



Rebuilding Blocks! (Ezra-Nehemiah)

Sunday mornings 10:00

Feb 18	Trust in Promised Restoration Ezra 1
Feb 25	Anchor into Lasting Identity Ezra 2
Mar 3	Rekindle Worship & Devotion Ezra 3
Mar 10	Persevere thru Opposition Ezra 4-7
Mar 17	Turn & Pray for Turn Around Nehemiah 1-2
Mar 24	Learn Needs, Empower Teams Nehemiah 2-3
Mar 29	Good Friday Service (7:00 pm)
Mar 31	Resurrection Sunday Service

Crossroads Church

Discovering Life Connected with God!
262-691-3837 www.gocrossroads.net

Persevere thru Opposition!

God's people **reclaimed their identity** by trusting **God** to **restore them** from exile to a **love, faith, following** relationship. **Jesus**, is still doing so today...

Cyrus (539-530) - Darius (522-486) - Xerxes/Ahasuerus (486-465) - Artaxerxes I (465-444)

538-537 BC Returned, Rebuilt altar, **Resumed** sacrifices, **Laid** temple foundation!
536-520 BC Faced opposition, got **discouraged & distracted**, work **stopped**.
520-516 BC Resumed building temple, **completed & dedicated** temple to God!
458-444 BC Ezra (458) taught God's law, **Nehemiah (445)** led **rebuild** of city walls.

⁴ The **enemies** of Judah, the peoples around them, set out to discourage the people of Judah and make them afraid to go on building. ⁵ They bribed officials to work against them and frustrate their plans during the entire reign of **Cyrus** king of Persia and down to the reign of **Darius** king of Persia... ²⁴ Thus the **work on the house of God** in Jerusalem came to a standstill until the second year of the reign of **Darius** king of Persia.

Ezra 4:1-5, 24

➤ Expect to face inertia & resistance to change !

¹ Now **Haggai** and **Zechariah** the prophets **prophesied** to the Jews in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, who was **over them**.

² Then Zerubbabel* and Joshua* **set to work to rebuild** the house of God in Jerusalem. And the **prophets of God** were with them, supporting them.

Ezra 5:1-2

⁴ "Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your **paneled houses**, while the **Lord's house** remains a ruin? Give careful thought to your ways."

Haggai 1:4-5

¹⁴ So the Jewish elders continued to **build and prosper** under the preaching of Haggai and Zechariah the prophets. They **finished building** the temple according to the command of the God of Israel and the decrees of Cyrus, Darius and Artaxerxes, kings of Persia. ¹⁵ The temple was **completed** on the third day of the month Adar, in the sixth year of the reign of **King Darius**.

¹⁶ Then the people of Israel- the priests, the Levites and the rest of the exiles- **celebrated the dedication** of the house of God **with joy**.

Ezra 6:14-16

➤ Look to God's words to encourage & empower !

➤ Responding to God leads to celebration & joy !

⁶ **Ezra** came up from Babylon. He was a **teacher well versed** in the Law of Moses, which the LORD, the God of Israel, had given. The king granted him everything he asked, for the hand of the LORD his God was **on him**...

⁸ Ezra arrived in Jerusalem in the fifth month of the seventh year of the **King Artaxerxes**... ⁹ for the gracious hand of his God was **on him**.

¹⁰ For **Ezra** had **devoted** himself to the **study** and **observance** of the Law of the LORD, and to **teaching** its decrees and laws in Israel.

Ezra 7:1-10

➤ Seek to understand & live out God's words !

Crossroads Connection

Sunday Worship Service – March 10, 2024 - 10:00 am

Welcome to Daylight Savings Time!

Glad You Are Here We hope & pray you connect with God in and come back soon!

Childcare Available Use our excellent childcare! Children's Church (First-Fifth grade) during message until end of service, Staffed Childcare (infants-kindergarten) during whole service, Parent/Child Crying Room for parents with hungry/fussy babies, can stream message to TV.

Welcome Bag If you are visiting Crossroads, we have a small gift bag for you. Thanks for worshiping with us! Pick up one, handing in a yellow communication card after the service!

Upcoming Opportunities

Lord's Supper

Today / 10:00 am

Share in the Lord's Supper during the worship service. Get ready to thank God, through the bread & cup, gratefully remembering Jesus and his broken body & shed blood for you!

Hope Center Waukesha

Fri, Mar. 15 / 5:00-7:00 pm

Serve up warm food & smiles! We need **5-7 volunteers** to help set up, serve & clean up dinner for 90 people in need. **Sign up** on the bulletin board TODAY if you'd like to help out.

Grow in Faith & Friendships

Men's Wed AM Group (at Crossroads)

Wed, Mar 13 / 6:30-7:30 am

We're discussing **Ezra 1** this week! Join in and jumpstart your Wed. mornings with good coffee, praises/prayers, & great discussion! Contact Pastor Steve 262-751-9259 for more info!

Men's Wed PM Group (Zoom)

Wed, Mar 13 / 6:45-7:35 pm

We're discussing **Psalm 145** this week! Join in and boost your Wed. evenings over Zoom with Praises/prayers, & great discussion! Contact Pastor Steve at 262-751-9259 for more info!

Women's Thu PM Group (at Crossroads)

Thu, Apr 11 / 7:00 – 8:30 pm

We're discussing the "Nearness of King Jesus" (Lisa Harper) in **Hebrews** (2x/month)! Discover together that Jesus is supreme yet approachable. Contact Laura 262-751-9149 for more info!

Sharing Jesus Together - Local & Global

Hope Center Waukesha meeting physical, relational & spiritual needs offering hot meals, practical clothing closet, toiletries, used furniture delivery, and compassionate advocacy!

Pewaukee Food Pantry meeting food scarcity needs with compassion, Wed & Sat 10-11am!

Sawyer & Sarah Caldwell (*Navigators-SDSU*) reaching & equipping university students to trust & follow Jesus as disciples and to help others be disciples on into their futures!

Derrick & LaShawn Dobbs (*Ethnos 360-TN*) coach, encourage, & equip missionaries from their 15+ years of serving Jesus among tribal peoples in Papua New Guinea!

Bryan & Jan Thompson (*OMF International-CO*) mobilize, prepare & encourage new missionaries to live & share the good news of Jesus cross-culturally in Japan-Asia!

Financial Update (thru 3/3/24)

2024 Weekly Budget	2,423	Sunday Offering (3/3/24)	1,927
2024 Monthly Budget	10,500	March 2024 Offerings	1,927
2024 YTD Budget	21,807	2024 YTD Offerings (69%)	15,080
2023 Total Expenses	130,490	2023 Total Offerings (92%)	119,775