



Friends,

There is an old axiom that says: "Never say Never." Why? Because **NEVER SAYING NEVER WILL ALWAYS BECOME YOUR DOWNFALL.**

Peter discovered that when he told Jesus he would never deny him, even if it meant he would have to die. We know that turned out not to be the case. When things got tough, he denied Jesus and said he did not know him. By the time he said this the third time, the rooster crowed, and the foretelling words of Peter saying "Never" brought him down. Scripture tells us that he went away weeping bitterly. Peter knew he had denied Jesus.

You and I have done the same thing. We have said "Never, Never" and our "Never, Never" turns around and bites us. One of the reasons Peter's "Never, Never," came to pass was that Peter was too self confident. There was a lot of pride present in this self confidence, believing he could not stumble and fall. At one level Peter thought he was better than the other 11 disciples. He predicted they would deny Jesus, but not him. Do you hear the pride and self confidence Peter has in himself? It is as if Peter has forgotten where his strength and power comes from. He is acting and sounding as if he is the center of the universe, boasting that he would never deny Jesus. When you and I deny the authority of scripture and the Lordship of Jesus in our lives, we will become just like Peter, prideful and self confident, no longer keeping Jesus at the center of our lives. Never say Never because it will always come back to bite you.

A second reason Peter denied Jesus was that he failed to pray. Jesus took Peter, John and James into the garden of Gethsemane, asked them to wait and pray while he prayed. They all fell asleep, and, even after Jesus asked them a second and third time, they could not stay awake. Peter did not take the opportunity to pray for strength and guidance before he was confronted by the people around the fire while Jesus was on trial. This lack of strength and power allowed him to fall into temptation by taking the easy way out. After all, Peter did not really want to die with Jesus; it only sounded good at the time, and it made him look like a good guy. You and I

will, and do, fall into temptation unless we have spent time asking God through prayer to lead us away from the temptation we face. You see, the time to know what to do comes long before you are confronted with the temptation. The decision not to do something comes long before the opportunity presents itself. This advance preparation comes through prayer and discernment, long before the temptation besets you. Peter did not prepare and so he fell into temptation and denied Jesus. Is there a lesson here for us?

Remember this: Peter's failure was and is not the final word. My failure, your failure, is not the final word if we are willing to confess and repent and accept the forgiveness God offers each of us. In the end Peter is forgiven and Jesus restores the relationship broken by Peter's denial. God does and can restore your relationship with Him, if you want, but you have to come and ask. God

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waits for your decision with open arms. Let down your pride and come to Jesus.

### WEEKEND WORSHIP

We are going to jump to the Gospel of John this weekend and conclude this story. We will see how Jesus restores the disciples and Peter back into a relationship with Him. It is interesting that we open the story with Peter fishing, and Jesus telling the disciples to let down their nets. We then close the story with Jesus telling the disciples to let down their nets once again. In both cases they obey Jesus and they catch more fish than they know what to do with. Maybe there is a lesson for each of us, when it comes to doing what Jesus asks us to do. Hope you will join me this weekend as we close this part of the story with Peter. Next week we will circle back to the night Jesus was arrested and then the following week with Peter at the tomb after the resurrection. Invite yourself and your friends and family to worship with us this weekend.

### STEEPLE TO STREET MARKET AND FAIR.

Looking for you and many others to be a part of this outreach event this weekend. It starts at 8:00 and runs until 3:00 pm. If you are a part of the CRUMC community, we need you to come and offer hospitality and conversation with all of our guests. There will be games for the children along with free popcorn, hot dogs, and cotton candy. So whether you are a guest or a member, come and enjoy the day and the time we can spent together as a community. Let us reach together beyond the steeple into the street as people who are called to love God and to love one another. See you on Saturday.

### CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE FOR GAYLE BALINT

We will celebrate Gayle's life on Saturday, March 17th, beginning at 4:00 p.m. at Strickland Funeral Home. There is a visitation with family beginning at 2:00 until 4:00 p.m. If you knew Gayle come and celebrate her life on Saturday at 4:00 p.m.

Have a great weekend. Keep Jesus at the center of your life, and everything else will fall into the right order.

Blessings,

Pastor David



**9:00 A.M.**

**Traditional Service**

**10:30 A.M. Contemporary Service**

March 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**ALL MEETINGS ARE PUBLIC WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SPRC**

#### FRIDAY- March 16, 2018

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store  
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
4:00 p.m. Finance Meeting (RM 18)  
6:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery (S)

#### SATURDAY- March 17, 2018

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store  
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
8:00 Steeple to Street Neighborhood Flea Market  
11:00 a.m. Annual Mini Farm Meeting

#### SUNDAY - March 18, 2018

9:00 a.m. Traditional Service (S)  
9:15 a.m. Upper Room (Room 8)  
10:30 a.m. Contemporary (S)  
10:30 a.m. Kennedy Disc (RM 8)  
6:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 415 (T)

#### MONDAY - March 19, 2018

7:00 p.m. Bell Choir (S)

#### TUESDAY - March 20, 2018

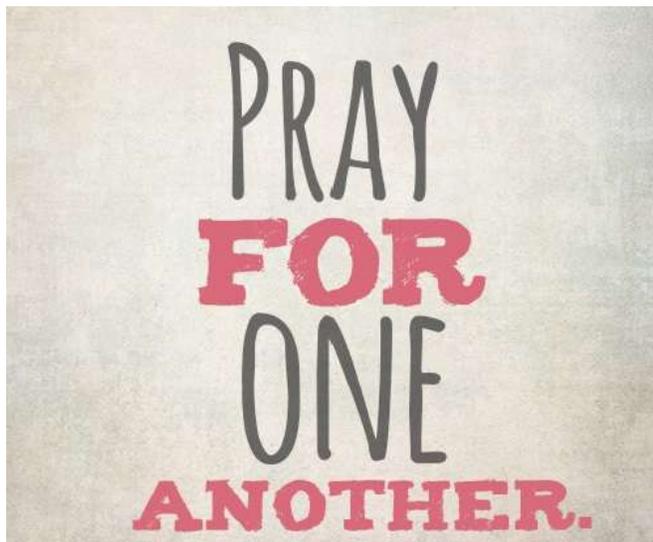
9:00 a.m. Worship Design (RM 13)  
10:00 a.m. Discovery Group  
6:00 p.m. Joy Circle (RM 13)  
6:00 p.m. Praise Team (S)  
6:30 p.m. Cubs Pack 415 (T)

#### WEDNESDAY- March 21, 2018

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store  
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
12:00 p.m. Friendship Circle (RM 13)  
3:00 p.m. Blessings in a Backpack (Offsite)  
6:00 p.m. Youth Group (RM 20)

#### THURSDAY - March 22, 2018

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store  
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
9:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels (K)  
10:00 a.m. Food Pantry (S)  
10:00 a.m. S.M. Supervision (RM 18)  
6:00 p.m. Choir Practice (C)  
7:00 p.m. 4-H (RM 20)



Remember to stop by and sign the prayer cards on Sunday

morning. Then if you would, take the time and write a personal note of encouragement to these persons as well. The Care Notes are available at the table on Sundays. Thanks for serving and caring together as the CRUMC family of faith.

Donnie & Mike Brown  
 Reverend Gene Strange  
 Jo Steele  
 Lloyd Jenkins

**FRIDAY- March 23, 2018**  
 Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store  
 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
 6:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery (S)

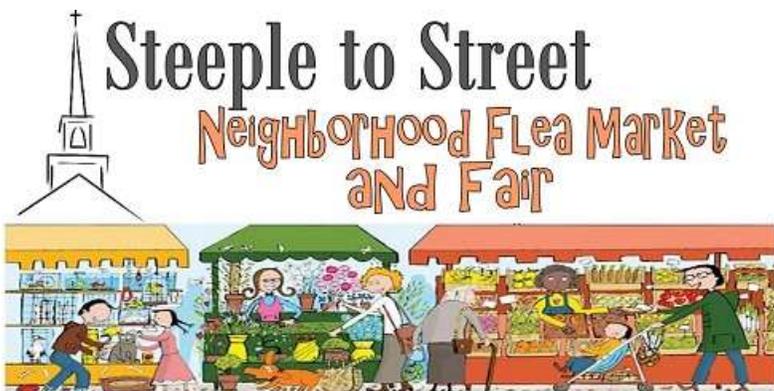
**SATURDAY- March 24, 2018**  
 Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store  
 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
 Steeple To Street  
 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

if you have a change or cancellation of a regularly scheduled meeting/Bible Study, please be sure to call the front office with your information so that our calendars remain current.  
 Thank You!

Sanctuary- (S)  
 Bethel Chapel- (BC)  
 Choir Room- (C)  
 Tabernacle- (T)  
 Kitchen- (K)



A Celebration of life for Gayle Balint will be conducted by the Rev. David Rawls at 4 PM on Saturday, March 17th at the Strickland Funeral Home Chapel in Crystal River. Friends will be received in visitation by the family from 2 PM until service time. Additional services and burial will take place in Middletown, OH.



**Saturday - March 17th 8am- 3pm**

Come to buy or sell  
 house wares, toys, clothes & collectibles  
 Vendors Welcome  
 10 X 10 areas for rent for just \$10

**FREE**  
 Carnival Games  
 Popcorn and Cotton Candy  
 Hot Dogs and Lemonade

**Silent Auction**

**BAGELS, PASTRIES & COFFEE FOR EARLY BIRDS**  
**GRILLED BURGERS & CHIPS**

**Crystal River United Methodist Church**  
 4801 and 5015 N. Citrus Ave - Crystal River, FL 34428

352/795-3148

**Divinely Unique Thrift Store**

352/436-2221

[www.facebook.com/Divinelyuniquethriftstore](http://www.facebook.com/Divinelyuniquethriftstore)



Mon. 9am - 3pm  
 Tues. 9am - 3pm  
 Wed. 9am - 12pm  
 Thurs. 9am - 3pm  
 Fri. 9am - 12pm

# Divinely Unique Thrift Store



5015 N. Citrus Ave • Crystal River, FL 34428

(352) 436-2221

Wed thru Fri 9 - 4

Saturday 9 - 2



Answering God's call  
to serve others

A Ministry of Crystal River United Methodist Church

<https://www.facebook.com/Divinelyuniquethriftstore>

Hello, all you Steeple People,

Steeple to Street is nearly here! Preparations and advertising have been done, prayers for good weather seem to have been answered, prayers for vendors the same, with 20 to date (Thurs AM). Food is on site, setup has begun, Holy Week info flier is made for us to share and there is excitement among all the vendors and workers that we have spoken with. All is well for this to be a great opportunity to share God and our church with the community. If you signed up to work, thank you in advance for your participation. You will receive a name badge lanyard and a pin that says, "I love my church." Ask me why". If you're not working, we do hope you will attend and support our vendors. What will bring them back next time is our hospitality and purchases. Please continue to talk it up whenever and wherever you can to help make it a truly neighborly event.

(Still time to get a table or volunteer to help!)

Blessings to all,

Divinely Unique Thrift Store and  
Steeple to Street Crew



**March 16**

Jean Bush

**March 17**

Lyle P. Dibble

Phyllis Panczel

**March 18**

Cathy Butler

**March 20**

Phyllis Colquitt

Margaret Williams

**March 22**

Debbie Webber

If we have missed your Birthday, please  
contact the Care Team at

[careteam@crumc.com](mailto:careteam@crumc.com)



## NEEDS COOKS

Volunteer just  
Once a month

Please call the front office  
for more information

# HOLY WEEK



March 25th  
 Traditional Service  
 9:00 A.M.  
 Contemporary Service  
 10:30 A.M.



March 29th  
 7:00 P.M. in the Sanctuary



April 1st  
 SUNRISE SERVICE  
 7:00 A.M. in our Outdoor Chapel  
 North of the church - 5015 N. Citrus Ave  
 TRADITIONAL 9:00 A.M.  
 in the Sanctuary  
 CONTEMPORARY 10:30 A.M.  
 in the Sanctuary



352/795-3148  
 Mon - Friday  
 9 am - noon



**March 8**

Marion & Glen Corbin

**March 11**

Christa & Dan Starkey

**March 14**

Judy Fowler &  
 Robert Pate

**March 18**

Nancy & Richard Slack

If we have missed your anniversary,  
 please contact the Care Team at

[careteam@crumc.com](mailto:careteam@crumc.com)



Our  
**FOOD  
 PANTRY**  
 is in  
 need of  
**Pea  
 n  
 ut**

**Butter.**

If you are able please donate a jar or two  
 this Sunday.



Stephen Ministry is an ongoing ministry to  
 meet the needs of persons going through a  
 crisis or  
 in need of care.

Stephen Ministers provide one-on-one  
 confidential Christian Care giving to those in

# Engaging the Future



April 11th @ 6:45

need. To refer yourself or someone else,  
call Judy Leavitt  
@ 352-746-7716.

Stephen Ministers meet every fourth  
Thursday of each month for continuing  
education and supervision.

LIFEGROUPS

Please Contact The  
Church Office for a Listing  
at 795-3148



*Do you love discussing Scripture  
and offering your thoughts on it?*

Then we have the perfect class for  
you!

9:15 a.m.-Upper Room Jesus Fellowship  
(Room 8)

10:30 a.m.- Kennedy Discussion Class  
(Room 8)

*We can't wait to see you there!*

## 8th Annual Sanctuary & Grace House Fundraising Banquet

Please join us on April 5th 2018 at the  
First United Methodist Church of Homosassa  
For more information or tickets call 352-621-3277



Apply for the  
**UMW**  
Scholarship

**CRUMW SCHOLARSHIP TIME**

Members of the Crystal River Unit of United  
Methodist Women are so thankful to a faithful



CONGREGATIONAL  
CARE

Our Congregational Care Team helps to  
connect people in the congregation  
through visitation, phone calls, emails,  
& correspondence.

If you have a need, please call the  
office

@ 352-795-3148  
or email [careteam@crumc.com](mailto:careteam@crumc.com)

family for their generous gift to the scholarship fund in memory of Dana Froe, long time member and leader in our church. When we add this gift to the \$1200 we budgeted for scholarships in 2018, we will be better able to give more scholarships and/or increase the amount of each one.

We encourage our graduating seniors to apply for one of these scholarships by picking up an application in the church office, filling it out and returning it to the church office by April 2, 2018.

Any questions please phone Jill Jackson [563-1066](tel:563-1066) or cell [220-1765](tel:220-1765)



Join us every Friday night for Celebrate Recovery.

Dinner begins at 6 p.m.

Worship follows shortly after at 7 p.m. following with small groups

All are welcome to attend.

*Free child care is available - please call the church office to make arrangements!*

[Click to like](#)  
(Click banner below)



## Discovery Group

Will be making a visit to the Crystal River Archaeological State Park for a boat tour

Tuesday ~ March 20th ~ Meeting @ 10 A.M.

\$15 per person due on the 20th

Lunch at Crackers after the boat ride.

If you are interested in joining us - please sign up at the Connection Point



Bright Beginnings Learning Academy is Accepting Applications for Kindergarten and First Grade.

See Frank Pifer to apply or call 352/795-1240



## Bright Beginnings Preschool

Infants through VPK

WE WILL NEVER CHANGE THE WORLD BY GOING TO CHURCH. WE WILL ONLY CHANGE THE WORLD BY BEING THE CHURCH.

6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

**Enrolling for VPK**

**Monday - Friday**  
**9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Call 352-795-1240**

Lic# C05C10049

**Follow us on Facebook**  
**please Click to like**  
*(click banner below)*



[To view the best version of the message, please click here](#)

4801 N Citrus Ave, Crystal River, FL 34428

352-795-3148

<http://www.crumc.com>



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4801 N. Citrus Ave.  
Crystal River, FL 34428

  
TRY IT FOR FREE ▶