



crossroads farm

DOWN ON THE FARM

The Quarterly Newsletter of Crossroads Farm

Oct, Nov, Dec
2013

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No Debt But Love

Quiet work, loud celebration!! For the past 1.5 yrs, our executive staff have been privately visiting, calling, sharing, and challenging donors from our mailing list to be a part of investing in CRF as we establish our feet for the "next." God is so good. God is so faithful.

It is our joy to announce to you that Crossroads Farm will be entering 2014 as a debt free ministry! It is our honor to steward your gifts from God to CRF above reproach. In so doing, it is our desire to see




those dollars truly make a difference in the lives of kids! It has! It is! We established as a non for profit in 1999 with the mission of reaching rural youth for Christ. In so doing...we bought a farm. The story behind that series of miracles is delicious, and one, that if you don't know, we would love the privilege of sharing with you personally someday. The end result was a 105 acre Farm and a mortgage, the ministry's only debt...which is no more!

We can never repay the debt of love that Jesus lavished on us through the cross. Good News. But CRF has now paid off all financial debt. Pray with us and watch and listen. This financial freedom allows us to move forward as a ministry in several ways. More detail to come. In the meantime – PRAISE THE LORD! 

Drive-by-Prayer

Eri n: "I would love to tell you how much
1st yr. I loved it! And how awesome it was to
Vol unteer see my girls praying for their friends!
Coach Even getting lost wasn't a big deal."

In a random week in Nov., the CRF volunteer staff coaches gathered up their care cells of students and hit the roads armed with candy and notes. In "Ding Dong Ditch" fashion, they parked near a friend's home and prayed for that person. Then snuck up to

the door, left their goodies and note saying they had been a victim of drive by prayer, rang or knocked and ran! Our staff and students have loads of hilarious stories about their adventures. Ah, but the power here is that they prayed. Approximately 75 homes were visited and prayed over by students. **Kids... praying for other kids.** 



Aliens Invade the Corn

This fall in the cornfields at Crossroads Farm, literally hundreds of students from various schools around the county took advantage of our thematic maze for math daze and corn education field trips. Meeting the Michigan math standard requirements, students raced to 8 sites to answer the math ques-



tions posted specific to their grade level, and be the first out ahead of their peers. Others visited the maze to celebrate a birthday with friends. Still hundreds of others came just to enjoy the challenges of the twists and turns in the elaborate maze of alien design.

However, the real reason for the corn maze each year [this was our 14th maze!] is to host our annual **Murder Mystery Outreach**. We are so very grateful for our community and volunteer staff extending themselves on behalf of students, and this year was no exception.



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From parkers to donut servers, from Road Commission cones to those who passed out maps, and everything in between, thank you! It literally takes a community to reach a community. Special maze features this year included a bridge, live grave site, and a ring of TVs on static save for one with a clue...creepy!

Although with each event, each student, etc, we want to share volumes, let us give you just one snapshot of the Alien Invasion Outreach this year. Hundreds again came, Cities and Saints was the featured band, and it was a riot in its entirety. On middle school night, Oct. 18, several students made first time commitments to Christ. But on Saturday night, HS night, when the Gospel was presented, Doug challenged students to look around and boldly decide if they wanted to follow Christ and have their peers see. The floor of



the old barn was covered with seated students. One sophomore boy raised his hand high. "I already know Jesus, but I want to learn more about Him and follow him." That same boy has been devouring his new Bible in these past weeks. Please pray for Zach, and the many other students

that we love and serve for His glory. 🙏

Where We Are Today

(from one of CRF's first 2 interns)

What a blessing it was for Janna and I to be able to visit with the Routledges, Paul Miller and Rich Carpenter a few weeks ago. We were heavily involved with crossroads farm from 2000 through 2002 when it was just getting started.

Not only did the ministry have a great impact on Janna and I with regard to being part of a church ministry but it also had a tremendous influence on us personally. Who was to know that the vision to reach the youth and youth leaders in Hillsdale County would actually extend far beyond those boundaries. What Janna and I learned while working


Scott is the director of his own ministry now, Legacy Sports, that ministers to hundreds through athletics. His ministry's website is www.legacysports.org.

with Crossroads Farm has shaped our marriage relationship, the way we raise our children, the way that we minister to those who God has placed in our care, and so much more. We have lived in Charlotte, NC, for the past ten years which means Crossroads Farm has quietly left its mark on hundreds of people there, through us.



I've found it difficult to find long-term spiritual rocks in my life over the course of time. Crossroads Farm has been a long-term spiritual rock for Janna and I since the day we met. They are the same now as they were back then – loving and serving Jesus Christ with all their hearts no matter what.

We cannot thank them enough for the tremendous influence they've had and continue to have in our lives today.

Scott J. Tyson 



Good-Bye

I once again find myself in a position to share with you, the faithful friends of Crossroads Farm. The last time was approximately two years ago as I was settling into my position as Office Manager. As hard as it was to find the words to introduce myself, it is equally as hard to say Goodbye.

As many may know, I am no longer setting behind the desk in the Crossroads Farm office (only on an occasional weekend or evening as I support Rich) and have taken a new position. For my family and me personally, 2013 saw the mile stones of finishing my degree, an unexpected illness in which God once again proved His faithfulness and the offer of a position that was prayerfully considered and accepted.



The hardest part of this decision was the thoughts of the work that God has in store through Crossroads, you the faithful supporters of the ministry and the missionaries who so faithfully answer the call.

As I transition from supporting the ministry of Crossroads Farm and embrace the opportunity to use my skills to support a company as well as minister to my peers the love of Christ, know that Crossroads Farm and you remain in my heart and prayers.

Ann Davis 



Community Mailing Volunteers with Ann

Hello

I grew up in Hillsdale County, the same county I am now a missionary to as the Office Manager and Visual Communications Associate at Crossroads Farm. There have been many exciting chapters in my life and this chapter is certainly one of the highlights. A dream has been forming for the last 12 years of a job involving graphic design, photography, and youth ministry. After a little over a year of building a ministry support team the Lord transitioned me into this position.



I've been bombarded with a HUGE learning curve but I believe God has prepared me for it. I'm very excited to be used by the Lord to do and speak the Gospel to the kids and parents of Hillsdale County with Crossroads Farm as my vehicle.

Rich Carpenter 



Prayer Closet

Yahoos:



Crossroads Farm is Debt Free! Farm mortgage is paid in full.



Salvations and safety at the Murder Mystery Outreach.



A community in Northville, MI, adopting our students for Christmas again this year.



Office manager transition



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Address Service Requested

Take It To Jesus:



Preparations and scholarships for *"I am that Hero! Winter Retreat"* Feb. 14th-16th.



Wisdom for our board of directors as we plan for the "next."



Additional funds and labor needed for maintenance on our buildings.



That students will experience the Christ of Christmas in fresh and profound ways this season.



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Loving The Rural Teenager



And So We Pray ~ Year End

It's year end...again. While writing this, I wonder how many year ends you have seen in your lifetime? Crossroads Farm has seen 14 years of ministry come to a close. We are blessed, grateful, hopeful and anticipate! Thank you for your part. Your prayers. Your financial support. Your physical labor.

On the way to the mailbox each day we pray for what God would have there. When the newsletters go out, we pray, for what God will communicate through them. Each week we pray, for handfuls of you specifically and send postcards. Why? Because God has chosen YOU to help the staff of CRF reach students for Jesus. It's a gift.

Won't you pray right now? For rural youth. For our staff. For your part in perhaps an extra year end gift to make what Crossroads Farm does, possible.



(Please note that all gifts received by 12-31-13, will be receipted tax deductible for your records.)