

crossroads circuit rider



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The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

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THE
STEADFAST
Love
OF THE
LORD
NEVER
CEASES

LAMENTATIONS 3:22, NRSV

May 2019 No. E-19-d



Come Join the Ladies' Bible Study

Crossroads **Ladies' Bible Study Group** started on Thursday, April 18th at 10:00 AM in the Social Hall and this will run every Thursday through May 23rd. This is a study on Biblical Hospitality using the book Just Open the Door by Jen Schmidt.

It is going to be an eye opener and also enjoyable. The books for the study are just \$5.00. See Ruth Gilmore for more info. (ruthiegilmore@hotmail.com / 757-635-9203)

Crossroads Spring Yard Sale



Crossroads UMW will sponsor a **Spring Yard Sale** on **Saturday, May 18, 2019 at 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM**. Start going through your "treasures" to see what you think they could resell. You can bring your items up to church and put them in the room in the Chapel hallway. Hot Dogs and the fixings will be available that day. Set-up for the sale will be Friday, May 17th starting at 9:00 AM. Come up and see how you can help.

Also, there will be spaces rented out at a cost of \$10 for personal use. See Leigh Anne Bell for more information.



Food Pantry is Greatly Utilized

Crossroads' Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays only 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. The 3rd Sunday – **May 19th** – is designated Food Pantry Sunday. You can bring suggested foods (listed below**) or even better, a monetary donation to help us buy food from the area Food Bank. You don't have to wait until the 3rd Sunday to bring your donation to church. You can place it in the offering plate on any Sunday, earmarked "food pantry".

Your egg cartons are not needed at this time. Thanks for saving them in the past. If this changes, the word will be put out. Please see Pat Mullins or David Lutz for more information.

Suggested Items**: breakfast cereals - hot/cold; powdered milk; canned vegetables; canned or dry beans; instant potatoes; canned meats; spaghetti; spaghetti sauce; peanut butter; crackers; diapers - child/adult.

FROM THE PASTOR

What do you write about when you're in the midst of a transition? There are moments when I'm so overwhelmed by all that I have to do to get ready for retirement that I can't concentrate. I have to pack and clean items in the parsonage and in the church office and at the same time I have to get my house in Richmond ready for my return. Did I mention that there are moments that I am overwhelmed? What is so interesting to me is that, even being overwhelmed I have found peace. Peace, a word that Jesus spoke to his disciples after the resurrection. "I give you peace" he said, not as the world gives. I am grateful to God for this. So, what **do** I write about? Well, I want to share with you all a post Easter message.

Easter is more than a religious holiday; did you know that? Easter is a state of being and a way of living. We are Easter people – because Christ Jesus lives, not only do we have peace in the middle of chaos, we are blessed with peace's "traveling companion" joy. Easter joy is wonderful! Easter joy lifts you up when your spirits are down. Easter joy gives you a new perspective on your situation, instead of things seeming dark and dreary, Easter joy brings light and brightness and color in your life. Easter joy never fails to put a smile on your face.

Post Easter is where you find hope. Jesus reminds us that nothing is impossible with God, so why give in to despair. Hope gives you a reason to move forward. Hope convinces you that miracles really do happen, just as long as Jesus is in your lives. Another aftermath of Easter is the acknowledgement that you are a forgiven people. Jesus forgave us when he was dying on the cross and his resurrection assures us his divine forgiveness transcends space and time. As forgiven people, we are able to look up and not down. It doesn't matter if other folk constantly remind of us what we said or did in the past, forgiven people know that Jesus "overlooks your faults and sees your need."

What do I write about? I want to tell you how much I love you, with a pastor's love. Although in a few short weeks I won't be serving you as your pastor, I will be thinking about you and holding you dear in my heart as friends.

God bless you. Pastor Lynda

Two Ongoing Monthly Volunteer Opportunities for You:

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

Other Opportunities:

- There is a great need for weekly liturgists. The **2019 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.
- If you would like to honor or memorialize someone with **altar flowers** on a particular Sunday morning during the year, call the church office for assistance – 397-7815.

The We Praise Band
will bring songs of
Joy & Praise to the
May 19th
Worship Service.



Church Women United May Friendship Day Fellowship of the Least Coin Offering

**Friday, May 3, 2019
11:00 AM**

@

Crossroads United Methodist Church
1800 Rodman Avenue
Portsmouth, VA 23707

Celebration followed by Lunch – cost \$10.00

Pay at the door – No reservations required

Mission Project: Bring Mother's Day Cards for Good News Jail and Prison Ministry

The Hampton Roads Regional Jail will mail Mother's Day cards for the Jail Ministry since Mother's Day is not a religious holiday. They can always use stamps for other religious occasions such as Christmas, but there is no need to put stamps on the envelopes for Mother's Day cards.

Upcoming:

CWU Forum: Thurs., August 8, 2019 at 10:30 AM
St. Andrew's United Methodist Church
Corner of Elmhurst Lane and Portsmouth Blvd.

Daily Devotions Available

The May/June issue of *The Upper Room* daily devotional booklet is located in the narthex. Don't forget to get your copy. If you have not been using *The Upper Room* why not try reading the inspirational devotions written by people like you about their daily lives. Small print booklets are \$.75 and large print booklets are \$1.25.

An interesting sidebar: With the March/April 2019 issue they began their 85th year of publication, mission, and ministry. In the upcoming issues they will highlight content from previous volumes beginning with issues from the 1930s.

In the October/November/ December 1936 issue the editors first stated their covenant as follows:

Conscious to the need for a closer walk with God, of a deeper spiritual life in the Church, and of a revival of religious faith throughout the world, I hereby covenant with God:

1. To seek an enrichment of my own spiritual life by observing a period for devotions each day; and
2. To share Christ with my fellows and endeavor to enlist them in His service.



Crossroads United Methodist Women were excited to celebrate the 150th Birthday of the United Methodist Women on April 28th with guest speaker, Darlene Amon, historical skits presented by our ladies, and all aspects of the service proved by our UMW. They were honored to present the Special Mission Recognition Pin to **John Redd** in honor of his many years of bringing young children to church, also for his dedication and love to our church over the years. They hope everyone enjoyed the fellowship afterwards at the Birthday Party.

They are sponsoring the Church Yard Sale on Saturday May 18th from 8 AM to 2 PM. All are invited to donate items and if you want a table for yourself you can have one for a \$10.00 donation. They will be selling Hot Dogs, chips and drinks, plus maybe even a Bake Sale, so plan to join us.

The Mother's Day Bulletin is sponsored again this year by the Circle of Grace with May 5th being the deadline to get your names in. The Circle of Friends will sponsor the Father's Day Bulletin with a deadline of June 9th.

They were very happy to add two new members to their rolls, Carol Vico and Liz Lipp – *Welcome!* If you are interested in joining, please let them know.

The Wesley Class

The **Wesley Class** held their dinner meeting on April 3, 2019 at 6:30 PM in the Church Social Hall. Janice Melton and Ruth Gilmore were the hostesses providing Rotisserie Chicken. All our members brought delicious dishes to go with the chicken. Joyce Geluz had our devotional program on The Garden Tomb. It was beautiful and very moving. They had a short business meeting reviewing their budget and other important matters for the year.

Their next meeting and dinner will be Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 6:30 PM. Chay and Leigh Anne Bell will be the host and hostesses; Janice Melton will have the Devotions, so please come and join in.

They would love for you to come to their Sunday School class any 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.

The Asbury Class

The **Asbury Class** would like to thank everyone who ordered an Easter Lily this year. There were 38 that graced our altar on Easter Sunday.

The class continues their study, "Some Folks Feel the Rain, Others Just Get Wet", and welcome all to join in this discussion class. They are 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. They've always got a seat on the couch for you.



Do You Have a Graduate or Someone in the Military?

We would like the names and info for anyone who has **Graduated** since May 2018 or is in the **Military**. Please give this information to the church office ASAP.

Crossroads Fall Craft Fair & Bake Sale

Crossroads will hold its first (hopefully annual) **Fall Craft Fair and Bake Sale** on Saturday, October 19, 2019 at 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. The church has formed a crafters guild who has been working on several craft projects, one being the Angel Hymnals.

Featured that day will be Crafts, Vendors, White Elephant Sale, Jewelry, Candles, Art, Refreshments, and much more. This will be just in time to shop for Christmas.

Also, there will be spaces rented out for Vendors at a cost of \$15 for just a space or \$25 if they need electricity. See Bear Bell for more information.



The *Advocate* Magazine is set to Stop Publication

The Board of the ***Advocate* magazine** voted unanimously at its February 2019 meeting to end production of the *Advocate* magazine with the December 2019 issue. This decision was approved by Common Table. This decision was made after much discussion on how to best meet the communication needs of their members and conferences as technology continues to change and communication needs shift. In the remaining issues they will have articles that share *Advocate* history and the legacy of this fine publication.

If you have a subscription and would like a reimbursement, there will be a postcard to request this in the May *Advocate* magazine for print subscribers. If you are an online subscriber, you can send you name, address and best contact number and how long your subscription continues to Advocate@vaumc.org.

Stewardship Corner

-submitted by Georgia Garrison-

Our Gifts Make Ministry and Mission Happen

In the days after his Resurrection, Jesus said to Peter and every disciple after Peter, "Feed my lambs." Our discipleship is about fulfilling Jesus' command. We want to do good because Jesus told us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. We should want at least as much good for our neighbors as we want for ourselves.

Our congregation exists for making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. That is a gigantic task! However, it is not impossible because all things are possible through Christ!

In our time and place, little happens without money. Certainly, we can and should give of ourselves in nonfinancial ways. Face-to-face, person-to-person ministry is where much of the most significant, most substantial transformation of giver and recipient- of co-ministers- occur. However, so much more needs to happen, much of which requires money.

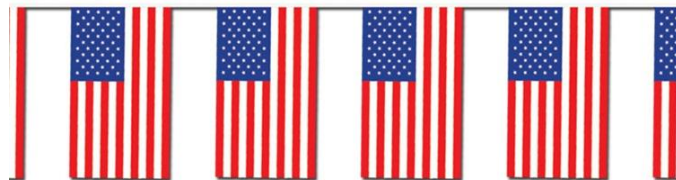
When we give money through our church, not only does it pay for our pastor's salary and for our church's bills; it also does good beyond our congregation and even far beyond our community. The money we give helps to develop the next generation of principled Christian leaders for the church and for the world. It builds new churches to bring new persons to Christ, and it teaches and coaches lay and clergy leaders how to revitalize existing congregations. It engages in ministry with persons who are impoverished and it combats devastating diseases around the world.

Giving is an attitude. When you give, you bestow freely without receiving a return, confer without receiving compensation, devote, surrender and yield. We rob ourselves of many things simply because we fail to give. God so loved the world that God gave. It's time to take on the attitude of God. It is time to ask, "What can I give to the Lord? What can I give to others? That is giving at its maximum."



MAY OPPORTUNITIES:

- 1 Wed. Communications Committee Meets – 7:00 PM
Men's Bible Study – 7:00 PM
- 2 Thurs. Chancel Choir Practice* – 7:00 PM
[*=every Thursday]
- 3 Fri. Church Women United program & luncheon –
Hosted by Crossroads UMC – 11:00 AM
- 4 Sat. Ballet Dance practice* – 1:00 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. We Praise Practice* – 7:00 PM
[*=every Monday except 20th]
Trustees Meeting – 7:00 PM
- 7 Tues. Food Pantry Open* – 10:00 AM – noon
[*=every Tuesday]
Circle of Friends Meet – 6:30 PM
- 8 Wed. Circle of Ruth – 1:30 PM
Circle of Grace – 7:00 PM
- 11 Sat. Crafters Meet – 10:00 AM
- 12 Sun. **Mother's Day**
World Hunger Offering Received
- 17 Fri. set-up for church yard sale – 9:00 AM
- 18 Sat. **Church Yard Sale – 8:00 AM-2:00 PM**
Prayer Shawl Ministry Meet – 10:00 AM
- 19 Sun. "We Praise" @ worship – 11:00 AM
Food Pantry Sunday – Offering Received
Newsletter Deadline for June
- 20 Mon. Finance Committee Meets – 7:00 PM
- 21 Tues. Church Council Meeting – 7:00 PM
- 22 Wed. Meals on Wheels – 10:30 AM
- 23 Thurs. Oasis Breakfast – 6:00 AM
- 26 Sun. Men's Fellowship breakfast meeting – 8:00 AM
United Methodist Women Sunday – 11 AM
Missionary Support Offering Received
- 27 Mon. Memorial Day



The next **newsletter deadline is **Sunday, May 19th**. At this time all news for **June** will be due. You can e-mail your articles to queenbeez@cox.net or give them to Susan Cohen.

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

<http://www.crossroadsmethodist.org>
Check out our new website. Any suggestions, let us know.