

October 15, 2021

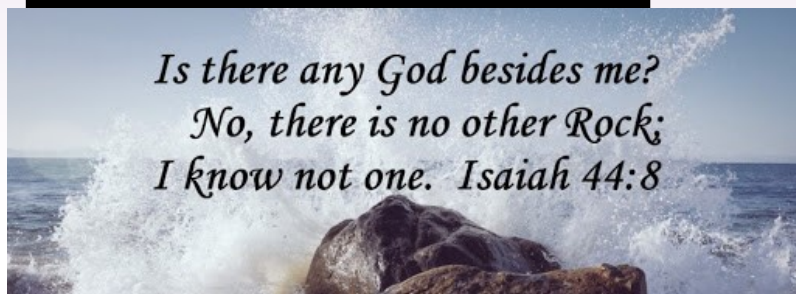
THE CONNECTOR

Monthly Newsletter of Cross Connections, Inc.



IN THIS ISSUE:

- *FILLING STATION: ADVERSITY*
- *DIRECTOR'S CORNER*
- *WHERE DID THE MONTH GO?!*
- *SUPPORTING HOPE AND LEAVING A LEGACY*
- *BY THE NUMBERS: 2021 YTD*



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: "ADVERSITY"

As Jesus prepared himself for his arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, he spent some of his last moments with His disciples encouraging and pouring into them. He encouraged them with these words from John 16:33; "I have told you these things, so that in my you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Little did the disciples know at that time the trouble this world would bring them. Enough trouble that only one of them would die of natural causes, not as a martyr. While we do have troubles in this world, most of us can say we haven't experienced troubles of that magnitude—yet.

Instead, we have experienced much adversity, especially in recent years, on the truth found in Scripture and the saving power of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. That is nothing new, really. The truth of the Gospel has faced the adversity of a sin-sick world since Christ emerged victorious from the grave over 2,000 years ago. And that is precisely what Christ was encouraging His disciples about in John 16:33. And what He encourages us about today. In this fallen world inhabited by sinners (of whom I am the worst), the enemy will try anything He can to discredit the truth of the Gospel and the freedom it provides. But we have a Savior in Jesus Christ who is so much stronger than the enemy. And he is there for you in your adversity, no matter what that adversity might look like. God is enough. His shoulders are broad enough to carry any burden your sin places on them. Take heart, Jesus has overcome the world!



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!

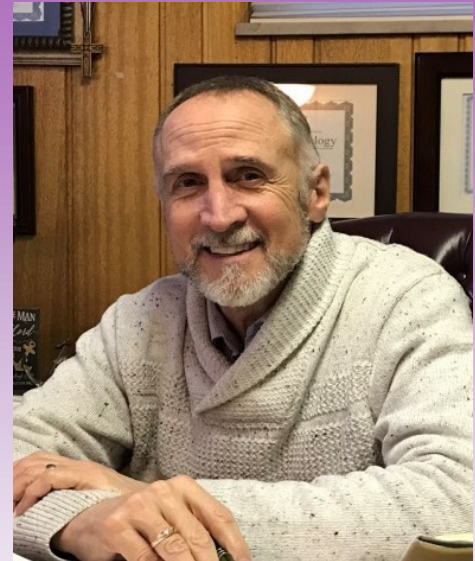
Another thing we can count on is the need for Biblical counseling ministries like Cross Connections that use Scripture as authority in the counseling setting. As the world increasingly turns its back on what Christ has done for us, and the enemy rages against the hope the Gospel provides, Cross Connections 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.

WHERE DID THE MONTH GO?

It is hard to believe that today is October 15. It seems like 30 seconds ago we were releasing the September edition, not 30 days since then. There has been an incredible amount of activity at the ministry since our last edition:

- On Saturday, September 18 a diverse gathering of supporters from the past and current supporters of the ministry visited Country Heritage Winery in Laotto to celebrate an incredible evening of food, wine, music, and company and show their support for the Biblical counseling ministry at Cross Connections. In all, the event netted just over \$7,000 that goes to Isaiah 9: 6 annual fund. Thanks again to all those who came out to show their support!
- On Sunday, September 19 our Executive Director visited Promise Ministries where services included a time for Matt and Pastor Graf to talk about the ministry partnership and the value it brings to the members at Promise.
- The weekend of October 2nd and 3rd, it was St. Michael's Lutheran Church that hosted Matt and allowed him to participate in all 3 services to celebrate the ministry partnership we enjoy. It had been four years since Matt had visited and he appreciated the chance to see old friends, and make a few new ones as well!
- At the end of September, Cross Connections had provided 2,391 counseling hours to clients that seek our care. From all appearances, 2021 will be a record year for the number of counseling hours and clients helped at the ministry.
- On Sunday, September 12, Bethlehem Lutheran Church hosted Dr. Jim Dohrmann who provided a presentation to the congregation on Suicide Awareness and care for those who may be expressing suicidal ideation as part of Suicide Prevention Month.

We are incredibly grateful the Lord is using His servants at Cross Connections in so many meaningful ways. If you are interested in have a Cross Connections representative visit your church, please reach out to Matt Konow via email mattkonow@crossconnectionsounseling.com or phone, 260-373-0213, ext. 103



Supporting Hope by Dr. Jim Dohrmann, Development Director

October!! Along with the beautiful fall foliage colors, cooler evenings, and return of sweaters, that means the beginning of the last fundraising push of the year for the ministry! 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, donating through our secure online portal through the Donate button on our website; all these vehicles help us in our work to proclaim the Gospel to the clients God leads to our doors.

We are also happy to announce the return of the SOS—Serve Our Servants event on Saturday, December 11 from 2:30 to 6:30. Mark your calendars now and be sure to watch for more detail in the November edition of The Connector and/or via our Events page at www.crossconnectionsounseling.com. 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: 2,391

School counseling hours: 215

Individual counseling hours: 1,976

Groups: 5

Marriage counseling hours: 275

Family Counseling hours: 66