Our Dear Friends in Jesus at Crosstown! At the invitation of Pastor Paul Murphy, we want to offer an update on our lives over the last 4 months.

Our transition into retirement began with a road trip of 3+ weeks that included numerous stops (2,500 total miles). These adventures included: Milwaukee, Racine, Chicago, Grand Rapids (MI), Detroit, London (Ontario), Dayton (OH), and Indianapolis. One special highlight in the Detroit metro was a stay at the home of my "spiritual mother"—Edna. In my teen years, this woman was a major influence on my life. At 91 years of age, this dear saint continues to serve Jesus by offering hospitality to travelers. Amazing!! While in Detroit, we visited a church building that was once occupied by a German-speaking congregation. In 1904 this was the church where my great grandmother, Minnie, was a founding member. Today, it is the home of an African-American congregation. Visiting this sacred site reminded me (John) of the Spirit's work in my family across generations! In Indianapolis, we enjoyed the hospitality of Marna's dear friend, Sharon. In their college days, those two women shared an epic year in Germany and participated in one another's weddings. Today, Sharon is newly widowed and it was a precious joy to share time with her.

We're in the process of establishing a regular rhythm in our schedule. We've joined the gym at the Jewish Community Center in St Paul. I (John) have even begun to play the ever-popular Pickleball☺! As far as searching for a church home, we've visited a # of congregations. Right now, we're attending Roseville Covenant on a consistent basis. Both of us value the preaching ministry of our dear friend, Pastor Matt Kennedy. My reading list had included, The Long Loneliness: The Autobiography of Dorothy Day and The Zorg: A Tale of Greed & Murder that Inspired the Abolition of Slavery.

What does the future hold? During January, we're venturing to St Pete Beach, FL. After that, we'll begin to focus on opportunities where we hear Jesus calling us to serve.

The last four months have been a significant season of adjustment in our lives. We do thank our Lord Jesus for the 19+ years we shared with you at Crosstown. We rejoice in all that the Holy Spirit accomplished during those years. While we do miss seeing each of you, we know that our Heavenly Father has great things in store for Crosstown's future! We're praying for you as we move forward in 2026.

Pastor John & Marna Jacobi