

# METROGRACE

Developing Urban Churches

January 2026

Member of  CHARIS FELLOWSHIP



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



Crossroads finished the year strong. The congregation is praising God for conversions, baptisms, establishment of new believers, growth in disciples through Bible Training, development of youth through Souls on Fire and a great summer at Camp Conquest. Thank you for allowing the Lord to use you!

Last month, friends participated in the Crossroads Christmas Gathering. Everyone enjoyed a time for fellowship and fun. It was encouraging to watch the church family work together to set up, decorate, cook, serve and clean. Please pray for continued bonding as brothers and sisters serve the Lord together. Crossroads concluded the year with a traditional Candles & Carols service. For many, it is the

centerpiece of their Christmas celebration. Followed by a time of fellowship, it lifts those who would otherwise be alone on Christmas. In 2020, Crossroads adopted a theme for the decade: Be Strong. It is more than a catchphrase. It is a plan to be strengthened by the



grace that is in Christ Jesus. The congregation intends to develop strong disciples who lead strong families that develop strong congregations that glorify God. After five years, some progress has been made. But there is much more work to be done. Please pray for Crossroads as they serve the Lord in Northeast Philadelphia and beyond.

Crossroads 2030

## Be Strong

Our Values

**FORWARD**  
BIBLICAL TRUTH

**FOSTER**  
BIBLICAL RELATIONSHIPS

**FULLFILL**  
BIBLICAL MISSION

Our Vocation

**DEVELOP**  
STRONG DISCIPLES

**DEVELOP**  
STRONG MEN

**DEVELOP**  
STRONG WOMEN

Our Vision

**DEVELOP**  
STRONG MARRIAGES

**DEVELOP**  
STRONG FAMILIES

**DEVELOP**  
STRONG CONGREGATIONS

**EMBODY**  
BIBLICAL LIFESTYLES

**EXEMPLIFY**  
BIBLICAL LIFESTYLES

**EMPOWER**  
BIBLICAL LIFESTYLES



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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### **Opportunity for Evangelism & Discipleship**

Our home in East-Side Allentown sits right near the largest



undeveloped parcel of land within the city limits. The land used to support the Allentown State Hospital, the psychiatric hospital which closed in 2010, a year before we started church planting in Allentown. A few years ago, the state sold the property to a developer, who has since sold a parcel for a K-8th grade public school. His other plans include around 1,000 housing units to eventually be built. Not only is this near our home, it's only a few blocks away from our church building.



Perhaps God granted our request for a permanent space for such a time like this—when many would be moving into our area, whether they be those in need of an introduction to Jesus or those Christians who have relocated and are looking for a church in their community.

Pray for us to be ready to respond to this increased need. Pray for boldness as we seek to meet the need and point people to Jesus.



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

The Forshtays led their church family to celebrate Advent and Christmas last month.



The congregation enjoyed participating in the journey that saw darkness illuminated by the Light.

Throughout the month, they promoted a community toy drive, enjoyed special events throughout the city, gathered for a Christmas party and worshipped through a Candlelight service on Christmas Eve.

Please ask the Lord to use Word of Grace Church in 2026. Ask God to help them lead people to Christ, establish them in their relationship with the Lord, grow disciples and gather neighbors for worship.



***The Lord has provided MetroGrace with a wonderful team of supporters.  
Thank you for the vital role that you play in developing urban churches!  
May the Lord bless you in 2026!***