



CROSSROADS
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

The Messenger

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2011

- The deadline for the December, 2011 issue of *The Messenger* is Friday, November 18th. 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

Fall is football season. There are few things more enjoyable than watching a football game on a cool afternoon after the leaves are raked and the laundry is put away (especially if it is the Packers).

As we watch the game we may fail to note all that happens before the ball is snapped. I recently read that an NFL quarterback must call the offensive play (or receive it from the coach), make sure his backfield is lined up, position the receivers, give the center time to set the offensive line, then get into snap mode.

Here he must read the defense, noting especially where the safeties and the weak-side linebacker are (which may give up a blitz). If a blitz is coming, the quarterback must prepare for a hot read (a short, emergency pass). He may choose to re-set his backfield or audible a new play (an audible is a change in play called after the team has huddled). All of this takes place in a matter of mili-seconds.

Then the quarterback sets himself to receive the ball, calling out a bunch of numbers and words and such that sets his time, and hopefully confuses the defense.

This happens before the ball has even been snapped!

I think about this sometimes when I review the silly things I have said, the moments I got caught up in gossip, the times I passed on something shared in confidence that I was not supposed to share. Perhaps before I speak to anyone I should go into “quarterback mode”, read the defense, look for a gossip blitz, and prepare to change the tone of the conversation on the line!

My problem is that I think of these things after I speak.

James (see James 1:19) gives me another alternative. James writes, “be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow(er) to anger”. This is some of the most practical advice in the Bible. What if I were to think about my words before I speak, pausing just long enough to ask myself “is this good conversation”? What if I measured my words in the moment? When I am speaking about someone else, would I be saying the same thing if he or she were standing right next to me?

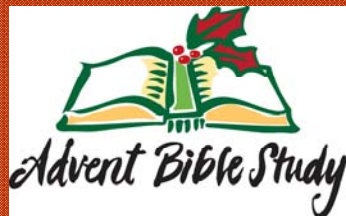
Television crews often delay live presentations so that they can bleep out bad words (at least

they used to!). Perhaps I should do the same, waiting just long enough for my words to be weighed by my heart before they are spoken by my tongue.

There is a great kid’s lesson in which a tube of toothpaste is completely squeezed empty into a dish. The kids are then asked to put the toothpaste back into the tube. Of course, they cannot. It is impossible. This is similar to our conversations. Even when we are not intentionally mean, or desiring to pass on gossip; we can end up at a place where words have been spoken, confidences broken, and truths suspended. And once the words are out, good luck getting them back into the “tube”.

I was never much good at football, and certainly not as a quarterback. I still marvel at how much he must know and do before he calls for the ball. Perhaps I can strive to be a better friend, husband, father and leader through my words. A little delay before speaking would certainly help. After all, it is better to wait and speak, than to speak and regret.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Tom



Advent Study Led by Pastor Lawry

**“The Journey:
Walking the Road to
Bethlehem”
Sundays
Nov. 20-Dec. 18
9:55-10:45**

All members of the church, especially those participating in the “Grow Though Prayer” Study, are invited to meet in the Multi Purpose Room as we shift gears and present an Advent study. Pastor Robert Lawry will be leading the congregation in a study titled “The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem,” by Adam Hamilton, senior pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas.

In this program, which includes a 10 minute DVD segment each week, Adam Hamilton travels with us from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. Using historical information, archaeological findings, and personal reflections, Hamilton illuminates this most amazing moment in history. We follow the footsteps of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and others, gaining insight into our own journeys with Christ.

The purpose of this study is to help us better understand the events that led up to the birth of Jesus in a stable in Bethlehem. We will look these events geographically, culturally and historically.

We will explore the theology of the Nativity, what those events say about the nature of God, as well as reflect on the meaning of those events for our own lives as disciples. Pastor Lawry will have a teaching moment before showing the video and table discussions will follow.

The session topics will include:

November 20
Mary of Nazareth
November 27
Joseph of Bethlehem
December 4
Mary’s Visit to
Elizabeth
December 11
From Nazareth to
Bethlehem
December 18
The Manger

Thanksgiving Dinner

Once again Crossroads will sponsor a Thanksgiving Day Dinner for those who have no where else to go on Thanksgiving or who would like to enjoy Christian fellowship at our church on that day. We will have turkey and all the traditional sides to eat. Appetizers will be served at 11:30am and the meal will begin at 12:00pm in the fellowship hall. Anyone in the community as well as our Crossroads family are invited to come. Reservations must be called in to the church office at 444-2381 by November 18th. We will also be delivering meals to shut-ins on Thanksgiving morning.

Here’s how you can help:

- Bake pies
- Help serve the meal
- Deliver meals to shut-ins on Thanksgiving morning
- Let us know of a family in need
- Donate to help defray the cost of the meals
- Help with prep work
- Help clean up after the meal

If you are able to help in any way, please call Nikki Hudson at 635-5571.



Gift Cards for Group Homes

Because of more government funding cuts, we are again giving gift cards for Christmas to residents at the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped in Morton, the group homes for developmentally disabled adults. Last year the residents were able

to shop, go to movies, and go out to eat throughout the year because of your amazing generosity. Gift trees will be on the Outreach Bulletin Board starting November 20. Please take a tree and get a gift card for the person named and return your gift by December 11. There

will be a box in the church office to put the gift cards in, or you can give them to Sandy or Jim Tunnell.

Again Crossroads will help these residents have a Merry Christmas!

Threads, Hope & Love Fundraiser

Sunday, November 20
1:00-4:00pm
Plaza Bowling Lanes,
Washington

2 games of bowling including shoe rental will cost \$9 with part of the proceeds going to Threads.

Come and enjoy a fun family afternoon and help support this important mission.

New Staff Member

As Director of HR, I would like to introduce Shelly Kerker to the congregation. Shelly is our new Office Assistant who will be working on facility scheduling. She will be in the front office Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 12:30pm.

When you have any building needs, please email her, stop in the office or complete the request form on our website. Shelly's email is skerker@mtco.com.

Welcome, Shelly!

Pastoral Care Notes

During October we celebrated the baptisms of three children:
 Jackson James Moriarty, son of Michael and Angela on October 2nd
 Ella Elizabeth Roberts, daughter of David and Sarah, and sister to Kyle, on October 9th

Paisley Ann Robertson, daughter of Andy and Jessica, also on October 9th.

Please keep in your prayers:

Craig and Jill Hibbard and family on the passing of Jill's grandmother, Muriel Welter, on October 9th.

Keith and Tyra Clark and family on the passing of Keith's father, Keith, on October 2nd.

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.

Follow Lighthouse News! Text "follow xroadlighthouse" to 40404

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

College Student Care Packages:

As part of our outreach to our college students, we need the mailing addresses of Crossroads college students. We want to send them care packages this winter during finals week. If you know a college student away at school or still at home please go to www.crossroads4all.org/college and give us their address or e-mail Trevor (trevorb@mtco.com).

Also, you can help put together these care

packages on Friday, December 2nd at 1 pm. If you would like to donate supplies for the packs, we are looking for homemade baked goods (cookies, brownies), candy, gum or other snack food to help get them through their exams. Please bring supplies to office before December 1st. If you have any questions about care packs please feel free to contact Trevor.



Just for Kids

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Praise to the Lord for the wonderful weather on Sunday, October 23. It was a perfect afternoon/evening for Trunk or Treating. Many thanks to Pati Bean and her committee for making this year's Trunk or Treat a wonderful time of fun and fellowship. Thank you to the Boy Scouts for being in charge of the marvelous bonfire. More than 60 cars were part of the celebration with more than 140 children Trunk or Treating!

Mark Your Calendar



Sunday, November 20 – The children will be singing their Sunday School Songs at 1st & 2nd Services. Children are asked to meet in the hallway outside Room 126 (Cry Room) before the service. (8:25 – 1st Service and 10:55 – 2nd Service) They will share with us what they have learned about Joshua in their Sunday School Classes at the Shoppes and sing about the Battle of Jericho!

You're Invited to a Birthday Party for Jesus!



Who: All children ages 3 through 5th Grade and their parents

What: A birthday party for Jesus

- Hear the Bible story of Jesus' birth read by one of the pastors
- Bring an unwrapped toy for Baby Jesus to leave beneath the tree. (Gifts will be blessed by a pastor and donated to a children's charity.)
- Make ornaments to decorate the Children's Christmas Tree
- Enjoy dinner at the church

When: Saturday, November 19th from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Where: Crossroads United Methodist Church

RSVP to the Church Office by Wednesday, November 13 at 444-2381

With the approach of the Advent Season, the Children's Sunday School at the Shoppes on God's Prairie will be starting a new unit on November 20.

Christ Revealed: Christmas Seen Through Symbols



Art/Mission Workshop

As children hear the Christmas story, they learn how the poinsettia is a cultural symbol that points to Jesus' birth. They learn of the wise men's gifts to Jesus and how we honor Jesus when we give unselfish gifts from the heart.



Computer Workshop

Children will become detectives & crack the code embedded in the well-known Christmas song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas."



Cooking Workshop

Children will learn the legend of the candy cane and explore how each candy cane part reveals the Christmas story and points to Jesus.



Geography Workshop

Angels and stars top our Christmas trees and can be seen around town, on streetlights, and in store windows. The children will learn how angels and stars reveal Jesus and point to the true meaning of Christmas. By using maps and labels, the children learn the geography of the Christmas story and the important roles of the angels and star. They will understand

how they can spread the Christmas message as the angels did and follow the star of Jesus in their own lives.



Science Workshop

Strands and strands of colorful lights decorate our trees, our homes, and our towns during Christmas. The children will learn how Christmas lights point to Jesus and reveal the true meaning of Christmas. The children will learn how the Christ Child was born to be the "Light of the World" and how to let the light of Christ shine within them.



Movie Workshop

Children will learn the importance of telling the Christmas story to others.

All children Kindergarten through 5th Grade are always welcome to attend Sunday School at the Shoppes on God's Prairie. Please meet in Faith Chapel at 9:45 for Group Worship followed by the Workshops.

Kids for Christ

A Kids Club for 3rd, 4th, & 5th, graders

Bible time, Games, Music, and Snacks
6:00 – 8:00pm

2010-2011 Dates:

November 18
December 2
January 13
January 27
February 10
February 24
March 10 (Kids Conference)
March 23
April 13
April 27



Prayer Challenge



I have had the support of many fellow Christians this past year and a half and I thank you from the bottom of my heart. While sometimes it was an emotional struggle and often times a spiritual battle, I trusted God and waited for his answer for me. To respond to others that may be going through a similar, critical hardship, I think Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend deliver the answer far better than I can; for even though our circumstances may be different, the answer is always the same.

“...They say, ‘Just have faith’, or ‘Keep on believing’. They sincerely want to give a friend hope and courage to get through a rough time. But the problem in life is that we **all**, in some situations, come to the end of our own abilities, strength, knowledge and experience. And at that moment, just having faith in faith, or belief in belief, or even faith in ourselves is not enough. We need more!

We need someone on the other end of that expression of faith. We need someone greater than ourselves to tell us what to do when we don’t know what to do. The fact that you and I need someone greater than ourselves is not a weakness. Some say that our need for God is a “crutch” and that only weak people need God. We are created and designed to reach outside ourselves to find the things that we need each and every day. One of the biggest oxymorons is the term “self-made” man or woman. “It is [God] who created us, and not we ourselves”, (Psalms 100:3, NKJV). Don’t believe in yourself, or just believe in faith--instead, use your faith to believe in God.

When we put our faith and trust in God, we’ve done the one thing that a human can do to accomplish superhuman things. We have reached past human strength and knowledge. We’ve touched infinite strength and infinite knowledge.

Begin your journey with the first step of realizing that since you are not God, you are naturally going to run into limits of your finite abilities to solve your problems or to create the life you desire. And since he is God, you have the opportunity to live in a relationship with the One who designed you and your life, and therefore knows best how you can live it. That is the first step to finding out how God can make a way or what to do when you don’t know what to do”.

Pastor Bob was right...it’s not the **why** question, but the **who**. Keep on praying!

Submitted by Garry Guimond

Excerpts from “God Will Make a Way” by Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr John Townsend

“What Love Really Means”

In October, Acts 29 traveled to the women’s prison in Dwight to share music and messages on “What Love Really Means.”

The band shared with the ladies about how our past does not prevent God from loving us or wanting us to have a relationship with Him. As Romans 5:8 says, “But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” God did not wait for us to be perfect, clean, or worthy of His love. We can become a friend of God through faith and trusting in Jesus.

As we prayed with the women, many commented on how they had never felt the love of God as they had that day, with some women trusting Christ as their Savior for the first time. The band saw first-hand some of the joys and difficulties that these women experience in prison, and was truly blessed by their spirited worship and the opportunity to minister to them.

The team would like to thank Crossroads for supporting our trip and for your prayers. For more information about the trip, please feel free to talk to Mike

Rudzinski or any of the team members.

If you are interested in learning more about the prison outreach of the Faith, Hope, and Love organization, please contact Gary or Linnie McCully.

What is Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry is grounded in Jesus’ command to love one another. Through one-to-one caring relationships, those who are hurting receive the love and care they need to support them.

A Stephen Minister IS:

- A lay member with spiritual gifts of compassion, faith, encouragement, etc. who receives training by a Stephen Leader.
- Trained to provide Christian care in one to one **confidential** relationships.
- A caring Christian friend who walks beside hurting people, taking time to visit weekly and to really listen.
- Going to keep everything you say, even your identity, **confidential**.

A Stephen Minister is NOT:

- A counselor or therapist.
- A problem solver. They recognize that only God is the Cure-giver.
- Someone who runs errands or mows the lawn.

Who benefits from Stephen Ministry?

- People who need care.*
- Our pastors.* They have more time to focus on the ministries that only they can do. They no longer shoulder the entire burden of caring for our growing congregation.
- Our entire congregation.* We help fulfill our mission to “Grow Disciples for Jesus Christ and send them out into the crossroads of our community”.

Who might receive care from a Stephen Minister?

- Someone who is dealing with:
- A sense that life is more than they can handle right now.
- Adjusting to a new job, a change in marital status, a serious illness, the death of a loved one, a recent move.
- Unemployment, loneliness, depression, childbirth, hospitalization, etc.





“Surviving the Holidays” Seminar

“Surviving the Holidays” Seminar at Crossroads UMC

Are you dreading the holidays because you have lost a loved one? Would you like to go to sleep before Thanksgiving and wake up on January 2nd? If you have answered “yes” to these questions, please join us on **November 13th from 2:00–4:00pm** for a seminar called “Surviving the Holidays.” Parish Nurse Sally Charlton will be offering this special session for those who are struggling this time of the year. At the “Surviving the Holidays” session,

participants will discover practical answers to these and other questions:

- Is it normal to feel so depressed during the holidays?
- How do I deal with the pain of the holidays?
- How do I decide what activities in which to participate?
- Should I accept or decline invitations to parties?
- What if I get emotional at a party or event?
- How can God and others help me?
- Will I ever enjoy the holidays again?

Those who attend will receive a free book with over 30 daily readings providing additional insights and ideas on holiday survival.

Please invite your friends and relatives who may be struggling. Even though Crossroads sponsors the program, everyone who loves the Lord is invited. Email (Charlton@mtco.com) or call the church (444-2381) with questions or to register.

There is no fee to attend.

CPR & AED Training

CPR and AED TRAINING
Saturday,
November 19
8 a.m. – noon

Training for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillation (AED) will be conducted on Saturday, November 19th at Crossroads, 8:00am – noon. This is the American Heart Association class and there is no charge to participants.

For those of you who were trained in 2009, it is time for retraining. If you were trained last year and would like to be refreshed, please join us. Child and baby CPR will be covered.

If you have never been trained, please consider it now; you never know when one of your loved ones may need your assistance.

Call the church office to register, 444-2381. Sign-ups begin immediately.

Please be sure you can attend before registering. The number of instructors for the class depends on the number of participants.

Please call the Parish Nurse, Sally Charlton, 444-2381 (church) or 369-5293 (cell), with questions.

From Nurse Sally...

Palpitations

Heart palpitations are the feelings of having rapid, fluttering or pounding heartbeats. Palpitations can be triggered by stress, exercise, medication, or, rarely, an underlying medical condition. Although palpitations can be worrisome, they're usually harmless, since your heart is usually still pumping effectively. In rare cases, heart palpitations may be a symptom of a more serious heart condition.

Symptoms

- Skipped heartbeats
- Fluttering heartbeat
- Heartbeats that are too fast
- Heartbeats that are pumping harder than usual

Heart palpitations may be felt in the throat, neck or chest. They can occur when active or at rest, whether standing, seated or lying down.

When to see a doctor

Palpitations that are infrequent and last only a few seconds usually do not require an evaluation. If there is a history of heart disease or frequent palpitations, talk to your doctor. It may require heart monitoring tests to see if the palpitations are caused by a more serious heart problem. **Seek immediate emergency medical attention if heart palpitations are accompanied by chest discomfort or pain, fainting, shortness of breath or severe dizziness.**

Tests that the doctor may order:

- **Electrocardiogram (ECG).** An ECG records the electrical impulses that can make your heart beat. This test can detect irregularities in heart rhythm and structure that may cause palpitations.
- **Holter monitoring.** A portable device that is worn to record continuous ECG, usually for 24 – 72 hours.

- **Event recording.**

A Holter monitor worn as much as possible throughout the day. A button is pushed on a recording device when symptoms are experienced.

- **Chest X-ray.**

Looks at the size and shape of the heart to help determine if the heart structure is abnormal.

- **Echocardiogram.**

Includes an ultrasound of the chest, showing detailed images of the heart's structure and function.

Treatment

Unless there is an underlying heart condition, heart palpitations seldom require medications or surgery. Instead, the doctor may recommend ways to avoid triggers that cause palpitations.

Again, please see your doctor when palpitations first occur in order to rule out any serious conditions.

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.

Wellmobile Coming to Crossroads

FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS

Methodist Hospital Wellmobile At Crossroads

**Thursday, November 10th
8:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall**

HDL (good) and triglycerides. 12 hour fast is recommended.

Blood sugar, 12 hour fast recommended.

Blood Pressure test

Spirometry (lung capacity)

****NO APPOINTMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED****

- Results will be available that day
- A light breakfast will be available

Feel free to call the Parish Nurse, Sally Charlton, with questions.

Screenings that will be offered FREE OF CHARGE are:

Cholesterol, which includes total cholesterol, LDL (bad),

- Blood work is done by fingerstick, 4 every 10 minutes
- Spirometry, one every five minutes

Senior News

M&M's Outing to the Fish House

On Tuesday, November 15th, the M and M's will be boarding the church buses at precisely 4:30 p.m. for dinner at the Fish House. The Fish House is a group favorite because there is always wonderful food, good service and most importantly, great fellowship. Please call the church, 444-2381, to reserve a seat on one of the buses. If a ride to the church is needed, please let that be known when you register. All reservations must be called in before November 10th.

For those of you who are unaware of the M & M's, we are Mature and Methodist who really enjoy each other's company and love to have fun. M and M's are usually 60 and

above, but we won't hold it against you if you are only 59 or even 55! We are a friendly bunch and always welcome new friends. So, if you have not joined us before, this is the perfect opportunity to give us a try.

A monthly activity is planned, which almost always includes eating out. We take the church bus on outings so driving is never an issue. There are no membership fees; in fact there's no membership roster. There is nothing to join, if you are a senior member or attender at Crossroads, you are already an M & M. We would love to meet all of the older adults who are new to Crossroads. It is a great way to get acquainted. All we ask is that you call the church, 444-2381, to register for each event.

The remaining 2011 activity is The Eastside Christian Community Church Christmas program in Normal on Saturday, December 10th. Supper will precede the program. We will leave Crossroads at 4:00pm.

If you have questions, please feel free to call Sally Charlton, 444-2381 (church) or 369-5293 (cell).

Senior Meal

Our Senior Meal will be Tuesday, Nov. 8, at 12:00. It is great to see so many "new" friends coming to enjoy a meal together. The food is delicious and fellowship is great. Please call the office (444-2381) to make a reservation and mark your calendars.

Senior Adult



Fellowship

Fellowship Opportunities

Girls Night Out

Friday, November 11th,
6 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Come out for a girls night of friends and fellowship. Learn to do Faithbooking. Learn a few tips on how to take better photos. 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 simply come and work on something you have been meaning to get done. Lets get together. We meet once per month.

December date:

Friday, December 16th,
6-10 p.m. Contact Tammy Miller 444-2408 for more information.

Spirited Book Discussion Group

The Spirited Book Discussion Group will meet November 15 at 1:00pm in the church library. We will discuss *Thrift Store Saints* by Jane Knuth. Jane reluctantly decides to volunteer at an inner-city thrift store. This book tells of her unexpected, soul stirring experiences. Please join us for discussion and fellowship. Questions? contact Nancy Bullard at 444-5140 or nanrb@mtco.com.

At our December meeting we will share our favorite books.

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.

Men's Fellowship

November 7, 6:00-8:00pm

Program: Noah Hickman will tell about his experience being a gunner on a B17 during WWII. There will also be two testimonies. A delicious meal will be provided.

*"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

November 3-6, 2011

Chrysalis Flight

November 11-13, 2011

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.

Chrysalis is the name chosen for the youth and young adult version of The Walk to Emmaus because it symbolizes the spiritual growth that is essential between adolescence and adulthood. That growth is as crucial for youth as the cocoon is for the caterpillar. It is that precious time of nurturing a person's faith for discipleship. Chrysalis Flights (for high school sophomores

through age 18) and Chrysalis Journeys (for young adults 19-24) are 3-day events. This 3-day spiritual renewal time provides an opportunity to learn more about faith, to experience Christian love and support, and to make new faith commitments. Young people are inspired, challenged, and equipped for a closer friendship with Christ and for Christian action at home, church, school and community.

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

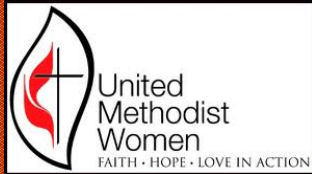
Crossroads Emmaus

Liaisons:

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

Jim O'Malley





Find us on
Facebook

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.”

Dear Women of Crossroads,

We have more mission opportunities! Please come and bring a friend.

Project Day

Thursday, November 3
Noon

We will be making cookie bags for the Cookie Walk. “World Thank Offering” will be collected. Bring a sack lunch. Dessert provided.

Local Officer Update & Information

Saturday, November 12
8:30am

East Peoria First UMC

All officers are encouraged to attend. Anyone wanting to learn more about UMW is welcome.

Prep for Cookie Walk

Friday, December 2
Watch for more details

Cookie Walk

Saturday, December 3
9:00am

Save the date! Start looking up your favorite Christmas Cookie Recipes. This is one of our main fundraisers to support our mission pledge.

Look for the aproned ladies in the church hallways on Sunday, November 13 and 20. They will be asking for cookies to be donated for the 2011 Cookie Walk. Our focus is to serve local, national, and international missions. Cookies will remain at the reasonable \$5 per pound. Thank you!

Looking ahead:

There will not be a UMW meeting in January.

Pecans are coming!

The UMW will be selling Georgia pecans on Sunday, November 13 and 20. The pecans are large select halves fresh from Georgia. The price is \$9 per 12 oz. bag. The price of pecans has gone up significantly since last year. The money from the pecan sales will go to our mission work. Make your holiday baking plans and help us with our mission work!

Questions? Call Nancy Bullard at 444-5140 or Rebecca Bell at 444-2570.

UMW Cookie Walk

UMW Cookie Walk
Saturday, December 3
9:00am until
SOLD OUT



Proceeds go toward missions. Cookies/candy donated by church members.

Notes from Our Congregation

Thanks to our Prayer Ministry team for leading us through the entire New Testament the first weekend in October. Special thanks to our college youth who stayed up in the wee hours of the morning reading First Peter and Hebrews. What a blessing it is to have God's Word read aloud at church.

Pastor Tom

Many thanks to all of the valet parkers. I do appreciate all the kind and caring help you provide on Sunday mornings. God Bless each and every one of you.

Sincerely,
Bettejo Fisher

**"Every time I
think of you, I
give thanks to
my God."**

Philippians 1:3

The Cost of Theological Education

A major factor in a student's ability to be successful at seminary and in their future ministries is the amount of financial aid available to them. The cost of a seminary education is high. A master of divinity student at Garrett-Evangelical will incur an estimated yearly expense of \$40,903, including \$17,930 for tuition and \$23,000 for living expenses.

Garrett-Evangelical provides more than \$2 million in financial aid each year, making awards to 85% of their students. They wish they could do more, but they are very grateful for all the churches that provide scholarship support at the seminary.

Many COL churches support endowed scholarship funds. Endowed funds produce a certain amount of earnings each year, and those earnings provide scholarships to deserving

students at the seminary. A scholarship can be established in the name of a church, or in some cases to honor a pastor or an important lay person through a Ministry Sunday Scholarship.

A number of churches also provide scholarship assistance to students through annual scholarships. A church gives a gift of \$1,000 or more, which is then awarded in its entirety to a seminary student. A request can be made to a church endowment committee, a mission committee, or United Methodist Women. Sometimes annual scholarship gifts can come as part of the proceeds of a rummage sale or other fundraiser.

In either case, the church will have an opportunity to learn about the student and can follow his or her progress at seminary. Preferences can be indicated for students coming from a certain church or state.

Scholarships allow more students to say "yes!" to ministry. If you would like more information about Ministry Sundays or other ways that your church can partner with Garrett Evangelical to provide scholarship assistance to students in need, contact Sally or Cliff Smith at 309-444-8516 or sjsmon@comcast.net or bcssmt163@comcast.net.



GETS News



Meet Carole Snow, a student at Garrett Evangelical Seminary:

Carole Snow was born in Woodlands Texas thirty years ago. She holds a Bachelor of Philosophy Degree from Northwestern University and a Bachelor of Arts from the Banff Centre Alberta, Canada Film Studies.

Carole is a first-year student in the Master of Arts in Pastoral Care and Counselling Program at Garrett-Evangelical. Carole is also an independent producer and filmmaker at Real Lab Productions.

Her job has sent her on a 32-hour flight to the Himalayas, over horse trails in Tennessee and sometimes to Ann Arbor Michigan. It doesn't matter what subject she is covering; she finds that people have the same struggle. We all want to be heard, and we all want to be valued. These are the tenets that make us feel alive. They make us human.

This has much to do with why she eventually came stumbling into seminary this fall. She instantly cared for the people she was reporting on, and this grew into her documentary work. She is at Garrett Evangelical Seminary studying Pastoral Care and Counselling because at some point she decided that

perhaps interviewing in another form and allowing people to tell their stories would eventually help someone.

Carole is learning a new way to listen. She is learning that instead of extracting information to share with the public, one must allow those in her sphere to give up little pieces of themselves and know they are being heard.

Carole thinks in some way we all tackle life the way mountain climbers do. It's the upward climb and in those moments when you lose elevation after much struggle. You need the help of your teammates, but at times you are alone on a rock face being pummelled by weather. In the high regions, nothing warms the climber more than a cup of some serious tea from a stranger.

These are turning points we all experience. Those of pain and camaraderie are the focus of her mission...that we are all in this life together and we need to share those experiences. We need to be vocal, to tell someone we are in pain.

Carole was working in small groups in her Vocational Formation and Church Leadership class in a discussion on Dr. Martin Luther King's "Letter From

a Birmingham Jail" when a very sharp classmate pointed out that perhaps people were able to bus down to the South because they saw the shocking images on television of fire hoses, dogs and utter hate from humans like us.

Carole states that she is at Garrett and working hard in the documentary community for this reason: There are so many stories to be told. Like John Steinbeck reporting on migrant workers in the Depression, or Steve James telling us about the violence and ultimately, healing in Chicago - and on down to the one-on-one construct of a counselling environment - everyone needs to know that their story matters.

Grant Norsworthy Workshop and Worship Service

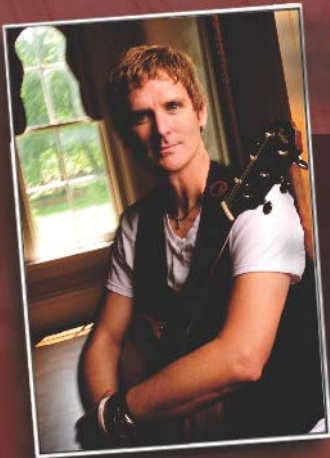
B1

JOHN 17:21

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B1 UNITY SERVICE!
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Sunday 20th Nov 2011

8:30 am

Crossroads UMC - Washington, IL

10:55 am

First UMC - Peoria, IL

4:30 pm - Youth Hang out & Dinner

First UMC - Peoria, IL

6 pm - A Night of Praise!

First UMC - Peoria, IL



Host info

First UMC
116 NE Perry Ave
Peoria, IL 61603
(309) 673-3641
ddenner@fumcpeoria.org
www.fumcpeoria.org

Crossroads UMC
1420 N. Main St.
Washington, IL 61571
(309) 444-2381
wmeach@mtco.com
www.crossroads4all.org/



GRANTNORSWORTHY.COM

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pastors@mtco.com

Pastor of Discipleship

Bob Lawry
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Visitation Pastor

Dan Doty

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Melissa Sullivan
Beth Edwards

Crossroads United Methodist Church of Washington

P.O. Box 299
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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

