

**CROSSROADS
MINISTRY
NEWSLETTER**

Jan and Carolyn Evans, Editors

UPCOMING EVENTS



Vintage 2017



**Sunday
October 29
4-7 PM**

See details on back page!

**Crossroads Mission
Statement**

Crossroads Ministry
*practices Christian love
by providing basic
human services
to residents in need
in the Estes Valley.*

PO Box 3616
851 Dry Gulch Road
Estes Park, CO 80517
970.577.0610

www.crossroadsep.org
MinistryAtTheCrossroads.blogspot.com



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FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY... AND LONELY

"It's that time of year when hours at work are cut back," she told me when I asked how things were going while greeting her at the Crossroads Ministry front desk on a chilly morning this week. The Estes Valley's seasonal economy means many hardworking persons simply can't make ends meet without a little help during the wintertime. She hadn't been in to see us since the first part of this year, and seemed almost apologetic about needing to return for help with groceries. We assured her that's why we are here and shared how we are glad for the privilege of easing her burden.

Whether it is underemployed persons like this appreciative client, the temporarily unemployed, or households subsisting on a low fixed-income due to disability or advanced age, about one out of every 12 persons in the Estes Valley rely on Crossroads Ministry every year.

Our services will extend further starting in January 2018 when we add permanently or temporarily homebound persons to the list of neighbors who will have access to nourishing food and compassion, thanks to Crossroads Ministry's commitment to running Estes Valley Meals on Wheels. We expect to serve 27 to 40 households per day. (See related article, p. 3)

MEALS ON WHEELS STAFFING

As we continue preparations for a smooth transition of the Meals on Wheels program, two recent developments have resulted in an opportunity to better staff for even more effective services.

First, Beth Headley, who coordinates the existing Meals on Wheels service for the Town of Estes Park, accepted an unanticipated opportunity to fill a position with the Estes Valley Recreation and Parks District. While we were excited about Beth's original plans to serve with us at Crossroads, the hours and responsibilities with EVRPD are an ideal fit for Beth, and we are appreciative of how diligently she is working with us to make sure that the transitions already in process will continue to unfold seamlessly.



ESTES VALLEY MEALS ON WHEELS
A Service of Crossroads Ministry of Estes Park, Inc.

*Special thanks to Marc Coen for the gift of designing
our Estes Valley Meals on Wheels logo!*

Second, in the past several months, plans had already been developing to consider restoring a much-needed part-time pantry coordinator position at Crossroads, a role that was eliminated when job descriptions were restructured in late 2015.

It appears possible to combine this proposed part-time pantry coordinator position with the half-time Meals on Wheels Coordinator position that was already planned, allowing us to secure one highly-qualified full-time staff person as the newest addition to the Crossroads Ministry team. Look for an announcement about our newest ministry team member later this month, as arrangements are finalized.

HOW IT HAPPENS...

Crossroads has such a powerful impact in our community thanks to vital partnerships (see, for example, "Through the Fire..." on p. 3), the support of sponsoring churches, and especially the generosity of many caring individuals, families, and groups. Two fun ways to help are coming up soon: a benefit concert for Crossroads is set for Saturday, Oct. 28, at Presbyterian Community Church of the Rockies (see p. 2); and our largest fundraiser of the year, Vintage 2017, is Sunday, Oct. 29, at the Dunraven Inn (see p. 4). Contact us for more information!



*Rev. Dr. Tim McLemore
Executive Director*

Through the Fire...

—Rev. Dr. Tim McLemore, Executive Director

Even when your worldly possessions are few, losing them all is devastating.

The call came in Friday afternoon, September 8. Captain Corey Pass of the Estes Park Police Department, who also chairs the Board of the Estes Park Extension Salvation Army, explained that a fire was in progress at a local apartment building, and asked that we mobilize the resources of the Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Crossroads Ministry.

At first the extent of damage was uncertain, but things gradually became clearer as I joined local Red Cross representative Bill Howell at the scene, after I was asked to interpret on behalf of the displaced residents. One unit – housing a total of five adults from two separate families – was destroyed, while a nearby unit was smoke-damaged but habitable.

After a brief on-site visit, Bill and I met with the families in the Crossroads Board Room, to coordinate assistance for our distressed neighbors. By 5:00 p.m., the organizations had arranged lodging for four nights in two rooms at a local hotel. Crossroads also issued vouchers for clothing and household items from the Village Thrift Shop and Elizabeth Guild, and for gasoline, thanks in part to funding available through Crossroads' partnership with the Salvation Army. Additionally, the Red Cross was able to provide immediate assistance valued at several hundred dollars per person to help each of the adults with pressing needs.

At a follow-up meeting in our Board Room that next Tuesday, Crossroads and the Red Cross provided additional assistance and confirmed that the families had been able to secure longer-term housing. We also worked to get a much-needed air purifier for the residents of the adjoining unit.

Possessions were destroyed, but hope and compassion prevailed, thanks to the commitment of local churches, the generosity of many faithful supporters, and the labors of volunteers and staff, along with vital and effective partnerships.

Do not fear, for ... I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God...
—from Isaiah 43:1-3 (NRSV)



BRIGHT CHRISTMAS



For the 33rd year Jean Austin has organized Bright Christmas to help families struggling to make ends meet truly enjoy a Merry Christmas by providing new toys, clothing, and special treats for the whole family. Once again she and Nancy Gregg, along with some help from Crossroads, are spearheading this outreach; but they can't do it alone. As in the past, individuals, families, churches, and organizations are needed to sponsor local families.

If you would like to join in this fulfilling opportunity, please call Jean Austin at 970.635.3302. If your family needs to register for Bright Christmas, come to Crossroads any Wednesday beginning October 25 through Nov. 15, from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. or any Saturday beginning October 28 through November 18 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. May everyone enjoy a Merry Christmas!

Sign up to receive the Crossroads Ministry quarterly newsletter by email!

Send your email address to admin@crossroadsep.org. Put NEWSLETTER in the subject line.

Estes Valley Meals on Wheels Banquet

Good Samaritan Estes Park Village along with Morrison Community Living recently hosted a fundraising banquet to help Estes Valley Meals on Wheels acquire necessary equipment for safe food preparation and storage. The event raised more than \$11,000. Nearly 40 guests enjoyed an elegant five-course meal prepared and served by Chef Max Humbrecht.

“The amount of enthusiasm generated from the community is apparent from the fact that \$6,400 was received from ticket sales while proceeds totaled \$12,400,” said Tim McLemore, Executive Director of Crossroads. “The



Julie Lee, Executive Manager of Good Samaritan Society – Estes Park Village, shares remarks.

equipment purchased with the help of these funds will help Estes Valley Meals on Wheels get off to a strong start when Crossroads begins coordinating the program starting January 2018.”

The event’s success was due in large measure to low expenses and the generosity of a number of sponsors, including Snowy Peaks Winery, Estes Park Medical Center, OtterCares Foundation, Estes Park News, Enchanted Florist, and Estes Park Trail-Gazette.

Additional generous donations were made by Good Samaritan Society Estes Park Village and Morrison Community Living.

Total cost for the needed equipment will be between \$15,600 and \$26,600, depending on the quality of the equipment that can be purchased. Thanks to an additional generous grant from the Estes Valley Community Fund, Community Foundation of Northern Colorado, sufficient funds are now secured to ensure purchase of the equipment! For more information, contact Dr. McLemore, tim.crossroadsep@gmail.com, 970.577.0610, ext. 206.



Diners enjoy an elegant meal as Chef Max Humbrecht and staff look on.



Chef Max Humbrecht, Morrison Community Living, leads by example.

CROSSROADS BENEFIT CONCERT



Our thanks to Bob Gunn and friends for organizing a concert to benefit Crossroads Ministry of Estes Park, at Presbyterian Community Church of the Rockies. This year’s concert, set for Saturday, October 28, at 2:00 p.m., is the second such event that Bob Gunn has organized.

The program will begin with some piano variations performed by our own Rev. Dr. Tim McLemore. The concert itself will include many favorite local artists presenting a variety of music from Broadway to classical. The Estes Park music groups Wind River Winds, the Estes Valley Chamber Singers, and The Uncommon Connection will be highlighted during the performance.

“What a marvelous way to spend a Saturday afternoon: listening to beautiful music while helping to raise money to aid those who don’t have enough,” says Gunn. “I want to thank all who will be participating in this concert for volunteering their time and incredible talent for a very worthwhile cause.”

The concert is free of charge, with cash donations requested to benefit Crossroads Ministry. For more information, contact Bob Gunn, gunnrj@gmail.com.

Hours of Operation

Monday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Tuesday: 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Thursday: 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

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Park-158771290860767/



[https://twitter.com/](https://twitter.com/@CrossroadsMEP)
@CrossroadsMEP



NEW Contact Information for Crossroads Staff

Tim McLemore
Executive Director

tim.crossroadsep@gmail.com
970.577.0610, ext. 206

Eva Bañuelos, *Case Manager*
eva.crossroadsep@gmail.com
970.577.0610, ext. 205

Rebecca Gruhl
Pantry/Volunteer Manager
becky.crossroadsep@gmail.com
970.577.0610, ext. 204

Martha Gilmore
Bookkeeper/Admin
martha.crossroadsep@gmail.com
970.577.0610, ext. 202

Estes Valley Meals on Wheels
EVMealsOnWheels@gmail.com
970.577.0610, ext. 207
Direct line: 970.577.9692

Crossroads FAX: 970.577.9690

Crossroads Ministry of Estes Park, Inc.
PO Box 3616
Estes Park, CO 80517

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Vintage 2017

Andy Morgan, owner of **The Dunraven Inn**, once again is opening up his restaurant and sponsoring Crossroads Ministry's Annual Vintage event on **Sunday, October 29, 4-7 p.m.** Proceeds from this fun-filled evening help Crossroads continue to fulfill our mission by providing basic human services to residents in need in our community.

The evening includes heavy hors d'oeuvres especially created by Chef Marty for this event. Along with the amazing food, Andy has arranged for several wine sellers to set up tables and offer free tastings of their wines throughout the evening.

Prizes for the live auction are being collected and include trips and getaways, art, wine baskets, and generous gift certificates for shoppers, diners, and outdoorsmen. For more than 30 years Crossroads has been respected and generously supported by the community for the work they do, and this is Crossroads' largest fundraising event of the year. Consequently, an event like this always receives great donations from individuals and businesses. The auction items are amazing and the bidding is always spirited!

A highlight of Vintage 2017 is the raffle drawing. This year's grand prize is a travel certificate worth \$6,500! Last year's winners, Jim and Candy Sulzbach, took an Alaskan inland passage cruise from Anchorage to Vancouver. Candy said, "Patti Dreiling of Columbine travel made all of the arrangements and what a great trip it was!" Jim and Candy were one of the first to purchase tickets this year. All you need to do to enter the raffle is buy a ticket, and you do not have to be present to win! Cost for admission and a raffle ticket is \$100 per person. Stop by Crossroads or the Dunraven to get your ticket right away!