

CRENSHAW CONNECTION

October 2025

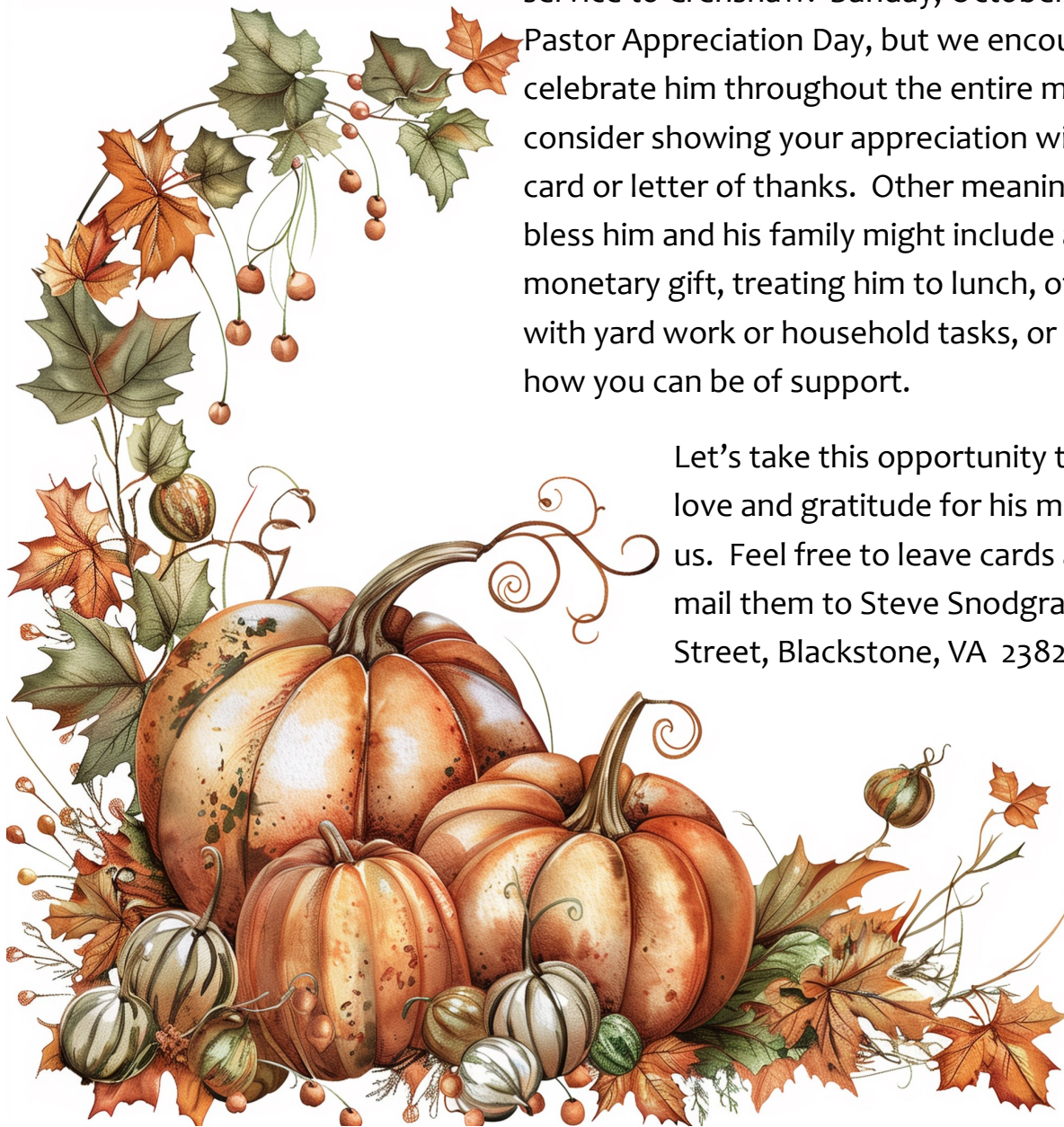


Crenshaw United Methodist Church
200 Church Street, Blackstone, VA 23824
crenshawumchurch@gmail.com
434-292-7711
www.crenshawumc.net

October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

We are thankful for Pastor Snodgrass and his faithful service to Crenshaw. Sunday, October 12, 2025 is Pastor Appreciation Day, but we encourage you to celebrate him throughout the entire month! Please consider showing your appreciation with a heartfelt card or letter of thanks. Other meaningful ways to bless him and his family might include a gift card or monetary gift, treating him to lunch, offering to help with yard work or household tasks, or simply asking how you can be of support.

Let's take this opportunity to express our love and gratitude for his ministry among us. Feel free to leave cards at church or mail them to Steve Snodgrass, 609 Tenth Street, Blackstone, VA 23824



Christmas Decorations

Believe it or not, but we are less than 60 days away from the start of Advent on November 30th! So, planning must begin on how the church will be adorned for the Advent and Christmas seasons. If you feel that festive spirit swelling up within you, let us know, so we can plan together in a spectacular fashion!



The holiday season is not that far off,
and Crenshaw is in need of a

Live Nativity Director

This person would be responsible for coordinating and confirming the families who volunteer for each of the booths along the Bethlehem Street. If you are interested in being involved in this meaningful and exciting event, please contact Pastor Steve.

Advent Devotional

Advent. That time of year in which we not only deck the halls to prepare for the arrival of Christmas, but also prepare ourselves for the arrival of Christ. One of the ways in which many of us do so is in the reading of a special Advent devotional. Now, in today's world these devotionals are getting more and more expensive. So, I thought – why don't we create our own? This year, why don't we have an Advent devotional written by our folks right here at Crenshaw!

Advent begins on November 30th this year, and if we go right through Christmas day, that's 26 days' worth of entries. We only need 26 people to submit something and it will all be put together!

So what do you say? Can you pick a Scripture, tell us a little about how you spend Advent or some special thoughts you have about the season, and write a short two or three sentence prayer to help us all prepare for Christmas this year? Deadline for submissions will be October 31st so that we have time to compile all the entries. Send yours to crenshawumchurch@gmail.com and let's celebrate the real reason for the season together this year!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report August 31, 2025

Income:

Statement of Operations for the General Fund

Income (includes designated donations) - \$27,968.29

Expenses - \$24,369.59

YTD Balance 2025—(\$14,062.79)

Equity and Endowment Fund Transfers - \$15,864.60

NET INCOME - \$1,831.81

Thank you to all members who faithfully contribute each month to the budget! Please contact me if you have any questions regarding the financial processes or ongoing expenses of our church. As always, you are welcome to attend Church Council meetings held on the third Tuesday of each month.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beth Moncure, Treasurer

Usher-Greeter Team Schedule October 2025

| | |
|---|---|
| October 5 October 12 October 19 October 26 | Team 4 Team 5 Team 6 Team 1 |
| Team 1 | Team 2 |
| Kathy McGraw Jackie Reid Bill Reid Tristan McGraw | John Hill Jerry Cole Janet Matthews David Earl Matthews |
| Team 3 | Team 4 |
| Ben Bretz Brian Astle Ryan Nash Parker Taylor | Rob Bowman Carolyn Bowman Gerald Ray Mayton Betty Lou Mayton |
| Team 5 | Team 6 |
| Larry Parrish Libby Parrish Gene Knight Donna Stokes | John Goode Pat Goode Bo Gibbs Bobby Thomas |

Audio/Visual Team

Anna will be on vacation for most of October, so we need some folks to step in and help run the soundboard, presentation system, and camera. Now is the time to learn so that we don't go without these systems in her absence! See Anna for more information.

It's almost stew time!

That's right! Fall is here and the temperatures are dropping. That means its time for some Brunswick Stew! The Men's Group is planning a stew on Saturday, October 25th. So, start getting your orders in to Jerry Cole. And, as always, the Crenshaw Missions team will also have a variety of baked goods available for sale on that day as well! See you then!



Mission & Outreach



Crenshaw Mission Team will be providing weekend bags of food for 40 students at the Blackstone Primary School during October. We will be responsible for 5 weeks, 200 bags to help them through the weekend.

Thank you Crenshaw!



TRUNK OR TREAT
October 31, 5-7PM

Blackstone Presbyterian Church will be sponsoring Trunk or Treat on October 31, from 5:00-7:00 PM. If you wish to participate, please call their church office, at 434- 292-3829.

Cars will be parked in their parking lot.



Bake Sale

October 25, 10:00 AM
at the UMM Brunswick Stew.
If you would like to donate a baked goodie, please let Sue Mayo know. Proceeds will benefit the Mission Fund.



BLESSING BOX

There is a tote located at the lobby door for donations to the Blessing Box. Help provide needed items to people in our community less fortunate than us. Monetary donations are also welcome and allow us to buy the needed items. Food is stored in the room with the freezers in the basement. If you see the Blessing Box is empty, please feel free to add food as you seem appropriate. Suggested items: easy-open cans of baked beans, spaghetti, chili, soups and meat, cereal, box milk, canned fruit, coffee, syrup & pancake mix, pasta mixes, crackers. You may also include band-aids, soap, toothpaste.



FEEDMORE TO CLASSROOM BLACKSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The next Feedmore to Classroom at Blackstone Primary School will be on October 14. They are working on new pickup procedures which we will be informed of later this month.

Blackstone Presbyterian Church will be hosting a Rise Against Hunger meal-packing event on Saturday, October 11, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. This will be held in the Assembly Hall at the church. We're packing 12,500 meals that day and need 50 volunteers to accomplish this goal. Also, volunteers are needed at 12:30 pm for those who are willing to assist in unpacking the supplies from the truck. If you would like to help, you may use the RAH registration link at: <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/BlackstonePres2025>

You may also sign up by calling BPC at 434-292-3829 or emailing blackstonepresby@embarqmail.com



HELP

Volunteers needed to deliver food to home-bound families. If you would be willing to delivery once or twice a month for the HELP food bank contact Trish Worley.



CHILDREN'S BOOK COLLECTION: We are currently collecting books for children in Pre-K and K. They must be non-religious in subject matter, as they will be distributed to public school children in the county. Place your donations in the basket in the lobby.

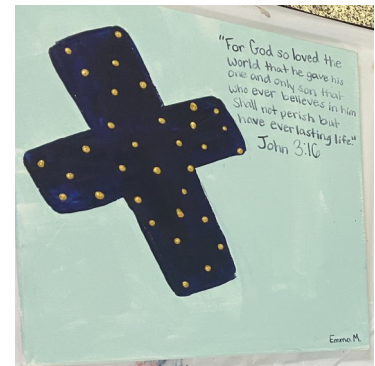


October Birthdays

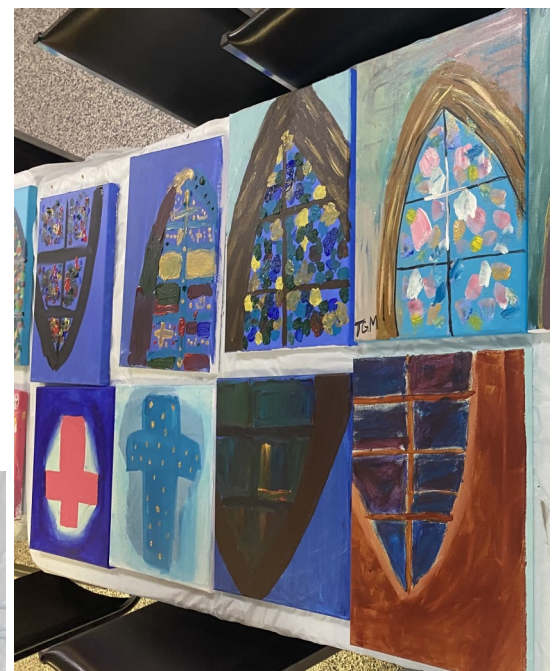
Our birthday list is temporarily suspended as we go through a revision process to ensure we have included all the celebrants!

We wish everyone observing a birthday during the month of October a very Happy Birthday and blessings for a wonderful year ahead.





The youth are back to school in full swing! Classes, sports and extra curricular activities are keeping us all busy. We celebrated the new Sunday school year kickoff with the blessing of the backpack service. Many of our youth and leaders participated in the special service. The youth praise team participated in a praise concert following the service. We had a lesson on spiritual gifts, what they are, how to use them and how to nourish them. We are now studying Paul's letters to Timothy in Sunday school. We had a wonderful youth night, where we painted artwork for the youth room! We have lots of artistic talent!

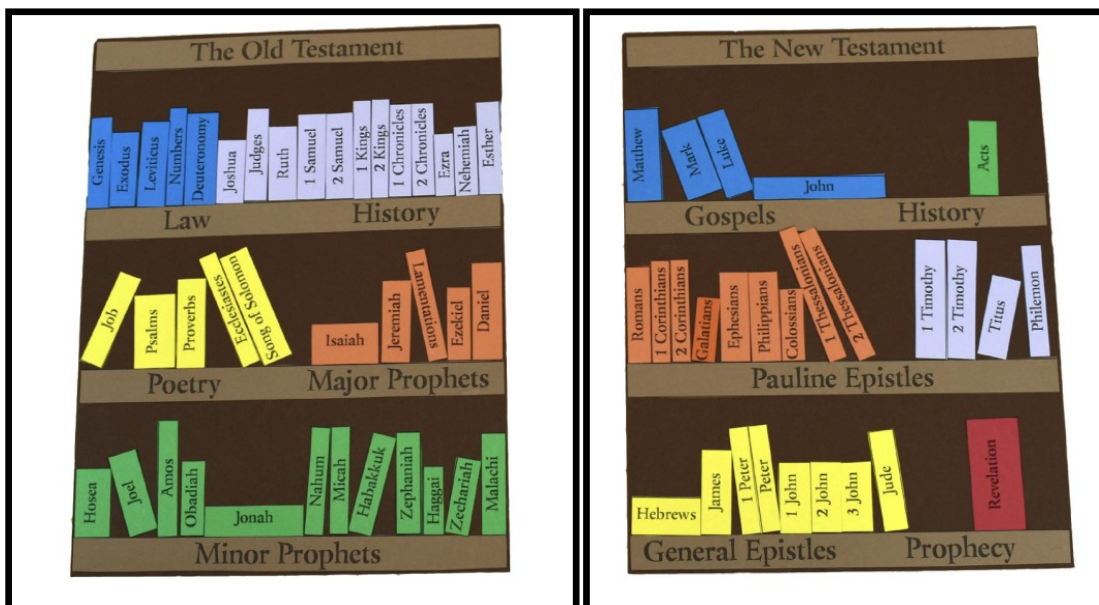




Crenshaw Kids begin The Books of the Bible study!

God wants us to know what's in the bible and where to find it! Our kids will learn how many books are in the bible and how many in each Testament.

Each child will “build” a bookshelf that will contain all the books in our library that we call the Bible.



After we get our bookshelf complete, we will start taking those books off the shelf and learning about who wrote the book and what we can learn for our own life.

Research shows a few reasons “why” children should learn about the Bible.

Reading will help us get to know who God is, His character and they will understand that He is their friend.

God’s word is true. We live in a world filled with fake news. It is challenging to know truth. The bible is true and relevant. It is a light in a child’s path as they navigate this world.

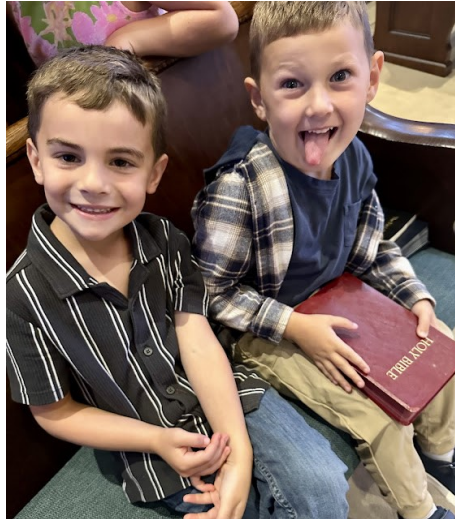
Reading the bible cultivates gratitude and calms an anxious heart.

Reading helps children recognize sin in their lives.

God’s Word is a weapon against the enemy.

I love this one!

Reading the bible shapes what a child loves. Children will ultimately worship what they love. We want them to fall in love with God and fully embrace God's love story for them. Time spent in the Word trains children up to love true, good, and beautiful things.



Happy Fall!

Our littlest angels will be focusing on specific bible verses until they are ready to tackle the larger “books”. This particular project was about “Beeing” kind and truthful and loving and more. These sweet children loved being creative and learning God’s Word.



VBS 2026!!

Wow! What an adventure we had to True North this year! Vacation Bible School was a blast, wasn't it? Yet, do you know how much time and effort it takes to make an event like that happen? In fact, we have to start planning now for it to take place next summer! Yes, that's right, it's already time to start thinking about VBS 2026!!! And, we need your help!

Every year we are so blessed with the turnout of volunteers who dedicate their time in areas like crafts, recreation, dinner, science, Bible stories, and more. But it takes someone to help coordinate all of this, bring it together, and guide all of our volunteers in what needs to be done. Is that someone you? Yes, you! Is God calling you to coordinate VBS 2026 at Crenshaw? Pray about it and let Pastor Steve know if the Holy Spirit is stirring you to make it happen. If we don't hear from someone soon, we might not be able to hold this valuable program next year. So, please pray about it! For God has something special in store for all of us. We just need a special someone to get us there!





Sundays at Crenshaw UMC

Sunday School: 9:00AM-10:00AM

Worship Service: 10:00AM-11:00AM

Online:

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/people/Crenshaw-United Methodist-Church](https://www.facebook.com/people/Crenshaw-United-Methodist-Church)

Website: crenshawumc.net

Crenshaw UMC Staff

434-292-7711

Rev. Steven Snodgrass, Pastor
stevesnodgrass@vaumc.org

Anna Bass, Administrative Assistant
crenshawumchurch@gmail.com

Alice Allman, Director of Children's Ministry
316aliceallman@gmail.com

Lauren Snead, Director of Youth Ministry
Issnead7@gmail.com

Joy Hogg, Pianist/Choir Director
Jameshogg209@gmail.com

Ellen Connalley, Parish Nurse
ellenumc@embarqmail.com

OCTOBER EVENTS

10/2 - Charge Conference, Crewe UMC, 6:00 pm

10/7 - UMM Dinner and Meeting 6:30 pm

10/14 – Feedmore at BPS, 1:45pm

10/19—Laity Sunday

10/20 - Endowment Committee Meeting 5:30 pm

10/21 - Church Council Meeting 5:30 pm

10/25 - UMM Brunswick Stew and Bake Sale to Support Crenshaw Missions