

CROSSROADS  
MINISTRY  
NEWSLETTER

Jan and Carolyn Evans, Editors



## Happy Easter

Jesus said,  
"Because I live,  
You also will live."

John 14:19

## SPRING SALE

MAY 6

9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

MAY 7

9 a.m. – noon

Fairgrounds Barn W

(see p. 4)

Volunteer  
Appreciation  
Breakfast

April 19, 8 a.m.

(see p. 2)

## Crossroads Mission Statement

**Crossroads Ministry**  
practices Christian love  
by providing basic  
human services to  
residents in need  
in the Estes Valley.

PO Box 3616  
851 Dry Gulch Road  
Estes Park, CO 80517  
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www.crossroadsep.org  
MinistryAtTheCrossroads.blogspot.com



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## Take the 2016 "Neighbors In Need" Challenge!

Crossroads Ministry announces the 2016 "Neighbors In Need" Challenge, with the goal of relieving hunger and poverty in the Estes Valley. The first "Neighbors In Need" Challenge was launched last year after the Feinstein Challenge was unexpectedly cancelled.

A donor has pledged \$50,000 as a dollar-for-dollar match for contributions from the community. The more contributions of dollars and food collected now through May 2, the more of the \$50,000 Crossroads Ministry will receive to help our neighbors in need.

Nearly one in 10 local households have low incomes, fall below the poverty level, and receive help from Crossroads Ministry. In 2015, Crossroads provided food and emergency services for 422 families, made up of 971 individuals including 298 children.

You can multiply the impact of your generosity and help relieve hunger and poverty in the Estes Valley by contributing during the "Neighbors In Need" Challenge, now through May 2!

## Crossroads and Friends Help Families Affected By Chapin Lane Fire

Early Friday morning, March 4, fire destroyed an apartment complex on Chapin Lane in Estes Park. Thanks to the generosity of many caring people and help from Crossroads Ministry staff, basic needs such as clothing, personal toiletry items, and transportation, were taken care of by Friday noon. Special thanks to the Estes Park Extension of the Salvation Army for being first responders and arranging food and lodging the weekend of the fire, and to Crossroads Ministry Case Manager Eva Bañuelos for helping all four families displaced by the fire successfully relocate by March 7 to interim housing through the end of April.

Until the families find permanent housing after their temporary leases expire at the end of April, it is not possible to determine what their needs for furniture and other household items will be. However, our Spring Sale committee has graciously agreed to let the families have first choice from all Spring Sale donations made by the end of April; in turn, any in-kind donations directed to — but not chosen by — the families will be included in the Spring Sale.

In the meantime, cash donations are encouraged. Please designate gifts for "Chapin Lane Fire."

## Welcome Rebecca Gruhl, Volunteer and Pantry Manager

Crossroads Ministry is pleased to announce that Rebecca Gruhl has been selected from a number of highly qualified applicants for our new Volunteer and Pantry Manager position. Becky previously served as Volunteer Manager at the Tarrant Area Food Bank in Fort Worth, Texas, where she helped 8,000 volunteers feed half a million people each month.

Becky attended college at University of Northern Iowa and studied to be a Special Education teacher, later working in telecommunications with the Department of Defense. When she and her husband Brad moved to Fort Worth five years ago, Becky volunteered at Tarrant Area Food Bank and found she could live out her purpose in the nonprofit mission of food banking.



Becky is excited to serve with volunteers and staff at Crossroads and help those in need in the Estes Valley. "To serve people is my gift, my purpose and my passion," Becky says, "and there is nothing I would rather do than live out this calling in service with Crossroads Ministry."

## SINGLE MOM ~ SEASONAL WORK

Crossroads Ministry helps a variety of persons in Estes Valley. Some, like the elderly or persons with disabilities who struggle to make ends meet on low fixed incomes, receive limited ongoing assistance. Others, like the temporarily unemployed or families in immediate crisis, receive short-term or occasional assistance.

Crossroads Ministry received the following letter of appreciation in early February 2016, from a client who has received temporary assistance on occasion through the past few years. The letter has been edited slightly for length and clarity (and to preserve anonymity), but otherwise is entirely in the words of its author.

*I am a single mother, and I've been employed at [a local restaurant] for four years now. But it's seasonal (May-Oct.). During those months, I pay two months of rent at a time (\$1,500), to get me through the winter. Usually, I pick up a part-time job to get through the winter.*

*At the beginning of the school year, end of my season, I was working lots of hours, 10am-10pm seven days a week, trying to get all the hours I could. Those hours pretty much cut my time with my son to an hour in the morning and an hour break to pick him up from school – two hours a day if I was lucky; because he was in bed by the time I got home.*

*I then realized how out of control my son was becoming at school with his teachers – not acceptable behavior whatsoever! So I made a decision to not look for a part-time job and to focus my attention on re-raising my son. I had to buckle down and re-teach him respect, responsibility, accountability. It's been hard work, but [with the help of] a small, dedicated group of teachers, I got my child back.*

*In the meantime, I have barely kept enough food on the table and unfortunately my electric bill has been put off and put off. Last I was able to pay was \$100 in December. I'm kind of a prideful single mom. I work my butt off for what I have and promised myself many years ago I would make sacrifices before getting assistance.*

*Part-time job starts next month, and with the end result of how proud of my son I am every day with all his hard work and commitment, it was worth it. Even if I don't get assistance I'll put away what I can when I can.*

*What I gained is a little more respect for myself as a mother to know when it's time to do what's best for my son. That's all, thanks at least for hearing my story.*

In addition to helping arrange for this single mother to pay her electric bill, Crossroads Ministry eased the family's burden with groceries from our pantry and other assistance.

*"When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you."*

–Luke 14:13-14 (NRSV)

### ANNUAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST: April 19, 8:00 a.m.

**We appreciate our volunteers!** *Your dedicated efforts make everything we do possible.*

We invite all Crossroads Ministry volunteers to join us for our annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. on April 19. We wish to say a heartfelt "Thank You" to volunteers, partner churches, Town officials, and others whose support makes our mission to help persons in need a reality. Come share an hour of fellowship and food in the YMCA of the Rockies Pine Room, and allow us to thank you in person.

**Contact Cleone Beall by April 8** (or earlier, if possible) to let us know you're coming:  
970.586.1719 (leave message if necessary) | [cleone.beall@gmail.com](mailto:cleone.beall@gmail.com)

**Sign up to receive the Crossroads Ministry quarterly newsletter by email!**  
Send your email address to [admin@crossroadsep.org](mailto:admin@crossroadsep.org). Put NEWSLETTER in the subject line.

## CROSSROADS MINISTRY BOARD OF DIRECTORS PLANNING DAY

Crossroads Ministry has been a respected and essential agency serving the Estes Valley for 33 years. In order to best fulfill the mission of Crossroads, “to practice Christian love by providing basic human services to residents in need in the Estes Valley,” the Board of Directors along with other stakeholders met for a vision and planning day on February 16 at St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal church.

Facilitator Jerry Kennell did a great job by focusing everyone on the most compelling things for Crossroads to do in the next five years. First and foremost is to ensure Crossroads’ sustainability and current services. Crossroads is financially stable, but the Board is constantly looking forward to assure that adequate funding is available for future years in order to meet the needs of this community.

After this obvious goal, the critical need for housing and jobs topped the discussion. Crossroads will pursue the possibility of assisting as a data resource and convener to address issues like these with the town and other connected agencies.

The planning team also discussed current services that Crossroads may be able to improve, as well as ways to increased bilingual capability and possibilities for reaching elderly or disabled persons who cannot get to Crossroads.



### 2016 CROSSROADS MINISTRY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scott Applegate..... General Director  
 Peggy Beck..... United Methodist Church  
 Judy Brannon ..... General Director  
 Kay Brock.....Seventh Day Adventist  
 Carolyn Evans..... General Director  
 Sarah Fink .....Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic  
 Joy Holcomb..... Presbyterian Community Church  
 Christine Hall.....St. Francis of Assisi Anglican

Skip Hyde..... St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal  
 Randy Key ..... Christian Church of Estes Park  
 Jim Paddock..... Shepherd of the Mountains  
 Doyle Pennington ..... Estes Park Baptist Church  
 Nancy Pittman..... Mountain View Bible Fellowship  
 John Roehl..... General Director  
 Melissa Westover ..... Summit Church  
 Gene Whannel ..... Rocky Mountain Church

### MEET OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBER



Scott Applegate

Scott’s story is similar to the story of so many Crossroads volunteers who arrive in Estes Park; and after seeking a way to serve this amazing community discover that Crossroads Ministry is the ideal place to do just that. As Scott puts it, “Upon arriving, I felt strongly that I needed to reach out to Crossroads and do whatever I could to help. Aside from feeling somewhat ‘called’ to help, Crossroads’ mission of helping those who need it most certainly speaks to me at the deepest level, and I hope to be able to help out for many, many years.”

Scott and his family moved here in June 2015 from Brighton, Colorado, and he credits God for “working in our lives to move us to Estes Park.” He is currently employed as the Chief Credit Officer at the Bank of Estes Park and is a member of the Rotary Club of Estes Park.

Scott’s family includes his wife Brandi, a son graduating from high school this year, and two young daughters. In his free time Scott plays with the kids, works on the house, and tries to squeeze in hiking and reading. He and his family are thankful to have found a church home at Rocky Mountain Church.

Scott has extensive board experience including MSU Denver Foundation Board, MSU Denver Alumni Board, Denver/Boulder Better Business Bureau Board, Family HomeStead Board, Shiloh House Board, many community and service foundation boards. Professionally, he brings financial expertise, based on his education and career.

At the end of his impressive resume Scott adds, “But I think most importantly, I simply want to bring another willing heart and eager hands to the table to help the others already at the table to accomplish a very important work here in our community. I am so incredibly grateful for the opportunity to serve in this capacity... Thank you!”

**CROSSROADS  
MINISTRY OF  
ESTES PARK, INC.**

PO Box 3616  
851 Dry Gulch Road  
Estes Park, CO 80517  
www.crossroadsep.org

970.577.0610  
admin@crossroadsep.org

**Hours of Operation**

Monday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Tuesday: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
4 p.m. – 7 p.m.  
Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Thursday: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
4 p.m. – 7 p.m.  
Friday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.



**Crossroads Staff**

Tim McLemore  
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Rebecca Gruhl  
Volunteer/Pantry Manager  
becky@crossroadsep.org

Eva Bañuelos  
Case Manager  
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Martha Gilmore  
Executive Assistant  
Financial Administrator  
martha@crossroadsep.org

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**2016 EASTER DISTRIBUTION**

Volunteers and staff worked hard this year to make our annual Easter Distribution a success. More than 60 families signed up to receive a turkey and tasty side dishes, plus Easter candy and all the ingredients for preparing a delicious “peach dump cake” for dessert.

“I’m thankful to the many donors who provided food and to our volunteers for the weeks of preparation that went into making this event a success,” said Rebecca Gruhl, Volunteer and Pantry Manager at Crossroads. “This made for a great beginning to my first month serving on staff at Crossroads Ministry!”



**CROSSROADS/LLEV SPRING SALE**

Crossroads is now accepting tax-deductible donations of items for our **annual Spring Sale**, set for Friday, May 6, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. until noon, in ‘Barn W’ at the fairgrounds. Please take time to look around your home or business for “TREASURES” that you could donate. Be sure to check cupboards, closets, and crawl spaces. This is a perfect opportunity for you to do some spring cleaning and in the process bless others. All items should be clean and in good condition. Sorry, we cannot accept used adult clothing, TVs, large appliances, sleeper sofas, or mattresses. Appointments to drop off items at ‘Barn W’ need to be scheduled through Crossroads. Large furniture items are welcome. If you cannot deliver items, call Crossroads and a pickup will be scheduled. Please note that a donation of \$20 is requested at the time of pick up. Crossroads will be happy to answer any other questions you might have at 970-577-0610. Thank you in advance for your donations and please plan to come by and shop. You may find just the “thing” you have been missing!

*All proceeds stay in our community for the benefit of local families in need through 501(c)3 nonprofits, Crossroads Ministry of Estes Park and Lifelong Learning of Estes Valley Preschool.*