Merry Christmas to everyone!

I cannot even begin express the blessings we have experienced in 2022! This year was filled with many blessings, surprises, and growth. I will do my best to keep this concise, but that will be difficult. I also want to begin but saying "thank you" for all the prayers and support this year!

The Family

Gina and I celebrated our twenty-five anniversary at the beginning of the year. We were able to escape for a week cruise which was awesome! The timing was great because when we returned, life became very busy with wedding planning. We are so grateful for some ministry shifts over the past year. Gina has been able to dedicate a lot of time at The Light Community.

The wedding was an amazing weekend. It was incredible having much of our family gather for the weekend. There was no way to be prepared for the emotional rollercoaster. We are blessed to have added a great godly young man into the family. However, seeing our daughter in her wedding dress was very emotional. The wedding was beautiful and Christ-centered. We loved having family and friends spending time together. On Sunday after the wedding, most of the family stayed and worshiped with us at Crossroads. My dad preached for me. This was a very special blessing having the family together for worship.

We now have three of our children adulting. This is a new adventure to watch pursue what God is calling them to do. Amanda is now working full-time as a cosmetology instructor at Campbellsville University in Somerset. Harrison began his year with being baptized after coming into relationship with Christ at the end of last year. He is preparing for horseshoeing school; he will then pursue his calling to ministry. Gina and I finally got to take Mia on her senior trip a year and half delayed. She has been able to move out with a couple of friends to Williamsburg. Mia is leading worship more on Sundays. She is preparing to pursue business training to move towards entrepreneurship. Julia started seventh grade this year and is about to cross the teenage threshold. One of Julia's favorite adventures is riding her horse to our neighbor, Ms. Bonnie. Ms. Bonnie and Julia have become quite the pair. Walter is still away from the family. We continue to pray that he will desire to be healed. Walt turned fourteen this year. Brandt is our new addition. He is pastoring in Pine Knot and working with the middle school in the youth service center. It has been great watching all our kids grow!

Our family also had another surprise at the end of June. Amanda and Brandt announced our first granddaughter is on the way! Brynlee is expected to arrive the first week of March! We cannot wait to enter the new phase in family life as Grandpa and Grandma!

Our church life has been rather exciting this year. In the spring, I was honestly wondering if Crossroads would continue. We had not seen any growth in a while. Discouragement was setting in before summer mission's season. Then, God began to move! Over the last half of the year, God has brought many new families to connect to the church! The growth has been a great mix of local families and families that are new to the area. This growth has been exceptionally encouraging to us. We are now praying and seeking God's wisdom for direction of the church and each new member. With new members, the body continues to grow and to change.

The Lord's Café celebrated 11 years of serving community this summer. this year we were able to maintain a three day a week lunch schedule thanks to additional staff and volunteers. Many outreach events have taken place throughout the year. As pastor, there is great encouragement seeing our faith family serve. One of my favorite things to see is new believers stepping out and boldly praying with our community. The Community Thanksgiving Dinner was a huge success this year. The initial shock of the prices of the meal were quickly met with donations. Over the four days, God provided over \$9000 to purchase all the food and supplies for the dinner. All of our volunteers came out in force! I witnessed many volunteers sharing the gospel all day!

The Light Community continues to move forward. This summer we hosted Farm Vacation Bible School all summer. As Farm VBS was happening in the chapel, construction continued with the tiny homes. We are still are prayerfully moving forward with the waste water install. As we wait, we continue to build and work on the existing tiny homes. We do have two homes with roughed in electrical and plumbing. We have an electrician and plumber that is working out great! Our struggle is seeing and learning about needs, but not able to meet them because of the work still to be done on the waste water side.

We continue to lean forward in faith. You are important to our family and the ministry. Please continue to pray for us. Here are some current prayer request:

- Our family as we prayerfully move forward into some new chapters, more to come in the coming months
- Crossroads Community that God will continue to grow us in His way and His time
- o The Lord's Café will continue to provide the hope of Jesus each day the doors are open
- The Light Community will bring God glory when we welcome the first resident
- New ministries on the horizon; wisdom as we prayerful move forward helping individuals that are in trafficking
- o New ministry partnerships in the area; we are partnering in Williamsburg and surrounding area
- Mission teams coming to serve throughout the year
- God to continue to shape missions for His glory

Your partnership in support also keeps us leaning forward. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our family and the ministry not only this year, but over the past twelve years. Living by faith is never dull and never lacking!

Your participation in ministry is encouraging. We have been blessed to make friends with many of you over the years. We are excited when you can come join us in serving or to visit. If you have never been on missions or visited here, make plans to come in 2023.

Again, thank you for your prayers and support over the past year. We are blessed beyond measure because of your obedience to join with us to shine His glory! We look forward to 2023!



Leaning Forward In Faith,

