

crossroads circuit rider



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Love one
another
like I have
loved you.

JOHN 13:34



February 2026 No. E-26-a

let's
Worship
together

Join Us Sundays for In Person Worship!

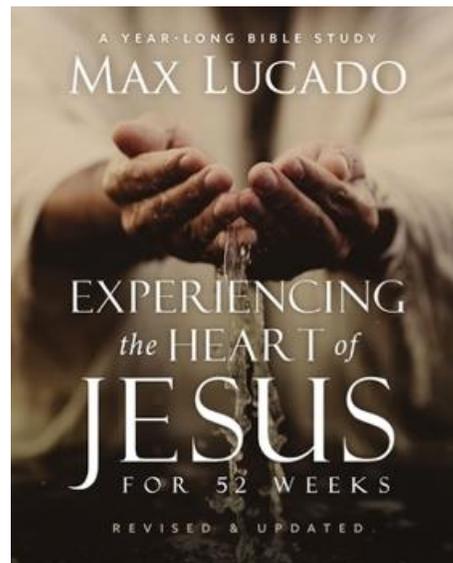
Join us for **in person worship** each **Sunday at 11:00 AM!**

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

Our Breakthrough Prayer

Please pray this Prayer daily.

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



Starting in January 2026, Crossroads UMC began a new Bible Study led by Pastor Mike. It is held each Wednesday Night beginning at 7:00 PM. The book is entitled "**Experiencing the Heart of Jesus for 52 Weeks**" by Max Lucado. Books are \$10. If you would like to join this group, see Pastor Mike.

It is a transformative study designed to deepen your relationship with Jesus through a year-long exploration of His character and love. This study invites readers to embark on a journey to truly know Jesus not just know about Him. This study emphasizes developing a personal relationship with Christ, encouraging readers to see Him as a close friend and companion. The book includes 52 lessons that draw from Lucado's bestselling works, providing insights into the person of Christ and how His teachings can shape our lives.



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Crossroads' Food Pantry is a Blessing to the Community... But We Need Your Help!

Crossroad's Food Pantry had a very busy November of 2025. They gave out 87 bags of food along with 67 turkeys and 20 roasted chickens. With this they served around 300 people. This couldn't have happened without your help. Thank you. At this time they have been giving out an average of 40 bags per week. As you can, this can fluctuate.

Our pantry is open on **Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**. The third Sunday of each month has been designated as a day to help our food pantry. The item being asked for on...

February 15 is Canned Veggies.

We are asking each person who reads this to bring an item and place it on the communion rail or put a donation in the plate or in the glass bottle.

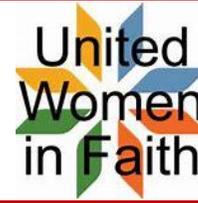
Your donations are a blessing. You don't have to wait until Food Pantry Sunday to bring donations to church. When you go food shopping for yourself, throw a few extra things in your cart and bring them to church on any Sunday. Cash donations are also accepted to purchase additional items as well.

Not only is the food portion greatly utilized, but we have now formed a tremendous **Clothes Closet**. Your help is truly needed in bringing in clothes that you no longer need – useable, of course.

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



The **We Praise** Band will bring songs of Joy & Praise to the February 15 Worship Services.



The Crossroads **United Women in Faith** has scheduled an Executive Board meeting on the first Sunday of February. They will be discussing plans for the new year and will be sharing them soon.

Please remember that all the ladies of the Church are invited to join the United Women in Faith; they would love to have you. The Circle of Friends meets on the first Tuesday of every other month at 7:00 PM beginning in February and the Circle of Grace meets the second Wednesday monthly in the Social Hall at 6:00 pm. Come join in!



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 between the ages of 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.



Coastal Virginia DISTRICT Training Day

The Coastal Virginia District wants to resource local churches to live into the ministry to which God is calling you in this moment. **They will hold training on two dates:**

- **February 7, South of the Bay at Community UMC in Va Beach** (1072 Old Kempsville Road, Va Beach, VA 23464)
- **March 7, at Franktown UMC** (7551 Bayside Rd, Franktown, VA 23354) on the Eastern Shore

Training will be from **9:00 AM – 3:15 PM** with registration opening at 8:30 AM.

Please register here:

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/VAUMC/CVDDistrictTrainingDay>



Upcoming Events:

- **Choir Practice** – Sundays at 10:30 AM and after church
- **Wesley SS Class** – Sundays – 9:45 AM
- **Holy Grounds Café** – Sundays – 10:00 AM
- **We Praise Practice** – Thursdays – 7:00 PM
- **Food Pantry** – Tuesdays – 10:00 AM till noon
- **Wednesday Bible Study** – 7:00 PM
- **Ballet** – Saturdays @ 1:00 PM
- **Communion Sunday** – February 1 – 11:00 AM
- **Circle of Friends** – Tuesday, February 3 – 7:00 PM
- **Coastal VA District Training Day** – Saturday, February 7 – 9:00 AM–3:15 PM
- **Circle of Grace** – Wednesday, February 11 – 6:00 PM
- **We Praise Sunday** – February 15 – 11:00 AM
- **Food Pantry Sunday** – February 15 – 11:00 AM
- **SAS Leadership meeting** – February 15 – after church
- **Presidents’ Day** – office closed
- **Ash Wednesday Service** – Wednesday, February 18 – 6:00 PM
- **Crossroads Planning Meeting** - Saturday, February 21 – 10:00 AM–12:00 PM – lunch provided
- **1st Sunday in Lent** – February 22

Thank You for Your Donations that You Placed in the Manger of Love During Advent

The Manger of Love was overflowing with donations for the children of Portsmouth. They were donated to the single mother families of Shining Light Homes (sponsored by St. Andrews UMC). They were greatly appreciated, and we wanted to let you know the outcome of this tradition at Crossroads.

Crossroads’ Prayer List

-continue to keep these friends in your prayers-

- Terry Byrd
- Lila Cox
- Pastor Michael Cuffee
- Donald Garrison
- Georgia Garrison
- Iverson Garrison
- Iris Jennings
- Tommy Livingston
- Kathy McLaughlin
- The family of John Spence
- Debbie Wright



2026



Planning Meeting Planned for Crossroads

Crossroads has scheduled their **Planning Meeting** for **Saturday, February 21 / 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**. This is when they will meet to plan and calendarize for the year – 2026. Lunch will be available for all who attend. Anyone is welcome to be a part of this event.

Crossroads’ Budget Update

Needed monthly = \$12,000
 Offering received as of December 2025 = \$13,138.02
 Cash App = \$250.00
 Rental Income = \$1,980.00
 Food Pantry = \$322.86
 Total = \$15,690.88



AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

Crossroads is in the planning phase to open an **After School Program** to service the students from Westhaven Elementary School. There has been a delay in getting the permits needed from the city of Portsmouth, so it is being paused a bit. There is one option of starting in the summer and then revamping for when school starts again in the Fall. If you have any questions, see Pastor Mike.

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

