

# crossroads circuit rider



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The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

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## VBS had Us Shaking it Up in the Kitchen

**At Crossroad's Vacation Bible School** this summer our "chefs" experienced God's recipes for living. By celebrating biblical festivals, they learned how to:

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

An average of 20 children attended over the week and everyone had a great time.

A big **THANK YOU** to all our volunteers – the kitchen crew (who provided us with yummy meals and snacks each night), the music team (who had everyone shaking in the aisles), the recreation leader, the storytelling team, the craft team (such fun crafts, as usual), the registration crew, Scraps (our mascot for the week), and of course the leader of the group – Lisa Boettcher. It takes a village and we have such at Crossroads!

## Mission Project for Vacation Bible School

The **Oasis Social Ministry** extends a big "thank you" to the Crossroads United Methodist Vacation Bible School for the 48 "Manna Bags" prepared for those in need as the children's mission project for the week event. The "Manna Bags, gallon zip-lock bags, contained a message of "God's Blessings" from the VBS along with bottled water, Vienna sausages, fruit snacks, peanut butter crackers, nutri-grain bar, soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste and disinfectant wipes. The zip-lock bags were delivered in small tote bags which were appreciated as well. The Oasis Ministry thanks Crossroads for their generosity in helping to assist those in need.



## Choir Rehearsals Resume

Their summer hiatus has ended and the **Chancel Choir** is returning to the loft. It was a blessing to have the various specials during July and August.

Choir Rehearsals begin on Thursday, August 30 at 7:30 PM in the choir room which is near the church office. All are welcome to come and be a part of this group. No auditions required. There is a clean robe, music folder and a chair waiting for you. For more information see Susan Heely ([susanheely@gmail.com](mailto:susanheely@gmail.com)/757-650-3052).



It seems hard to believe, but summer is practically over! Can somebody please tell me where did the time go? Ah, but you know what they say (and the Bible even backs me up on this one) "for everything there is a season". It is in these final days of the summer season that many of try to squeeze in just one more vacation before the fall season gets here. If you're able to do so, enjoy those "lazy days of summer" while you can. Don't forget, however, that a new season is fast approaching. Already the days are getting shorter and the weather is trying to cool off somewhat. The Fall season begins by saying goodbye to the summer season, and that's not a bad thing, not at all. This new season will bring with it new possibilities, especially for us in the church. When the vacation season ends, churches start seeing an increase, however slight, in worship attendance; choirs will start singing again; Bible studies will be in earnest; more meetings will be scheduled, etc.

I hope you all got some rest this summer because now is the time for all of us to "roll up our proverbial sleeves" and get back to work. This new season will generate a new set of activities and ministries, which hopefully will involve everyone. In this new season for us as a church called Crossroads UMC, may we be energized to do more for the Jesus Christ and the church. We're getting to know each other a little better, we've started working together in ministry and we're just getting started.

I want to thank all of you for helping to make our first summer season such a blessing. I look forward to our ministry partnership and I ask your prayers as I lead this congregation as pastor. The summer vacation season may be almost over, but that doesn't mean that we can't still have "fun". I want to remind you that working in the kingdom of God and doing the work of ministry is indescribable joy. Serving God can be fun, after all, when we do the Lord's work it is not a burden. The summer may be vacation season, but God never takes a vacation from us. Let us **fall** on our knees and ask God to make this new season in the life of this church a good one.

*God bless you. Pastor Lynda*

## Ladies' Bible Study Continues



The **Ladies' Bible Study** has decided to meet one more time before their fall session begins. They will next meet on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM in the Social Hall to discuss the book of Romans. Afterwards they will enjoy a covered dish luncheon. Please plan to attend and bring your easiest, most favorite dish to share.

Then get ready! A new seven-week **Bible Study** is set to begin on Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 through 11:30 AM and will continue through Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. It will be a study of Elijah. Contact Ruthie Gilmore to register and for more info. ([ruthiegilmore@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthiegilmore@hotmail.com)/757-635-9203)

## 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!

## Coming in October: Stewardship Emphasis Month

During the month of October, Crossroads will be observing stewardship emphasis. Pastor Lynda will be preaching from the theme, "**Stewardship: Giving Matters**" and reflecting on the different aspects of stewardship. On Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 PM, we will have a kick-off dinner of bar-b-que, cole slaw, baked beans, dessert and beverage. Donations will be accepted for the meal and all profits will support our missionary, Jacques Akasa Umembudi, who serves in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Our program will be a tidbit of advice from Tom Berlin on ways to experience the freedom and joy of a generous life. We all want to be generous, but most of us find this hard to accomplish. Demands on our time and money make scarcity a real problem. Instead of enjoying the freedom to bless others with the best of our lives, we feel trapped and held down by forces that seem beyond our control. But there is good news! Jesus offers us a way to defy financial gravity and break free from the culture of more. Come hear what Tom Berlin has to share with us on this subject. Mark your calendars and plan to attend our kick-off as well as our Sunday worship services this coming October.

## Join the Communication Chain



Our **Communication Chain** is used to notify Church members about important things that are happening. One of the most used is to let our fellow members know when there is a death in our Church Family. We also use the notification process to let members know about weather related things that might affect services. It can be used to notify members about special programs and many other things that would be important to all our Church family.

If you are not already on the Chain and would like to be included please let Nancy Clark know. You can give her a note on Sunday morning, e-mail her at [gran12@cox.net](mailto:gran12@cox.net) or give her a call at 393-6876. She will add you to the Chain.

Some more volunteers are needed who would be willing to make about 5 calls when they are notified about something going on in the Church. So if you would be a caller let her know about that also.

We hope to have a new Communication Chain ready by the 1<sup>st</sup> of October. – Nancy Clark, Communication Chain Coordinator



## Receive Your Newsletter in Electronic Form

This **church newsletter** has been sent out as an **email attachment** for the last several 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.

## UMCOR School Kits to VA Conference

Many thanks to members of our congregation for their generous support of the **UMCOR School Kit** program. We were able to complete 100 kits which were boxed and delivered this year at the Virginia Annual Conference in Hampton on June 15. We are collecting items again through the month of September. The items included in the kits are collected in containers in the narthex of our sanctuary. Items can contain no advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols. Only the following items can be placed in the kits:

- Blunt scissors (no plastic scissors)
- Single subject spiral notebooks, top bound white paper (8 1/2 X 11), loose leaf paper (no more than 150 sheets per pack), NO hard back composition books.
- Hand held pencil sharpener (must be 1 1/2 inches long)
- Ruler, hard or flexible
- Unsharpened pencils (\*6 in each kit)
- 2 1/2" eraser
- 24 count box of crayons

Although, only the items listed above can be placed in the kits, any other school items collected will be donated to Westhaven School for use by their students.



## Daily Devotion Publication Available in Narthex

The September/October 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 fall. Many will truly touch your heart in special ways. Small print booklets are 75¢ and large print booklets will be \$1.25.

## Two Committees in Need of Helpers

Crossroads has two committees that are in need of Volunteers. They are the **Kitchen Committee** and the **Children's Ministry Team**. The Kitchen Committee is led by Nancy Clark and the Children's Ministry Team is led by Lisa Boettcher. If you could help with either of these, please contact these leaders or the church office.



## Note Changes in Our Food Pantry

**Crossroads' Food Pantry** is now open on Tuesdays and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Saturdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. It is asked that you donate money in lieu of bringing food items. The church has partnered with Food Bank of Southeastern VA and is purchasing food thru them. Your donations are a blessing. You don't have to wait until Food Pantry Sunday (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday) to bring your donation to church. You can place it in the offering plate on any Sunday, earmarked "food pantry".

The Food Pantry is offering fresh eggs now and are in need of your **egg cartons** so start saving them. Please see Pat Mullins or David Lutz for more information.

## Announcements for the Sunday Bulletin?

If you have an **announcement or changes** for the upcoming Sunday's bulletin, we ask that you have them into the office by the Tuesday before the Sunday. Call or email the office with any updates.

## Please Follow the Calendar Protocol

Just in case you aren't familiar, there is a **Calendar Portocal** in the church office. If you would like to add an item to the church calendar, first contact the church secretary, Sue, to see if the calendar is free for that date and time. Sue will add it to the church calendar if the church property is available. Only Sue can write on the church calendar. Her contact number is 397-7815.

## Two Ongoing Monthly Volunteer Opportunities for You:

- **Meals on Wheels** will be delivered on Wednesday, September 26. To volunteer, please see Ginny Collins.
- **Oasis Ministries Breakfast** will be prepared and served on Thursdays, September 27. 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.





As of July 1, 2018, there were **three church mergers** on the **Elizabeth River District**. They are as follows:

- Broad Street + West End = **Crossroads UMC**  
(Pastor Lynda Moore)
- Princess Anne + St. Luke's = **Light of Hope UMC**  
(Pastor David Cunningham)
- Fairmount Park + St. John's = **The Garden UMC**  
(Pastor Christa Springstead)

### Heads Up for ER District Charge Conference for 2018 -more to come-

Sun-OCT-7		7-DAYS	UPLOADED
Community-Port			
St. Mark	Mark your calendar on Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup> ... C.C. reports Due		
Crossroads			
Indiana			
Monumental			
St. Andrew's-Port			

Our time is scheduled for 2:00 PM but location TBA.  
Crossroads' reports need to be turned into  
the office by September 17<sup>th</sup>!

Mark on Your Calendar for Next Year:  
January 19, 2019  
Elizabeth River District Training Day

\*\*The next **newsletter deadline** is **Sunday, September 16**. At this time all news for **October** 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.



You are invited to join the **United Methodist Women** here at Crossroads. We have three Circles that meet September thru June — we take July and August off. The Circle of Friends meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM, the Circle of Ruth meets on the second Wednesday at 1:30 PM and the Circle of Grace meets at 7:00 PM on the second Wednesday. They all meet in the Social Hall. Crossroads' Unit usually has five General Meetings starting in September when all the Circles come together for a program and to take care of business. Their September meeting this year will be on the 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. They plan on selling Plantation Peanuts this fall as a fundraiser. It is hoped to have the information out to the Circles for this sale by your September meeting.

Crossroads' Unit is a part of the Elizabeth River District and as part of that district they pay a District AMD Fund of \$2.25 per person. Our current membership number is 38. Because they pay the District on the number on our rolls, if you are interested in being a member of our United Methodist Women they need you to let them know and join a Circle. All are invited and encouraged to join. They enjoy wonderful fellowship with each other at their monthly meetings.

Their District Annual Meeting is on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be at St. Johns UMC in Norfolk. Lunch will follow the meeting at a cost of \$5.00. Reservations will need to be in by Monday September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Their Nominations committee consisting of Beverly Collins as Chairman, Tricia Bright, Lisa Boettcher, Janice Melton and Leigh Anne Bell, will be working to set up their Officers for the 2019 Year. Please consider taking a position if asked, everyone is needed to make the unit run well.

Again I emphasize if you would like to become a member let us know and pick a Circle. - Nancy Clark, President, West End UMW

### "Socktober" is Coming



During the month of October the United Methodist Women will sponsor **a mission project** for Crossroads UMC which we will call "Socktober". New socks for men, women and children will be collected for those in need. A collection basket will be available for the new socks during the month. Watch for sales on socks and start purchasing them in preparation for "Socktober". Take this opportunity to be a blessing to someone in need.



## Church Women United to Meet

**Church Women United** will meet at Crossroads United Methodist Church for their next celebration – Human Rights Day – on Friday, September 7, 2018 with refreshments at 10:30 AM followed by the program at 11:00 AM. A Human Rights Award will be presented to an individual who ministers to the homeless. An excellent program is planned with special music included. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us for the Human Rights Celebration.



The **Crossroads Men's Fellowship** will hold a **Thanksgiving Dinner** on November 18, 2018 immediately after church. The meal will be smoked turkey breast, candied yams, string beans, rolls, desert and beverages. The cost will be \$8.00 per person with a maximum \$28.00 for a family of 5 (immediate family). Sign-up sheets will be placed in Sunday school classes and in the narthex. If you plan to attend please sign up so that we can have a good head count.

Also, the Methodist men will **ring the bell for the Salvation Army** at the Sam's Club at Chesapeake Square on December 1, 2018. Volunteers will be needed to work a two hour shift from 10 am to 8pm. See Ronnie Perkins to be added to the list.



## Joys, Thanks, & News

Colin Jackson, grandson of William and Virginia Collins, graduated in May 2018 at the top of his class with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Automotive Engine/Block & Cylinder Head Machining from the School of Automotive Machinists and Technology! SAMTech is located in Houston, Texas and is one of our country's premier NHRA and NASCAR race engine building schools. While attending school, Collin was honored to be selected as Crew Chief of a start-up NHRA race team, AKRacing, and after just 2 years under his leadership, won a national event this last April in Charlotte and are currently the points leader in the NHRA Factory Stock Showdown class for the year. After graduation in early May, Collin was sought after by many NHRA teams for his talents, but chose to stay with his current race team as Crew Chief and now also works full-time as an engine builder for his team's cars at Stanfield Racing Engines, based out of Bossier City, LA.

## *-Stewardship Corner-* **What to Give**

Our summer issue of the newsletter spoke of life insurance as a popular way to give to your church. It is not an immediate gift but can be transformative in nature for the beneficiary.

Not everyone is in the same situation. We all have different levels of assets, different income needs between now and the end of our lives, different tax situations, and different ideas of what we'd like to do with our assets at the end of our lives. Because of this, not every type of gift may be right for you, but perhaps one mentioned in one of our articles will be appropriate for you.

Of course, of all gifts that the church can use right now, gifts of cash are the simplest of gifts to accomplish. However, gifts of securities have become very popular for those who have stock, mutual funds, ETFs, bonds, bond funds, REITs and a host of other securities---virtually any security that is publicly traded. There are several valuable advantages to a Gift of Securities.

- You avoid any brokerage commission
- You avoid any capital gains taxes (regardless of the increase in value)
- The church receives the full market value of the security
- You may deduct the full market value of the security (regardless of what you originally paid for it)

If this type of gift is appropriate and beneficial for you, contact your financial advisor or broker and the gift can be processed very simply.



## *Life Celebrations*

### ***Birthdays for September:***

- 1 – Nathan Clark
- 11 – Michael Bright
- 13 – Dennis Bagley
- 15 – Beverly Collins
- 15 – Robert Tynes
- 16 – Pam Shaffer
- 16 – William Hutchinson
- 17 – Steve Smith
- 19 – Billy Peed
- 20 – Genia Mullen
- 22 – Terry Tynes
- 22 – Curtis Jackson
- 23 – Betty Little
- 25 – Julia Maye
- 26 – June Garrison
- 30 – Steve Rapp

### ***Anniversaries for September:***

- 16 – Lisa & Todd Howard – 1995

## The Asbury Class

The **Asbury Class** welcomes everyone to their class. This is always a blessing to come together. They would love to have others come to learn and fellowship together.

They will begin a new study in September. 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. You don't have to be a member to attend this stimulating series. We've always got a seat on the couch for you.

## September Opportunities:

- 1 Sat. Ballet Dance practice\* – 1:00 PM  
Children's Community Choir\* – 2:00 PM  
[\*=every Saturday]
- 2 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]
- 3 Mon. Labor Day  
Trustees Meet – 7:00 PM  
We Praise Practice\* - 7:00 PM  
[\*=every Monday]
- 4 Tues. Circle of Friends – 7:00 PM
- 5 Wed. Men's Bible Study\* – 7:00 PM  
[\*=every Wednesday]
- 6 Thurs. Chancel Choir Practice – 7:30 PM  
[\*=every Thursday]
- 7 Fri. Church Women United @ Crossroads – 10 AM
- 9 Sun. **World Hunger Offering Received**
- 11 Tues. Ministry Team Meeting – 7:00 PM
- 12 Wed. Circle of Ruth – 1:30 PM  
Circle of Grace – 7:00 PM
- 16 Sun. "We Praise" @ worship  
**Food Pantry Sunday – Offering Received**  
**Newsletter Deadline for October**
- 18 Tues. Church Council Meeting – 7:00 PM
- 22 Sat. Breakfast at Captain D's – 7:30-9:30 AM
- 23 Sun. Men's Fellowship breakfast meeting – 8:00 AM  
**Missionary Support Offering Received**
- 26 Wed. Meals on Wheels – 10:30 AM  
UMW General Meeting – 7:00 PM
- 27 Thurs. Oasis Breakfast – 6:00 AM
- 29 Sat. Santa's Fall Fling – 10 AM–4 PM
- 30 Sun. Ballet & Children's Choir perform @ Worship



The Santa House Presents  
of Midtown Portsmouth

# Santa's Fall Fling

## Charity Car and Vendor Show

Sept 29, 2018 Crossroads United Methodist Church  
10am-4pm 1800 Rodman Ave,  
Portsmouth, Virginia 23707

Come Join us for a Family Friendly Free Event  
~Meet Santa~ ~Prize Table~ ~Food/Drinks~  
~Fun things for Children~ ~Vendors~  
~All Makes and Models Vehicles~

Facebook event: Santa's Fall Fling Charity Car Show  
Please bring a Hot Wheels car for our toy car racetrack

Have a vehicle to show?  
Registration Table on day of event  
\$20 Cars and Trucks  
\$10 Bikes, toys, and Motorcycles  
(\$5 off when you donate an unwrapped new toy at registration)  
All Makes and Models,  
Open Class Car Show  
Top 30 and 10 Special class awards

Car Show Presented by: 757 Auto Events

Special Thanks to:  
Crossroads  
United Methodist Church  
for allowing us to use their lot  
for the event!!

Crossroads is happy to be joining **The Santa House** in co-hosting **Santa's Fall Fling: Charity Car and Vendor Show** on September 29<sup>th</sup>. This is an annual event to benefit local children during the Christmas holiday. A new feature of this event will be a Hot Wheels Race for children of all ages. This will be a ministry of Crossroads' Men's Fellowship. For this we need approximately 200 feet of Hot Wheel straight track. If anyone has any of this track, let Chay Bell know.

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



**CAPTAIN D's**  
EST. 1980  
SEAFOOD KITCHEN

**Pancake Breakfast**

**At Captain D's**  
3313 Western Branch Blvd  
Chesapeake, VA 23321

**Benefit for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society**

**Saturday, September 22, 2018**  
from 7:30 am - 9:30 am

**\$5.00 in advance**  
For ticket information, contact  
[SusansHeroes@gmail.com](mailto:SusansHeroes@gmail.com)

**LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY**  
fighting blood cancers

Join us at **Captain D's** on Western Branch Blvd in Chesapeake on September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7:30-9:30 AM for pancakes and sausage! 100% of the ticket sales will be donated to the **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society!** Ticket sales are only \$5.00 per person. Get them from Iverson Garrison or Susan Reid!

Your dollars not only benefit blood cancer patients. Between 2000 and 2017, approximately 40% of cancer-fighting therapies approved by the FDA were first approved to treat blood cancer patients and many of these are helping other patients.