

crossroads circuit rider



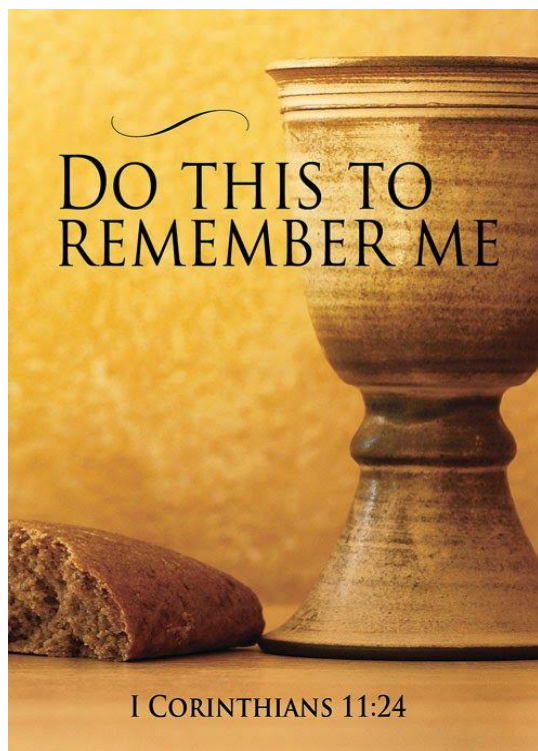
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October 2024 No. E-24-h



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

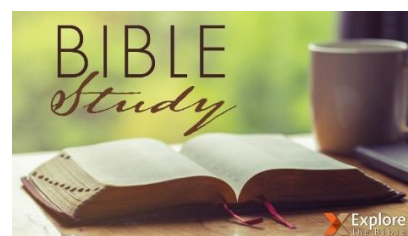


In Person and Online

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 meeting on the first and third Wednesday s of each month at **7:00 PM**. They have been working their way through Leviticus.

The **Thursday Ladies Bible Study** will meet in the Social Hall at **10:30 AM**. They will be starting a new series soon.

Live a God-Pleasing Life!



As Christians, we are stewards or managers of all the gifts God has given us. This is quite a task, a task, frankly, that we, on our own, are incapable of carrying out. Yet we don't have a choice; all Christians are called to be stewards. We are not left on our own, though. The God who calls us equips us as well.

"May the God of peace . . . equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to who be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Hebrews 13:20-21)

Faith is the foundation of our stewardship. It is only through faith that we can please God, and it is only by faith in Christ's mighty power within us that we are able to do the works God has prepared for us to do.

If we are to be stewards **living a God-pleasing life**, we must follow the **path of discipleship** that Jesus lays out before us. We are called to serve, even as Jesus himself *"did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many"* (Matthew 20:28).

God-pleasing stewards give generously, even as their Master, Jesus, gave all he had, his very life. **Generosity was the hallmark of** the early Christians who *"shared everything they had . . . There were no needy persons among them"* (Acts 4:32, 34). Out of thankfulness to our giving God, who gives so generously, we, along with our spiritual forefathers, respond to the needs of others, giving to them as unto the Lord (Matthew 25:40).

During the month of October, we will spend three Sundays learning and growing and becoming stewards **living a God-pleasing life**. It is my hope and prayer that you will attend the worship services for this very important, educational, and enriching program.

Pastor Michael Cuffee



Crossroads' Food Pantry is a Blessing to the Community

Crossroads' Food Pantry is open on **Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**. They are asking for gently used cold weather items such as sweatshirts, jackets, and coats in order to prepare for wintertime. No other clothes are needed at this time.

Anything you can do for this program would be a blessing to this ministry and to the people who are served. They could use help filling the bags on Monday mornings. See David Lutz for more information.

Stewardship Corner

-submitted by Georgia Garrison-

Live a God-Pleasing Life!

This year's stewardship theme is **Live a God-Pleasing Life!** We have been "created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10). Together we'll learn how God not only prepares the work we are to do, but prepares and equips us, his stewards, to do that work.

Be sure to join your brothers and sisters in Christ as we study God's Word to find how we can **Live a God-Pleasing Life!** Our worship will focus on the following themes:

October 13 **Faith is the Foundation**
October 20 **Discipleship is the Path**
October 27 **Generosity is the Hallmark**

It is our prayer that each of us will be overwhelmed again and again at the grace of God which has created us, saved us, and daily offers us forgiveness and strength to be stewards who please him.

Commitment Sunday is October 27, which will be a day of joyful response to that grace of God. Please make every effort to attend worship service during this program and prayerfully consider your privileges and responsibilities as God's stewards.



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



The **We Praise** Band will bring songs of Joy & Praise at the October 20 Worship Service.



The **Crossroads United Women in Faith** held their World Thank dinner on September 25, 2024. The speaker was members of our own Food Pantry, and it was very informative, and the food was wonderful. Thank you to all who attended.

They have two projects that they are ending the year with to fulfill their financial obligations. First – selling Planation Nuts. They make wonderful Christmas presents, and they are yummy (who doesn't like fresh nuts!) See any Circle member to put in your order.

Second – purchasing Poinsettias to be placed on the altar before Christmas. This is always a great way to honor or memorialize someone dear to you, and to beautify the church and your home afterwards.

As always remember you are invited to join either of the Circle meetings.

Crossroads' Ballet Troupe has weekly practice 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 ages 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 757-397-7815 and give their child's name, age, and phone number.



Crossroads' **Trunk or Treat** will be held on **Thursday, October 31 from 6:00 until 7:00 PM.** We need your cars and candy. Contact Lisa Boettcher to sign up your car. If you cannot attend, we will be collecting candies in the Manger of Love.

- **We Praise Band practices** – Mondays – 7:00 PM
- **Food Pantry** – Tuesdays – 10:00 AM till noon
- **Ladies Bible Study** – Thursdays – 10:30 AM (not on October 10)
- **Ballet** – Saturdays @ 1:00 PM
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study** – Wednesday, October 2 – 7:00 PM
- **Worship with World Communion** – Sunday, October 6 – 11:00 AM
- **Circle of Grace** – Wednesday, October 9 – 6:00 PM
- **Leadership Meeting & Charge Conference** – Tuesday, October 15 – 6:30 PM
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study** – Wednesday, October 16 – 7:00 PM
- **We Praise Leads Worship** - Sunday, October 20 – 11:00 AM
- **Trunk or Treat** – Thursday, October 31 – 6:00-7:00 PM

We thank everyone who has filled out and returned **their Contact Card**. Crossroads has been in need of updating our contact information and this has really helped us. If you need one to fill out, contact Susan Cohen (queenbeez@cox.net)

October Prayer List

-continue to keep these members in your prayers-

- Lila Cox**
- Pastor Michael Cuffee**
- Donald Garrison**
- Joyce Geluz**
- Iris Jennings**
- Kathy McLauchlin**
- 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.



The month of October is designated as **Pastor Appreciation Month.**

This is a time for our congregation to give thanks to God for our pastor. It is also a time to demonstrate to our pastor genuine appreciation for his service.

