

METROGRACE

Developing Urban Churches

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Member of  CHARIS FELLOWSHIP



Pastor Jim Brown—jabrown215@yahoo.com



Crossroads concluded the year with joyful celebration, soulful reflection and meaningful worship.

Joyful celebration requires decorations. So the congregation began by decking the halls. The church family loves to have fun while completing a task. It was especially exciting to see a growing group of teens working together! One young man recently asked about baptism. Please pray that he would follow through.

Later, Crossroads held a Christmas Gathering. Participants enjoyed dinner, played some games and sang Christmas songs. It was a great time! Two teens brought family members for the first time.



Please ask the Lord to allow growing connections with families. Last month, my friend Mark went to heaven. We met in junior high school and we've shared life for fifty years. We played together, worked together and dated the girls who would become our wives together. They have become best friends. He was the best man in my wedding and I was his. Our children grew up together. We studied the Bible together, prayed together and served the Lord together. He was constantly advocating for Crossroads and MetroGrace. I can hardly find the words to describe how much he meant to me. It reminds me of an Old Testament friendship, **"...the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as himself."** (1 Samuel 18:1) A piece of my soul is in heaven with Mark.

And, Crossroads concluded the year with Candles and Carols on Christmas Eve. The congregation gathered to worship the One who became flesh and dwelled among us, reflecting the glory of grace and truth.



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2417 Welsh Road Suite 21
PMB#501
Philadelphia, PA 19114
215-533-3396
www.metrograce.org
Dr. Jim Brown,



Pastor Pete Forshtay—peteforshtay@gmail.com



Pete and Danielle Forshtay led their congregation in outreach, growth and worship last month.

Word of Grace Church continues to work with the Wisconsin Civic Association to connect with neighbors. Pete and Danielle serve with the board. Last month, they partnered with a local business that was taking pictures with Santa. It provided a fun time for the church to connect with neighbors and build relationships that can lead to gospel conversations. Please pray for the Forshtays, the Elliotts and their church family as they continue to reach out.



Word of Grace continues to help believers grow. The Design for Discipleship series helps lay a solid foundation. As they are learning, disciples practice serving in the congregation. Last month, the church gathered for a Christmas party, growing relationally, too.

And, Word of Grace gathered on Christmas Eve for a Candles & Carols Service to worship God the Incarnate. Please pray for conversions, maturation and leadership as this church family serves in 2025.



Pastor Rick Dobrowolski—rickdob7@icloud.com

I always enjoy when God delights us with a callback of relationships. A (name left out for privacy) is pictured with me 7 years after I last saw him. When we first church planted in Allentown, he and his sister were often in our home, regularly gathered with our church, and allowed me to consistently point him to Jesus. After a long-built relationship that saw his mom being be poured into as well, they moved down to Florida. God brought him our way again, calling him back into our lives and spiritual influence. It's been 7 years and he hasn't relocated back into the area from Florida yet, but he's once again feeling the pull of the Holy Spirit on his life. Pray that we can once again point him to Jesus and that he would

In storytelling, "Callbacks" look back to something mentioned previously and brings it back to the forefront, rewarding the diligent reader delightful details.



respond in a life of faithfully following Christ. As homeless ministry picks up due to the cold, God provided another delight. For the first time in our ministry to rough sleepers, someone who was formally homeless joined us in going back to the camp in which he once lived. Hallelujah for the way God has worked in this man's life in providing for his needs.