



CROSSROADS
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

The Messenger

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2012

- The deadline for the March, 2012 issue of *The Messenger* is Friday, February 24th. Please submit articles to ashaw@mtco.com or send hard copies to the church office.
- Please send address corrections to Brenda Thornburg at brendat@mtco.com or call the church office at 444-2381.
- The monthly birthday list is available at the Welcome Desk and on the Crossroads website.

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From Pastor Tom

This is awards season for movies and music and countless other celebrities. It seems that almost every night there is another show, red carpet and countless reviewers reporting on fashion and such. So I thought it might be fun to imagine an awards show for our Sunday morning worship.

"I am standing here outside the Sanctuary watching as all of these servants leave in their Sunday best and head out to the parties and buffets that await them this afternoon. To recap, it was a busy evening of handing out awards. Here are a few highlights.

Best Supporting Actor was presented to the usher crews who 52 Sundays a year welcome people into the services, pass out bulletins and other pieces of vital worship information, collect the offering, count the people, and prepare for emergencies that we hope will never happen. Also nominated were our wonderful acolytes, welcome desk volunteers, greeters and valet parkers who help us prepare to worship God.

Best Supporting Actress was presented to the people who fill the quiet bags, teach at

children's church and serve in the nurseries so that even the littlest ones will encounter God and know that they are appreciated in church.

Best Direction was presented to our pianists, organists, musicians, choir directors and song leaders who help us find our melody, sing in the right key, and direct our worship toward God.

Best Gaffer (look it up if you don't know!) was presented to the church sound and lighting crew (led by Tim Lee, John Sitler and Jim O'Malley) who so selflessly serve every Sunday. Some Sundays they are loading numerous videos, listening for a preaching cue to load a power point, and responding to any changes given without notice by their pastors.

Best Set Direction was given to the decorating crew (led by Ruthie Sons) who manage to always create beauty and inspiration on Sunday mornings. The sanctuary was breathtaking during the Christmas season. A nod to our banner crew (led by Gloria Delinger and Dorothy Cole) for the reminders to worship God with all of our being.

Best Screenplay (not original) was presented to the prayer team and partners who take the original script (written by God) and re-work it each Sunday into prayers that remind us who we worship and how our worship shapes us.

And the **Best Actor/Actors role** is given to the 800 plus worshipers who every Sunday leave behind their other roles played out in the world, and step into costume as the sons and daughters of God. We remember that on Sunday, God is the audience.

There were other awards presented tonight--too many to include in this brief report--but I am impressed at the quality and heart of all involved."

— Pastor Tom

Staff News

After prayerful consideration, I have decided to retire from my position as Business Administrator at Crossroads UM Church. It has been an honor and privilege to serve this congregation over the past years. I have felt supported and loved by this church. I take with me so many wonderful memories of working with so many of you.
Blessings,
Debbie

Thank you, Debbie!

Crossroads has truly been blessed by the leadership of Deborah Royer. During the past decade she has shepherded the financial ministries of our church, guided us through three financial campaigns, served on the Building and Site Team for the last expansion (Sanctuary, Nursery and Youth additions), led efforts to improve our data base management and web site, cared for the building and grounds of the church and worked closely with our Trustees, mentored numerous new staff members, and passionately cared for the heritage of our church. What we have truly

discovered in the days since her retirement are the many things that Debbie did that we did not know about, the many ways she stepped in beyond her job description and cared for the church.

Thank you, Debbie, for your leadership and passion for our church.

~Crossroads United Methodist Church

We want to thank Amber Johnsen for stepping forward temporarily to work on the financial tasks here at Crossroads. Amber is working in the office Monday, Wednesday and Friday. She has been working closely with Debbie Royer to learn all the aspects of the financial tasks. When you see Amber, please stop and let her know how much we appreciate her stepping out of the boat to take on this very important role for the church.

Employment Opportunity

Effective January 29, 2012, Stephanie Wendte Russell will be pursuing other employment opportunities and will no longer be

serving as Nursery Coordinator. Stephanie has served in the nursery since 2009 and we want to thank her for all she has done for the children of Crossroads.

Due to this change we now have an opportunity for an experienced nursery coordinator to be part of our church's children education team. The right candidate will be dedicated to the well-being of children, energetic, have the ability to work with caregivers and parents, plus have a passion for the care and education of children from birth to 4 years old. Position is part-time with a specific schedule and some flexibility. Email your letter of introduction and resume to dcimino@mtco.com; Donna Cimino, Director of HR. EOE/non-smoking.

New Staff Member

Welcome to our new staff member in the custodial service area, Shawn Dawson. Shawn is working in the preschool and nursery area and also helps with the general needs of the whole building. Please welcome Shawn.



“Back to the Future!” Lenten Study



Hallelujah! Our Savior Lives and Reigns! Easter is among the most Holy in the Christian calendar. It is a time of Great Celebration--a time to remember the passion and incredible sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Lenten season is often a time of prayer, self-reflection, repentance, fasting and preparation for Easter.

Join us as we take a spiritual journey back in time this Lenten Season! Travel with us back to the 18th century pioneering roots of the United Methodist Church; in particular, back to the life and times of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. John Wesley lived during a time of great spiritual fervor. He took his spiritual gift of preaching out

into the wide open fields of England, breathing the Almighty Word of God out into the countryside. And he did not stop there! His contributions started a grand spiritual awakening in England and a revival movement that spread to the United States. Glory to God!

Beginning **February 26th**, join us for a six week GROW Sunday School series taught by Pastor Bob Lawry that will examine the life, times and contributions Wesley made in the past that remain with us today! Class begins at 10:00am. At the same time, our children will be experiencing Wesley’s life and that of other influential men and women. They will learn what life was like for kids in Wesley’s day.

On **April 1st**, we will end both the children’s rotation and the adult class with a celebratory historical event -- an old fashioned Methodist Camp Meeting in the Multi-Purpose room for EVERYONE! Costumes encouraged!

There is more! Join us on Sunday evenings for a six week LIVE series, where we will diligently study the “methods” used by Wesley in his devotional life. This study includes daily readings and journal writing. The group will meet together first for a service and then break out into small groups. We will get a taste of some of John Wesley’s sermons, experience an old fashioned prayer meeting, and attend a hymn sing with songs written by both John and his brother Charles Wesley. This series will end with a “Love Feast,” a special service centered around a meal. There just may be a few other surprises too!

* Picture from United Methodist News, Reclaiming Lay Leadership Key to Revival. Heather Hahn. July 29,2010, www.umc.org.

Mission News

Prom Dresses Needed

Threads, Hope & Love is having a prom dress giveaway in March. If you have any formals, prom shoes, or accessories that you won’t be using any more, please donate them to Treads. Your donations can be put in the drop box by the office, taken to

Threads on Wednesdays from 11:00am-7:00pm, or call you may call Threads at 303-0205 or 370-9995. Thank you for any support you can give to help give some girls a very special prom night.



Youth News

The mission of the Crossroads Youth Ministry is to be committed to loving and caring for youth in the Washington area.

We will accomplish this goal by: providing a safe and loving place so that youth can be who God created them to be, meeting them where they are in their spiritual development, helping them grow into young men and women of faith, and equipping them to share their faith with others now and in the future.

High School Lighthouse:

Wednesday nights
6:30-8:30pm
Dinner, small groups,
games, lessons, music and
more

Lighthouse Bowling & Bible Study

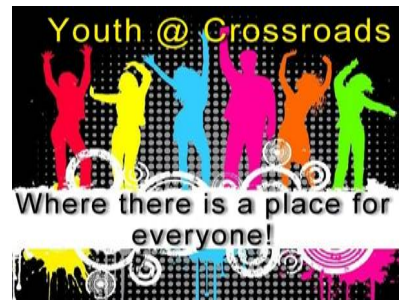
Mondays at Plaza Lanes
3:30pm
\$1.50 per game & \$150 for
shoe rental

Middle School Impact:

6th-8th Grade
Sunday nights
6:30-8:00pm
Fun, games, lessons, snacks
and much more!

7th & 8th grade Bible Study/Small Groups

Wednesdays
5:00-6:30pm
Dinner provided
Led by Kelsey Mayginnnes
& Brandon Robertson



**Follow Lighthouse
News!** Text "follow
xroadlighthouse"
to 40404

GETS News

Just before Christmas 2011, students completed the first semester of the academic year. They are feeling joyful to have completed their studies and many are also taking time to thank those who have helped them—through prayers, encouragement, and financial assistance—to come to where they are today. What better way to end the year than to share some of their words with you! Here are just a few.

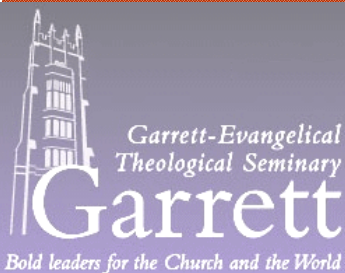
Melissa Brandes, doctor of philosophy student from New Jersey, wants to thank you for your generosity in providing a scholarship. "I am currently studying Christian education and spiritual development with children and youth. I hope to develop new and

innovative ways to assist and encourage young people to find the freedom, love, and abundant life embodied and incarnated in Christ. Thank you for making my study and work possible!"

Cory Young, master of divinity student from Michigan, writes that over the last year, he has learned many things about himself and about the "how and why" of how we view God. Even at every turn, God continues to show him that he is on the course he needs to be on. Cory feels lucky to have taken a trip to Rome in May to learn about the Early Church, and he still thinks often about what he learned about the universal history of the Western Church. "Thank you for

your thoughts, prayers, and financial support. Keep praying for the Church as a whole and that God continues to amaze and surprise us. Peace in Christ!"

Annette Hankins, master of divinity student from Michigan, states that she is writing this letter with gladness and joy. Her time at Garrett-Evangelical would not have been possible if it were not for scholarship assistance. Before coming to seminary, she spent 25 years in the media field and also worked in the Multi-Media Ministry for her church. It is truly a blessing for her to be able to utilize her skills and talents to help spread the word of the Lord.



Just for Kids

Kids for Christ

A Kids Club for 3rd, 4th, & 5th, graders
Bible time, Games, Music,
and Snacks
6:00 – 8:00pm

2012 Dates:

February 10
February 24
March 10 (Kids Conference)
March 23
April 13
April 27

The Light Kids Conference 2012 “The Heat Is On!”

**Saturday,
March 10, 2012
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

For all children in Grades 1st through 5th. Registration Forms are available in the Church Office.

Early Registration is \$20/Students and \$15/Adults
Early Registration is due by February 20, 2012, and may be paid in the Church Office.
Registration after February 20, 2012, is \$25/Students and \$20/Adults and may be paid in the church office or on the day of the Conference.

Questions? Call Lori Brittain at 467-2024.

Check out the website:
kidsconference.org

Sunday School Happenings!

Loyal Living: Ruth
The K-5 Sunday School Rotation “Loyal Living: Ruth” continues through February 19. The children are learning how Ruth was redeemed by her kinsman redeemer, Boaz and how we are redeemed by our

kinsman redeemer, Jesus. The activities include a puppet show, creating a “Strongest Link” TV show, a computer activity, viewing a video about Ruth, redeeming coupons, and learning how God multiplies kindnesses today just as He did for Ruth, Boaz, and Naomi in Old Testament times.

If you are in the fellowship area on a Sunday morning around 9:50, listen for the sounds of enthusiastic singing coming from Faith Chapel.

Adventures with John Wesley February 26 – March 25

K-5 Sunday School students will learn about John Wesley and other leaders in the history of the Methodist church as they step back in time for 5 weeks. Each Sunday they will be part of a “Holy Club” that will follow a rotation that includes Bible stories, meeting someone who influenced the formation of the Methodist Church, activities, and crafts from the 1700’s. This rotation will coordinate with the lessons being learned by the adults in the Multi-purpose room. On April 1, the K-5 students, teachers, and shepherds will join the adults in the Multi-purpose room for an old-fashioned Camp Meeting. Plan on joining us for this Adventure with Wesley! You never know who you will meet and what you will learn about Methodism!

Family Fun Night on January 28 was a perfect night to gather for an evening of family fun. The night began with pizza and ended with a “shoot out” to determine the winning team in a “Minute to Win It” competition. Thirteen

teams of 5 competed in the following activities:

Bobble Head – How many steps can you place on a pedometer attached to your head?

Egg Roll – How quickly can you “fan” a plastic egg with a pizza box down the middle of the Multi-purpose Room?

Cup Tower – How high can you build a wall of plastic cups without them falling over?

M & M Drop – Can you carry an M&M with a straw down the length of a table and drop it in a cup? How many in a minute?

Bible Challenge – How many questions about the Bible can you answer in 1 minute?

Many thanks to the Children and Family Ministry Team and others who helped organize, set up, and clean up the event: Nicole Butler, Pati Bean, Ineta Young, Toni Dattilo, Joseph DuBois, and their families!

Summer Camp

Are you looking for summer activities for your child/youth? Consider the summer church camps offered by our church conference, the Illinois Great Rivers Conference. Pick up a camping brochure at the welcome desk or at www.igrc.org/camping.

Acolyte Skating Party Sunday, February 26, 2:00-4:00pm

For all acolytes & their families At the Morton Roller Rink, 216 South 1st Avenue, Morton, (309)266-5261. Acolytes skate for free. Admission & skate rental is \$7 for each family. Bring your own money for snacks. We will meet at the rink.



Prayer Challenge



February is Heart Month. The Word of God can change the hearts of people, even those who may not at first be interested.

In the parable of the Sower (Matt 13:3-23, Mark 4:2-20, Luke 8:4-15), there are three basic elements: the seed, the sower, and the soil.

In the same way that a seed must be planted to bear fruit, so must the Word of God. The sower is the one who shares the Word. As the farmer who waits for his crop to mature, a sower must have patience, concern and faith that it will produce fruit, knowing there will be failures.

The soil represents the human heart. It can produce a jungle of weeds or a beautiful garden. Some seed falls on the paths which are hard, like the heart that refuses to understand. Some seed falls on the shallow ground, where the roots cannot get nourishment and the sun scorches it. This represents one who hears the Word but does not allow it to become rooted in his heart. Some seed falls among the thorns which chokes it out. The thorny heart is crowded with outside influences, good and bad. Bad influences are addictions like drinking and gambling, but there also are good influences such as civic projects, sports, and

even “too much church”. Involvement in too many church activities that leave no time for a relationship with God can make the heart barren.

Finally, the good ground is the fruitful heart. Luke 8:15 says, “But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the Word, retain it, and by persevering, produce a crop”. A person willing to listen and learn, understands, accepts and retains it, produces a fruitful harvest.

Submitted by Debbie Brown

Stephen Ministry

What exactly is Stephen Ministry? It’s a ministry in which trained and supported lay persons, called Stephen Ministers, provide one-to-one confidential Christian care to individuals facing life challenges or difficulties.

Who is involved? *Stephen Leaders* are the ones who oversee and direct our Stephen Ministry. They recruit, select, train, organize and support our Stephen Ministers, identify people in need of care, and match them with a Stephen Minister. We have three Stephen Leaders. They are Lu-Ann Frederick, Janita Goldman and Lori Samp.

Stephen Ministers are the caregivers. They have been trained in Christian caregiving, including general topics such as listening, feelings, boundaries, and specialized topics such as ministering to the divorced, hospitalized, bereaved, depressed or someone who just needs someone to care and listen. We currently have five trained Stephen Ministers. They are Tracie Carey, Joyce Dawson, Larry Goldman, Lynette Salazar-Vior and Linda Wicks.

We currently have nine people in the 2012 training class. They are Sandy Berner, Carol Brubaker, Don Brubaker, Rosemary Crawford, Elaine

Hutchinson, Karen Kelly, Randy Kelly, Carol McGuire and Missy Zimmerman.

Stephen Ministry is a part of Crossroads. It’s *your* ministry. *Would you like a Stephen Minister to talk with as you go through a difficult time?* Contact Janita Goldman at 444-2325 or janita.goldman@gmail.com.

Would you like to know more about the training? Contact Lu-Ann Frederick at 444-8784 or mamalu@mtco.com.

Would you like to know more about recruiting? Contact Lori Samp at 367-9422 or saved57@gmail.com.

From Nurse Sally...

Nosebleeds

Nosebleeds can be dramatic and frightening, but most nosebleeds are not serious and are handled easily.

Causes:

- The most common cause is dry air. Dry air used to be a winter problem but with air-conditioning in most of our homes, it has become a year round problem. It dries out nasal membranes, causing crusts that may itch and bleed when scratched or picked.
- Colds and allergies may also irritate the lining of the nose. Bleeding may occur after repeated blowing. When you combine a cold or allergy with dry air, you have the perfect formula for a nosebleed. Your doctor may prescribe an antihistamine to control an itchy, stuffy, runny nose. This can also dry out the nasal membranes and contribute to nosebleeds.
- Cocaine (or other drugs that are snorted through the nose).
- An Injury or blow to the nose may also cause bleeding but it isn't usually cause for alarm.
- Medications such as aspirin or coumadin that interfere with the clotting of blood.
- Severely high blood pressure

Prevention:

- Blow your nose gently (especially when you have a cold or allergies).
- A humidifier to moisten indoor air will help.

- To prevent nasal passages from becoming dry, gently rub a small amount of Vaseline inside each nostril. Some doctors advise saline drops for the same purpose.
- Wear protective athletic equipment in sports that could cause injury to the nose.
- Keep an eye on your blood pressure. (You may have it screened at church on the first Sunday of every month).
- Keep children's fingernails short to prevent nose picking.
- Quit smoking. Smoking dries out nasal membranes and is an irritant.
- Open your mouth when you sneeze.

Stopping the Gush

- Sit with your head upright or slightly forward so the blood can run out the front of the nose instead of back of the throat. Don't hold your head back.
- Pinch the nostrils together just below the hard center part of the nose. Pinch for a full 10 minutes by the clock. Resist the temptation to peek after a few minutes to see if it has stopped. It may be helpful to apply an ice pack to the area around the nose.
- Release the nostrils slowly. If the bleeding continues, repeat the pinching procedure for 10 more minutes. Most nosebleeds will stop after 10 – 30 minutes of direct pressure.
- When the bleeding stops, stay quiet for a few hours and do not blow your nose for at least 12 hours. Do not take aspirin for a week.

Seek Medical Attention:

- If bleeding has not stopped after 30 minutes of direct pressure.
- If blood runs down the back of your throat even when the nose is pinched.
- If the nose is deformed after an injury.
- If you are having repeated episodes
- If you feel dizzy or light-headed
- If you have a rash or temperature over 101.4 degrees
- If you are on blood-thinning medications
- If you have kidney or liver disease or hemophilia
- If you have recently had chemotherapy

If you are hospitalized, have surgery scheduled, etc., please let the church office know. A member of the pastoral staff would love to visit you and pray for you.



Senior News

M and M's Going to Bass Pro Shop and Applebee's



The East Peoria Bass Pro Shop opened its doors in September and thousands of people have passed through its doors. **The M and M's will be taking a tour on Thursday, February 16th** to see what all the fuss is about. **We will leave the church at 10:30am** for an 11:00am guided tour. For those concerned about all the walking, wheelchairs will be available. **After the one hour tour we will head to Applebee's for lunch.**

The massive 145,000-square-foot outdoor center, only the company's third Illinois store and 57th in the

U.S. and Canada, combines all the wishes a fisherman, hunter and anyone treading through the outdoors might be looking for with the likes of a museum, antique store, aquarium and entertainment center.

There are boats, fishing gear - an entire section for fly fishing - camping gear and camouflage everything. But beyond the typical, there are two large aquariums, a shooting game, an archery range and dozens of hunting trophies, as well as a restaurant and bowling alley.

The East Peoria store displays the local history of the area's Native American inhabitants, coal mines and brick yards, and later manufacturing, company

officials say. We will find massive hand-painted murals of the Illinois countryside from the bluffs to the river and prairies, from Kickapoo Creek to the wetlands of Banner Marsh.

Please call the church (444-2381) before February 14th to reserve a seat on one of the buses.

Senior Meal

Our Senior Meal will be on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, at 12:00 in the Fellowship Area. Invite a friend to join you and come enjoy delicious food and fun. Please call the church office (444-2381) to make a reservation if you have not already signed up.

Advanced Care Planning

Have you planned how you would like to be treated medically at the time of your death? Have you discussed your feelings and wishes with your loved ones? Have you completed Power of Attorney (POA)

for Healthcare? If the answers are "no", contact Tanya Hofmann. She will meet with you to facilitate Power of Attorney for Health Care for **no charge**. Tanya is certified in Advance Care Planning.

Advanced care planning is not strictly an aging issue, it is an issue for young and old folks alike. If you are interested in learning more or making an appointment, please contact Tanya, 229-4840 or e-mail her at tanyahfmmn@yahoo.com.

Medical Equipment

Thanks to all of you who have helped build up the medical equipment closet here at church. Almost every week, at least one piece of the equipment is borrowed.

The equipment is available for loan to anyone within our church

community without charge. It is all in really good condition; some of the pieces are like new. Please don't hesitate to take advantage of this program. It is free and it may be used as long as necessary. Please call the Parish Nurse, Sally Charlton, 444-2381 (church)

if you would like to add to it or if you have a need for any of the following items, now or in the future. We have various types of slings, canes, crutches, walkers, raised toilet seat with arms, bedside commodes, shower stools, a hand held shower attachment, and even a bedpan.

Fellowship Opportunities

A Girls Night Out

Friday, February 17th
6:00-10:00pm

Come out for a girls night of friends and fellowship. Time to celebrate a new year. Now is the time to start putting those photos into meaningful albums for your family to enjoy. Learn quick photo solutions on how to get all of your photos into albums, storybooks, quickbooks or everyday displays for your family to enjoy. Free mini lessons available. Or if you simply want to come and work on something you have been meaning to get done. Lets get together! We meet once a month.

March date:

Friday, March 16th, 6:00-10:00
Contact Tammy Miller at
444-2408 for more information.

Spirited Book Discussion Group

Something new! The Spirited Book Discussion Group is starting a program to deliver church library books to those who can not come to the church

library. We will be happy to deliver and pick up your books. Church library books can be checked out for the length of time you need to read them. There is no set due date. This is a great opportunity for you to get books and for us to enjoy bringing them to you. If interested please call Nancy Bullard at 444-5014 and she will talk with you about what type of books you like and arrange a time to deliver. The church library has fiction, non-fiction, some biographies, Bible study, poetry, humor, devotions, and much, much more. We are looking forward to helping you.

The Spirited Book Discussion Group will meet February 21 at 2:00pm in the church library. We will discuss The Noticer by Andy Andrews. This is a fictional story of a man named Jones who with simple wisdom shows us how to regroup, take a breath, and look at things from a different perspective. Come join us! Contact Nancy Bullard for more information.

Men's Basketball Ministry

Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm
Multi-Purpose Room

All men high school age and up are welcome. Contact: John Miller 444-2408.

Sewing Circle

The Dorcas Sewing Circle meets *weekly* on Wednesdays from 9:00am to noon. Even if you are not an experienced sewer, you are welcome to join us for some great fellowship and to share ideas.

*"But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.
I John 1:7*

Upcoming Emmaus Walks & Chrysalis Flights

Men's Emmaus Walk

February 2-5, 2012

Women's Emmaus Walk

February 9-12, 2012

The **Walk to Emmaus** is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. The program's approach seriously considers the model of Christ's servanthood and encourages Christ's disciples to act in ways

appropriate to being a "servant of all." The Walk to Emmaus experience is a 72-hour short course in Christianity, comprised of fifteen talks by lay and clergy on the themes of God's grace, disciplines of Christian discipleship, and what it means to be the church. The course is wrapped in prayer and meditation, special times of worship and daily celebration of Holy Communion. The Emmaus Walk begins Thursday evening and concludes Sunday

evening. Men and women attend separate weekends.

For more information on any of these events, visit ilheartlandemmaus.com.

Crossroads Emmaus Liaisons:

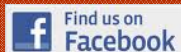
Valerie Kruzan (745-3321 or vkruzan@aol.com)

Jim O'Malley





For more information about the Crossroads Unit of United Methodist Women, contact Nancy Bullard at 444-5140



United Methodist Women

“The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.”

“Any woman may become a member of the unit who supports the unit through giving, prayer, study, action, or service.”

We thank God for the gift of a new year, and ask for His guidance and for perseverance as we serve Him in missions. We welcome all women of the church to join us in the effort, as we fellowship with one another and grow closer to Christ.

Project Day Thursday, March 1 at Noon

“Helping Hands Mission” in Indiana has requested cancelled postage stamps, which they sell to collectors, and the money goes to missions. Rob Bell will instruct us and tell us a few things about stamps.

Sally Smith will lead us in our “Prayer & Self-Denial” service and offering. Beverages & cookies will be provided. Bring your own sack lunch.

District Mini Mission

Monday, March 26
8:30am-3:00pm
Peoria University United Methodist Church

Questions?

Please call Nancy Bullard at 444-5140 or Rebecca Bell at 444-2570.

Second Sunday Meals 2012

Mark your calendars now to fellowship with us at the Crossroads Second Sunday Meals. Not only do you get a great meal and great fellowship, but your donation helps support various church ministries. We have a great group of people hosting this year! The following is our 2012 schedule. **February is open if anyone would like to volunteer.** For more information on Second Sunday meals, please contact Stacy Smith at smithse613@gmail.com or call (309)360-1821.

January

Administrative Council

February

Open

March

Praise Band

April (date TBD)

Youth

May

None (Mother's Day)

June

Trustees

July

Bean/Longfellow/Byrd Small Group

August

Youth

September

Ken Dawson Small Group

October

Education Team

November

Mission & Outreach

December

None due to the Holidays

Thank You From Pastor Dan

One of the purposes for writing this little piece for the Messenger is to thank the Crossroads members for the generous Christmas gift of money collected for the pastors, for those who provided individual gifts for us, or sent the many cards that Bev and I received. We both felt truly blessed by your generosity.

I would also like to tell you all what a privilege it is to follow

my forty-five years of full time service to Christ with a continued opportunity to minister. I thank God for a work in which I can focus more narrowly on a part of the ministry that I particularly enjoyed, and that I believe fits the talents and abilities that God has given me. Bev and I count the Crossroads congregation, Pastor Tom, and Pastor Bob among God's richest blessing.

Thank you all again for your generosity, for the opportunity to do what I am doing, and for the warmth and love that we both feel from the membership of the congregation. I am looking forward to continued service with you. May God bless you all.

~Pastor Dan Doty

“Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God.”

Philippians 1:3

Pastoral Care Notes

Congratulations to our newlyweds:

Gary Fellhauer and Jacqueline Lowman were wed in Florida on January 20. **Jacob Van Hoorn and Briana Vior** were wed at Crossroads on January 21.

Welcome to our newest members:

Tom and Kerry Brock join on profession of faith. They live in Metamora and are the parents of Lily and Mya.

Joe and Laura Barber, and Joe's daughter Erin, live in Metamora. Joe joined on profession of faith and Laura as a transfer from First UMC in Peoria.

Terry and Elizabeth Nance join on transfer from Crossroads Baptist Church in Florida. They live in Morton.

Dave and Elaine Hullinger, of Washington, joined upon transfer for Dave from First UMC in Peoria and Elaine from Faith Lutheran Church.

All joined our church family on January 29.

Congratulations to **Dustin and Krista Anderson Tippet** on the birth of a daughter, Riley, on January 5.

Congratulations to **Aaron and Courtney Custis Vercler** and big brother Levi on the birth of Ezekiel Rudolph on January 28.

We celebrated several baptisms at Crossroads in January. **Samuel William Beck**, son of Ryan and Amy, was baptized on the 15th. Brian and Trish Wierenga are godparents.

Grantland Myers Hotkevich was baptized on the 29th by his uncle, Rev. Mark Myers. He is the son of Duane and Mardel.

Lily and Mya Brock were baptized on the 29th. They are the daughters of Tom and Kerry. Kerry was also baptized on the 29th.

We share our prayers and sympathy with those who have lost loved ones this month.

Brian Wisner, a member of Crossroads, passed away on January 10.

Mary Hatfield, a member of Crossroads, passed away on January 14. A memorial service was held in her honor. She is survived by husband Bill, three sons and daughters-in-law, and her grandchildren.

Robert Alexander, a member of Crossroads, passed away on January 16.

And we pray with Antoinette Barclay on the passing of her grandfather, **Ralph Gauwitz, Sr.**, on January 23.

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Beth Edwards

Crossroads United Methodist Church of Washington

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*Our mission is to grow disciples
and send them out into the
crossroads of our communities to
impact lives for Jesus Christ.*

Office Hours

Monday –Thursday
8:30am-4:00pm

Friday

8:30am-1:00 pm

Phone: (309)444-2381

Fax: (309)444-9818

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30 am

Spirited Traditional

9:45 am

Christian Education
for All Ages

11:00 am

Casual Contemporary

www.crossroads4all.org

