

# crossroads circuit rider



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The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

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Ash Wednesday



Remember that you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.

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March 2022 No. E-22-b



## Join Us for In Person Worship !

The Post Covid Re-entry Group (PRG) proposes that we return to **in person worship February 27, 2022**. Upon return we must adhere to Covid Protocol, which means social distancing and masking again, including our children. We hope this is just temporary.

It appears the recent Covid Storm is passing. While Hampton Roads infection rates continue to decrease, we are still 11-16%. Until infection rates are at a minimum level 5-10% we need to mask and social distance in group settings. Good news is that we have plenty of room to spread out and enjoy our time in worship together.

The services are also being recorded and will be available on our Facebook page. You will find this at:

[www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth](https://www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth)

*Your PRG consists of Pastor Camille Pentsil, Susan Cohen, Tricia Bright, Tom Boettcher, and Georgia Freeman if you have any questions.*



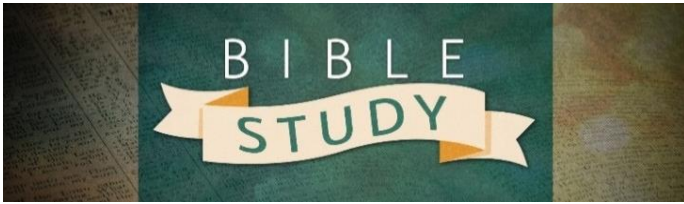
Crossroads will hold its traditional **Ash Wednesday Service** on **March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM** in the Sanctuary. At this time there will be the imposition of ashes by Pastor Camille, and this will usher in the season of Lent – the season of preparation for the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.



Daylight Saving Time  
Begins on  
Sunday, March 13

Remember to set your **clocks ahead one hour** before going to bed on Saturday, March 12 to arrive at church at the correct time.

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



The **weekly small group Bible study** led by Ruth Gilmore continues to be held on Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM in the church fellowship hall. As an extra treat, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month, they meet at Dennis's Steak House for a breakfast meeting. They are working their way through the New Testament currently. **All** are welcome to come and participate. You will be blessed.



**Crossroads' Dance Team** has weekly practice on Saturdays. They meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Education wing at 1:00 PM. The class is open to boys and girls between the ages of 3 years old and up. Mrs. Ellen Clayton is the instructor. Anyone who would like more information or would like to register their child can contact the church office at 397-7815 and give their child's name, age, and phone number.

They plan to perform on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays during the year. This will be such an inspiring ministry at Crossroads.

## Financial Information

Your **Financial Statements** for 2021 are prepared and Nancy Clark will be passing them out as soon as we are back into Church. If you need more than the statement for your taxes, please let her know and she will see that whatever you need is provided.

**Offering envelopes** for the year are in the narthex. Just take a box. Nancy does not need the number on the box. Please remember to write your name on the envelope when you put it into the offering plate. Thank you!



## Crossroads' Food Pantry is Greatly Used

**Crossroads' Food Pantry** is open on **Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**. There is a shortage in food available from the Food Bank at this time. Anything you can do for this program would be a blessing to this ministry and to the people who are served. Monetary donations would be helpful to be able to buy foods from other sources. See Ronnie Perkins, David Lutz, or Pat Mullins for more information.

If you would like to help in the Food Pantry on Tuesdays, contact the above folk and they can tell you when you would be needed.



The Executive Board of the **Crossroads United Methodist Women** held their meeting on Sunday February 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM. They discussed the year's plans, as follows.

- ❖ UMW general meetings and programs for the year:
  - March 16 – Call of Prayer and Self Denial
  - May 22 – UMW Sunday
  - June 15 – Circle of Friends present program
  - September 21 – World Thank
- ❖ UMW projects for the year: Easter Flowers (Circle of Friends), Thanksgiving Bulletin (Circle of Grace), Plantation Nuts

Remember all our Circles would be happy to have new members. Think about it!

## Get Ready to Clean-up

Perhaps you have noticed that there are boxes in the back hallways of the Sanctuary building. Well, it is time to **clean up our mess**. The Trustees will organize a few people to get involved and decide what needs to be done. Hopefully 2022 will be a better year for us.



**Crossroads Community Prayer Walks** were put on hold because of the inclement weather we have been experiencing. The hopes are that they will begin again in March. The first Saturday of the month is what has been chosen as the meetup day. That being said, it is on the calendar **for Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM**. Wear your church t-shirt, if you have one, and meet on the steps of the sanctuary. If it's chilly, peak inside to see if walkers are trying to stay warm.



## Daily Devotion Publication Available in Narthex

**The Upper Room** daily devotional booklet is available in our narthex. If you are not coming to worship, you can come up to the office on Tuesdays during office/food pantry hours and someone will help with getting one. Small print booklets are 75¢ and large print booklets will be \$1.25.



The We Praise Band will bring songs of Joy & Praise at the March 20<sup>th</sup> Worship Service.

## Two Ongoing Monthly Volunteer Opportunities for You:

- **Meals on Wheels** will be delivered on 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, March 23. To volunteer, contact Ginny Collins.
- **Oasis Ministries Breakfast** will be prepared and served on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, March 24. If you would help with this, contact Iverson Garrison.



## Our New District Superintendent of the Elizabeth River and Eastern Shore

Bishop Sharma D. Lewis is pleased to announce our new District Superintendent (DS) appointment effective **July 1, 2022**.

The **Rev. Dr. Cecelia Brooks, Ph.D.**, currently serving as the lead pastor at Franktown UMC on the Eastern Shore District, will be the new District Superintendent of the Elizabeth River and Eastern Shore. She will replace the Rev. Seonyoung Kim who has served as a District Superintendent for the last eight months.

A Richmond native, Dr. Brooks graduated from Duke University Divinity School and Oklahoma State University and has served churches and campus ministries in Oklahoma and Virginia. She has a passion for preaching, mission, and African American history. She has published several articles and authored two books in 2021. Please join Bishop Lewis in welcoming Dr. Brooks to the Virginia Annual Conference Cabinet.

If you want more info directly from The Elizabeth-River District, go to [elizabethriverumc.com](http://elizabethriverumc.com)

## Upcoming Events:

- **Ash Wednesday** – March 2 – 6 PM
- **Community Prayer Walk** – Sat, March 5
- **Bible Study** with Ruth Gilmore – Fellowship Hall – Thursdays – 10:00 AM
- **Ballet** – each Saturday @ 1:00 PM
- **Food Pantry** – each Tuesday – 10:00 AM till noon
- **Communion Sunday** – March 6 – 11:00 AM
- **Daylight Saving Time begins** – March 13
- **UMW General Mtg** – Wednesday, March 16 – 7 PM
- **Meals on Wheels** – Wednesday, March 23
- **Oasis Breakfast** – Thursday, March 24

## Free At-Home Covid-19 Tests Available

Every home in the U.S. can order **4 free at-home COVID-19** tests. The tests will be completely free – no shipping costs and you don't need to enter a credit card number. Tests will usually ship via US Postal service within 7-12 days of ordering. Order at <https://www.covidtests.gov>.

## UMCOR Accepting Donations for Tornado Victims

In response to the recent devastation by tornados in Kentucky, Tennessee, and surrounding areas, The **United Methodist Committee on Relief** (UMCOR) is asking for donations to provide needed assistance. If you would like to contribute, please make checks out to Crossroads UMC and write "Tornado Relief" on the memo line.

## To keep in mind before you attend in-person activities:

### Health Acknowledgement

Welcome! We're glad you're here.

In order to keep you and other congregants safe and healthy, read and respond to the health questions below. Please affirm to the greeter that you acknowledge the following items are true for you and provide your name and contact number. All persons are required to keep physical distancing of 6 feet or more (from persons outside your household group) and to wear a face covering.








- 1.** I am not experiencing two or more of the following symptoms of COVID-19: • Fever (100 F or higher) or chills • Cough • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing • New loss of taste or smell • Headache • Muscle or body aches • Sore throat • Congestions or runny nose, not allergy related • Nausea or vomiting • Diarrhea
- 2.** I have not been in contact with anyone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 (see #1) or I am fully vaccinated (14 days after series of vaccinations are completed.)
- 3.** I have not tested positive for COVID-19, nor am I awaiting test results.
- 4.** If I have tested positive for COVID-19, I have complete resolution of symptoms OR (if asymptomatic) have completed 10 days of self-isolation.
- 5.** I will immediately notify the pastor if within 5 days after attending this event, I develop 2 or more symptoms of COVID-19, will avoid contact with others, and will seek medical attention.