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# ❖ CrossRoads ❖

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Volume 16 Issue 4

*"Worship \* Grow \* Send"*

April 2010

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**A**s a pastor and leader of a local church, I have read a lot about what "church" is and is supposed to do. The definitions range from the simplistic and vague: *"a body or organization of religious believers"* to the more detailed: *"an assembly of professing believers in Christ who have been baptized and who are organized to do God's will."*

I have read hundreds of these definitions where people have attempted to capture the essence of what it means to be a "church." Recently, Hugh Halter, the author of *"And: The Church Gathered and Scattered"* offered his straightforward definition that has really caught my attention and hopefully will catch yours: *"Church happens when a group of people decide to give their lives away and go on [Jesus'] mission together."*

It might be a simple definition, but it's profound and right on target for Jesus' intended purpose of his church.

At KingsWay, we have organized our "vision" of what it means to be a church around three specific words: "Worship", "Grow", and "Send." We gather weekly for a large, corporate worship experience where we hear the word of God taught, experience communion, offer our tithes and honor God through music. We gather in homes throughout the city to dive deeper into discussion about current

faith and life issues, as well appreciate and cultivate Godly friendships in our *Growth Groups*.

Then we practically live out what has been taught in our corporate worship gatherings, growth groups, and daily scripture reading by participating in a grand mission--*being sent* by Jesus, representing him in all we say and do as we live within our sphere of influence.

*We are the church when we worship, grow and are sent, giving our lives away as we live on mission. Church happens when you and I decide to live our lives for a mission, a greater purpose, a greater commission, a greater cause.*

Jesus summarizes up this greater purpose for those who follow him by saying "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" Matthew 28:19-20.

Subsequently, the whole book of Acts describes how those people who were given that commission gave their lives away for that cause.

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"Giving your life away" and "living on mission" happens best in "organic," natural ways. Reggie McNeal, in *Missional Renaissance* says "[Christianity] was largely...an organic connection

among people who were experiencing a way of life together... [and who gave] particular attention to living lives of sacrifice and service to one another and to one's neighbor."

Practically, living on mission might mean staying late at work talking to a co-worker or customer who needs some wise counsel. Or it might involve impromptu conversations with your neighbor as you both happen to cut your grass or take out the trash at the same time. It happens during good conversations sitting on the bleachers at the t-ball game and then at appropriate times, sharing Jesus with them.

Living on mission might also take some intentionality, like extending an invitation to your "unchurched" friends to sit around a picnic table while the barbecue is fired up, or being a Scout leader where you can promote the "God and country" badge with a greater and more significant meaning than just fulfilling your "religious duties."

Living on mission also happens corporately, on a larger scale. As a church, we work hard at providing organized opportunities for you to "give your life away" and "live on mission."

*Continued on page 2*

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Here are a few upcoming "missional venues" in which we're inviting your participation:

**\*April- "Spring Basket Give-away"**

We are preparing baskets full of "spring cleaning" and other festive spring-themed items that will be arranged into baskets and given away to people in the community. How you can get involved: 1) creatively collect and purchase the "spring themed" items that will be arranged in those baskets, (See Pam Morrisson's basket example on Sunday mornings to get ideas of the spring themed items to buy), 2) participate in arranging the items into attractive baskets on April 16, 3) participate in the basket deliveries to the homes on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

**\*May- "Community Rummage Sale."** We're hosting a free (or greatly reduced cost) rummage sale for the community. How you can get involved: collect clothing and other "garage sale items" and bring them to the rummage sale to be given away (or sold cheaply).

**\*June/July-"Gulf Coast National Mission Trip."**

We'll be headed to the Gulf Coast (Biloxi/Ocean Springs) to continue Hurricane Katrina recovery. We'll partner with Habitat for Humanity, framing, roofing and doing general

construction for people who are still without a home. Dates: June 28-July 3. Cost: About \$125 + transportation costs there and back (gas and hotel).

**\*August-"Back to School Backpack Giveaway."**

We're preparing backpacks full of supplies to give away to children as they head back to school. How you can get involved: Purchase pens, pencils, notebooks, erasers and other school supplies. Participate in the giveaway party (detail to come).

**\*September- "Appalachia National Mission Trip"**

We will be headed to Southeastern Kentucky for a short weekend mission experience, partnering with Big Creek Missions (BigCreekMissions.com) to assist with ongoing construction projects and assist with many local community ministries. Dates: Tentatively, September 16-19. Cost: Less than \$100.

We've got a good line up of formal, organized mission venues in which you can dive into. But whether in large, whole-church events or individual, private opportunities, I hope you've made up your mind to "give your life away and live on mission."

Adam



**New Sermon Series  
Starts April 4th**



"Every person experiences "seismos" moments in their lives—situations where upheaval, disruption, changes and uncertainty happen. Discover how God uses these "seismos" events to shape and transform who we are into who he wants us to be."

**Series Messages:**

- April 4: When Earth Shakes (and stones roll away)
- April 11: When Wind Blows.
- April 18: When Waves Crash.

***Thanks!***

Thanks to the Outreach Team and everyone who helped with the Community Movie Night March 26th. "G-Force" was shown to an overflowing crowd with enough popcorn, hotdogs drinks and prizes to keep everyone entertained all evening.

# Pray With Us...

**Health:** Juanita Ansteatt, Debbie Hughes, Mary Jane Crothers, Jeff & Becky Gardner, Pam Morrison, Bonnie Nitzsche, Cathy Ball, Sister Mary Grace Burg, John Coffman, Pat Edwards, Katie Eppert, Dan & Kenny Evans, Dave & David Grubb, Steve Hall, Becky Haun, Scott & Sharon Huston, Maryann Miller, Carey Pierson, Sandy Pugh, Mary Schutte.

**Other:** Pat Edwards, the Mason Deaf Church, Adam & Tonya Metzger, Erik Nystrom, 2010 Church Council, Prayer Team, our volunteers, Nominating Committee, our nation and Military Personnel .

**Answers:** New employment opportunities, South Lebanon Elementary School, 2010 Council, New attendees, the Metzger family, the Rahmes family, Outreach Team, willing volunteers, unity in Spirit, and God's abundant opportunities for KingsWay and His miraculous financial blessings for the ministry.

## HOSTING A GROWTH GROUP

Do you have the gift of hospitality? Just love it when people come to your home? Can't wait to try that new recipe for a great dessert and want to share it? If so.... Here's an opportunity to get involved with the next Trimester's Growth Groups. We are looking for host homes in the Maineville area. See Pastor Adam on Sunday for additional information.

## Spring Blessing Baskets



The Outreach Team's Theme for April is Spring Blessing Baskets. We'll be filling baskets with everything imaginable for Springtime: umbrellas, ponchos, fruit roll ups, Kool-aid, cleaning supplies, flower seeds and gardening tools, kites and outside toys! Bring your donations to KingsWay on Sunday mornings between now and April 11th. The baskets will be assembled on the 16th and delivered on the 17th to families in the Maineville/Kings School District. Contact Pam Morrison if you'd like to help with distribution.

## KingsWay Community Church

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# Happy Birthday!

April 1 - Tim Grubb

April 5 - Margaret Morrison

April 9 - Renna DeBoy

April 15 - Diana Welchons

April 17 - Ethan Evans


April 28 - Aiden Metzger



## GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE April 2, 2010

**A Good Friday Service will be held at the Deerfield Township/Landen Park on Rt. 22 & 3 in Landen on Friday, April 2nd beginning at 7:00 PM. Meet at the Amphitheater for worship, prayer and communion. Be sure to check our website for cancellation news in the event of inclement weather.**

# April 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 Prayer/ Communion Service 7:00 PM	3
4 	5	6 Evans' Growth Group 6:30 PM	7	8	9	10
11 Kelly's & Balsmeyer's Growth Groups	12	13 Council Meeting 6:30 PM	14	15	16 Spring Basket Assembly	17 Spring Basket Distribution
18	19	20 Evans' Growth Group 6:30 PM	21	22	23	24
25 Kelly's Growth Group	26	27	28	29	30	

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