

Name _____

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

New Contact Information

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Opportunities to Serve

Volunteer opportunities:

- ☐ Be a part of a team that will adopt a family from World Relief.
- ☐ Help serve at Saturday meal site.

Outreach opportunities:

- ☐ Donate used grocery bags for use at Meal Site.
- ☐ Donate household items to Operation Safety Net (pots, pans, dishes, towels, blankets, small appliances, small furniture that one person can carry, etc.)
- ☐ Donate non-perishable food items, water and hygiene items to the Little Free Pantry.

Worship volunteers:

- ☐ **Liturgist** – Assist Pastor with readings and communion during worship.
- ☐ **2nd & 4th Sunday Ushers** —Open the church for Sunday worship and make coffee. Take offerings in bank bag to bank depository.
- ☐ **Counters** - Monday mornings, help take account of Sunday offering (Must be a member of the church in good standing for at least 6 months.)



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

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 history of 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 May 11, 2025

Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Classroom

Adult Sunday School - 10:45 am in the Asbury Parlor

Youth/Kids Sunday School - 10:45 am in Youth room upstairs

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 dialing 312-626-6799. Once connected, dial the Meeting ID # 961 006 728, and you will join in the conversation.

We Care Gift Bags Sunday, June 8 will be the day our “We Care” gift bags for our senior shut-in members will be ready for delivery. If anyone wishes to make a monetary contribution to this worthy cause, please send your contribution to the church office by June 1 and designate that it’s for the “We Care” gift bags. Once again, volunteers will be needed to help with the delivery of these gift bags. If you would like to help with delivery, please call or leave a message at the church office: 309-788-9384.

Guest Wifi



Online Giving



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May 11, 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Isaiah 66:7-14

Before she was in labor, she gave birth.

Before her pangs came upon her, she delivered a boy.

Whoever heard of such a thing?

Whoever saw such things as these?

Can a land come to birth in one day?

Can a nation be born all at once?

Yet as soon as birth pangs came,

Zion bore her children.

Will I open the womb and not bring to birth? says the LORD.

Will I, who create life, close the womb? says your God.

Celebrate with Jerusalem; be happy with her,

all you who love her!

Rejoice with her in joy,

all you who mourn over her,

so that you may nurse and be satisfied

from her comforting breasts,

that you may drink and be refreshed

from her full breasts.

The LORD says:

Look, I’m extending prosperity to her like a river,

and the wealth of nations like an overflowing stream.

You will nurse and be carried on the hip

and bounced upon the knee.

As a mother comforts her child,

so I will comfort you;

in Jerusalem you will be comforted.

When you see this, your heart will rejoice;

your entire being will flourish like grass.

The LORD’s power will be known among his servants,

but his fury among his enemies.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE “I Will Sing of Thy Great Mercies” - Mendelssohn

GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP, Liturgist: Donna Burroughs

One: We who gather here are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travelers with Christ.

All: Guide us, our great Redeemer through this barren land. We are weak, but you are mighty. Hold us in your powerful hand.

One: We march together toward Zion. We march together nourished by the bread of heaven.

All: Great Redeemer, Strong Deliverer, Bread of Heaven, sustain us on our journey. Amen.

*HYMN #127 UMH “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of Resurrection, you ended the exile and led the people back home to Zion. You raised Jesus from the grave and call us to build the City of God on the foundations of justice, compassion, mercy, and love. We have failed to heed your call. We have failed to build your city. We have strayed from our march to Zion. Instead, we have been spoiled by greed, exploitation, and vengeance. Forgive us for straying. Guide us on the path of righteousness for the sake of your holy name.

<Pause for silent confession and reflection>

One: Hear the good news: as a mother comforts her child, so God will comfort you. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven..

All: We take refuge in the bosom of God. In the name of Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE

Prayer Song #420 “Breathe On Me Breath of God” vs. 1

LITANY FOR MOTHERHOOD AND LORD’S PRAYER

Our father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

CHORAL ANTHEM “Shall We Gather By the River” - Carter

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy Spirit, bless the reading and hearing of this sacred text. Speak through these words and reveal to us the living Word of Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 66:7-14 (CEB)

HYMN #432 “Jesu, Jesu” vs. 1

CONVERSATION WITH MARK: “Marching to Zion”

SERMON

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #733 “Marching to Zion”

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN #57 UMH “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” vs. 1-3

(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)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: One voice, one mouth, one tongue does not feel like enough to praise our risen Lord. My praise alone feels inadequate. I need the help of the Church.

All: O for a thousand tongues to sing my great redeemer’s praise!

One: I praise God for the glory of Resurrection. I stand in awe of the victory Christ has won.

All: The glories of my God and King, the triumph of his grace.

One: I wish I could share with all the world the joy I feel today. I need the Holy Spirit to give me the right words to describe the grace of Jesus.

All: My gracious master and my God, assist me to proclaim

One: May every corner of the world know that the Kingdom of God is at hand.

All: To spread through all the earth abroad, the honors of thy name. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY #94 UMH

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE “Rigaudon” from Almira - Handel

**=please rise if you are able*

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal. You can use the red books in front of you.

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PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK OF
5/11/2025

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 publish this prayer.

Prayers for the community/world:

Prayers for myself:
