

# crossroads circuit rider



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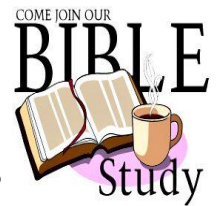
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"Create  
in me a  
clean heart,  
O God,  
and put a  
new and right  
spirit  
within me."  
Psalm 51:10

July & August 2018

No. E-18-f

## Ladies' Summer Bible Study Continues



Ladies please join this unique summer **Bible Study group**. Each month we will study a book from the Bible at home on our own and at the end of a month we will meet in the Social Hall, discuss the Book and have lunch. June they studied the Book of James. They will next meet at 10:00 AM on Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup> for discussion and lunch. At that time they will decide on their final Book and our last Luncheon meeting for the summer will be on Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.

During these gatherings they will discuss their thoughts on their Fall weekly Bible Study that will begin during the month of October. Please come join in this wonderful time of fellowship and praising the Lord.



## VBS will Find Us Cooking in the Kitchen

**Crossroad's Vacation Bible School** will be held the evenings of **July 29 – August 2, 5:45-8:45 PM** and is for all ages – children through adult. A lite dinner will be provided for all. We are seeking leaders and helpers to help with this endeavor. If you are available to serve in this thrilling adventure, contact Lisa Boettcher.

This summer at Vacation Bible School the kids will **Shake It Up** as young chefs as they carry out God's "recipe". Everyone will explore the Bible as an exciting cookbook filled with recipes for living out God's Word. By celebrating biblical festivals, they will:

- Be ready for God
- Give happily to God
- Believe fully in Jesus
- Remember Jesus often
- Celebrate God forever

Decorating for **Shake It Up Café VBS 2018** is a piece of cake! Maybe you have some items we can use, like: pots, pans, chef hats, aprons, rolling pins, whisks, checkered table cloths, chalkboard menus. Let us know!



## Receive Newsletter in Electronic Form

This **church newsletter** has been sent out as an **email attachment** for the last 5 years. This was our way of cutting down on expense (postage) and cutting down on waste (paper & ink).

If you would share your email with us we could add you to the email list. Send an email to Susan Cohen at [queenbeez@cox.net](mailto:queenbeez@cox.net). If you do not have an email account you can retrieve your copy in the narthex by the entrance door. This is your newsletter and we want you to receive your copy in the way that's best for you.



# FROM THE PASTOR

This is my first message as pastor of Crossroads UMC. What a difference a year makes! Last year, none of us could have possibly known that there would be a merger between Broad Street UMC and West End UMC and that the new church would be a church named Crossroads. God truly works in mysterious ways! The reality of this merger "hit me" when we got our copy of the Advocate magazine at Annual Conference, this is the copy that announces the names of the churches in the Virginia Conference and the pastors appointed to those churches for the next clergy year. I looked under the heading of the Elizabeth River District and, for the first time, there was no listing of either Broad Street or West End and my name was listed as the first-year pastor of Crossroads. The two churches are now memories in the hearts and minds of the members of the two churches. While Crossroads' address is the same as West End's, this new church is not an extension of the former church nor is it a revised Broad Street. Crossroads is a new United Methodist Church congregation whose history is still in the making and whose identity is just being shaped. Actually, the foundation of Crossroads is not just Broad Street and West End, I acknowledge that the spirit of Cottage Place UMC and Park View UMC is also an integral part of this new church as two years ago some of the members of both those churches joined West End when their respective churches closed.

**Matthew 9: 17: "Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both will be preserved."**

**Mark 2: 22: "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins."**

**Luke 5: 37-38: "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins."**

The traditions of the congregations of all four churches were integral to the life and ministry of the individual churches. It would be natural that the members of Broad Street and West End, who are the core of Crossroads, would want to carry on their individual traditions (from order of worship to program committees) into this new church. However, those traditions, were unique to those churches and everything can't be incorporated into the life and ministry of Crossroads, which is a totally new church. In the coming months, I will be working with the current membership (as well as persons who desire to join the church) to look at ways in which we can capture the spirit of both traditions while developing traditions that will be unique to Crossroads. I will do this similar to the format Bishop Lewis used in what she calls "Chat and Chew 1.0", meeting with small groups to discern in which Crossroads is to be a ministry presence to the community as well as to the congregation. Crossroads is a new United Methodist congregation; the pages of our history book is blank. God is giving us this wonderful opportunity to do new things for the Kingdom; to reach new people so that we can become a more diverse faith community and to go to those places where the Holy Spirit wants to lead this church. I can't emphasize enough that Crossroads is a new church, God is making all things new, as the scripture says.

I am excited about the ministry of Crossroads UMC!!! I know that we can't be on the mountain top all the time, we will have some valley experiences. We have successes and we will make mistakes; sometimes we'll rejoice and sometimes we will weep but as long as we put Jesus Christ first, we will be alright. The final act of the Merger Task Force is to design a logo that reflects the mission and ministry of Crossroads UMC. Hopefully by the time you get this newsletter, we will have a logo. The District Superintendent told us at our recent called Charge Conference that we could be creative in our marketing strategy for the church. I leave you with how I view this new church: I see Crossroads UMC as a church where "lives intersect with God (through Jesus Christ), the church, the community and with each other." God has blessed us to be a new faith community, now let us go and share the good news with the world.

*Pastor Lynda*

## Sunday Evening Worship Services Continue by Telephone

Pastor Lynda continues to lead **Sunday Evening Worship Services by telephone**. The call in series begins at 4:00 PM. To be a part of this series, call the **FREE Conference Call number 563-999-1087 and upon request put in the code 312193#**. You will then be asked to state your name. Call in before 4:00 so you'll be in place when the study begins. This can be on a land line or a cell phone, it doesn't matter. You can have friends and neighbors join us also. Such a new and exciting method to worship together!



## Daily Devotion Publication Available in Narthex

The July/August issue of *The Upper Room* daily devotional booklet is located in our narthex. Don't forget to get your copy! If you have not been using *The Upper Room*, why not try reading the wonderful devotions this summer. Many will truly touch your heart in special ways. Small print booklets are 75¢ and large print booklets will be \$1.25.



## Food Pantry is Greatly Used

West End's Food Pantry is open on Thursdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Thank You to all who continue to donate items for our "**Food Pantry Sunday**", the third Sunday of every month. The item being asked for on **July 15 is spaghetti sauce** (with meat is nice) **and August 19 is canned meats**.

We are asking each person who reads this to bring an item and place it in the altar basket or put a donation in the plate on the rail that day.

Your donations are a blessing. You don't have to wait until Food Pantry Sunday to bring donations to church. When you go food shopping for yourself, throw a few extra things in your cart and bring them to church on any Sunday. Cash donations are also accepted to purchase additional items as well.

# Special Music

The **Chancel Choir** is officially on break for the summer months of July and August. They work hard during the other ten months bringing you special music each week and especially during the holidays of Christmas and Easter, and we thank them.

Now there is an opportunity for those who have special talents to provide summer specials. They could be song, poetry, testimony, or liturgical dance! We ask for people to sign up with Susan Heely for these Sundays. We love having our congregation and friends share their talents! Contact Susan @ [susanheely@gmail.com](mailto:susanheely@gmail.com) or 757-650-3052.



The **Finance Committee** asks the assistance of all members in **keeping pledges current** and, when possible, paying them ahead when you will be away from church for extended periods. You might want to have your designated offering debited directly from your bank account (as perhaps you do for other financial obligations). To sign up for this go to [www.weumc-pva.org](http://www.weumc-pva.org), click on DONATE button, click on CREATE A PROFILE button, then follow the onscreen instructions. An adequate balance in the Operating Fund over the summer months is important. Thank you for helping us.



The **United Methodist Women** met on June 20<sup>th</sup> and enjoyed the program and refreshments provided by the Circle of Ruth.

Joyce Geluz, her daughter Christina and granddaughter, Faith (3 generations) have returned from a wonderful trip to Columbus, Ohio for the General Assembly meeting. They enjoyed participating in various workshops and service projects. Over 6,000 people attended.

The UMW sent 100 School Kits to VA Conference. It is much appreciated if you sent in school items or helped fill and box the kits for travel to Hampton.

Georgia Garrison and Ruth Gilmore will be attending the Virginia Conference Mission Encounter July 27-29 at Smith Mountain Lake 4-H Center in Wirtz, VA. We wish them a safe, informative and fun filled weekend.

If you are not a member of the UWM you would be welcomed to join. The Circle of Friends meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM in Social Hall; they are meeting every other month and their next meeting will be on September 4<sup>th</sup>. The Circle of Ruth meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 1:30 PM and the Circle of Grace meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 7:00 PM; both of these meetings are in the Social Hall. They would love to have you join in.

Their next General meeting will be September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Social Hall. The Circle of Friends will present the program and have refreshments and all are invited to join us.

## Two Ongoing Monthly Volunteer Opportunities for You:

- **Meals on Wheels** will be delivered on Wednesdays, July 25 and August 22. To volunteer, please see Ginny Collins.
- **Oasis Ministries Breakfast** will be prepared and served on Thursdays, July 26 and August 23. If you would could help with this, please see Iverson Garrison.

## Other Opportunities:

- There is a great need for weekly liturgists. The **2018 Liturgist calendar** is in the narthex for anyone who could help with the liturgy during a particular worship service during the year. If you have questions, please see Willie Collins, our Liturgist Coordinator.
- The **2018 Altar Flower calendar** is in the narthex for anyone who would like to honor or memorialize someone with flowers on a particular Sunday morning during the year. If you have questions, please call the church office for assistance.

## The Asbury Class

The **Asbury Class** welcomes the members from Broad Street to their class. This has been a blessing. They would love to have others come to learn and fellowship together. Their classroom is located in the Chapel – go through the front doors and take the door on the left.

The class continues their Max Lucado study entitled "In the Grip of Grace". All are welcome to join in this discussion class. Their class is located through the double doors in the front of the Chapel building. They begin at 10:00 AM. The lessons and thought provoking questions are sent out as an email attachment each week. Contact Sidney Goldblatt if you would like to be put on the list to receive this. You don't have to be a member to attend this stimulating series. We've always got a seat on the couch for you.

## -Stewardship Corner- What to Give?

What **specific gifts** can people make to their church directly, to an endowment fund, or other designated purpose? The simplest gifts are gifts of cash, gifts of securities and gifts of real estate.

Life insurance is another popular way to make a gift. It is not an immediate gift, but it can be transformative in nature for the beneficiary. Your life insurance agent or company can remind you of the current beneficiary(s) of your policy. Simply adding your church as a beneficiary and indicating the percentage you would like the church to receive will accomplish your objective. This should be done in conjunction with a previously discussed and documented plan for use of the funds.

What an outstanding way to make our last gift to the church our best gift!



# Crossroads Welcomes Sue Harris as our Administrative Assistant



My name is Suchada Harris, but everyone calls me **Sue**. I was born in Thailand and have been in the states since the tender age of 3. I was saved at the age of 10 while my family was stationed in Spain and am grateful to be a child of the one true God. I graduated high school from Denbigh Baptist Christian School in Newport News, Va. I am a military "brat" as well as military spouse. My husband and I met in college. Military life is all we know and we have had the privilege of living in many different places. We were married in 1993 and are blessed to have 2 amazing boys. Our older son, Zachary, will be working at the NN shipyard as a welder very soon. Sammy, our youngest just finished 8<sup>th</sup> grade and has been a skilled soccer player since he was in kindergarten.

In 2015, we returned home to VA after my husband retired from the USAF. He now works at Huntington Ingalls as a Quality Analyst. In 2009, I made the decision to become a "stay at home mom" so that I could be both mom & dad to my boys during my husband's deployments. Trust me, when I say that I was busier as a stay at home mom than when I worked outside of the home. Although I've had many jobs ranging from Jr. Manager at DQ to Assistant Site Coordinator for multiple school sites with afterschool programs, no job was more important to me than being a mom to my boys!! During my time working from home, I was able to go on every field trip, volunteer for everything I could possibly do, work as the treasurer for my sons Pack/Troop in Cub Scouts and even start a homeless ministry while we were stationed at Nellis AFB, NV. God has been truly good to our family. I'm so blessed that West End UMC (soon to be Crossroads) has welcomed me with open arms. Stop by and say "hello" if you are ever in the office Mon-Fri.



## Joys, Thanks, & News

To My Church Family

Thank you all so very much for your prayers, calls, cards and visits during the recent passing of my son, Matthew. You are all a blessing to me.

~ Nancy Wynne and Family



## *Life Celebrations*

### **Birthdays for July:**

- 1 – Mark Goldman
- 5 – Sue Williams
- 5 – Ashley Reeder
- 11 – Chay Bell
- 17 – Georgia Garrison
- 21 – Tanya Brooking
- 23 – Mallison Bright
- 29 – Liz Lipp

### **Anniversary for July:**

- 11 – Mark & Donna Goldman
- 12 – Donald & June Garrison

### **Birthdays for August:**

- 2 – Tyler Brown
- 3 – Chloe House
- 8 – Donald Garrison
- 18 – Avon Burton

### **Anniversary for August:**

- 12 – Peggie & Jerry Gower
- 21 – Alfred & Avon Burton
- 25 – Harvey & Tricia Bright
- 27 – Michelle & Joe Becerra

**\*\*The next newsletter deadline is Sunday, August 19.** At this time all news for **September** will be due.

You can e-mail your articles to [queenbeez@cox.net](mailto:queenbeez@cox.net), give them to Susan Cohen (editor), or put them in the Communication mailbox in the Dill Chapel hallway.

> For current photos & news updates check us out at <  
> [https://www.facebook.com/  
CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth](https://www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth) <



## Fishes and Loaves

*"Then he took the five loaves and two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them, and brake, and gave to the disciples to set before the multitude. And they did eat, and were filled: and there was taken up the fragments that remained to them twelve baskets."*

- Luke 9:16-17

The disciples worried – we only have five small loaves of bread and two fishes! Whatever will we do? Five loaves and two fishes could never feed the multitudes in the natural realm!

We have a God who is in the multiplication business! He works on an entirely different mathematical equation than we are accustomed to -- He takes the little we offer and turns it into more than we can imagine!

How often do we feel as if we have little to offer? The Lord is interested in us and not what we have to offer but He always takes the little we have and turns it into what we need. What is minuscule in our eyes is not small in God's eyes.

Let's not be afraid to offer our gifts, our talents, our abilities and our accomplishments that we may find insignificant. They are not!

When we give up the littlest of things to the Lord, He brings forth an abundance!

Grace and peace to you,  
The Foundation Team



# Opportunities:

### July:

- 1 Sun. Sunday School - Adults\* – 9:45 AM  
Sunday School - Children\* – 11:00 AM  
**Holy Communion – 11:00 AM**  
Conference Call Worship\* – 4:00 PM  
[\*=every Sunday]
- 2 Mon. Trustees Meet – 7:00 PM  
Praise Practice\* - 7:00 PM  
[\*=every Monday]
- 4 Wed. **Independence Day**  
-office closed-  
Men's Bible Study\* – 7:00 PM  
[\*=every Wednesday]
- 7 Sat. Ballet Dance practice\* – 1:00 PM  
Children's Community Choir\* – 2:00 PM  
[\*=every Saturday]
- 8 Sun. **World Hunger Offering Received**
- 10 Tues. Ministry Team Meets – 7:00 PM
- 12 Thurs. Ladies Bible Study/Lunch – 10:00 AM
- 15 Sun. "Praise" @ worship  
**Food Pantry Sunday**
- 17 Tues. Church Council Meets – 7:00 PM
- 22 Sun. Men's Fellowship breakfast mtg – 8:00 AM  
**Missionary Support Offering Received**
- 25 Wed. Meals on Wheels – 10:30 AM
- 26 Thurs. Oasis Breakfast – 6:00 AM
- 29 Sun. Ballet & Children's Choir perform @ worship

### August:

- 1 Wed. Men's Bible Study\* – 7:00 PM  
[\*=every Wednesday]
- 4 Sat. Ballet Dance practice\* – 1:00 PM  
Children's Community Choir\* – 2:00 PM  
[\*=every Saturday]
- 5 Sun. Sunday School - Adults\* – 9:45 AM  
Sunday School - Children\* – 11:00 AM  
**Holy Communion – 11:00 AM**  
Conference Call Worship\* – 4:00 PM  
[\*=every Sunday]
- 6 Mon. Praise Practice\* - 7:00 PM  
[\*=every Monday]
- 12 Sun. **World Hunger Offering Received**
- 19 Sun. "Praise" @ worship  
**Food Pantry Sunday**
- 22 Wed. Meals on Wheels – 10:30 AM
- 23 Thurs. Oasis Breakfast – 6:00 AM
- 26 Sun. Men's Fellowship breakfast mtg – 8:00 AM  
**Missionary Support Offering Received**
- 30 Thurs. Chancel Choir Practice Resumes – 7:30 PM

