

# crossroads circuit rider



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The Church Council publishes the Circuit Rider.

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"Whoever welcomes a  
little child like this in  
my name welcomes me."

~Matthew 18:5



September 2024 No. E-24-g

## 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:

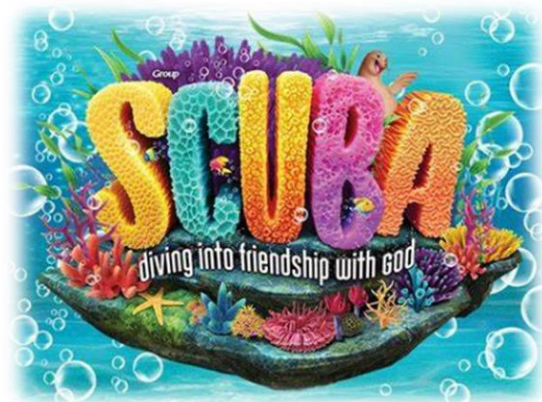
Dear God, you have put us at these crossroads for a purpose. Help us to keep our lights shining amid the challenges we face so that we may help others find their way. -Amen



## In Person and Online

Join us for **in person worship** each **Sunday at 11:00 AM!**

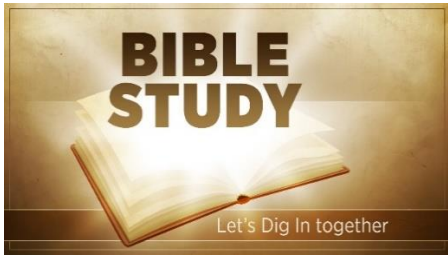
The services are also being recorded and will be available on our Facebook page. You will find this at:  
[www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth](https://www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth).



Crossroad's **Vacation Bible School** was held during the third week of July. They assembled in the evening and had a terrific week.

In SCUBA, the children "plunged beneath the wave" to forge a mighty faith and learn of the boundless love of God.

We thank everyone that took part in this outreach program for the children – the kitchen crew, the craft instructors, the science instructors, the Bible story ensemble, and of course the director – Lisa Boettcher.



## Join Crossroads for Their Wednesday Night Bible Study

The **Wednesday Night Bible Study** is meeting twice a month. The schedule will be the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month. They are in the process of learning the ways of the priests and about sacrifices as they journey through Leviticus.



## 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. See David Lutz for more information.



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

They will hold their World Thank Covered Dish Dinner on September 25 at 6:00 PM. As part of this evening there will be a presentation by our Food Pantry committee. Everyone is invited to attend.

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

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](mailto:queenbeez@cox.net))



The **We Praise** Band will bring songs of Joy & Praise at the September 15 Worship Service.

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.

## September Prayer List

-continue to keep these members in your prayers-

- Lila Cox
- Pastor Michael Cuffee
- Donald Garrison
- Iris Jennings
- Kathy McLaughlin
- 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.*



## Daily Devotion Publication Available in Narthex

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



**Crossroads' Ballet Troupe** has weekly practice 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 **September 29**. 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.

Installation Service for  
District Superintendent  
Beth Givens



Sunday, September 15  
3:00 pm

In Person @ Cheriton UMC  
21309 S Bayside Rd  
Cape Charles, VA 23310

Virtual @ Oak Grove UMC  
472 Battlefield Blvd N,  
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Recognition of New Appointments  
Holy Communion (Both Locations)  
Ice Cream Trucks (Both Locations)  
Bishop Sue Haupt Johnson Participating



- **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, September 1 – 11:00 AM
- **Circle of Friends** – Tuesday, September 3 – 7:00 PM
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study** – Wednesday, September 4 – 7:00 PM
- **Circle of Grace** – Wednesday, September 11 – 6:00 PM
- **We Praise Leads Worship** - Sunday, September 15 – 11:00 AM
- **Leadership Meeting** – Tuesday, September 17 – 7:00 PM
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study** – Wednesday, September 18 – 7:00 PM
- **United Women in Faith** – General Meeting – Wednesday, September 25 – 6:00 PM
- **Worship with Ballet Performance** – Sunday, September 29 – 11:00 AM



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

## Stewardship Corner

-submitted by Georgia Garrison-

*For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, the Lord has chosen you to be his treasured possession. ~ Deuteronomy 14:2*

You matter. You matter because you're made in the image of God. You are a blueprint birthed out of heaven. Your physical makeup is beautiful because the eye of your beloved beholder is your heavenly Father. Your intellectual capacity is attractive because in Christ you know the mind of Christ. Your emotional energy is engaging because you are accepted and loved by God. You matter because your master Jesus says you matter.

You matter. You matter because you are chosen by the Lord—you are His treasured possession. Jesus wants you to be with Him like a coach who recruits athletes; He has picked you to be on His team. He calls the plays, and He expects you to excel in the position best suited for your skills, gifts, and experiences. You matter most to the Lord of Hosts. Since Jesus Christ thinks the world of you, He laid down His life for the world on your behalf. You have been given much in your faith journey, so God expects much. Thus, you matter in helping others know they matter.

## Planning with Purpose Creates an Impact!

*"What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us;  
What we have done for others and the world remains  
and is immortal."  
Albert Pike*

Have you ever sought to make an impact? To make an impact requires a plan that considers the various facets of a decision that begins with a vision. Generosity has a way of expressing a vision, reaching a decision on a plan and engaging others to fulfill that vision. What do you envision for your local church? For the ministry close to your heart? How would you create a lasting legacy? Your legacy plan can make an impact on the lives of your neighborhood! Your legacy planning can provide for those ministries and causes that are close to your heart while you still provide for your family.

A charitable bequest, the provision in your will or estate planning that designates a specific gift to a charitable organization upon your passing, is an easy way for you to help Crossroads United Methodist Church in fulfilling its mission, even after you are no longer able to support your church with your time, talents and regular financial gifts.

Here are some of the benefits of bequest giving:

- It costs you nothing today to make a bequest
- A bequest is free of federal estate tax
- Your bequest can be changed down the road
- You can still benefit your heirs with special gifts
- A bequest may produce estate tax savings
- You can leave a legacy through a bequest

*Plan ahead!*

*Create lasting ministries into the future with bequest giving!*