

crossroads circuit rider



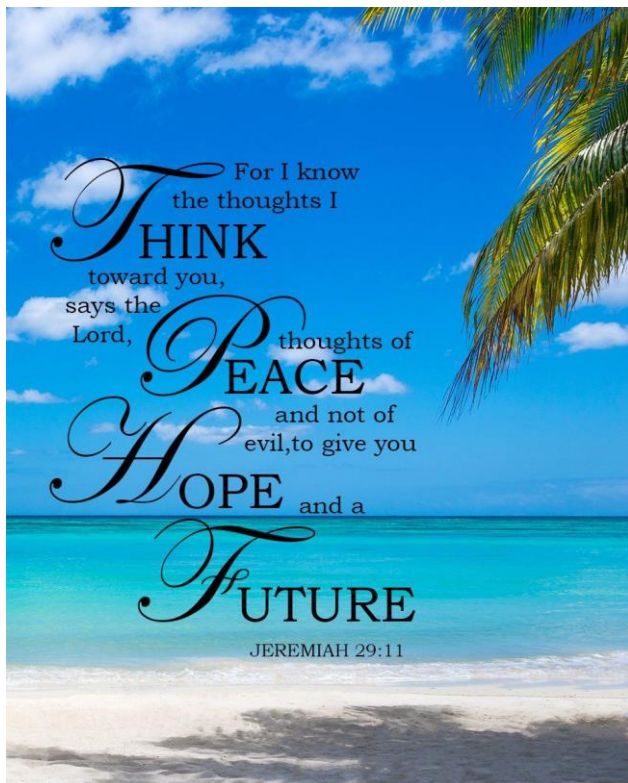
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July & August 2024 No. E-24-f



Our Breakthrough Prayer

A **Breakthrough Prayer** is an intentional congregational prayer practice. The purpose of this prayer is to ask God for guidance for our next steps, including new possibilities for the congregation. Your Leadership Circle has met and has written this congregation-wide prayer, asking God to break through and do only that which God can do. This prayer will be prayed whenever the church gathers for worship, fellowship, meetings, etc. and when you are home daily. Here is our prayer:

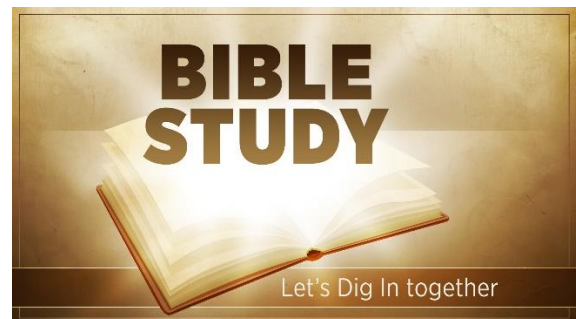
Dear God, you have put us at these crossroads for a purpose. Help us to keep our lights shining amid the challenges we face so that we may help others find their way. -Amen



In Person and Online

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.



Crossroads has Two Bible Studies – Why Not Join One –

There are two Bible Studies in progress at Crossroads at this time. One meets on Thursday mornings and the other meets on Wednesday nights.

The **Wednesday Night Bible Study** is going to continue to meet starting on **August 7th at 7:00 PM**. The schedule will be the 1st and the 3rd Wednesdays of each month. The first meetup will be to discuss Leviticus 1-4.

The **Thursday Ladies Bible Study** will meet in the Social Hall at 10:30 AM. Beginning July 11th they will be viewing and discussing *The Chosen: Season 4*.

Crossroads is Excited to Welcome Pastor Mike Cuffee **note change in date for picnic*

Sunday, July 7, 2024 marks the first Sunday for our new pastor, **Michael (Mike) Cuffee**. We welcome Mike to our church family. There will be a **covered dish luncheon** immediately after church on ***July 14th**.

Mike comes to us from Norview UMC in Norfolk, VA. We look forward to working together and getting to know each other. See more about him below.

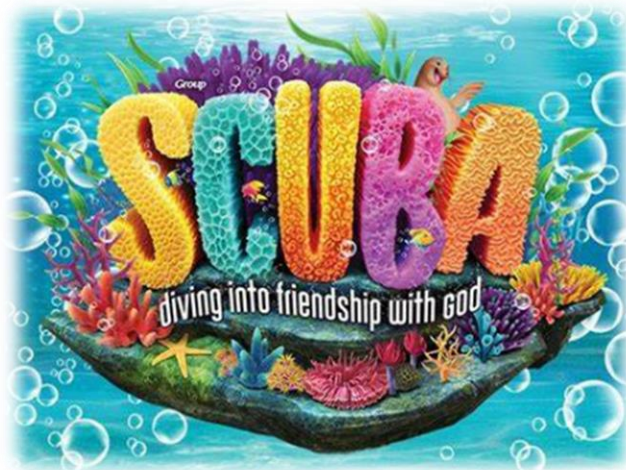
Meet the New Pastor:

Michael Cuffee, born May 31, 2000, is the definition of what a true man of God is. Michael grew up in Virginia Beach until his family moved to Portsmouth, Virginia, where he attended both Brighton and Parkview Elementary School and Cradock Middle School. Then he moved to Chesapeake, VA for high school. Michael graduated from Oscar F. Smith High School. He continued his education at Regent University where he obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and Principalship. After graduation Michael began to work in education where he served as an Administrator in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Richmond. Shortly afterwards, he became the Director of two schools in the Elizabeth River District of the Virginia United Methodist Church. At the close of those schools, he decided to attend Averette University. Michael works as the Director of Education for the Christian Fellowship Center which now has three locations due to his great leadership. Michael doesn't make decisions without going to prayer and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide him. Over the past year Michael served as the Pastor of Norview United Methodist Church. During that time Michael was able to baptize thirteen teenagers and two young adults, bringing the church from ten members in average worship to thirty in worship every Sunday. Michael's transparency and ministry allow him to Connect to people of all ethnic background, social backgrounds and generations. During this conference year Michael completed a Master's Degree in Curriculum Development and Administration. He also completed the VAUMC licensing school class of 2024. Michael is very excited to serve Crossroads United Methodist Church. He will allow the Holy Spirit to lead and have its way. He looks forward to this new year in Christ.



Crossroads' Food Pantry is a Blessing to the Community

Crossroads' Food Pantry 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.



**Vacation Bible School is Set for
Monday, July 22 – Thursday, July 25
6:00 – 8:00 PM**

Mark your calendars!

**The Children will Plunge Beneath the Waves
to Forge a Mighty Faith**

They will go on a thrilling underwater journey, where they can dive into the unceasing, boundless love of God. At Scuba VBS, kids will submerge themselves in the Scriptures and uncover the true essence of the living waters!

VBS Registration Night of Fun

To kick off our Vacation Bible School Week, there will be a night of food and fun. On **Sunday, July 21st** beginning at **5:00 PM**, there will be hotdogs and chips, along with music, games, and lots of fellowship. Everyone is asked to attend and bring a chair, even if you are not bringing a child to VBS. But if you are bringing children, this will be a great way to register them and let them get a feel of what to expect.

Could You Help by Sponsoring a Child for Vacation Bible School?

Would you consider sponsoring a child (or more than one) for Vacation Bible School with a **donation of \$20.00 per child**? This would be a blessing to a child, who may hear of God's love for the very first time while attending our VBS, not to mention the financial benefit it will be for this Crossroads ministry. If so, please complete the slip below and make all checks payable to "Crossroads UMC", reflecting VBS on the memo line. If you are willing to contribute, but are unable to sponsor one child, please indicate the amount you are willing to donate in the "Other" space below.

NAME: _____

VBS SPONSORSHIP OF (Please circle): \$20 \$40 \$60

Other _____



The Crossroads **United Women in Faith** held their summer "Cook In" on June 19th. Carol Vico presented a wonderful program on "Hospitality". The food and fellowship were wonderful, and everyone enjoyed playing Bingo afterwards and receiving prizes.

They would like to thank everyone who supported the Mother's and Father's Day Bulletins. They garnered a profit of \$403 and \$383 respectively.

They will take a break for the rest of the summer and come back together in the Fall with their World Thank Covered Dish Dinner on September 18th @ 6:00 PM. Joyce Dignard will be presenting a program on "Creating With and For One Another". Everyone is invited to this event.



The **We Praise** Band will bring songs of Joy & Praise at the July 21 & August 18 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 – drums, vocalist & guitarist.



July

- **We Praise Band practices** – Mondays – 7:00 PM
- **Food Pantry** – Tuesdays – 10:00 AM till noon (closed July 2nd)
- **Ballet** – Saturdays @ 1:00 PM
- **Welcome of our New Pastor** – Sunday, July 7
- **Patriotic Picnic** – Sunday, **July 14** – after church
- **Leadership Circle** – Tuesday, July 16 – 7:00 PM
- **We Praise Leads Worship** - Sunday, July 21 – 11:00 AM
- **Vacation Bible School** – Monday, July 22 – Thursday, July 25 – 6:00-8:00 PM

August

- **We Praise Band practices** – Mondays – 7:00 PM
- **Food Pantry** – Tuesdays – 10:00 AM till noon
- **Ballet** – Saturdays @ 1:00 PM
- **Worship with Communion** – Sunday, August 4 – 11:00 AM
- **We Praise Leads Worship** - Sunday, August 18 – 11:00 AM
- **Leadership Circle** – Tuesday, August 20 – 7:00 PM

Dates are subject to change

Stewardship Corner

-submitted by Georgia Garrison-

6 Stewardship Tweetables

Tweetable #1

We often think our treasure follows our hearts. Jesus says the opposite! Our hearts will follow our treasure.

Tweetable #2

Where do you want to invest your treasure (your time, energy, and money)? Where are you currently investing?

Tweetable #3

You can't serve God and money. How many masters are you serving?

Tweetable #4

Investing our treasure in the things of God allows us to be a part of things bigger than ourselves.

Tweetable #5

The closer we get to God, the more we are compelled to give away.

Tweetable #6

Jesus sings his "don't worry song" over us.

Summer Prayer List

-continue to keep these members in your prayers-

Nancy Clark
Pastor Michael Cuffee
Iris Jennings
David Lutz
Vance McEachern, Jr.
Kathy McLaughlin
Debbie Morton
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.





Daily Devotion Publication
Available in Narthex

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



On Saturday, June 22, 2024, **Brian T. Boettcher** was ordained as an Elder in Full Connection in the United Methodist Church during the Service of Recognition and Call held at the Hampton Roads Convention Center. He is now entering his 1.5 year at Granberry Memorial in Covington, VA. He is the son of Tom and Lisa Boettcher and the grandson of Iverson and Georgia Garrison.

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



...or from Your Church
Responsibilities

Crossroads is asking for the assistance of all members in keeping pledges current and when possible, paying them ahead of time when you will be away from church for extended periods. An **adequate balance in the Operating Fund** over the summer months is important. Thank you for helping with this.

