



eReminder

March 14, 2025
 Volume 18, Number 10

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

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



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:
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Belton, MO 64012

By Mail:
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Belton, MO 64012

By Phone:
816-331-5258

Email:
office@crossroads-umc.net

On the Web
www.crossroads-umc.net

SECURITY

March 1st to 15th
Mark Polk

March 16th to 31st
Joe Matson



- 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

Vesper Service at Carnegie Village

Pastor Erika will be leading the Vesper service at Carnegie on Sunday, March 23rd at 4:30pm in the chapel. Anyone is welcome to join her and our other church family members who live at Carnegie for this wonderful community service.

Palm Sunday Worship Service
April 13
10:00am

Maundy Thursday Service
April 17
7:00pm

Easter Sunday Worship Service
April 20
10:00am

July 21 thru July 25
Meal 5:30pm
Activities 6 to 8pm

Helpers Needed
Email **Cindy**
if interested
cjones@crossroads-umc.net

Zoom Lenten Bible Study

For those of you interested in logging on for Pastor Erika's Lenten Study Group on Tuesday's at 6:00pm, here is the zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88927641246>

facebook

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

Prayers

- PEOPLE IN NEED OF PRAYER**
- Donna Shoemaker
 - Paul Carr
 - Donna Carr
 - Faye Wallace
 - Carol Creach
 - Phil Gronemeyer
 - Grayson Kormanec
 - Christina & Charleat Painter
 - Tessa (Angie Kormanec's friend)
 - Iata (Penny Kelly's sons' mother-in-law)
 - Willis (Carree Zoeller's brother)
 - Maria Smith (Gwen Roger's sister-in-law)
 - Kim Smith (Gwen Roger's daughter-in-law)
 - Jeanne Baker (Kala Handley's niece)
 - Leo Lockard (Mark & Lyn Polk friend)
 - Daniel Hood (Cherrie's friend Pat Hood's grandson)
 - Frank Sotosek (Nancy Jones' cousin)
 - Mark Mikell (Nancy Jones' cousin's husband)
 - Tiffany Hedger (Joe Matson's friend)
 - Don Jamerson (Tom Wiseman's nephew)
 - Frank Medlin (Robert Berry family friend)
 - Andrew Bowman (Vickie Lawrence's S-I-L's friend)
 - Jake Minor (Vickie Lawrence's S-I-L's friend)
 - Melissa Shipman (Vickie Lawrence's family friend)
 - Robbie Robertson (Darren Rogers' friend)
 - Lacinda Hamilton Kramer (Dana's daughter)
 - Kayla Jackson (Vickie Lawrence's friend)
 - Dave McGill (Randy Kelly's friend)
 - Dawn Maksimov (Angie Kormanec's friend)
 - Julie Reed (Angie Kormanec's coworker)
 - Brandi Price (Cherrie's friend, Vickie, & Angie's cousin)
 - Amanda Brodfehrer (Vickie's daughter's cousin)
 - T.J. Carr (Paul & Donna Carr's nephew)
 - Gail Welchon (Andy McNeil's friend)
 - Charles Grimes (Joe Matson's friend)
 - Thomas Pinckney Smith, Jr. (Gwen Roger's brother)
 - Roseann (Wanda Carroll's friend's daughter)
 - Dennis Matson (Joe Matson's brother)
 - Lisa McBride (Nancy Jones' neighbor)
 - Denise Wyatt (Wanda Carroll's friend)
 - Linda Evans (Suzie McClain's sister)
 - Thelma, Joyce Noah (TOPS)
 - Kim Kirschling (Cherrie Fleming's friend)
 - Greg Coy (Cherrie Fleming's brother)
 - Shawn Burnam (Sharon Burnam's son)
- GROUPS**
- Gladden Staff & Students & Silver Angels
 - Health Care Workers
 - First Responders
 - Boy Scout 210 & Pack 4210
 - USA and United States Military

Submit Prayer Requests Here

Ponderings

Hey Church Family!

This week we are looking at the complexities of "faith and works" in Luke's Gospel account of Jesus' teachings on these two things. I look forward to digging into these with you on Sunday. In the meantime, here is Rev. Sarah Speed's poem for us to consider as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship:

Wildfire

I can picture it—salty sweat, accumulating in her bangs. The scent of toasted sesame seeds, crushed oregano, sumac, and cumin. Flour on her hands, painting streaks of white in her hair when she ties it back. The sweet date she samples—the way it stretches and clings to the back of her teeth, leaving the taste of honey in her mouth.

I can picture Martha in that kitchen, plating meals, eager to see their eyes close. Their heads nod. To hear the swell of approval that rises from their lips. And I can picture her sister. Brows scrunched. Fingers fidgeting, wishing for a pen, for paper, for a way to write it down. I can see her mouth part like a fish in the air, questions forming and reforming on her curious lips. I can see her lean in, knees tucked, eyes bright. I can see her imagining the world he dreamed of.

And I can picture how, for generations, this story of two brazen women in scripture, a story of two women so close to Jesus, may have felt like an untamed wildfire. I can picture the way we put these women in boxes. I can imagine how people saw their full hearts, their untamed energy, and decided to label that as good and bad, better and worse. I can imagine how Martha's questions were interpreted as nagging, or the interruption interpreted as needy.

I can picture how it happened, but what if it was all more beautiful than that? What if these sisters discovered a ministry of cooking? What if they discovered the faithfulness of learning, the kind of friendship that allows you to ask questions, or something in between?

I can imagine it. Can you?

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Erika

March 16, 2025

2nd Sunday of Lent

Luke 10:38-42

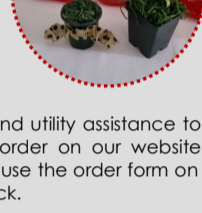


As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

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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 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!

Easter Fair—Volunteers and Plastic Easter Eggs Needed

Our Connect Team is hosting an Easter Fair on Saturday, April 12, 2025, from 10:00am to 11:00am at CrossRoads. We are inviting the community for an hour of free family fun that will include a photo op with the Easter bunny, lots of cookies, and other fun activities such as crafts and games.



We are asking our CrossRoads family to assist with this event. We need people to serve food, monitor crafts, welcome guests, set up, tear down, serve as a bunny helper & carnival game monitors. Click the button to let us know what you will help with.

SIGN UP HERE!

We are also requesting donations of plastic easter eggs and individually wrapped candy that will fit in the eggs. If you can provide these items, please bring them to church with you and put them on the tables by wall by the coat rack.

Thanks for your help with this Easter Outreach Event!

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!

Gray Spaces Small Group

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. The next session is April 4 at 6:00pm.



Monthly meetings will physically be located at One Spirit UMC at 7900 Blue Ridge Blvd, Raytown, MO 64138, 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>

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!



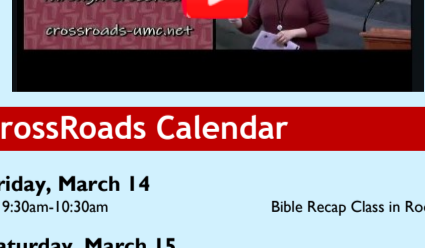
Heart n Hand

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

Friday, March 14 9:30am-10:30am	Bible Recap Class in Room #208
Saturday, March 15 10:00am-7:00pm	CrossRoads Crafters in the Multipurpose Room
Sunday, March 16 9:15am-9:45am 9:15am-9:45am 10:00am-11:00am 11:15am-12:00pm	2nd Sunday of Lent Devotions With Randy in Room #208 Explorers Adult Sunday School in Room #105 Worship Service in the Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal in Room #210
Monday, March 17 9:00am-10:00am 9:00am-4:00pm 6:30pm-7:30pm	"The Chosen" DVD viewing at Carnegie Village Creation Station in Room #205 Cub Scout Den Meeting in the Multipurpose Room
Tuesday, March 18 10:00am-11:00am 6:00pm-7:00pm 7:00pm-9:00pm	Lenten Book Study w/Pam Ekey in Room #105 Lenten Book Study with Pastor Erika online via Zoom Scout Parents' Club Meeting in the Multipurpose Room
Wednesday, March 19	NONE
Thursday, March 20 8:45am-10:30am 10:30am-11:00am 11:00am-4:00pm 6:30pm-8:30pm	TOPS Meeting in Room #201 Happy Feet Walking Group in the Multipurpose Room Explorers Adult Sunday School in Room #205 Scout Troop #210 Meeting in the Multipurpose Room
Friday, March 21 9:30am-10:30am	Bible Recap Class in Room #208
Saturday, March 22	NONE
Sunday, March 23 9:15am-9:45am 9:15am-9:45am 10:00am-11:00am 11:15am-12:00pm	3rd Sunday of Lent Devotions With Randy in Room #208 Explorers Adult Sunday School in Room #105 Worship Service in the Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal in Room #210

Upcoming Events

Easter Fair, Sat, April 12, 10:00am
Maundy Thursday Service, April 17, 7:00pm
Easter Sunday Worship Service, April 20, 10:00am

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