

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.)



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 4, 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 Fellowship Hall

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.

Native American Ministries Sunday Today is Native American Sunday. Gifts to Native American Ministries Sunday fund scholarships for Native American seminarians and strengthen, develop and equip Native American rural, urban and reservation congregations, ministries and communities and annual conference Native American ministries. Please look for a special offering envelope in your bulletin and give generously.

Two Rivers Readers will meet tomorrow, Monday, May 4 at 10 am in the back of the sanctuary to discuss the book, “James” by Percival Everett. All are invited to join the discussion.

Adult Sunday School Study Starting today the Adult Sunday School class will commence a five-week study of Max Lucado's *Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World*. All are welcome to join this enriching program.

Guest Wifi



Online Giving



Follow us @RITworivers



May 4, 2025 – Third Sunday of Easter

Matthew 14:22-33

Right then, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead to the other side of the lake while he dismissed the crowds. When he sent them away, he went up onto a mountain by himself to pray. Evening came and he was alone. Meanwhile, the boat, fighting a strong headwind, was being battered by the waves and was already far away from land. Very early in the morning he came to his disciples, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified and said, “It’s a ghost!” They were so frightened they screamed.

Just then Jesus spoke to them, “Be encouraged! It’s me. Don’t be afraid.”

Peter replied, “Lord, if it’s you, order me to come to you on the water.”

And Jesus said, “Come.”

Then Peter got out of the boat and was walking on the water toward Jesus. But when Peter saw the strong wind, he became frightened. As he began to sink, he shouted, “Lord, rescue me!”

Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him, saying, “You man of weak faith! Why did you begin to have doubts?” When they got into the boat, the wind settled down.

Then those in the boat worshipped Jesus and said, “You must be God’s Son!”

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE “Voluntary” - John Marsh

GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP, Liturgist: Charlotte Peterson (adapted from Isaiah 43:1-4)

One: But now, says the Lord - “do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.”

All: When we pass through the waters, God is with us. Through the river, it won’t sweep over us. When we walk through the fire, we won’t be scorched and the flame won’t burn.

One: I am the Lord your God, the holy one of Israel, your savior. Because you are precious in my eyes, you are honored, and I love you.

All: We are tired. We are weak, We are worn. Precious Lord, take our hand and lead us into the light. Amen.

*HYMN #474 UMH “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Resurrected One, when Peter stepped into the water, he was surrounded by distractions and lost sight of you. Forgive us for doing the same. In the midst of anxiety, fear, distraction, and sin, we lose sight of what matters. As the strong wind blows, we often lose sight of the love that can save us. As we sink into despair, we cry out to you, “Jesus, save us.”

<Pause for silent confession and reflection>

One: Hear the good news: The moment Peter cried out, “Save me,” Christ reached out his hand and pulled Peter to safety. As we cry out “save me,” Jesus will reach out to each of us in forgiveness and love.

All: We are saved by the resurrected One 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

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL ANTHEM “We Come as Guests Invited” - Hunnicutt

*=please rise if you are able

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

Music used with permission under CCLI License:

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

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 Matthew 14:22-33 (CEB)

HYMN #432 “Jesu, Jesu” vs. 1

SERMON Prayer, Trust, Hope: the favorite hymns of Mark
“ Precious Lord, Take My Hand” - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

HOLY COMMUNION 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

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Guest Speaker from Argrow’s House, Isabella Qualls

*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 “Sing Praise to God on High” - Edward Broughton

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK OF
5/4/2025

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:
