



[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



**Markey Parkway**  
The temporary entrance to the church parking lot is now open for use. Access it from the Y Hwy side. See more info below in this newsletter.

**Sunday  
Worship  
Service**  
10:00 am

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

## Contact Us

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

**By Mail:**  
PO Box 167  
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**By Phone:**  
816-331-5258

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[office@crossroads-umc.net](mailto:office@crossroads-umc.net)

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

## SECURITY

**May 1st to 15th**  
**Bob Ridgley**

# Ponderings

Hey Church Family!

As May begins today, I hope you have moments where you can see how those April showers are beginning to give way to the coming May flowers. As the ground wakes up, the buds begin to bloom, and the scent of Spring grows harder to ignore – may this last contemplative piece from the Sanctified Arts series remind you of how powerful your seeds of hope, love, mercy, and kindness can be.

Power Like a Seed

In a world that wants power like a machine gun,

power like a bomber plane,

power like a gated fence to keep the hungry out,

I want power like a seed—

power that will crack me open and grow something good;

power like an open door,

an invitation that says, “Come on in;”

power that feels like a strong spine with a soft heart.

One will build a wall.

One will plant a garden.

We should know by now, only one will bear fruit.

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Erika



**May 4, 2025**

## Deuteronomy 10:12-22

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?” They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” “What things?” he asked. “About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn’t find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.” He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?” They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.” Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.



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## Flower Bed Changes

As approved by the trustees and board, the church will be replacing the current flower beds with rock. This will provide the exterior of our building with a more aesthetically pleasing and cleaner appearance. It will also help keep those spaces much more maintenance free. Once the work has been started by the contractor, the dirt and plants that are removed will be dumped in various spots on our property. We anticipate the work to be completed the first part of May.

If there are any flowers or plants or bulbs you would like to have for your yard or garden, please feel free to bring a shovel and take some prior to the beginning of May. This is on a first come, first serve basis. We do hope that some of the flowers and plants will find new homes. Happy digging!

## Human Exhibition Tour

You're invited to join Pastor Erika and one of her professors from Seminary as we tour the exhibit: *Exploring Human Origins: What Does it Mean to Be Human?* St. Paul School of Theology is hosting the exhibit at the Church of the Resurrection, 13720 Roe Ave, Bldg C, in Leawood KS. We will meet there on Saturday, May 10th at 10:30am to learn together. Some folks from One Spirit will be joining us as well. You can read more about the exhibit here: <https://www.spst.edu/special-events/>

**HEART N HAND**  
*Restoring Hope. Rebuilding Lives*  
**Day Center**  
**Donations Needed**

With Summer quickly approaching, we are in need of the following items.

- Hand Sanitizer (travel size)
- Deodorant (travel size)
- Sun Screen (travel size)
- Sun Burn Lotion (travel size if possible)
- Bug Spray (travel size)
- Chapstick
- Rain Ponchos
- Hygiene Wipes
- Batteries (AA/AAA)
- Individual Ibuprofen/Tylenol
- Hydrocortisone/Antibiotic Ointment
- Bath Towels and Washcloths

Items can be dropped off at our Day Center weekdays from 10am-2pm.

## Memorial Brick Garden

We are providing an opportunity to honor those we love or to remember those we've lost by adding a customized brick to our Memorial Brick Garden through the month of April. Each brick is \$40.00. You can have between 1 and 3 lines of text on the brick. Orders will be placed at the end of April. There are some order forms on the info table or you can order online here:

<https://www.crossroads-umc.net/brick-order-form.html>

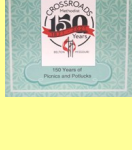


**VBS 2025**  
**July 21 thru July 25**  
Meal 5:30pm  
Activities 6 to 8pm

**VBS Helpers Needed**  
Email [Cindy](mailto:cjones@crossroads-umc.net)  
if interested  
[cjones@crossroads-umc.net](mailto:cjones@crossroads-umc.net)

## Anniversary Cookbooks

We have cookbooks!! Sure to be a collector's item! And remember, these will make excellent birthday gifts, so be sure to buy one for everyone on your list. Only \$10 each.



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

## Prayers

### PEOPLE IN NEED OF PRAYER

Paul Carr  
Patty Kluter  
Faye Wallace  
Carol Creach  
Phil Gronemeyer  
Ken Kluter  
JoAnn Arnold  
Betty Robertson  
Chris Harrelson  
Holden Batchelder  
Nicki Bowers (Gerald & Maxine's granddaughter)  
Lacinda Hamilton Kramer (Dana's daughter)  
Mary Jane Malmgren (Karen McLaughlin's sister)  
Katlyn Madrilon (Jade's friend's friend)  
Lorna Stinchfield (Cherrie Fleming's friend)  
Tessa (Angie Kormanec's friend)  
lata (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)  
Daniel Hood (Cherrie's friend Pat Hood's grandson)  
Mark Mikel (Nancy Jones' cousin's husband)  
Frank Medlin (Robert Berry's family friend)  
Andrew Bowman (Vickie Lawrence's friend)  
Jake Minor (Vickie Lawrence's friend)  
Melissa Shipman (Vickie Lawrence's friend)  
Robbie Robertson (Darren Rogers' friend)  
Kayla Jackson (Vickie Lawrence's friend)  
Brandi Price (Tracy, Penny, Vickie, & Angie's cousin)  
Gail Welchon (Sandy McNeil's friend)  
Dennis Matson (Joe Matson's brother)  
Lisa McBride (Nancy Jones' neighbor)  
Denise Wyatt (Wanda Carroll's friend)  
Joyce Evans (Susie McClain's sister)  
Linda Noah (TOPS)  
Kim Kirschling (Cherrie Fleming's friend)

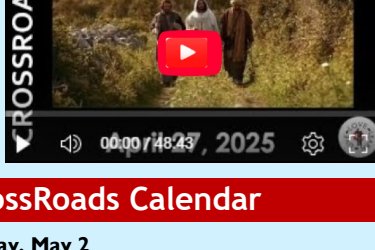
### GROUPS

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

### PEACE & COMFORT

Family & Friends of Chuck Grimes (Joe Matson's friend)  
Family & Friends of Frank Medlin (Robert Berry's family friend)

## 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](mailto:cjones@crossroads-umc.net) know to record your attendance.

## CrossRoads Calendar

### Friday, May 2

9:30am-10:30am  
6:00pm-7:00pm

Study of David Class in Room #208  
Gray Spaces Class via ZOOM

### Saturday, May 3

9:00am-9:30am  
10:00am-11:30am

Leadership Board Meeting in Room #105  
Bunko with Penny in the Multipurpose Room

### Sunday, May 4

9:15am-9:45am  
9:15am-9:45am  
10:00am-11:00am  
11:00am-12:00pm  
11:15am-12:15pm

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 in Room #105

### Monday, May 5

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, May 6

10:00am-11:00am

Fellowship Book Study w/Pam Ekey in Room #105

### Wednesday, May 7

5:30pm-6:15pm  
6:15pm-7:00pm

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

### Thursday, May 8

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 Upstairs or Offsite

### Friday, May 9

9:30am-10:30am

Study of David Class in Room #208

### Saturday, May 10

10:30am-11:30am

Human Exhibition Tour at Church of the Resurrection

### Sunday, May 11

9:15am-9:45am  
9:15am-9:45am  
10:00am-11:00am  
11:00am-12:00pm

**Mother's Day**  
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

**UWF Joy Group, Thurs, May 8, 2:00pm**  
**Happy Mother's Day, Sun, May 11, Gifts for all ladies at church**  
**UWF Lunch Bunch, Mon, May 12, 11:30am**

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](#)

Submit Prayer  
Requests Here