



THE CROSS and CROWN

“No Cross, No Crown”

a publication of Highway Mission Tabernacle and Resurrection Life Church, Philadelphia, PA

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“Brethren, pray for us.”

These words, from I Thessalonians 5:25, are found on one of the earliest documents in Highway’s history, “Manual of the Highway Mission Tabernacle,” published in 1899, and are used as the closing line of Pastor Roberson’s greeting in Highway’s Diamond Anniversary booklet, published 70 years later.

ESTABLISHED NOVEMBER, 1894.

ORGANIZED MAY, 1897.

CHARTERED JULY, 1899.

Brethren, pray for us.—I Thess. 5 : 25 ;
Acts 5 : 38, 39.

In the manual, the quote is followed by a Scripture reference, Acts 5:38,39: “For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men.”

Years ago, Florence Bogdan mentioned to me that every great Christian denomination started out as a charismatic, Spirit-filled movement, responding to the neglect of the Spirit in movement that had preceded it. The unfortunate trend is that, as a movement grows, it outgrows the Holy Spirit, concluding that they can carry on by the strength of their money, business sense and infrastructure. To put it in terms of Acts 5, their purpose and activity have become of human origin. They fall into the pattern seen all throughout the book of Judges, where one generation passes away and the generation that follows abandons the faith. Churches that find themselves in this situation must choose either to fall off the map or fall to their knees and return to the Spirit.

As we approach our 130th anniversary, Highway Mission Tabernacle is at a crossroads, but the path ahead of us is clear. We are committed to humility, to praying and seeking God’s face, and to turning away from reliance on ourselves and our ability to plan well and work hard. We are moving ahead with confidence! Our future is bright, because God is faithful!

Brothers and sisters, pray for us!

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

Brothers and Sisters, Pray for Us!





Your prayers have kept us and are keeping us here. Thank you! Please continue to agree with us for:

- more God's his Spirit, wisdom and direction,
- more grace and provision for the many challenges around us and ahead of us,
- the next generation of leaders and team members, and
- our end-of-year outreach events.

We're praying with you!

If you're on our mailing list*, you're on our prayer list! If there's anything specific that we can join with you in praying for, please let us know. (We will only publish your requests in this newsletter with your permission.)

Whether it's to share a prayer need, a praise report or a word of greeting or encouragement, please keep in touch. Hearing from you encourages us more than you know.

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* **Important:** If you'd rather not be on our mailing list, we won't be offended! Just call or write us, and we'll remove you. (We'll still keep you on our prayer list!)

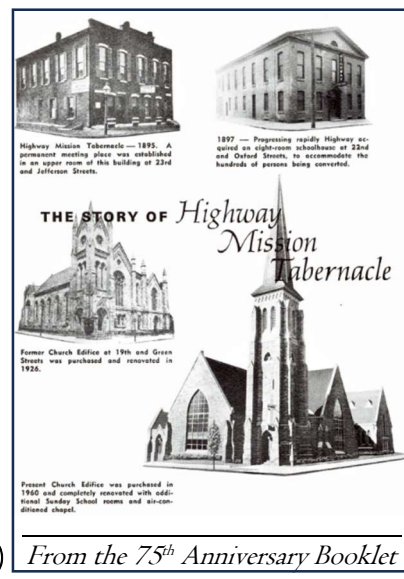
If you'd rather receive this letter via e-mail, please let us know, or subscribe to it at crossandcrown.online/subscribe !

Did You Know?

Since 1895, when it took over a mission at 23rd and Jefferson Streets, Highway has called five buildings home. In 1895, it expanded to "The Schoolhouse," at 22nd and Oxford, and from there to church buildings at 19th and Green streets, 18th and Spring Garden Streets and, currently, 17th and Tioga streets. It's been a slow march eastward – closer to Broad Street, and eventually, should Jesus tarry, the Delaware River!

Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

(Psalm 127:7)



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