

January 31, 2021

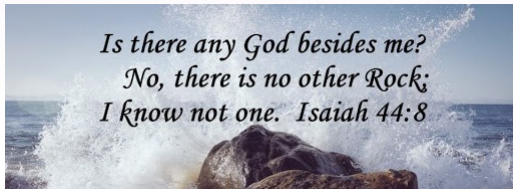
# THE CONNECTOR

**Monthly Newsletter of Cross Connections, Inc.**



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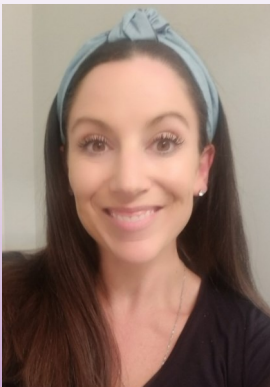


## OUR MISSION

The mission of Cross Connections is to provide affordable Biblical counseling and to train lay counselors (called Covenant Partners) in providing Biblical guidance to others. We accomplish this working through the pastors and representatives of our over 120 ministry partners. We are committed to using God's Word as authority in the counseling setting; being ever mindful our clinical skills and abilities are nothing compared to our Savior's love and mercy.

## A NEW YEAR FEATURING SOME NEW FACES!

Throughout 2020, Cross Connections has been blessed through the addition of the following dedicated servants to our counseling staff:



### LISA BARTELHEIM, LMHC

Lisa has previously worked with adults 18 and over suffering from depressive disorders, anxiety disorders, PTSD, bipolar disorder, personality disorders, and substance abuse disorders. She is incredibly passionate about seeing the growth of others and helping to lead them to their fullest potential with the divine work of the Holy Spirit integrated in the sessions. Lisa is trained in EMDR and has a passion for working with those struggling with anxiety, panic, PTSD and OCD.

Along with the central focus of Christ-centered counseling, Lisa encourages clients to ensure their lives are integrated in a healthy and balanced way through the various life domains including social, family, physical (including proper nutrition and exercise) mental, career, personal, and financial. Lisa is a licensed mental health counselor (LMHC). She earned her Bachelor's degree from Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne and her Master's degree in Counseling with a minor in Spiritual Direction at Huntington University.



## **Raphael Bosley, LMHC(A)**

Raphael completed his Master's degree in Counselor Education from Purdue University-Fort Wayne with a focus on Mental Health. He also received the Purdue Fort Wayne Counselor Education Clinical Excellence Award in April 2019.

Raphael has a passion for advocacy, serving, and empowering the underserved and underrepresented populations of our community. He brings over 7 years of experience working with various populations, including but not limited to: homeless individuals, juveniles, adult offenders, at-risk youth populations, and individuals with mental illnesses.

Raphael operates with an optimistic perspective. He believes, despite the darkness there is in any situation or individual - good can be discovered and used as a tool of motivation to rebuild, reorganize, and rebrand. Raphael has dedicated himself to helping others grow personally, professionally, and spiritually, in hopes that a ripple effect will be the start of individuals committing to doing the work it takes to be a better version of themselves.

Outside of the counseling office Raphael enjoys spending time with his wife and their two beautiful children. Raphael is a member of the American Counseling Association, The Fellowship of Christian Counselors and an associate minister at Greater Progressive Baptist Church.



## **Zach Herber, LMHC(A)**

Zach completed his Master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Huntington University in August 2019. Zach has also served as a Resident Director at Huntington University since 2018.

Zach has experience with adolescents, young adults, adults, and couples. He relishes the opportunity to assist individuals with depression, anxiety, grief, and adjustment. His therapy is provided from different therapeutic theories including solutions-focused, client-centered, cognitive-behavioral, and reality therapy. Zach feels most in his element when he is able to use Scripture in therapy sessions.

Zach is passionate about assisting individuals through different challenges of life. He believes that despite the trials that life brings, triumphs are possible and useful as motivation for change. Zach seeks to help others grow in all areas of life; mentally, emotionally, physically, personally, professionally, and spiritually. He walks with clients praying that as individuals gain a clearer picture of who they are in Christ, it will change the trajectory of their life.



## **Becki Kelley, LMHC(A)**

Becki Kelley has a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Arts from Cedarville University and a Master's Degree in Professional Counseling from Liberty University. Becki has spent much of her counseling career assisting those who are youth aged and assessing clients in crisis. She is certified in Moral Recantation Therapy (MRT) and has led groups on substance use, anger management, and life skills.

Becki received the calling to enter the counseling field after spending 25 years in media when she was diagnosed, treated for, and survived breast cancer. The experience took her to a place of great suffering and also put her around others who were suffering and needed help, especially with the mental and emotional toll that a cancer diagnosis can cause. While God has not led her to work with cancer patients in particular, it has become clear that just about any of life's situations can cause mental and emotional challenges and she feels called to meet people in their difficulty.

When not working, Becki enjoys watching her teenage son play soccer, basketball, and baseball. Becki attends Headwaters Church.



## **Patrick Chesebrough, M.A.**

Patrick has a master's degree from Indiana Wesleyan University in addiction counseling and an undergraduate degree in Human Services from IPFW in Fort Wayne. He is currently in the process of applying for his LCAC. Patrick has been working with clients dealing with trauma, mental health issues, and addiction at the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission for the last 8 years. He has recently been hired on as an instructor in the Human Services Department at Ivy Tech Community College.

Patrick has a passion for serving and advocating the underserved in our community and has worked closely with the immigrant and refugee populations in this city. He is passionate about the arts and how creative activities can be used to expand the reach of therapeutic intervention. Patrick believes in a strength focused/client focused therapeutic process that allows the client to help direct their own healing experience. Patrick also has a desire to help younger individuals that are experiencing hardships before they turn away from Christ due to societal influences and to help them find a path away from sin through the direction of the Holy Spirit.

Patrick attends Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne Indiana. He is married and has three children. He loves to play music and create art in his free time. He has three Dachshunds and can be found with one of them in his lap at any given time.



## *DIRECTOR'S CORNER*

Welcome to our first edition of The Connector, our monthly electronic newsletter that will provide the latest news on the Biblical counseling ministry of Cross Connections as well as provide resources for you in the area of spiritual, mental, and emotional well-being. As we begin our 13th year providing affordable Biblical counseling to the 120 churches, ministries, and businesses that make up our ministry partner network, it is my sincere hope this newsletter keeps you informed with the latest insights and information on how the Lord continues to bring the hope, healing, and peace that can only be found in Him to the clients He leads to our care.

## **“That’s a Wrap” - a look back at 2020**

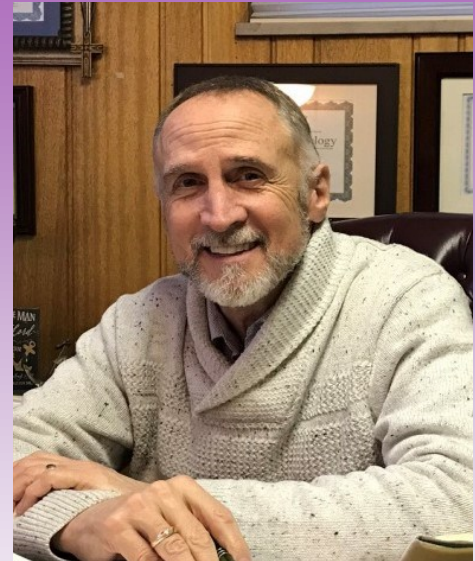
Grateful. That is how we have chosen to look at this past year. We are grateful for many things: health and safety, financial support for His ministry, new additions to our counseling staff and Board of Directors, new church partnerships. We could go on for quite some time listing all the ways we have been blessed during a global pandemic, civil unrest, and political upheaval that seems to further divide us.

And we are especially grateful for the lens of abundance we find in Philippians 4: 8; “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. “

Given everything that is taking place in our world right now, it would be very easy to focus on whatever difficulty or crisis we are facing right now, whether it be a failing relationship, the real possibility of unemployment, a continued addiction we just can’t shake. Our enemy appeals strongly to our sinful nature’s need to focus on the obstacle and relegate the way over/around/under/through it to keep us in despair and questioning where God is during all this mess.

Over the course of the past 3 months, we have seen a 35% increase in new client referrals compared to prior year and we foresee that trend continuing as we begin 2021 and beyond. No matter what season we find ourselves in, and no matter how dark our circumstances might seem, the light of the Gospel shines brightly in the counseling sessions conducted by the Biblical counselors at Cross Connections.

As we look back at 2020, we look back with thanks for all the blessings the Lord has provided us amid such unusual times. And as we look forward to 2021, it is with a humble excitement for all the Lord will accomplish here at HIS Biblical counseling ministry.



## Supporting Hope by Dr. Jim Dohrmann, Development Director

As we all move from 2020 into the unknowns of a new year, many are more than happy to let the year pass and move on to more hopeful events and living in 2021. But I reflect on the words of Joshua 23:14, “Not a single promise of the Lord has failed!” God has brought the Biblical counseling ministry of Cross Connections through dark days and allowed us to walk with those who needed to see the light of Christ. For that we are most grateful to Him. During the course of the year, Matt and I have learned much through the fundraising courses provided by The Lilly School of Philanthropy at Indiana University to stretch our knowledge and abilities to keep the ministry growing for years to come. Exploring planned giving as an option for donors to become involved in legacy giving will be an exciting avenue to chart for Cross Connections. I welcome a conversation with you on how you can include Cross Connections, Inc. in your planned giving portfolio.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will not be having our annual Spring Thing event in April. While there is light at the end of the tunnel, our Development team felt it was best to direct the majority of our fundraising efforts into our Isaiah 9:6 annual fund. You can donate directly to the Isaiah 9:6 annual fund through the Donate button on our website, or by sending a gift directly to our office. We appreciate your support in keeping Biblical counseling affordable for the clients the Lord leads to us here. Your gifts make a lasting impact in our community!

Speaking of live events, we will be hosting our annual golf outing again this year at Brookwood Golf Course on Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup>! We look very forward to seeing everyone coming together for a day of overdue fun and competing for prizes on selected holes. Mark your calendars and more information will be coming soon!

Our first Donor Appreciation dinner was hosted on September 17<sup>th</sup> at J.K. O'Donnell's and was very well received. It was a delight to take the time and update our partners on the direction that Cross Connections is navigating. We'll get an announcement out very soon on the next one in the first quarter of 2021. If you would like to be included, let us know!

### BY THE NUMBERS IN 2020....

Total Counseling Hours: 2,631

Total Clients Served: 746

New Ministry Partners: 14

New Board members: 5

Individual Counseling Hours: 1,486

Marital Counseling Hours: 252

Family Counseling Hours: 129

School Counseling Hours: 450