



Dear Crossing family,

Visualize Jesus in the Upper Room 2,000 years ago washing the feet of the disciples. The Son of Man knelt before his disciples washing dust from their weary feet. Yielding His supremacy, the King of Kings assumed the role of a servant. No greater example has been given us, other than His ultimate service to the world of giving His very life for our sin on a wooden cross. Regarding this act, Jesus said in John 13:14-15, "Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you." Servanthood is unusual. It's striking. "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45) Servanthood is Christlike.

In light of Jesus' example and command to serve others, the Congregational Care Ministry (CCM) has been developed to manage the physical care needs of people at Crossing Community Church. The deacon team's function is to organize and facilitate this service ministry within our congregation. These needs include the following, where appropriate:

- Meals in time of need
- Family – emergency child care, births, deaths, etc.
- Transportation to doctor appointments, church, etc.
- Light housekeeping
- Minor home repairs – volunteers available
- Minor car repairs – volunteers available
- Legal advice – resources available
- Hospital and home visitation

Life can be difficult at times, but the Lord's model of servanthood urges us to ease the burdens of others by serving them (Gal. 6:2). Situations like illness, surgery, a death in the family, a fire or flood in the home, job loss, etc. are possible opportunities for the church body to step into others' lives and "wash their feet" in very practical acts of service and love. If you have ever been the recipient of a meal in one of these situations, this simple gesture can be a balm not only to your appetite, but also to your heart. You feel loved and supported by your brothers and sisters in Christ, and by God Himself. With a family of people helping in this way, imagine the impact on the church as we love one another, not to mention the impact on a watching world!

The deacon team will give a brief presentation about the CCM during the worship service on October 18th, and you will have an opportunity to volunteer in one or more of these areas of service. Please prayerfully consider the service opportunities referenced above as part of your service to the Lord, and come prepared to sign up. Consider Paul's exhortation when he wrote, "Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." (Phil 2:4) Let's join together to be the hands and feet of Jesus!

Because of Christ's love,

Chris Gregory, Dave Stanton, Gary Walsh, and Lori Walsh
The Congregational Care Ministry