

# METROGRACE

Developing Urban Churches

March 2025

Member of  CHARIS FELLOWSHIP



Pastor Jim Brown—[jabrown215@yahoo.com](mailto:jabrown215@yahoo.com)

Last month Christianity Daily reported that, "Seventy Christians were found beheaded inside a Protestant church in the North Kivu



Province of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)...The International Christian Concern (ICC), a U.S.-based persecution watchdog, labeled the incident 'a brutal massacre'..." ICC President Jeff King commented on the horrific nature of the incident, saying, "...this is a religious genocide carried out by radical Islamic terrorists (the ADF)."

Last year Crossroads had the privilege of serving refugees from this war-torn country. They arrived in Philadelphia and were housed near the facility. Crossroads was able to provide food and clothing. And, the ladies of the church had a baby shower for two of the women who were expecting. Later, the families were moved to the Midwest for a more permanent home. It's a good reminder that the church extends around the world. Our commitment to Christ is a commitment to other believers. We can't be everywhere. But we can do what we can with what we have where we are.

***There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.***

***Ephesians 4:4-6***

Crossroads is grateful for ministry partners in the Charis Fellowship like Camp Conquest. Last year you helped the church send seven students to camp. Two students trusted Christ for salvation!



And, two teens have applied to serve with STACC— Service Training At Camp Conquest. STACC is a servant leadership program for teens, ages 15-17. It helps teens discover how God has uniquely equipped them, engaging their skills in the local church and community. We'd like to help at least ten students attend camp this summer. We're asking God to provide \$5,000 for this ministry. Could the Lord use you, your small group or your church? Simply mark you gift, "Camp".



*Thank you for supporting MetroGrace this month! Please include this cut-off with your next gift and use the back to indicate any changes to your contact information.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my gift to support:

- General Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Jim and Lisa Brown \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Pete and Danielle Forshtay \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Rick and Kristin Dobrowolski \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Dr. Jim Brown,**



**Pastor Rick Dobrowolski—rickdob7@icloud.com**

homegoing here in the building. She had assisted in converting it from a beauty institute to a church building. It was a joy to tell her family how her fingerprints were on these walls.

### Loss & Gain

We had our first funeral here at our Citylight building.

A lady in her 40s went home to be with her Savior. We had the opportunity to celebrate her life and



It was a greater joy to know that this church family had been used by God in her life, welcoming her in through baptism, church membership, and regular involvement in a church for the first time in her adult life. She had been close to our family, which made the loss tough on us, but we rejoice that we are confident in her eternal home.

Please pray for fruit as seeds of the Gospel were planted in the hearts of many unbelievers during that memorial service. Many discussions were had during the repast and we're praying for many more in the future.

### HVAC Matching Fund Goal reached!

We also praise God that we were able to secure the full matching gift presented to us in 2024 to assist in replacing our aging HVAC systems in the building. We're thankful for the provision that God continues to make on behalf of the Gospel efforts here.



**Pastor Pete Forshtay—peteforshtay@gmail.com**

Pastor Pete Forshtay is helping believers grow as they learn to serve the Lord.

Recently, Frank led the congregation in prayer. While that might seem simple to



some, it represents years of God's work in Frank's life. Since trusting Christ, Frank procured his first Social Security card, learned to read, found employment, received promotions and married a Christian woman. He and his wife participate in worship regularly. And the Lord to continues to work in their lives. Please pray for several young adults at Word of Grace who are learning to serve the Lord together.

This month millions of Americans will spring ahead for Daylight Savings Time on March 9.

Word of Grace will spring forward one week earlier on March 2. The congregation wants to allow for more time to gather in worship. So, they plan to move their Sunday worship service to 10:30am. Please ask the Lord

to use this shift to help more people participate in worship. And, pray that the church family would benefit from the change.



Please continue to pray for the Forshtays. Danielle is praising the Lord for her job at Lockheed Martin. Her employment has been a real blessing for their family. And, Pete and Danielle are praising the Lord for Pearl. She loves to play the piano! Though she is only five years old, she recently completed her first instructional book!

**Thank you for helping us develop urban churches!**