

# CrossTalk

“In the garden, Autumn is, indeed the crowning glory of the year, bringing us the fruition of months of thought and care and toil. And at no season, save perhaps in Daffodil time, do we get such superb colour effects as from August to November.”

Rose G. Kingsley

## A Monthly Newsletter

November 2008

This is a season of unrivaled frustration and despiration. A season when many of the dependable aspects of the American infrastructure appear to be failing. A time when the American dream seems to be slipping away. In a time when the dependable has become undependable, what is a person to do? At CrossWalk we desire to be a people who are relying on the unmeasurable faithfulness of God. We seek to be a people who are allowing God to be our anchor in a season when nothing else appears to be stable. May we mediate on this paraphrase of Philipians 4:7, "Let the peace of God which passes all understanding keep you far from worry and doubt."

~ Wade Forde

## Taking a look back

CrossWalk has become a very important place of worship to those who want to explore their faith as a Seventh-Day Adventist. It has changed the way people have learned about the word of God, and it has impacted the lives of those who have attended CrossWalk—either since the beginning in 2000 or in any given time since. No matter where you have been at in your life, CrossWalk has been there for you, inviting you on a journey, whatever your journey may be. Today, November 1, 2008, CrossWalk celebrates its Fifth Anniversary.

In five years, CrossWalk has expanded its wings by growing from being a meeting place in the fellowship hall of the Azure Hills church in Grand Terrace, into a 40,000 square foot center for spiritual higher learning and fellowship with a wide array of classes and services to aid CrossWalk's motto of "Learning to love well".

"Learning to love well" is the all-encompassing mission to restore peace with God, with one another, and with the earth. For five years, the people of CrossWalk have helped fulfill this mission through love, encouragement, acceptance, devotion, forgiveness, kindness, truthfulness, peacefulness, service, comfort, humbleness, and unity—transforming from a congregation into a family.

However, we as members of CrossWalk, need to do more. Pastor Mike says, "We need to reinvent ourselves...change the church and reach out to the people. We need to push the envelope." If we push the envelope, we can connect with people we normally would not connect with.

Family has been an important part to the CrossWalk community. With Jesus at the center, each person is connected to one another. Whether it is through close friendships or giving back to the community in which they live through the Giving Tree in foyer, donating to the Gimbi projects, or by participating in Blue Jean Sabbath, CrossWalk is about connecting with people and nature by serving Jesus.

In addition to enjoying CrossWalk's five-year existence, Pastor Mike reflected on CrossWalk's future, "It allows us to stop and check where we are. Are we doing what we are supposed to be doing? The future is no longer predictable like it once was...we need to continue to morph and change with society." Church is supposed to be about the people, and if change is to happen, it must begin with us. Pastor Mike has empowered us over the next five years to create a new story in CrossWalk's history. "I don't have the answers, 'we' have the answers—the answers will emerge from all of us"

- contributed by Paul Coleman



## Ethiopian Celebration

The nation of Ethiopia will be celebrated at CrossWalk on Saturday, November 8, with an authentic Ethiopian meal in the Big Room following second service. The meal is being prepared by several Ethiopian families along with the Hika family who attend CrossWalk.

Not only are the Hika's from Ethiopia, but Mengistu was born and raised in Gimbi. When he came to CrossWalk for the first time earlier this year, he didn't know the work CrossWalk has been doing in Ethiopia these past several years. Mengistu says, he was deeply touched by CrossWalk's Ethiopia room and the many ways we have helped the people of Gimbi and other places in the country. Mengistu and his family wanted to find a way to thank CrossWalk, and that's when they thought of serving the church an authentic Ethiopian meal. The Hika's and their friends are providing this meal as a gift. In turn they are asking those who attend to give a donation to CrossWalk's 2008 projects in Ethiopia.

If you've never tried Ethiopian food, this will be a way to experience one of the great cuisines of the world. The food usually consists of spicy vegetable and meat dishes, in the form of *wot* (with a hard 't' noise), a thick stew, served atop *injera*, a large sourdough flatbread, which varies in size, made out of *teff* flour. One important thing to remember when you come,

Ethiopians eat with their right hands, using pieces of *injera* to pick up bites of entrées and side dishes. No utensils are used (don't worry we'll have utensils on hand for you, no pun intended).

The Ethiopian Celebration will also be an opportunity to send off a team of people from CrossWalk, led by pastor Jeff, who will be embarking for a trip to Ethiopia on November 14. For two weeks they will travel throughout the country checking on various projects CrossWalk has been supporting the past few years (e.g. Gimbi), and looking for new projects CrossWalk will support in the years to come. During the meal you'll have an opportunity to hear about the projects CrossWalk has taken on for 2008 and a chance to be part of a special sending off blessing for the team.



So please join us for our free Ethiopian Celebration Meal, Saturday, November 8, immediately following the second worship service in CrossWalk's Big Room.

- contributed by Jeff Gang

## Calendar Highlights

### Social Activities

**1 November** Blue Jean Sabbath 1:00 pm  
**1 November** CW's 5 Year Anniversary 1:00 pm  
**8 November** Gimbi Send Off Lunch 1:00 pm  
**10 November** Kids Club 9:30 am

### Praise & Worship Services

**28 November** Friday Night Praise 7:30 pm

### Leadership Meetings

**Staff Meeting:** Every Tuesday 9:15 am  
**Vine Teachers Meeting:** 7:00 pm  
**5 November**  
**Leadership Meeting:**  
**26 November** 7:00 pm

Saturday Worship is held at 9:00 am and 11:30 am. — The Vine classes start at 10:20 am and go to 11:20 am.

### CW Anniversary Party



As you may have heard, Cross-Walk is celebrating its 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary today! Our CrossWalk leaders have invited you to come together as a family following the second service to help celebrate this momentous occasion. Below are the details:



**1:00** Lunch in Rear Parking Lot (at CrossWalk)  
**3:00** Baptisms (Drayson Center)  
**6:30** Party (at CrossWalk)

So what is this party all about? It is a time for all age groups to gather and have some fun and continue to grow as a family. The kids should come in their craziest, zaniest, wildest costumes and be prepared to walk the runway. Following the showcase of costumes, kids will get candy on their way to the Big Room for fun and games. As for you adults? We have planned something special. Unfortunately, the only information we can divulge at this time is the title for the night's festivities...*'Date Your Church'*. Please come and discover for yourself what it means to *'Date Your Church'*.



- contributed by Paul Coleman

### Getting To Know You



**Name, age and occupation:**  
 Mark Mattheson, and I am 43 years old. I am a Maintenance Technician for LLU School of Dentistry. I work on all the dental chairs, x-rays, film processors and lab equipment in the school.

**How long has your family been attending CrossWalk?**  
 We have been attending Crosswalk since it started, all the way back at Azure Hills Church.

**As a family man, is it important to attend church regularly?**  
 Yes, going to church on a weekly basis helps me spiritually to have a closer and personal relationship with the Lord. My family and I have Worshiped together to open the Sabbath and again to close Sabbath, and I believe that family worship is important both at home and with your Church Family. People become so busy with jobs, school, etc. that your personal time for recharging your spiritual batteries diminishes, and coming to church weekly helps you recharge and prepare for the following weeks challenges.

**How has being a part of this community affected the way you live?**  
 Being a part of this community has affected the way I live by helping me to be more accepting of others with different beliefs or ideas. Being a 3rd generation Adventist and growing up in a very conservative east coast church, I found myself being critical of others who didn't believe exactly as I did. Participating in Blue Jean Sabbath has helped me serve others in ways I would not have pursued on my own..  
 - contributed by Jamie Perchez

### Community Events



**Tues. & Thurs. in November**  
**A.K.Smiley Library, Redlands**  
 Story Time is a magical time for all kids to come and enjoy.  
Age 2-3: Every Thursday from 10:00 - 10:20 and 11:00 - 11:20  
Age 4-6: Every Thursday from 10:30 - 10:50  
Family Story Time (Age 5+): Every Tuesday Night 7:00 - 7:30

**November 13, 10:00 am**  
**San Bernardino County Museum presents The Great Southern California ShakeOut**  
 The largest earthquake preparedness activity in U.S. History is in your area. ShakeOut Drill and other events will help us get ready for big Earthquakes and to prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes. Be one of the millions who gather to learn how to be more ready. Several learning activities will be available from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

**All month in November**  
**Life House Theater**  
**1135 N.Church St., Redlands**  
 "Sarah, Plain and Tall" will be showing throughout November. It brings to life the charming, heartwarming story of a Kansas farmer and a widower with two children who places ads in the newspaper seeking a wife. This is a heartwarming family story that will inspire and uplift all who come to see it. Call 909-335-3037 or visit [lifehousetheater.com](http://lifehousetheater.com) for show times and ticket info.

**November 3 - December 15**  
**7:30 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Redlands Community Center**  
 Ballroom dance classes are being offered every Monday for 6 weeks. Classes are \$42, call Cal Senechal at 909-880-6422 to sign up.

**First Sunday of Every Month**  
**9:00 am - 5:00 pm**  
**San Bernardino Museum**  
 Free admission to the public is offered the first Sunday of the month.  
 - contributed by Christianne Duarte

### Friday Nite Praise In The Park



Crosswalk Church partnered with Loma Linda University Medical Center's East Campus to provide Friday Night Praise in the Park for the community and patients on August 29 and September 26 this summer. The East Campus is home to the Rehabilitation, Orthopaedic and Neurosciences Institute and has a park and all-abilities playground designed to accommodate live performances. Many of the patients in treatment stay a minimum of two weeks in the hospital and look forward to volunteer visits that provide a positive distraction. One of the patients said, "I have been really depressed about my injury, but I'm inspired to continue rehabbing after the music I heard tonight. God is good." The evenings symbolized exciting opportunities for unique connection with the community and new options for the healing and recovery of East Campus patients. If you didn't get a chance to participate in Friday Nite Praise in the Park, please join us next summer. It is truly an experience you will never forget. We want to give a special thank you to all who worked so very hard to make this evening happen.



- contributed by Jill Payne