

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ First time guest      ☐ Interested in membership or Baptism
- ☐ Returning guest
- ☐ Member

### New Contact Information:

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Opportunities to serve

#### Random acts of kindness:

- ☐ Pray for peace in the world.
- ☐ Pray for the people, leadership, and ministry of Two Rivers Church.
- ☐ Donate socks, hats and gloves to Operation Safety Net.

#### Two Rivers Outreach Ministry opportunities:

- ☐ **Donate Grocery Bags** to our Saturday Meal Site & Operation Safety Net.
- ☐ Donate non-perishable food and hygiene products to our Little Free Pantry.

#### Worship team opportunities to serve:

- ☐ **Liturgist** – Assist Pastor with readings and communion during worship.
- ☐ **Greeter**– Greet people at the West parking lot.
- ☐ **2nd & 4th Sunday Ushers**—Open the church for Sunday worship and make coffee. Take offerings in bank bag to bank depository. *(Must be a member of the church in good standing for at least 6 months.)*

### Welcome Statement



From the beginning of the Jesus movement, followers of Christ declared that there is no Jew or Greek, no slave or free, nor is there male and female. We, the people of Two Rivers United Methodist Church join in this movement of the Holy Spirit and declare that we celebrate the diversity of our neighborhood and the world.

We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual and affectional orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We believe that the body of Christ is more vital in its ministry when the whole diversity of the human family may enjoy full participation and leadership in the Church.

We welcome all who have known the pain of exclusion or discrimination in the Church and society, and acknowledge the pain caused by the exclusionary policies of the United Methodist Church. We will continue to work toward a more inclusive Church and invite you to join us in following Jesus Christ on the Way, marked by greater hospitality, kindness, justice, peace, understanding, and mutual respect.

### Announcements for January 28, 2024

**Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Class Room**

**Kids Sunday School —10:45 am in the Youth Room on 3rd floor**

**Adult Sunday School—10:45 am in the Asbury Parlor**

**Discipleship Schedule** Monday Bible Study meets every Monday in Epworth Hall at noon. Wednesday Prayer & Devotion Time meets on Facebook Live and Zoom at noon every week. Zoom Meeting ID # for Wednesday is 961 006 728. The Zoom meeting can also be joined by phone simply by dial 312-626-6799. Once connected, dial the Meeting ID # 961 006 728, and you will join in the conversation.

**Two Rivers Readers** The Two Rivers Readers will meet on January 29 at 10:00 a.m. in the back of the sanctuary to discuss our next book, *The Night Circus*, by Erin Morgenstern. As always, our group is safe and nonjudgmental, and our discussions are insightful, challenging, and a lot of fun.

**GriefShare** The GriefShare group at Two Rivers Church is led by a team that is a combination of laity and clergy. It meets on Mondays at 4:00 p.m. It is open to all – you do not need to be a member of Two Rivers Church to participate. There is a \$10 registration fee, which helps cover the cost of the GriefShare workbook. Each session includes a video presentation, group discussion, and each week people are invited to share reflections in their workbook.

**Fill the Wagon Sunday** February 4 will be ‘Fill the Wagon Sunday’ for our Little Free Pantry. We will be asking the congregation to help fill a little wagon in the sanctuary with items for the Little Free Pantry. Pick up a list of suggested item today from the back table in sanctuary or on your way out in the west entrance.

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Assistant Greeter
1/28	Kala Lee	Doug Stephens & Kevin & Brianna Pollock	
2/4		Candy Canik & Dave Dehnel	
2/11	Dave Dehnel	Jerry Etzel, Roger Pohlman	

Network: Two Rivers Sanctuary  
Password: TwoRivers2013  
[www.TwoRiversUMC.org](http://www.TwoRiversUMC.org)

@RITwoRivers



Donation QR Code

January 28, 2024

4th Sunday of Epiphany



**Luke 2:41-52 (CEB)**

Each year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. When he was 12 years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to their custom. After the festival was over, they were returning home, but the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents didn’t know it. Supposing that he was among their band of travelers, they journeyed on for a full day while looking for him among their family and friends. When they didn’t find Jesus, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple. He was sitting among the teachers, listening to them and putting questions to them. Everyone who heard him was amazed by his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were shocked.

His mother said, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Listen! Your father and I have been worried. We’ve been looking for you!”

Jesus replied, “Why were you looking for me? Didn’t you know that it was necessary for me to be in my Father’s house?” But they didn’t understand what he said to them.

Jesus went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. His mother cherished every word in her heart. Jesus matured in wisdom and years, and in favor with God and with people.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE

GREETING

\*HYMN “All Creatures of Our God and King” #62 UMH (v. 1, 4, 5)

\*CALL TO WORSHIP excerpted from Isaiah 60:1-6

One: Arise! Shine! Your light has come; the Lord’s glory has shone upon you.

All: Though darkness covers the earth and gloom the nations, the Lord will shine upon you; God’s glory will appear over you.

One: Nations will come to your light and kings to your radiance.

All: Lift up your eyes and look around: they are all gathered; they have come to you.

One: Your sons will come from far away, and your daughters on caregivers’ hips.

All: Then you will see and be radiant. Your heart will tremble and open wide. Countless camels will cover your land... they will all come... proclaiming the Lord’s praises.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Ruth Duck (UMBOW 483)

All: God of grace and glory, we thank you that you judge us not by the perfection of our actions, but by our readiness to live boldly by faith. Help us, as individuals and as a congregation, to trust you and follow where you lead, that in Christ your name may be glorified in all the earth.

Pause for silent confession

One: Hear the good news, God’s forgiveness and grace is offered before we even ask for it. The God who knows us well, forgives us fully.

All: We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

\*PASSING THE PEACE

GATHERING “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” #349 UMH

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

\* You are invited to stand as you are able.  
Words of anthem/hymn reprinted under CCLI License

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

ANTHEM “Send Out Thy Light” - Gounod/Mueller  
Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

One: We are about to hear the story of God’s love for the people God loves.

All: May the Words of Scripture kindle in us a love for God and God’s people. Amen.

GOSPEL READING Luke 2:41-52

SERMON “Mary Loses Jesus in the Temple” Rev. Robb McCoy  
RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE “O Word of God Incarnate” #598 UMH (1, 3, 4)

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

\*OFFERING HYMN “Where He Leads Me” #338 UMH (v. 1, 4)  
(All are invited to place your offering and the detached part of the bulletin in the offering container at the front of the sanctuary as we sing)

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, creator of heaven and earth. Who chose Mary to nurture the savior of the world.

I believe in Christ, who was nurtured in the womb of his mother, who made sure he was circumcised and dedicated according to Jewish Law, and brought him to the Temple. His mother Mary called him to public service at a wedding in Cana and was on his mind as he went to the Cross. Other women found his empty tomb and were the first to declare that Christ is Risen.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who filled Anna and Simeon with words of prophecy, praise and evangelism; who descended upon Jesus like a dove as he was baptized in the Jordan, who still moves us to repentance and praise, and empowers us to be prophets and evangelists. Amen.

\*DOXOLOGY #94

\*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE



January 28, 2024

PRAYER MINISTRY

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers for our Church and its ministry:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Prayers for people I know:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I have permission to publish this prayer.
- ☐ I do not have permission to share this prayer.

Prayers for the community/world:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Prayers for myself:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_