



CROSSROADS
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

The Messenger

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2011

- The deadline for the April, 2011 issue of *The Messenger* is Friday, March 18th. Please submit articles to ashaw@mtco.com or send hard copies to the church office.
- Please send address corrections to Amber Johnsen at amberj@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 the Senior Pastor

In 1077, Holy Roman emperor Henry IV made a long walk through the snow and altitude of the Alps to the town of Canossa, which was really a fort built on a hill in present day Italy. Inside the fortress was the Pope; he had excommunicated Henry almost one full year before. Henry now feared that the excommunication would be permanent, so he walked to Canossa to beg forgiveness.

In those days, someone seeking forgiveness from a pope or priest might walk barefoot, wearing a "hair shirt" (a rough undergarment traditionally woven out of goat's hair), and while fasting (agreeing not to eat anything for a long stretch of time). The sight of an emperor barefoot in the snow and worn out from a long journey might have moved many to open the doors. But the Pope made him wait outside.

For three long, cold days the emperor waited. Finally, the fortress doors at Canossa were opened and Henry was allowed inside. He came to the throne where the Pope sat, fell to his knees and begged forgiveness. Finally, the Pope granted him that precious gift. Communion was shared and Henry went home still a king and again a member of the Catholic Church.

Lent (which begins with Ash Wednesday on March 9th) is a season of self-reflection and seeking and of sharing forgiveness in the church as we prepare for Easter. The Good News is that we do not have to trudge barefoot through the snow or wait three days while fasting and wearing clothing made from a goat for someone else to forgive us. Jesus Christ died on the cross for this gift. The Bad News is that it may seem easier to trudge barefoot through the snow or wait three days while fasting and wearing clothing made from a goat than it is for someone to forgive us!

Forgiveness is hard! It is hard to forgive others, especially those close to us, who have wounded us. It is hard to forgive people we worship with, work with, and live with. The legendary second baseman and shortstop of the World Champion Cubs (settle down... it was the 1908 World Champion Cubs) Johnny Evers and Joe Tinker did not speak to each other for 33 years because of a rift over a taxi. Yet, they turned double plays well enough to be immortalized in a poem.

The season of Lent reminds us that while difficult, forgiveness is at the heart of our journey.

So how can we forgive?

- Start by speaking to God in prayer and thanking Him for forgiving you. A good prayer here is the Lord's Prayer.
- Then ask for the ability to forgive someone else. If it is safe and possible to do so, ask that person to sit down with you. Do not do this if you would be put in danger of being hurt further or of hurting the other person. If you are worried how the other person will respond, you may wish to bring someone else with you.
- Then simply and honestly ask for their forgiveness. That is what is required of you. If the other person does not, or cannot, accept the request, then it has become *their* issue.

If you cannot forgive the other personally simply offer the forgiveness to God.

There is real peace at the end of this Lenten journey... the sweet communion of knowing that we are forgiven. And we don't have to wear a goat hair shirt in the process.

Grace and peace,
Tom

Ash Wednesday Worship

**Wednesday, March 9
7:00pm
In the Sanctuary**

We will gather as a church community to observe Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday marks the

beginning of the Lenten season, a 40-day season of self-denial, preparation, and prayer. Pastor Bob Lawry will present the message and will challenge us to observe a disciplined and holy Lenten season. The imposition of ashes will be

included in the service for those who find that expression meaningful. We invite you to begin your Lenten preparations with this holy time together.

Alpha Begins on March 13th

Alpha Has Become a Phenomenon – And Not Just At Crossroads!



Alpha is an opportunity to explore the meaning of life in a relaxed, friendly setting, meet other people at Crossroads and make new friends that might last a lifetime. Alpha is offered in over 160 countries, in tens of thousands of churches of all denominations. More than 15 million people have taken this opportunity to explore the meaning of life. It is coming back to Crossroads again this spring under the leadership of Pastor Tom Goodell. This is the ninth year Crossroads has offered Alpha, and over 400 different people have taken the course.

Alpha is a wonderful course that features a time of worship, a video introduction to the basics of Christianity, and time spent

in small groups discussing how Christianity connects to our lives. This is a safe environment where you can comfortably explore your faith, ask questions, or simply soak in the fellowship of the evening with others like yourself.

If you are fairly new at Crossroads, Alpha is for you. It is a great opportunity to meet people and make friends.

If you have questions about life, Alpha is for you. It is designed to answer questions such as:

- Who is Jesus?
- Why did Jesus die?
- How do I pray?
- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- Does God heal today?
- And many others!

If you want to grow in your faith, Alpha is for you. It explores the basics of Christianity.

Or, if you simply need renewal in your faith, Alpha is for you!

Alpha meets once per week for 12 weeks on Sunday evenings beginning March 13th from 6:00 to 8:00pm. Free childcare is provided.

At each session, you will enjoy great desserts, laughter and learning in a fun and friendly atmosphere.

Stop by the Welcome Desk, contact the church office at 444-2381 or check out the website at crossroads4all.org for more information or to sign up.

Nurse Sally's Tip of the Month

For Men Only: Protecting Yourself Against Testicular Cancer

Testicular cancer is the most common cancer found in young men. It is most prevalent in white men between the ages of 20 and 40, but it can occur in any male, at any age. Boys who were born with an undescended or partially descended testicle have an increased risk of developing testicular cancer. This is true even if surgery was performed to place the testicle in the scrotum. About 6,900 new cases are detected each year in the U.S. Two famous survivors are Lance Armstrong, the two-time Tour de France cyclist and Scott Hamilton, the Olympic figure skater.

Do a Monthly TSE

The good news is that testicular cancer is almost always curable if caught early. Conducting regular testicular self-exams

(TSE) will help you become familiar with the size and consistency of your testicles, so you can detect any change. A TSE is easy to do and takes only a few minutes. The best time to do it is after a shower.

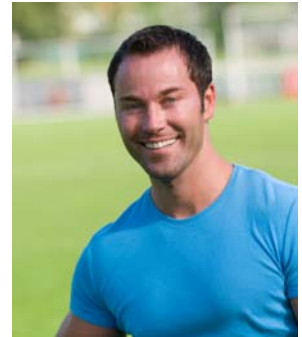
Here's how:

- √ Standing in front of a mirror, look for any swelling on the skin of the scrotum.
- √ Examine your testicle using both hands. Place your index and middle fingers under the testicle and your thumbs on top. Gently roll the testicle between the thumb and fingers. (It's normal for one testicle to be somewhat larger than the other.)
- √ Feel for any small lumps. They are usually about the size of a pea and are found on the front or side of the testicle. (Do not confuse the soft, cord like structure on the top and back of the testicles as an abnormal lump.)
- √ Compare each testicle with the other. Early changes may be detected more easily by using the opposite testicle for comparison.
- √ Report any lumps on the testes or swelling of the scrotum to your doctor promptly. You may not have cancer, but only your doctor can make the diagnosis.

Don't take chances!

Check for any of the following symptoms:

- * Any small lump on a testicle.
- * Any enlargement of a testicle.
- * A feeling of heaviness in the scrotum.
- * A dull ache in the lower abdomen or the groin.
- * Sudden collection of fluid in the scrotum.
- * Discomfort in a testicle or in the scrotum.
- * Pain or difficulty in urination.



King David Methodist Church

When Crossroads voted to build a new sanctuary and nursery space, we did so with the promise to also build a church in Zimbabwe. We are pleased to announce that thanks to the current peace in that nation, we are partnering with the National United Methodist Church to build for the congregation of King David Methodist Church in Mutare, Zimbabwe.

The project cost is \$38,000 and will build a fellowship hall and worship space for this congregation. We plan to celebrate this partnership at our worship services on May 1st.

For more information contact Pastor Tom Goodell.

The best place
to look for
instruction is
in the
example and
teaching of
Jesus.

Prayer Challenge

Where Do I Start?

Several years ago, I was driving down the freeway when my car died. I pulled over to the side of the road, got out of the car, and opened the hood. As I looked at the engine I thought, *A lot of good this does me. I know nothing about cars. I don't even know where to start!*

That's how we might sometimes feel about prayer: *Where do I start?* That's what the disciples wanted to know when they asked Jesus, "Teach us to

pray" (Luke 11:1). The best place to look for instruction is in the example and teaching of Jesus. Two questions you may have are:

Where should we pray?
Jesus prayed in the temple, in the wilderness (Luke 4), in quiet places (Matthew 14:22-23), in the Garden of Gethsemane (Luke 22), and on the cross (Luke 23:34, 46). He prayed alone and with others. Look at His life, follow His example, and pray wherever you are.

What should we pray?

In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus taught us to ask that God's name be honored and that His will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Ask Him for your daily provisions, for forgiveness of sin, and for deliverance from temptation and evil (Luke 11:2-4).

So if you're looking for a good place to start, follow the example of the Lord's Prayer.

(reprinted from *Our Daily Bread*, November 2010, written by Ann Cetas)

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:

Every Wednesday night
6:30-8:30pm
Dinner, small groups, games, lesson, music and more!

Follow Lighthouse News!

Text "follow xroadlighthouse" to 40404

Middle School Impact:

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

Calling all High School Students: Mission Trip 2010

June 19 – 26

This summer we will be traveling to Atlanta, Georgia! We will be spending the week working in downtown Atlanta with TeamEffort. We will be able to reach out and serve in some of the poorest inner

city neighborhoods through a variety of service projects and work alongside ministries that operate clothing centers, food pantries and shelters. Also, we will be doing minor home repairs for families in need. Your youth will have an opportunity to serve in several of these outreach programs during the week leading to a full experience in inner city ministry. We will be working with urban ministries. If you would like to be a part of this trip, please fill out an application. Information and applications are located outside Trevor's office door. Please fill out and return the application and a \$50 deposit by March 13th. We have limited space, so act fast! If you have any questions, please contact Trevor.



Just for Kids

Kids for Christ

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

Remaining 2011 dates

February 25
March 25
April 8
April 29

Resurrection Eggs A Family Easter Activity

For families with children ages
3 through 5th grade
Sunday, March 6th
9:45-10:45

(in place of Sunday School)
Meet in the multi-purpose room
Hear the story of "Benjamin's
Box" and create your own set
of Resurrection Eggs.

The Light Kids Conference BUILD IT

Saturday, March 12th
8:30am-2:00pm

The Light is a conference
designed to reach children in
grades 1-5. Through inflatable
games, worship, videos, drama,
lunch, snacks, Bible Study,
recreation, and music, students
will be inspired to explore their
faith in Jesus.

For more information,
including how to register, visit
www.kidsconference.org.

Acolyte Skating Party

Sunday, March 3rd
2:00-4:00pm

Morton Roller Rink
216 South 1st Avenue
Morton, IL
(309)266-5261

Acolytes skate for free.
Admission and skate rental is
\$7 each for family members.
Bring your own money for
snacks. Please meet at the rink.

Holy Week Memories: Scrapbooking the Good News

Children in grades K-5 will
learn about the meaning of
Easter by following Jesus'
journey to the cross and
resurrection on Easter Sunday.
Each Sunday the children will
participate in a workshop and
gather artifacts for their Holy
Week Memories scrapbook.

Students are encouraged to be
in their classrooms by 9:45 on
March 20, 27, April 3, 10. The
first 15 minutes will be used to
scrapbook pictures from the
previous week's activity.

The following rotational
workshops begin at 10:00am.

Game Workshop (Palm Sunday)

Children will learn about Jesus'
triumphant entry into
Jerusalem. The Great
Expectations game will help
them understand the
expectations the Jewish people
wrongly placed on Jesus and
how the Road to the Cross
activity clarifies God's purpose
for His Son as our Lord and
Savior.

THE LORD'S SUPPER **Cooking Workshop (The Last Supper)**

Children will
become familiar with the foods
that are part of the Passover
meal and learn how each food
tells part of the Exodus story.
Children will discover that
Jesus changed the Passover
meal and made it the New
Covenant meal on the night he
was betrayed.

Prayer Walk Workshop (Garden of Gethsemane)

Children will learn about Holy
Thursday. Through the
activities, they will learn a
lesson of servanthood, putting
their struggles into God's

hands, and
forgiveness of sins.

Historical Reenactment Workshop (Jesus' Burial and Resurrection)

Children will learn Jewish
burial customs of the day and
listen to the Easter story.
Children will learn that by faith
and believing in God's Word,
we know and believe that Jesus
was resurrected.



Bible Variety Workshop (Appearance of Jesus to His disciples and others after His resurrection)

A "Following the Clues"
activity will lead children on a
search through the Bible for
eyewitness accounts of people
who SAW Jesus alive after He
arose from the dead. They will
learn that, as Jesus said, we are
blessed if we have faith and
believe without seeing.

Scrapbooking Workshop (April 17, 2011)

After seeing Mary's Holy Week
Scrapbook and working on their
own pages, students will
complete their own "Holy
Week Memories" scrapbook
and take them home.



We need people to fill Easter eggs for the egg hunt!

Our goal is to have around 2500
eggs for the many children that
will be attending. Please buy
plastic eggs and fill them with
WRAPPED candy. Place your
filled eggs in the bin outside the
office by April 11th. Thanks for
lending a hand! If you have
questions, please contact
Maureen Hotkevich 444-7182.



**Mark your
calendars
for a Family
Easter**

Celebration:

Saturday,

April 16th

9:30-10:45am



Prayer and Healing Service

On Wednesday, March 9th at 7:00pm, there will be a Prayer and Healing Service in Faith Chapel. **This service is for healing of every kind, whether spiritual, physical or emotional.** As Christians, we know that God is the source of wholeness and in our lives. Therefore, it is appropriate for us to conduct prayers for wholeness and healing. It is also appropriate to pray for our church, its pastors, staff,

children, infirmed members and all attenders here at Crossroads.

As Christians, we know that Jesus is the Great Physician. We look to His healing strength that reaches to every level of our being.

Crossroads Prayer and Healing Services are held every other month and are open to the entire community.

Please join us on March 9th for this special prayer service in which we shall participate in the early church's practice of laying on of hands and anointing with oil.

For more information, contact Pastor Bob DeBolt or Parish Nurse, Sally Charlton.

Pastoral Notes

We welcome **Rev. Bob and Ellen Greeley**, who joined our church on February 20th.

Hilda Lipe on the passing of her mother-in-law **Lucille Lipe** on February 8th.

The family of **Melvin Moehle**, who passed away on February 18th.

Our sympathy and prayers to:

Karen Kelly, on the death of her father, **Jerry Zimmerman** on February 13th.

The family of **Bill Broeker**, who passed away on February 3rd.

Prayer Team Fundraiser

*Butter Braids
are coming....*

*Get your Scrumptious
Pastries March 20th
through April 10th*

*Sponsored by ...
the Prayer Team*



Garrett Evangelical Seminary

I would like to introduce you to Christopher Grimes from Detroit, Michigan. His home church is Scott Memorial United Methodist Church in Detroit. Christopher is 28 years old and is enrolled in the first year Master of Divinity program. He also holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern Michigan University.

Christopher was drawn to Garrett-Evangelical for several reasons, but the reason it became the school of his dreams is the staff. When one says that the halls of Garrett-Evangelical feel like home, they mean it's the same feeling they get when they walk into their parents' home. He believes it is truly a privilege to be there.

He enjoys cooking and fellowship with friends and family. He believes that sharing a meal with those you love keeps the heart open to the Holy Spirit. Christopher is the proud grandson of a Garrett alumna, Rev. Hilda Harris. Considering his feet are bigger than his grandmother's, his guess is that he will not be able to fit into her shoes. Chris loves laughing with friends and believes laughter keeps us young.

Christopher has a passion to help God's people develop their

relationship with our creator through Jesus Christ and the study of scripture. He hopes to return to the Detroit Conference. The city of Detroit is currently struggling in many areas, but he has faith that God has not forgotten the faithful in those communities.

Christopher's favorite thing about Garrett-Evangelical so far is that there are so many different cultures represented at Garrett Evangelical. He is in love with God on another level because of the different theological perspectives shared by his fellow students.

~Submitted by Cliff Smith

Are you a mini golfer?

*Family Scrambler
Mini Golf Fundraiser
for the Garrett Scholarship Fund
Sunday, May 15th at 1:00pm
Hillcrest Golf Course*

Your whole family is invited to participate. Our pastors are considering offering a personal prize to the winner. If you do not golf but would like to be a hole sponsor, contact Cliff Smith. Participating families can be hole sponsors as well.

Questions or to sign up:
Contact either Pastor Bob Lawry at 444-2381 or Cliff Smith at 444-8516.

Attention All Golfers

*Mixed Doubles Scrambler
Golf Fundraiser
for the Garrett
Scholarship Fund
Saturday, May 14th at 1:00pm
Hillcrest Golf Course*

Both golfers and non-golfers can sign up to be a hole sponsors. To sign up your team, contact Joe Cimino at 444-3311. Questions? Contact Cliff Smith at 444-8516.



Senior News

Senior Meal

Our Senior Meal will be Tuesday, March 8th, at 12:00pm. We meet in the fellowship area and share a wonderful meal. Most of us are over 55 and find that it's lots of fun to meet new friends and to see old friends. Please call the office (444-2381) for a reservation and mark your calendar. It's great to get together.

M and M's Tour of Ronald Reagan Museum Lunch at Busy Corner March 22nd

Since it is the 100th birthday of President Ronald Reagan, the M and M's will enjoy a guided tour of the Reagan Museum at Eureka College.

We will leave the church at 10:30am for an hour long tour beginning at 11:00am. After the tour, we will go to Goodfield for lunch at the Busy Corner.

Please call the church office at 444-2381 to reserve a seat on the bus. If you need a ride to the church, please let that be known when you register.

Fellowship Opportunities

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.

Men's Fellowship

Guys, join us at the Men's Fellowship Group, which meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm in the chapel. Join us for supper, a testimony, a Bible study, and prayer. We are currently viewing the video series "The Measure of a Man", which teaches about the 20 character traits of a godly man. We encourage all men to come, and invite your friends. This is a great opportunity to see what God is doing among us.

Spirited Book Discussion Group

The Spirited Book Discussion Group will

meet on March 15th at 1:00pm in the church library. We will discuss The Wounded Healer by Henri J. M. Nouwen. This is an updated version of the 1972 book for today's readers. This book is relevant as we all minister to each other. On April 19th, we will be discussing Riven by Jerry B. Jenkins. This is a very powerful book. Many of you have read this book and we encourage you to come and join our discussion. For more information contact Nancy Bullard at nanrb@mtco.com or 444-5140.

Girls Night Out Friday, March 18th Friday, April 1st 6:00 - 10:00pm

Come out for a girls night of friends and fellowship. Want to quickly get those stacks of photos into albums? Or get those holiday photos off your memory stick? Traditional, digital, or slip-in albums... whatever you prefer, I can show you how to get it done

quickly and easily. Whether you want to come and cross-stitch, sew, work on a craft project or even clean out a junk drawer, let's get together for some great fellowship! *We will meet once a month.*

Contact Tammy Miller at 444-2408 for more information.

Corn Stock Summer Theater

Again Crossroads United Methodist church will attend Corn Stock summer theater. We have done this for over 20 years. This season looks exceptionally exciting. The discounted cost to our group is \$59.40 per person for the five shows. The bus will be available for some of the shows – otherwise we will carpool. If you choose to attend, make a check out to Corn Stock Theater and mail it to Alice Nobles Arn, 605 E. Jefferson, Washington, IL 61571. Call 309-219-4719 with any questions. Please have your check to her by **March 31.**



CONVERSATION

CORNER

John Schultz has been a member of Crossroads United Methodist Church since 1975. He moved to Washington as a single man when Caterpillar transferred him from Aurora to the General Offices in Peoria. His new position was overseeing the purchases of numerical central machines worldwide. At the Caterpillar General Offices, he met Ken Koch, who invited him to Washington First Methodist Church on Elm Street. He was only a member of the church for a short time when he became the church treasurer and still holds that office today. In the 70's everything was done by hand and with pencil and paper. John says it was a challenge mainly because money was very scarce.

It was also at Caterpillar that John met, courted and married Mary Kreiling in 1977. Mary joined John in attending Washington First Church and she has been and still is a hard working, very faithful member. John and Mary have a daughter, Kim, who lives with her husband in St. Louis. She works in the music department at

Washington University. They also have a son, Derrick, who after serving 3 years in the Marine Corps, continued his education and is presently working on a masters degree in finance at S.I.U. in Edwardsville. He also works as a full-time intern at a financial institution.

John remained at Caterpillar until April 1, 2001. True to his nature, John has remained very busy in retirement. He has a machine shop in the basement of their home where he builds working miniature steam engines from scratch. John also repairs all types of clocks at home.

In 2004, Crossroads purchased a 22 passenger bus. John was among the first men to volunteer to drive it. He has also taken on the responsibility of training new drivers. He can often be seen placing cones around the parking lot, making sure the drivers can handle the bus safely. In 2007, the old bus was traded in and two 15 passenger buses were leased. John was very instrumental in selecting

the buses and John and Mary clean and maintain them. They pick up people for church on Sunday mornings, pick up children in the afternoon for the children's bell choir, drive youth on mission trips and drive for M and M activities.

John has also served the church as a president of the Administrative Council and as the church treasurer he is a member of the Finance Committee.

With the growth of the church, the advent of computerized records and the hiring of a Business Manager, John has retired from handling the church's finances. However, he still signs all checks and reviews invoices.

John states "Being part of this church has been a great ride. The growth has been amazing and blows my mind."

Thank you, John, for serving Jesus with a true servant's heart.

~By Sally Charlton



United Methodist Women



Project Day

Ladies, pull up your sleeves and join us for a project day. On Thursday, March 3rd at noon we will meet in room 106 to assemble health kits for Haiti. Lists of items to be included will be available on the UMW bulletin board by the east kitchen door. When purchasing these items, they need to be the exact size, number, etc. as stated on the list. (If you are unable to attend, but would like to donate items, your donations will be cheerfully accepted by the church office by March 3rd by noon. Thanks!) For those planning to attend, please bring a sack lunch. Dessert will be provided. If you will be in need of childcare, call the church office by Monday, February 28th. Quoting many of our Grandmas, "Many hands make light work!" Additionally, we will have our annual "prayer and self-denial offering" and devotions. Anyone wishing to make a yearly pledge to UMW will have the opportunity. UMW is a mission organization,

locally and globally. It is our privilege to be engaged in missions.

Festival of Quilts April 8 & 9 at Cunningham Children's Home

The show is open both days from 10:00am to 5:00pm. The cost is \$5 to see the show. Several of our Crossroads church family will have quilts in the show. A gift shop featuring hand-crafted items will be open during the show. Some of our church family are contributing items to the gift shop.

The Festival of Quilts celebrates the tradition of giving every young person at Cunningham Children's Home a hand-made quilt that is theirs to keep. Proceeds from the event will benefit the work at Cunningham. Our UMW gives quilts to children at Cunningham. Seeing these beautiful quilts and hand-made items is well worth the trip to Urbana, IL.

Our UMW is arranging bus transportation to the show on April 9th. We will leave Crossroads about 8:30am, attend the show, have lunch at a nearby restaurant, and return to Crossroads in the afternoon. Contact the church office, Nancy Bullard, Carla Fulton, or Rebecca Bell if you would like to go to this special event.

District Mini Mission

March 28th at 8:30am
Mossville UMC
We will carpool.

District Spring Gathering

*Saturday, April 16th
8:30am*
Dunlap Prospect UMC
Watch for more details coming soon.

Questions?

Call Nancy Bullard (444-5140) or Rebecca Bell (444-2570).



Bell Choir Openings



The "Crossroads Ringers" Handbell Choir has openings! We practice on Wednesday nights from 6:15-7:30pm and play for the 8:30am service one Sunday per month.

Necessary musical skills include the ability to read music and to be familiar with time signatures and "counting". We will teach you everything else you need to know, including

many different fun handbell techniques. We hope you will give us a try! Contact Cliff Smith at 444-8516 for more information.

Notes from Our Congregation

Dear Crossroads Family,
Thank you for the baby blanket, onesie and prayer bear you gave us after the birth of our daughter. We feel so blessed to be a part of such a loving church family.

Sincerely,

**Wes, Alisa, Elisabeth, Isaac,
and Hannah Reetz**

I would like to thank Pastor Tom and Pastor Bob for the great service in regards to my wife Nola. I received over 100 cards from church family and others, which showed me I am not the only one who misses her. There was over \$500 given to the children's hospital in her name and a memorial will be set up for her there. I know for sure that she is now in the arms of Jesus and has touched the face of God. I can only wait until I can hold her in my arms and give her a sweet kiss as she and Jesus welcome me home. A grateful and loving husband,
Tom Finson

Christian greetings,
Your donation of numerous gift cards to Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped is especially appreciated at this time. The gift cards were distributed to several of our agency's facilities such as Oakwood Estate and Linden Estate. These two facilities each serve 16 residents and the residents enjoy trips into the community. Thank you for spreading Christmas joy.

The individuals with developmental disabilities that are served in our homes are the beneficiaries of your gift. They depend upon others for prayers and support of all nature. We thank you for caring about each of them.

May the Lord bless you for your generosity. For more information about our agency look us up at www.achh.org.

In Christian Love,
Ron Messner
Executive Director

Dear Tom and friends,
Children's Home thanks you for your generous gift of \$2500 and for caring about our kids and families this holiday season.

Our staff are committed to making a difference in the lives of our children by providing them with the necessary counseling, education and support, but we cannot do it alone. It takes an entire community to carry out our mission to get the kids on the road toward healing and recovery. You are making that possible.

During these times of economic uncertainty, your generosity is appreciated more than ever. I can assure you Children's Home is stable and will be here fulfilling our mission of giving children a childhood and a future.

Sincerely,
**Clete Winkelmann, President
and CEO**
**Brigitte Grant, Vice President
Community Donor Relations**

On behalf of the Tazewell County Advocacy Center, thank you for the donation of 25 stuffed animals. Your donation is greatly appreciated by the child victims and their supportive family members served in our community as well as all the staff here at the Center. The Center distributes these animals to children when they come in for forensic interviews.

Your support along with that of other organizations, allows us to provide an array of services to children and families in Tazewell County, all with one goal in mind: to break the cycle of child abuse...one child at a time. From all of us at the Tazewell County Children's Advocacy Center, thank you.

Sincerely,
Barbara Strand
Executive Director



Happy Birthday!
Olive Lowe, a long-time member of Crossroads (81 years!) will celebrate her 100th birthday on March 16th. We would like to have a card shower for her. Please send cards to: Apostolic Christian Home, PO Box 128, Eureka, IL 61530-0128.



Please join us in celebrating the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Bill and Mary Hatfield. The Open House will be held on Saturday, March 5 from 2:00-4:00pm at Crossroads. No gifts please.

Correction

We would like to clear up a few points in last month's Messenger:

- WHIP was established in the early 1980s (not the 90s)
- WHIP serves about 100 families bi-weekly (not 100 people per month), impacting 400-500 people or more monthly
- Ken Koch is the primary contact for WHIP at Crossroads. Ron Hunt and Ron Root also help with this ministry.

We apologize for the error!

Pastors & Staff

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pastors@mtco.com

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Bob DeBolt
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Pastor of Discipleship

Bob Lawry
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Jim Bayless
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Handbell Director

Cliff Smith

Youth Handbell Director

Kathy Palmer

Little Lambs Preschool Director

Tracie Carey
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Little Lambs Teachers

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Amy Jones
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Leslie Garrison

Teri Richie

Wedding Coordinators

Beth Bennett
Melissa Sullivan

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Crossroads United Methodist Church of Washington

P.O. Box 299
1420 N. Main St.
Washington, IL 61571

*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

