Toy Wish List

Share a Toy – Share the Joy!

Since 1975, Crosslines has provided a free Toy Store to parents in need to give them the ability to shop for Christmas gifts for their children. Last year alone, Crosslines provided more than 30,000 brand new toys to local children. The generosity of our community is what makes this possible, so if you’re looking for a worthy cause this holiday season, Crosslines would greatly appreciate your support! We are currently collecting toys in the South Atrium.

Advent: What It’s Really All About

It was the beginning of Advent and someone said, “I can’t believe that it is Advent already! That means that I’ve got to start shopping for presents. That means that I’ve got to think about how to manage a family visit. I’ve got to get those cookies ready, and the cards, I’ve got to get them ready, too!”

Advent is not supposed to be the arrival of a storm of busy-ness to prepare for the Christmas season, but we tend to make it that so easily. It’s not supposed to make you feel harried and stressed as you consider your busy calendar for the month. Advent is supposed to be about preparing for the coming of the Christ child.

Advent, which stems from adventus, or “coming,” should be about our contemplation of what Jesus coming into the world means for our lives. If we get side tracked by the Christmas schedule’s demands, we are in danger of losing that contemplation, which means our spiritual readiness will be very low. We need to be spiritually attuned to God’s work around and within and among us. We need to look at our lives as being ready for God to move in our lives in some unexpected way. Let’s consider the people that we will encounter in Advent and learn from them.

When Mary was visited by the angel, she was completely surprised, but she accepted the Good News given to her. When Joseph was told about Mary’s news, we can’t fully imagine the emotions he went through before he understood that God was in control of the situation. Think about the shepherds in the fields who felt completely unworthy to be visited by the glory of God’s heavenly host. Their lives must have been turned completely upside down!

God in the person of Jesus was willing to enter the lives of Mary, Joseph, and the Shepherds. He was also willing to enter the stable and make his first home there. Think about how messy a stable is. The stable certainly wasn’t a place that was prepared to host the long expected Messiah, the Salvation of the world, but Jesus came and made his home there.

Now think about your heart. Is your heart prepared for Jesus? Even if it is not, even if it is completely distracted by the lights and the festivities that come with the wonder of Christmas, don’t worry. Jesus is still ready to enter your heart AS IS. This Advent, open your heart to receive Him so you will be prepared to hear the message of the angels that Christ has come for YOU.

Sincerely in Christ, Andrew
Great Circle
Teen Apartments Update

Holly Hunt, Director of Darr Cottage on the Great Circle Campus, greatly appreciates all the donations they have received thus far to help these young people setup housekeeping. We will continue to collect household items (pots, pans, kitchen tools, towels, furniture, etc.) for these apartments through Dec. 31. Small household items can be dropped off in the Little-Bacon classroom. They are collecting sheets for double beds only. Call the church office if you have a possible furniture donation. Arrangements will have to be made for pickup. Two 18 year old young men have now been placed in apartment housing and an 18 year old young lady will hopefully be in her own apartment soon. One young man has graduated from high school and is currently working. He will attend Ozark Technical College next fall. The other young man is currently in high school and finds himself on his own due to his mother passing away and his father being in prison. There are no other family members. He has scored very high on the ACT college entrance exams and it is anticipated that he will be offered a good scholarship. The eighteen year old young lady became homeless at the age of seventeen and Great Circle is in the process of looking for a suitable apartment close to her high school. Thank you for helping these teenagers get a fresh start as they take on the challenges of adulthood.

Alice Yancey

Crosslines Toy Store

Come join in the fun and volunteer at the Crosslines Toy Store! Volunteers are needed December 11-15 anytime from 9:00am to 3:00pm daily at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds E-Plex. With no set schedule, volunteers can feel free to come and go as they wish. Volunteers are assigned to jobs that meet their physical capabilities as they pack and sort the toys. On Monday, volunteers will set up the tables, so it will be more physically demanding than the other days. We hope that you will join our group, many of the current volunteers are 20+ year Toy Store veterans, who look forward to this event each year. They can attest to the fact that it is one terrific way to get into the Christmas spirit. Contact Bob Smith at bobandhenley2@gmail.com for more information. We hope you can join us!

Heifer Christmas Cards

Heifer International Christmas cards will be sold in the North Atrium this Sunday from 9:00-10:00am, and again at noon following the 11:00am services. Change a family's life forever by purchasing an animal in honor of your loved ones! By giving a family an animal and training in its care, you're giving them health and hope for a better future. Heifer is currently working in more than 25 countries, including the United States, to help families and communities become self-reliant.

Youth Lunch & Christmas Shopping

After church on Sunday, December 10, the youth will meet for lunch in the youth area, then head out to go Christmas Shopping. They will be shopping specifically for a girl they have adopted through Crosslines, to provide her with Christmas presents she may otherwise not receive. Financial donations can be brought to help with purchases. The trip will last from noon to 3:00pm.

Sunday 12/3
8:30 Traditional Worship/Sanctuary
9:45 Sunday School for all ages
11:00 Traditional Worship/Sanctuary
Modern Worship/Gym
Preschool Praise & Play/119
Kids Worship/114 & 115
12:00 Deacons/020
5:00 Youth Choir Rehearsal/202
Monday 12/4
10:30 Binnie Clements Board Meeting/020
12:00 Binnie Clements Appreciation Luncheon/NA
6:30 Christ Care Men/116
Tuesday 12/5
9:00 Tuesday Ladies Bible Study/020
1:00 Prayer Shawls & More/Library
1:30 Columbarium Meeting
6:30 Men's Bible Study/015
Wednesday 12/6
6:45 Men’s Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast/FH
9:30 Amazing Collection Bible

12:00 Binne Clements Appreciation Luncheon/NA
6:30 Christ Care Men/116
9:00 Tuesday Ladies Bible Study/020
1:00 Prayer Shawls & More/Library
1:30 Columbarium Meeting
6:30 Men’s Bible Study/015
6:45 Men’s Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast/FH
9:30 Amazing Collection Bible

Study/015
Disciple Bible Study/116
11:00 Open Prayer Time/Chapel
5:00 College Dinner/FH
6:00 Jubilate Ringers Rehearsal/303
7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal/202
8:15 Camerata Rehearsal/202
Thursday 12/7
9:00 Quilters/FH
6:30 Women’s Bible Study/014

SUNDAY SCHOOL • NOVEMBER 26 • 9:45AM - 10:45AM

FIRST & CALVARY ADULTS

March Fellowship/015
The Holy Spirit
Mary Coulter

Crossovers/016
Romans Study

Little-Bacon/020
The Pursuit of God by Tozer, Part I
Neil Stenger

McClung/026
Advent
Bruce/Shelly Holtz, Ardith Bjorge

Forty-Niners/116
Rediscovering God's Amazing Grace
Tom DenOuden

12:00 Binne Clements Appreciation Luncheon/NA
6:30 Christ Care Men/116
9:00 Tuesday Ladies Bible Study/020
1:00 Prayer Shawls & More/Library
1:30 Columbarium Meeting
6:30 Men’s Bible Study/015
6:45 Men’s Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast/FH
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Study/015
Disciple Bible Study/116
11:00 Open Prayer Time/Chapel
5:00 College Dinner/FH
6:00 Jubilate Ringers Rehearsal/303
7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal/202
8:15 Camerata Rehearsal/202
7:00 Communion service; 11:00pm Candlelight service
All services in the sanctuary

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH FAMILY
Recent Hospitalizations: None at this time
Sympathy to the family of Kathy Garley on her passing
Pray for our homebound friends...
CRESCIDE AT EPAHADDLE 1601 S Fort Ave, Springfield, MO 65807
Harriet Neely #105, Marian Beemer #225
If you need a ride to a worship service or Sunday School, please call the church office, 865-5061, Evonne/FR, or Kre Shaw at 703-719-3071 by 12:00am Sat.
Need Prayer? Call Ellen Van Osdol 882-6521 or call the church office 865-5061.
Collect Box Tops for Springfield Schools: Drop the logo in the jars on the tables in the South Atrium or on the 2nd floor.
All submissions for the Review must be given to the church office at least ten days prior to the publication date and must be sponsored by a ministry or committee. All submissions are subject to editing for length, content and when they are included.
Visit us online at: firstandcalvary.org

LOOKING AHEAD
Special Advent Music worship in the Gym (NO sanctuary worship this day) at 8:30 & 11:00am
85th Annual Candlelit Musical Service in the sanctuary at 3:00pm
Christmas Eve Worship: 11:00am Acoustic Christmas Worship; 5:00pm Family service; 7:00pm Communion service; 11:00pm Candlelight service
All services in the sanctuary