

The Current

A Newsletter of Crossroads United Methodist Church
February 2012

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Autism educational presentation

submitted by Pastor Sharon

- Did you know autism is diagnosed in 1 out of 110 children?
- Did you know that the diagnosis of autism is 4 to 5 times greater in boys?
- Did you know that we have three individuals at Crossroads with an Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnosis?

Please join us for a presentation on **Sunday, February 26 at 11:30**, just after Sunday school. Lunch will be served, and child care will be provided. Our speaker will be Karen Russell, an Early Childhood Special Education teacher in the Waunakee School District. She teaches at Arthouse Preschool beside Heather Murray in the fully inclusive program at the school.

Karen will come with “the basics” to educate our congregation. Please come with any questions you need answered about autism in general or about the three children you might encounter in our church. This is a presentation that will educate everyone about how the needs of these children can be a little different than a typical child.

Finance news

submitted by Irene Steinl

Finance is happy to report that all 2011 expenses and apportionments were paid in full from 2011 income, with a modest amount of income remaining. The largest source of Crossroad’s revenue is offerings and donations made by members and friends, and much thanks goes to all of you for your generosity. Fundraising efforts also contributed to the positive results. Scrip income, in particular, increased significantly from the prior year, helping us meet all our financial commitments. Thank you for all your support and prayers, and let’s keep up this momentum to make 2012 equally financially sound!

Youth Group Bake Sale

submitted by Danny Steinl

There will be a bake sale on Sunday February 12 after service, so please stop by and get some goodies for Valentines Day. Proceeds will support the youth mission trip to Minneapolis.



Crossroads United Methodist Church
Where faith and friendship meet

Phone: (608) 849-9599 Fax: (608) 850-4799
5901 Hogan Rd., Waunakee, WI 53597
www.crossroadswaunakee.org

Pastor's Page

A few years ago, my older sister asked me, “Do Methodists do Lent?” She wasn’t asking me whether we have the season of Lent in the United Methodist Church, but rather if we celebrate it in the traditional way that people outside of the church envision. In other words, do we fast? Do we give up meat, and chocolate, and alcohol? Do we come to church for extra worship services? Do we put ashes on our foreheads?

Truth be told, Methodists are a pretty wily group. Some of us follow very traditional practices. Some of us are creating and following more contemporary practices. And some of us stubbornly avoid doing anything particular during Lent. But my guess is that here at Crossroads, most of us don’t know much about some of the very traditional Lenten themes and practices.

That’s why this year, we’re going to take a closer look. Starting Tuesday, February 28, I’ll be leading a class to learn about the Stations of the Cross. Many of us consider that to be a Catholic practice – but in truth it’s simply a Christian practice. During the class, we’ll learn about the history of this kind of worship and how it has evolved and changed. We’ll also look specifically at the 10 Biblical stations. On Friday, April 6, our Good Friday worship will incorporate the Stations of the Cross. You don’t need to be part of the class to join us for worship. But it might make more sense to you and have more meaning if you come. (To sign up for the class, simply contact me or the church office.)

Also, during Lent, I will be sharing a sermon series on the Seven Last Words of Christ. Of course, there are seven last words and six weeks in Lent, so I may get a bit creative. But we’ll look at these final things that Christ said while he was on the cross. How can his dying words help us to find greater meaning for living? Grace abounds,

Sharon F. S. Cook

Pastor Sharon

Lenten Calendar

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Feb. 22 | Ash Wednesday | 7 p.m. worship |
| Feb. 26 | Lenten sermon series begins | 9:30 a.m. worship |
| Feb. 28 | Stations of the Cross study | 7 p.m. class |
| March 6 | Stations of the Cross study | 7 p.m. class |
| March 13 | Stations of the Cross study | 7 p.m. class |
| March 20 | Stations of the Cross study | 7 p.m. class |
| March 27 | Stations of the Cross study | 7 p.m. class |
| April 1 | Palm Sunday | 9:30 a.m. worship |
| April 5 | Maundy Thursday | 7 p.m. worship |
| April 6 | Good Friday | 7 p.m. Stations worship |
| April 8 | Easter | 9:30 a.m. worship (breakfast before) |

Those in our prayers

Prayers of Joy: Best wishes on birthdays and anniversaries; Jackie Mathes is recovering at home; our choir is growing.



Prayers of Concern: All those recovering from surgeries and long term illnesses; those with unspoken concerns; the Werner family; The Ripp family; Dave Duchnowski's dad with health issues; Porchlight recovering from a fire; Libby Khazae undergoing testing for back injuries;

Prayers of Comfort in Grief: All those who have lost loved ones;

Prayers for Peace, Justice and Safety: All our military and their families all around the world; all those in weather related disasters around the world and here at home; those unemployed and those not paid well; all those who are homeless.

Take the apple challenge

submitted by the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

Once upon a time there was a couple who had nothing, and God gave them ten apples. God gave them the first three apples to eat. They shared each apple and ate all three.



God gave them the second three apples to trade for a shelter from the sun and rain. They traded the second three for a shelter from the sun and rain. God gave them the third three apples to trade for clothing to wear.

God gave them the last apple so that they might have something to give back to God to show their gratitude for the other nine. But the man and woman looked at the tenth apple, and it seemed bigger and juicier than the rest. They reasoned that God had all the other apples in the world. So they ate the tenth apple and gave back to God the core.

God has given you enough apples to supply your needs – plus one with which you may show your gratitude to God. The choice is yours. Will you return to God the largest and juiciest of your apples – or only the core?

Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| MANION, Clare | 02/01 |
| STEINER, Brooke | 02/02 |
| GRASSL, Amy | 02/06 |
| KHAZAE, Charlene | 02/07 |
| HALBERSMA, Lisa | 02/09 |
| ALTENHOFEN, Dan | 02/10 |
| HAMILTON, Sheldon | 02/11 |
| BALDWIN, Pat | 02/19 |
| WERNER, Greg | 02/20 |
| LUEDTKE, Craig | 02/24 |
| WERNER, Theresa | 02/27 |
| HRON, Emily | 02/28 |
| QUICKEL, Katie | 02/28 |



Help the office go green

submitted by Pastor Sharon

Since 2010, we have distributed a weekly eCurrent via email, which has been very successful. In 2012, the Finance team has decided to get rid of our 'bulk mail' permit, because it does not save us money. To be good stewards of our finances and our environment, we're going to expand our digital communications. Starting in March, the full monthly Current will be sent to you via email instead of US Mail. Print copies will still be mailed to those who do not have or use email.



If you would like to opt out of this new arrangement, please let the office know that you would prefer to receive a print newsletter.

A thank you from Jackie Mathes

In September, 2011, I hit a huge bump along the road of life! Thanks to skilled physicians, dedicated, well-trained caring staffs in the hospital and in the "re-hab" center—plus the many prayers of our pastor and you, my friends at Crossroads, the journey is becoming smooth in 2012!

Kathie and I are grateful for the many deeds of kindness from you— all sharing deep compassion on our behalf. "May God bestow his richest blessings on all of you." Matthew 25:40 Jackie Mathes

Super Saints calendar

submitted by the Youth Team

The youth group meets on Sundays from 11:30-1:00 p.m. This time includes a simple lunch. Note that in the descriptions below, if the box is shaded grey, it meets at a different day or time than usual.

Sunday, February 5 11:30-1:00 p.m. Scripture Activities

It's Super Bowl Sunday, and no, the Packers aren't playing. So we're going to look at a number of ways the Bible can actually connect with the Super Bowl. From mascots to smackdowns, it's all there. Wear your favorite team jersey, and we'll have some fun. And you'll be home in time for those crazy commercials.

Sunday, February 12 after worship Fundraiser/Fellowship 11:30-1:00 p.m.

We're having a bake sale! Please plan to be at church with at least 2 dozen 'somethings' by 9:00 a.m. to help prepare and sell. During youth group, we'll be playing creative games...

Sunday, February 19 11:30-1:00 p.m. Meet Muteti

Let's send another round of letters to Muteti. We also have a couple computer games to help us understand how groups like Compassion International actually work and make a difference.

Sunday, February 26 11:30-1:30 p.m. Service

The church is having an educational presentation after Sunday school. We will be providing child care and playing with any kids who come.

Remember: If you want to go on our Urban Immersion Service Trip, you need to turn in your registration by **February 15!**

Devotional book available

submitted by Pastor Sharon

Larry Patten, pastor at Crossroads from 1990-1993 has published a new book of daily devotions: *A Companion for the Journey: 41 Reflections (Mostly) on the Lord's Prayer*. Larry tells us, "Though easily read during Lent's 40 days, I also wanted *Companion* to be appropriate for daily readings along the journey of faith, for anyone at any time."

Companion is available for purchase as a paperback or an e-book for Kindle or Nook. A copy is available to see in Pastor Sharon's office. We will place an order through the church office the first week of March. If you are interested in ordering a paperback copy, please email the church office. If we have an order for 10 or more books, we will receive 30% off. Additionally, Larry has pledged to donate 10% of the sales to Angel Babies, a program at the hospice center where he volunteers.

UMCOR celebrates- 10 Years of the Coffee Project

submitted by Sue and Natalie Tietz

The UMCOR Coffee Project is 10 years old this year. Over that time, thousands of United

Methodist churches all over the country have lived their values by using Fair Trade products. Perhaps even more impressive, there are over 200 United Methodist churches around the country that have participated in the UMCOR Coffee Project for the full ten years. Here at Crossroads we have participated for about half that time. Thank you to everyone who has purchased from the coffee cart over the past few years. If you never have, please give it a try and you'll feel great about contributing to a greener and more just food system.



Community Change Gives Back to Waunakee Neighborhood Connection

submitted by Waunakee Neighborhood Connection



Madison, January 16, 2012: *The Community Change, a Madison owned and operated business, is now raising funds through community support for Waunakee Neighborhood Connection. WNC's mission is to help improve and create a difference in the lives of our Greater Waunakee Area Neighbors by making connections to distribute resources to those in need in a manner which blesses and enhances our entire community.*

Community Change provides discounts on gift cards and gift card packs at hundreds of area merchants that also benefit local schools and charities. When you visit www.thecommunitychange.com you'll browse from their selection of gift cards ranging from popular restaurants, fitness facilities, retailers, and entertainment venues. When you checkout, you can choose your local charity, WNC, who will receive 20% of your purchase. Each month, Waunakee Neighborhood Connection receives a donation check from all of the purchases made in their organization's name to distribute as needed in the Waunakee community. As an added incentive, on **Thursday, January 26**, the Community Change Program will be **DOUBLING** their donation to WNC to 40%! This is a perfect opportunity to support our area merchants and WNC! Genna Eaton, Executive Director of WNC says, "This is a really easy fundraiser. Our supporters love it because they are getting great deals, and we love it because we can support the needs of our community. A huge thank you to Community Change for doubling their donation to WNC on January 26!"

Needs List for WNC:

Items may be dropped off at the WNC Store.

Appliances

Dehumidifiers (2)
Microwave (6)
Refrigerator (1)
Vacuums (8)

Furniture

Beds (7)
Cribs (3)
Chairs (6)
Coffee Tables (5)
Couch (1)
Dining Sets (16)
Dressers (8)
Electronics
DVD Player (2)
Phone

Small Appliances

Blenders (6)
Fans (1)
Toaster

Misc. Items

Area Rugs (2)
Coats (XL, 2X & 3X)
Computers (4)
Exercise Ball—Large
Floor Lamps (3)
Garbage Cans (small)
Kitchen Towels (4)
Pots & Pans (4)
Scooter (Kids)

Waunakee Neighborhood Connection has Super Bowl raffle

submitted by Pastor Sharon

It's time for the 2nd annual Super Bowl Buffet and Raffle, sponsored by WNC. Join WNC at Rex's Innkeeper on February 5 at 5:30 p.m. The event is \$10, and includes buffet, beer and soda while you watch the game. Raffle tickets are sold separately, \$10 each. You could win a 55" Toshiba LCD TV (1080dpi), a 40" Toshiba LCD TV (1080dpi), or a 16GB white iPad. You do not have to attend the event to win a prize. Tickets for the event or the raffle are available from Pastor Sharon. All proceeds from the day benefit the day-to-day operations at WNC.

Making A Difference!

submitted by Lurene Swenson

"Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help." Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

We currently serve 298 clients and over 700 individuals including client family members. That's a lot of people to help. Thanks for making a difference! **See the WNC Calendar for current store hours: <http://waunakeeneighborhoodconnection.com/WNC/calendar/> Or, you can drop-off your donations at the Waunakee Police Station Monday-Friday from 7am to 5pm. All donations are tax-deductible.**

Crossroads UM Church Scrip Order Form, make check to CUMC Scrip

Revised 9/10/11

for more businesses go to www.shopwithscrip.com (under create an account, enter 98C5L17213229 for the cumc enrollment code)

| Retail Stores | \$ | Quantity # | \$ | Quantity # | % | Total \$ |
|---|-------|------------|-------|------------|-----|----------|
| Ace Hardware | \$25 | | \$100 | | 4% | |
| Amazon.com | \$25 | | \$100 | | 4% | |
| American Eagle Outfitters | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 10% | |
| Auto Zone | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 5% | |
| Barnes & Noble | \$10 | | \$25 | | 9% | |
| Bath & Body Works | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 13% | |
| Bed Bath & Beyond | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 7% | |
| Best Buy | \$25 | | \$100 | | 3% | |
| Buckle | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 8% | |
| Burlington Coat Factory | \$25 | | | | 8% | |
| Cabela's | \$25 | | \$100 | | 11% | |
| Claire's | \$10 | | xxx | xxx | 9% | |
| Crate and Barrel | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 8% | |
| CVS Pharmacy | \$25 | | \$100 | | 6% | |
| Dell (can only use one gift card per purchase) | xxx | xxx | \$100 | | 4% | |
| Dick's Sporting Goods | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 8% | |
| Disney | \$25 | | \$100 | | 2% | |
| Dressbarn | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 8% | |
| Family Christian Stores | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 9% | |
| Finish Line | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 10% | |
| Gander Mountain | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 8% | |
| Gordmans | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 7% | |
| Gymboree | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 13% | |
| Hallmark | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 4% | |
| Home Depot | \$25 | | \$100 | | 4% | |
| iTunes | \$15 | | \$25 | | 5% | |
| J. Jill | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 8% | |
| JC Penney (No longer can use cards to pay charge acct.) | \$25 | | \$100 | | 5% | |
| Jo-Ann Fabrics | \$20 | | xxx | xxx | 6% | |
| Jiffy Lube | \$30 | | xxx | xxx | 8% | |
| Kohl's (CAN Pay On Charge Acct. At Store Register) | \$25 | | \$100 | | 4% | |
| L.L. Bean | \$25 | | \$100 | | 15% | |
| Land's End | \$25 | | \$100 | | 16% | |
| Limited, The | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 9% | |
| Macy's | \$25 | | \$100 | | 10% | |
| Marshalls / T.J. Maxx | \$25 | | \$100 | | 7% | |
| Maurices | \$20 | | xxx | xxx | 7% | |
| Menards Home Centers | \$25 | | \$100 | | 3% | |
| Michaels (The Arts & Crafts Store) | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 4% | |
| Office Depot | \$25 | | \$100 | | 4% | |
| Office Max | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 5% | |
| Old Navy/Gap Tri-card/Banana Rep | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 14% | |
| O.Co (Overstock.com) | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 8% | |
| Payless Shoes | \$20 | | xxx | xxx | 13% | |
| Petsmart | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 4% | |
| Pier 1 Imports | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 9% | |
| Pottery Barn / Williams Sonoma | \$25 | | \$100 | | 8% | |
| Radio Shack | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 4% | |
| REI | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 8% | |
| Sears | \$25 | | \$100 | | 4% | |
| Sears Auto Service Center | \$100 | | \$250 | | 4% | |
| Shopko | \$25 | | \$50 | | 3% | |
| Shutterfly | \$25 | | xxx | xxx | 9% | |
| Staples | \$25 | | \$100 | | 5% | |
| Target | \$25 | | \$100 | xxx | 2% | |
| Wal-Mart / Sam's Club | \$25 | | \$100 | | 2% | |
| Walgreens | \$25 | | \$100 | | 6% | |
| Younkers / Boston Store | \$25 | | \$100 | | 8% | |

Total # Cards / Gift Certificates Ordered:

#

Total \$ Amount Ordered:

\$

Name:

Phone or e-mail

| Gas Stations | \$ | Quantity # | Quantity # | % | Total \$ |
|---|-------|------------|------------|-------|----------|
| BP | \$50 | | \$100 | 2% | |
| Kwik Trip ***Plus a Bonus 5% until 12/30/11 | \$25 | | \$100 | 4% | |
| Mobil / Exxon | \$50 | | \$250 | 2% | |
| Phillips 66/Conoco/76 Gas | \$25 | | xxx | 2% | |
| Shell Gas | \$50 | | \$100 | 2.50% | |
| Super America / Speedway | \$25 | | \$100 | 4% | |
| Groceries & Consumer Products | \$ | Quantity # | Quantity # | % | Total \$ |
| Nutri Systems | \$50 | | xxx xxx | 12% | |
| Piggly Wiggly / WI & N. IL only | \$25 | | \$50 | 4% | |
| " " | \$100 | | xxx | 4% | |
| Roundy's/Copps/Pick n Save | \$25 | | \$100 | 4% | |
| Whole Foods | \$25 | | \$100 | 3% | |
| Lodging and Travel | \$ | Quantity # | Quantity # | % | Total \$ |
| American Airlines / TWA (limited to redeeming 8 cards per transaction) | \$100 | | \$250 | 8% | |
| Avis Car Rental | \$50 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| BedandBreakfast.com | \$50 | | xxx xxx | 10% | |
| Best Western Int'l | \$25 | | \$100 | 12% | |
| Budget Car Rental | \$50 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Comfort Inn (Comfort Suites, Quality, SleepInn, Clarion, MainStay Suites) | \$50 | | \$100 | 4% | |
| Hyatt Hotels | \$50 | | \$100 | 9% | |
| Marcus Hotels & Resorts (includes Hilton Madison, Grand Geneva Resort, Pfister Hotel) | \$25 | | \$100 | 9% | |
| Marriott Hotels (Courtyard, Fairfield Inn) | \$50 | | \$100 | 8% | |
| Entertainment and Other Services | \$ | Quantity # | Quantity # | % | Total \$ |
| Great Clips | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Regis Salons | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Six Flags | \$30 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Super Cuts | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Marcus Theaters | \$25 | | \$100 | 9% | |
| Restaurants | \$ | Quantity # | Quantity # | % | Total \$ |
| Applebee's | \$25 | | \$50 | 8% | |
| Arby's | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 10% | |
| Burger King | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 4% | |
| Bruegger's Bagels | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 5% | |
| Chilli's | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 9% | |
| Chipotle | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 10% | |
| Chuck E. Cheese | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Cold Stone Creamery | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Cousins Subs | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 9% | |
| Cracker Barrel | \$10 | | \$25 | 9% | |
| Denny's | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 7% | |
| Domino's Pizza | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Einstein Bros. Bagels | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 10% | |
| Fazoli's | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 7% | |
| KFC | \$5 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Noodles & Company | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Old Country Buffet/Home Town Buffet | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 5% | |
| Outback Steakhouse | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| P.F. Changs | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Panera Bread | \$10 | | \$25 | 9% | |
| Papa Johns | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Papa Murphys | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Perkins Restaurant | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 12% | |
| Pizza Hut | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| Qdoba | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 7% | |
| Quizno's | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 10% | |
| Red Lobster / Olive Garden | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 9% | |
| Red Robin | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 9% | |
| Ruth's Chris Steak House | \$50 | | xxx xxx | 10% | |
| Starbucks | \$10 | | \$25 | 7% | |
| Subway | \$10 | | \$50 | 3% | |
| Texas Roadhouse | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 8% | |
| TGI Friday's | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 9% | |
| UNO | \$25 | | xxx xxx | 12% | |
| Wendy's | \$10 | | xxx xxx | 4% | |

Crossroads United Methodist Church
5901 Hogan Rd.
Waunakee, WI 53597

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
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WAUNAKEE WI
PERMIT NO 80



Change Service Requested

Customer Name
Street Address
City, ST ZIP Code

Worship at Crossroads

9:30-10:30am ~ Sunday Worship

10:30am ~ all of the following:
Hospitality & Refreshment Time (all ages)
Sunday school ages 3-6th grade.
Confirmation

**Come for any part of the morning,
or stay for all of it!**

Crossroads church leadership roster

Sharon Cook..... Pastor
Pattie Hook..... Assistant to the Pastor & Newsletter Editor
Bill HofeldtMusic Director
Chris Powers.....Pianist
Roselyn WarrenAccompanist
Keith Nelson.....Custodian
Irene Steinl.....Treasurer & Church Council, Vice Chair
Tammy Hribar.....Sunday School Coordinator
Julie Frenz.....Lay Leader
Sue and Natalie Tietz.....Fair Trade Coffee/Tea Coordinator
Tressie Hook & Mel Warner.....Youth ministries
Lynne Adam.....Scrip Chair
Tressie Hook.....Childcare

The mission of the United Methodist Church is;
“to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

The mission of the Wisconsin Conference is:
“Live, Give, Love...Beyond all expectation.”

The purpose of Crossroads UMC is:
“to provide the greatest experience of God to the greatest number of people.”