

# crossroads circuit rider



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The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

Editor: Susan Cohen [[queenbeez@cox.net](mailto:queenbeez@cox.net)]

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Daylight Savings Time  
begins on  
Sunday, March 8.

Remember to set your **clocks ahead one hour** before you go to bed on Saturday, March 7 so as to arrive at church at the correct time.



## World Day of Prayer Sponsored by Church Women United

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Friday, March 6, 2020

10:30 AM Fellowship & 11:00 AM Celebration

**West Side Christian Disciples of Christ**

535 Cherokee Rd, Portsmouth

Mission Project: bring a pack of **Copy Paper**  
for Portsmouth Public School Teachers

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Next Forum: Thursday, April 9 @ 10:30 AM  
At St. Andrew's United Methodist Church

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*Save these dates: Details to follow*

- May Friendship Day – Friday, May 1 @ 11:00 AM  
Followed by catered lunch
- Human Rights Day – Friday, September 4
- World Community Day – Friday, November 6
- Operation Santa Claus – Friday, December 4

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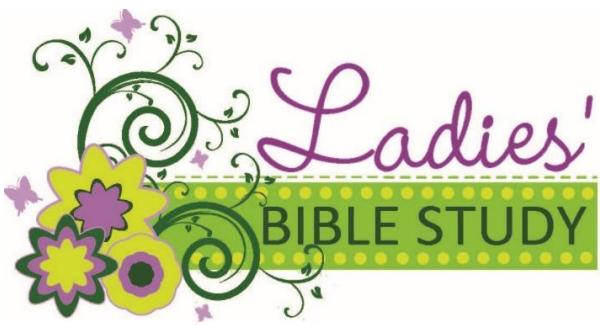
In Church Women United, Christian women from diverse backgrounds unite in a way that provides body and fullness for witness in a pluralistic, changing society. This local unit consists of women from various denominations in the Portsmouth area. Anyone can be a part of this group. Come and join together for the next program (March 6) or the next forum meeting (April 9). If you have any questions you can ask Georgia Garrison.

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\*\*The next **newsletter deadline** is **Sunday, March 15**.

At this time all news for **April** will be due.

You can e-mail your articles to [queenbeez@cox.net](mailto:queenbeez@cox.net),  
or give them to Susan Cohen (editor).



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.



Currently, Crossroads has three **Adult Sunday School Classes** and would love to start another one. The three established classes are named The Wesley Class, The Asbury Class and the Ed Garris Class. They all meet on Sunday mornings before church at 9:45 AM in the building to the left of the Sanctuary. These gatherings are a great way to learn while in an environment of fellowship. If you have any questions you may ask your Lay Leader, Susan Cohen.



### Greeters Are Needed – Please Volunteer

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. At least one **Greeter** is needed 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.



### Crossroads' Food Pantry is Greatly Utilized and Expanding

**Crossroads' Food Pantry** is open on Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Anything you can do for this program would be a blessing to this ministry and to the people who are served.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – **March 15** – 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 big glass bottle by the altar rail on any Sunday

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** will hold its first General Meeting on Wednesday, Marcy 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM. The program will be presented by the Circle of Friends under the direction of Janet Day. The Circle of Grace will provide refreshments. Anyone is invited to be a part of this group.

Other dates for the year are as follows:

- Sun, April 26 – 11 AM – United Methodist Women Sunday @ Worship Service – All ladies will need to take part on this day.
- Wed, May 20 – 7 PM – General Meeting – Beverly Collins will organize, and Circle of Ruth will provide refreshments
- Wed, July 15 – 6 PM – Salad Covered Dish Dinner followed by General Meeting
- Wed, September 23 – 6 PM – World Thank Dinner followed by General Meeting – Joyce Dignard with Circle of Grace will organize program
- Wed, November 18 – 7 PM – General Meeting – Circle of Ruth will organize program and Circle of Friends will prove 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.

## Sunday Schools to Hold Joint Sessions on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays

On the 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays during the year the three adult **Sunday School Classes** plan to meet together, begin with coffee and Danish, and follow with a lesson. The classes will alternate the Sunday they will oversee. The first Joint Session of 2020 will be **Sunday, March 29** beginning at 9:45 AM. Mark it on your calendar. Everyone is invited.



### Daily Devotion Publication Available in Narthex

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

### Fun Time at Bunco Night

**Bunco Night** was a great night. There were 22 of our Family and Friends present to enjoy soup, sandwiches and dessert. Some had never played BUNCO, but everyone really enjoyed the evening. It was a great way to get to know everyone outside of Sunday Morning. Keep your ears open for our next game event.



### Fundraiser Bunco for Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

There will be a **Bunco event** on **Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**. This will be a fundraiser for the **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society**. It will be held in the Crossroads Social Hall and coordinated by Susan Reid, a lifetime member of Crossroads and an almost 14-year survivor of Non Hodgkins Lymphoma. There will be a donation of \$15 to play on this night. 100% of what is collected will go to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Along with playing the game there will be snacks and beverages. There will also be prizes award during the game. More information will be posted in the bulletin shortly. Put this date on your calendar.

## Join the Crossroads Communication Chain

Crossroads has a **Communication Chain** which notifies those on the list who want to know when there is a death in our Church Family or other happenings that would affect the whole congregation. If you would like to be included in the Communication Chain, please let Nancy Clark know. (gran12@cox.net)



### Joys, Thanks, & News

I would like to thank the Crossroads church family for the prayers and cards I received while I was recovering from two knee surgeries. It's been a journey, but I'm on the mend. I'm still in therapy but making great progress. I am able to drive short distances. God is good!

God bless you, Lynda Moore

### We celebrate the life of Kathryn Braswell.

February 3, 1915 – February 19, 2010

She leaves behind her daughter, Joyce B. Dignard, and son, Henry W. Braswell, Jr; also, her grandsons, David Dignard and wife, Cathy, and Mark Dignard and wife, Stephanie; three great-grandchildren, Shannon Dignard, Cole Dignard, and Morgan McMahon and husband, Jake; and two great-great-grandchildren, Grayson and Lewis McMahon.

### Two Ongoing Monthly Volunteer Opportunities for You:

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

### Other Opportunities:

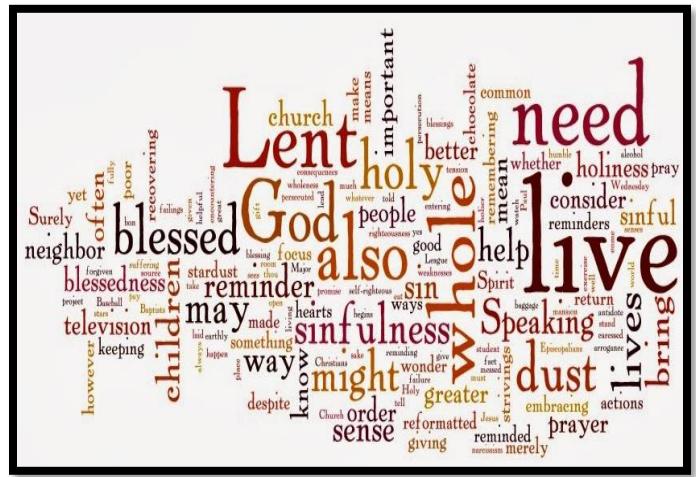
- There is a need for **Official Greeters** to greet our membership and welcome guests as they walk into church. If you are interested there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, or you can see Ruth Gilmore or Nancy Clark to volunteer.
- There is a great need for weekly liturgists. The **2020 Liturgist 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 with your request – 397-7815.

<http://www.CrossroadsMethodist.org>

Check out our website. Any suggestions let us know.

## **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



# MARCH OPPORTUNITIES:

- |    |        |   |
|----|--------|---|
| 1  | Sun.   | <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b><br>Sunday School - Adults* – 9:45 AM<br>Sunday School - Children* – 11:00 AM<br><b>Holy Communion – 11:00 AM</b><br>[*=every Sunday] |
| 2  | Mon.   | Trustees Mtg – 7:00 PM<br>We Praise practice* – 7:00 PM<br>[*=every Monday]   |
| 3  | Tues.  | Food Pantry Open* - 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM<br>Circle of Friends Meet – 7:00 PM<br>[*=every Tuesday]  |
| 4  | Wed.   | Men's Bible Study* – 7:00 PM<br>[*=every Wednesday]   |
| 5  | Thurs. | Choir practice* – 7:00 PM<br>[*=every Thursday]   |
| 7  | Sat.   | Ballet Dance practice* – 1:00 PM<br>[*=every Saturday]  |
| 8  | Sun.   | <b>Daylight Savings Time Begins</b><br><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b><br><b>World Hunger Offering Received</b>  |
| 11 | Wed.   | Circle of Ruth – 1:30 PM<br>Circle of Grace – 7 PM  |
| 14 | Sat.   | Fundraiser Bunco for Lymphoma & Leukemia – TBA  |
| 15 | Sun.   | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b><br>Food Pantry Sunday<br><b>We Praise @ Worship – 11:00 AM</b><br>Newsletter Deadline for April                                      |
| 16 | Mon.   | Finance Committee Mtg – 7:00 PM   |
| 17 | Tues.  | Church Council Mtg – 7:00 PM  |
| 18 | Wed.   | United Methodist Women Mtg – 7:00 PM  |
| 22 | Sun.   | <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b><br>UMM Breakfast Meeting – 8:00 AM<br><b>Missionary Support Offering Received</b>  |
| 25 | Wed.   | Meals on Wheels – 10:30 AM  |
| 26 | Thurs. | Oasis – 6 AM  |
| 29 | Sun.   | <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b><br>Joint Sunday School – 9:45 AM   |

## **Stewardship Corner**

**-submitted by Georgia Garrison-**

Stewardship has to do with life—every bit of it. It cannot be reduced to counting out 9 dill seeds for me and 1 for God, as some of the Scribes and Pharisees had it figured during Jesus' time. It is where faith and works come together, as they always must in the life of discipleship. It has to do with how we earn our money, what we do with our education, the nature and extent of our expenditures, the values by which we live, what we plan to do with our resources when we are finished with them, and, yes, it does have to do with giving.

All persons are stewards. The only uncertainty is what kind. It is God's house in which we live, and it is to God that we are responsible. We are his stewards --- custodians, housekeepers and managers of everything He has given us: our time, our abilities, our possessions, our money, and yes, our whole lives! Christian stewardship is a description of the life of God's people.

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

