



AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE REGARDING THE RIPPLE EFFECT...

crossroads church - 3 year campaign to end thirst

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How was it determined to support Urban Ventures?

Believe it or not, we have actually partnered with Urban Ventures for a couple of years. In fact, the coffee we serve on the weekends at Crossroads is roasted and sold by a division of Urban Ventures called City Kid Java (all proceeds go to Urban Ventures). As we discussed what kind of regional effect The Ripple Effect might have, Urban Ventures came to the forefront of the conversation. Their proposal to us was so compelling and we knew God was calling us to this partnership.

How can we personally engage with Urban Ventures?

We are working with Urban Ventures program director to establish a more personal presence within their ministry. Opportunities to serve will arise as we develop our partnership with UV and discover where we can best serve them. If you are curious about what opportunities may be available on an immediate basis you can go to their website at www.urbanventures.org.

Why Swaziland, Africa?

Almost 4.5 years ago we came up with this crazy idea that we could truly make difference in a continent devastated by poverty and disease. As we sought the place God was calling us to in Africa we were told about a little country located in the southern tip called Swaziland. Hearing that the percentage of people diagnosed with HIV or AIDS in Swaziland was higher (per capita) than anywhere else in Africa, we knew exactly where we needed to be. Since then, our partnership with World Vision to make ripples in Swaziland has helped do amazing things in the village of Mhlosheni. We are committed to see more ripples happen in this small community, half way around the world, because God has positioned us to do so. We love our friends in Mhlosheni, Swaziland, and will extend the love Jesus to them through providing them with the most basic of human needs: clean water.

Why only 50% clean water? Is there a plan to get to 100%?

We would love to see 100% of Mhlosheni have clean drinking water and hope to one day make it a reality. However, construction of new wells and the repair of existing wells is an arduous task in Swaziland. Over a three year period the maximum number of people who will receive clean drinking water will be 50% of Mhlosheni. When the three years is over we hope to finish the next 50%!

What is happening with our relationship with IJM?

Our relationship with IJM is still fully intact. We are still contributing to their efforts to rid the world of oppression and human trafficking. IJM is now a staple part of our annual missions budget. If you're curious about International Justice Mission, visit them at www.ijm.org.

What if our other campaign pledge isn't fulfilled do we continue to pay toward it or do this one instead?

We would encourage you to do your best to follow-up on the commitments you have made. However, how you account for them is up to you. If you have not completed your pledge for Crazy or Greater Things you can continue to give to those campaigns, note it on your check or when you give online, or forward those pledges into your new pledge with The Ripple Effect. How you choose to do it is between you and God.

What is the status with the Cottage Grove Building?

Our former facility in Cottage Grove has yet to be sold. Currently, the Alley church and Whirlwind Ministries each rent a portion of it. We have re-listed the building with ReMax and continue to pray for a buyer. We have attempted a number of strategies for selling the building, including a creative plan for The Alley to purchase it, but to no avail. Nevertheless, we believe God has a plan for that building, whether it is for a buyer or the possibility of us re-opening it at a later date. In the meantime, we will continue to pursue a buyer with the help of ReMax.

Will any of the money ultimately go to a new campus? Is anything earmarked for that purpose?

None of the money from The Ripple Effect will go directly to the launch of a new campus. However, with the money that is raised we will position ourselves to be able to re-direct other money into the possible opening of a new campus. We are committed to a strategy to expand via other local campuses. We believe new campuses will enable more people to hear about Jesus through the ministry of Crossroads.

I would like to help out in other ways. What are my options?

The number one thing you can do to help is to get involved in a ministry and volunteer your time and talent. We are a volunteer run organization and are always in need of new people to use their God-given gifts to make the vision God has given us a reality. If you're curious about volunteering you can fill out a Volunteer Interest Form on the Crossroads webpage or at the welcome center.

How will money be re-directed into ministries, staff, etc.?

In the short-term The Ripple Effect funds will be used to help us pay interest and additional principal on our current mortgage. The benefit of this money helps us to keep a healthy budget while enabling us to make appropriate increases to accommodate our growth and need. Historically, our giving has increased by nearly 18% every year (data compiled from the last 10 years). Assuming we continue similar growth patterns and trends we will be able to continue to increase our operational and personnel budgets as necessary. However, without The Ripple Effect funds, we would not be able to do this. We want to invest in the continued growth and resources of the church. Any increases in budget will go toward staffing, ministries, and missions efforts to be determined as the needs arise. For a more detailed description of how the funds will be distributed pick up a financial analysis of The Ripple Effect at the display.

If every household that attends Crossroads made a commitment to give, what would it have to be to meet the goal?

Every family has been given unique financial circumstances. Therefore, gifts will vary depending on a family's capacity to give. And, while we don't ask for equal gifts, we do ask for everyone to make a generous sacrifice to The Ripple Effect. As you seek God about how you can be a part of The Ripple Effect, He will reveal to you what your sacrificial gift will be.

Is it better to give my gift all at once or over the 3 years?

Each scenario has pros and cons to it; no way is particularly better than the other. It is completely up to you as to how you would like to give. You can choose to give weekly, monthly, yearly, or a one-time gift. Just note it on your commitment card.

Do I give above & beyond? Or is my normal offering considered to be part of this?

Giving to The Ripple Effect should be seen as giving above and beyond your normal offerings. We are asking everyone who calls Crossroads home to consider the sacrifice they can make to have an even greater impact on the world through additional gifts.

How did we do against our previous goals, Greater Things & Crazy Campaign?

The short answer: very well. The Crazy campaign launched in 2005 with pledges amounting to over \$3 million (3-year campaign). We have accrued \$2.7 million of those funds with more still coming in. Greater Things launched in 2008 with pledges amounting to \$525,000 (1-year campaign). We have accrued \$433,000 of those funds.

We are pleased with the steady commitments of everybody who has participated in our previous campaigns. Because of your contributions, hundreds have made a spiritual decision to follow Christ.

Can we be regularly updated on what's happening with the projects?

YES! We recognize that our follow up with our previous campaigns has been lacking. It is our intention to improve this greatly. One way we will be keeping things updated is through our Ripple Effect website at www.therippleeffect.cc. This website will be up for the duration of the 3-year period.

Is this good timing with the state of the economy?

We know the economy has had a deep effect on many people's lives over the last few years. We also know that, although the economy seems to be taking a turn, we aren't out of the dark yet. However, we have confidence that God will do something through us in this financially trying time. We have always been a generous community with a heart and passion to see more people know and follow Jesus Christ. If everybody makes a sacrificial gift to The Ripple Effect we can raise the \$4 million, positioning us to make even more ripples for Christ.