



April

Volume 5 Issue 4

Published by Crossroads

Oswald Chambers called it "The Discipline Of Dismay".

One of my many favorites from Chambers that speaks to us about following Jesus and being afraid. Doesn't sound like those two should go together but they do. Can you imagine what it must have been like in the early days of the church? The Bible tells us of how they sold their things with delight, excited to serve, to give, to love and to be everything that God had called them to be. Like new Christians on fire to be all the Master wants them to be, who doesn't know the excitement that this brings? Chambers writes, "At the beginning we were sure we knew all about Jesus Christ".

I know I was. Fueled by the Holy Spirit I thought I could do anything. Chamber's state's that as time goes by the distance get bigger, it gets wider and as we read about this throughout the Bible all the stories of the early church it isn't long before the struggle begins in our own lives. What we were once excited about now finds little place in our lives. We thought that things would have been different but they're not. What has happened? This path that once seemed so clear has it changed? Have I changed?

Chamber's writes,

"At first I was confident that I understood Him, but now I am not so sure. I begin to realize there is a distance between Jesus Christ and me; I can no longer be familiar with Him. He is ahead of me and He never turns round; I have no idea where He is going, and the goal has become strangely far off."

What goal is that I say? The goal of becoming like my Savior. The goal of becoming more than I am and hope to ever be.

Christian's today struggle with many thing in their lives but to think that there is a distance between us and God should never be questioned.

He came, He did have to, He gave His live that we might live, but He didn't have to, ah! But He did, love gave Him no choice. What about you and me? Does not love give us the same choice?

"The discipline of dismay is essential in the life of discipleship. The danger is to get back to a little fire of our own and kindle enthusiasm at it (cf. Isaiah 1:10-11). When the darkness of dismay comes, endure until it is over, because out of it will come that following of Jesus which is an unspeakable joy."

God's peace,
Pastor Bob



United Methodist Women

Dear UMW MEMBERS,

I want to encourage you to pray for our entire Crossroads Church, Children's Center, our pastor, the worship leaders at both services, members, and activities planned to extend our mission to our local community.

"Everyone cannot do everything, but everyone can do something, no matter how small, to help our church grow."

Our General meeting this month will be a "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial," including fasting – as Jesus taught in Matthew 6:16-18. Bring a sandwich & prayerful mind on the 19th.



Prayerfully,
Jean Henry, President

APRIL 2011 UMW OPPORTUNITIES at Crossroads:

Note: Except for Esther Circle, which will meet the last Thursday, the other UMW meetings are one week earlier than usual because of the date of Easter week this year. Correct the date for Esther in your yearbook.

Tuesday, April 5, 10:00 am Executive Board meeting, Library.

Tuesday, April 12th -Sarah Circle, 1:00 pm Hostess: **Mary Lou Spencer, 3371 Bay Oaks Dr. 34234.** Dessert, fellowship, program & inspiration shared. **RSVP** to *Sharron Schar*, at church or at 383-9830 or Mary Lou at 351-1724.

Tuesday, April 19th-11:30am Fellowship Hall General Meeting: Bring only a sandwich for your sack lunch. Enjoy fellowship, followed by the program: "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" by Janet Leap, Spiritual Growth Coordinator.

Thursday, April 28th -Esther Circle 7:00 pm in church Library. Dessert, fellowship, program, and inspiration shared. **RSVP** to *Ila Detweiler* at 807-1020 or to Paula Goodfellow at 365-2366. (ignore Yearbook earlier date)

Guests & new members are always welcomed.

Remember to bring your no longer needed treasures to circle or church for the Bradenton Christian School Thrift Shop.
Thank you. Becky Doll

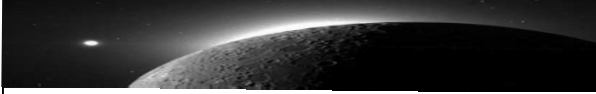
Websites for the District, Conference, & Women's Division

District – www.southwestdistrictumw.org

Conference – www.gb-gm-umc.org/flaconferenceumw/

Women's Division – www.gb-gm-umc.org/umw

NEW HORIZONS

**NEW HORIZONS**

New Horizons will meet Thursday, April 7, in Friendship Classroom (off Fellowship Hall). Bag lunch is at 11:30. Dessert and beverages will be provided. Dee Campbell is hostess.

Eleanor will present a program of stories for Lent.

This informal group welcomes anyone who seeks friendly Christian fellowship.

FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry's purpose is to provide food for those that come into the church office in need of food. This is to assist with the immediate needs the person (mostly those that are homeless) may have. The handouts include: soup, breakfast bars, canned goods, macaroni & cheese and other sundry items. All food donations are greatly appreciated. Check the bulletin for current food needs. For further information contact **Anne Snyder**.



The **BAG LADIES** - Toiletries are needed to be put in each sleeping bag. These include socks, combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, washcloths, hand towels, soap and any devotional booklets (i.e.) Guidepost or Upper Room (doesn't have to be current.) If you want good fellowship and like any phase of sewing join us at 12:30 Monday afternoons in Room 8. You will find it very rewarding.

We are putting together a Cookbook! If you have any recipes you would like to be put in the Cookbook Please email them to Aimee Donato @ aimeedonato@gmail.com! Also if you have any name ideas for the cookbook please email them to me! The money raised from the cookbook will go towards Outreach at Crossroads!

Easter is around the Corner! We are collecting items and candy for our Annual Easter Egg! Please bring in your donations by 4/17. Monetary donations are accepted!

Aimee Donato

PRAYER CHAIN REQUEST

Do you need a special prayer?
Do you have a special need?
Would you like others to be surrounding you with prayer for strength and comfort? Would you like to pray for others?
Contact Carol in the Church Office or Crossroads Prayer Chain 355-7089.

CHOIR & BELL RINGERS

Rehearse on Wednesday evenings under the leadership of Jay Martin. Consider joining this group to share your talents and connect in fellowship!

You can help support **CHRIST'S PANTRY at CROSSROADS** by saving your aluminum cans & copper.

We are accepting these items at church and will then take them to the recycle facility on Myrtle St.

Drop your things off at church.

Bob Fellows,
Project coordinator



Keep saving CAMPBELL SOUP labels (UPC codes only,) PEPPERIDGE FARM labels and BOX TOPS for Education.

There are zip lock bags to collect these on the bulletin board in the lobby and in the kitchen. Also save used printer cartridges and give these to Becky or Bob Doll, who turn them over to Bradenton Christian School. Thank You.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Charles Johnson	4/2
Earl Buell	4/9
Keith Givens	4/10
Cameron Newhouse	4/10
Naomi Bryan	4/11
Mel Pentecost	4/12
Skylar Rose	4/13
Alexandra Skelton-Crimi	4/17
Jason Bright	4-19
TJ Donato	4/19
Mayme Dorma	4/19
Ron Skerratt	4/20
Steve Thompson	4/21
William Newhouse	4/27

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Rob and Amanda Suter	4/2	6 years
Alex and Katherine Strickland	4/12	64 years
Ray and Mary Newton	4/19	31 years

MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

April 19th

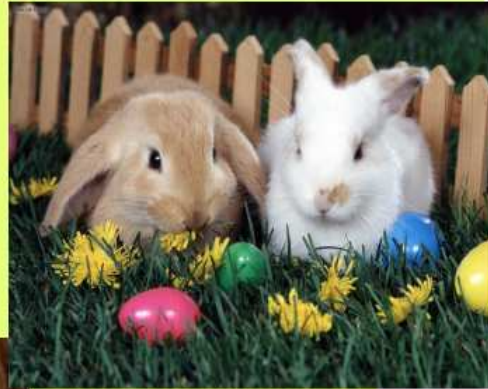
Annual Crossroads Easter Egg Hunt

Time:

9:30-12:00

Saturday

April 23, 2011



Crafts

Snacks

Stories

Games

**And of course,
EGGS!**

Pre-Register Today call 355-5485

Easter Egg Hunt

For children

ages 1-10

**See Aimee or Amanda
For more Info**

**Crossroads UM Church
4726 N. Tamiami Tr. (US 41)
Sarasota, FL 34234**



Friday, May 13, 2011

Serving from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Spaghetti Dinner

At Crossroads Church
4726 North Tamiami Trail



Join us for
sloppy food &
hearty fellowship

All proceeds benefit future
community outreach events
at Crossroads

Tickets

Available at church office 10:00-3:00
Or call 941-355-5485

Adults—\$5
Children (12 and under)- Free

Dinner includes:

Spaghetti with homemade meat sauce,
salad, bread, dessert, and beverage

Eat in or Carry out

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Abbreviations: S—Sanctuary FH—Fellowship Hall LB—Library YB—Youth Building</p>						
<p>3 9:00 Worship Service—S 10:10 Adult Bible Studies—LB, FH 10:10 Youth Bible Study—FH 10:10 Sunday School—FH 11:00 Worship Service—S 11:00 Traditions—YB</p>	<p>4 12:30 Bag Ladies—Rm. 8</p>	<p>5 10:00 UMW Exec.—FH 6:30 Potter's Wheel—FH 6:30 Bible Study—Keith Givens' home</p>	<p>6 10:00 Women's Bible Study—FH 6:45 Choir 7:00 AA—YB</p>	<p>7 11:30 New Horizons—FH 6:45 Children's Choir—FH 7:00 Praise Band—S</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>10 9:00 Worship Service—S 10:10 Adult Bible Studies—LB, FH 10:10 Youth Bible Study—FH 10:10 Sunday School—FH 11:00 Worship Service—S 11:00 Traditions—YB</p>	<p>11 12:30 Bag Ladies—Rm. 8</p>	<p>12 1:00 Sarah Circle Mary Lou Spencer's home 6:30 Bible Study—Keith Givens' home</p>	<p>13 10:00 Women's Bible Study—FH 6:45 Choir 7:00 AA—YB</p>	<p>14 7:00 Praise Band—S</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 10:00 COPA—FH</p>
<p>17 Palm Sunday 9:00 Worship Service—S 10:10 Adult Bible Studies—LB, FH 10:10 Youth Bible Study—FH 10:10 Sunday School—FH 11:00 Worship Service—S 11:00 Traditions—YB</p>	<p>18 12:30 Bag Ladies—Rm. 8 7:00 WSLR—YB</p>	<p>19 11:30 UMW General—FH 6:30 Bible Study—Keith Givens' home</p>	<p>20 10:00 Women's Bible Study—FH 6:45 Choir 7:00 AA—YB</p>	<p>21 Maundy Thursday 6:00 Communion 6:45 Children's Choir—FH 7:00 Praise Band—S</p>	<p>22 Good Friday</p>	<p>23 9:30 Easter Egg Hunt</p>
<p>24 Easter 9:00 Worship Service—S 10:00 Pancake Breakfast—FH 11:00 Worship Service—S 11:00 Traditions—YB</p>	<p>25 12:30 Bag Ladies—Rm. 8</p>	<p>26 6:30 Bible Study—Keith Givens' home</p>	<p>27 10:00 Women's Bible Study—FH 6:45 Choir 7:00 AA—YB</p>	<p>28 7:00 Praise Band—S 7:00 Esther Circle—LB</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>



LOVING... What God loves most—YOU!

Here's what you can expect!

- A Warm Greeting
- A Friendly Casual Atmosphere
- Applicable Bible Teaching
- Wonderful Fellowship
- Fulfillment

"Where people meet along the way"

Worship Times

Sunday

9 am (Choir) 11 am (Praise Band)

Bible studies

Wednesday 10:00 am (Women's Bible Study)

Sunday 10:10 am

We're on the Web
www.ourcrossroad.com

Crossroads
A United Methodist Church of the 21st Century
4726 N. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, Florida 34234