

crossroads circuit rider



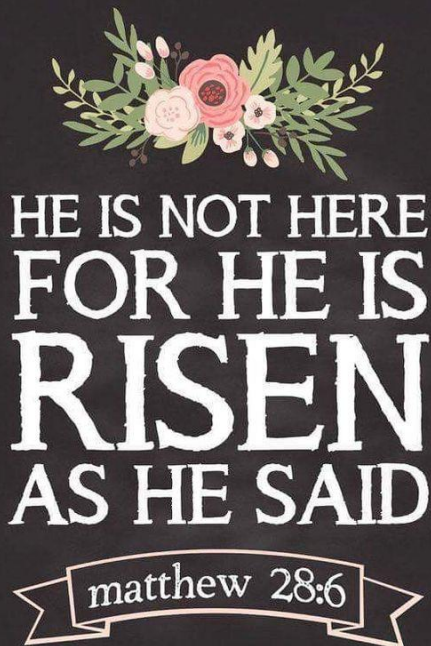
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The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

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Join Us for In Person Worship!

Join us for **in person worship** each **Sunday at 11:00 AM!**
The sermons in Lent will be based on the book of Psalms.

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

www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth.



Instead of our annual Easter Egg Hunt, there will be a **Spring Fling for Children** on Sunday, April 30. Lisa Boettcher and Elaine Brinkley will be heading this up. Help will be needed for snacks, crafts, games, etc. More will be announced as the date nears.

**Deadline to Order Easter Flowers
is Sunday, March 26th**



Add to the beauty of our sanctuary this Easter by purchasing a geranium in honor and/or in memory of loved ones. These spring flowers may be purchased at a cost of **\$13.00 each** – checks made out to **"Crossroads United Methodist Women"**. The deadline for placing orders is **Sunday, March 26**. You can email your dedications to Susan Cohen @ queenbeez@cox.net or complete this form and give to Lisa Boettcher or Elaine Brinkley.

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

By: _____

Be A Part of Our Leadership Circle - We Saved a Seat for You -

Who: **Everyone!**

When: **Third Tuesday of this month -> April 18**

Time: **7:00 PM**

What: **We are entering into a time of discernment as a faith community.**

Crossroads is entering a new time of ministry. Questions to be asked: What are we discerning? How do we work together to serve God and our community? What can we do to streamline internal communication and processes? Where are our priorities in a post Covid world? How can "I" serve? In a perfect world, describe the church. Plan on being part of this new beginning.



United
Women
in Faith

The Crossroads **United Women in Faith** enjoyed getting together for a social in February which involved going to the movies see "80 for Brady" and afterwards having dinner at Olive Garden. Their next social get-together will be to make floral arrangements for Autumn Care before Mother's Day.

They will have their first General Meeting of the year on Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00 PM. This will be a Call to Prayer and Self Denial.

Their first fundraiser is the the dedication of Easter flowers. Look for the information elsewhere in this edition and also in the sanctuary.

Remember, both of our Circles would be happy to have new members. Please consider it!



Crossroads' Food Pantry is a Blessing to the Community

Crossroads' Food Pantry is now USDA Certified. This will mean that our pantry can qualify for more food to distribute to our community. It also will mean more paperwork.

It 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. See David Lutz or Ronnie Perkins 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.

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



Crossroads United

Methodist Men will meet in the Social Hall every other month on the 4th Sunday at 8:00 AM. This month that will be April 23. You are encouraged to attend. – Gerald Pentsil



The **We Praise Band** will bring songs of Joy & Praise at the April 9 & 23 Worship Services.

The We Praise Band consists of Mark Goldman – leader & guitar, Donna Goldman – vocalist, Tricia Bright – keyboard & vocalist, Elaine Brinkley – bass & vocalist, Susan Cohen – vocalist & tambourine, Connie Lane – vocalist, and Ed Cassidy – drum & vocalist & guitarist.



Crossroads is blessed to have two very talented musicians to help us out at our worship services. Elaine Brinkley and Tricia Bright have been alternating each Sunday when needed. Thank you to them both.

The **We Praise Band** is also helping out. They will lead the music on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. Thank you to Mark Goldman and the crew for being there when we need them.

The SPPRC has met to discuss hiring a new pianist/organist/choir director. If you know of someone who would fill in while the search is on, let Georgia Freeman know.



Crossroads' Ballet Troupe has weekly practice on every Saturday of the month. They meet on the 2nd 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.

Their next performance is **April 30th**. 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.

Giving Means Thinking Positively

"Make the most of every chance you get. These are desperate times." (Ephesians 5:16 - *The Message*)

Tax time is upon us. Aside from the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, it can be one of the most stressful times of the year for many people. For many it means paying at least a bit more to pay that bill in full. Still others are excited to finish the task because they've been planning and looking forward to the "gift" they're receiving with their refund.

The number one reason for marital breakdown is financial conflict. Therefore, tax time is also the time to take extra care in your relationships as you review receipts, checkbooks, and 1040 forms. Even if you are lucky enough to keep your job in these tough times, chances are you're worried about the economy and how it may affect you and those you love. What about our church? How are we weathering the financial storm of the last few years? Has this provided new opportunities for spiritual growth and ministry? Or, has it encouraged conflict and "blaming" to run rampant in meetings and parking lot conversations?

Remember that when finances are tight, tempers tend to be short. How can we be care-full in our ministry? Let's remember that the primary mission of the church is to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Strive to proclaim the good news we proclaim on Easter Sunday, "He is Risen! Christ is risen indeed!" Perhaps in these difficult times, we might do as Paul instructed the Ephesians to "make the most of every chance we get" to live the love that is ours through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. These are "desperate times," so let's outdo one another in love when we're tempted to give in to the "crabby bug." Pastors and leaders can only work with the resources at hand. Whether you still have a well-paying job, you're unemployed, retired, or you've settled for a lesser-paying job, together let's find a way to give our time, talent, and treasures to say "THANK YOU" to God for the blessings we've received.

April EVENTS

April's Opportunities:

- **Communion Sunday** – April 2 – 11:00 AM
- **Ballet** – Saturdays @ 1:00 PM
- **Food Pantry** – Tuesdays – 10:00 AM till noon
- **Circle of Grace** – Wednesday, April 12 – 6:00 PM
- **We Praise Sundays** – April 9 & 23 – 11:00 AM
- **Leadership Circle** – Tuesday, April 18 – 7:00 PM
- **United Women of Faith general meeting** – Wednesday, April 19 – 7:00 PM
- **Meals on Wheels** – Wednesday, April 26
- **Oasis Breakfast** – Thursday, April 27
- **United Methodist Men** – Sunday, April 23 – 8:00 AM
- **Ballet Performance** – Sunday, April 30
- **Spring Fling for Children** – Sunday, April 30 – after church

April Prayer List

-continue to keep these members in your prayers-

Lila Cox
Ruth Gilmore
Kathy McLaughlin
Charlie Morton
Ronnie Perkins
Debbie Wright

If you know of a church member that would appreciate our prayers, send your request to queenbeez@cox.net. These will rotate off the list each month unless notified otherwise.



April Birthdays:

2 – Carol Lewis
13 – Nancy Clark
18 – Elaine Brinkley
30 – John Redd

April Anniversaries:

9 – Susan & Joe Cohen – 1983
22 – Nancy & Kim Clark – 1983
30 – Kay & Ronnie Perkins

-if you have a birthday or anniversary that's not listed, let queenbeez@cox.net know-

Weekly/Monthly Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Food Pantry** will be filling and handing out bags of food on Tuesdays between 10:00 AM and noon. To volunteer, contact David Lutz.
- **Meals on Wheels** will be delivered on 4th Wednesday, April 26. To volunteer, contact Ginny & Willie Collins.
- **Oasis Ministries Breakfast** will be prepared and served on 4th Thursday, April 27. If you would help with this, contact Iverson Garrison.

Please consider this.