

September 21, 2021

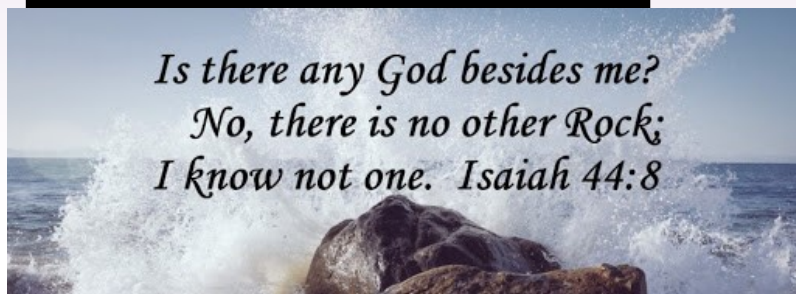
THE CONNECTOR

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

FILLING STATION: "ACCEPTANCE"

Acceptance is not an easy thing for us, especially if we feel we have been wronged or treated unfairly at times. Acceptance doesn't mean you have to like or agree with how another person treats you or others, yet it does require a willingness to show grace to our neighbor and not lash out. It requires us to forgive as we are forgiven, and it can require an abundance of patience at times. Acceptance can be hard for us sinful humans, correct? I have a friend with a colossal temper. And he knows it, too. It puts me in mind of the old "Incredible Hulk" TV series from the early 1980's where mild-mannered Dr. David Banner morphs into an enormous monster when he gets too angry. The tag line I remember is, "Don't make me angry; you wouldn't like me when I am angry." This is completely my friend with his temper. One day as we were driving, I noticed somebody cut him off in traffic, he didn't react. He just simply kept driving with no outburst or honking the horn in anger. I asked him why, and his reply has always stuck with me. He smiled shyly and admitted while his temper can get the better of him at times, he occasionally is able to remember to give others the same grace and acceptance that God gives us all in Christ Jesus. He told me he has accepted his faults, but won't be ruled by them. That has always stayed with me.

As you continue through these last days of summer and head to the cooler fall days in store, may you accept God's grace with a joyous heart, and accept that you need to give it to others in return.



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

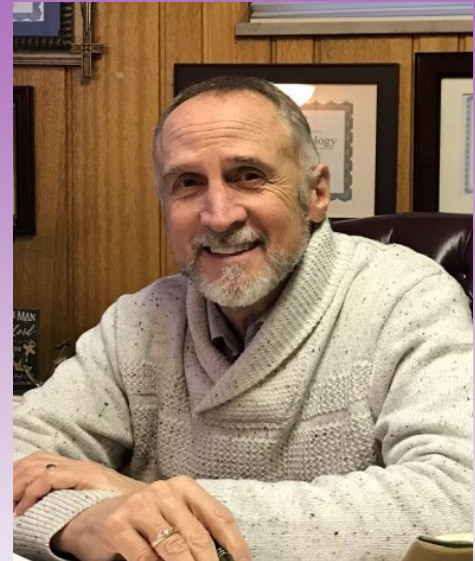
As we draw closer to the Fall season tomorrow, here are a few things we can count on: cooler evenings by the firepit, a barrage of pumpkin-flavored products (that actually arrived in August in some locations), Halloween decorations will soon be hung, and football season is in full swing!

Another thing we can count on is the need for Biblical counseling ministries like Cross Connections that use Scripture as authority in the counseling setting. As the world increasingly turns its back on what Christ has done for us, and the enemy rages against the hope the Gospel provides, Cross Connections stands firm in its defense of Truth and the peace that only God can provide. As we enter the final quarter of 2021, please continue to support our ministry with your fervent prayers for the critical work the Lord does here each day.

2021 BOARD/STAFF RETREAT AT CAMP LUTHERHAVEN

On Friday, September 10 seventeen Board and staff members travelled to Camp Lutherhaven for a one-day retreat by the shores of Muncie Lake to reflect on the changes the past five years have brought to Cross Connections, share the goals and timelines of the strategic plan recently implemented, and enjoy each other's company under a bright blue sky. God blessed us with incredible weather and we are already looking forward to next year!





Supporting Hope by Dr. Jim Dohrmann, Development Director

We are incredibly grateful to those who were able to support us at our “Blessings, Gratitude, and all that Jazz!” event held last Friday at Country Heritage Winery. The weather was perfect under a clear sky and warm sun, the wine and music was excellent, and we celebrated the blessings that Cross Connections is with just over 40 of our close friends and supporters. The event netted just over \$7,000 and we are so thankful for your continued support.

As we enter the last quarter of 2021, if you haven’t already considered a year-end gift to Cross Connections, we encourage you to do so. The work being done at Cross Connections changes lives both now and for eternity, and can’t be done without your support. There are many ways to donate: cash, check, credit card, gifts of stock, IRA contributions, Thrivent Choice dollars; all these vehicles help us in our work to proclaim the Gospel to the clients God leads to our doors.

And even though Spring is a long way off, make sure to mark your calendars now for the 2022 “It’s a Spring Thing” celebration gala on April 26, 2022. Our featured speak will be the world-renowned Christian author and speaker, Mr. Lee Strobel! Stay tuned to future editions of The Connector for information on tickets, sponsorships, and venue.

Thanks again to each of you for all the many prayers and financial support for His Biblical counseling ministry at Cross Connections! Please don’t hesitate to call me at 260-373-0213, ext. 105 or via email at jimdohrmann@crossconnectionsounseling.com to learn more on how you can make a difference in the lives of our clients.

By the numbers thus far in 2021

Total number of counseling hours provided: 2,207

School counseling hours: 183

Individual counseling hours: 1,725

Groups: 5

Marriage counseling hours: 232

Family Counseling hours: 62