



# eReminder

March 15, 2024  
 Volume 16, Number 11  
 LOVE God and Others LEARN & Grow in Faith LIVE Your Faith by Serving

[www.crossroads-umc.net](http://www.crossroads-umc.net)

**CROSSROADS STAFF**  
 Pastor Erika Braun  
 Lead Pastor  
 Randy Kelly  
 Prayer Leader  
 Cherrie Fleming  
 Lay Leader  
 Virginia Robbins  
 Music Director  
 Donna Shoemaker  
 Hospitality  
 Cindy Jones  
 Office Administrator

**NEW WORSHIP TIME**  
 9:00am  
 Sunday School  
 Explorers 10:15am  
 Devotions 10:15am

**Sunday Worship Service**  
 9:00 am  
 Adult Sunday School  
 10:15am Explorers Room 105  
 10:15am 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](mailto:office@crossroads-umc.net)  
 On the Web  
[www.crossroads-umc.net](http://www.crossroads-umc.net)

**SECURITY**  
 March 16th to 31st  
 Joe Matson  
 816-289-4630



**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  
 4 Cathy & Keith Parks



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)



**Heart n Hand Barrel**  
**Food Donations**  
 Any non-perishable goods and individual bags of chips  
**Hygiene Items**  
 Preferably travel sized items: wash cloths, small combs and brushes, deodorant, body wash, razors, lip balms, wipes  
**Delivery Team**  
 All that is required is to load the contents of our blue barrel in your car and take to HnH. Let them know you are there, and they will unload items and take them inside. See Cindy for details.

**Pirate Pantry**  
[click here to donate online](#)  
 Collecting for 2024 School Year Now!  
 Thank you for your support in helping these students in need. We are now collecting for next year. To help us build our balance up, please drop your check in the offering plate and note that it is for Pirate Pantry in the memo line. Your donation for the 2024 school year is appreciated!

**Prayers**  
**PEOPLE IN NEED OF PRAYER**  
 Lyn Polk  
 Ken Kluter  
 Gib Pears  
 Taylor Thayne  
 Larry Streiff  
 JoAnn Arnold  
 Kala Handley  
 Betty Robertson  
 Carol Creach  
 Chris Hartsellson  
 Mickey Tabor  
 Holden Batchelder  
 Darren Rogers  
 Phil Gronemeyer  
 Michael Mendiola  
 Grayson Kormanec  
 Brandi Price (Tracy, Penny, Vickie, & Angie's cousin)  
 Kathy Dunten (Kim Swift's aunt)  
 Tom Frank (Ari & Jessica's grandpa)  
 Gary Curry (Uncle of Joe Matson's friend)  
 Amanda Brodfuehrer (Vickie's daughter's cousin)  
 T.J. Carr (Paul & Donna Carr's nephew)  
 Gail Welchon (Sandy McNeil's friend)  
 Patricia Keck (mother of Joe Matson's friend)  
 Charles Grimes (Joe Matson's friend)  
 Marlin & Paula Sexton (Tracy Inman's friends)  
 Hazel Wallace (Nancy Jones' friend)  
 Thomas Pinckney Smith, Jr. (Green Roger's brother)  
 Heidi Burks (Vickie Lawrence's friend)  
 Roseann (Wanda Carroll's friend's daughter)  
 Melissa Myers (Vickie Lawrence's friend)  
 Jerry Contreras (Vickie's son-in-law's father)  
 Dennis Matson (Joe Matson's brother)  
 Louis Greer (Sandy Drake's friend)  
 Karen Beatham (Vickie Lawrence's friend)  
 Samantha Bishop (Penny Kelly's friend)  
 Ken Thornton (Linda Grindstaff's friend)  
 Lisa McBride (Nancy Jones' neighbor)  
 Denise Wyatt (Wanda Carroll's friend)  
 Wilma McCann (Mac's grandmother)  
 Brandon Hedger (Joe Matson's friend)  
 Delilah Schmidt (Vickie Lawrence's family friend)  
 Linda Evans (Susie McClain's sister)  
 Thelma, Joyce Noah (TOPS)  
 Kim Kirschling (Cherrie Fleming's friend)  
 Greg Coy (Cherrie Fleming's brother)  
 Rod Swisher (Karen McLaughlin's friend)  
 Dan (Carol Dunlap's niece's husband)  
 Justin Wright (Darren Roger's son)  
 Kris Sexton (Joe Matson's friend)  
 Judy McCann (Mac's mother)  
 Shawn Burnam (Sharon Burnam's son)  
 Sue Schindler (Sami Siems' mother)  
 Walter Glenn (Sandy McNeil's friend)  
 Shirley Kormanec

**GROUPS**  
 Gladden Staff & Students & Silver Angels  
 People of Ukraine & Israel  
 Health Care Workers & 1st Responders  
 Boy Scout 210 & Pack 4210  
 USA and United States Military

Submit Prayer Requests Here

## Ponderings

Hey CrossRoads Family!

This week I have chosen a hymn that I would be surprised if none of you knew, but I am often surprised of the hymns people do not recognize, so I chose to share it just in case! This hymn was written by Isaac Watts in 1707 and is Hymn #298 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross."

*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down. Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown? Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.*

What did you give up for Lent? It is a common practice in many church people's routines to take these forty days to "give something up" as we remember that Christ gave up his life for us. Not everyone does it, so don't worry if you didn't know to choose something!

A lot of people give up things like chocolate, soda, or sugar entirely. Some of our denomination siblings give up meat on Fridays and get together for a community fish fry. (This is why places like Arby's suddenly start advertising their fish sandwich; now you know that Lent affects marketing for fast food restaurants too!)

Others give up things like negative attitudes toward coworkers, snarky responses to parents, or even using cuss words during this season. Some people add things like a devotional to start their day, an intentional moment of sharing joy with someone, or a five minute meditative moment to break up their day.

This hymn takes us to the foot of Jesus on the cross and lets us survey the wondrous love found there as he takes his final breaths with the crown of thorns causing blood to spill down his face. And this hymn ends with the line that if we had the entire world to give back as an offering, that still wouldn't be enough.

So what did you give up for Lent? Or what did you add? Was it enough?

Issac Watts wants us to know that this kind of love demands our soul, our lives, and our all. So whatever we gave up for Lent, probably won't be considered enough in his book. Although it is a good practice, I pray that Lent isn't the only time we intentionally work towards having a purer life that makes space for God's love to be made real to us and shine through us.

Once these forty days are over – what will you give up to God as an offering in response to the empty tomb? Something to ponder as our Lenten journey begins to wrap up.

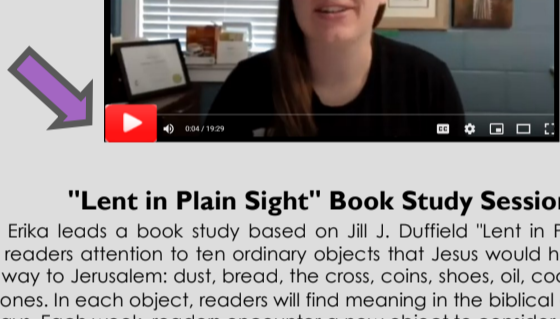
Peace and Blessings,  
 Pastor Erika

**March 17, 2024**  
**5th Sunday in Lent**  
**"Everyday Lent: Oil"**  
**John 12:1-8 MSG**



Six days before Passover, Jesus entered Bethany where Lazarus, so recently raised from the dead, was living. Lazarus and his sisters invited Jesus to dinner at their home. Martha served. Lazarus was one of those sitting at the table with them. Mary came in with a jar of very expensive aromatic oils, anointed and massaged Jesus' feet, and then wiped them with her hair. The fragrance of the oils filled the house. Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples, even then getting ready to betray him, said, "Why wasn't this oil sold and the money given to the poor? It would have easily brought three hundred silver pieces." He said this not because he cared two cents about the poor but because he was a thief. He was in charge of their common funds, but also embezzled them. Jesus said, "Let her alone. She's anticipating and honoring the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you. You don't always have me."

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### "Lent in Plain Sight" Book Study Session 4

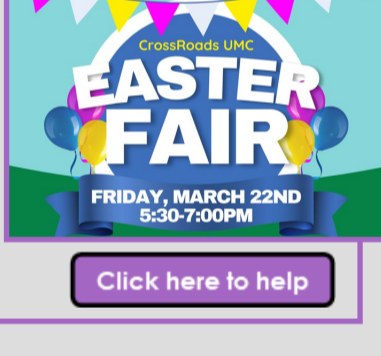
Pastor Erika leads a book study based on Jill J. Duffield "Lent in Plain Sight" as she draws readers attention to ten ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem: dust, bread, the cross, coins, shoes, oil, coats, towels, thorns, and stones. In each object, readers will find meaning in the biblical account of Jesus' final days. Each week, readers encounter a new object to consider through Scripture, prayer, and reflection. Click above to view the video on YouTube.

### Easter Fair Helpers Needed

Our Connect Team is planning an Easter Fair on March 22, 2024, from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at CrossRoads. We are inviting the community for a night of free family fun that will include a photo op with the Easter bunny, a hotdog meal for the whole family, and several fun activities such as crafts, games, videos, and more.

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, two bunny helpers, carnival game monitor. Click the button below to let us know what you will help with.

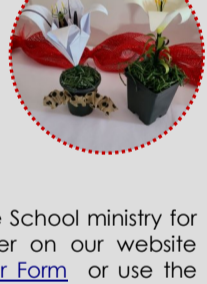
**We are also requesting donations of plastic easter eggs and individually wrapped candy that will fit in the eggs. If you can provide these items, please bring them to church with you and put them on the tables by wall by the coat rack.**



[Click here to help](#)

### 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.



The money you donate will go toward our Vacation Bible School ministry for meals, décor, and supplies. You may place your order on our website [www.crossroads-umc.net](http://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.

### Senior Citizen Spring Luncheon at BHS April 5, 12pm

You're invited to the Senior Citizen Spring Luncheon at the Belton High School Field House, 801 w. North Ave, Belton, MO.

This event is free to Belton senior citizens. Come enjoy great food, company and entertainment. You can also learn more about the exciting things happening in our Belton Schools.

Parking available on the west side lot of the high school.



### Heart n Hand Food Pantry Items Needed

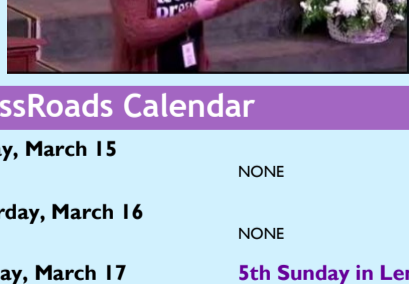
You can either drop pantry items in our blue barrel at church or deliver them to HnH at the designated hours. Needed items are:

- 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)

**Please do NOT put items for the thrift store, such as clothes, etc. in the blue barrel. Deliver those to the thrift store yourself.**



### Last Sunday 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 15**  
 NONE

**Saturday, March 16**  
 NONE

**Sunday, March 17**  
 9:00am-10:00am  
 10:00am-11:00am  
 10:15am-10:45am  
 10:15am-10:45am

**5th Sunday in Lent**  
 Worship Service in the Sanctuary  
 Choir Rehearsal in Room #210  
 Devotions With Randy in Room #208  
 Explorers Adult Sunday School in Room #105

**Monday, March 18**  
 9:00am-4:00pm  
 6:30pm-7:30pm

Creation Station Quilters in Room #205  
 Cub Scout Den Meeting in the Multipurpose Room

**Tuesday, March 19**  
 10:00am-11:00am  
 4:30pm-5:30pm  
 6:00pm-7:00pm  
 6:30pm-8:00pm

Lenten Book Study w/Pam Ekey in Room #105  
 Staff Meeting in Room #103  
 Lenten Book Study w/Randy Kelly in Room #105  
 Parents Club Meeting in the Multipurpose Room

**Wednesday, March 20**  
 5:00pm-6:00pm  
 6:00pm-7:00pm

Crossroads Choirs Rehearsal in Room #210  
 Heavenly Bell Chorus Rehearsal in Room #210

**Thursday, March 21**  
 8:45am-10:30am  
 11:00am-4:00pm  
 5:30pm-6:00pm  
 6:30pm-8:30pm

TOPS Meeting in Room #201  
 Creation Station Quilters in Room #205  
 Virtual Lenten Book Study w/Pastor Erika via zoom  
 Scout Troop #210 Meeting in the Multipurpose Room

**Friday, March 22**  
 5:30pm-7:00pm

EASTER EMBER in the Multipurpose Room

**Saturday, March 23**  
 10:00am-9:00pm

CrossRoads Craft Social in the Multipurpose Room

**Sunday, March 24**  
 9:00am-10:00am  
 10:00am-11:00am  
 10:15am-10:45am  
 10:15am-10:45am

**Palm Sunday**  
 Worship Service in the Sanctuary  
 Choir Rehearsal in Room #210  
 Devotions With Randy in Room #208  
 Explorers Adult Sunday School in Room #105

**Easter Fair, Friday, March 22, 5:30-7:00pm, Multipurpose Room**  
**CrossRoads Crafters, Fri, March 23, 10:00am, Multipurpose Room**  
**Good Friday Service, March 29, 7:00pm, Sanctuary**  
**Easter Morning Worship Service, March 31, 9:00am, Sanctuary**

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](#)