

crossroads circuit rider



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The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

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the STEPS
of a Good
Man are
ORDERED
by the Lord.

© Blessed Beyond Words

Psalm 37:23

June 2018

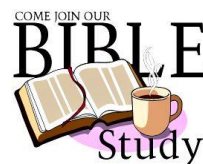
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Join Us for Our Church Picnic



Crossroads will be holding its "Hello to Summer" Church Picnic on **Saturday, June 2nd from 3:00 to 7:00 PM**. Food will be ready to eat around 4:00 PM. There will be hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fixings, tea, lemonade, coffee and ice cream. You are asked to bring a side dish. Along with the fun we are asking you to bring a cake so we can have an old fashioned Cake Walk (that's only if we have enough cakes brought). Homemade are the best. We will have corn hole, cards, and some board games. Bring along any game you think would be enjoyed. We will also have a Hymn sing and just plain fun. Looking forward to seeing everyone then!

Ladies' Summer Bible Study to Begin



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. This month we are studying the Book of James. Just five chapters so you can do it! We will meet at 10:00 AM on Thursday, June 14th for our first discussion and lunch. During this gathering we will decide on what our next Book will be and then we will meet on Thursday, July 12th for discussion and lunch. On July 12th we will decide on our final Book and our last Luncheon meeting for the summer will be on Thursday, August 16th.

During these gatherings we will discuss our thoughts on our Fall weekly Bible Study that will begin during the month of October. Please come join us we have a wonderful time in fellowship and praising the Lord.



The 2018 session of the **Virginia Annual Conference** will take place **June 15-17, 2018** at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, VA and will include the Great Day of Service this year. We will be delivering our 100 School Kits for UMCOR at this time. Click here to get more information . . . <https://vaumc.org/AC2018>



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. 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.

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!

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

Message From Pastor Lynda

This is my final message as the pastor of West End UMC. Beginning July 1, 2018, I will be serving as the first pastor of **Crossroads**, a United Methodist community formed as the result of the merger between Broad Street UMC and West End UMC. Writing this takes me back to the first time I started serving as the pastor of West End. I came to West End at what seemed like a low period in my ministry and it was the people of this church that played a significant role in lifting my spirits. You were my life line and for that I will always thank God for you. I am reminded of the title of one of my sermons, taken from the book of Genesis and the story of God speaking to Noah after the ark had landed safely on dry land. God told Noah that a rainbow would be placed in the sky as a reminder to God detailing God's grace, faithfulness and mercy towards humanity. The sermon title was "Don't forget to remember" and I want to share some of my reflections about serving as the pastor here at West End:

I won't forget to remember that West End UMC has a rich history of service to others. Members of this congregation have been and still are active in providing breakfast to our homeless population at the Oasis shelter and have been the shelter site for the homeless; you are drivers for Meals on Wheels; you serve the local inmate population through the jail ministry; you have sponsored activities that include our neighborhood children (and adults) through events like Trunk or Treat, Easter Egg hunts, Vacation Bible School and volunteering at the nearby Elementary School.

I won't forget to remember of your care and concern for others in times of sickness and sorrow due to the deaths of loved ones, whether they were members on the church rolls or family members/friends of West End members.

I won't forget to remember the laughter shared and the good food we ate at various functions. Your love for people is heartwarming.

I won't forget our times in worship and study. I've seen changes in our worship that continue to help people draw near to God and express their desire to join our fellowship.

I won't forget to remember hearing your stories and celebrating Jesus with you as well as crying with you during difficult times.

I won't forget to remember our late beloved secretary/church administrator, Gail Sasser. Gail was my "right hand" and I miss her to this day.

I won't forget to remember the words of encouragement that you have given me in these past six years. I thank you for those times when you corrected me when I needed it and gave me guidance and direction when I seemed to be off course.

Finally, I won't forget to remember how much I have grown to love you in this time that we've spent together as pastor and people. God knew that I needed the people of West End and I will be forever grateful to God for anointing me and the Cabinet for appointing me to serve as your pastor. I was your first African-American pastor, male or female and now the history books will record that I am your last pastor. I won't forget to remember that West End UMC, you will always have a place in my heart.

Next month, I will be writing a message to the people of **Crossroads**. Together, you and I will have the privilege **and** responsibility of becoming a "new" ministry presence in this community. Working together we can make a change; working together as the people of this new United Methodist faith community to do even greater things for the cause of Jesus Christ.

I love you with a pastor's love.

Pastor Lynda



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 **June 17 is peanut butter and jelly.**

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.



A **huge Thank You** to the devoted choir members and praise team members who selflessly devote their time to rehearsal and performance each Sunday! They are always a blessing to the service! Thank you for your hard work and sharing your lovely talents!

The **Chancel Choir** will sing through June and will then take a breather during July & August. This gives an opportunity for those who have special talents to provide summer anthems. We ask for people to sign up to do special music throughout these months. Praise will continue to provide music on the 3rd Sunday of these months. Contact Susan Heely to arrange accompaniment and to reserve a date to perform. We love having our congregation and friends share their talents. Contact Susan at susanheely@gmail.com or 757-650-3052.

Reasons for Electronic Giving



1. It's SO easy!!
2. It provides consistent funding to church missions, even during the "slow" vacation seasons.
3. It lowers the cost of purchasing offering envelopes.
4. There is less paper use/waste so it's more environmentally friendly.

We ask that everyone prayerfully consider this option and visit www.weumc-pva.org for instructions on how to get started.

Congratulations to Our Graduates

Tyler Christian Brown

Tyler graduated from Old Dominion University on December 16, 2017 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science with a minor in Computer Engineering. He is currently employed as a junior software engineer with Advanced Health Media, a healthcare/pharmaceutical software solutions company in Norfolk where he has been employed since May 2017. He is the son of Kelly and Richard Brown.

Sarah Goldblatt Davis

Sarah was pinned on May 4, 2018 as completing her Practical Nursing Program at ECPI University. She received Academic Excellence and Clinical Excellence awards. She is the daughter of Sidney and Adam Goldblatt and the granddaughter of John Spence.

Walker Lane Robey

Walker graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School as Valedictorian of his class and has a full scholarship to the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. He is the grandson of Ruth Gilmore.



The **United Methodist Women** would like to thank everyone who supported their Mother's Day Bulletin and the Father's Day Bulletin. There may still be a chance to get your names in for Father's Day as the deadline is June 3rd. Please consider honoring a man you admire by placing his name in the bulletin. The donation is \$1.00 per name. Contact Susan Cohen at queenbeez@cox.net.

The autobell fundraiser was a big success. Thank you to everyone who supported this endeavor. The profit made was \$600!

If you are not a member of the UWM you would be welcomed to join. The Circle of Friends meet on the 1st 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 4th. The Circle of Ruth meets on the 2nd Wednesday at 1:30 PM and the Circle of Grace meets on the 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 PM; both of these meetings are in the Social Hall. We would love to have you join us.

Their next General meeting will be June 20th at 7:00 PM in the Social Hall. The Circle of Ruth will present the program and have refreshments and all are invited to join us.

Charities tied to "MVP" Cards or Numbers

There are many cards in your wallet or on your keychain that can be **connected to charities**. One of these is Office Max/Office Depot. Each time you make a purchase you can give them the number for Westhaven School, which is 70104532. By doing this the school receives 5% of your purchase amount. It's that simple. If you know of another business that is so connected let us know.

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.

The Wesley Class

The **Wesley Class** had their BBQ luncheon directly after church on May 6th and it was a great success thanks to Nancy Clark and all the ladies of the Wesley Class who worked so hard to make it happen.

Summer fun is on the way!! Their class picnic will be hosted by Leigh Anne and Bear Bell. Janice Melton will have the devotional program. They are having an indoor picnic with all the fixings, so please come. Games to play along with a wonderful Christian fellowship evening on Wednesday, June 6th at 6:30 PM. This is a wonderful way to get to know all the class members so please come out.

They are very excited to welcome all the wonderful folks from Broad Street and hope you will join us each Sunday morning from 9:45 to 10:45 AM. Their class is located in the Dill Chapel – ask anyone you see, they will point you in the right direction.



Life Celebrations

Birthdays for June:

14 – Antonio DeLoatch
20 – Brian Boettcher
26 – Leigh Anne Bell
28 – Harold Morgan
29 – Kelly Brown
30 – Chris Boettcher

Anniversary for June:

8 – Gracie & Norman Collins

Stewardship Corner

-submitted by Georgia Garrison-

The Priceless Gift of Purpose

A sense of purpose is key to happiness. Although specifics change as you enter each life stage, gain experience, and meet current circumstances, the hallmarks of purpose remain the same. It's the activity that captures your heart and keeps you engaged and satisfied. It's the niche you so gladly fill, reminding you that God put you here for a reason. It's what gets you up in the morning!

Maybe you knew from an early age what you wanted to do in life, you pursued it, and you take great satisfaction in it. Then again, maybe your purpose was, or still is, less well-defined. Keep your eyes open, because it's there! A clear sense of purpose can come with the sudden awareness that you're at this time, this place, and it's not by chance. Your purpose may dawn on you gradually in the course of living a seemingly ordinary life. Basically, you're fulfilled. Satisfied. Happy! You possess the priceless gift of purpose.

God creates no one without a reason. If you already know what that reason is, woo-hoo! If you can't see it, look again. Ask your creator to open your eyes to His good and godly purpose for you.

We know that in all things God works for good with those who love him, those whom he has called according to his purpose. - Romans 8:28 GNT

Shouts of Joy Excerpt from Dayspring Devotions

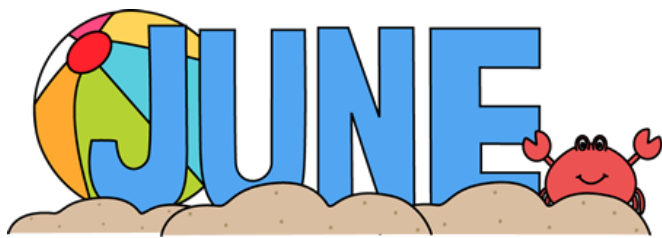
Two Ongoing Monthly Volunteer Opportunities for You:

- **Meals on Wheels** will be delivered on Wednesday, June 27. To volunteer, please see Ginny Collins.
- **Oasis Ministries Breakfast** will be prepared and served on Thursday, June 28. 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 William or Ginger Collins, our Liturgist Coordinators.
- 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 next newsletter deadline is Sunday, June 17.** At this time all news for **July & August** will be due. You can e-mail your articles to queenbeez@cox.net, give them to Susan Cohen (editor), or put them in the Communication mailbox in the Dill Chapel hallway.



Opportunities:

- 2 Sat. Church Picnic – 3:00-7:00 PM
Ballet Dance practice* – 1:00 PM
Children's Community Choir* – 2:00 PM
[*=every Saturday]
- 3 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]
- 4 Mon. Praise practice* – 7:00 PM
[*=every Monday]
- 6 Wed. Wesley Class Picnic – 6:30 PM
Men's Bible Study* – 7:00 PM
[*=every Wednesday]
- 7 Thurs. Choir Practice* – 7:30 PM
[*=every Thursday]
- 10 Sun. **World Hunger Offering Received**
- 13 Wed. Circle of Ruth – 1:30 PM
Circle of Grace – 7:00 PM
- 14 Thurs. Ladies Bible Study/lunch – 10:00 AM
- 14-17 VA Annual Conference in Hampton
- 17 Sun. Father's Day
"Praise" @ worship
Food Pantry Sunday
Newsletter Deadline for July & August
- 20 Wed. UMW General Meeting – 7:00 PM
- 24 Sun. Men's Fellowship breakfast – 8:00 AM
Missionary Support Offering Received
- 27 Wed. Meals on Wheels – 10:30 AM
- 28 Thurs. Serve breakfast at Oasis – 6:00 AM

Elizabeth River District News

Pastor Smitty's Retirement Celebration

Sunday, June 3rd
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Jolliff United Methodist Church
[1900 Jolliff Road, Chesapeake, VA 23321](http://1900JolliffRoad.com)

Come join us as we honor Pastor Smitty's 31 years of ministry. Picnic Lunch outside from 2:00-3:00 PM. Celebration through music, drama, pictures, memories and more at 3:00-5:00 PM. Please RSVP by contacting Bonnie Hammer at 757-968-2008.

Where the U.S. Local Church Expense Dollars Go

The cost of our Christ-centered global ministry is significant, but it is only a tiny portion of our local church budget. Of every \$1 given in the offering:

85 cents
stays in the local church

6 cents
Benevolent Giving
(Second Mile Giving)

2 cents
goes to general
apportionments

7 cents
goes to jurisdictions,
annual conferences
and districts

Your church's expense figures will vary, depending on your support of annual conference benevolences. Source: General Council on Finance and Administration data, 2015 (most current data available).

Elizabeth River District News

MEN'S BREAKFAST

District Men's Breakfast

Saturday, June 2 at 8 am

St. Andrew's United Methodist

717 Tuscon Road, Virginia Beach

Guest Speaker: Retired Navy Commander, Chaplain Corps Charles Rowley

CDR Rowley is originally from Portsmouth, Virginia. CDR Rowley is an ordained United Methodist minister of the Virginia Conference and served as a local church pastor for 19 years before entering the Navy as an active duty chaplain in 1997. CDR Rowley now serves as the Virginia Conference UMC Construction and Volunteer Coordinator for the Tidewater Long Term Recovery.

Special Music: The St. Andrew's Men's Chorus

Contact Robert Caldwell prior to Wednesday, May 30, with the number of people attending from your church, (757) 420-7293. A love offering will be taken.