

Cross & Crown Weekly News 1-21-18

STEWARDSHIP

CORNER



Reminder: All volunteers currently working with youth and children need to attend the Safety and Boundary Training on Sunday, Jan. 28th after the second service. Lunch is provided.



Strike Up Some Family Fun!

The Young Family Group is bowling today, January 21 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. at AMF Carolina Lanes in Matthews. Cost is approximately \$17 depending on headcount. If interested, please see Pastor Brook or the church office.



Read With Us This Lent

Lent is peeking around the corner, arriving among us on Feb. 14th, Valentine's Day AND Ash Wednesday. This year we'll have our usual mid-week Lenten worship 6:45-7:15 p.m. on the Wednesdays between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week. As usual, we'll also be reading together a Lenten devotional book. This year's offering is appropriately titled, Embracing the Uncertain: 40 Devotions for Unsteady Times. In these unsteady times, travel with your Cross & Crown community through some familiar Bible stories that pose relevant questions.

Sign up on the clipboard in the narthex to receive a copy of this paperback devotional. Price is \$10. If you want a book but need financial help with, please alert one of the pastors. It's available through Amazon, if you'd prefer to buy it yourself. We'll begin reading on Ash Wednesday, so please sign up ASAP so we can place an order.

Lily Pad Haven, Inc. Lily Pad Haven is a program that provides assistance to those who are victims of human trafficking, a growing problem in our area. The Community Care Committee continues to support this organization and are currently collecting new twin size bed sheets. Any color other than white is welcome. Please drop off your donations in the basket provided in the Narthex.

Covered Dish Luncheon

Join us on Sunday, Feb. 11th after the second service to help celebrate our newest members! Please bring a dish to share. The theme is Mardi Gras as we prepare for Ash Wednesday on Feb. 14th. Following lunch there will be a "NO TALENT" talent show. If you would like to perform, the sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.



Sacred Relationships Workshop

Saturday, February 17, 2018 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Explore the question, "How can this relationship help develop my greatest potential?" Or, in spiritual language, "How can this relationship move me toward holiness?" Sacred Relationships may include spouses, partners, parents-adult child, co-workers, even other committee members. For more information, contact the church office.



SEE YOU IN SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:30 a.m.



Children begin in the Choir Room. Then they'll move into learning and crafts time. Middle School and Senior High students meet downstairs in the Confirmation room and the Youth room.

For Adults:

- * **Book of Faith class**, Continues a 4 week Philippians series. Meets in the Cross room.
- * **The Contemporary Issues class**, DVD series by Max Lucado: Max on Life. Meets in the parlor.
- * **E 100 class**, studying 100 essential Bible stories. Meets in the library.
- * **Young Families group** on parenting. Meets in Weekday School Music room.

Please Donate!

A C&C member is having another collection drive and volunteer opportunity to support the Richmond County Animal Shelter! You can begin bringing your new or used donations at any time to the donation box located in the Narthex. Items needed will be posted on the youth board. The volunteer date is TBD.



SAVE THE DATE: Vacation Bible School will be July 23-27. If interested in helping, contact Pastor Brook.

Pledge packets are still rolling in for the 2018 Stewardship Campaign! We've currently received a good response with returned packets. This is exciting news and speaks to the energy and moment we are experiencing at Cross & Crown. As a result of this generosity, we are going to do incredible things for God's Kingdom. Thank you!

Note from our Treasurer...

Thank you for your generous giving in 2017. If you note any discrepancies in your year-end contribution statement, please don't hesitate to contact me at through email or you can leave me a note in my mailbox. Please call the church office for contact information.



An Open Invitation!

All women of Cross and Crown are welcome to join the fun and fellowship at Miriam Circle. We meet the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor. For our first meeting this year we completed addressing and signing birthday cards for the congregation members. Plans for future meetings will include a wine tasting and movie night.

Our annual yard sale is scheduled for April 28 and by September we will be preparing for the annual women's retreat.

New and interesting programs are always in the works as we continue to come together in love and friendship and contribute to the needs of the congregation and our community.



Unbinding Your Heart Starting Soon!

On Thursday, Feb. 8th, a new round of 'Unbinding Your Heart' gets underway. It will continue on Thursday evenings, 6:30-8 p.m. for 7 weeks. Join this group to learn more about your own faith, deepen your prayer life, and become more aware of God's work around you. Not only that, but you get a great meal and a chance to deepen friendships with others in our church.

If you've considered 'Unbinding' before and hesitated, maybe now is the time. Here's what some of the most recent participants said about their group: "It helped me begin devoting time regularly to being still to listen to God." "The course content connected well to everyday life."

"It encouraged me to make my prayers more intentional, specific, bolder."

To register or for more information, contact the church office or Pastor Ginn.



Men's Group "Beer & Bible" resumes Thursday, February 1st at 7 p.m. Join Pastor Brook & Pat for a multi-week study of The Book of Romans. BYOB (and Bible!)



Men's Group Handyman Ministry

The Cross & Crown Men's Group has partnered with COSKids to help single moms with home repairs, installations, or general assistance. If interested, contact Pastor Brook.

VBS & COSKids

This year we are partnering with COSKids to provide a Vacation Bible School experience for 45 kids in their summer camp program. In order to do this, we need help underwriting the \$10 per child (approximately \$450) to cover the costs. We will be using Thrivent Action Teams for food and supplies, so we need a generous donor (or donors) to cover the other costs. If you are interested in helping, please contact Pastor Brook. Thank you for helping Cross & Crown continue to make a difference in our community!



Please remember to
PRAY
for those on our
Church Prayer List

Readings for 1-28-18

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday Night Happenings 1-24-17:

chicken & noodle casserole, rolls, salad & dessert.

SAVE THE DATE:

If you love hockey or just enjoy watching an exciting spectator sport, attend the Charlotte Checkers vs. Syracuse Crunch game on Feb. 18th at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$13 made payable to Cross & Crown. Please drop off your check to the church office. Questions? Please contact the church office.