

Dear friends,

We are excited to announce to you we have rebranded and changed our name to **Crossroads Church Partners**. We believe this change of name better reflects our widespread mission to serve the local church in an ever-changing world.

Background

As you know, in 2016 Crossroads College ceased offering classes though the organization continued to exist. **In May 2018 Crossroads partnered with Hope International University to begin offering Christian Higher Education in Minnesota under the name HIU-Minnesota.** Crossroads provided the financing while Hope International University provided the educational model.

Over the past 6 months, we have been forced to reconsider that relationship and how we can best serve the churches in this region. In March HIU announced the closure of their Nebraska Campus. The dean at Nebraska had served as our academic oversight here in HIU-Minnesota. It has become necessary for HIU to focus primarily on its Southern California campus and rightly so. We will continue to partner with HIU, but not exclusively. They will be one of our many valued partners in Christian Higher Education.

Our Mission Continues Just As Before

At the same time, the Covid-19 pandemic emerged and caused us to consider how we can help our churches and students in this time of need when normal has vanished.

We realize that we have new opportunities to achieve our mission in ways we would not have imagined just months ago.

We seek to continue to be a trusted resource and partner with the churches in the upper Midwest as we take advantage of new opportunities, perspectives, and partnerships. We continually work to assess the greatest needs of the church and how we can best serve and meet those needs. We believe these changes position us to serve the church best now and for years to come.

What will we do?

1. Local Ministry Training

- Ministry Certificate through **Hope International University**, along with Online Bachelors and Masters degrees.
- Exploring a potential partnership with **Central Christian College of the Bible** and the Russell School of Ministry.
- **Free training** designed for lay leaders to grow in their faith, ministry skills, and leadership.

2. Church Resources

- Dr. Rick Walston recently hired to be the Director of Pastor Care.
- Provide conferences, seminars, leadership training, church health assessments, minister roundtables, supply preaching, church staffing consultations, and other resources to the church.
- Partner with Christian Church Leadership Network (CCLNetwork).
- Assess the greatest needs of the church and seek to meet those needs. Last month we sent a survey to more than 100 ministers in our region. The insights from that survey will drive our initiatives over the next few months.

3. Crossroads Foundation

- Scholarships available to those seeking ministry training locally, and at Christian Colleges and Universities.
- Supports ministry training through scholarships.
- Recently received a major donation which greatly enhances our ability to provide scholarships.

Conclusion

We see the need to expand our reach and recognize the strength of having multiple partnerships. We want to continue to be a trusted resource and partner to the churches in the upper Midwest. While we continue to grow and evolve, our vision and values remain the same.

We exist to serve Christ and His church by developing Christian leaders and providing resources that strengthen churches. You can learn more about our ministry by going to www.crossroadschurchpartners.org

Over the next few weeks, Dr. McGinnis and Dr. Walston will be contacting your church to answer any questions you may have and learn what specific ways we can serve you and your church.

Your Partner in Ministry,

Board of Trustees

Dr. Curtis McGinnis
Executive Director

Dr. Rick Walston
Director of Pastor Care