



# ENEWS

CrossRoads UMC  
9315 E. Shelby Dr.  
Collierville, TN 38017  
901-737-3776



November 22, 2017

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and fellowship before and after Sunday School.  
SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:00 A.M. \*\*\*\*\*WORSHIP TIME - 10:15 A.M.



Dear CrossRoads,

This Sunday is Pledge Sunday. If you have not already brought your pledge card to the church you will have an opportunity to bring your pledge card to the altar rail during our worship service. Why pledge instead of “just” give? For me personally, it is about holding myself accountable to the pledge I made as a very young person to be faithful with my prayers, my gifts, my service, my presence and my witness. It has to do with the commitment I made to accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior and to serve him. It has to do with being thankful for Jesus giving his life for me so that I can be forgiven and know that God is always there to lift me up, protect me, lead and guide me through life’s big adventure. It has to do with me being forever grateful to God from the bottom of my heart. It has to do with humbling myself before the One who created the universe and because God is faithful to us and even me. I pledge because I trust and know that God is. Of course, I pledge to help with the practical things we as a church have to take care of, and I pledge because I want to support the church in its ministries, local and global. But first and foremost, I pledge because I love God and because I know the ministries we are involved with, will transform people’s lives.

God's Grace & Peace,  
Birgitte

## CROSSROADS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 2017 Receipts & Disbursements Actual vs Budget January through October 2017

	Jan - Oct 17	Budget	\$ Over Budget
<b>Income</b>			
4100 · PLEDGED	185,648.92	186,990.00	-1,341.08
4200 · NON-PLEDGED	36,101.00	23,883.32	12,217.68
4210 · INVESTMENT INTEREST	0.00	1,666.66	-1,666.66
4300 · SEASONAL GIFTS	0.00	15,833.32	-15,833.32
4400 · PROPERTY/SPECIAL ACTIVITY	17,558.00	10,000.00	7,558.00
4500 · INTEREST INCOME	94.16	83.32	10.84
4600 · OTHER GENERAL INCOME	6,792.44	5,333.32	1,459.12
4700 · DESIGNATED GIFTS	1,226.00	6,250.00	-5,024.00
4900 · FUND TRANSFER IN	5,250.00	5,615.96	-365.96
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>252,670.52</b>	<b>255,655.90</b>	<b>-2,985.38</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
5100 · NURTURE/ HOSPITALITY	0.00	0.00	0.00
5200 · CHILDREN	0.00	0.00	0.00
5300 · WORSHIP	325.40	416.66	-91.26
5500 · NURTURE/ EVANGELISM	228.15	190.11	38.04
5700 · FAITH DEVELOPMENT	474.92	501.56	-26.64
6100 · FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP	61.49	125.00	-63.51
6200 · TRUSTEES/CHURCH PROPERTY	52,838.56	62,219.12	-9,380.56
6300 · OFFICE/SUPPORT	10,992.94	9,970.93	1,022.01
6400 · MINISTER/STAFF	66,534.48	66,289.14	245.34
6600 · DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION	20,146.61	20,146.66	-0.05
6700 · OTHER PERSONNEL EXPENSES	28,453.72	30,113.12	-1,659.40
6999 · Uncategorized Expenses	170.53		
7100 · APPORTIONMENTS	20,006.00	10,000.00	10,006.00
7500 · DEBT SERVICE	45,795.70	55,601.00	-9,805.30
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>246,028.50</b>	<b>255,573.30</b>	<b>-9,544.80</b>
<b>Fund Balance Increase/(Decrease)</b>	<b>6,642.02</b>	<b>82.60</b>	<b>6,559.42</b>



### RETIREES AT PLAY

The RAP Group will have a Christmas gathering on Tuesday, December 5. This will be potluck. Please bring your favorite dish and a Dirty Santa gift of no more than \$10.00. This will be a time of fun, food and fellowship.

### You are invited!

Join us to hear the beautiful story of Christmas told through music, scripture and verse. “The Song Heard ‘Round the World” will be shared on December 17, 2017 at 10:15am. Immediately following we will have our annual church-wide Christmas potluck.



## MY PERSPECTIVES:

I sat in church Sunday observing the sparse attendance and wondering where all the people have gone that just a mere two years ago voted to support Renewed Life for CrossRoads. Those of you that cast that vote that day promised before God that you would work to make Renewed Life happen. Are you doing that? Obviously too many of us did not take that vote seriously as we were asked to. You were given three choices, but the majority of you chose Renewed Life, knowing that you were committing your time, your talents, your gifts and your prayers in order for that to happen. The pastor couldn't do it by herself. Even the leadership couldn't do it by themselves. We were told it would take us all. I feel that God is very disappointed in us. We also had a very important Church Council meeting after church, yet there were maybe half of the church council members there. Where were the rest? You are the elected body....if you're not interested, why would anyone else be?

I was on the SPRC committee at St. James when we were asked by the district to start a new church in S. E. Shelby County. There was so much prayer and so many meetings and talking and prayer and more prayers. It was hard for us to leave that place, but in the end, we felt like we were doing what God was leading us to do. Now over 20 years later I'm still not sure what God led us out here to do. I do know that we are supposed to be making disciples for Jesus Christ. But I don't see us doing that....and I'm including myself.

So IF we heard God correctly back at St. James, why DID He put us here in this location? After all these years, are we really listening to what God has been saying?

If we are being called to change in some way because what we're doing is not working, who all is willing to make some changes? I'm not smart enough to know what those changes may need to be, but I do know one thing, GOD HAS NOT LEFT US!! He is still very present in this church. Can we finally start listening to what God wants us to do and not just what we want to do? And finally begin to fulfill that promise that we made to Him two years ago to breathe Renewed Life into CrossRoads Church.

Thank you for listening,  
Dianne Cox

## 2018 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE CAMPAIGN 'Dare to be Extravagant'

### Happy Thanksgiving to you all from the Harper family!

Hello Crossroads Family,

We will be praying for safe travels, full bellies and priceless memories for all of you! Firstly, thank you again to all who were able to come to my recital. I am so lucky to have such a loving and supportive church family. I hope that my music continues to be used in God's kingdom for His, and only His glory. This was and is the true aim behind all of the music we ever make, not so that we may have glory but instead for Him to be lifted through it all.

Secondly, I wanted to share with you all, from last week's children's time, the tradition and legend of the 5 corn kernels. For those that were out of town, a tradition in the Stephens family is to receive 5 corn kernels before Thanksgiving dinner and everyone shares 5 things over the past year they are thankful for. This tradition actually is based off of the legend of the pilgrims very first winter in Plymouth Rock, wherein nearly half would starve to death. The pilgrims each had a ration of 5 corn kernels to eat. Despite this, the pilgrims would still thank God for the meager portions and see the blessing in even the smallest of gifts.

To God be the glory,

The Harpers



### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday, December 2nd, UMW Exec./Gen. meetings -9:00/11:00am
- Tuesday, December 5—RAP Group Christmas gathering at 10:30a.m.
- Sunday, December 17— Christmas Cantata and church-wide lunch.

The Enews is uploaded each week to our website: [www.crossroadsumc.com](http://www.crossroadsumc.com)