

# crossroads circuit rider



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The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

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★  
FOR  
unto us a  
Child<sup>is</sup> born,  
unto us a Son  
is given; and the government  
will be upon His shoulder. And  
His name will be called  
Wonderful  
MIGHTY  
Counselor,  
Everlasting Father  
PRINCE OF PEACE  
ISAIAH  
9:6



## Time to Order Poinsettias

Add to the beauty of our sanctuary at Christmas by purchasing a **poinsettia** in honor and/or in memory of loved ones. Poinsettias may be purchased at a cost of \$12.00 each – checks made out to "Francis Asbury Class". The deadline for placing orders is **Tuesday, November 30**. Complete this form and place in box in narthex / give to Susan Cohen / send to [queenbeez@cox.net](mailto:queenbeez@cox.net).

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_



## Charge Conference

Crossroads' **Charge Conference** will be held on **Saturday, December 3 – 10:00 AM–12:00 PM**. This will be an in-person meeting with other Coastal Virginia District churches and will take place at **Great Bridge UMC**. All are invited.

District Superintendent Brooks has asked the clergy to help facilitate resources for a planned discussion for our Charge Conferences this year. They are asking to have Clergy and Laity who will be attending Charge Conferences read Chapter 5 of Paul Tillich's The New Being. Within that are two areas "On Healing Part 1 and On Healing Part 2". It is asked that you prayerfully read over this material and how it might help us think about ministry. There will be a guided conversation about this material as our worship experience as an alternative to a sermon. Here is [a copy of the chapter](#) or if you wish to read the larger context of his writing a [pdf of the document](#). If these links don't work, let the office know.



The above "**invite cards**" have been handed out to those in attendance. It is hoped you will use them to invite others to your church. This could be your family and friends or those you meet in your daily lives. Let them know this is a good place to be during the Advent season and beyond.

## PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS



The **sanctuary** looks beautiful. Thank you to everyone who was able to stay after church and "hang the greens". Just wait till the poinsettias arrive.

The **Manger of Love** is on display in the sanctuary. It is being used during the holidays to collect unwrapped toys, books, socks, gloves, puzzles, etc. as well as cash donations for the Wesley Community Center. It will be on display through **December 11<sup>th</sup>**. See Nancy Clark for more information or to give a monetary donation

Our **Christmas Worship Music** will be brought to us by our choir on **December 18<sup>th</sup>** during the 11:00 AM service. You will hear renditions of "Keep Your Lamps!", "Noel, Noel", "Amen! Christmas, Amen!", and "Go Tell it on the Mountain".

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

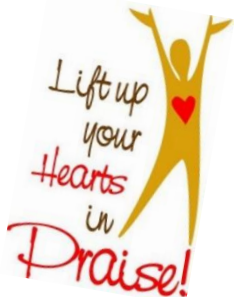
Who: **Everyone!**

When: **Third Tuesday of every month → December 20**

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.



The We Praise Band will bring songs of Joy & Praise at the December 25 Worship Service.

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

## Do You Have or Do You Need 2023 Calendars?

If anyone has received promotional **calendars** that they will not be using in **2023**, please place them in the narthex on the right-hand side for others who might need them.



The **weekly small group Bible study** led by Ruth Gilmore has begun a new study entitled Jesus, The God Who Knows Your Name by Max Lucado. They meet on Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM, in the church fellowship hall. **All** are welcome to come and participate. You will be blessed.



## Join Us on Sundays for In Person Worship!

Join us for **in person worship** each **Sunday at 11:00 AM!**

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).



## Crossroads' Food Pantry is a Blessing to the Community

**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.

Besides handing out food, they have been handing out socks. The District had acquired over 10,000 black Bomba socks and Crossroads was able to get 3 cases or 750 socks to hand out. Socks are always a much-appreciated item to receive.



**All Saints Day** at Crossroads was observed on Sunday, November 6, 2022. On this day we honored those who have hallowed this earth by their prayers and by the way they walked in the light of God.

*CAPT Henry Fred Berch, Jr. - March 3, 2021*

*Martha Kurtz - August 14, 2021*

*Elizabeth Fordham - September 22, 2021*

*Margaret Reid - November 30, 2021*

*Ned Reid - February 6, 2022*

*Ruth Baker - March 28, 2022*

*Virginia Myers - July 1, 2022*

*Tony Reid - July 3, 2022*

*Alf Mapp, III - August 12, 2022*

*Barry Rogerson - October 29, 2022*

*Phillip (Phil) Lakes - October 30, 2022*



**Crossroads' Dance Team** has weekly practice on every Saturday of the month, but no practice on December 24 and 31. 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.

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



United  
Women  
in Faith

The Crossroads **United Women in Faith** would like to thank everyone who supported their projects for the end of the year. It is hoped everyone enjoyed the "Thankful and Remembrance" bulletin; and a nice profit was made for this. The Plantation Nut sale will make another good profit when it's all said and done. With these two projects they will meet their budget for the year. Our church family is the best!

Congratulations go out to the Food Pantry Workers who were recognized in church. They were each given a certificate, and a donation to UWF Missions was given in their name. Their devotion and support of the Food Pantry is wonderful.

In conjunction with Church Women United, your UWF have partnered with Portsmouth Social Services' Operation Santa to help bring joy to the children in Foster Care. Currently there are forty-one children between the ages infant to 20 years of age, much more than last year. Crossroads has taken five of them. They received the children's wish lists and will make their presentation of gifts to PSS on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. At this time, everyone will meet at Crossroads to present their gifts to PSS. Join in for this meaningful service.

Your UWF will have an executive meeting the first part of the year to make plans. Please remember that all the ladies of the Church are invited to join the United Women in Faith; they would love to have you. The Circle of Friends meets on the first Tuesday every other month and the Circle of Grace meets the second Wednesday in the Social Hall at 6:00 pm. Come join in!



### Upcoming Events:

- **District Charge Conference** – Saturday, December 3 – 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Great Bridge UMC
- **Communion Sunday** – December 4 – 11:00 AM
- **Wesley Class Christmas Social** – Sunday, December 4
- **Choir Practice** – Wednesdays (at this time) – 7:00 PM
- **Ladies Bible Study** with Ruth Gilmore – Fellowship Hall – Thursdays – 10:00 AM
- **Ballet** – Saturdays @ 1:00 PM
- **Food Pantry** – Tuesdays – 10:00 AM till noon
- **Leadership Circle** – December 20 – 7:00 PM
- **Oasis Breakfast** – Thursday, December 22
- **We Praise Sunday** – December 25 – 11:00 AM
- **Meals on Wheels** – Wednesday, December 28

### Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Food Pantry** will be filling and handing out bags of food on Tuesdays between 10:00 AM and noon. To volunteer, contact Ronnie Perkins or David Lutz.
- **Meals on Wheels** will be delivered on 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, December 28. To volunteer, contact Ginny Collins.
- **Oasis Ministries Breakfast** will be prepared and served on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, December 22. If you would help with this, contact Iverson Garrison.

***Please consider this.***