

crossroads circuit rider



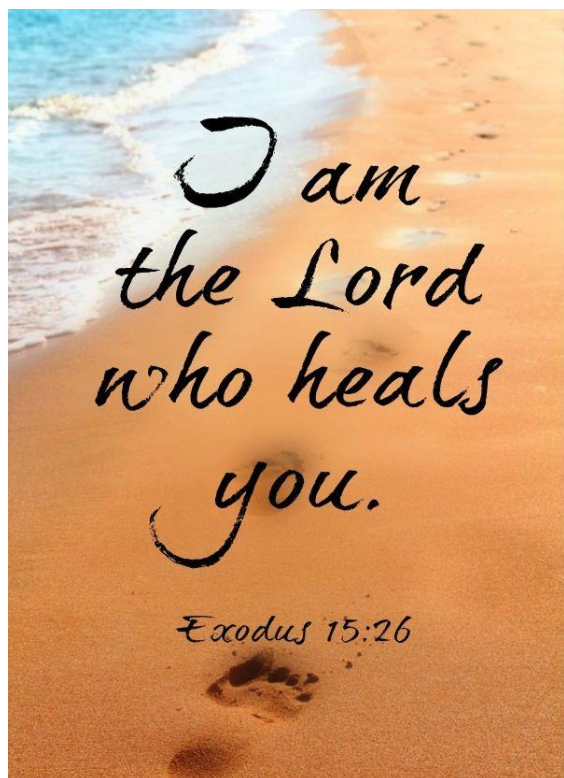
1800 RODMAN AVENUE
PORTSMOUTH, VA 23707-4326
757-397-7815

Rev. Camille Pentsil/Pastor

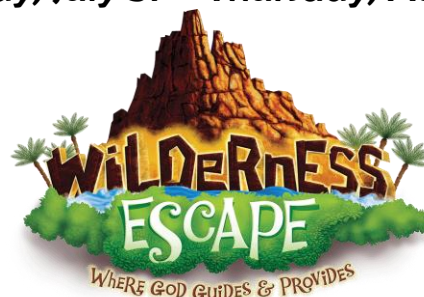
- office@crossroadsumc.hrcoxmail.com
- <http://www.crossroadsmethodist.org>
- www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth
- Instagram: [crossroads1800](https://www.instagram.com/crossroads1800)

The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

Editor: Susan Cohen [queenbeez@cox.net]



Vacation Bible School Theme is Set Sunday, July 31 – Thursday, August 4



At Wilderness Escape, kids explore how God guides and provides during these uncertain times. Kids will be led to trust God—not their own strength—in life’s challenges. There’s no doubt COVID-19 has come through our lives like a sandstorm and brought a thick haze of uncertainty over plans, routines, and expectations. Now, more than ever, the kids in our community need the hope, reassurance, and abundance of God’s love through the unique ministry of VBS. The Bible Points for Wilderness Escape are so relevant:

- God is with us, so...*trust God!*
- God gives us what we need, so...*trust God!*
- God gives us strength, so...*trust God!*
- God saves us, so...*trust God!*
- God guides us, so...*trust God!*

We all need to trust God’s power to pull us through these unprecedented times! This summer, Crossroads has an opportunity to meet families like never before through VBS. Lisa Boettcher is our director this year so stay tuned for more info on how you can help.

Items being collected for VBS:

- 2 pop up canopies
- Serape blankets
- Paper towel tubes
- White paper plates

Let Elaine Brinkley or Lisa Boettcher know if you can help by providing any of these.

Could You Help by Sponsoring a Child for Vacation Bible School?

Would you consider sponsoring a child (or more than one) for Vacation Bible School with a **donation of \$20.00 per child**? This would be a blessing to a child, who may hear of God’s love for the very first time while attending our VBS, not to mention the financial benefit it will be for this Crossroads ministry. If so, please complete the slip below and make all checks payable to “West End UMC”, reflecting VBS on the memo line. If you are willing to contribute, but are unable to sponsor one child, please indicate the amount you are willing to donate in the “Other” space below.

NAME: _____

VBS SPONSORSHIP OF (Please circle): \$20 \$40 \$60

Other _____



Join Us on Sundays for In Person Worship!



The first Saturday of each month has been chosen as **Crossroads Community Prayer Walks**. It is on the calendar to begin again on **Saturday, Sat, July 2 & August 6 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.



Crossroads' Ballet Troup meets each Saturday at 1:00 PM on the 2nd floor of the Education wing. 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 5th Sundays during the year so the next performance will be July 31st. This are such an inspiring ministry at Crossroads.

Crossroads is Getting a New Intern!



Hello, Crossroads family my name is **Chloe House**, and I will be interning at the church for a few weeks. While I am interning, I will be working on the church website, setting up a text message alert system and any other computer work the church needs.

A little about myself... I am 23 years old, and I was born here in Portsmouth, VA. I enjoy listening to music, playing video games, and gardening.

Right now, I am at ODU pursuing my bachelor's in cybersecurity. This is my senior year, so I only have this semester and next spring semester left before I receive my degree. After graduation, I plan to get my CompTIA Security+ certification to become a Cybersecurity Architect which is responsible for planning, designing, testing, implementing, and maintaining an organization's computer and network security infrastructure.

I would like to thank Crossroads Church and Pastor Camile for giving me the opportunity to work here so I can pursue my goal.



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.

Upcoming Events in July & August:

- **Community Prayer Walk** – Sat, July 2 & August 6
- **Ballet** – each Saturday @ 1:00 PM
- **Food Pantry** – each Tuesday – 10:00 AM till noon
- **Communion Sunday/Love Feast** – July 3 & August 7 – 11:00 AM
- **Meals on Wheels** – Wednesdays, July 27 & August 24
- **Oasis Breakfast** – Thursdays, July 28 & August 25



The We Praise Band will bring songs of Joy & Praise at the July 17 & August 21 Worship Services.



United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith held their summer picnic on June 15th complete with a fun program and a rousing game of Bunco.

They will take a break for the rest of the summer and come back together in the Fall with their World Thank Covered Dish Dinner on September 21st @ 6:00 PM.

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.

Stewardship Corner

-submitted by Georgia Garrison-

The Spiritual Nature of Money

In his remarks prior to the offering at a men's retreat, a Colorado pastor said, "We never take collections at these events. We do, however, receive an offering."

He was stating an important truth about Christian stewardship. Receiving an offering is quite different from fund raising. Offerings are a spiritual matter in which we give ourselves to God's causes. Fund raising, on the other hand, is a financial matter in which we give our money to pay the bills for a good cause.

That is an important distinction. In our worship service each Sunday, we are not just taking a collection to pay the bills; that would be fund raising. No, we are receiving an offering. When we give an offering, we give more than money.

That is the main reason that churches ask people to give money as part of the worship service each Sunday---because our giving of money helps us to give a far more important gift: ourselves.

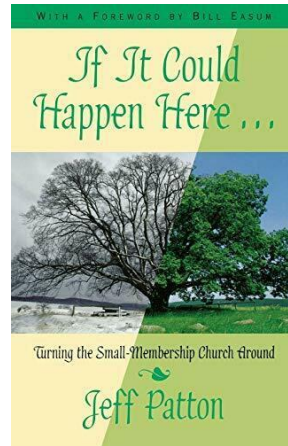
Stewardship Nuggets by Herb Miller



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.

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



Are small membership churches simply places where attendance is dropping, the building is out of date, the programs are boring, and people don't want to change? Jeffrey Patton says, 'absolutely not'. Small churches can become explosive centers of witness and mission. In If It Could Happen Here . . . Patton describes six levers for transforming a small membership church: prayer, discerning a clear vision, indigenous worship, growth groups, membership recruitment, and lay pastoring.

Pastor Camille spoke of this book at the last Church Council meeting and at church on June 19th. It is hoped that you will obtain a copy, read it, take notes, share it with another member, and be prepared to discuss it come September 2022. You can google the title/author and find it for various prices at various locations. Some are listed below. Scroll your icon above the "address" and press your Ctrl button and then click your 'mouse'. Let me know if you have any trouble using these sites. – Susan Cohen/Communications

- [If It Could Happen Here... : Turning the... book by Jeff Patton \(thriftbooks.com\)](#) – used = \$4.49 , \$5.09
- [If It Could Happen Here: Turning the Small-Membership Church Around, Pre-Owned Paperback 0687030331 9780687030330 Jeff Patton - Walmart.com](#) – preowned = \$5.31
- [If It Could Happen Here : Turning the Small-Membership Church Around 1697 9780687030330 | eBay](#) – like new = \$2.50 – scroll down on this page and you'll see many more used copies for cheap prices
- [Buy If It Could Happen Here Book By: Jeff Patton \(secondsale.com\)](#) – used = \$3.88

We are Now the Coastal Virginia District UMC!

Thursday afternoon, June 16th at the **Annual Conference** Session, clergy and lay members approved the District Initiative which was a motion to create eight new districts from the current 16-district structure. The new structure will begin on July 1, 2022. Eastern Shore and Elizabeth River districts will become the Coastal Virginia District. The new districts and their superintendents are as follows:

- Northern Virginia District – The Rev. Dr. Sarah Calvert
- Three Notch'd District – The Rev. Dr. Hyo Lee
- Mountain View District – The Rev. Denise Bates
- Coastal Virginia District – The Rev. Cecelia Brooks
- Living Waters District – The Rev. Jay Carey
- Shenandoah River District – The Rev. Dr. Victor Gomez
- Mission Rivers District – The Rev. Dr. Charles Bates
- Valley Ridge District – The Rev. Doug Forrester

2022-2023 Appointments can be found at

<https://doc.vaumc.org/AC2022/2022appointments.pdf>