



CROSSROADS
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

The Messenger

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 8

SEPTEMBER 2010

- The deadline for the October, 2010 issue of *The Messenger* is Friday, September 17th. 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](mailto: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

On our way back from a family vacation in Cincinnati, we spent the night just outside of Louisville, Kentucky in the small town of Corydon, Indiana. We chose Corydon because it was outside the city, and frankly, had cheaper room rates. We were pleasantly surprised to find that Corydon had lots of history, a great swimming pool, a Civil War battle site and some wonderful restaurants. It was such a great place to spend time that we have told others about it. (and I am writing about it for the front page of the Messenger!)

When we see a great movie, try out a new restaurant, find a great new workout to keep in shape, or read a great new book, we have the same universal response. We want to tell others! We want to share what we have discovered with our family, our friends, and

our co-workers. It makes us feel good to share our experience with others. So why is it that we all clam up when it comes to telling others about the blessing of knowing Jesus and difference He has made in our lives? We don't know what to say, fear what we say will sound "preachy" or "pushy", and are not sure that our faith experience would make a difference in anybody else's life anyway!

This September, we will embark on a journey of discovery. During our journey, we will be reminded of the blessing that Jesus has brought into our lives and how we are different because of our faith. We will remember the people who have loved us unconditionally. We will see how they have mentored us.

Then we will discover how powerful the story of Jesus' love for us is and how this discovery can help others as well.

You can sign up to be part of a Discover small group either on Sunday or Thursday nights at the church. Free child care will be available. Small groups will meet for five weeks beginning September 19th.

Jesus reminded the disciples that whenever they shared the Good News or ministered to others, they received a blessing in return (see Matthew 25). Join me this fall as we discover this blessing. Watch the bulletin for information on how to sign up for the Discover Bible Study, or you may sign up on our website, www.crossroads4all.org.

~ Pastor Tom

Church Office Changes

Our church office does an amazing job of scheduling events (there are always activities going on at Crossroads!), updating membership records, answering phones and emails, and keeping track of our ministry staff. *The Personnel Team is pleased to announce a re-organization of the church office effective September 1st.*

Brenda Thornburg has been hired as a full-time *Receptionist*. Brenda will answer phones, help with church communications

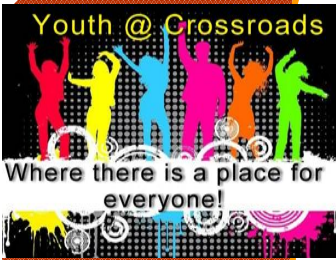
and greet the public. Brenda can be reached at extension 10 or at brendat@mtco.com.

Angie Shaw has been hired as a full-time *Assistant to the Pastors*. Angie will continue to produce the bulletin and Messenger, maintain the church website and handle scheduling for the pastors. Angie can be reached at extension 12 or at ashaw@mtco.com.

Laurie Bouton has been hired as a part-time *Assistant to the Ministry Staff*. Laurie will work

with the Christian education, music and youth ministries. Laurie will work Mondays and Wednesdays. She can be reached at extension 20 or at lbouton@mtco.com.

Amber Johnsen has been hired as a part-time *Assistant to the Business Administrator*. Amber will update the data base, schedule meetings and events, and serve as a back-up for the business administrator. Amber can be reached at extension 18 or at amberj@mtco.com.



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 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 in the future.

Youth News

Trevor's Treasures

Audrey's father loves Bob Dylan, and I too enjoy his music. One song that I truly like a lot is *The Times They are a Changin'*. The song focuses on how life is an adventure, with things always changing. Change brings growth, and growth brings change. To grow our youth ministry, we will need to change. One way to grow is to develop a mission statement that will help us keep our focus. So, we have developed a new mission statement. Along with the mission statement, we are changing and creating new roles in the ministry. I will continue to be the Youth Director, but will focus on high school and college

ministries. We are currently looking for a person to lead and grow elementary and middle school ministries. While we are trying to fill this role, we will have qualified and dedicated interns working with middle school Impact. Matt Sitler and Ashley Richie are both awesome young adults who have already been connected with this ministry for some time. Our goal is to reach out and care for more young people; this move is one of the beginning stages of reaching this goal. Change can sometimes be difficult, but I have faith that these changes are needed to grow these ministries and to show Christ's love to area youth.

Senior High Lighthouse BBQ Kick-off

Wednesday, September 8th
6:30pm
Crossroads

Impact Kick-off

Impact will be starting again on Sunday, September 12th at 6:30pm. We will be having a Parents vs. Kids "Minute to Win It". All kids in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade and their parents are invited to attend! Girls, bring a dessert to share, and boys, bring a bag of chips. Hope to see you all there!

Step Out of the Boat

Christ is calling us to step out of the boat and be disciples in our world. Our outreach team at Crossroads has several wonderful opportunities to serve the Savior.

Adopt-a-Block

Our two adopted southside Peoria blocks, are "walked" twice a month (second and fourth Saturdays). The commitment is once a month for two hours. Help us pray for and care for our new neighbors. To serve contact the church office or

Chuck Dixon at chuckdar@mtco.com.

Threads of Love

Our clothing ministry in the community will hold clothing giveaways in September and October. They need help in the emergency center. To serve contact the church office or pstrtom@mtco.com.

The United Methodist Women of Crossroads

This group of women support a number of

wonderful agencies in Illinois. With state funding delays, these ministries especially need our help. To serve, contact the church office.

Thank you

Thank you, Crossroads, for filling 145 Backpacks to help children in need at Common Place, the Peoria Children's Home, and our area school! They really appreciated your donations!

Stephen Ministry

Caregiving ministry at Crossroads begins a new phase as many members are ready to begin Stephen Ministry training on September 7. At the completion of their training and commissioning in February of next year, they will begin providing one-to-one care to people experiencing difficulties in life.

Stephen Ministry is biblical. "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6: 2. Stephen Ministry is caring that is distinctively Christian in nature. We share God's love for the care receiver and confidentially keep their identity unknown. We allow God to do the healing.

The 50 hours of training covers, in part, these topics:

- Feelings: Yours, Mine and ours
- The Art of Listening
- Assertiveness: relating gently and firmly
- Maintaining Boundaries in care giving
- Confidentiality
- Ministering to those experiencing grief
- Caring for people before, during and after hospitalization.

More than a half-million people have gone through Stephen Ministry training in more than 10,000 churches worldwide since the ministry began in 1975.

Please lift up the training class in your prayers over the coming months and watch for regular training class updates in the monthly newsletters and Sunday bulletins.

As soon as the class roster is finalized you will learn the names of all the compassionate people who are beginning training every Tuesday evening. We pray God blesses them richly.



Life Enrichment Series Workshop



No one knows what goes on behind closed doors!

No wonder many women who suffer abuse are disheartened, confused and distressed. They wonder, must I really suffer at the hands of someone who has sworn to protect and cherish me? Where is God when I am hurting so much? Our prayer is that the Biblical Truths shared at this "NO MORE!" workshop that deals with "ASSAULTS ON WOMEN'S WORTH" will be used by God to free you or someone you might know from the shackles of unjust suffering. (John 8:32)

"NO MORE!" "Assault on a Woman's Worth"

*with Darlene Cali
Saturday, September 11
9:00AM – 11:30AM
at Crossroads UMC
Room 204*

Cost: \$10
Seating is limited to 30 participants
Request childcare at time of reservation

For reservations:
Call 444-8160 or email
wwwmwm@gmail.com
Reservation deadline:
September 8th

Music Opportunities at Crossroads

We're entering the fall season again at Crossroads, and it's a great time to get involved in the many music programs here at the Church. We have a varied, unique set of music opportunities for people of all ages and skill levels, and you can be involved at almost any level of commitment that suits your time and talents. All of these groups have begun practicing, but it is never too late to get involved.

Adult Chancel Choir

If you are in high school or older, you can participate in the Adult Chancel Choir, no matter your skill level, reading skills or confidence. We have over 20 fantastic members in the choir currently, and are looking to add to each of the voice parts in this 4-part choir. The group practices on Wednesday evenings from 7:45-8:45 pm, and performs 2 Sundays a month at the 8:30 service. No audition is necessary. They will participate on special Sundays for Christmas and Easter as well. You are welcome to join us for the entire 9 month season or for

just one month at a time as your schedule permits. Contact the choir director Will Meachum, wmeach@mtco.com, or just stop by the choir room (room 101) on a Wednesday evening to join.

Adult Handbell Choir

The Adult Handbell choir is for anyone high school age or older, no matter your skill level or abilities. Anyone can participate and learn how to play handbells. The group practices every Wednesday evening from 6:15-7:15 PM and performs one Sunday a month at the 8:30 service, as well as for special Sunday services throughout the year. If you have younger children ages 3-2nd grade, drop them off at Cherub choir (which also meets from 6:15-7:15) and come learn to play this unique and exciting instrument. Contact director Cliff Smith, bcssmt163@comcast.net, for more information.

Praise Team

The Praise team consists of both vocalists and instrumentalists. The team is broken up into 4 different sets of vocal teams and instrumental teams that rotate once a month (both practice and performance) at the 11:00 praise service. Audition is required to be in the Sunday morning rotations, but there are other groups/events that the team performs for that you can get started with. If you would like to set up an audition or learn more, contact Jim Bayless, praiseways@yahoo.com, for more information.

Special music, instrumentalists

All of the above groups are in need of instrumental soloists or groups. If you play a special instrument and would like to be considered for solo opportunities or as part of any of the above ensembles, please contact Will Meachum, wmeach@mtco.com, for more information.



Just for Kids

ATTENTION THIRD GRADERS

Our mission at Crossroads is to grow disciples. One way we do this is by presenting our incoming 3rd graders with bibles. We are inviting all kids who will be entering 3rd grade this fall **and their parents or grandparents** to join us on Sunday, September 12th from 9:45-12:00. At 9:45 parents/grandparents and 3rd graders will meet for a special class about their bible. Parents/grandparents will play a very important role in presenting the bible to their child, so we highly encourage parents or grandparents to attend. Then at the 11:00 service the parents/grandparents will present their 3rd graders with a personalized bible.

Awana

*Begins September 23rd,
6:15-8:00pm*

The purpose of Awana is to reach boys and girls with the Gospel of Christ and to train them to serve Him. In each exciting, fun-filled meeting, children will experience fun games, small group time, and an interactive large group time, where they will learn about the Bible and how it applies to their lives. For registration information, contact Julie Puckett at 678-7142 or jewels8595@comcast.net.

Awana Helpers Needed

Very soon Awana will begin again! Last year we reached 115 children! Wouldn't it be great if we could reach even more kids this year? To do that we will need many more helpers, including leaders, directors, LIT (leaders in training), listeners (who listen

to the kids recite their memory verses), secretaries, and commanders. Serving the Savior in this way is very rewarding, and we need you even if you can only commit to once or twice a month. If you are ready to "Step Out of the Boat", contact Julie Puckett at jewels8595@comcast.net or 678-7142, or Kris Ross at kross529@comcast.net.

Planning meetings and training sessions will begin very soon.

Kids for Christ

A Kids Club for
3rd, 4th, & 5th graders
Bible time, Games, Music,
and Snacks
*Beginning September 10th
6:00 – 8:00pm*

2010-2011 dates:

September 10
September 24
October 8
October 22
November 12
December 3
January 14
January 28
February 11
February 25
March 25
April 8
April 29

Children's Music Opportunities

Chapel Choir – The Chapel Choir is for any child ages 3rd-8th grade that loves to sing and act. The group meets on Wednesdays after school from 3:40-4:20pm. The church bus picks the kids up at 5 different schools in the Washington/Metamora area and brings them to church for a snack and for practice. The group performs once a month and rotates between the 8:30 service and the 11:00 praise service. They

also perform for special Sundays for Christmas and Mother's Day, where they put on a musical performance. Contact the Chapel Choir director, Will Meachum, wmeach@mtco.com, for more information and a bus permission slip, or just bring your child to room 101 at 3:40pm for practice.



Chapel Bell Choir- The Chapel Bell choir consists of 16 kids ages 3rd grade-8th grade. They play the adult handbells, and practice after Chapel Choir rehearsal on Wednesdays from 4:20-5:00pm. They are also picked up from school by the church buses, and are given a snack after school. They perform on the same Sundays as the Chapel Choir, and rotate between the 8:30 and 11:00 services. This group has openings available, but there are a limited number of spots available and they will fill up fast. Contact Kathy Palmer, palmer312@comcast.net, for more information and a bus permission slip.

Cherub Choir – We are pleased to have Jolie Alois join us as the new Cherub Choir director for the 2010-2011 season. The Cherub Choir will now be rehearsing on Wednesday evenings from 6:15-7:15 pm in room 101. The group is for any children ages 3-2nd grade. They will perform on the same days as the Chapel kids groups and rotate between the 8:30 and 11:00 services. This is a great opportunity to get your children started in the music programs at Crossroads. Contact Jolie Alois at jalois@ci.easterseals.com for more information or bring your child on a Wednesday to participate.

Senior News

M and M's trip to the Fish House Thursday, September 16th

On Thursday, September 16th, the M and M's will board the church buses at 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 12th.

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 member or an 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. If you have questions, please feel free to call Sally Charlton, 444-2381 (church), 444-2593 (home) or 369-5293 (cell).

Senior Meal

Our Senior Meal will be Tuesday, September 21st at 12:00 in the Fellowship area. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE. We really enjoy seeing old friends and new friends while we have a delicious meal. Call the church office at 444-2381 for a reservation.

GriefShare

If you have ever lost a loved one, you know the feeling of grief. Finding others who understand is often helpful. GriefShare, a support group offered by Crossroads, is getting ready to begin a 13-week session on **Tuesday, September 14th, 7 – 9 p.m.**

GriefShare is a group that is designed to help when someone is grieving the death of a loved one. Each week the group meets for 2 hours. During that time the group watches a video, which is followed by group discussion. The video topic is different each week. Some of the topics include: living with grief, when your

spouse dies, journey of grief and stuck in grief. More than 40 Christian experts, who have gone through the grieving process, share their experiences and advice on the videos. During the discussion, members share their stories and hear the experiences of others. Members receive a workbook for their own personal study which helps to work through the feelings of grief while at home.

Scott and Kathy Deatherage will be facilitating the group. They have been trained and are

experienced in leading GriefShare groups. Although Crossroads sponsors GriefShare, anyone in the community may attend. If you have friends or relatives who are grieving, please lead them to GriefShare. Their losses need not be recent. Please call Sally at 444-2381 (church) or 369-5293(cell) with questions. You may register by calling the church office.

If you have friends or relatives who are grieving, please lead them to GriefShare at Crossroads UMC.



Nurse Sally's Tip of the Month

What's a Parish Nurse?

Since God has been sending so many people to Crossroads that are not familiar with parish nursing, I have been asked many times, "What is a parish nurse?" I will attempt to answer that question here.

Parish Nurses are registered nurses committed to the healing mission of the church. They are nurses who have successfully completed a course of study in parish nursing. The parish nurse at Crossroads is part of the church staff that assists the congregation in their search for wellness and a better quality of life. The practice of parish nursing involves, as the name suggests, a nurse who will provide spiritual and medical counseling and assistance to parishioners who are sick, are new mothers, are homebound, or are in need of advice. The parish nurse offers a mix of services: she alternates with the pastors in providing pastoral care to those who are hospitalized or homebound, provides health counseling, health education, advocacy and prayer.

Health Counseling

Parish nurses can meet with parishioners to discuss troublesome physical, personal or relational concerns. A parish nurse can supply a spiritual companionship that the health care system just can't offer. All contacts are held in strict confidence.

Health Resource Person

The parish nurse is aware of community resources and can refer you to health and social agencies in the area. She will work as an advocate or interpreter for persons confused by their medical situation and unable or unwilling to push for help.

Health Educator

The parish nurse will work with the Health and Wellness Team to arrange and present educational programs dealing with health topics as the interests of the congregation become known.

Why a Parish Nurse?

Before the advent of modern technology, as part of their ministry, churches were actively involved in tending to the needs of their sick, elderly and

homebound members. The Parish Nurse Program revitalizes that function while taking advantage of the advances in medical knowledge and skills which have developed in recent years.

The practice of parish nursing got a stamp of approval in 1998, when the American Nurses Association declared it a legitimate nursing practice and laid out a set of standards for practitioners to follow.

Crossroads' Parish Nurse, commonly called "Nurse Sally", is available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. There is never a charge for the services of the parish nurse. It is advisable to call and make an appointment, since some of her time is spent visiting nursing homes and homebound folks. The Parish Nurse looks forward to your calls and visits and is committed to serving the congregation with understanding, confidentiality and love.

Parish Nurses are registered nurses who are committed to the healing mission of the church.

Walk to Emmaus News

Women's Emmaus Walk #68
September 9-12

Chrysalis Flight #26
November 12-14

Men's Emmaus Walk #67
November 11-14

Journey (for girls ages 18-25)
September 17-19

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



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 in the chapel. Join us for supper, a testimony, a Bible study, and prayer. 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 September 21st in the church library. We will discuss the book Her Mother's Hope by Francine Rivers. Books are available in the church library. You will enjoy the discussion even if you have not read the book! Our October book for discussion will be Sitting At The Feet Of The Rabbi Jesus by Ann Spangler and Lois Tverberg. This book is also available in the church library. Please join us for fellowship, discussion, and fun. Contact Nancy Bullard 444-5140 for further information.

Singles Event

Crossroads UMC is hosting an area-wide outreach event for Christian singles on *November 19th, 2010* called *Caché Connections Live!* Please mark your calendars and tell your single friends to come out for this opportunity for encouragement and fellowship. Watch for more information coming soon!

Celebrate Recovery Event

In honor of National Recovery Month ~ **Country Western Fellowship Night** Holy Smoke, Refiner's Fire, 10 gallon sized entertainment, Food for the soul!

Celebrate Recovery Crossroads UMC Thursday, Sept 30th 6:00pm

Featuring music and testimony by Country Western recording artist, Bill Brooks
Free childcare available!
Country Western attire welcome, but leave your horses hitched in the corral, folks! Questions, pardners? Send an email to: crecover@mtco.com. Find us on Facebook: Celebrate Recovery @ Crossroads UMC.

Uplifted Concert

Mark Your Calendar! The 2nd annual St. Jude Children's Research Hospital benefit concert, "Uplifted" is scheduled for **Saturday, November 6th at 7:00pm.**

As part of this year's program we will welcome guest speaker Dr. Stephen Smith, Medical Director of the St. Jude Midwest Affiliate in Peoria, to speak about the exciting things happening right here in central Illinois. Please join us at Crossroads for another evening of inspirational music, video, and stories!

Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary Scholarship Motorcycle Ride Postponed

The Garrett Evangelical Scholarship Motorcycle Ride was postponed until September 25th due to the weather. You may still

sponsor our riders: Terry Rose, Bill Royer, Jim Bullard, Jameson Weger, and Jerry Young. More riders are welcome to join us. Meet at Crossroads at 7:30am and we will leave at 8:00. We will stop in Bloomington, McLean, and Decatur, IL. The riders will make contact with Vaughn Hoffman, Rob Roy, and Danny Cox, previous Associate Pastors and Pastors of our church. Your support will help our scholarship fund grow to financially help those going into the ministry. If you would like to sign up, sponsor a rider, or have questions, contact Cliff Smith at 444-8516.

Common Place Walk

Here's an opportunity to help with the literacy needs of youth and adults on Peoria's South Side. Participate in the Common Place "Walk for Reading" on Saturday, September 11th. You can get sponsors and do the 5K walk or 1 mile walk, or you can be a sponsor. Walk participants are invited to stay for a brunch and prizes after the walk.

*Registration: 8:00am
Walk begins: 8:30am
Brunch/Prizes: 9:30-11:00*

Common Place was founded in 1967 by a group of churches to overcome the root causes of poverty through a focus on educational opportunities. Call Rob & Rebecca Bell at 444-2570 or the church office at 444-2381 for information or to get a sponsor packet.



Healing Service

On September 8th at 7:30 P.M., there will be a prayer and healing service in Faith Chapel.

It will include music, a brief devotion, the sacrament of Holy Communion, prayers for the church, the staff, pastors, and the congregation, and anointing for healing and wholeness. Jesus commanded His disciples to “teach, preach, and heal” in His name. (Luke 9:1-6) We believe that Jesus’ command was meant not only for the early church but also for the church today. Crossroads holds Prayer and Healing Services every other month.

What is meant by Prayers for Healing?

As Christians we know that regardless of the area of our lives in which we find brokenness, it is God’s desire to touch and heal that brokenness. So, when we use the phrase “prayers for healing,” we are

referring to healing of the physical body, of the emotions, of relationships, and of the spirit. We believe that if something is hurting you, Jesus cares about that problem and wants to help you. We know that the evil one hates Crossroads and does all he can to invade all that we do here. Therefore, we pray to Jesus for protection from the evil one’s attacks.

What is the significance of Being Anointed with Oil and the “Laying on of Hands?”

From the time of the early church to the present, healing, comforting the sick and anointing have been part of the lives of believers. Anointing is clearly believed to have healing benefits. In James 5:14 we hear the question, “Are any among you sick? They should call the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord”. In both the Old

and New Testaments, the rite of laying on of hands held a variety of meanings; for example, when Jacob blessed the children of Joseph (Genesis 48:14), when Jesus blessed the children (Matthew 19:13), or the conveyance of the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:18-19).

Who will pray with me?

The people who will pray with you are Christians, both clergy and laity, from Crossroads United Methodist Church who are obedient to God’s call to pray for others and who believe that the spirit of Christ is alive and able to touch people today just as Christ did 2,000 years ago. Those who pray with you have no special power, only a dedicated commitment and belief that God is a God of health and wholeness. Any healing that occurs comes not through any special power of those who pray, but by way of the Spirit and grace of God.



Prayer Challenge

I pray you all had a wonderful summer. For me it’s always about being carefree & relaxing my schedule, and even though I didn’t have huge vacation plans, I treated it like one. It seems the older I get, the busier life becomes, and it’s just as hectic as ever! As we settle in after the summer break and get back to the routine of school, our jobs and day to day responsibilities, how would you rate your prayer life? I know I go in spurts of spending quality time in my prayer life. Sometimes it’s a quick shout out and other times it’s deeper and more meaningful. I took on this task of writing the prayer challenge to offer something new for you to reflect on: Phone Prayers. Yep, that’s right, phone prayers. You may be asking yourself,

“What is she thinking now?!” Well, hear me out. God will place certain people on my heart and I pray for them, but then I take it to the next level by calling them and actually praying with them. Many times I get their voice mail and just leave them a prayer they can listen to. Most of the time I want to get their voice mail – I’m not so nervous that way! I had a friend who started doing this for me several years ago and it meant so much to me on those days I needed words of encouragement and hope. The blessings I have received from doing this are indescribable. The first time I did this was with a very close friend and I kept telling God, please let her voice mail pick up, please God, oh please! It was terrifying for me;

however, I felt led to do it. Her voice mail did pick up and then the Holy Spirit took over and I let God speak the words from my heart. From then it snowballed to more friends. The joy and love in my heart grew and grew. Then I took a big plunge a few years ago during Pastor Appreciation month....yep I left voice mail prayers on Pastor Tom and Pastor Bob’s work phones. Of all the gifts of appreciation I thought of, prayer was what I wanted to give. I encourage you to step out in your prayer life with voice mail prayers...you have no idea how it will change someone else’s life – let alone yours.

In Christ’s Love,
Laurie Bouton

UMW is a group of caring, supportive, praying, and loving women of all ages who are interested in mission, Bible Study, and friendship with other women.

United Methodist Women

UMW Connections

September means new beginnings and as Crossroads UMW begins the fall season we would like you to know who we are. If you think the UMW group is just "little old ladies", look again! We are women of all ages, sizes, colors, and many professions. We are the largest women's group in the world. If you think we wear white gloves and never get our hands dirty, look again! We are busy grubbing for the root cause of economic injustice, hacking away at the problem of racial prejudice, and dealing with sticky issues concerning women and children. This is just the beginning of what we are; watch this space in the next Messenger for more about us. Better yet, join us for our September potluck lunch.

Recipe Potluck September 2nd At 12:00pm Fellowship Hall

All women are invited to join us for a Recipe Potluck. Table service and drinks will be provided. Be sure to bring the recipe for your delicious dish. Our D.O.L.L. (District Office Liaison to the Local Unit), Johnnie Locker, is planning to join us.

Illinois River District Annual Celebration

*Pekin First UMC
Monday, September 20th
Coffee at 8:30am*

The day includes lunch and adjourns around 2:00pm. The cost is \$7. Questions or reservations: Call Nancy Bullard, our UMW President, at 444-5140.

Visiting Day

On Thursday, October 7th at 2:00pm, we will again be visiting some of our church folks who reside in nursing homes or assisted living settings. Please join us. The more the merrier!

Upcoming Events:

- Nov. 4th Program at 1:00pm, "Mongolia" by Jill Müller
- Nov. 8th Local Officer Update & Information, 8:30am
- Dec. 4th UMW Cookie Walk at Crossroads, 9:00am

UMW Sunday will be recognized on September 26th.

Pastoral Notes

Congratulations to Ryan and Siri Brown on the birth of *Lucille Afton Brown*, August 13. Proud grandparents are Rich and Pat Brown, and proud uncle is Josh Brown.

Congratulations also to *Eric Wendte and Shawwna Roe*, wed July 16, 2010; *Michael Kiesewetter and Janae Rogers* wed August 7, 2010; and *Tyler Wallenfang and Sarah Snyder*, wed August 14, 2010.

We extend sympathy to *Ken Hess* on the death of his

son, *Andrew*, on July 18. We also remember *Rosemary Combes*, a long time member of Crossroads who passed away on July 18.

We welcome into our church family the following new members:

Janelle Provine who joined July 25 on profession of faith; *Hope Anna-Marie Flexer* who joined July 18 on profession of faith; *Joe McGuire* who joined on August 1 on transfer from another United Methodist Church; *Tim and Susan*

Wise who joined on profession of faith on August 8; *Jason Herrick*, *Brad Montgomery*, and *Marge Schraeder* who joined August 22 on profession of faith; *Jolie Alois* who joined on transfer from another United Methodist Church on August 29; *Lauren Michele Hasten*, *Joe and Katelyn Arnold*, and *Terry and Pat Kopley* who joined on August 29 on transfer from another denomination.



...Pastoral Notes Continued

Baptized into the faith were *Sadie Elizabeth Roe* on July 18, daughter of Eric & Shawna Wendte; *Hope Anna-Marie Flexer* on July 18; *Evey Aleta Holmes* on July 25, daughter of Josh and Jenny; *Kaite Evelyn*

Creek on July 25, daughter of Jeff and Kristen; *Tim Wise* on August 11; *Jason Herrick* on August 22; *Brad Montgomery* on August 22.

Crossroads
has received
76 new
members
through
August.

Notes from Our Congregation

We would like to thank our Crossroads Family for all the cards, calls, food, gifts, and prayers during Willis' illness. Special thanks to Pastor Tom, Pastor Bob, and Peggy and Knit One Pray Too for the lovely prayer shawl. God Bless,
Willis & Judith Meeks

To our church family: We would like to thank everyone who sent cards, flowers, stuffed animals, and treats to Amanda after her accident! A special thank you to Pastor Tom for being with us at the hospital, to Pastor Bob DeBolt for visiting her, and to the wonderful office staff for filling in for Angie while she took some time off to be at home! Most of all we thank you for all the prayers!!!! Our God is good and Amanda is healing very well. God Bless You All! Love in Christ,
Brad, Angie, Amanda, & Austin Shaw

Crossroads UMC:
Thank you for the generous donation of backpacks filled with school supplies. Your donations will help many of our students get off to a positive start to the school year.
Metamora Grade School

Just a quick note of thanks for the Crossroads United Methodist Church's donation of 20 backpacks with school supplies to our school district. I am sure our students that receive them will be very excited.
Sincerely,
Patrick Martin
District 50 Schools

Dear Tom and Friends,
Thank you for your recent donation of 25 backpacks filled with new school supplies to Children's Home. Your gift will benefit the children and families right here in our community! Because of the tremendous generosity and support of special friends like you, we are able to provide counseling, education and support to more than 1,000 children each month. Children's Home staff understands the complex problems these kids face and know the best solutions to help them overcome obstacles in their path to a stable, successful future. Again, thank you for your generosity and for joining us in our efforts to build a stronger community by helping children and families in need.
Sincerely,
Clete Winkelmann & Brigitte Grant

Dear Pastor Tom & Congregation:
What a wonderful surprise when Georgia Koch delivered the 20 backpacks full of school supplies. We would like to thank you and your church community so very much for the donation of the school supplies and backpacks. You were so very generous and we are so appreciative. We do have families in our district who can really use the extra help, and your donations are a wonderful outreach to them. I'm always pleased when we nurture the partnerships with community members. Thanks for thinking of us and being a great partner in the education of Lincoln Grade School students.
I send best regards,
Eveline Durham
Lincoln Grade School

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Crossroads United Methodist Church of Washington

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

P.O. Box 299
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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

