



CROSSROADS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

515 E. Markey Parkway, Belton, MO 64012 (816)331-5258

eReminder

February 6, 2026
Volume 19, Number 6

LOVE God and Others LEARN & Grow in Faith LIVE Your Faith by Serving

[crossroads-umc.net](#)

CROSSROADS STAFF

Pastor Randy Kelly
Lay Pastor

Cherrie Fleming
Lay Leader

Lyn Polk
Missions

Donna Shoemaker
Hospitality

Cindy Jones
Office Administrator

Kim Carson-Swift
Melody Burns
Music Leaders

Bob Ridgley
Parker King
Tech Leaders

Sunday
Worship
Service
10:00 am

Adult Sunday School
9:15am Explorers Room105
9:00am Devotions with Randy
Room 208

Tuesday
Fellowship Class
10:00am

Contact Us

In Person:
515 E. Markey Parkway
Belton, MO 64012

By Mail:
PO Box 167
Belton, MO 64012

By Phone:
816-331-5258

Email:
office@crossroads-umc.net

Online:
[crossroads-umc.net](#)

SECURITY

Feb 1st to 15th
Mark Polk

February

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

4 Adree Anderson
5 Chuck McClain
8 Karen McLaughlin
11 Virginia Robbins
16 Jennifer Huffman
20 Mason & Lucas Ridgley
22 Phil Inman

HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY!

90th Birthday
Party for
Virginia Robbins

Pastor Sid Robbins and family invite you to a 90th birthday party for Virginia on February 7th at the Masonic Lodge in Blue Springs, 908 W Main St, Blue Springs, MO 64015.

It is a come and go occasion from 1 pm to 4 pm. No gifts required, but cards are appreciated. All are welcome.

Diaper Drive

Thank you all for your response to our January Mission project. We delivered many diapers to Bridge Over Troubled Water and your monetary donations of \$500 have been sent to Happy Bottoms. Those funds will provide diapers for many families. Your generosity is much appreciated!

Bridge Over Troubled Water Pantry

The Bridge Over Troubled Water Food Pantry in Belton has helped many people in our community. They provide a food pantry, supermarket style, which allows families to choose the foods their family prefers.

If you would like to make a donation to Bridge Over Troubled Water through CrossRoads, please make your check out to CrossRoads UMC and note on the memo line "BOTW". Thanks for your support in keeping this community resource up and running!

Thank You

Thank you to my church family for the cards, thoughts, and prayers for my recent hospitalization.
~ Sandy McNeil

Missing Item

The TOPS Group had a Christmas Bingo game stored in their supply area upstairs that has gone missing. If anyone has seen it, please contact [Cindy](#) in the office. Thanks!

Pirate Pantry Ministry

We are currently raising funds for the Pirate Pantry to help students in the Belton School District who need food assistance. Please consider donating today to provide proper nutrition so these young people can focus on their educational needs. Drop your check in the offering plate and note in the memo line that it is for Pirate Pantry or [donate online here](#). Thanks for your support!

facebook

Be sure to "Like" our Facebook page!
Visit often and tag friends in your posts when possible. Help us show others how we Love people, Learn together, and Live in service to God at CrossRoads.
facebook.com/crossroadsbelton

Prayers

PEOPLE IN NEED OF PRAYER

Alissa Sallee
Annalou Streiff
Stan Hedrick
Sharon Hedrick
Penny Kelly
Ron Spencer
Paul Carr
Carol Creach
Faye Wallace
Dana & Joyce Johnston (Joyce's husband)
Joel (Vicki Miller's cousin's son)
Mark Lindsay (Lisa Kenslow's brother-in-law)
Renee Eubanks (Vickie Lawrence family friend)
Dusti Lawrence (Vickie Lawrence's daughter)
Avis Wolfe (Snow removal contractor Steve's wife)
Chelsea (Lawrence family friend)
Rice Family (Toni Wiseman's niece & family)
Guy (father of Angel Tree family recipient)
Julie Reed (Angie Kormanec's friend)
Julie McGill (Pastor Randy's friend)
John Jervels (Cindy Keen's nephew)
JR Alvarez (Angie Kormanec's family friend)
Mary Jane Malmgren (Karen McLaughlin's sister)
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Daniel Hood (Cherrie's friend Pat Hood's grandson)
Dennis Matson (Joe Matson's brother)
Denise Wyatt (Diane Carroll's friend)
Linda Evans (Susie McClain's sister)
Joyce Noah (TOPS)
Kim Kirschling (Cherrie Fleming's friend)

GROUPS

Gladden Staff & Students
Silver Angels
Health Care Workers
First Responders
Boy Scout 210 & Pack 4210
USA and United States Military

Last Sunday's Service

If you watch our service online either on Facebook or on YouTube, please either comment on the video to let us know or let [Cindy](#) know to record your attendance.

CrossRoads Calendar

Friday, February 6

Saturday, February 7

Sunday, February 8

Monday, February 9

Tuesday, February 10

Wednesday, February 11

Thursday, February 12

Friday, February 13

Saturday, February 14

Sunday, February 15

Set Up for Pinewood Derby in Multipurpose Room

Pinewood Derby in the Multipurpose Room
Bunco in Room #201 Upstairs

Scout Sunday
Pancake Breakfast for Congregation in the Multipurpose Rm
Devotions With Randy in Room #208
Explorers Adult Sunday School in Room #105
Worship Service in the Sanctuary

"The Chosen" DVD viewing at Carnegie Village
Creation Station in Room #205
UWF Lunch Bunch in the Multipurpose Room
Cub Scout Den Meeting in the Multipurpose Room

Fellowship Book Study w/Pam Ekey in Room #105
Leadership Board Meeting in Room #105
Pack Committee Meeting in the Multipurpose Room

CrossRoads Ringers Bell Choir Rehearsal in Room #210
Heavenly Bell Choir Rehearsal in Room #210

TOPS Meeting in Room #201
Creation Station Quilters in Room #205
UWF Joy Group in Room #105
Scout Troop 210 in the Multipurpose Room

NONE

NONE

Bake Sale
Devotions With Randy in Room #208
Explorers Adult Sunday School in Room #105
Worship Service in the Sanctuary
Chaplain Memorial Service

Upcoming Events

Penny's Bunco Company, Sat, Feb 7, 10am, Room #201
Scout Sunday, Feb 8, 8:30am Pancake Breakfast for the Church, Sanctuary
UWF Lunch Bunch, Mon, Feb 9, 11:30am, Multipurpose Room
Leadership Board Meeting, Tues, Feb 10, 5:30pm, Room #105
UWF Joy Group, Thurs, Feb 12, 2:00pm, Room #105
Bake Sale, Sunday, Feb 15, Sanctuary

Questions or comments? Email us at cjones@crossroads-umc.net
To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#)

Reflections

From Pastor Randy

MERCY

compassion, leniency, or restraint (as in imposing punishment) shown especially to an offender or to one subject to the power of another

showed her enemies no mercy
The boss took mercy on us and let us go home early.
The prisoner threw himself on the mercy of the court. [=begged the court to show him mercy]
also : lenient or compassionate treatment
begged for mercy

a blessing that is an act of divine favor or compassion
May God have mercy on us.

a fortunate circumstance

It was a mercy that the building was empty when the fire started.
We should be grateful/thankful for small mercies. [=grateful that things are not worse than they are]

compassionate treatment of those in distress

an act of mercy
works of mercy among the poor

This week our focus will be on Mercy. In the Book of Psalm, the psalmist mentions mercy at least 29 times. But that is not the only place that mercy, or the lack of mercy is mentioned.

Let us reflect on a time we were extended mercy, or when mercy was not received. Let us reflect on how we might show mercy to someone, as Jesus did.

GRACE

simple elegance or refinement of movement

she moved through the water with effortless grace

courteous good will

he had the good grace to apologize to her afterwards

(in Christian belief) the free and unmerited favor of God, as manifested in the salvation of sinners and the bestowal of blessings.

a divinely given talent or blessing

the scheme has proved to be a great grace for the Church

a period officially allowed for payment of a sum due or for compliance with a law or condition, especially an extended period granted as a special favor

we'll give them 30 days' grace and then we'll be doing checks
a two-month grace period

This week our focus will be on Grace. John Wesley defined grace as God's "bounty, or favour: his free, undeserved favour, ... man having no claim to the least of his mercies. It was free grace that 'formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into him a living soul,' and stamped on that soul the image of God, and 'put all things under his feet.' ... For there is nothing we are, or have, or do, which can deserve the least thing at God's hand."

Let us reflect on the gift of grace.

Pastor Randy

February 8, 2026

Matthew 9: 9-13
Ephesians 2: 1-10

Matthew 9: 9-13

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners? On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Ephesians 2: 1-10

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

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Scout Sunday & Pancake Breakfast

This week is Scout Sunday and they are serving a Pancake Breakfast to the church congregation beginning at 8:30am. Hope you can come join us for a tasty meal prior to our church service on Sunday February 8th.

Scout Awards Presentation

Jesus & Me
Skylynn Barber
Robin Bitner
Jocelyn Ducharme
Harper Green

Elijah Jones
Emry Loar
Azrael McCarty
Beau Peterson
Grayson Winer

God & Me
Josiah Dorsch
Weston Pounders

Bake Sale Fundraiser

We are having a bake sale on **Sunday, Feb. 15**. Please remember to bring your checkbook or some cash to purchase these delicious goodies made by our talented CrossRoads bakers! Thanks for helping us raise funds to offset our recent unexpected expenses!

And our quilting ministry will be selling some of their goods as well to benefit our efforts to reimburse our foundation account. So be sure to check out their quilts and crafts a week from this Sunday.

Tuesday Morning Fellowship Group

United Methodists believe that we are called to be active participants in our world. John Wesley believed that faithful living involved a combination of personal and social piety. The most recent General Conference adopted a revised statement of Social Principles to guide the denomination's response to many issues in the world today.

The Tuesday Morning Fellowship Group will begin a study of the United Methodist Social Principles starting on February 24 at 10 a.m. Come find out what is the church's official stance on marriage and family, climate change, science, poverty, civil disobedience, and more.

Please sign up so we know how many booklets to prepare. There will be a sign-up sheet on the info table on Sunday morning or you can sign up online right now.

Electronic Sign

Our new electronic sign is up and running at last! Many thanks to Mark and Lyn Polk for working with Stewart Signs and various contractors to complete this project over the past few months.

Letter from Bishop Bob Farr

Dear Missouri Clergy and Lay Leaders,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I write to you with a heavy heart and deep concern in light of troubling news unfolding in our nation, especially in recent days in Minneapolis. Reports of aggressive immigration enforcement, families being separated and communities living in fear have shaken many of us.

These are not abstract policy debates. These are human lives. These are families. These are children. These are our neighbors.

Many of us, including the Church, have tried to keep our heads down and hope things would somehow get better. The problems feel enormous. And many pastors and congregations feel real pressure to stay "safe," to avoid controversy, and simply to keep the doors open in a fragile season. I understand that. At the same time, we must name something harder: fear is doing its work. Voices are being suppressed. Communities are being intimidated. When fear sets the terms, silence can start to feel faithful. It is not.

We must not let fear win.

Our Social Principles remind us that every person is created in the image of God and endowed with sacred worth. They call us to defend human rights, to resist unjust systems, to protect the vulnerable, and to insist on dignity, due process and humane treatment for all.

Immigration policy is complex. Laws and borders matter. But Christian discipleship insists that how laws are enforced, who bears the cost and how the vulnerable are treated are not just political questions. They are moral ones.

The Church has long taught that human dignity is not granted by governments. It is given by God. Jesus tells us that whatever we do to the least of these, we do to him. Again and again, Scripture reveals that God's heart is found among those pushed to the margins. The Church must stand with immigrants, refugees and all who seek safety, dignity and due process.

Therefore, I am calling on the Missouri Conference to renewed faithfulness and courageous witness. [Read the full letter here→.](#)

From the office of
Robert D. Farr
Bishop

Prayers

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Sharon Hedrick
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