



Crossville First

United Methodist Church

The Church With the Window on the Heart of Our Town

HOPE

Reverend Dr. Louis Davis, Associate Pastor

Romans 5:1-6 (NRSV): ¹Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

I read something recently that spoke a profound message. "Our souls need hope like our bodies need oxygen." Can you relate to this? In numerous times I have not thought of HOPE like that, but it makes sense to me. Have you found yourself in a situation that felt hopeless? Maybe you are there now. It is such a hard feeling. It can really tear you down. We all go through tough situations in our lives. I do not want to take away from any of that, but when I think about it, nothing is worse than going through our whatevers without hope.

The pictures show the two main spots where people think the tomb of Jesus was. The tomb represents what we often feel, hopelessness. The disciples thought the promised Kingdom was over, despite what Jesus had been telling them.



Because of situations we experience, we may think our lives, or at least our happiness, is over. However, HOPE abides! The scripture from Romans says, "suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope...*and Hope does not disappoint us.*"

We are at a point in the life of this church where some might say, there's no hope. Change can make us feel like that for sure. However, because of the HOPE we have in Jesus, we can look at the past with great thanksgiving and look to the future with great HOPE!

Reverend Steven Lee will bring the gifts God has given him to do a great work here at Crossville First United Methodist Church. The gifts he brings should be what we hope for because, when we hope, we know this HOPE, the hope that Jesus brings, will not disappoint. Pastor Steven and his family are excited to be about God's good work here among us and along with us. Many great things have occurred here and the HOPE we have says, "Greater things are still to be done." What an exciting, hopeful time to be a part of this body of Christ.

HOPE .DOES .NOT .DISAPPOINT .US!

A Devotional on the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats

Gregg Rector, A/V Production & Engineering Director

In Matthew: 25, we find the parable of "The Sheep and the Goats." Jesus declared that when the King comes in his glory, he will separate all the peoples of all the nations accordingly. The first group defined were those who gave food to the hungry and a drink to the thirsty, who clothed the naked, welcomed the stranger, and visited the imprisoned.

The second group defined did none of those things. While very little is in common between the two groups and their actions, with a little bit of introspection, we will likely find we have things in common with both groups and, probably, a lot more in common with the second group than we'd like.

In Luke: 6, Jesus touches on something similar when he said, "If you love those who love you, what

credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them." He continued and finished with charges like "love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back;" and "be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

Looking back at the parable of the sheep and goats through this sort of lens reveals even more about the heart of Christ and his desire for Christian behavior. Both the sheep and the goats encountered the exact same groups of people. Both the sheep and the goats failed to recognize the presence of Christ in the "least of these." The difference was the response of their hearts. For the sheep, the response, regardless of person or situation, was to lead with love and mercy. To the goats, it was to lead with indifference, distance, coldness,

maybe even callousness.

I know there have been many times in my life with so many opportunities to stop for a moment wherein to show love and compassion to someone. To take just a minute from my day, I could have changed the course of someone's day or, who knows, maybe even their life, but I didn't act. I was probably in a hurry, too busy, too distracted, and something else in the moment ranked more important than the least of these.

For the sheep, it wasn't about doing these things because they were doing it for the Lord God Almighty Himself, but it was because they didn't know it was Him, and they did it anyway.

A paraphrase from Charles Marshall says, "Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching."

A Parting Farewell

John Worley, Director of Child Care

Dear Church Family,

Our lot together has been an adventure that I would not change a bit, even if I had to do it all over again. As John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus, I hope in some small way, I have paved the way for Jesus to come into the lives of the children of our community and church family through the ASCP/SSCP and nursery programs. I also hope I succeeded in preparing the way for others who follow me to do even greater things for the children of God.

As I prepare to leave Crossville to reunite our family into one household, I can only reflect on these posi-

tive experiences: Sommer's first appointment; the birth of our baby girl Savannah Rose, her Baptism by three pastors, a District Superintendant and a Bishop; field trips; changing many poop diapers, Cutler, as Jesus, riding on a donkey(me) into the sanctuary on Palm Sunday; playing drums for the praise band; Vacation Bible School; serving on the Missions Team, packing food boxes for Martin Elementary, and packing back packs; driving children around on the buses; serving at the Bread of Life; receiving letters of support; Gabriel's love for the youth group; and many more.

The past 5 years have been full of blessings. My hope is that I leave things better than I found them. I

know for a fact that I am leaving here better than I was when you found me.

The one thing I realize through these experiences is that love is in action. This church is one of the most loving congregations I have ever been a part of. Your actions show how much you love Jesus, each other, our community, and all of God's children. I will miss each of you tremendously and will always have many fond memories of our time together in fellowship and ministry. My prayers are with you Crossville First! Keep making friends. Keep being friends. Keep bringing friends to Christ.

In Christian Love,
John Dee Worley II, MSP

SUMMER CAMP

Register now for our Summer School Age Camp Program (SSCP). We are almost full! Do not get left out! Packets are available in the church office and in the childcare lobby if you are interested in registering your children at ages 5-12 yrs old and entering grades K-6. Call the ASCP/SSCP office for answers to your questions at 931-787-1253.

Hispanic Ministry Group Leaders

Rev. Janet Martinez, Pastora Tennessee Conference

Once a month the local group of Hispanic Ministry leaders meets to review the implementation of the work plan and to have a training time on reading a leadership book. The activities to be developed during the month are also coordinated with their implementations.



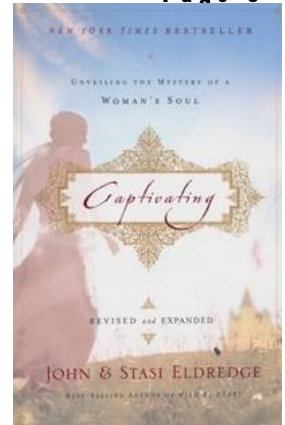
We welcome Cristian Sánchez as a new member of the group of leaders this year and anticipate her service in program activities.

Women's DVD Bible Study

Cathy Camera

Beginning June 6, CAPTIVATING, a 10-week study is starting: "Unveiling the Mystery of a Woman's Soul." What does it mean to be a woman made in the image of God? What is my calling in life? What does God value? What does He want from me? What do I want? Is that okay? Join this study by John and Stasi Eldridge June 6 through August 15, Thursdays at 10:00 am.

Contact facilitator Cathy Camera for more information and to order your book at \$13. cathycamera@charter.net or (931) 265-5202.



Calling Volunteers for "Game On"

Catherine Robertello

Mark your calendars for "Game On," **July 15-19, M-F**, and gear up for Crossville First United Methodist Church Vacation Bible Camp. We have a great line up of fun, games, music, and activities as shown in the accompanying schedule.

Please let me know if you are interested in joining the worship rally this year. With great volunteer help, our good attendance in 2018 means we can reach higher numbers of children in 2019. Send me a note, email, text, or call. Hope to hear from you! Catherine Robertello: Home (931)788-637, or Mobile (301)613-5429.



Crossville First United Methodist Church Vacation Bible Camp

Game On!

Worship Rally for children from preschool to Grade 6



5:00 to 7:30	Monday, July 15, 2019	Tuesday 7/16/2019	Wednesday 7/17/2019	Thursday 7/18/2019	Friday, July 19, 2018
Bible Point	Jesus cares about me	Jesus gives me hope.	Jesus helps me believe.	Jesus loves me.	Jesus gives me joy.
Key Verse	The story of the lost sheep. Luke 15:1-7	Resurrection	Thomas believed.	Paul and Silas in Prison	Vacation Bible Camp
4:45 - 5:00	Parents sign children in for Bible Camp in the Church Narthex (in front of the Sanctuary).				Church-Yard Picnic
5:00 - 5:15	Pep rally for all in the Sanctuary				Hot dog truck with chips, watermelon & popsicles
5:20 - 5:55	Locker Room/Pre-Game warm up with a sack dinner:				For all children and their families
menu:	corn dogs, chips, carrots & celery sticks, wrapped cookie	Hamburgers, cucumber slices, cherry tomatoes, rice crispy treats	nachos, lettuce, salsa, wrapped cookie	pizza and cuties	With Games Galore
6:00 - 7:15	Tiny Tots ages 3 to 4 (who are potty trained) will go to the children's Sunday school room for Game On activities				
Station rotation	Kindergarten to Grade 6 rotate thru 3 Stations: Pre-Game Warm up, Game On Bible story, and Field House Games				
7:15 - 7:30	Closing Pep Rally for all in the Main Sanctuary				
7:30	Children will be called by name to meet with their parents at the door to the Sanctuary.				
	Child care is available only for volunteers (this includes children who are not potty trained)				
	Please feel free to call, text, or email us with any questions. Cathy Robertello 301-613-5429 or cmrobertello@gmail.com				
	Register in the church office or click the Vacation Bible Camp link on the crossvillefumc.com website				

So Long, Farewell to John Worley

Please join the ASCP Board in wishing fond farewell to John as he leaves as Director of our After School/Summer School Children's Program. The Board is hosting a reception for John on Thursday, May 30, where church members may show appreciation to him for his ministry with the children of our community. Gifts are not expected, but cards, notes, and words of good wishes are appreciated.



We will be in the small sanctuary from 5:30-7:00 pm.

John performed superbly as evidenced by his leadership and commitment in bringing our program to a 3-

Star status, designated the highest rank by the Star-Quality Child Care Program with the Tennessee Department of Human Services. We wish John well in his new roles as he, Gabe, Cutler, and Savannah move to McMinnville to join the Reverend Sommer in her new church appointment.

Garden Club in Rain and Shine

Julia MacManus, Garden Club Co-Chair

Dear Friends and Fellow Gardeners,

Heavy rains interrupted our regular schedule for 2nd Saturday Garden Club workday on May 11, postponing us to Monday, May 13. The change in plans led to a successful outcome from the cheerful labors of four gardeners who filled ten planters with flowers on all sides of the church plus the bed under the engraved stone sign at the edge of Main Street. We added lots of new flowers in the grounds near the office entrance facing Braun Street. Our assembled group included Ann Barnett, John Austin, Ann Grogitsky, and Julia MacManus.

The plan for our **next regularly scheduled workday, SATURDAY, June 8** is to refresh the mulch around the whole campus. We urge club members, both former and new, to plan now to attend because this task will take more than four of us.



A truck load of flowers ready to plant.



John Austin trims roses at the main entrance drive-through on Braun Street.



Julia MacManus plants two pots at the kitchen entrance..



Ann Grogitsky spruces up the area around the memorial garden.



Ann Barnett and John Austin plant marigolds and geraniums under the church sign on Main Street.

For the Beauty of the Earth

Email for Clergy and Staff

Drew Shelley, Senior Pastor
drew@crossvillefumc.com

Louis Davis, Associate Pastor
louis@crossvillefumc.com

Eluid & Janet Martinez, Pastor y Pastora Hispanic Ministries
Eliud.Martinez@tnumc.com
janet.martinez@tnumc.com

Kimberly White, Director, Connectional Ministries and Music
kimberly@crossvillefumc.com

Doug Hensley, Next Generation Ministries
nextgeneration@crossvillefumc.com

Scott Looney, Next Generation Ministries
scott@crossvillefumc.com

Donna King, Next Generation Ministries
donna@crossvillefumc.com

Jill Kemmer, Media Ministries
jill@crossvillefumc.com

Carol Bond, Executive Assistant
carol@crossvillefumc.com

Rhonda Phillips, Secretary
rhonda@crossvillefumc.com

Gregg Rector, AV Production and Engineering Director
gregg@crossvillefumc.com

Accolade from Pastor Drew:

(This message was sent by email to the Garden Club)

This crew is excellent! I have enjoyed many, many walks around the place these last 5 years - usually twice a day or more. The flowers and landscaping are second-to-none my friends. Keep up the beautiful, meaningful work!

PRETEND THIS SPACE IS BLANK

Anne Looney Cook, Newsletter Editor

It waits for you to offer a message of spiritual grace, an expression of faith, a personal experience in knowing the Holy Spirit, a plea, a praise, a plan for being a disciple. The April Newsletter featured inspired words from three church members. Two ways to share your message are through the monthly newsletter and through the church blog called "The People and the Stories of Crossville FUMC." The blog is on the church website in the menu for Features and contains many heart-warming stories. You are invited to submit a message by forwarding your copy to sewrite39@yahoo.com.