



June 6, 2025
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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
Melody Burns
Worship Directors



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
Belton, MO 64012

By Phone:
816-331-5258

Email:
office@crossroads-umc.net

On the Web
www.crossroads-umc.net

SECURITY

June 1st to 15th
Mark Polk



June

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6 Sandy McNeil
13 Jim Joy
17 Jeanne Allen
22 Steve Worstell

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

2 Linda & Ray Grindstaff
11 Margie & Allan Jones
19 Angie & Joey Kormanec
19 Donna & Bob Shoemaker
22 Gary & Kala Handley
22 Ken & Patti Kluter
26 Larry & Helen Thompson

Heart n Hand

Some items 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)

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

Ponderings

Hey Church Family,

I want to say thank you for the prayers, messages, presence, and grace you all have given me in the last few weeks.

I have had very little capacity to say much of anything worthwhile for a couple of weeks. I know that many of you can relate to the brain fog that comes with grief and understand what I'm talking about. I had to practice giving myself grace last week as I struggled to do the bare minimum while planning for the memorial service.

I also have had very little capacity to handle interactions in person, so I appreciate Randy and Pam working for me the last couple of weeks as I avoided those interactions, and I pray that no one took offense to me needing that space. I know you all just want to love and support me, and I appreciate that.

It has been a difficult few years for me. And I want to take this space to say that I am sorry you got this version of me as a pastor – yet I am grateful that both you and I got this experience of me as a pastor.

I am sorry that you didn't get the "normal" version of me who can balance it all, get it all done as close to excellently as possible, and inspire others to come along for the journey in a way that enables growth.

Instead, you all got a very unique version of me who showed up pregnant, had a kid, got divorced, had to take on a caring role for her parents, and then experienced the loss of one of those parents.

And while I wish the last few years of my life had not been this whirlwind journey to find balance amid life things happening back to back to back to back...I am grateful that both you and I had this experience together.

I had to learn how to balance life in a way that put family first and how to notice when I was slacking in professional aspects. I also had to learn how to grieve privately and publicly, how to be stressed beyond belief, and how to give grace to myself and others through life challenges.

And you all got the experience of a pastor enduring and growing through all of that. I by no means did it that well, but we got through it together. We saw what it looks like when life kicks the pastor around. Thank you for the grace you have given me in this season.

I pray that, for both of us, this experience continues to remind us how necessary grace is for the people in leadership positions – especially pastors.

We are people too. We are imperfect. We have life to manage. We have boundaries to keep. We have unexpected things happen. We grow, change, grieve, learn, and fail.

May I be that weird example for you all as you move forward with new pastoral leadership. May you continue learning how to give grace in all circumstances for your leaders. And may you not have someone who experiences quite so much life in such a short amount of time!

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Erika

Rev. Pam Ekey

"A Mighty Wind"

June 8, 2025

Acts 2:1-21



When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine." Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

"In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.
Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.
I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood and fire and billows of smoke.
The sun will be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood
before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.
And everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord will be saved."

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Potluck Dinner for Pastor Erika

Sunday, June 22

We will be having a Potluck Dinner on Sunday, June 22nd after worship to celebrate Pastor Erika's service at CrossRoads and send her off to her new church with prayers of well wishes. Please sign up at the link below or on the sign-up sheets at the info table on Sunday.

There will be a basket available for cards and love offerings for Pastor Erika on June 22.

SIGN UP HERE!

VBS Helpers Needed

Email [Cindy](mailto:cjones@crossroads-umc.net)

if interested

cjones@crossroads-umc.net

VBS Donations Requested

If you would like to help defray the expense of our VBS program this year, please mark your check or envelope with "VBS" and drop it in the offering plate on Sunday, or you can donate online here:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-75N0/campaign/C-12M6N>

Thanks for your support!



VBS 2025 Road Trip

Mon-Fri, July 21-25

FREE Meal 5:30pm

Activities 6:00pm-8:00pm

Games, crafts, music, science projects, skits!

REGISTER HERE!

Monday, July 21 through Friday, July 25

FREE Meal 5:30pm, Activities 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Games, crafts, music, science projects, skits!

VBS 2025 "Road Trip" is coming to CrossRoads this summer!! After enjoying a kid-friendly meal, children are treated to a fun and exciting skit at our opening assembly and are introduced to our mission project. Then it's time for fun activities as the children rotate between crafts, games, music, and our science sessions. At the end of the evening, the children gather for the closing assembly. On Friday evening, following the regular activities, the children will present a short musical program for parents and families at 7:30pm. At VBS, discover how the ordinary becomes extraordinary. Use your heart, mind, creativity, and imagination to participate in this year's Vacation Bible School! Please invite your grandkids and neighbors. Register at www.crossroads-umc.net or click the above "Register Here" button. Thanks for helping us make this year's VBS session one to remember!

eWaste Recycling Event

9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, June 7, in Raymore at City Hall's front parking lot

It's time to get rid of old, broken and unwanted electronics, keeping them from going into the landfill. Most items with a cord or battery are accepted for free, however TechRemove charges a fee for accepting the following items due to the hazardous materials within them:

CRT Monitor - \$5
CRT TV or Projection TV - \$30
LCD, LED or Plasma TV - \$20

Acceptable payment methods include Visa, MasterCard, check, cash or money order.

Items accepted for free include desktop PCs, laptops, tablets, phones, modems/routers, printers, servers, computer components, home stereo equipment, power tools and any appliance under 10 pounds or under 14x14x14 inches in size (without food waste present).

NO LARGE APPLIANCES ARE ACCEPTED. NO FITNESS EQUIPMENT.

You do not have to be a Raymore resident to participate. Raymore staff will direct traffic. Enter from 58 Highway to Johnston Parkway to Broadmoor.

Road Construction Markey Pkwy

The temporary entrance for the church is now open, and it is accessed from the Y Hwy side. To go to the church, you'll use the left turn lane at the traffic signal on Markey Pkwy (by Hobby Lobby), but instead of turning left towards the shopping center, you'll go straight across the intersection to access the church entrance.

Here is a picture of the church access drive that is now open.

The entire project has a planned completion date of July 2025.



Prayers



PEOPLE IN NEED OF PRAYER

Paul Carr
Faye Wallace
Carol Creach
Phil Gronemeyer
Ken & Patty Kluter
JoAnn Arnold
Chris Harrelson
Holden Batchelder
Angela McNeil (from Sandy McNeil)
Linda Gregory (Annalou Streiff's sister-in-law)
Lacinda Hamilton Kramer (Dana's daughter)
Mary Jane Malmgren (Karen McLaughlin's sister)
Vera Green (Sandy McNeil's friend)
Lorna Stinchfield (Cherrie Fleming's sister)
Tessa (Angie Kormanec's friend)
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)
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)
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)
Denise Wyatt (Wanda 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

Submit Prayer Requests Here

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, June 6

9:30am-10:30am

Study of David Class in Room #208

Saturday, June 7

12:00pm-3:00pm

Girl Scout Gathering in Room #201

Sunday, June 8

9:15am-9:45am

9:15am-9:45am

10:00am-11:00am

Pentecost

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

Monday, June 9

9:00am-10:00am

9:00am-4:00pm

11:30am-12:30pm

6:30pm-7:30pm

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

Tuesday, June 10

10:00am-11:00am

5:00pm-7:00pm

6:00pm-7:30pm

Fellowship Book Study w/Pam Ekey in Room #105
Creative Stitchers in Room #201
Pack Committee Meeting in the Multipurpose Room

Wednesday, June 11

5:30pm-6:15pm

6:15pm-7:00pm

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

Thursday, June 12

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
Creation Station Quilters in Room #205
Scout Troop #210 Meeting Upstairs or Offsite

Friday, June 13

9:30am-10:30am

5:00pm-9:00pm

Study of David Class in Room #208
Scout Wood Badge Meeting in the Multipurpose Room

Saturday, June 14

1:30pm-3:30pm

Doug Thompson Funeral Service in the Multipurpose Room

Sunday, June 15

9:15am-9:45am

9:15am-9:45am

10:00am-11:00am

Father's Day
Devotions With Randy in Room #208
Explorers Adult Sunday School in Room #105
Worship Service in the Sanctuary

Upcoming Events

Doug Thompson Funeral Service, Sat, June 14, 1:30pm

Father's Day, Sunday, June 15, Free Gift for all guys at worship service

Christmas in June Craft Fundraiser, Sat, June 21, 9am-9pm

Potluck Dinner for Pastor Erika, Sunday, June 22, following worship service

VBS, July 21-25, Mon-Fri, FREE Meal 5:30pm, Activities 6-8:00pm

Questions or comments? Email us at cjones@crossroads-umc.net

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#)