

# crossroads circuit rider



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

## Rev. Camille Pentsil/Pastor

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

The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

Editor: Susan Cohen [[queenbeez@cox.net](mailto:queenbeez@cox.net)]



February 2023 No. E-23-a



Crossroads will hold its **Ash Wednesday Service** on **February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM**. At this time there will be the imposition of ashes by Pastor Camille, and this will usher in the season of Lent – the preparation of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.

## A Stewardship Prayer for Lent

God of Mercy,  
You have given us this special time to reflect on our lives, embrace the Good News and draw closer to You. During this season of Lent help us to use this time to fast and pray, be more generous and show others how to live in Christ. Let us see each day of this season as a new opportunity to renew our lives and gain a deeper appreciation of Your active presence in our hearts and our community of faith. Give us the grace to see Your face in others, and especially the poor and those who suffer. And through your Spirit, rekindle in us the fire of Your love so that we may be better stewards of Your redeeming work throughout the world. We ask this through Jesus, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever.

AMEN

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

Who: **Everyone!**

When: **First Tuesday of this month → February 7**  
(usually the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday)

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.



## Join Us 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).



## Many Thanks for All That Made Christmas Special at Crossroads

Thank you to everyone who **decorated the sanctuary** and ordered the poinsettias that adorned the altar for the Advent/Christmas season. This went a long way to bringing the spirit into the sanctuary.

The members of the Wesley Class thank you for all the wonderful toys and games you donated for the **Wesley Community Service Center** again this year. This has been a special mission project that they have sponsored for many years. One of their deceased members, Lee Lewis, made the manger and they look forward to filling it with love gifts again next Christmas. Please plan to help.

**The Choir** did a beautiful job presenting their special Christmas Worship Music on Sunday, December 19 during the 11:00 AM service. You heard renditions of "Keep Your Lamps!", "Noel, Noel", "Amen! Christmas, Amen!", and "Go Tell it on the Mountain". Harlan worked hard putting this together.



United  
Women  
in Faith

The Crossroads **United Women in Faith** had an Executive meeting on Sunday Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> after church in the Social Hall. They discussed the year's plans.

The General Meeting dates are as follows:

- Wednesday, April 19 @ 7:00 PM – Call to Prayer and Self Denial
- Wednesday, June 21 @ 6:00 PM – Covered "Picnic" Dish
- Wednesday, September 20 @ 7:00 PM – Circle of Friends program
- Wednesday, November 15 @ 6:00 PM – World Thank Dinner with a guest speaker from the Wesley Community Center (these are subject to change)

The fundraisers for the year will be:

- Altar flowers at Easter
- Plantation Nut orders in the Fall
- Friendship and Remembrance Bulletin
- Altar flowers at Christmas

The UWF is planning a fun activity each quarter of the year starting with a movie outing in February. Stay tuned...

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

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



It was with a heavy heart that we said "**see you soon**" to Dr. Harlan Zackary, Jr. on Sunday, January 8. Crossroads was fortunate to gain Harlan as their choir director in 2019. He has been a blessing to both the congregation and especially the choir. There were a lot of tears and hugs that day. God speed, Zackary.

The SPPRC met on January 24<sup>th</sup> 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.



The We Praise Band  
will bring songs of  
Joy & Praise at the  
**February 12 & 26**  
Worship Services.

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.

## Pray and Refresh

Crossroads **Day of Prayer** will be held Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. Join us that day as we pray for our community and especially our children.

Afterwards, they will get to work **refreshing** the church storage boxes and closets. Anything of possible worth will be placed in the Social Hall to be perused and then the remainder disposed of.



**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.

## February Prayer List

-keep these members in your prayers-

Lila Cox  
Kathy McLaughlin  
Charlie Morton  
Betty Ozmon  
Ronnie Perkins  
Debbie Wright

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



**Crossroads' Dance Team** has weekly practice on every Saturday of the month. 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.

## Time to Order Easter Flowers



Information and deadline for ordering **Easter flowers** will be in the bulletin in just a few weeks. But it is not too early to start thinking about your dedications. We would like the Easter altar to look as beautiful as our Christmas altar.

## Upcoming Events:

- **Communion Sunday** – February 5 – 11:00 AM
- **Leadership Circle** – February 7 – 7:00 PM – date has changed
- **Ballet** – Saturdays @ 1:00 PM
- **Food Pantry** – Tuesdays – 10:00 AM till noon
- **Circle of Grace** – 6:00 PM
- **We Praise Sundays** – February 12 & 26 – 11:00 AM
- **Meals on Wheels** – Wednesday, February 22
- **Ash Wednesday** – February 22
- **Oasis Breakfast** – Thursday, February 23

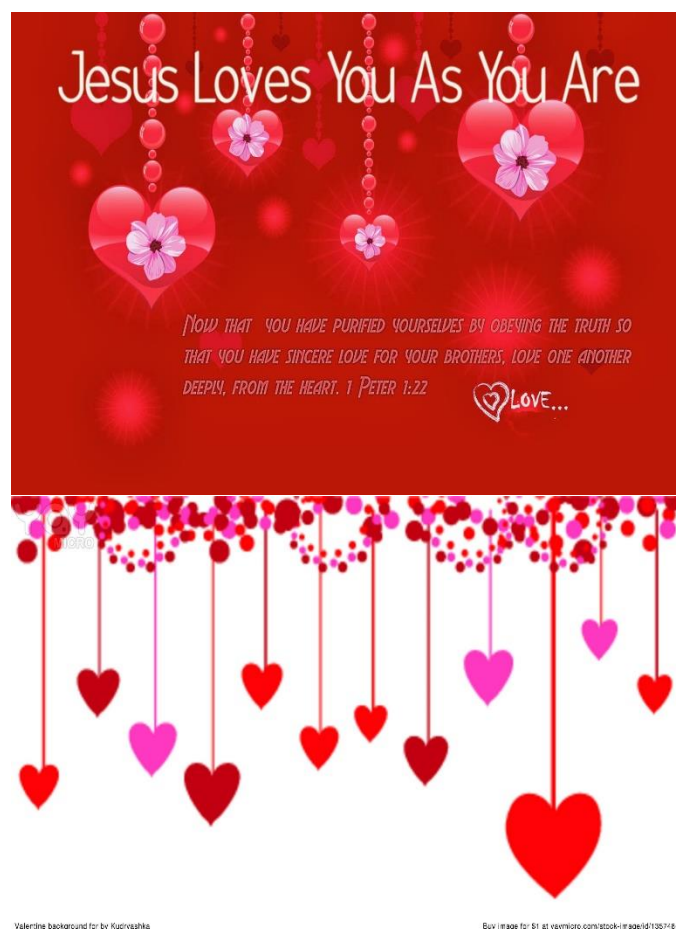
## Changes in Financial Responsibilities

As of the first of the year Crossroads has acquired a bookkeeper, Vicki Knox, to set our finances up on QuickBooks. We will still have signers to reimburse anyone for their purchases, etc. They are David Lutz and Steve Rapp. If you need to be reimbursed, get a voucher from the office, fill it out, and the signers will get back with you on payment.

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, February 22. To volunteer, contact Ginny & Willie Collins.
- **Oasis Ministries Breakfast** will be prepared and served on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, February 23. If you would help with this, contact Iverson Garrison.

***Please consider this.***



Valentine background for by Kuczyshka

Buy image for \$1 at [www.shutterstock.com/stock-image/1301164](http://www.shutterstock.com/stock-image/1301164)