

# crossroads circuit rider



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## Churchwide Game Night

**February 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM** Crossroads is going to have a **Fun Game Night** at Church. You will be able to enjoy homemade vegetable soup, sandwiches, dessert and BUNCO. Please put this date on your calendar and join in for a night of fellowship and fun. If you can, please bring a small gift, either wrapped or in a bag to use as a prize for the BUNCO game. If you have never played BUNCO it is a fun game that everyone can enjoy, and it is easy. All you have to know how to do is roll 3 dice and identify the number of dots showing.



Please join us for our **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** on **Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**. Come between 5:00 - 7:00 PM. Along with pancakes the menu will include sausage and choice of beverage. No reservations are needed but donations will be accepted.



Crossroads will hold its traditional **Ash Wednesday Service** on **February 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**. At this time there will be the imposition of ashes by Pastor Camille and this will usher in the season of Lent – the preparation of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.

## A Stewardship Prayer for Lent

God of Mercy,  
You have given us this special time to reflect on our lives, embrace the Good News and draw closer to You. During this season of Lent help us to use this time to fast and pray, be more generous and show others how to live in Christ. Let us see each day of this season as a new opportunity to renew our lives and gain a deeper appreciation of Your active presence in our hearts and our community of faith. Give us the grace to see Your face in others, and especially the poor and those who suffer. And through your Spirit, rekindle in us the fire of Your love so that we may be better stewards of Your redeeming work throughout the world. We ask this through Jesus, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever.

AMEN



## Support for Norcom High School

At our Church Council meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup> we voted to help support **Norcom High School**. One of the things that the teachers at the school are always in need of is **COPIER PAPER**. So, with this in mind we are going to have a Lenten Project for collecting Copier Paper for the teachers. The school system provides some, but it doesn't last, and the teachers have to buy the paper for themselves. Lent starts on February 26<sup>th</sup> so we will run the project from then until Easter Sunday. You can buy the paper and bring it to Church on Sunday mornings and place it on the altar rail or if you would prefer you can make a donation and earmark it for "Copier Paper" and put it in the offering plate, and we will buy the paper for you. Let us show the teachers some love with lots of paper.



Thank you to the Chancel Choir, We Praise band, the soloists and scripture readers for the presentation of a **Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**. This program was thoughtfully prepared by our music director, Harlan Zackery, Jr and was wonderfully received by all. Everyone present that Sunday was truly blessed.

Join the choir by attending a choir practice – Thursdays @ 7 PM.



The altar was gorgeous during the Advent and Christmas Season. A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who had a **poinsettia** placed there in memory or in honor of special people in their lives.



## Church Women United

CWU Forum: Thursday, February 13, 2020  
at 10:30 AM

St. Andrew's United Methodist Church  
Corner of Elmhurst Lane and Portsmouth Blvd

World Day of Prayer: Friday, March 6, 2020

## Ladies Bible Study to Resume

The **Ladies Bible Study Group** will be starting a new six-week study from Max Lucado, "Jesus, The God Who Knows Your Name". The Study Guide is \$6.49 and if you would like the book [not necessary] it is \$13.49. If you would like both it will be a total of \$19.98. This study will introduce you to Jesus as your friend, teacher, miracle worker, Lamb of God; the one who knows and loves you. Please come join us on Friday mornings at 10:30 AM in the Church Social Hall. The study will begin on **March 13, 2020** and will conclude on April 17, 2020. Please contact Ruth Gilmore at [ruthiegilmore@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthiegilmore@hotmail.com) or call 757-635-9203.

On **February 21, 2020** at 1:00 PM we will have a guest speaker, Mr. John P. Leigh. J.P. is a wonderful Christian man, who happens to be my cousin, who speaks to many groups about the power of Jesus. I encourage as many as possible to come. You do not have to be in the Bible Study Group to come. We will be serving lunch of Brunswick stew and rice. Please let me know if you are able to come. My email and phone number are above.



## Joys, Thanks, & News

Happy 105<sup>th</sup> birthday  
to  
**Kathryn Braswell**  
on February 3, 2020  
from her family and church friends!



## Greeters Are Needed

Isn't it wonderful to come into your Church on Sunday morning and be **Greeted** by a friendly face? You could be that friendly face. We need as least one **Greeter** every Sunday to be at the front door of the Church to Greet our members and visitors. It would be nice to have one for the door next to the Social Hall, but we really need one for the front door. Please consider this **REQUEST** and sign up for a Sunday. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex. If you have questions, please see Ruth Gilmore or Nancy Clark. We really need you to sign-up!

\*\*The next **newsletter deadline** is **Sunday, February 16**. At this time all news for **March** will be due. You can e-mail your articles to [queenbeez@cox.net](mailto:queenbeez@cox.net), or give them to Susan Cohen (editor).



## Crossroads' Food Pantry is Greatly Utilized

**Crossroads' Food Pantry** is open on Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. They are specifically requesting Eggs and a variety of Spices. Also, if your garden is still producing bring some of you overflow to share at the pantry. This would be a blessing to this ministry and to the people who are served.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – **February 16** – is designated Food Pantry Sunday. You can bring suggested items (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 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".

If you would like to help out in the Food Pantry on Tuesdays, come around 9:30 and someone will train you in what needs to be done. Some days it's super busy and some days it's slower but they always appreciate the extra hands.

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.



**Crossroads United Methodist Women's** Executive members started off the new year by meeting on January 6, 2020 to plan the year's activities. They had a very productive meeting and they have some new and exciting plans for the year.

Some dates for the year are as follows:

- o Wed, March 18 – 7 PM – Call to Prayer and Self Denial @ General Meeting – Janet Day with Circle of Friends will organize program and Circle of Grace will provide refreshments
- o Sun, April 26 – 11 AM – United Methodist Women Sunday @ Worship Service
- o Wed, May 20 – 7 PM – General Meeting – Beverly Collins will organize, and Circle of Ruth will provide refreshments
- o Wed, July 15 – 6 PM – Salad Covered Dish Dinner followed by General Meeting
- o Wed, September 23 – 6 PM – World Thank Dinner followed by General Meeting – Joyce Dignard with Circle of Grace will organize program
- o Wed, November 18 – 7 PM – General Meeting – Circle of Ruth will organize program and Circle of Friends will provide refreshments

All ladies are invited and encouraged to join a Circle at Crossroads. There are three at present – a daytime that meets once a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 1:30 PM / a nighttime that meets once a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 7 PM / a nighttime that meets every other month on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday. These gatherings are a great way to get to know each other and share fellowship.

## Stewardship Corner

-submitted by Georgia Garrison-

Have you ever had a day that started out amazing and by the end was just an absolute train wreck? You had so much hope in the beginning, and by the end you crashed into bed with defeat. It's hard to step back and watch the extreme difference throughout the day of things going smoothly and then in a moment everything falling apart. But this is where we learn to find strength in God. This is where we learn to turn to Him the minute we start to see things crumble. We learn to put our hope in Him – that He will be with us in the best parts of the day and also the worst. This is where we learn to surrender. To let go of what we dreamed of and hand it all over to Jesus. To open up our hands and release control, trusting that He will take care of us. And this is where we learn to have peace – peace that we don't understand, peace that guards our minds, peace that can only come from Jesus Himself.

*Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you believe in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13 HCSB)*

- Dayspring Daily Devotions

## Two Ongoing Monthly Volunteer Opportunities for You:

- **Meals on Wheels** will be delivered on Wednesday, **February 26**. To volunteer, please see Ginny Collins. (December is Christmas Day)
- **Oasis Ministries Breakfast** will be prepared and served on Thursdays, **February 27**. If you would could help with this, please see Iverson Garrison.

## Other Opportunities:

- Crossroads has always been a welcoming congregation and help is needed at the sanctuary door each Sunday. There is a need for **Official Greeters** to greet our membership and welcome visitors as they walk into our narthex. If you are interested there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, or you can see Ruth Gilmore or Nancy Clark to volunteer.
- There is a great need for weekly liturgists. The **2020 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.

For current photos and news updates, check us out at <http://www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth> and our website <http://www.CrossroadsMethodist.org>

## Wesley Class News

The **Wesley Class** has embarked on a new study entitled, "Honoring God". This new study will continue through February 23, 2020. It is a wonderful study that is both heartwarming and thought provoking. Guaranteed to be a closer walk with the Lord.

They had a wonderful Christmas Party this year with the Asbury Class and the Ed Garris Class. The devotion was great and the games along with songs had everyone laughing.

They would love for you to come to their Sunday School Class each Sunday morning from 9:45 to 10:40 AM. Their class is located in the Dill Chapel – ask anyone you see, they will point you in the right direction.



Deadline and information for ordering **Easter Lilies** will be in the bulletin in just a few weeks. But it is not too early to start thinking about your dedications. We would like the Easter altar to look as beautiful as our Christmas altar.



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| 1  | Sat.   | Ballet Dance practice* – 1:00 PM<br>[*=every Saturday]  |
| 2  | Sun.   | Sunday School - Adults* – 9:45 AM<br>Sunday School - Children* – 11:00 AM<br><b>Holy Communion – 11:00 AM</b><br>[*=every Sunday] |
| 3  | Mon.   | We Praise practice* – 7:00 PM<br>[*=every Monday]   |
| 4  | Tues.  | Food Pantry Open* - 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM<br>[*=every Tuesday]  |
| 5  | Wed.   | Wesley Class Dinner/Mtg – 6:30 PM<br>Men's Bible Study* – 7:00 PM<br>[*=every Wednesday]  |
| 6  | Thurs. | Choir practice* – 7:00 PM<br>[*=every Thursday]   |
| 9  | Sun.   | <b>World Hunger Offering Received</b>   |
| 11 | Tues.  | Ministry Team Meeting – 7:00 PM   |
| 12 | Wed.   | Circle of Ruth – 1:30 PM<br>Circle of Grace – 7 PM  |
| 13 | Fri.   | Church Women United – 10:30 AM  |
| 15 | Sat.   | Churchwide Game Night – 6:00 PM   |
| 16 | Sun.   | Food Pantry Sunday<br>We Praise @ Worship – 11:00 AM<br>Newsletter Deadline for March   |
| 17 | Mon.   | Presidents Day – office closed  |
| 23 | Sun.   | UMM Breakfast Meeting – 8:00 AM<br><b>Missionary Support Offering Received</b>  |
| 25 | Tues.  | Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner – 5-7 PM  |
| 26 | Wed.   | Meals on Wheels – 10:30 AM<br><b>Ash Wednesday Service – 7 PM</b>   |
| 27 | Thurs. | Oasis – 6 AM  |



Some people may not be aware but there are three **Mission Offerings** that Crossroads collects each month. They are collected on designated Sundays during the church service. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday is World Hunger Offering, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday is Food Pantry Offering, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday is Missionary Support Offering.

During the singing of the Opening Hymn on these Sundays you are asked to walk up to the altar rail and make your offering.

The **World Hunger Offering** is to be placed in the wooden offering plate on the edge of the altar rail. This money is given to support the Society of St. Andrews programs, which are: the Potato Project, the Gleaning Network, and Harvest of Hope. To learn more go to .

The **Food Pantry Offering** is to be placed in the large glass jar at the edge of the altar rail on the floor. This goes to support Crossroads' Weekly Food Pantry Program.

The **Missionary Support Offering** is to be placed in the wooden offering plate on the edge of the altar rail. This money is given to support Jacques Umembudi Akasa and his Central Congo Aviation Ministry. Learn more about this mission at <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/aviation-ministry-offers-hope-to-congos-sick>.

Thank you for all you do for these Mission Projects, not only monetarily but also with your prayers.