

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

LEARN & Grow in Faith

LIVE Your Faith by Serving

December 19, 2025 LOVE God and Others Volume 18, Number 51 crossroads-umc.net

CROSSROADS STAFF

Pastor Randy Kelly Lay Pastor

Cherrie Fleming Lay Leader

Donna Shoemaker Hospitality

Cindy Jones Office Administrator Kim Carson-Swift

Melody Burns Music Leaders Bob Ridgley Parker King Tech Leaders

Christmas Eve



Service 10:00 am

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

Tuesday Fellowship Class 10:00am

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

PO Box 167 Belton, MO 64012

Contact Us

By Phone: 816-331-5258 Email:

office@crossroads-umc.net Online: crossroads-umc.net

SECURITY

Dec 16th to 31st Parker King

December



From Pastor Randy For the fourth Sunday in Advent, we will be looking at scripture from Luke's gospel again. In particular, we will be focused on the shepherds.

It should be somewhat easy to reflect on the silence the shepherds encountered out in the fields at night. But maybe more invasive would be the silence the shepherds felt. They lived a rather isolated life out in

the fields. Because of their profession, they were often excluded from practicing the rituals so important to their faith. Because of this, they may have been looked down upon as lesser citizens, or they may have even been judged as unholy in their devotion to God. Sometimes the silence only amplifies the smallest of noises. So when the shepherds experienced their encounter with the angels, it must have shook them to the bones. And here again we see the shepherds'

We don't get a good description of what transpired as these shepherds made their way to find the Christ child. Do you imagine it was a silent walk, with each shepherd thinking about what just happened, and what was yet to unfold? Do you think the walk was full of talking over each other, an endless banter of what all of this means?

faithfulness, for they went into Bethlehem to see what had happened

Let us reflect on the silent pause that the shepherds must have experienced when they saw the Christ child in the manger, just as the angels had said. Let us reflect on the holiness they must have felt, being in the presence of God's son.

that they were told about.



Silent Night, Holy Night



is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." New International Version®, Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. (https://www.biblica.com/) 🔆 CrossRoads Missions Update 🧎

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over

their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of

the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to

them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for

all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he

in need. Donations will be delivered to Bridge Over Troubled Water and Heart 'N Hand We are so grateful for your generous response! The first load of items has already been

delivered to Bridge Over Troubled Water, where volunteers expressed heartfelt

appreciation. They even sent a Christmas card signed by their team to thank you. Pastor

Sharing Warmth with Our Neighbors! Collecting thru Sunday, December 28 This December, we are collecting coats, hats, scarves, and gloves to bless our neighbors



31 Stacy McCann

- 30 Marge Jones
- 31 Mike Resch **ANNIVERSARIES**
- 12/3 Phil & Tracy Inman 12/14 Doug & Carol Creach

Crossroads Cooking

150



sure to buy one for everyone on your list.

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!

Scrip Gift Cards There are many local and national retailers who participate in our scrip gift card program. Some cards are in stock and available for purchase each Sunday. See Cindy to purchase, or you can also order gift cards on our website or email Cindy at cjones@crossroads-umc.net to place an order. Cards that you order will be

available for pickup the

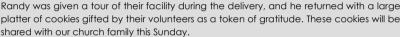
following Sunday.

Don't forget your flu shot &

vaccine &

boosters!

facebook Be sure to "Like" our Facebook page! Visit often and tag CrossRoads in your posts



Ministries.

shared with our church family this Sunday. The next delivery will go to Heart 'N Hand Ministries. They are especially in need of men's items, though all donations are welcome. The shopping cart will once again be available to collect your gifts. Thank you for supporting this vital mission project. Your

ZOE Empowerment Help transform the lives of orphaned children in Africa or India through ZOE's 3-year program of education and mentoring. A LYN POLK matching grant means your gift goes twice as far! Just \$10/month (or more if you're able) can change a child's future. In case you missed Lyn's video last Sunday, you can view it here: Lyn with ZOE Empowers

The total required for the 3-year program will be \$380 per month, so please place your

pledge as soon as possible so we will know if we have generated enough pledges to cover that. Otherwise an alternate ZOE donation plan will be considered. Together, we

kindness is making a real difference in the lives of those we serve.

Celebrate the joy of Christ's birth with us at our "For unto you is born "Silent Night, Holy Night" Worship Service on this day, in the city of

Pledge forms will be available this Sunday on the

info table or you can pledge online right now:

can warm hearts and change lives. 🤎

Christmas Eve

David a Savior,

who is Christ the Lord."

sponsoring a poinsettia.

Celebrating Christmas with Folded Ribbon Poinsettias CrossRoads is once again celebrating the joy of Christmas with folded ribbon poinsettias,

community during this season of giving.

Longest Night

CrossRoads will **NOT** be hosting a **Longest Night Service** this year, but if you're feeling burdened,

hurt, or sad this Christmas season, Peculiar UMC is

hosting a service on Dec. 21st at 7:00pm and One

Spirit UMC is hosting one at 4:30pm on Dec. 21.

SUNDAY, DEC 21ST AT 7PM Peculiar UMC

a cherished tradition that brings beauty to our worship space and meaning to our celebrations. There will be an insert in our Christmas Eve bulletin listing those loved ones you've chosen to **honor or memorialize** by

My ZOE Pledge

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Christmas Eve at 7:00pm.

Hot chocolate & cookies to start Christmas music from our Hand Bell Choirs Hymns, prayer, & a special Christmas Eve message Candlelight & "Silent Night" to close the evening

Bring your family and friends for this beautiful night of worship and wonder.

All donations will be sent to support the Belton Pirate Pantry, blessing families in our Thanks to all who have sponsored a poinsettia, and for your support of this ministry, which honors loved ones, beautifies our worship area, and extends Christ's love into our community.

For the weary, the hurting, and the hopeful

The longest

ONE SPIRIT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH DECEMBER 21", 2025 | 4:30 PM

Update from Mark Polk (Security Team Leader) We are beginning to experience more members of the homeless population moving on and around the Church property. If you experience seeing, or are approached by a homeless person(s), do not engage with them but do report the incident. Either give Cindy the information or call or text Mark at 816-868-3605. If you feel threatened, call



A huge thank you to all our amazing CrossRoads volunteers who helped

make this event possible. It was truly a day filled with Christmas fun, laughter,

and community spirit.

when possible. Help us show others how we Love people, Learn together, and **Live** in service to God at

CrossRoads.

Prayers

PEOPLE IN NEED OF PRAYER Bob Ridgley Gregg Drake JoAnn Arnold **Bob Daniel** Chris Harrelson Dick Brighthaupt Holden Batchelder Penny Kelly Phil Gronemeyer Ron Spencer Faye Wallace Roberta Maxwell Dolores Martin Paul Carr 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) Ryan (Carol Creach's friend's husband) Chelsea (Lawrence family friend) Rice Family (Toni Wiseman's niece & family) Guy (father of Angel Tree family recipient) Kyle Drake (former Troop 210 leader) Julie Reed (Angie Kormanec's friend) Dave McGill (Pastor Randy's friend) John Jerls (Cindy Keen's nephew) JR Alvarez (Angie Kormanec's family friend) Mary Jane Malmgren (Karen McLaughlin's sister) Sally McLaughlin (Karen McLaughlin's sister) Janice Wilson (Karen McLaughlin's co-worker)

Thursday, December 25 Ronna Buchannon (Wanda Carroll's friend) Ruthie Weil (Sandy McNeil's daughter) Alissa Sallee (Jade's cousin) Saturday, December 27

9:00am-9:30am 9:15am-9:45am 10:00am-11:00am

Last Sunday's Service 12/14/25 CrossRoads Worship



the video to let us know or let Cindy know to record your attendance.

If you watch our service online either

on Facebook or on YouTube, please either comment on

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9:00am-4:00pm 6:00pm-8:00pm 6:30pm-7:30pm Tuesday, December 23 7:00pm-9:00pm

Wednesday, December 24 7:00pm-8:00pn

Friday, December 19

Sunday, December 21

Monday, December 22

9:00am-9:30am 9:15am-9:45am

10:00am-11:00am

Friday, December 26

Sunday, December 28

CHRISTMAS NONE

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Upcoming Events Christmas Eve Service, Wed, Dec 24, 7:00pm

Happy New Year's Eve to all! Penny's Bunco Group, Sat, Jan 3, 10:00am, Multipurpose Room

Kim's Bunco Group, Mon, Jan 26, 6:00pm, Room #201 Questions or comments? Email us at <u>cjones@crossroads-umc.net</u> To remove your name from our mailing list, please <u>click here</u>

Patty LeCompte (Karen McLaughlin's sister) Michelle (Dick Brighthaupt's friend) Denise Wyatt (Wanda Carroll's friend)

Angela McNeil (from Sandy McNeil) Vera Glenn (Sandy McNeil's friend) Lorna Stinchfield (Cherrie Fleming's sister) Tessa (Angie Kormanec's friend) Daniel Hood (Cherrie's friend Pat Hood's grandson) Gail Welchon (Sandy McNeil's friend) Dennis Matson (Joe Matson's brother)

Linda Evans (Susie McClain's sister) Joyce Noah (TOPS) (Cherrie Fleming's friend)
GROUPS Kim Kirschling (Che Gladden Staff & Students Silver Angels Health Care Workers First Responders

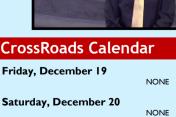
Boy Scout 210 & Pack 4210 USA and United States Military

Submit Prayer

Requests Here

911 before any other calls.





Devotions With Randy in Room #208 Explorers Adult Sunday School in Room #105 Worship Service in the Sanctuary Creation Station in Room #205 Bunco with Kim Swift in Room #201 Cub Scout Den Meeting in the Multipurpose Room

Troop Committee Meeting in the Multipurpose Room

NONE

Christmas Eve

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

UWF Joy Group, Thurs, Jan 8, 2:00pm, Room #105 Leadership Retreat, Sat, Jan 10, 10:00am, Multipurpose Room UWF Lunch Bunch, Mon, Jan 12, 11:30am, Multipurpose Room

CrossRoads Crafters, Sat, Jan 17, 10am, Multipurpose Room Fellowship Hymn Study Resumes, Tues, Jan 20, Room #105 Staff Meeting, Tues, Jan 20, 5:30pm, Room #103