

# crossroads circuit rider



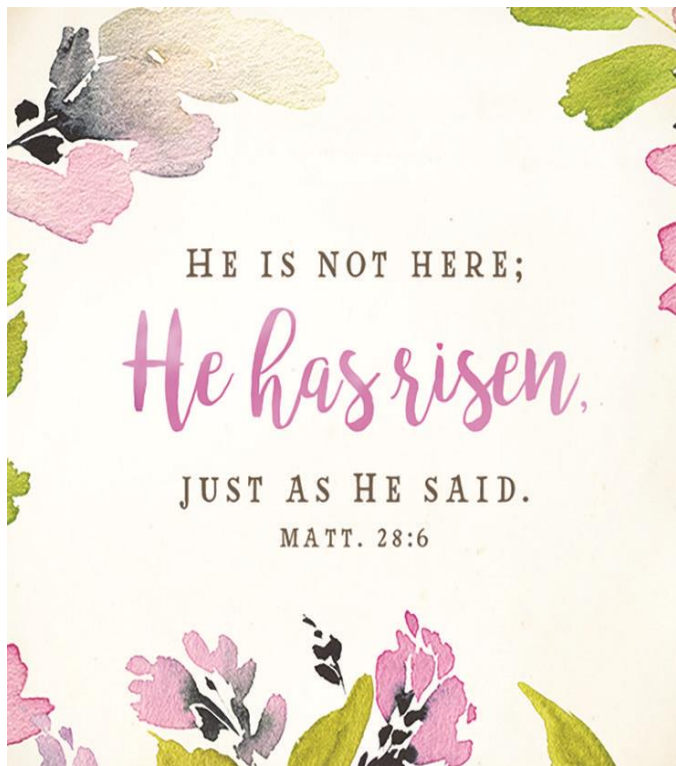
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## Hallelujah! He Is Risen! Join Us for In Person Worship!

**Easter Sunday is April 17.** We hope to have full pews for this glorious day. Camille will give a special message; Harlan and the choir have prepared special music, and the altar will be filled with flowers. Hallelujah!

We have returned to **in person worship**. No masks are required. You can do as you feel safe.

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

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

## Easter Egg Hunt



The **Crossroads Easter Egg Hunt** will be held **after church** on Easter Sunday, **April 17**. We ask the children to bring their baskets or a bag to church that day and be prepared to join in the hunt after church. The children will have a craft time during the church hour, and a light snacky-lunch will be provided.

Donations of **wrapped candy** will be needed. A collection box will be in the narthex. Contact Lisa Boettcher / 757-483-4695 for more information.



The first Saturday of each month has been chosen as **Crossroads Community Prayer Walks**. It is on the calendar to begin again on **Saturday, May 7 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.

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



The **weekly Ladies 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 starting **Saturday, April 2**. 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.



## 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 currently. 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 We Praise Band will bring songs of Joy & Praise at the April 24 Worship Service.



## United Women in Faith

The **United Methodist Women** worldwide has announced a new name for their organization – "**United Women in Faith**" – and has a new logo. Their goals remain the same.

The new Women's website is <https://uwfaith.org/> and the new Facebook page is [United Women in Faith](#).

They will celebrate "United Women in Faith Day" at our church on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, so mark your calendar.

A big thank you to all who supported the Easter flowers. The money raised will help meet their budget. They will be taking orders for Plantation Nuts in the fall, and they will once again sponsor the Thanksgiving and Remembrance bulletin in November.

As always, all ladies of the church are invited to join any of the circles. They would love to have you.

## Upcoming Events:

- **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/Love Feast** – April 3 – 11:00 AM
- **Meals on Wheels** – Wednesday, April 27
- **Oasis Breakfast** – Thursday, April 28
- **Community Prayer Walk** – Sat, May 7



## How Can We Assist Ukraine?

On Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> the United Methodist congregations around the world observed UMCOR Sunday. Following is one way that we can assist Ukraine through UMCOR.

United Methodists who want to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people can contribute through **UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery**. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries.

Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways:

- Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance...>
- By toll-free telephone: 888-252-6174
- By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with 'Advance #982450-Ukraine' written on the memo line, either mailed and addressed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, PO Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068, or given at your United Methodist church

Here is a link to the UMCOR site about this effort: <https://umcmmission.org/umcor/ukraine/>

*Important Note:*

*100% of all advance contributions go to the designated cause.*

## Stewardship Corner

-submitted by Georgia Garrison-

### Make Disciples Today

*"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age." --- Matthew 28:19-20.*

We're all involved in the work of making disciples. The question is, whose disciples are we making? Every single day, through your words, actions, or even inaction, you draw someone near to Christ or push them away. As Paul Gilbert wrote...

*You are writing a Gospel, a chapter each day,  
By deeds that you do, by words that you say.  
Men read what you write, whether faithless or true.  
Say, what is the Gospel according to you?*

It's a heavy responsibility to know that you're a disciple-maker. But the good news is that you're not alone. Christ assures you in today's passage, "I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

So, who's reading the Gospel you're writing today? Is it a family member or maybe a neighbor? It could even be the young man who brings you your pizza or bags your groceries. The point is that the world is watching, and what they think of Jesus may come down to what they think of you.

Ask God to make you attentive to disciple-making opportunities. Pray for His grace, wisdom, and strength to show others the love of Christ. Who are some people in your life that you could point toward Christ through your words and actions? What are some things you could do today that would show others the love of Christ?



### 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.

### Financial Information

Your **Financial Statements** for 2021 are prepared and Nancy Clark will be passing them out soon. 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!



### Greetings from the Wesley Center!

**The Wesley Center** was recently selected to become a location for a **Head Start Program**. To prepare for the children this fall, we must raise funds. The Wesley Community Service Center, Inc., and Honorary Chair Event, Mark John - Vice President Community Development Manager of Truist Bank - will host its inaugural Wesley Empowerment (W.E.) Worship Concert and Fundraiser. The event will be held at Grove Church, 5910 W. Norfolk Road, Portsmouth, VA at **6 PM, Saturday, May 7, 2022**. Gospel artist Jekalyn Carr will headline the family-oriented event and gospel fanatic, Kelontae Gavin. Hampton Roads' musical artist Patrick Riddick and The Boys Choir of Hampton Roads will also take the stage alongside comedian and concert host Vernard Hines.

We are excited to host a family event for the Hampton Roads community. This event will help the Wesley Community Service Center raise money to continue to help low-income families as our organization has done for the past 84 years."

The funds raised from the concert will help renovate the education building on the Wesley Community Service Center's campus and provide funding for other community programs to serve Portsmouth and others in Hampton Roads. **Tickets cost \$25**

**To learn more or to donate to the Wesley Community Service Center, visit:**  
<https://linktr.ee/TheWesley>

### ABOUT WESLEY COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER, INC:

The Wesley Community Service Center's mission is to connect people to people and communities to communities through quality programs, advocacy, and education. The Wesley Community Service Center (WCSC), founded by Methodist Women, was established in 1937 in Portsmouth, Virginia, to form a city mission board to address community needs and social issues. In its eighty-fourth year of service and ministry, the Wesley Center aims to empower and improve the quality of life for the powerless and poor in Portsmouth's Southside communities. The organization remains committed to minority empowerment and building community to overcome racial, economic, and social barriers. They act as advocates and brokers for community services and assistance for those with the greatest needs while conveying the important message of human dignity and worth. In addition, the organization provides critical programming to fulfill the unmet needs of 360 families per month.

Respectfully,

Renyatta L. Banks  
Executive Director  
Wesley Community Service Center  
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