

AUGUST 2016

# ARC MAGAZINE

**SHiNE Festival**

PAM CRAY | P4

**The Holy Spirit**

WOODY ROLAND | P10

**Trail Life USA**

JEREMY ARNOLD | P14

*The Holy Spirit Leads  
And Empowers  
Individuals For Ministry*



**AUTUMN RIDGE CHURCH**

**SAT. 5:30PM | SUN. 9:00AM & 10:30AM | [AUTUMNRIDGECHURCH.ORG](http://AUTUMNRIDGECHURCH.ORG)**

Our purpose is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who love God and serve people.



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## AUGUST SENIOR SAINTS BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST 6 | MARGARET FUSSELMAN  
102 2nd St SE #1702 | Rochester, MN 55904

AUGUST 8 | OPEL GIESLER  
1326 41st St NW | Rochester, MN 55901

AUGUST 10 | EDNA SMITH  
2115 2nd St SW #213 | Rochester, MN 55902

AUGUST 12 | ROBERT SAWTELL  
211 2nd St NW #618 | Rochester, MN 55901

# CHURCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

## MINISTRY CONTACTS

- Senior Pastor | C. John Steer
- Executive Pastor | Pat Wester
- Children | Pam Cray
- Counseling & Care | Dan Farm
- Serving | Karen Foster
- Group Life | Paul McDonald
- Students | Jason Motte
- Missions | Woody Roland
- Worship | April Rowe
- Administration | George Beech

For a complete listing of our leadership team, please visit the church website at: [AutumnRidgeChurch.org/leadership](http://AutumnRidgeChurch.org/leadership)

You may contact our staff via email at:

[Lastname.Firstname@AutumnRidgeChurch.org](mailto:Lastname.Firstname@AutumnRidgeChurch.org)

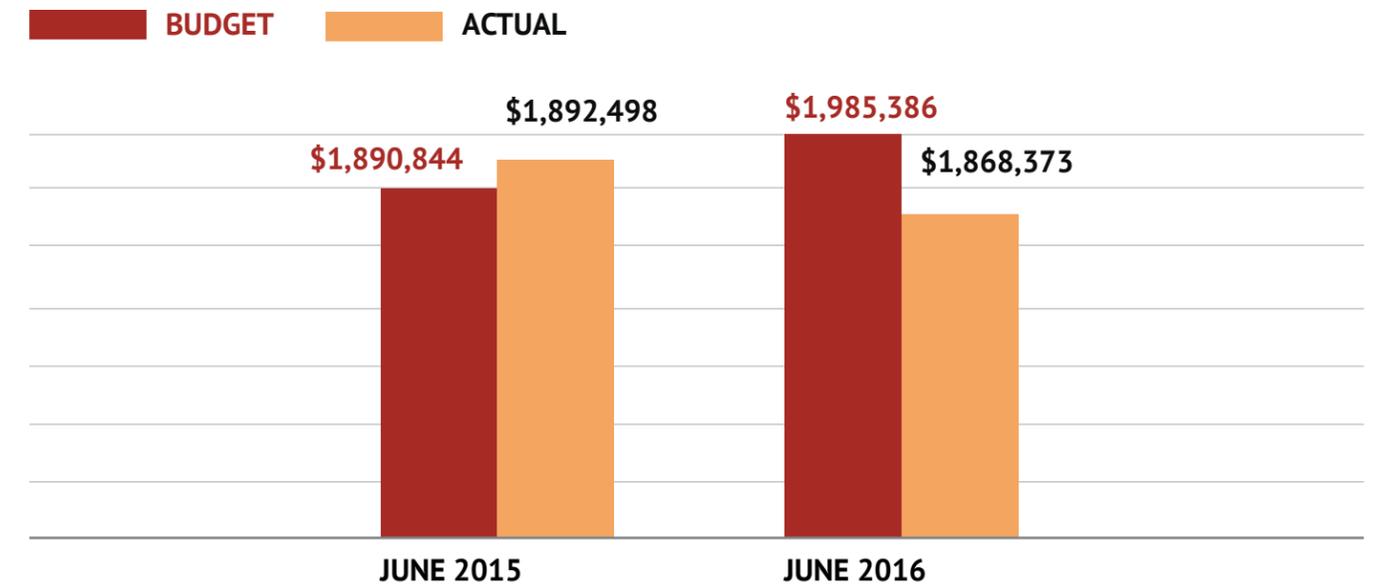
## ELDER BOARD

- Mark Foley – Chair
- Brad Anderson
- Jim Baber
- Harold Burden
- Phil Fischer
- John Folkerts
- Chris Grenz
- Steve Merry
- John Scales
- Cheolsu Shin
- Bob Stanhope
- Mark Topazian

You may contact the Elders via email at:

[Elders@AutumnRidgeChurch.org](mailto:Elders@AutumnRidgeChurch.org)

## GIVING REPORT





If you noticed the signs and saw the announcements about SHiNE Fest around the church and figured it had something to do with kids, you were only partially right. Yes, children were involved, but it was really about reaching into the Rochester community with the gospel. In fact, the name says it all - Sharing Hope in NEighborhoods. It was a church-wide outreach event hosted by the Children's Ministry Team. During four evenings the last week of June around 100 children and their families joined us at Harriet Bishop Elementary School.

The theme was "Deep Sea Discovery," and during the course of the week families heard the story of Noah, Jonah, Peter Walking on the Water, and that Jesus Loves Us. They also learned songs that told of God's great love for them. Then they rotated between five different stations where they had fun making crafts, participating in science experiments, playing mental and physical games, and going to a "Unique Boutique" for a daily activity.

Hosting a four-evening outreach event like SHiNE requires a great deal of planning, organization, and, of course, time. Autumn Ridge is blessed with a talented Children's Ministry

Team who worked tirelessly to prepare for it. However, even they could not have done this alone. It also required the help and support of many ministry partners. This year we had a fantastic team of over 50 people who came out ready to serve. Each person did their part to create an inviting environment that was conducive to learning more about God. Yet we know that even great planning, superb organization, and myriads of volunteers does not guarantee a spiritually successful event. It is the Holy Spirit who moves in the hearts of children and their families, convicting them of their sin, shaping their identity in Him, and showing them what it means to walk with Him. The prophet Zechariah says it best when he says, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts" Zechariah 4:6. Those involved with SHiNE were God's instruments to reach children and their parents with the gospel.

God was at work and the Spirit did move in the hearts of children and families SHiNE week. Here are a few things we overheard:

- While hearing the story of Jesus calming the seas, the lights were dimmed, and storyteller Michanda emerged

- with glow-in-the-dark glasses. One small child broke the silence when he spoke up and said, "It's Jesus!"
- When Norah was asked what she liked about SHiNE, without hesitation she exclaimed, "Everything!"
- Parents have been contacting us asking when SHiNE will be next year, so they can be sure they have the time off work.
- One unchurched friend is making her third appearance in a row and came on Wednesday. When one team member greeted her, she told our team member how bad she felt about missing SHiNE on Monday and Tuesday.

- One family who was there for the third year told us they looked forward to their neighbor putting the door hanger on the door because it is so much fun!
- When Allison Smith was asked to tell the Bible story this year, she wanted to say no, but she agreed to pray about it. She came back and said she was willing to give it a try. We have seen God equip her to do a fantastic job!

The Children's Ministry Team would like to thank you, the congregation, for your monetary support that makes it possible to offer this free for all families. We'd also like to thank all of our volunteers who served at SHiNE. You were the eyes, ears, and heart of Jesus to the families that attended.



# Crowder

## The Autumn Ridge Arts Series 10th Anniversary Season!

3611 Salem Road, SW, Rochester, MN

[AutumnRidgeChurch.org/arts](http://AutumnRidgeChurch.org/arts)

Continuing the tradition of the finest world-class Christian artistry on the Autumn Ridge stage, the Arts Series is pleased to announce its fall concert artists for the Tenth Anniversary Season.

**Saturday October 1, 2016 - 7:30 PM** | Doors Open at 7 PM

An amazing night with truly original artists: Crowder | [Crowdermusic.com](http://Crowdermusic.com)

**With Special Guests**  
Tedashii & The New Respects

**Autumn Ridge Lobby Ticket Presale**

Saturday August 6: 3:30 - 7:30 PM

Sunday August 7: 8AM - 1 PM

**Reserved seats:** \$25

**Artist Circle:** \$40 with post-concert meet & greet

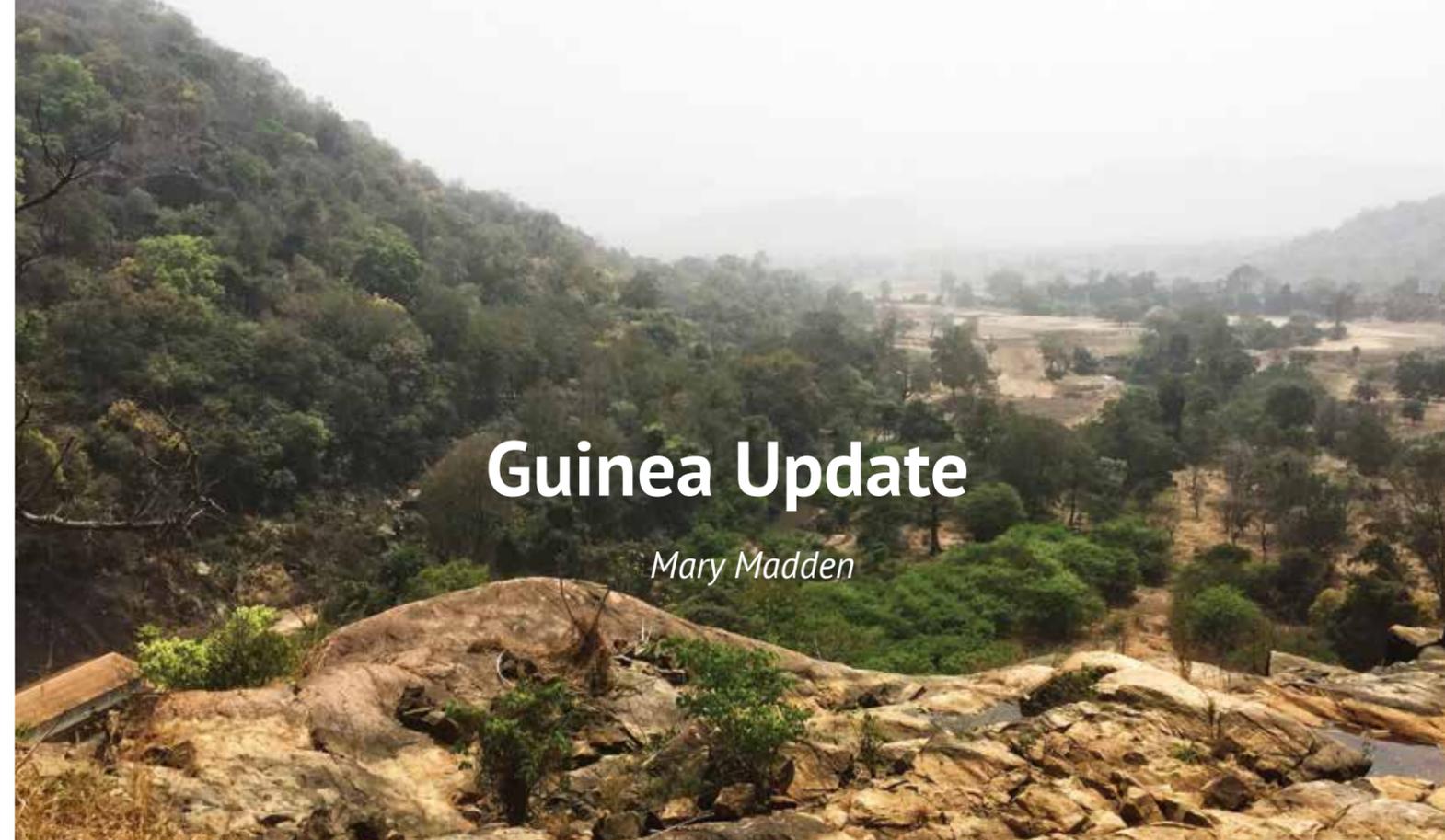
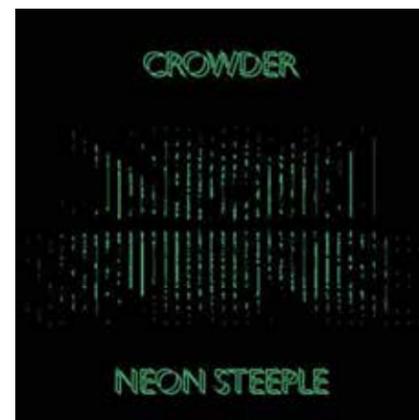
**Online at:** [echoconcerts.com](http://echoconcerts.com)

**Information at:**

[AutumnRidgeChurch.org](http://AutumnRidgeChurch.org)

The Autumn Ridge Arts Series brings world-class performers to share with southeastern Minnesota. Arts Series concerts attract regional audiences.

2016 marks the tenth anniversary season of the popular Autumn Ridge Arts Series. Don't miss this remarkable evening of uniquely powerful music on Saturday night, October 1, when Autumn Ridge welcomes 8-time Dove Award winner Crowder, with special guests Tedashii and The New Respects. Enjoy an amazingly creative evening at Autumn Ridge.



## Guinea Update

Mary Madden

### Maninka

With such a small group of Maninka believers, it is hard for young people to meet other Christians to marry. One young man has waited several years because he wants to marry a Christian woman. Pray for him since he has become acquainted with a Christian university student in Conakry, several hundred miles away; their only contact is by cell phone.

The new solar panels have arrived in Kankan and are being installed by ARC missionary, David H. The computer at the Audio Media center has been updated which allows ARC missionary, Mark W. to do enhancements to the on-going recordings of the "Way of Righteousness" radio programs. Pray these 125 programs can be completed soon.

### Compassion Evangelical Hospital

S. is a bricklayer for hospital projects who enjoys chatting with hospital Chaplain, Rev. Traore. He recently gave his life to Jesus. He needs much prayer to keep walking with the Lord. He fears losing his family and home if he openly shows his belief in Jesus or comes to church. This fear keeps many people from responding to the gospel or living openly as a Christian, since physical and verbal persecution is strong in Guinea.

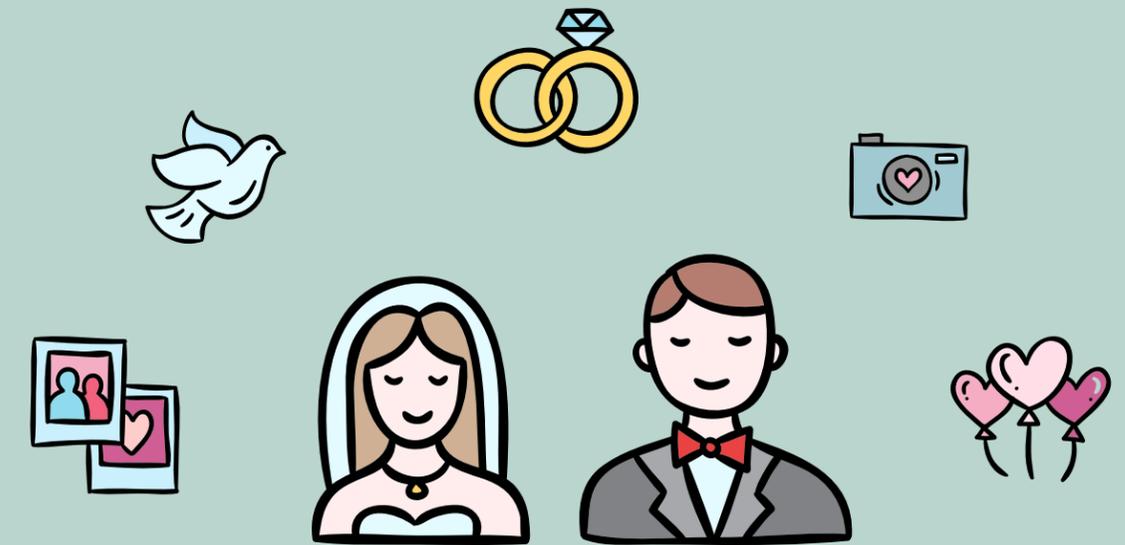
The hospital has a church on the grounds that meets for Sunday worship and Friday prayer. Staff and others worship there or at three evangelical churches in nearby Mamou. Baptisms at the CEH church are sometimes witnessed by local non-Christians. Pray their curiosity leads to interest in learning about Christianity.

# Museum of the Bible

*C. John Steer*

Last year I visited the Museum of the Bible in Los Angeles. It had taken over an old department store and had an incredible display of biblical artifacts and explanations of the impact of the Bible through history. It is sponsored by Hobby Lobby.

However, this museum is just a foretaste of what is to come. In 2017 the Museum of the Bible will open in Washington, DC. It will be a 430,000 square foot museum just two blocks from the National Mall. Let's pray that this presentation of the word of God in our nation's capital will be spiritually powerful and transforming.



## Marriage: The Art of Being "Us"

*Dan Farm*

The heart of the issue is that marriage is a relationship. A living, breathing relationship that is as real as the two individuals who form the bond. It is, if you will, a separate entity - a third person - that is created when two individuals give themselves in a bonding manner. It is not just that two individuals participate together in an exchange for each other's good, it is that they create a whole new being when they marry. What is exciting about this concept of 'us-ness' is that it is not quite one spouse, and not quite the other. 'Us' is what they are together. 'Us' is created by two individuals in a committed

relationship; it takes on a personality with characteristics of its own. It is not just two individuals who share, it is two individuals who give up part of themselves to create a oneness - an 'us.'

Please join us at a "Staying in Love" Marriage Retreat at the Elizabeth Lodge and learn the art of being "Us"!

### Upcoming Marriage

#### Retreat Dates:

August 12-14

September 9-11

October 7-9

Register at: [AutumnRidgeChurch.org/ministries/marriage](http://AutumnRidgeChurch.org/ministries/marriage)



### Acts: Jesus' Witnesses Empowered By His Spirit

What happened after Jesus' death and resurrection? How did the gospel spread and the church begin to grow numerically, geographically, and culturally? Come study the book of Acts, stand in awe of the power of the Holy Spirit working through His witnesses, and learn to embrace this same power in your own life. This study is open to men and women of all ages.

**Beginning September 6, 9:30-11:00 a.m. or 7:00-8:30 p.m.**

**Luther Room**

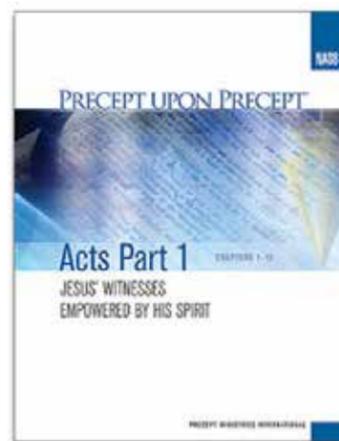
Register at: [AutumnRidgeChurch.org](http://AutumnRidgeChurch.org)

For information about the morning class contact Julie Smestad:

[juliesmestad@charter.net](mailto:juliesmestad@charter.net).

For information about the evening class contact Karen Rucker:

[ruckerka@yahoo.com](mailto:ruckerka@yahoo.com).



# The Holy Spirit

Woody Roland

As a child I was frightened by the Holy Spirit. Back in those (now ancient) days we used the King James, which referred to Him as the “Holy Ghost.” I may have not been the smartest kid, but I knew ghosts were scary.

The process of growing up (and a change to the New International Version) removed most of my fears... but not all of them.

I believe there are at least three reasons people are frightened by the Holy Spirit:

We observe experiences with the Spirit divorced from the teaching of God’s Word. Sometimes these include strange (to us) incidents which seem to distract from God’s Word and His Gospel.

- As a result, we tend to rush in the opposite direction. Consequently, we minimize any expectation of hearing from God’s Spirit or experiencing Him at all.
- The Holy Spirit is controversial. Christians come to different conclusions regarding the gift of tongues or the Spirit’s baptism. Attempting to keep controversy out of the church, Christians learn to keep quiet about the Spirit.
- Finally – we are afraid of what the Holy Spirit might do in us and through us. We are satisfied with keeping God at arm’s length. We would rather focus on outward behavior than allow the Spirit to do real heart work. He might call us to step out of our comfort zone.

Biblical Christians must experience the Holy Spirit’s work. Without the Holy Spirit working in us, we cannot be true followers of Jesus.

With even a quick glance at the Bible, we discover the Holy Spirit’s work in man’s salvation. That work is indispensable to our salvation.

The Holy Spirit sets the conditions for a response to the gospel. The Apostle John states, “And He (The Helper = Holy Spirit), when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged” (John 16:8-10; NASB).

It is sobering how the Holy Spirit speaks to individuals through the preaching of the Gospel. Paul writes to the Thessalonians, “...our gospel did not come to you merely in words, but in power and in the Holy Spirit...” (1 Thess 1:5).

Becoming a Christian is “the impartation of new life” or “the washing of the new birth.” This work is accomplished by the Holy Spirit. In Titus we read, “He [God] saved us not by works of righteousness that we have done but...through the washing of the new birth and the renewing of the Holy Spirit” (Titus 3:5).

The new believer is baptized into the body of Christ by the

Holy Spirit. This baptism is a one-time event, and we are identified with other believers as members of the body. Paul wrote, “For in [or by] one Spirit we were all baptized into one body...we were all made to drink of the one Spirit” (1 Cor 12:13).

The work of the Spirit continues as the Holy Spirit indwells each believer. Paul reminds us, “Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit lives in you?” (1 Cor 3:16). And in Romans, “You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, this person does not belong to him” (Rom 8:9). Without the Spirit, it is impossible to be a Christian.

Although you might disagree, I wouldn’t be honest if I didn’t say believers who are indwelt with the Holy Spirit, are also sealed with the Spirit. Paul writes, “And when you heard the word of truth (the gospel of your salvation) – when you believed in Christ – you were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit...” (Eph 1:13-14).

Part of that work involves spiritual gifts. Every person who has been born again receives a spiritual gift. Paul writes: “Now there are different gifts, but the same Spirit. . . To each person the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the benefit of all” (1 Cor 12:4, 7).

Christians have a lot of questions about this. Lists of the spiritual gifts occur in Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, and Ephesians 4. As we study those passages, we see points of agreement among most Christians.

- Each Christian has at least one spiritual gift (1 Cor 12:7). It’s not that some Christians have gifts and some don’t.
- The Holy Spirit decides what gift(s) he gives to each person (1 Cor 12:7-9). It’s not what we want, but what He wants.
- Gifts are to be used for the “benefit of all” (1 Cor 12:7).

Gifts are for a ministry to others. Spiritual gifts are not to be self-focused but others-focused.

- Not all people have the same gift. This is Paul’s point at the end of 1 Cor 12, where he asks a series of questions with the expected answer being “no.”
- Gifts are to be exercised in love. Exercising gifts without love is like the annoyance of banging gongs or symbols (1 Cor 13:1).

Max Lucado wrote, “The Wizard of Oz says look inside yourself and find self. God says look inside yourself and find the Holy Spirit. The first will get you to Kansas. The latter will get you to heaven.”

Nothing against Kansas, but I choose heaven.



# MEN'S RETREAT

*Fort Wilderness*

SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2016



Are there chapters in your life you'd love to make extra-long? And those you'd maybe like to burn or delete? Our own Pastor Dan Farm will be speaking on "The Story of Our Lives" at the Men's Retreat September 9-11 at Fort Wilderness. His passion is to see men grow and change into the image of Jesus. Pastor Dan will look deeper at the life chapters you've already written -- some that may not be ideal -- thereby allowing God to write the best chapters that are still to come.

For more information and to register, please go to:

[AutumnRidgeChurch.org/mens-retreat](http://AutumnRidgeChurch.org/mens-retreat)

## Course in Christian Doctrine

*Paul McDonald*

It is important for Christians to know what they believe. This fall Autumn Ridge Church, in cooperation with Crossroads College, is working to make that possible.

On Saturday nights this fall there will be an undergraduate level class in Christian Doctrine or theology at Autumn Ridge taught by Joe M. Sprinkle, Ph.D., Professor of Old Testament at Crossroads College. Joe is a member and former elder of Autumn Ridge Church. Dr. Sprinkle is author of a recent commentary on Leviticus and Numbers (Baker). This class can be taken either for academic credit (1 hour credit) or as an audit through Crossroads College. Whether taken for credit or audit, there will be a \$50 fee for attending the class. This a promotional, reduced fee for this college course.

Those taking the class for credit will be required to read selected parts of Wayne Grudem's Bible Doctrine (ISBN: 0310222338; ed. Jeff Purswell), write reports on that reading, and take two on-line exams. This class constitutes the first third of a three-hour course in Christian doctrine at Crossroads College. A venue will be created for completing the class in the spring for those interested in doing so.

Who should be interested in this class? First, those who want to know more about what Christians believe and how they differ in their beliefs. This class could even be used towards the Bible Certificate program offered by Crossroads (18 credit hours required) to gain a broad knowledge of the Bible and its theology.

Second, those without a college degree may wish to make this the beginning of a degree program at Crossroads College. The evening Compass Program currently offers degrees in Business Administration, Counseling, and Ministry.

High school juniors and seniors are eligible to take the class for credit and transfer the credit to whatever school they choose to attend, subject to their school's transfer credit policy. Those interested in this class should contact [Admissions@crossroadscollege.edu](mailto:Admissions@crossroadscollege.edu) or call (507) 288-4563 to register.

Here are the thirteen lectures for the 1 hour credit class:

### **PROLEGOMENA – Introductory Matters**

1. Christian Doctrine – An Introduction

### **BIBLIOLOGY – The Bible**

2-3. The Doctrine of Scripture: Canon, Revelation, Inspiration, Reliability, Authority

### **THEOLOGY PROPER – Who is God?**

4. The Existence and Knowability of God

5-7. The Attributes of God

8. The Doctrine of the Trinity

9. Creation and Providence

### **ANGELOLOGY – The Supernatural World**

10. Doctrine of Angels and Demons

### **ANTHROPOLOGY – Theological Teachings about Humans**

11-13. The Nature of Humans, Doctrine of Sin



# TRAIL LIFE USA™

Adventure › Character › Leadership

### Trail Life USA Troop MN-0412

We would like to congratulate the following boys who earned their Forest Badge this year. Earning this award required participation in a variety of activities related to Heritage, Hobbies, Life Skills, Outdoor Activities, Pioneering Skills, Science and Technology, and Values.

### Fox (grades K-1):

- Caleb Burgess
- Colton Ellenbecker
- Luke Schwartz

### Hawk (grades 2-3):

- Caleb Bancroft
- Andrew Jarett
- Samuel Moberg
- Alec Rhoades
- William Thompson

### Mountain Lion (grades 4-5):

- William England
- Ryan Engstler

- Moon Schmidt
- Micah Williams

Ryan Engstler and Micah Williams also earned the Timberline Award, the highest award in Trail Life's Woodlands Trail program (grades K-5). Earning this award involved several requirements that demonstrate four Manhood Principles:

- To live boldly and avoid being passive
- To live responsibly
- To lead courageously
- To live for the greater rewards of God

Would you like to join us? We are now accepting registrations for boys entering Kindergarten through 7th grade. Our troop generally meets twice per month on Monday evenings (6:15 - 7:45) at Autumn Ridge. Monthly Hit the Trail! events are also scheduled, typically on Monday evenings or on weekends. To register, or for more information, contact Jeremy Arnold at [trail.life@arnoldzoo.org](mailto:trail.life@arnoldzoo.org) or 507-216-4245.

*Article By: Jeremy Arnold*



## HEALING HEARTS PRAYER WALK

10:30AM SAT. 9/10/16 | SOLDIER'S FIELD

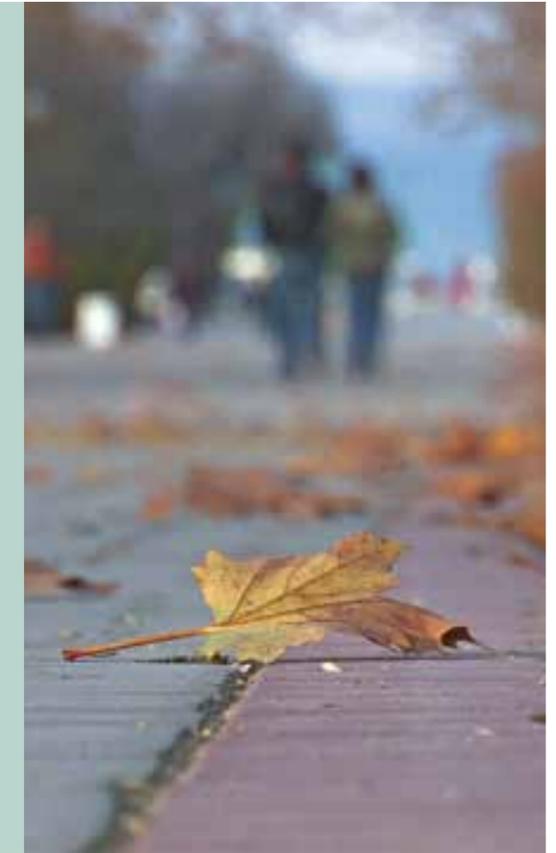
### Support A Ministry God Uses Mightily

Healing Hearts is an international ministry God has been using at Autumn Ridge for over a decade. Women who are suffering from the hurts of life are finding freedom and healing with truth found in Scripture. Your participation in the Prayer Walk provides scholarships and celebrates the victories of those who have found healing. It also gives us all an opportunity to pray for our churches and the larger community of Rochester. Join us for a great time of fellowship and prayer!

**Registration required:** \$15 a person or \$25 per family.

**AutumnRidgeChurch.org/events | Lunch provided by Tracy Bashore.**

Healing Hearts is a gospel-centered, grace driven ministry that offers hope and healing in Jesus Christ through God's Word to people who have been broken by sin.



## Decision America | Dave Swanson

Franklin Graham's Decision America Tour 2016 came to our state's capital June 16. Autumn Ridge members and friends responded to Graham's invitation to individually and collectively pray for our nation, state, and city at the Capitol Lower Mall. The grass mall in front of the capitol was filled with an enthusiastic crowd of people concerned about the direction our society has taken in recent years.

"This is a critical time for the future of our country," noted Graham. "The forces of secularism are aggressively trying to take God out of every segment of public life. We need to let the Christian voice be heard."

Graham expressed no support for either political party, stating Jesus Christ is the only answer to the problems plaguing our country and the world. He encouraged Christians to consider running for an elected office and to vote in upcoming elections. He also gave attendees an opportunity to make a personal commitment to Christ.



# Crowder



**In Concert**

**Saturday, October 1, 2016 at 7:30PM**

**Autumn Ridge Church Arts Series**

**Details on Page 6**