

Created for Community

Here at Crossroads we like to say that we are not a church *with* small groups, but that we are a **small groups church**. We clearly were not created to do life alone. Throughout God's word and His creation, we see His love for community. We desire for you to experience God through life-giving relationships found in small groups.

Our small groups consist of three or more people who gather in a home, workplace, restaurant, church or online — anywhere a group can gather. These groups engage in encouraging activities that help the members connect, grow, serve, pray and give together.

Small groups come in all shapes and sizes — singles, married couples, students, men, women — the list goes on. No matter where you are in life, there is a group for you.

Find Your Group

We have a Small Groups Finder form to help you get connected with the right group. You can find the Group Finder tool and more information about Small Groups on our webpage:

crossroads.org/smallgroups

Care and Help Ministries

People in need of care at Crossroads Fellowship are supported first, by fellow members of their ministry team and small group members, and then by our church-wide care system. Care Ministries at Crossroads exist to uplift and strengthen our church and community, helping them become fully devoted followers of Christ. We do that by touching lives in the greatest areas of need as we encourage progress in connecting, growing, serving, praying and giving.

Next Gen

Here for the Next Generation

Crossroads is dedicated to serving, teaching, and empowering all generations. Our “Next Gen” department has designated ministries, tailored specifically for each group, for multiple ages from birth to 35 years. We believe God has a purpose and plan for your life, no matter what age you are!

- **KIDS Ministry** *(Birth to 5th grade)*

Loving leaders and volunteers care, teach, and have plenty of fun with your children across all the age groups: Nursery, Preschool and Elementary. We are passionate about showing kids the wonder of God’s world and helping them discover who God is and the plan He has for their lives.

- **Crossroads YTH - Youth Ministry** *(6th-12th grade students)*

Crossroads YTH desires to see each and every youth step into a full relationship with Jesus Christ. Our dedicated leaders and volunteers strive to help young people find connection and community through Sunday YTH services, Serve Sundays, Crew (small groups), YouTube night House Party, and other special events. We want to give youth a fun and safe place to be inspired and equipped to become a light and encouragement to their friends and schools. We believe that: **Youth is future. And the future is now.**

- **College Ministry** *(ages 18-24)*

This relatively new ministry provides an exciting place for college age individuals to find community and grow in their faith and discipleship. The transition after high school can be a challenging time and far too many young people leave the church during this time; we are changing this! The College Ministry provides a secure anchor, a supportive community, and a place to come “home” to during the week or during college breaks. Here college age young adults develop relationships that empower them to do ministry on their own college campuses and find strength to courageously walk in faith.

- **Young Adults Ministry** *(ages 25-35)*

Everyone needs a place where they can belong. The Young Adults Ministry encourages young adults to *live on purpose* and equips them to make an impact in their workplace, their community and their world. We enjoy **doing life together** through home small groups, hangouts and events, virtual groups, serving, and the bi-weekly **Gathering** coffee and connection time (held the 2nd and 4th Sundays, 10:30am, Millbrook Campus).

What We Believe

The Doctrine of Crossroads Fellowship

About God

1. God is an eternal personal Spirit being, who created all things in the spiritual and physical worlds. (*Genesis 1:1, Psalm 90:2, John 1:13, Romans 1:19-20*)
2. God exists in three coequal, yet distinct, persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and these three are one God, having precisely the same nature, attributes, and perfections, and being worthy of precisely the same worship, confidence, and obedience. (*Deuteronomy 6:4, I Corinthians 8:46, Matthew 28:19, John 1:13, John 6:27, Acts 5:34*)
3. God is unchanging in His essential being. However, the methods by which He administers His plan for the world may change. He is perfect and complete in all His attributes including knowledge, holiness, righteousness, love, power, wisdom, authority, and presence. (*Hebrews 13:8, Malachi 3:6, Psalm 19:9, 139:1-8, I Peter 1:15-16, Colossians 1:16-17, I John 4:8, I Timothy 1:17, I Corinthians 1:25*)

About the Bible

1. The words of the Old and New Testaments are inspired by God and are without error in the original manuscripts. Men of God were moved by the Holy Spirit to record precisely the words which God intended. The Bible, therefore, is the final authority in all matters about which it speaks.
2. The Bible is to be interpreted in a normal and literal way. This means that history, grammar, and context are the guidelines for proper interpretation. (*II Timothy 3:16-17, II Peter 1:21, John 10:35*)
3. God's revelation ceased with the completion of the sixty six books of the Bible.

We believe in "general/universal revelation" which is a continual divine disclosure of God through creation, nature, history, and conscience to all persons at all times and all places. We also believe in "special revelation" which in the strictest theological sense was closed with the completed inspired authoritative sacred Scriptures of the Bible. Furthermore, we believe in "guidance/insight/illumination" by the Lord which is a continual ongoing work of the Holy Spirit in the life of every believer. "Guidance" is to be desired but would never contradict or change the inspired and closed revelation of the Scriptures. The will of God outside the Bible will never contradict the will of God inside the Bible.

What We Believe (continued)

About Jesus

1. Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He is both fully God and fully man. He came into the world to manifest God to men, fulfill Old Testament prophecy, and become the Savior of a lost world. While He was fully human, He had sinless human nature and lived a perfect life.
2. In infinite love He became the divinely provided sacrificial Lamb to take away the sin of the world. By His death on the cross He bore the judgements that a holy God must impose.
3. He rose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, and intercedes for the saints before the Father.

About the Holy Spirit

1. The Holy Spirit is the third person of the triune God, whose functions and attributes are as follows:
 - a. He is omniscient. (*I Corinthians 2:11-12*)
 - b. He is truth. (*I John 5:6*)
 - c. He was involved in the creation. (*Genesis 1:2*)
 - d. He guided the writers of Scripture. (*II Peter 1:21, II Timothy 3:16*)
 - e. He caused the conception of Jesus in the womb of Mary. (*Luke 1:35*)
 - f. He convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. (*John 16:8*)
 - g. He causes the spiritual rebirth of a person and baptizes them (identifies them with the body of Christ) at the time of their trust in Christ as Savior. (*John 3:18, I Corinthians 12:13*)
 - h. He is given as a seal to the child of God as a pledge of a future inheritance from God. (*II Corinthians 1:22, Ephesians 1:18, 4:3*)
 - i. He intercedes for the believer in prayer in time of need and is the believer's helper. (*Romans 8:26, John 15:26-16:14*)
 - j. He guides in our growth in holiness (sanctification). (*II Thessalonians 2:13*)
 - k. He gives spiritual gifts to every believer to be used in service to God. (*I Corinthians 12:1-11*)
2. God's will is that all Christians be filled with the Spirit, resulting in a life characterized by the fruit of the Spirit. (*Ephesians 5:18, Galatians 5:16-25*)

What We Believe (continued)

About Salvation

1. Every person who has lived, with the exception of Jesus Christ, is in need of personal deliverance from God's eternal judgment for his sinfulness, that is, his violation of God's will and falling short of God's perfect standards. (*Romans 3:9-23, Ephesians 2:13*)
2. Christ died as a full and sufficient payment for the sins of the entire world, and as a substitute for all men. Christ's shed blood is the only provision by which an individual may be delivered from the wrath of God. (*Hebrews 10:1-14, John 14:6, Acts 4:12, Romans 3:24, II Corinthians 5:18-21*)
3. Salvation is a free gift of God that must be received by each individual through faith and trust in Christ's sacrifice on the cross alone, and not through self-effort or human merit. (*Acts 13:38-39, 16:31, Romans 3:19-28, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 2:1-10*)
4. The person who trusts in Christ's death on the cross to save him can be assured of his destiny in heaven because of his position in Christ and possession of eternal life. (*John 3:16, 5:24, 10:27-29, Hebrews 13:5, I John 5:11-13*)
5. God's purpose for each of His children is to conform them to the image of Christ which is a progressive process in which the Christian should respond in obedience to God's word and cooperate with the Spirit's leading. Complete sanctification will not be attained in this life but is received at the believer's death or rapture. (*Colossians 2:67, John 17:17, II Corinthians 3:18, 7:1, I Thessalonians 5:23, I John 3:23*)
6. Every Christian will stand for evaluation at the judgment seat of Christ to determine eternal rewards based on faithfulness in obedience to God subsequent to salvation. (*I Corinthians 3:10-15, II Corinthians 5:9-10*)

About Future Things

1. All Christians, living and dead, will meet the Lord in the air at the rapture and will forever be with Him. (*I Thessalonians 4:16-17*)
2. In the future, Christ will return bodily to the earth in power and glory to set up His kingdom. (*Matthew 24:15-31, Revelation 20:1-10*)
3. All unbelievers and fallen angels will be judged and condemned to hell forever. All believers will enter into the presence of God in the eternal kingdom of the new heaven and the new earth. (*Revelation 20:10, 21:5*)

What We Believe (continued)

About the Church

1. All who are by faith united to the risen Christ are members of the true universal church, which is the body and bride of Christ. Membership in the universal church is without regard of membership or nonmembership in the organized churches or denominations of Earth. Every believer is baptized by the Holy Spirit at the point of salvation, thereby placing him into the one body of Christ.
2. The local church is God's primary means of bringing His saints to spiritual maturity and equipping them for the work of the ministry. Every believer is a priest, and there is no justification for a clergy laity distinction.
3. The local church provides the opportunity for believers to obey God's command by observing water baptism and the Lord's Supper until He comes.

About Mankind

1. Man is created in the image of God. Because of sin his perfect fellowship with God was broken and he experienced physical and spiritual death (separation from God).
2. The consequences of the sin of Adam and Eve affect the entire human race. All human beings are born with a sinful human nature and commit sins.

About Angels

1. Angels are spiritual beings created by God to serve and worship Him and to minister to people.
2. Lucifer, (Morning Star or Son of the Dawn), the angel of highest rank, sinned through pride and thereby became Satan. He is the active enemy of God and of God's people, opposing and exalting himself above God. Many angels followed Satan, some of who became demons and are active as Satan's agents in the world. (*Isaiah 14:12*)

Our Values and Uniqueness

As we wrap up Starting Point, let us focus on our four key values and on what makes Crossroads Fellowship unique.

We Value

1. The Word of God

We believe in the power and authority of the Scriptures.

2. An Authentic Relationship with Jesus Christ

We believe that Salvation is found in no one else.

3. People

We are better together in ministries, groups and teams. We honor God by honoring one another within Diversity.

4. Excellence

We care about the details as we Serve the Body and Worship Together.

We Are Unique

Our Uniqueness as a church sets us apart and gives us direction to continue to make an impact in our community. We are:

- Multicultural
- Multigenerational
- Community Partnerships