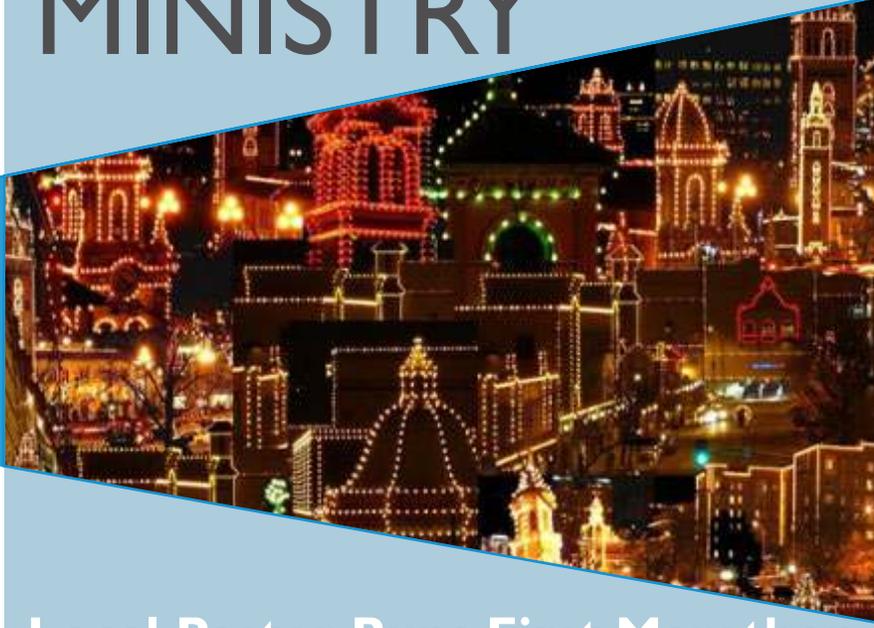




# MISSIONS & MINISTRY



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## Local Pastor Runs First Marathon

By Wayne Geiger. *Originally published in the [Grain Valley News](#). Reprinted with permission.*

**A**lthough [FBC Grain Valley](#) was established in the community in 1884, Wayne Geiger became the pastor in 2015. Geiger, who has been preaching for more than 25 years, also worked in Christian radio in Kansas City at KLJC and Life 88.5.

Although he has a long stint in ministry, his passion for running has been somewhat recent.

Geiger began running about a year-and-a-half ago. “I always hated running,” Geiger chuckled, “unless it was to catch up with the ice cream man, but after a while, it just kind of became part of my DNA.” Depending on what race he is training for, he will run between 10 and 15 miles a week—more or less. “Sometimes, I’ll come home sweaty and just dragging my body in the door and my wife will ask, ‘so, do you like running?’ Geiger chuckles, “It’s a hard question to answer, but I guess, I’d have to say, yes.” He has run several competitive races for fun including 5Ks (3.1 miles), 10Ks, a half marathon (13.1 miles), and a 50k (30 mile) trail run/walk.

This October, Geiger ran his first full marathon (26.2 miles). The history of our modern marathon dates back to ancient Greece when the military courier, [Pheidippides](#) is said to have run from Marathon to Athens to deliver news of a military victory against the Persians. Unfortunately for Pheidippides, immediately after delivering the news, he fell over and died. The tradition of the marathon, however, lives on.

## Local Pastor Runs, cont. from Page 1

"It took me a long time to admit that I was a runner," Geiger confessed, "for a while I just considered myself to be a guy who ran. Then, when I began to run frequently and competitively, things began to change. I guess it dawned me one day when somebody asked me, 'how far did you run this morning?' and I said, only about four miles. At that point, I had to admit I was a runner. Only runners say crazy things like that."

Geiger chose to run the Kansas City Marathon (Oct 20) for several reasons. First, he says, "it's a chance to see what I am capable of. Geiger says every runner must work through an enormous amount of physical discomfort and mental anguish.

"There are times," he says, "when I'm in the zone and I just feel great!" Then there are other times when every fiber of my being just wants to quit. It's the mental anguish of pushing my body beyond what my mind believes I'm capable of."

There is another reason the local pastor ran the marathon—to support a Christian mission trip to Panama next summer. Geiger, and a team from the Grain Valley church, will spend a week partnering with a local church in Panama. Their mission is to help alleviate human suffering, have Bible studies, put on several children's programs, and just get to know the people.



The pastor set a monetary goal of \$2000 through a GoFundMe account. "Everything collected," Geiger said, "will go to fund the trip or cover materials and supplies while in Panama."

Geiger followed a marathon training plan to help him reach his goal in October. "I generally run three or four times a week and then a long run on the weekend." By "long run," Geiger means something over ten miles. He can be seen, at times, running in Grain Valley, Blue Springs, or Independence. "We have some great places and trails to run in our area," he said.

There's one more thing he plans to do while on his mission trip to Panama. "I do hope to run while I'm in Panama," Geiger chuckled, "but probably not more than a couple of miles."

Read more at  
<http://waynegeiger.blogspot.com>

## Cross Creek Hosts Its 8th Annual Cruise, Blues, & Barbecue

By [Ray Gurney, Cross Creek](#)

GRAIN VALLEY, MO -- Organizing and pulling off an event is not easy, especially for a small church with an aging congregation. Despite that, [Cross Creek](#) held our 8th Annual Car Show on Saturday, September 23rd. God gave us the perfect day; the blue sky and mild temperatures were just what we had prayed for. Classic cars parked on four acres of freshly mowed grass shaded by big trees. Under a big tent, people listened to Bluegrass Music provided by the Wildwood Boys and The Liberty Highway Band, creating the picture of relaxation.

We smoked 18 pork butts and 16 gallons of beans for the free dinner. Guests consumed more than 220 plates of pulled pork barbeque, smoked beans and homemade desserts. Throughout the event, kids jumped endlessly in the big



bounce house, played an array of fun games, and enjoyed snow cones and cotton candy under the watchful eye of adults.

Some amazing car builders drove their custom cars to Cross Creek, displaying millions of dollars' worth of cars and their expertise in customizing and restoring vehicles at the show. These master craftsmen take yesterday's junk and, in many cases, spend years transforming them into prize-winning show cars. Among the entries were Rat Rods and Motorcycles waking up the neighborhood when

they cranked them up to leave at dusk. It was a fantastic day to invite our neighborhood to spend an afternoon close to home for the outdoor event.

Each year I'm amazed at the hours Cross Creek members invest to make these events happen just because they love people. We don't give prizes or have entry fees, but we try our best to see that everyone leaves with their appetites satisfied, memories of beautiful cars in their minds, and a calming spirit in their hearts from the music and fellowship.



Learn more at  
<https://www.crosscreekbaptist.com>

# Bluegrass Festival Raises Funds for Restoration House

**John Mark Clifton,**  
**NAMB Senior Director of Church Replanting**

Bluegrass music is a lot like hockey. Once you see it live you'll never see it the same way again.

On Saturday, September 15, hundreds of music fans experienced some of the very best bluegrass music at the 7th annual Brookside Bluegrass Festival. This year's event featured Balsam Range from Canton, North Carolina. This group has won every award of the genre, including Instrumental Group of the Year, Vocal Group of the Year, Album of the Year, Song of the Year, and Entertainer of the Year.

Balsam Range did not disappoint the audience of over 400 people who gathered on the lawn and in the sanctuary of Christ Community Church. From the first note to the last, the band held the entire crowd

spellbound with their instrumental and vocal excellence.

The Brookside Bluegrass Festival is committed to bringing Grammy-nominated bluegrass bands to Kansas City, but it's also dedicated to a higher purpose: raising funds to support local nonprofits. This year, the Bluegrass Festival raised nearly \$4,000 for Restoration House.

Special thanks goes to Christ Community Church, Wornall Road Baptist Church and many other great churches in our city who supported this event in numerous ways.

Next year's event will again be a fundraiser for Restoration House. It will include mini top headliner groups including the Grammy award winning Kenny and Amanda Smith band. Learn more at [www.brooksidebluegrass.com](http://www.brooksidebluegrass.com).

news & events

## DECEMBER

December 6 - Pastors' Prayer Lunch  
Noon @ **Crossroads Church**  
<https://goo.gl/hjv6nJ>

December 20 - Pastors' Prayer Lunch  
Noon @ **Southview Baptist**  
<https://goo.gl/p3YaB4>

December 24-31 - Office Closed

### JOB LISTINGS

Sycamore Hills is seeking a part-time Youth Minister. <https://goo.gl/ssHHiz>

Sycamore Hills is seeking a part-time Financial Secretary. <https://goo.gl/Va75Le>

Belvidere Heights is seeking a part-time Worship Leader/Music Minister. <https://goo.gl/KjyPhL>

FBC Cleveland is seeking a full-time Pastor and an interim in the meantime. <https://goo.gl/qaVRdU>

FBC Lee's Summit is seeking a full-time Children's Minister. <https://goo.gl/WUdfiH>



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Britney Hamm, Editor

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# 2019 Pastor/Staff/Spouse Appreciation Banquet

Return to: 806 W. Main Street, Greenwood, MO 64034

Periodical



FEATURING JOSH LOZOFF

February 1, 2019  
7-9pm  
Connection Point Church Atrium  
10500 E. 350 Highway, Raytown, MO 64138

FOOD. FELLOWSHIP. MAGIC

*Event is free but registration is required.*  
<http://appreciationbanquet2019.eventbrite.com>

## Save the date!

Restoration House of Greater Kansas City

### Hope Now Freedom Gala

JANUARY 12, 2019 | THE INTERCONTINENTAL KANSAS CITY



Join us for the 5th Annual Gala Event and VIP Social with Silent & Live Auction  
Honoring Emily Russell, Missouri Attorney General's Office  
VIP Social 5:00 PM  
Dinner & Program 7:00 PM

Register at <https://restorationhousekc.ejoinme.org/gala2019>

For more information, contact Steven Robinson at 816-623-5260 or [steven@restorationhousekc.com](mailto:steven@restorationhousekc.com)