



Dear Crossroads Family,

The first AWANA meeting for the Fall of 2026 was held last Sunday evening. Katy, along with her AWANA leadership team including AWANA commander John King (and with the tremendous help of Vickie Andress) worked hard to be prepared, uncertain of how many children would come and also knowing that they still needed a few adult leaders. Katy expressed the need for helpers, mostly as a prayer request, and when Sunday came, additional workers came so that they had everyone they needed. A great group of children came as well.

I am continually amazed at the willingness of members of our Crossroads family to jump in and serve when service opportunities arise. Whether it is working with children or young people, leading adult ministries, or volunteering to work with people in the community and beyond, you are constantly demonstrating your love for the Lord and your heart for service in His name.

For that reason, when I preach this Sunday's sermon, I think it will feel a bit like I am preaching to the choir. The message entitled, "Serving in the Miraculous Body of Christ," is a call to live a life of service in and for the church, the Body of Christ. (Sermon notes are provided below.) For most of you it will be an affirmation of what you already know and do. But maybe for some, the sermon will inspire a new desire to serve in the name of Jesus.

I hope you will be here Sunday and open your heart to listen to what the Lord has to say though the Bible study time and in the worship service. As always, listen for what He is saying to you and then put that into practice. You will be blessed for doing so.

Sunday is going to be a great day of worship in the Lord. I look forward to seeing you then.

Love,
Bro. Doug

Serving in the Miraculous Body of Christ
1 Corinthians 12:12-24

The gospels provide an important backdrop for 1 Cor. 12. In them Jesus taught, "whoever wants to become great among you must be your _____, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,..." By His teaching and example, Jesus made it clear that the _____ of every _____ is to be involved in serving one another together.

In 1 Cor. 12, Paul uses the analogy of a _____ to describe the responsibility of servanthood each of us has. Every believer is _____ by the Spirit and placed in the Body _____ so that when each does its part, the Body functions _____. Sometimes parts of the Body fail to accept and execute their responsibility as servants in and of the Body of Christ. One reason is perceived _____. Believers disqualify themselves with these words: "_____."

A 2nd main reason believers fail to become faithful servants in the Body of Christ is feelings of _____. These believers opt out of service with these little words: “_____.” They decide not to serve with those parts of the Body they deem _____.

Each of us is important and we _____ on _____ to have an alive, vibrant, and effective church. For this reason, we should all commit to do our part in serving one another in Christ.

The main reason we serve is that this church, of which we are a part, is an amazing, wonderful, purposeful _____ of _____. We are the Body of Christ. Serving in the Body is an amazing _____.

Jesus said in John 14:12 that, when functioning as it should, His church would do even _____ than He had done. That is a miracle! But to do so, the Body of Christ must function at peak efficiency with every part doing its part. We _____.

When called to serve, may we all say, “_____.” “I will give my _____ to the One who gave His _____ for me.”

A Few Announcements:

The **Lord’s Supper** will be observed this Sunday, August 23. If you will be joining us online, please be prepared with your elements so that you can take part in this observance. We will collect a benevolence offering, as is our custom, whenever we observe the Lord's Supper.

Our new and improved **Assisted Listening System** will be available this Sunday. Directions will be provided in the service to help with connection to the system. If you wear hearing aids, this system will be able to connect to those, and it will also connect to headphones, Air Pods, or ear buds. This listening system is part of the upgrade to our sound system, and we are excited to finally have it in place!

The **Ladies’ Wednesday Morning Bible Study** will begin their Fall sessions this week on August 26 at 9:00 am in Rm. V217. They will be studying the book *As For Me: Life Through the Lens of The Psalms*, by Adrienne Camp. All ladies are invited to join this group as they are led to a deeper understanding of who God is and be encouraged to hold onto Him no matter what. For more information, contact Jeanne Lassetter (jeanne.lassetter@hotmail.com or text 210.449.1710).

Children’s Church will be returning September 13. Leaders are still needed for this important children’s ministry. Contact Katy Padgett for more information at 210.681.1911.

Childcare for Wednesday Night Bible Study: if needed, call the church office (210.681.1911) by noon on Tuesday.