

# Weekly Newsletter

February 16, 2024



## INGATHERING OF COMMUNION WINE

During Lent we will be having an ingathering of communion wine. You are invited to bring a bottle of Manischewitz Concord Grape wine.

There is a collection box by the Welcome Table in the Narthex.



The first Town Hall Meeting of 2024 will be February 25th between services. Be sure to mark your calendars!



## OPERATION SANDWICH WORKSHOP THIS SUNDAY

Roof Above Feeds over 800 homeless every day through their Operation Sandwich program. The Community Care Team has signed up Cross & Crown to make 300 sandwiches for the homeless on Sunday, February 18th after second worship service (11:15am). This event is open to everyone in the congregation! Come join us after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall where we will put our hands to work and help those in need.

## FLOWERS FOR EASTER

Each year we offer the congregation an opportunity to purchase flowers to help adorn the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Due to supply chain issues with our supplier last year, the Worship & Music Committee has decided to take a new approach this year. The committee has decided to collect a donation of \$20 from those who would like to participate. Flowers will be purchased just before Easter Sunday and placed in the sanctuary. This will ensure the flowers will be fresh and will give a wide variety of options.

Those who donate can then select a plant to take home. If you attend the 8:15 a.m. service, we ask that if a particular plant catches your eye, simply mark it with your name and it will be available for you to pick up the following Tuesday.



This year at Cross & Crown our theme is "Come And See". God is at work, and we want to be a part of God's amazing ministry in the world. God is at work inside the walls at Cross & Crown and outside our walls in our community and homes. With the invitation to come and see, Jesus invites into relationship with our God. Over the next year, together we'll explore Jesus' invitation to **Come And See!**

## MULTI-PURPOSE SPACE UPDATE

Our multipurpose space was flooded over a year ago. Now, we are blessed because it is ready to be used again. We want to be good stewards of this gift of space that God has provided for us. Therefore, we are setting up the space to be used by multiple groups to use throughout the week. No one group will have dedicated space. If you have need for your ministry to use the space on a one time or consistent bases, please contact LeAnne at [office@crossandcrown.org](mailto:office@crossandcrown.org).



## HOMEMADE GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION BREAD

We are now offering homemade gluten free bread at communion! One of our members, Laura Van Landingham, is providing the bread, which is gluten, nut, and dairy free. At the first service let one of the pastors know that you are gluten free and at the 10:15 a.m. service the gluten free bread will be offered in the center of the isles. Thank you to all the members that make the communion bread as ministry to the church!

You are appreciated!



## THE COMMUNITY CARE TEAM HAS BEEN "COOKING UP KINDNESS"!

The Community Care Team has been providing much needed family style dinners to the community. This month they cooked dinner for 30 people in Common Heart's Getting Ahead Program. The families in the program investigate poverty and what it takes for them to rise out of the day to day struggles of living in poverty. These meals provide love, kindness, nourishment and grace and are a joy to the team to prepare. If you would like to participate in preparing a meal for one of these programs we welcome you to join the Community Care Team!

## YARD SALE

Miriam Circle will be holding its yard sale on Saturday, August 3rd. Donations can be placed in the Youth Room on the lower level of the Multipurpose Wing (formerly known as Education Wing). There are signs posted to direct you to the correct room.

To allow for stacking, every donation needs to be in a closed box. Exceptions would be larger household items, i.e. lamps, and computer monitors. Please, do not simply toss loose items on the floor. **NO clothing, please.**

Common donations (but not limited to) include: Books, games, sports equipment, exercise equipment, bicycles, toys, computer equipment, dishes/glassware, rugs, garden tools, linens (e.g., comforters, pillows, towels) small kitchen appliances (e.g., crock pots, coffee makers, mixers, blenders) **PLEASE do not donate items that are NOT clean.**

## SHARE YOUR LOVE FOR ANIMALS

During the month of February, the Community Care Ministry will be collecting supplies for the Humane Society of Charlotte! Any dog or cat beds, food, toys, collars, treats, etc. can be dropped off in the green bins in the gathering area. We also would love the children to bring in quarters, (we encourage them to earn the quarters by showing their love for parents, siblings, neighbors, etc. by doing extra chores or good deeds,) to "feed" the dogs and cat banks. These banks have an electric little dog or cat on top that reaches down and appears to eat the money! Adults can play too! They will be out before and after the 10:15 a.m. Sunday service in February. When the banks have been filled, the money, along with all the pet supplies, will be donated to the Humane Society. **Our last Sunday for collection will be March 3rd.**



## ROADSIDE CLEANUP- MARCH 2ND



If you are looking for volunteer opportunities at Cross & Crown, consider helping with our next quarterly Cross & Crown Matthews community Roadside Cleanup event, Saturday, March 2, 2024. Cross & Crown has been a part of the NC DOT program and keeping the community of Matthews clean for over 20 years. We will meet at the church at 8:45 a.m. **Donuts provided.** We will go over the rules, assign routes, and then begin cleanup activities at 9:00 a.m. Typically most crews are done in 2 hours time. No previous experience or training required. Youth ages 12 and older are welcome to volunteer. Look for an electronic sign up or see Stuart and Julie Moffat (704-517-0272) for more details. Thanks for your support in making a difference for Cross & Crown and our Matthews community.



LENT @ C&C  
Ordinary people  
Ordinary objects  
Ordinary grace

**HAVE YOU PICKED UP YOUR DEVOTION BOOK FOR LENT?**  
As a congregation we are using a devotional reading each day from the book Lent in Plain Sight by Jill J. Duffield. You can purchase the devotional online or pick one up at church.

## LENT FOR KIDS @ C&C

The Children's Ministry Team has put together several ways for you to share the Lenten experience with your kids. They have created a Sunday school class at 9:15 a.m. (room 201 in the multipurpose space).

## THIS WEEK'S CLASS LESSON FOR KIDS: WHAT IS LENT?

Children's ministry is looking for adults to help lead the children's Sunday school class during the Lenten season.

- You would only need to commit to ONE Sunday between 2/18 and 3/24
- Your role would be simply to guide the children (ages 3-12) through the lesson; Lesson plan details with activities will be provided and materials already prepped
- You will have youth helpers in the classroom

Please contact Brittany @ 704.516.4462

## TRIPLE C MEN'S MINISTRY

The men's group of C&C is being re-imagined to "Triple C Men's Ministry". The "Triple C" is for **The Cross & Crown Crew** with the purpose of **C**onnecting Men to **C**ommunity and **C**hrist (**CCC**). This first gathering of Triple C will be on March 17, St. Patrick's Day, at 4 p.m. and we are hoping to have it at the church. We are encouraging everyone to bring some food and whatever you would like to drink. We will have a devotion, use the time to meet one another, share in fellowship, and find out what everyone wants this ministry to look like.

Want more info? Contact Jeff Taylor at [jctaylor3boys@icloud.com](mailto:jctaylor3boys@icloud.com).