



Dear Friends of Crystal River,

As you know, we have been in a sermon series called, "**More Than Enough.**" This past weekend Rev. Gene Strange concluded the series by speaking on what it means to be generous. What is interesting is that, from God's perspective, you were created to be generous to both God and to others. Yet, there are two warring voices that compete for our attention in our heads.

First Voice is Fear. The Fear is if you give, you will not have enough left over for yourself. We are afraid then of what will happen to us. We stop trusting in God and instead trust in ourselves, and that is never a good thing. We then hoard, thinking there is security in holding on to our possessions, and that never ends well because there is no security in hoarding. We were made to be generous if we will ignore the voice of Fear.

Second Voice is Self Gratification. That voice tells you that, if you give, you will not have enough money left over to make yourself happy. After all, our happiness is based on the abundance of stuff, and if I give 10 percent away, that leaves me short in accumulating the stuff I need to make myself happy. I mean, come on, it is always about me and my possessions. That is true if you allow the voice of Self Gratification to take over.

So as a follower of Jesus, you know these voices, but you also know that your faith is not based on the abundance of your possessions. It is based on your faith in Jesus, trusting that He and He alone is the source and author of all that you have and all that you are. When Jesus becomes the center of your existence, you come to know real "Joy." You come to understand what it means to simply serve as a manager of what God has given you. Then, as a manager of these blessings, your goal is to determine what God wants you to do with the resources you have been given. God expects you to have shelter, and to eat, and to care for your children, but then He expects you to care for the poor and those in need, and when you do, you will be blessed.

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So as we come to the end of this series, what will be your response to God and for His Church? You know as well as I that the church serves as the body in which Christ works to serve the world. So as a community of believers called Crystal River UMC, we have a responsibility to manage the Church, the Body of Christ well, but God cannot work unless you give Him something to work with. So as you consider what will be your response, remember to ignore those voices in your head, and instead remember that God has created you to be a generous manager with the resources He has given you.

WEEKEND WORSHIP

This weekend we will begin the season of Advent. Advent is a time of preparation for the birth of Christ, and it is a season in which we must continuously participate as we seek Jesus every day. Every day is a new day, and every day is a day to open our hearts and lives to Jesus. So it is an action on our part always to be ready.

Two things will be happening this Sunday. In the 9:00 service the Traditional Choir will be offering a musical presentation. There will not be a sermon in the 9:00 service. In the 10:30 service, we will begin a new Advent Sermon series entitled, "Christmas Through The Eyes of the Grinch." So if you want the first sermon in this series, you will need to stay for the 10:30 service.

This series will look at how some people can Steal Christmas, how some can Hate Christmas, how others can Misunderstand Christmas, and still others can Embrace Christmas, but ultimately we will need to learn that Christmas is Beyond Themselves. We will use the story of the Grinch and the people of Whoville to teach us how we can come to know that Christmas is Beyond Ourselves. The Grinch hated Christmas, and the people of Whoville ignored and feared the Grinch. Neither was willing to learn that Christmas was Beyond Themselves. So as we use this story to carry us along this Christmas, I hope you will come and learn too, that Christmas is Beyond You.

DON'T FORGET

Christmas Parade this weekend. Be at the church by 4:00 pm so we can carpool over to the site.

Two different services this weekend as we launch into the Advent Season.

Hope to see you this weekend in worship.

Blessings,

Pastor David



9:00 A.M.
Traditional Service

10:30 A.M.
Contemporary Service

2018 DECEMBER						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						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					

Printable Calendar From 123Calendar.com

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

FRIDAY- November 30, 2018

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

SATURDAY- December 1, 2018

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
9:00 a.m. Our Father's Table
(St. Anne's)
9:00 a.m. Dinner Church Training
(Lake City)
2:30 Celebrate Leadership (RM 22)
4:00 p.m. Christmas Parade
(Meet in Church Parking Lot)

SUNDAY - December 2, 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 - December 3, 2018

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

TUESDAY - December 4, 2018

9:30 Worship Design (RM 22)
12:00 p.m. UMW Lunch (S)
6:00 p.m. Praise Team (S)
6:30 p.m. Cubs Pack 415 (T)
6:30 Finance Meeting (Room 22)



Remember to stop by and sign the prayer cards on Sunday morning. Then if you would, take the time to 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.

Judy Surrick

CHRISTMAS PARADE

is tomorrow!!!

Saturday - December 1st
If you are walking with us
please meet in the church
Parking lot at 4PM

Advent DEVOTIONAL

Advent Devotionals will be available beginning tomorrow and daily thereafter on our website crumc.com and our [facebook](#) page. If you do not have online access and would like to request a hard copy of the devotional, please call the front office 352/795-3148

WEDNESDAY- December 5, 2018

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
6:00 p.m. Youth Group (RM 22)

THURSDAY - December 6, 2018

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
8:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels (K)
6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (C)

FRIDAY- December 7, 2018

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

SATURDAY- December 8, 2018

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
8:00 a.m. Cookie Walk
2:30 Celebrate Leadership (RM 22)
**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)



Bright Beginnings
Learning Academy
is Accepting
Applications
for Kindergarten
and First Grade.
To apply call
352/795-1240



Sign ups for the Salvation Army Bell Ringers will be out at the Connection Point this Sunday!!



Preschool Hours are 6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Infants through VPK

Now enrolling for VPK 2018/2019 School Year

VPK Hours
Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
with wrap care available

Call 352-795-1240
Lic# C05C10049



Divinely Unique
Thrift Store

5015 N. Citrus Ave - Crystal River, FL 34428
352/436-2221

Wed. Thru Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sat 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Merry Christmas!

LIFEgroups

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



MON - THURS
9 A.M. - 12 P.M.
Closed Fridays



United Methodist Women

FAITH•HOPE•LOVE IN ACTION



The United Methodist Women of CRUMC have had a busy year. Through our fundraising efforts, we have been able to award scholarships to 4 deserving students, a campership to a child to attend a Christian summer camp, and donations to The Path of Citrus County and Nature Coast Ministries Dental Clinic.

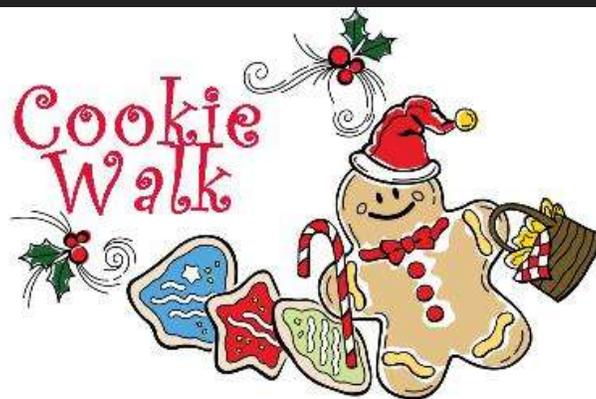
Many of our members act as "Prayer Angels" to the students in the Volunteer Pre-kindergarten Program at Bright Beginnings Pre School. We have 20 students this season and each child receives a special greeting card for each holiday along with a Birthday card if the

birthday falls within the school year, along with our prayers.

In September our Unit was honored to hold the North Central District United Methodist Women's Annual Meeting and luncheon. We had about 60 women in attendance from many churches in our district. We received many compliments on the meeting and our church.

We are approaching our year end and with it comes our Annual Cookie Walk which will be held this year on December 8. Our members have been baking lots of special Christmas cookies which will be sold for a donation of \$10 per 8"x8" box. The sale will start at 9 a.m. and last until all cookies are sold - usually by 11 a.m. Come and bring a friend or two!

We will close out our year with a special Christmas Program led by Margaret Williams at our December 4th meeting at noon - starting with a covered dish luncheon. All women of the church are invited to attend.



Saturday - December 8

Christmas cookies will be sold for a donation of \$10 per 8"x8" box. The sale will start at 9 a.m. and last until all cookies are sold - usually by 11 a.m. Come and bring a friend or two!



November 27

Janice Holmes-Ray

Susan Kennedy

November 29

Betty Mounts

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

careteam@crumc.com



November 5

Ron & Cheryl Bray

November 15

Bob & Clarette Boleware

November 17

Curtis & Linda McKeown

November 22

Thomas & Thomasine
Kennedy

November 23



**Pick your Angel up this
Sunday!**

Bob & Jane Kegan

November 25

Pat & Patricia Purcell

November 25

Scott & Marie Witte

November 27

Gary & Margaret
Williams

November 30

Becky & Brian Mason

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

careteam@crumc.com



***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!



Join us every Friday night
for Celebrate Recovery.

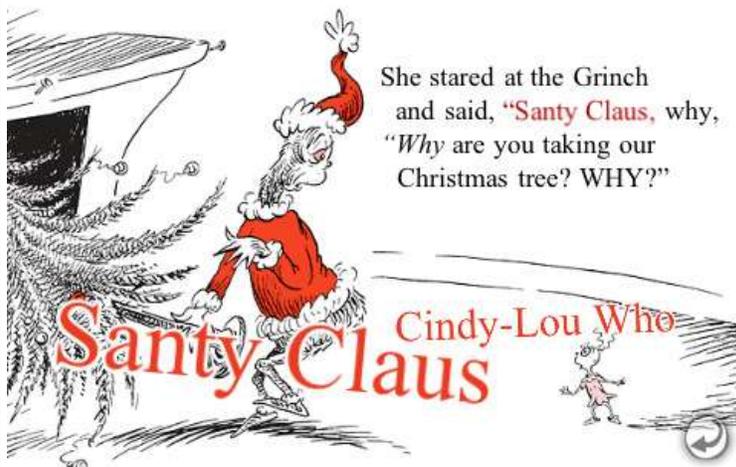
Dinner begins at 6 p.m.

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)





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 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.

[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>

