



# eReminder

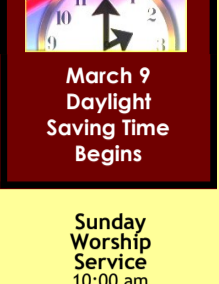
March 7, 2025  
 Volume 18, Number 10

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

[www.crossroads-umc.net](http://www.crossroads-umc.net)

## CROSSROADS STAFF

- Pastor Erika Braun**  
Lead Pastor
- Randy Kelly**  
Prayer Leader  
Lay Leader
- Cherrie Fleming**  
Lay Leader
- Donna Shoemaker**  
Hospitality
- Cindy Jones**  
Office Administrator
- Kim Carson-Swift**  
Worship Director



**March 9 Daylight Saving Time Begins**

**Sunday Worship Service**  
10:00 am

**Adult Sunday School**  
9:15am Explorers Room 105  
9:15am Devotions with Randy Room 208

**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](mailto:office@crossroads-umc.net)  
**On the Web**  
[www.crossroads-umc.net](http://www.crossroads-umc.net)

**SECURITY**  
 March 1st to 15th  
 Mark Polk



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Donna Shoemaker
- 12 Gary Handley
- 13 Wanda Carroll
- 16 Mike Jones
- 16 Wanda Kiefer
- 17 Pam Eaton
- 22 Allan Jones
- 24 Jade Huntington
- 25 Chet Trutzel
- 30 Holden Batchelder
- 31 Mark Ostendorf

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Cheryl & Travis Ashbaugh

## Scrip Gift Cards

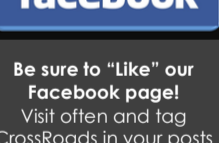
There are many local and national retailers who participate in our scrip gift card program.

Order gift cards on our website or email Cindy at [cjones@crossroads-umc.net](mailto:cjones@crossroads-umc.net)

## 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!



Be sure to "Like" our Facebook page!

Visit often and tag CrossRoads in your posts when possible. Help us show others how we love people, learn together, and live in service to God at CrossRoads.

[www.facebook.com/crossroadsbelton](http://www.facebook.com/crossroadsbelton)

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

**PEACE & COMFORT**  
 Family & Friends of Clifford Wharton  
 (Joe Matson's friend)

**Submit Prayer Requests Here**

## Ponderings

Hey Church Family!

This Sunday begins the countdown to Easter as it is the first Sunday of Lent! We will be jumping right into the complexities found in the Gospel of Luke as we follow Jesus' teachings to learn how we might face our society's complexities with the eyes of the Savior of us all.

To prepare our hearts for this message, Rev. Sarah Speed offers this poem:

### Never Met a Stranger

When we talk about God, we say  
 she's never met a stranger.  
 She makes friends at the airport.  
 She waves to babies in the check-out line.  
 When we talk about God, we say  
 she'll leave the porch light on.  
 She'll have warm bread in the oven.  
 She'll have all the time in the world.  
 When we talk about God, we say  
 she'll look you in the eye.  
 She'll love you as you are.  
 She'll call you by your name.  
 When we talk about God,  
 we never have to talk about  
 which side of the road she might walk down.  
 Wherever you are,  
 that's where she'll be.  
 Peace and Blessings,  
 Pastor Erika

## March 9, 2025

### 1st Sunday of Lent

Luke 10:25-37

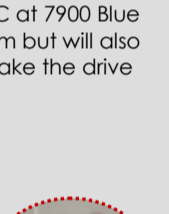


*On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?" He answered, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live." But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said, "and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have." "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."*

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## Gray Spaces Small Group Begins Friday, March 7

Join Pastor Erika for a small group opportunity that will allow us to grow closer to the heart of God as we begin to pay attention to those pesky questions that tend to make us doubt sometimes.

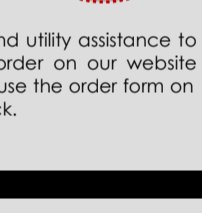


Monthly meetings will physically be located at One Spirit UMC at 7900 Blue Ridge Blvd, Raytown, MO 64138, beginning March 7 at 6:00pm but will also be available via Zoom (see link below) for those who cannot make the drive or make it on time.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82522792232>

## Easter Origami Lily Fundraiser

CrossRoads will celebrate Easter again this year with origami lilies. By doing so, we are more welcoming to those folks with allergies. We will again provide you with the opportunity to honor or memorialize loved ones in our Easter Sunday Bulletin by giving \$15 per flower to decorate our worship area on Easter. You may take your lily home with you after our Easter worship service. You may also make a donation & dedication without taking a flower.



The money you donate will go toward our fund to provide rent and utility assistance to those in need in our local community. You may place your order on our website [www.crossroads-umc.net](http://www.crossroads-umc.net) here: [Easter Origami Lily Order Form](#) or use the order form on the bulletin insert and indicate 'Lily' on the memo line of your check.

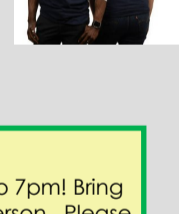
## Potluck Dinner & Town Hall Meeting

Join us for a Potluck Dinner after church on March 30th at 11:00am. Please sign up below to let us know what you'd like to bring and how many are coming in your party. We will have a Town Hall Meeting at the same time. All are welcome whether you are able to bring a dish or not. Hope you can join us!

**SIGN UP HERE!**

## VBS T-Shirts for Volunteers

For our VBS 2025 session, we have scheduled Cokesbury's "Road Trip: On the Go with God" to be held July 21 thru July 25. We have decided to order the T-shirts for our volunteers from the Cokesbury program. For those of you who would like one, the cost is \$11 for sizes S, M, L, and XL, and \$14 for sizes 2X, 3X, or 4X. (These shirts are optional; you can wear a previous VBS shirt or simply wear a T-shirt in the color of the day instead.)



Please place your order here:

**ORDER HERE!**

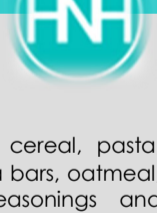
## March Craft Social

MARCH CRAFT SOCIAL—Saturday, March 15, 10am to 7pm! Bring your register and join in the fun. Cost - \$5 per person. Please register below to reserve a spot or contact Tracy. Hope to see you there!

**REGISTER HERE!**

## Plastic Lid & Cap Collecting

**This is the final month** to donate your plastic lids & caps to help One Spirit get Buddy Benches for the playground at their partner school Westridge Elementary. The benches give students a space to eliminate loneliness & foster friendships. Please place your donations in the box on the table by the coat rack. Thanks for your support!



## Heart n Hand

### Barrel Donations Needed:

- Any non-perishable food donations, such as cereal, pasta, baking mixes, canned fruit, cooking oils, granola bars, oatmeal, instant potatoes, canned meat, juices, seasonings and condiments
- Personal care & household items (like toilet paper, paper towels, diapers)
- Hygiene items (Preferably travel sized items: wash cloths, small combs and brushes, deodorant, body wash, razors, lip balms, wipes)
- Gloves
- Hand warmers
- Pet food
- Coffee, creamer, and sweeteners

## 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

<b>Friday, March 7</b> 9:30am-10:30am 6:00pm-7:00pm	Bible Recap Class in Room #208 Gray Spaces with Pastor Erika at One Spirit UMC
<b>Saturday, March 8</b> <b>Sunday, March 9</b> 9:15am-9:45am 9:15am-9:45am 10:00am-11:00am 11:15am-12:00pm 11:15am-12:15pm	<b>SPRING FORWARD! SET YOUR CLOCKS FOR DST! 1st Sunday of Lent</b> Devotions With Randy in Room #208 Explorers Adult Sunday School in Room #105 Worship Service in the Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal in Room #210 Leadership Board Meeting Room #105
<b>Monday, March 10</b> 9:00am-10:00am 9:00am-10:00am 11:30am-12:30pm 6:30pm-7:30pm	"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
<b>Tuesday, March 11</b> 10:00am-11:00am 5:00pm-7:00pm 6:00pm-7:00pm 6:00pm-7:30pm	Lenten Book Study w/Pam Ekey in Room #105 Lenten Stitchers in Room #201 Creative Book Study with Pastor Erika online via Zoom Pack Committee Meeting in the Multipurpose Room
<b>Wednesday, March 12</b> 5:30pm-6:15pm 6:15pm-7:00pm	CrossRoads Singers Bell Choir Rehearsal in Room #210 Heavenly Bell Choir Rehearsal in Room #210
<b>Thursday, March 13</b> 8:45am-10:30am 10:30am-11:00am 11:00am-4:00pm 2:00pm-4:00pm 6:30pm-8:30pm	TOPS Meeting in Room #201 Happy Feet Walking Group in the Multipurpose Room Creation Station Quilters in Room #205 UWF Joy Group Meeting in Room #105 Scout Troop #210 Meeting in the Multipurpose Room
<b>Friday, March 14</b> 9:30am-10:30am	Bible Recap Class in Room #208
<b>Saturday, March 15</b> 10:00am-7:00pm	CrossRoads Crafters in the Multipurpose Room
<b>Sunday, March 16</b> 9:15am-9:45am 9:15am-9:45am 10:00am-11:00am 11:15am-12:00pm	<b>2nd Sunday of Lent</b> Devotions With Randy in Room #208 Explorers Adult Sunday School in Room #105 Worship Service in the Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal in Room #210



**Spring Forward March 9 For Daylight Saving Time**

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