

# crossroads circuit rider



1800 RODMAN AVENUE  
PORTSMOUTH, VA 23707-4326  
757-397-7815

Rev. Camille Pentsil/Pastor

- [office@crossroadsumc.hrcoxmail.com](mailto:office@crossroadsumc.hrcoxmail.com)
- <http://www.crossroadsmethodist.org>
- [www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth](https://www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth)

The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

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



I greet you in the name of our risen savior Jesus Christ! Oh, my how quickly our conditions change. During my time in Nevada with my daughter and new granddaughter I watched the world begin to transform before my eyes. As I stare into the eyes of a newborn child, I wonder what God has in store for her generation. These are uncertain times and downright frantic situations we are facing. I encourage you to trust God with all your being. He is with us and will never leave us.

We began our Facebook live worship on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, it was well attended and will be our mode of worship going forward. How long will we be apart? As of March 25<sup>th</sup>, we are on a 30-day shutdown. We are a non-essential group with more than 10 individuals. So, we are shutdown as of now until April 25, 2020

Friends, Easter will come and go. All will be well. I encourage each of you to engage in prayer and study daily. I look forward to our time on Facebook.

Remember; God is good. All the time.

I miss you all, *Reverend Camille*

## Covid-19 Brings Many Changes

Bishop Lewis has sent out a directive to postpone any events with large participation. The VA Governor has directed citizens not meet in any non-essential groups.

We were hoping to be back in the pews by Holy Week but as you read in the pastor's letter, that will not be happening. But we are Easter People. No one can stop Christ from rising again on that glorious day. Whenever we are allowed to return to our church building, that will be a HALLELUJAH DAY!!! The church will be filled with flowers [maybe not Easter lilies], the pews will be full, the choir will resound to the rafters, and our pastor will bring us home with her message. Glory to God!

With this in mind, realize that articles posted in the remainder of this newsletter were written with facts that were in place at an earlier time. Notifications will be made on FB or email.

## Eliz. Rr. Dist. Churches that Livestream Services

- Charity UMC: <https://www.facebook.com/charityumc>
- Community UMC:  
<https://www.facebook.com/CommunityUMCvirginiabeach/?f=119040204777295>
- Courthouse Community UMC:  
<https://www.facebook.com/courthousecommunityumc/>
- Crossroads UMC:  
<https://www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth/>
- Hickory UMC:  
<https://www.facebook.com/hickoryunitedmethodistchurch/>
- Great Bridge UMC:  
<https://www.facebook.com/greatbridgeumc/>
- New Creation UMC:  
<https://www.newcreationumc.org/worship>
- Tabernacle UMC: <https://livestream.com/tabernaclevb>
- The Gathering UMC:  
<https://www.thegatheringatscottmemorialumc.com/video-sermons/>



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The **Ladies Bible Study Group** has put on hold their new six-week study from Max Lucado, "Jesus, The God Who Knows Your Name". This will be postponed until some time in the future when it is safe to meet face to face again. If you have already purchased the hardback book, start reading it. You will receive much comfort from it during this time

Please contact Ruth Gilmore at [ruthiegilmore@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthiegilmore@hotmail.com) / call 757-635-9203 with any questions.



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.

There was to be a joint Sunday School session on March 27<sup>th</sup> but with group restrictions in place, it will not be held.



## 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 – **April 19** – 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.



## 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 United Methodist Women** has postponed their first General Meeting of the year. The program/meeting planned for March 18<sup>th</sup> will now be presented on **Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**. 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 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.

For current photos and news updates, check us out at

<http://www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth>.

## Stewardship Corner

-submitted by Georgia Garrison-

As we reflect on the Resurrection of Jesus, let's take some time to praise Him and ask for even more of His Presence in our lives! Here's a simple Easter prayer you can reflect on:

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for the gift of eternal salvation that we get to celebrate on Easter morning. Your love is so great! Come close to me and renew my mind to let go of everything I've held on to that hinders me and entangles me. I ask you to draw near to me as I draw near to you and purify my heart. Thank you for being the example of mercy when you ministered to and saved a thief while you suffered your own death. Your love covers a multitude of sins! I repent of my sins and ask you to cover me with your love and help me love others deeply. Help me to forgive those who have offended me and give me the courage to bless my enemies.

Thank you for the anchoring of peace the Cross gives us. When difficult times find me, help me keep my eyes on you. Help me calm and quiet my soul so I can find full contentment in You alone. Thank you for the promise of joy and the restoration to the Father through the work of the Cross. Let me remember to take active steps in rejoicing together in fellowship with family and friends. May we never forget the good works You have done in our lives.

I praise you that you are the gift of HOPE. Nothing can separate me from your love for not even death could do it. I love you, Jesus! Amen!

*Dayspring Daily Devotions, April 17, 2019*



## OPPORTUNITIES:

[As stated in front page letter/article most of these opportunities will not take place at the scheduled date listed here. Be in prayer during the upcoming days for each other, for your community, for the world.]

- 1 Wed. Wesley Class Dinner/Meeting – 6:30 PM  
Men's Bible Study\* – 7:00 PM  
[\*=every Wednesday]
- 2 Thurs. Choir practice\* – 7:00 PM  
[\*=every Thursday]
- 4 Sat. Ballet Dance practice\* – 1:00 PM  
[\*=every Saturday]
- 5 Sun. **Palm Sunday**  
Sunday School - Adults\* – 9:45 AM  
Sunday School - Children\* – 11:00 AM  
**Special Music Presented by Choir  
along with Holy Communion – 11:00 AM**  
[\*=every Sunday]
- 6 Mon. We Praise practice\* – 7:00 PM  
[\*=every Monday]
- 7 Tues. Food Pantry Open\* - 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
[\*=every Tuesday]
- 8 Wed. Circle of Ruth – 1:30 PM  
Circle of Grace – 7 PM
- 9 Thurs. **Maundy Thursday**  
Worship Service – 7 PM
- 10 Fri. **Good Friday**
- 11 Sat. Easter Egg Hunt – 10 AM
- 12 Sun. **Easter Sunday**  
**World Hunger Offering Received**
- 14 Tues. Ministry Team Meeting – 7 PM
- 19 Sun. Food Pantry Sunday  
**We Praise @ Worship – 11:00 AM**  
Newsletter Deadline for May
- 20 Mon. Finance Committee Mtg – 7:00 PM
- 22 Wed. Meals on Wheels – 10:30 AM
- 23 Thurs. Oasis – 6 AM
- 26 Sun. UMM Breakfast Meeting – 8:00 AM  
**United Methodist Women Sunday – 11 AM**  
**Missionary Support Offering Received**

## Two Ongoing Monthly Volunteer Opportunities for You:

- **Meals on Wheels** will be delivered on Wednesday, **April 22**. To volunteer, please see Ginny Collins.
- **Oasis Ministries Breakfast** will be prepared and served on Thursdays, **April 23**. 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.



The order for **Easter Lilies** has been put on hold during this time of uncertainty. When it is known when our first Sunday back will be, we will put out a plea to help fill the altar/church with whatever flower is available from the nursery at that time. Until then, if you have placed an order, your money and order form will be put on hold unless you contact me that you'd like it returned. Thank you, Susan Cohen.