

# crossroads circuit rider



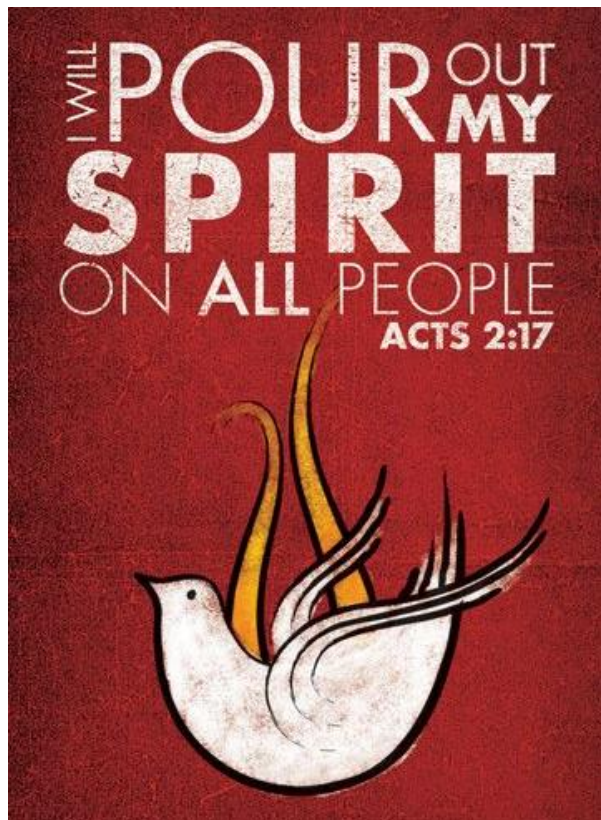
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The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

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June 2023 No. E-23-e



Sunday, May 28 is Day of Pentecost  
-Wear Red to Church-



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/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurch  
Portsmouth.](https://www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth)



Be A Part of Crossroads'  
Leadership Circle and  
Discover the Possibilities

At Crossroads' last **Leadership Circle** in May, they had as their guest, Rev. Jason Stanley. He is the Revitalization Coordinator for the Coastal Virginia District. After gleaning specific information from the church, he will meet with the congregation to help everyone "discover the possibilities" that await to help Crossroads be sustainable.

When a date has been chosen (probably in August or September), there will be a church-wide meeting to discuss what steps need to be taken.

It is asked that you be in prayer about this. Crossroads needs you.

The next **Leadership Circle** at Crossroads UMC will be June 20<sup>th</sup>. Join together in the Social Hall at 7:00 PM. This is where the "turning point" of Crossroads' ministry will be discussed.



## Virginia UMC Annual Conference 2023

The 241<sup>st</sup> session of the **Virginia Annual Conference**, to be held in Roanoke, VA, June 15-17, 2023, will be focused on the theme, **United as One in Mission**.

The theme is based on Acts 1:8b, *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* NIV



After completing an in-depth study of the book of Daniel, the Thursday morning **Ladies Bible Study** group will reconvene on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Ruth Gilmore is the study leader. At this time, they will begin watching the 3<sup>rd</sup> season of **The Chosen**. There are eight episodes which means this study will end on Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.

The **Chosen** is the first-ever multi-season series about the life of Christ. Tens of million viewers have watched the series. This is a show that explores Jesus through the eyes of those that knew Him. Join the group on Thursday mornings at **10:00 AM** in the Social Hall. See what everyone is talking about.

## Volunteers Needed!

Crossroads is at a turning point and to help us grow forward we need some more people to step up to the plate, so to speak. Sounds simple but **we need the following**:

- Someone to click the Power Point during the Sunday worship service
- People who would help with Children's Sunday School

If you would like more information about these areas, see Lisa Boettcher.



The **We Praise Band** will bring songs of Joy & Praise at the June 11 & 25 Worship Services.

The We Praise Band consists of Mark Goldman – worship leader & guitar & vocalist, 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' 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 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 Crossroads **United Women in Faith** will have a "Cook-in" on Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM. All members of the church are invited to come out and enjoy dinner and, afterwards, the playing of BUNCO. If can join them, please bring a small gift to put in for the BUNCO winners. Also don't worry about food. The Circles will take care of providing that. Hope to see you on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June.

They had thirteen ladies view the movie "The Book Club: The Next Chapter" and dine at Surf Rider restaurant on May 21. It was a great night of laughs and fellowship.



**Crossroads United Methodist Men** will meet in the Social Hall every other month on the last Sunday at 8:00 AM. They will meet in June on the 25<sup>th</sup>. You are encouraged to attend. – Gerald Pentsil





**Crossroads is blessed** to have two wonderful musicians join us on Sunday mornings. Joyce Brockhausen, on piano, and Shaun Kane, on flute, will be providing the music on the first and third Sundays.

The **We Praise Band** is also providing music on the alternate Sundays. They will lead the music on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Thank you to Mark Goldman for coordinating this.

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 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.

Their next performance is **July 30**. 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.

## 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, May 24. To volunteer, contact Ginny & Willie Collins.
- **Oasis Ministries Breakfast** will be prepared and served on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, May 25. If you would help with this, contact Iverson Garrison.

*Please consider this.*

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

## June Prayer List

-continue to keep these members in your prayers-

Lila Cox  
Kathy McLaughlin  
Charlie Morton  
Ronnie Perkins  
Debbie Wright  
Robert Wright (set to deploy to Iraq)

*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.*



- **Ballet Practice** – Saturdays @ 1:00 PM
- **Communion @ Sunday Worship** – Sunday, June 4 – 11:00 AM
- **We Praise practice** – Mondays – 7:00 PM
- **Food Pantry** – Tuesdays – 10:00 AM till noon
- **Circle of Friends Summer Social**– Tuesday, June 6 – 6:00 PM
- **Circle of Grace** – Wednesday, June 14 – 6:00 PM
- **Ladies Bible Study** – Thursdays – 10:00 AM
- **We Praise Sundays** – June 11 & 25 – 11:00 AM
- **VA UMC Annual Conference** – June 14-17 – Roanoke
- **Father's Day** – Sunday, June 18
- **Leadership Circle** – Tuesday, June 20 – 7:00 PM
- **UWF sponsored** – Cook-in & Bunco – 6:00 PM
- **Oasis Breakfast** – Thursday, June 22
- **United Methodist Men** – Sunday, June 25 – 8:00 AM
- **Meals on Wheels** – Wednesday, June 28



Stewardship Corner  
-submitted by Georgia Garrison-

## Unless the Lord

*"Unless the Lord builds the house,  
they labor in vain who build." – Psalms 27:1*

David wanted to build the Temple for God, but God told him that Solomon, his son, was to be the builder. Was that when David penned the words, "Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain"? David knew that the Temple is just a building without the Lord's presence.

What is true on a grand scale, like building a Temple, is true at every level. The most mundane event becomes infused with the miraculous when God shows up. After Jesus taught a large crowd, a simple lunch of fish and bread that a young boy offered fed the entire gathering. On another occasion, Jesus used mud to heal a blind man's eyes. Apart from Jesus, fish is simply a meal, and mud is wet dirt.

God has gifted us each in incredible ways. Those gifts are meant to bring us joy and to bless others in profound ways. We are called to use the talents, abilities, and strengths we have been given by God. Yet, unless the Lord breathes on our abilities, we might as well be twiddling our thumbs. The most beautiful worship music performed flawlessly with passionate emotion is but a clanging cymbal unless the Lord is in the midst. The exquisite meal prepared in the most inviting setting is just food on a plate unless the Lord is at the table. In my life, I know that no matter how articulate I am, no matter how inspirational or moving, my writing is only letters on a page unless the Lord blesses the work.

Always remember who brings growth to the seeds we plant. All through the day each one of us is building a house through the work we do and the people we see. The reminder from Solomon is to never count on our inherent skill as a determiner of success. Our call is to be faithful; His prerogative is whether or not our work brings success. We know, in the end, unless the Lord gives growth to the seed, we are wasting our time.

The beauty of this truth is twofold: God is our ever-present partner. We are not alone in anything we do. Faithfulness is our responsibility, including being prepared and working with excellence, but success is in His hands. This frees me up from the heavy weight of achieving specific results. God takes care of that.

Second, God brings power to the mundane. He works miracles in people's lives through ordinary lunches, casual conversations, words of encouragement. He shows up when we least expect it. But when He shows up, nothing can deter us from hundredfold fruitfulness. When we say connected to Him, everything is sacred.

~ Tommy Thompson ~



## Bereavement Support

No one has responded to last month's **Bereavement Committee** request. We ask that you pray about this and see if you feel called to offer yourself in this capacity. Talk to Nancy Clark for more details or to let her know that you can take on this responsibility. As always, it is hoped this committee will not be needed for a long time.



## June Birthdays:

2 – Janice Clark  
6 – Nancy Jackson  
11 – James Journigan  
17 – Audrey Lutz  
20 – Brian Boettcher  
28 – Ronnie Perkins  
29 – Kelly Brown  
30 – Chris Boettcher

-if you have a birthday or anniversary that's not listed,  
let [queenbeez@cox.net](mailto:queenbeez@cox.net) know-



## Upcoming Summer Activities to Put on Your Calendar:

- Ballet Performance – Sunday, July 30 – 11:00 AM
- Patriotic Church Picnic – Sunday, July 30 – after church
- Vacation Bible School – Monday, August 14 till Thursday, August 17