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# Partnership

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Guiding you to partnering in God's work at Crossroads



**crossroads**  
church

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## OUR VISION FRAME

### **We exist to love God, love people, and make disciples of Jesus**

That's our mission. We don't expect it to ever change because it's just another way to say the mission ("The Great Commission") Jesus gave us after His resurrection and before He ascended into Heaven.

Jesus came and told his disciples, I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age. (**Matt. 28:19-20**)

This mission will never change until Jesus comes back.

Jesus was really just passing along HIS mission which he defined very clearly when he said this: "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." (Luke 19:10)

Yet again, Jesus communicated his mission another way to his disciples when he said this: "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8b) Peosta is our Jerusalem. The Western Dubuque area is our Judea. America is our Samaria. You get the picture. Our light should shine brightest at its source, which is right here in our community.

### **We believe every person in Dubuque County should be given the chance to enter into a relationship with Jesus.**

This is what God values most: a relationship with the people he created. So it's what WE value most. We strive to be a church that will do whatever it takes to GIVE EVERYBODY THAT CHANCE!

There are three key things you need to know about our Jerusalem in order for you to grasp the vision of Crossroads:

#### 1. Peosta is growing.

Peosta is a growing city. Multi-housing units and new home development is on the rise. Peosta is strategically positioned between the farthest reaches of Western

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Dubuque and downtown Dubuque. It is a place where young families continue to move, so we want to be laser focused on creating environments where they'll feel welcomed by the love of Jesus.

2. Over 90% (approx. 87,580) of our county is unreached.

That's a staggering number, but that's why God has planted Crossroads here! If you are a follower of Jesus, you are a missionary called to reach out to the 90% unchurched and be a witness to the amazing grace and love of Jesus Christ. We don't need anyone sending missionaries to our city. WE are the missionaries. It's time to roll up our sleeves and get to work.

3. We are surrounded with kids, students, and young families.

The average age of Peosta is under 36 years old. While we enjoy some diversity, the vast majority of our neighbors are families with kids in the home. There is an entire generation that needs to be shown the love of Jesus.

We are a church that was established in 2013. Starting from a bible study, we have seen it grow by hundreds. Almost 200 people have given their lives to Jesus since Crossroads was launched. Many of these families have been radically impacted by the ministry, but there are so many more that need to be reached.

So how do we do this?

## THE VISION

Our vision is to hand the next generation a Dubuque County where the name of Jesus has become famous. Where schools are filled with Christian clubs, neighborhoods are bursting with small groups and it's challenging to find people in Western Dubuque that don't gather weekly to worship the Lord.

-We believe God has called us to make a substantial impact on Western Dubuque through multiplying disciples, partnering with our community, and investing into relationships that will have an exponential impact for the gospel.

## OUR ORGANIZATIONAL VALUES

1. **The Bible is alive and life changing**

-God's word is the foundation for everything we believe and do.

2. **People matter**

- You matter to God, so you matter to CrossRoads.

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### 3. Always developing leaders

- We are committed to creating a culture where we grow people. This means we have desire to give high levels of leadership away. We're here to help you take your next step.

### 4. Volunteer Driven

- Crossroads volunteers make it happen and we intend to keep it that way. We desire to be the church, which means empowering people to do the work of ministry.

### 5. Excellence in everything

- Jesus paid a high price to save us. As a result, we intend to do our very best each week to love him and grow people with the utmost excellence.

### 6. Radical Generosity

- Jesus demonstrated radical generosity by giving his life for us. We want to honor him in being radically generous with our time, talents, and treasures.

Our organizational values are what we go back to when we are faced with "tough" decisions. If we hold tightly to the mission, look continually to God's word, pursue excellence relentlessly, and focus outward towards "going" rather than inward towards "staying", we believe we will see a decrease in lostness like never before.

## OUR STRATEGY

**Strategy:** Gather, Grow, Go

**Gather:** We gather weekly in public worship. This is an opportunity to worship the living God, connect with others who desire the same, and to belong to something bigger than any of us. We are passionate about helping people say "yes" to Jesus regardless of what they know about God or his word. (Acts 2:44-46)

- Community Events
- Crossroads Night Out
- Weekly Worship (Adults, kids, students, young adults)

**Grow:** We all have a next step to take in our relationship with Jesus. Crossroads is dedicated to helping people identify and make that next step. We'll help you heal from wounds of the past and draw closer to God so that we can become all that God has created us to be. (1 Peter 2:24; James 4:8)

- Community Groups
- Bible Studies

**Go:** Jesus' church is the hope of the world. Each of us are called to share and show the love of Christ in our schools, workplaces, and communities. Whether it's local or across

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the globe, CrossRoads is committed to helping send his message to the ends of the earth. (Matthew 28:18-20)

- Serve at CrossRoads
- Serve Locally
- Serve Internationally

## What is a Partner?

When someone decides to officially make Crossroads their church home, we deliberately call it partnership. **Galatians 6:6** states, “Those who are taught the word of God should provide for their teachers, **sharing** all good things with them.” “Sharing” comes from the Greek *koinoneo* meaning, “to come into fellowship with, to become a sharer be made a **partner**.”

### Acts 2:42-47 NLT The Believers Form a Community

<sup>42</sup> All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and to prayer.

<sup>43</sup> A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders.

<sup>44</sup> And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had.<sup>45</sup> They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. <sup>46</sup> They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord’s Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity— <sup>47</sup> all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.”

**Crossroads Church expects its partners to exhibit the following characteristics:**

1.) **Consistent in their worship** (Acts 2:42).

- Crossroads expects partners to model regular worship attendance.

2.) **Committed to community** (Acts 2:46).

- Crossroads expects partners to be active in a group.

3.) **Dedicated to generous giving** (Acts 2:44-46).

- Crossroads expects partners to be tithers.

4.) **Selflessly serving** (Acts 2:46).

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- Crossroads expects partners to share in the work of the church by serving.

**5.) Expecting God to show off in ways that are frightening (Acts 2:43;47).**

- Crossroads expects partners to be on mission with us.

**When you partner with Crossroads, you should expect these benefits:**

1. I will belong.
2. I will grow.
3. I will have a purpose.

Crossroads is part of the family of God. By partnering, you should enjoy warm relationships that invigorate and inspire. There's nothing like being around others who are doing what you are doing: taking next steps with Jesus. Much like what we saw described in Acts 2, you can expect camaraderie that happens when we get together and worship the God who created us, loves us, and literally died for us to be with him forever. We need each other. By partnering, you get to experience a sense of belonging that is powerful and encouraging.

When you partner at Crossroads, you can also expect to grow in your faith. Our mission to make disciples of Jesus provides you with a purpose. We're committed to creating environments and opportunities for you to learn more about God, serve others like Jesus, and make a tangible impact on our community. You were uniquely designed by God to play a special role in the work He is doing right here in Peosta and even beyond in our nation and world. The church equips each of its partners to go change their world by serving within the church and in the community. God has a place for you in His mission, and you get to be a part of it. There's nothing else you can experience in life that is as fulfilling as being on mission with Jesus. We're excited that you have invited us into that space and look forward to helping you become all that God has created you to be.

## **Who leads Crossroads Church?**

Jesus leads Crossroads, and we follow the Biblical model of eldership (1 Tim. 3,5; Titus 1). God has delegated leadership of the local church to the elders, who share equal responsibility of governing Crossroads. The lead pastor, who is an elder, oversees all things ministry and staff-related and leads the elders and staff team who equip the church (Eph 4.). In other words, we are elder-governed, and staff-led. We are blessed to

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have an incredible staff team that is here to help with the day-to-day operations and programs of the church by equipping God's people and providing leadership.

## **What are the core beliefs of Crossroads Church?**

### **Core Beliefs**

The following are the core beliefs of Crossroads Church Peosta based on the foundational truths taught in the bible. All of our teaching and ministry is rooted in and flows out of these biblical doctrines.

### **God**

We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to pursue and bring back a people for Himself and to make all things new.

### **The Human Condition**

We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.

### **Jesus Christ**

We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life. We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation. We believe he arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate. We believe in the personal, bodily return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy.

### **The Bible**

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. The Bible is the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

## **How do I Partner?**

This dinner makes you eligible to become a partner of Crossroads Church! Now that you have heard all about Crossroads, if you desire to commit to being a part of this mission and vision, then we invite you to sign the Partnership Covenant page at the end of this packet and

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turn it in to one of our staff. It's that simple! However, there are a few pre-requisites we must reiterate:

1.) First, the most important part of partnership is being a part of God's family. Have you taken your first step with Jesus? If not, join that family first. If we've never received a testimony from you before, please take a moment to write one out below (bottom of document). If you've never trusted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, then in just a moment you'll have an opportunity to do so.

2.) If you have taken your first step with Jesus already, have you taken the FIRST next step of baptism? If not, and you want to join Crossroads, the next step is to schedule your baptism.

## **Baptism**

It's an outward symbol of an inward change.

If you have committed in your heart to follow Jesus, baptism is your proclamation of that commitment. Baptism literally means to dunk under water. It's a practice that's been going on since the first century AD. Jesus, himself, was baptized to set the example. You may have even noticed earlier that when Jesus gave us "The Great Commission," he commanded us to baptize any new followers.

### **Baptism tells two stories.**

When you are dunked under the water, it symbolizes a burial. When you come up out of the water, it symbolizes a resurrection, a new life. So the first story you are telling with your baptism is the story of Jesus who came and died for our sins, was buried, and on the third day rose again. He is the one who saves us. He stepped out of his grave, we will step out of ours! The second story is when you begin to follow Jesus, the old "you" who was lost in sin was buried, and now God is making you new, giving "you" new life!

In many ways, baptism is like a wedding ring. It doesn't make you married; it just tells the world that you are. Baptism doesn't make you a Christian or get you into Heaven; it just tells the world that you love and follow Jesus.

What if you were baptized already as a baby? Some churches practice this tradition and we love the commitment it demonstrates on behalf of the parents. This tradition, however, is not found in the Bible. We practice what's called "believer's baptism." We only baptize those who



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have expressed repentance and belief in Jesus. The baptism comes after they have articulated this on their own volition. This baptism is described in the Bible (Acts 2:38). And since baptism in the Bible was done by submersion, we do it that way too.

## **I've partnered! Now what?**

**BE THE CHURCH!** Remember, the church is not a building, an institution, or an organization. It's an organism, a movement of God made up of people. Expect us to follow up with you to help you take next steps. You are the church. Now go be the church! How?

1. GATHER to worship every week.
2. GROW in your faith, community, and generosity.
3. Go in service to Peosta and beyond.

We will help you along the way. We will equip you with what you need to know and what you need to do. God is on the move, and he is using Crossroads to be a light like no other in Peosta and Dubuque County. We are glad you have partnered us. Now let's get to work!

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## Membership Covenant

### Nehemiah 9:38 The People Agree to Obey

<sup>38</sup> The people responded, “In view of all this, we are making a solemn promise and putting it in writing. On this sealed document are the names of our leaders and Levites and priests.”

I know what Crossroads Church believes, and I understand and agree with its mission to love God, love people, and make disciples of Jesus. I am ready to **Gather** in worship, **Grow** in a group, give of my time, talents, and treasure, and **Go** serve so that Jesus can use me to spread his love and reach the unreached of Western Dubuque and the world. By signing my name below, I am saying that I agree with the tenants of Crossroads partnership and want to join God's work that is happening in and through Crossroads Church. I am committed to keeping the unity of the church by supporting the leadership and my fellow partners. I agree to place myself under the authority of Crossroads church. Should conflict or disagreement arise, I commit to having God honoring conversations (Mat.18) with leadership or others, seeking reconciliation. I am fully committed to contributing to the advancement of the gospel as a partner of Crossroads.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Print full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Have you been baptized as a believer? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, where and when?

Are you a member/partner of another church?