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"THE PRIZE"

Have you ever Googled the word "marathon"? Try it sometime. You'll get an amazing array of training programs, diet advice and some pretty gross race-day "here's what happened to my legs/stomach/feet" stories. (And let's not forget that Phidippides, the first real marathoner, collapsed and died at the end of his 26.2-mile run.) You already know that The Crossing's 26.2 Experiences won't do that to you. Instead, you have the chance to retreat in the glory of the Lord by attending The Prize, a two-day personal praise and worship experience.



WRITE IT ALL DOWN:

* **The Prize**, a personal worship experience for those who:

- 1) Have completed the 26.2 Experiences (Starting Line, Mile 1, Pushing Through, Pass It On)
- 2) Have signed a Team Member Covenant
- 3) Are in a LifeGroup (strongly encouraged)

* New dates: Friday, May 15 (7:00pm - 9:00pm) & Saturday, May 16 (8:00am - 3:00pm)

* Cost: \$20 per person

* Meals: Saturday breakfast and lunch included

* Location: The Crossing Church

* Register today: www.crossingonline.org/the-prize

* Childcare (birth - 5th grade): \$10 per family with pre-registration

* Be Apart of
The Crossing's New Live
Worship CD Recording



FREE CD with Attendance

Please note that you can register for The Prize before you have completed all the prerequisites. However, all prerequisites need to be completed prior to May 3rd. If you are still in the process of completing the 26.2 Experiences, log onto www.crossingonline.org/news--events for a schedule.

NO CHILD TURNED AWAY

"No Child Turned Away"

Initiative at The Crossing Church

LISTEN TO THIS ALARMING FACT: Each weekend we turn away children because we simply do not have enough volunteer leaders to care for them. This is completely preventable. In a time when many churches are struggling to fill seats, we have been incredibly blessed with growth. While this is a great challenge that we welcome, it is still a challenge. Many of our ministry areas are designed to be able to grow with the increase of attendance simply by adding more chairs or opening more space. However, when it comes to babies through preschoolers there are many safety issues we must adhere to. We are exceeding safe adult to child ratios and are forced to "close" classes during weekend services. This is heart breaking because there is nothing we desire more than filling our space with children so that they can begin to learn about God!



WE NEED YOU

We are asking that you prayerfully consider serving for 12 months in Jungle Jam, our nursery and preschool environment. We need 20 new nursery leaders and 30 new preschool leaders serving weekly to ensure that no child is ever turned away because of a lack of volunteer leaders. We will equip and train you. Contact Alicia Miller ((813) 626-0783 ext.131 or Amiller@crossingonline.org), our Jungle Jam Coordinator for further information or to join the team.

**"EACH
WEEKEND WE
TURN AWAY
CHILDREN..."**

SERVICE TIMES

MAIN SERVICES

SATURDAYS AT 5PM AND 7PM
SUNDAYS AT 9:30AM, 11:30AM

ONLINE PRAYER
WED 11:30AM-1PM

WWW.CROSSINGONLINE.ORG/LIVE

FIRST WEDNESDAY
THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF
EVERY MONTH AT 7PM

COMMUNITY PRAYER
ALL CHURCH GATHERING
(MAIN SANCTUARY)
SATURDAY AT 6:15PM
SUNDAY AT 8:30AM

ALL DAY PRAYER
OPPORTUNITIES
(26.2 LIFEGROUP CAFÉ)
MON-THURS 6:30AM-7PM

HOSTED PRAYER
OPPORTUNITIES
(26.2 LIFEGROUP CAFÉ)
MON-THURS 6:30AM-8AM
& 11:30AM-1PM

YOUTH PRAYER
MEETING IN THE ROCK
SUNDAY AT 6PM

SPANISH TRANSLATION
SUNDAYS AT 9:30AM

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION
SUNDAYS AT 9:30AM

CROSSING KIDS
(BIRTH-5TH GRADE)
AVAILABLE DURING ALL
MAIN SERVICE TIMES

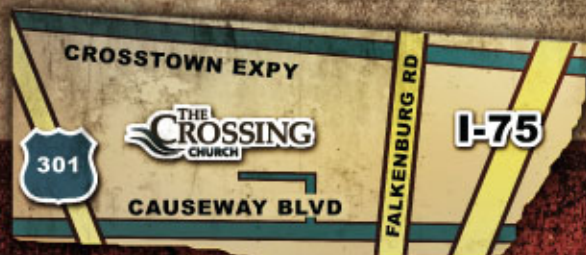
STUDENT MINISTRIES
(SERVICES ARE HELD
IN THE ROCK)

EMERGE
(9TH-12TH GRADE)
WEDNESDAYS AT 7PM
DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

EMERGE JV
(6TH-8TH GRADE)
SATURDAYS AT 5PM

E-GROUPS
IN THE ROCK
(SMALL GROUPS)
SUNDAY AT 7PM

10130 TUSCANY RIDGE DR.
TAMPA, FL 33619
PHONE - 813.626.0783
FAX - 813.626.0580
WWW.CROSSINGONLINE.ORG





WELCOME TO THE CROSSING !

Welcome friends, to The Crossing Church and to 24, our new message series on the hours leading up to Christ's crucifixion. We hope this teaching becomes a dynamic part of your Easter season, and through it you realize anew just how much value Jesus placed upon your life as he prepared to give His own. When He shared the bread and the cup with His disciples, he spoke of rescuing them, redeeming them, bringing them unto

Himself. As you receive communion today, receive it directly from Him. Allow yourself to become His – once again or for the first time ever.

May God bless you and keep you,
Greg & Tamara Dumas

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

HAVE YOU STARTED YOUR RACE??

The 26.2 Spiritual Race is intricately designed with you in mind! Through the different 26.2 Experiences, you will have the opportunity to learn more about The Crossing and its leadership, become involved in a LifeGroup, and understand more about the spiritual gifts you have been given. We want to encourage everyone, new and old alike, to join in the race! The next "Warm Up" lunch will be held Sunday, April 26 at 1:00 pm. (Register by April 19) "Starting Line," "Mile One," "Pushing Through" will take place on Saturday, April 25 (register by April 19). "Pass It On" will take place on Saturday, May 2 (register by April 26). Register online now!



LET'S JOURNEY... TOGETHER

Are you ready to know more of what it means to grow in your relationship with God? Whether you've just accepted Christ as Lord over your life or have been walking with Him for awhile, you're invited to join The Journey. The Journey is an ongoing class designed to give you a deeper understanding of what it means to be a Christian. The Journey meets on Sunday mornings from 11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. in The Rock. Simply drop by The Rock after the 9 a.m. service for more information. Childcare is available through 5th grade, and the cost for materials is \$15. You can also register online at www.crossingonline.org, or by calling Lori Fredriksen at (813) 626-0783, ext. 114, or e-mailing lfredriksen@crossingonline.org.



COME FOR SATURDAY DINNER!

Know what you should make for dinner on Saturday? Plan to eat with us! Every Saturday evening, we have caterers from Cheddar's Restaurant right here at church, preparing delicious meals for you so that you can relax, eat, and truly enjoy church services. Meals are only \$4 per person, and we serve from 4:30-5 p.m. and 5:30-7 p.m. Come on! We've got dinner ready.

BAPTISM

Have you accepted Christ as your Lord and Savior? Then follow him in Believer's Baptism, which signifies that you are raised up as a new creation in Him. This is a powerful and moving experience. We provide an opportunity for you to be baptized on the first weekend of every month. For more information or to register, call Jean Boudin at (813) 626-0783, ext. 152, or e-mail jboudin@crossingonline.org.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We resume Thursday, April 2, with Anointed, Transformed, Redeemed, a six-week study led by Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer and Kay Arthur. The morning study meets from 9:15-11:30 a.m., and childcare is available with a reservation. The evening study meets from 7-9 p.m.

THE CROSSING MISSIONS CORNER

"TRANSFORMING CULTURES THROUGH THE POWER OF JESUS CHRIST"

NEW MINISTRY AT THE CROSSING

We have a new local missions ministry coming to The Crossing in Sept. It is a respite program for disabled and special needs families (kids ages 4-16). One Sat. a month, the parents can have three hours to themselves to spend however they wish. The kids will have one-on-one volunteers guiding them through a series of planned activities. We will need MANY volunteers. The only requirement is a heart to serve. Come train with us now! For more information, contact Sue Smith at suegeorge1@juno.com.

FAMILIES AND LIFEGROUPS WITH KIDS

Join us at Everyday Blessings on Spring Break or any Early Release day from school! Bring your kids and play with the children who live at Everyday Blessings. Organize outdoor games, indoor games, arts, crafts, and more. Allow your family to touch the lives of those who do not have a family to call their own. Please contact Gwen Low at (813) 685-3804 or glow0122@verizon.net.

WORLD SHORT-TERM MISSION TEAMS

World Short-term mission teams are forming for the following trips:

South Africa – September 19 – October 4 – application deadline is April 12th

Ghana Africa – October 1 – 11 – application deadline is April 26th

Philippines – October 10-24 – application deadline is May 10th

For Trip and leader information go to www.crossingonline.org/missions. Missions Applications can also be downloaded from this website or may be picked up at the Information Center.

DO YOU HAVE A HEART FOR AMERICA?

The Crossing Missions Department has a wonderful opportunity for someone to be our US Coordinator! If you are interested in serving and utilizing your talents in this area please visit www.crossingonline.org/north-america for more information.

PARTNERSHIP COORDINATORS NEEDED

The Crossing Missions Department is looking for Partnership Coordinators for several local, national and international ministries. If you are interested please visit www.crossingonline.org/missions for more information.

COME AND SERVE!

Visit our website – www.crossingonline.org missions – to learn more about local missions like the ones highlighted above. You will also find information about serving within the U.S. and around the world. Stop by the Information Center to pick up a Missions Application and join a world team in 2009! For further information on any of the opportunities above contact:

Norris Brown - Director of Missions - nbrown@crossingonline.org

Valerie Templeman - Local Missions Coordinator - missionslocal@crossingonline.org

Scott Phipps - World Missions Coordinator - missionsworld@crossingonline.org

ELEMENTARY SUMMER CAMP

Summer camp this year is June 7-11 at Tampa Bay Baptist Conference Center in North Tampa, and it's open to children who have completed second through fifth grades. The \$225 cost includes meals, lodging and transportation. The theme is "Transformed – where there's more than meets the eye." Camp packets are available upstairs at the check-in desk. A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required, and a payment plan is available. Contact Kim Gore at (813) 610-7526 or kgore@crossingonline.org.



CASTING CALL FOR "THE CROWN"

Last year we began a narrated Easter story for our elementary kids called, "The Crown." This year we will be incorporating live dramatic sequences of "The Triumphant Entry" and Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, and expect to have close to 600 kids in attendance. We need several actors to fill roles which include soldiers, pharisees, disciples, and Jesus Christ. Would you consider lending your creative talents to telling the greatest story ever told? If so, please contact Ryan at (813) 712-9363 or rfrazier@crossingonline.org.



FEED THE BAY '09

Coming September 27! We are going county-wide this year and need your help. Committees are meeting now so get plugged in to this amazing show of God's love and unity. Please Contact Tonya Nichols at tnichols@crossingonline.org or Valerie Templeman at vtempleman@crossingonline.org to connect to any one of these committees; Expansion/Churches, Expansion/Agencies, Finance, Prayer, Media, Website, Volunteers, Stores/Trucks. We look forward to serving with you.



"BUT JUST AS YOU EXCEL IN EVERYTHING IN FAITH, IN SPEECH, IN KNOWLEDGE, IN COMPLETE EARNESTNESS AND IN YOUR LOVE FOR US-SEE THAT YOU ALSO EXCEL IN THIS GRACE OF GIVING."

2 CORINTHIANS 8:7

When we each give faithfully, God adds those gifts together and multiplies them to fulfill the ministry and vision he has provided for The Crossing Church. Every One Counts is about investing your heart and your resources into your home church so that God might transform our homes, our city and our world. Every One Counts-and Christ is counting on you!

GOD'S WORD IS VERY CLEAR WHEN IT COMES TO GIVING, EVERY ONE COUNTS:

EVERY GIVER COUNTS EVERY GIFT COUNTS EVERY MINISTRY COUNTS

QUESTIONS ABOUT TITHING?

Let us help you understand the biblical principle of tithing. You can pick up a copy of Robert Morris' "The Blessed Life" at the Information Center in the lobby.

THREE WAYS TO GIVE

online at www.crossingonline.org (one-time gifts or recurring gifts). By check-remember, no envelopes are needed when giving by check! Cash-please fill out an offering envelope and place in the offering basket.

I. The Story

Matthew 26:26-29; Luke 22:7-18; John 13:1-38

- **Jesus washed the disciples feet**
- **Jesus and the disciples observed the Passover**
- **Judas betrays Jesus**
- **Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper**
- **Jesus foretells Peter's denial**

II. The Fourth Cup

Matthew 26:29; Exodus 6:6-7; Revelation 19:1-10

"Therefore say to the children of Israel 'I am the LORD; (First Cup) I will BRING YOU OUT from under the burdens of the Egyptians, (Second Cup) I will RESCUE you from their bondage, and (Third Cup) I will REDEEM YOU WITH AN OUTSTRETCHED ARM and with great judgments. (Fourth Cup) I will TAKE YOU AS MY PEOPLE, and I will be your God.'" Exodus 6:6-7

Further Study:

Marriage of the Lamb-(Matthew 25:1-13); Rejection of God's great invitation (Parable)-Matthew 22:1-14

LIFEGROUPS

Use the following as a resource for your LifeGroup to go deeper with this week's message. We hope this helps you as you *"do life together"*.

Opener:

1. What is one of the greatest invitations you have ever received? On the other side, talk about a time when you sent an invitation that was rejected by the invitee.

Digging Deeper:

As we begin a new series (24) that will culminate at Easter, it is a perfect time to understand the invitation of the Cross. Read together Matthew 22:1-14.

2. What does it mean to you to be invited to the Lord's banqueting table? What effect does this have on your life? Knowing that it was customary for the host of weddings to provide the wedding clothes, what do you make of vv. 11-12? Do you have wedding garments? How did you come to have them?

Application:

3. The Lord's Supper is a reminder of the Wedding Banquet. Please take some time to confess sin, to remember Jesus' sacrifice and to celebrate communion together. Read together I Corinthians 11:23-26. These familiar words will guide you as you pray and share communion.