

crossroads circuit rider



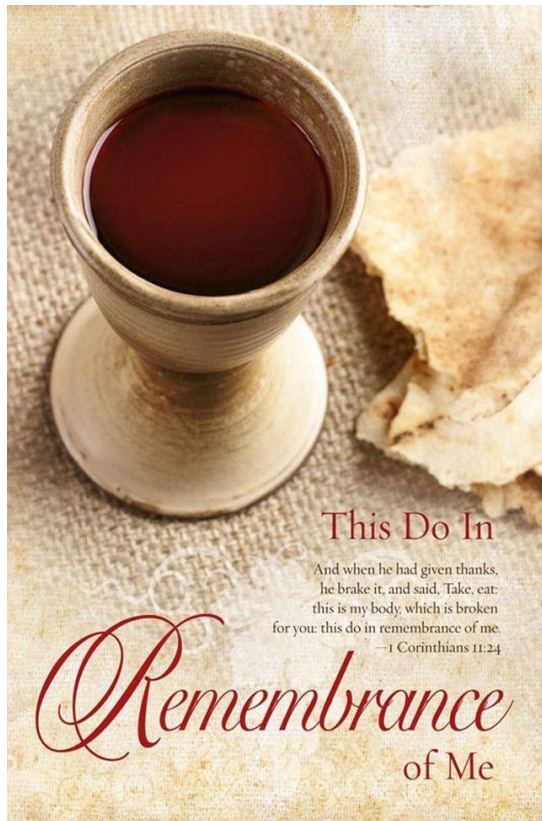
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The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

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Discover the Possibilities

Crossroads' "Discover the Possibilities" is being postponed till **Saturday, September 23rd** (per district request). On that day Rev. Jason Stanley, the Revitalization Coordinator for the Coastal Virginia District, will meet with us from 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM. This will be a time to dream, to work together to discern where we want our church to go in this world. I saw a quote today that read *"The world in front of us is not like the world behind us. We must explore new ways to reach it."* Please be in prayer about this and plan to attend on this day. It's open to everyone.



Crossroad's **Vacation Bible School** was held during the third week of July. They assembled during the daytime this year. It was a terrific week, and everyone was sad to see it end. There was an average of 12 children – from our congregation, from the ballet troupe, and from the neighborhood.

At Babylon, the children learned about Daniel, complete with the lion's den. They learned that in all circumstances, God is there.

We want to thank everyone that took part in this outreach program – the kitchen crew, the craft instructors, the Bible story ensemble, the recreation team, and of course the director of it all – Lisa Boettcher. Until next year...



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

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

Excel in the Grace of Giving!

"But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us ... see that you also excel in this grace of giving" (2 Corinthians 8:7).

Dear Friends in Christ,
Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus!

I am pleased to share with you that beginning on October 8 we will begin a three-week stewardship program titled "Excel in the Grace of Giving." This three-week period will be an enriching time for our congregation. As we grow in the grace of giving, we will develop an even closer relationship with our Lord. Our faith will deepen, both as individuals and as a congregation. For some of us, the lack of faithful giving continues to be an obstacle to our spiritual growth. Growing in our giving deepens our trust in God.

Scripture is clear that we are called to be faithful stewards and to share generously with others. We give, not because God needs our money, but because we have a need to give. Through our giving, God blesses us. Giving is our response to God's love and grace. We give willingly and cheerfully out of gratitude and thanksgiving to God.

I pray that the Lord will truly bless this series and that he will reveal the true riches of his peace and joy when we give to him our first and best. I hope that you will be present all three weeks which address the theme "Excel in the Grace of Giving."

May God's blessings remain with you as you continue your faithful stewardship of the many blessings entrusted to your care.

In Christ,
Pastor Camille Pentsil

Stewardship Corner

-submitted by Georgia Garrison-

God's Blessings through Giving

God loves and gives to all people, but, through our faithful and generous giving, we are blessed even more. As we give to others, we experience one of the true joys of being Christians. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). The blessings we receive from God as a result of our generosity are much greater than anything we can give to him. What God seeks from us is that we act justly and humbly before him and show mercy to others (Micah 6:8). God doesn't need our gifts, but he asks us to give them. God says, "I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, for every animal of the forest is Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills" (Psalms 50:9-10). He accepts and uses our gifts and gives us joy in sharing them.

Our giving is a response to the awesome love shown to us on the cross. Our grateful hearts cannot help but respond in this way to Christ for what he did for us. How are you doing in reflecting your love for Christ?



The **We Praise Band** will bring songs of Joy & Praise at the September 17 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.

Time to Get Back to Sunday School

Crossroads is supporting one adult Sunday School Class at this time – **The Wesley Class**, named after Charles Wesley, an English leader of the Methodist movement in the 1700's.

They have 4 teachers who rotate the teaching of the lessons. The Fall lessons will revolve around the topic: "God's Law is Love". They will delve into the books of Luke, John, Acts, Romans, 1 Corinthians, Galatians, and Colossians and see how Jesus relates to us today.

It is hoped that you will consider participating in this class. They meet in the Dill Chapel at 9:45 AM each Sunday.

Volunteers Continually 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:**

- Volunteers 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.



Crossroads United Methodist Men will meet in the Social Hall every other month on the last Sunday at 8:00 AM. They will meet next on October 29. You are encouraged to attend. – *Gerald Pentsil*



Daily Devotion Publication
Available in Narthex

The September-October Upper Room daily devotional booklet is available in our narthex. Small print booklets are 75¢ and large print booklets will be \$1.25.



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.

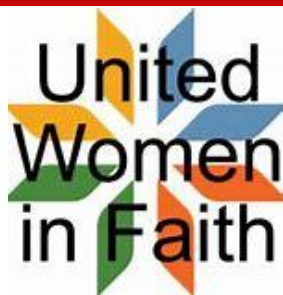
If you would like to help in the Food Pantry on Tuesdays, contact the above folk and they can tell you when you would be needed.



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.

There will be No Ballet practice on Saturday, September 9th. Classes will resume on Saturday, September 16th. Their next performance is Sunday, October 29 during Worship.

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.



The Crossroads **United Women in Faith** is getting ready to reconvene after the summer break. It is hoped everyone enjoyed their break.

They will hold the World Thank Covered Dish Dinner on September 20 @ 6:00 PM. As part of this evening there will be a speaker – the director from the Wesley Community Center will be with us. Everyone is invited to this event.

They will be taking orders for Plantation Nuts again this Fall, so be thinking about what you would like to order. Always a pleaser for Christmas gifts.

Crossroads' Prayer List

-continue to keep these members in your prayers-

Nancy Clark
Ruth Gilmore
Vance McEachern, Jr.
Kathy McLaughlin
Charlie Morton
Debbie Morton
Ronnie Perkins
Debbie Wright
Robert Wright (deployed to Iraq)



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.

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, September 27. To volunteer, contact Ginny & Willie Collins.
- **Oasis Ministries Breakfast** will be prepared and served on 4th Thursday, September 28. To volunteer, contact Iverson Garrison.

Please consider this.



- **Ballet Practice** – Saturdays @ 1:00 PM (no class on September 9)
- **Communion @ Sunday Worship** – Sunday, September 3 – 11:00 AM
- **Labor Day** – Monday, September 4 – office closed
- **We Praise practice** – September 11 – 7:00 PM
- **Food Pantry** – Tuesdays – 10:00 AM till noon
- **Circle of Friends** – September 12 – 7:00 PM
- **Circle of Grace** – September 13 – 6:00 PM
- **"Discover the Possibilities"** – Saturday, September 16 – 8:30 AM ~ 3:00 PM
- **We Praise Sunday** – September 17 – 11:00 AM
- **Leadership Circle** – Tuesday, September 19 – 7:00 PM
- **United Women in Faith** – Wednesday, September 20 – 6:00 PM
- **Meals on Wheels** – Wednesday, September 27
- **Oasis Breakfast** – Thursday, September 28