

crossroads circuit rider



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Weekly Worship Continues Online

At **Crossroads UMC** we are still in a time of social distancing and not meeting in-person. This is hard for each of us as we are social beings and yearn to be together again.

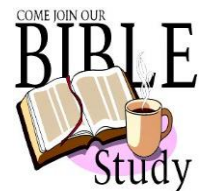
We are continuing our **Facebook worship** on Sundays. What a blessing to have this capability during this time. Pastor Camille will provide the much-needed message and Harlan will provide music that fills our soul.

The Covid case numbers are scaling down in Virginia, but Portsmouth and Chesapeake are a little high. How long will we be apart? That remains to be seen but the hope is sooner rather than later.

Continue to engage in prayer and study daily. Join in the Wednesday night Bible Study. We hope to be together soon.



Lenten Bible Study



Pastor Camille continues to lead the **Wednesday Evening Lenten Bible Study** by way of **Facebook Live** since we can't meet in-person at this time. The FB study begins at 6:30 PM. To be a part of this series, just log onto FB and join the live feed. March 3 will be on Psalm 139. You can have friends and neighbors join also. Such an innovative and exciting method to study together!



Daily Devotion Publication Available in Narthex

March/April issue of **The Upper Room** daily devotional booklet is in our narthex. Since we are not in church, you can come up to the office on Tuesdays during office/food pantry hours and someone will help you get one. Or you can contact Susan Cohen and she will make sure you get one. [queenbeez@cox.net / 757-635-1798] Small print booklets are 75¢ and large print booklets will be \$1.25.

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 14.



Daylight Savings Time begins on **Sunday, March 14**. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, March 13 to make it easier.

The good part of all this is sunrise and sunset will be about 1 hour later March 14, 2021 than the day before. There will be more light in the evening.



Joys, Thanks, & News

Congratulations to **Tyler and Ashley Brown** on their wedding. They were married on Saturday, January 9, 2021. Congratulations and blessings on this union. Tyler is the son of Richard and Kelly Brown.

Marie Pack passed away on February 18, 2021. She was the wife of one of West End's former pastors, Elwood Pack. Elwood had passed away a year previous on February 20, 2020. Marie had been living in an assisted living home since then.

Viola Higgins will be changing her residence. She has been living in Suffolk the last few years and will now reside in North Carolina with her brother, Carroll Hobbs. Her new address will be: 124 Sugar Run Road, Sunbury, NC 27979
Phone = 252-465-2272

If you want to talk with her before she moves, her current phone # is 757-553-6915. Her move is scheduled for March 27 or 28.

Prayer List: Pam Shaffer, Joyce Geluz, Lila Cox, Ruth Baker

If anyone has news to share, let the editor know.



Food Pantry is Greatly Used

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.

If you would like to help 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. And as always, wear a mask.

February 8, 2021 - District Alignment Update

Dear Virginia Annual Conference:

Peace to you as we continue in this season of pandemic and challenge. The world, in fact, seems quite changed in recent years, something we have felt for some time as a conference. Thankfully, we serve a god who is unchanging, unailing and unending.

As Virginia United Methodists, we have met this moment in our history with renewed vision, setting our eyes on the One who is unailing. Our vision remains strong: "To be disciples of Jesus Christ who are lifelong learners who influence others to serve." We have begun to dream together of how we might bring this vision to life in our conference, in our churches, and in our communities. In 2020, with the formation of my District Alignment Team (DAT), we asked, "How can districts most effectively order themselves for the adaptive challenges of the 21st century?"

The question propels us to be innovative and collaborative, especially as we have not significantly changed our order for more than 40 years. Our District Alignment Team made six forward-looking recommendations that we are now considering for implementation.

Please take a moment to [watch my video](#) about the first steps of alignment. This contains important information about our district superintendents. I've also provided [FAQs](#) for more detail and [information](#) that pastors may use in sharing with members who do not have easy access to Internet communications.

Our first steps are part of a larger plan that will span more than a year. This is intentional, to give us time to pray, to dialogue and to collaborate. To start, please use this [questionnaire](#) to share feedback that will shape a number of virtual listening posts in coming months. All the resources listed above can also be accessed at www.vaumc.org/dat.

We were made for a time such as this. We will move forward in unity, guided by our vision: "**To be disciples of Jesus Christ who are lifelong learners who influence others to serve.**"

Peace and Blessings,
Bishop Sharma D. Lewis

Two Ongoing Monthly Volunteer Opportunities for You:

- **Meals on Wheels** will be delivered on Wednesday, March 24. To volunteer, contact Ginny Collins.
- **Oasis Ministries Breakfast** will be prepared and served on Thursdays, March 25. If you would help with this, contact Iverson Garrison.

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