



Down On The Farm

The Quarterly Newsletter of Crossroads Farm

April,
May,
June
2012




GOT WATER?

It's funny what we often do to Christianity. We can take a pretty simple concept and make it profound, difficult and a process. Over the years I have changed my opinion about baptism.

This May, we were given the honor of seeing 16 students and two volunteer staff members take the next step in their walk with Jesus. They were baptized at CRF in a stock tank.

The criteria for baptism in the Bible is fairly straightforward.

1. Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the only way to come into a relationship with God?
2. Do you intend to follow Christ and His teachings for your life's grid?
3. Do you see any water?

Really. That's pretty much all there is to it. Obviously, anyone can say yes to those questions, but the effort taken to talk about what this decision means and represents has proven to help us to see commitment to Jesus IN PROCESS! What an incredible joy! Please continue to pray for these eighteen friends who are taking steps toward a deeper relationship with their Savior. 



Running The Race Together →



Brian:
My name is Brian Terry and I have just graduated from Hillsdale High School and also

from Crossroads Farm program. Everybody has their own story and each is unique. Here is mine. A friend invited me to church with him one day. It's there that I met Greg Hill, a Crossroads Farm volunteer, who greatly impacted my life for the next 1 ½ years. Greg picked me up for church and Crossroads events. Eventually he relocated to North Carolina for a job opportunity.

The staff at Crossroads is more than just staff people at some youth group. I have been able to truly bond with these people. Most are just volunteers that want the best for students like me. The last three years, Andrew Meyer and Mike Richardson are two other male staff members that I have bonded with during Crossroads events and outside of Crossroads too.

Crossroads means so much to me. It's a place where Christians can go hangout, have fun and worship all at the same time. Crossroads has changed me for the better.

Mike:

It's with mixed feelings that I see Brian Terry graduate from Crossroads and move on to College. I have so enjoyed getting to know Brian. He's become a wonderful man, full of faith and love for Christ. He genuinely cares for his family and friends and wants more than anything to see each one of them come to know Christ as he has.

Brian and I share a love for running. Over the past couple of years, I've been blessed to spend many Sunday afternoons with Brian between church and CRF program. We ran a lot of miles together, talked and ate dinner together. Those are times I will not forget and will truly miss.

Brian's graduation from Crossroads is bittersweet for me. But both God and I know that Brian will go on to the next chapter in his life equipped to share and grow his faith. He's a great man of God and will be missed by me. Go Brian! 🙌

The Prayer Closet

~Take It To Jesus~

*Summer trips and Bible studies

(White Water/caving June 21-24, Hiawatha Youth Camp July 15-21, 8 Bible studies lead by various volunteer staff)

*Work crews coming to the Farm in July

*Doug as he travels and speaks at various camps

*Jerry, Shaun and Rich as they continue in the support raising process for full time missionary staff

*Fall planning and programming

*Fundraising event on Aug. 18 at the Essenhaus



~Yahoos~

*Although cold and windy, a great "Home Plate" Tigers Game Outreach. One middle school girl gave her life to Jesus.

*Our volunteer staff of 2011/12. Loved and served with a selfless heart this school year.

*18 baptized this spring

*Our seniors!

*For YOU, our faithful supporters and prayer warriors

*The Farm property, barns and the Student Center~the physical hub of the ministry 🙌

"Crossroads .. It's beautiful, It's simple, It's real."

I have been extremely overwhelmed and blessed by the hospitality.

Every aspect that I can see of your family is so loving and healthy. I admire your marriage, the way you interact with your kids, the compassion you have for the community. It's so rare and I feel blessed to even have been witness to it. There is so much beauty in a family that incorporates God into every single aspect and it's so apparent.



I have a new found desire to live more simply - As I was recapping my trip last night, I was thinking 'I want a garden, I want farm animals, I want a farm..' I even told Dawn, "In another life, I wish I was a farm girl" -

It's absolutely incredible the amount of kids that show up to Crossroads. I'm very thankful for all the stories, answered questions and time spent teaching me more about Crossroads.

I admire your dreams and hopes for the growth of Crossroads. Your mission is excellent, purposed and I can feel and sense God working here. I believe that he WILL provide and do greater things, but he is also doing those things right now, too.

I can't think of a better way to spend my vacation. I've felt inspired, refreshed, comforted, and loved.

I will continue to pray for Crossroads, for your family and for abundant blessings on both.

Love you guys a ton!

Morgan [A CRF Visitor] 📷



Everybody has a personal story about a farm. This fall Crossroads Farm wants to hear your farm stories. There are two ways that we want to share life on the farm between friends. We will be running a web site series featuring your essays about farm experiences.

They can be funny, emotional, spiritual or random. Please keep your submissions to under 500 words. Submit them to doug@crossroadsfarm.org by September 15th. Winning submissions will awarded some fabulous prizes.

The second way to share farm stories with us is to

mark your calendars

for our

Saturday, August 18th

"Tell Me A Farm Story" Fundraising Dinner

at the beautiful Das Dutchman Essenhaus restaurant in Middlebury, Indiana. CRF friends will be able to contribute to CRF simply by shopping. 10% of those sales will be donated to Crossroads Farm ministry programming. Watch the mail for your invitation and coupon. We fully expect 300 guests to share a day of shopping and an evening of delicious Amish fare. 📷

Home Plate 2012



Today was really fun! Starting out with the testimonies made it even better. It was really deep and I think it helped people realize that they weren't alone in their struggles with Christ.
Cassie

The best part of today was when some of the players shared about their life and when all of us got to be on the camera during the game.
McKenzie



Thank you very much for everything! I had one of the best times in my life watching baseball and accepting Jesus Christ in my heart!
Sierra

The best part of today was when the Players shared their testimonies, I thought that was very deep and appreciative.
Dennis



The best part about today was being able to hear about how God takes part in others lives!
Emma

The best part of today was when I got to wear a World Series jacket and when I was on TV!
Led Head (Lettie)



Thank you for everything! I actually had a great time and that was actually my first time at a real baseball game. So Thanks,
Christopher



The best part of today was when some of the players shared to everyone about their life and when I got to ride the baseball Ferris wheel!
Brittney



Crossroads Farm
5520 W. Card Road
Reading, MI 49274
(517) 283-3982
www.crossroadsfarm.org

Loving The Rural Teenager