

April 2016

connecting the people & ministries of crossroads

WELCOME BLAKE COOPER

Leadership Development Resident

Blake Cooper will begin on April 1st as Crossroads' newest Leadership Development Resident. Unlike our other Resident Pastors, Blake is not a lead church planter but rather a gifted worship leader who can resource multiple planting initiatives. Blake has been developing and leading the worship band at Wave Church in Deshler under Alex Ruhter's leadership. As a resident with flexibility to help multiple church plants Blake will also develop and lead a worship band for the Adrian initiative and other future church planting initiatives.

In 2014, God used a friendship with Matt Strader to stir Blake's heart to move to northwest Ohio. Blake got a job at a local bank but has attended and served within the Crossroads network of churches since moving to northwest Ohio early last year. Blake will engage in LDR orientation and phase 1 of the residency this spring and summer while continuing to lead worship at Wave in Deshler. Blake will also develop Crossroads' youth band working under Matt Strader's leadership. He will also be engaged in discipleship and perhaps some teaching ministry.

Blake is passionate to train and develop other worship leaders, especially young people. He will be connecting with area school music directors to identify potential worship leaders. If you know of someone who has a heart to be trained to lead worship, sing vocals or play an instrument, Blake would love to connect with you. Please welcome Blake Cooper.

MARRIAGE RETREAT

This April, couples will have the opportunity to learn about how men and women, so very different from each other, can come together in a delightful marriage that lasts. The Bible indicates that husbands and wives need not only tolerate their differences but can actually value and delight in differences. This brief retreat, led by Matt and Lanita and their team, will help married couples understand, appreciate and maximize their differences for their joy and the glory of God who created marriage and our gender differences. Sessions will be held in

SUNDAYS IN APRIL

April 3	Empowered: Acts 1:1–Acts 2:21 (Matt Boyers)
April 10	Empowered: Acts 2:22-41 (Matt Boyers)
April 17	Empowered: Acts 3 (Matt Boyers)
April 24	Empowered: Acts 4 (Nate Hamblin)

the chapel Friday evening, April 22 (7:00–9:00 p.m.) and Saturday, April 23 (9:00–4:00 p.m.). The cost is \$25 per couple and covers all supplies, snacks and Saturday lunch. Contact the office to RSVP.

NEW LIBRARY ITEMS

Be sure to stop by the church library to check out some of the great new items available for kids, teens and adults! Some of the items include:

For Kids—

Blotch, A tale of Forgiveness and Grace

Blotch is a boy who lives in a kingdom where everyone has blotches on their skin. Each time a person does something wrong, another spot appears. Hoping to find someone who knows how to get rid of the spots, Blotch strikes out on a journey. Blotch is a excellent tool for teaching kids about the Gospel.

For Adults—

War Room: Prayer is a Powerful Weapon

Juggling motherhood and her job, Elizabeth Jordan wishes her husband could help more around the house. But Tony's rising career as a pharmaceutical salesman demands more and more of his time. With a nice home in the suburbs and a lovely young daughter, they appear to have it all—yet they can't seem to spend time together without fighting.

Raising Grateful Kids in an Entitled World

Author, Kristen Welch, shares the ups and downs in her own family's journey of discovering why it's healthiest "not" to give their kids everything. Teaching them the difference between "want" and "need" is the first step in the right direction.

Do You Believe?

From the creators of the blockbuster film God's Not Dead comes a novel based on their follow-up film Do You Believe?—an inspiring, heart-stirring, and faith-affirming story about how God works in the lives of those who believe.

MAN CAMP

Men, it's time to reserve your spot for a great weekend at Miracle Camp. Crossroads' men plan to attend Man



Camp weekend 3, April 8-10, 2016. Register directly at www.miraclecamp.com

and list "Crossroads" as your roommate option. Spots are limited, so register early! Financial assistance is available by calling the office.



WOMEN'S RETREAT

Mark your calendar for this year's Women's Retreat, April 29-May 1, 2016. This women's conference is full of workshops, indoor and outdoor activities, and relaxing massages. There is great Bible teaching, passionate worship, and opportunities for you to connect with other women. Register directly at www.miraclecamp.com and list "Crossroads" as your roommate option. Spots are limited, so register early! Financial assistance is available by calling the office.



OPEN HEARTS MINISTRIES

Open Hearts Ministry is an international ministry for those desiring to learn biblical ways to journey towards recovery from the damage of life's wounds (specifically neglect through all forms of abuse). A 12 week group will begin this month, depending on interest. Contact the church office for more information.

COMMUNITY GARDEN MEETING

On Saturday, April 30th, there will be a meeting for anyone interested in maintaining a garden plot this summer. The meeting will be held in the Crossroads lobby from 10:00 a.m. until noon. You may choose your garden plot (10'x20' or 20'x20') and receive helpful gardening information at that time. Individuals and/or families, even small groups, are welcome to sign up for a plot on which to grow fruits and vegetables for your own use or to give away. Participants are required to follow guidelines and care for the land. If you are interested or have any questions, please call the church office or David Smith at 419-337-7634.

KITCHEN SPRING CLEANING

On Tuesday April 5 we will be cleaning the church kitchen. If you are able to help us clean and organize the kitchen, please join us at 8:30 a.m. or whenever you can come in the morning. We'll have some soup for lunch and enjoy each others company.

TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIVING

To enable the church to reliably track your giving throughout the year and issue you a receipt for tax purposes, please use our designated envelope system. If you do not currently have an envelope number assigned to you but would like to start using this system, contact the church office and we will get a packet for you.

Online Giving: Online giving is an option made available for those who wish to do their regular giving electronically and print their own giving statement at the end of the year. You can sign up online at crossroadswauseon.org by clicking "Resources" and then "Give". Create a personal log-in and you're ready to give!

CHILDREN & YOUTH

VBS SAVE THE DATE!!

VBS in the Park planning has already begun! Before you begin to plan out your summer vacations, be sure to mark off July 17-21, 2016 to ensure that your children (completed grades K-5) won't miss out and that you are able to help serve during this fun week of ministry! Looking forward to watching God use the people of Crossroads in the lives of our community again this year!

MIRACLE CAMP SUMMER CAMP!

If you're considering sending your child to Summer Camp, now is the time to register them as the weeks are filling up fast! Miracle Camp and their amazing staff of counselors offer campers a high energy, fun-filled week of spiritual growth for kids entering grades 2 through 12. However, the cost of a week at camp can be expensive. To help offset the costs, we're happy to partner with you through a **partial scholarship** to make sure your kids don't miss an opportunity to deepen their knowledge of Jesus. Check out miraclecamp.com for details on summer camp and to register your child. For information on scholarships, please contact Matt Strader.

THANK YOU!

We would like to express our deep gratitude for the prayers, cards, meals, hugs and other acts of kindness following our father's sudden passing. During some of the most difficult days of our lives, we were so incredibly blessed by the love and support of our church family and the comfort of a God who promises to be close to the broken hearted. Thank you all for your continued prayers and words of encouragement as we grieve his absence.

- Sherrill Woodard, Becky Stuckey and families

Crossroads,

We received a lot of positive feedback from those that participated in the Organized Walk on February 25th that was sponsored by CEBCO/Fulton County Wellness Committee. Thank you so much for working with us and allowing the use of the Crossroads facility for this event! It was perfect!

- Fulton County Auditor's Office

COMMUNITY EVENTS & NEEDS

PRESCHOOL JOB OPENING

Emmaus Christian Preschool in Wauseon is in search of a Preschool Teacher/Administrator for the 2016-2017 school year. The teacher/Administrator is accountable to the Preschool Board for carrying out policies established by the board, implementing a curriculum that is age appropriate for the children and meets the stated purpose of the Preschool, among other teaching preschool duties. Applicants must have completed at least 2 years of training in an accredited college. The school year is from July 1st - June 30th. Please prayerfully consider joining their Preschool family. Interested candidates should send a resume to:

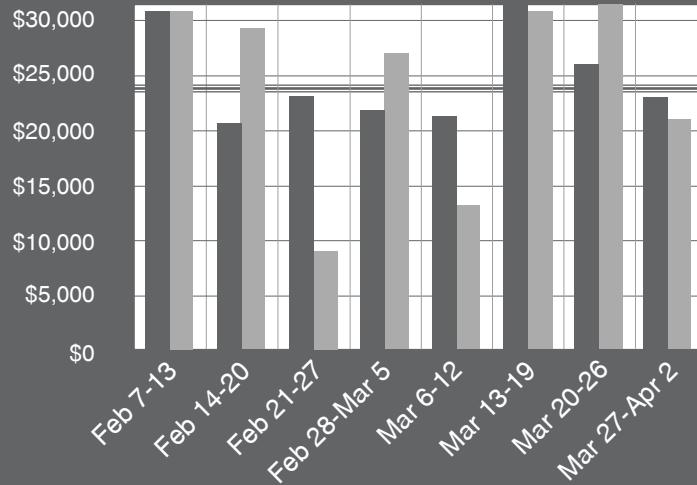
Emmaus Lutheran Church
Attention: Preschool Board Members
841 N. Shoop Avenue
Wauseon, OH 43567

MUSIC, TESTIMONY AND FILM

On Friday, May 6th, there will be a pre-screening of the new Christian film, "Alison's Choice", an amazing story of a young girl who is pregnant and finds herself in a Women's clinic. The film has a powerful message of God's love for His children, as well as His mercy

FINANCIAL UPDATE

■ Wkly Offering ■ Wkly Expenses
— Required Weekly Offering ■ Bond Payment



How'd we do? The numbers below represent monthly receipts (offerings/deposits) compared to our monthly expenses.

	Receipts	Expenses	Difference	Avg Offering
JAN:	\$106,145.15	\$92,313.73	\$13,831.42	\$21,702.50
FEB:	\$96,879.88	\$75,425.92	\$21,453.96	\$24,077.07
MAR:	\$103,187.03	\$107,217.48	(\$4,030.45)	\$25,914.51

and heart break over aborted babies. Presenting the film that evening with testimony and a musical performance will be song writer and musical artist Caitlin Jane. The event will take place at 7:00 p.m. at The Back Bay in Pettisville (400 Commercial Street). Please direct any questions to Kim Lauber at 419-583-9897.

HABITAT HOUSE GROUNDBREAKING

Habitat for Humanity of Fulton County would like to introduce future homeowners, Doug and Spring Jones. The Jones family is thrilled that Habitat will be building a house for them in their much-loved hometown of Swanton. This will be the 21st project for Habitat for Humanity of Fulton County, Ohio. Project needs include donations of materials, labor and monetary contributions, volunteers for the work days, meals for workers and prayers. A Groundbreaking Ceremony, open to the public, is scheduled for Thursday, April 7, 2016 at 121 Bassett Avenue and will begin at 6:00 p.m. Project updates will be posted at Habitat's website, www.habitatfco.org and its Facebook page. Contact the Habitat office for more information, to make a donation or to volunteer (419-335-7000).

***Any submissions for the May Link should be turned into the office by Wed, April 27, 2016.**

APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

1	Roger Wilson	Cynthia Maney	Allie Chestnut	Ryan Clark
Mike Burget	9	Krista Thierry	Carol Dennis	Hudson Knierim
B.J. Hamilton	Missy Eberle	Orlando Uribes	21	Phoebe Oyer
Brandi Thompson	Courtney Fisher	Justin Leu	Scott Seibel	27
3	Luke Tester	15	22	Amy Creque
Ruth Clair	Mike Vershum	Kevin Clark	Pat Murry	Noah Pennington
Danielle Coll	10	Mark Mahlman	Rayne Parsons	Carson Ramirez
Jeff Lugbill	Kevin Seitzinger	Michael Morr	23	Vera Rupp
Garnett Smith	11	16	Valerie Trudel	Lydia Simon
Bekah Rees	Jay Reber	Cassie Jones	Brittany Schroeder	Paetyn Wheeler
4	12	Lindsay Parsons	24	28
David Huber	Jeremy Grime	Elliot Seitzinger	Terri Johnson	Susan Batdorf
Mick Briteniker	Larry Hudspeath	Kylie Wanemacher	Kim Lerma	Roger Hartman
5	Carolyn Miller	17	Michael McDermott	29
Kelly Hitchcock	Don Wood	Dan Galliers	25	Thurman Schrock
6	13	Martin Shannon	Austin Mann	30
Colin Ashbaugh	Angie Galliers	Jasey Spiess	Mitchell Shannon	Haylee Bronson
Donna Smith	Robin Knierim	19	John Simon	Amy Clark
7	Judy McDermott	Roland Demaline	Owen Upperco	Timber Kreiner
Eva Mennetti	Mason Thomas	Joyce Reiser	26	Randy Meyer
Tim Pfost	14	20	Zayne Baumgartner	
8	Linda Borton	Doug Baird	Emily Beck	
Anna Bernicke	Diane Freytag	Jerry Bowser		

ANNIVERSARIES

^ 25 - 49 years * 50 years or MORE

Apr 2	Martin & Elizabeth Shannon
Apr 4	Mark & Darla Rupp
Apr 7	Jared & Kylee Oyer
Apr 10	Kevin & Courtney Seitzinger
Apr 13	Max & Linda Rufenacht^
Apr 14	Jim & Rosalyn Zent
Apr 23	Mike & Jamie Deck
Apr 24	Randy & Natalie Meyer Jay & Carla Reber
Apr 27	Paul & Jean Teets
Apr 28	Alex & Sarah Bennett Ron & Ann Hale^
Apr 30	Steve & Valerie Trudel^

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**Elder Board and Management Team members are listed on the website.

~If your anniversary is not listed or is incorrect,
please contact the church office for corrections.