



2025

# August



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2  12 pm Meal Site
3  10:30 am <i>Community Worship at Schwiebert Park downtown Rock Island</i>	4  12:00 pm Bible Study	5	6  12:00 pm Prayer Group via FB & Zoom	7	8	9  12 pm Meal Site
10  9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Handbell Rehearsal	11  12:00 pm Bible Study	12	13  12:00 pm Prayer Group via FB & Zoom 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	14	15	16  12 pm Meal Site
17  9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Handbell Rehearsal	18  12:00 pm Bible Study	19	20  12:00 pm Prayer Group via FB & Zoom 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	21  <i>September Compass Deadline</i>	22	23  12 pm Meal Site
24  8:30am Summer handbell rehearsal 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Baptism Class	25  10:00 am. Two Rivers Readers 12:00 pm Bible Study	26	27 12:00 pm Prayer Group via FB & Zoom 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	28	29	30  11 am Operation Safety Net  12 pm Meal Site
31 Jazz Sunday w/ Edgar Crockett Trio 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Baptism Class						



a publication of




# Compass



Connect Online:

[www.tworiversumc.org](http://www.tworiversumc.org)
[www.facebook.com/RITwoRivers](https://www.facebook.com/RITwoRivers)

## Worship at Schwiebert Park

### Multi-Church Brunch at Schwiebert Park

Instead of worship at church on August 3, we will join other area churches in Schwiebert Park for a morning of food and Christian fellowship. All are invited to bring chairs and food to share for a brunch at 10:30 a.m. Jesus prayed that his followers would be one, so we will join together in fellowship and practice our love for God and for each other.



### Faith for the Skeptic

A new series will begin on August 10, with a four-part examination of Mike McHargue’s “Finding God in the Waves: How I Lost My Faith and Found it Again Through Science.” This book takes an interesting look at some of the basic tenants of Christian faith through the lens of skepticism and scientific logic. Mike McHargue is also known as “Science Mike,” who grew up as a conservative evangelical, but had a crisis of faith through scientific examination.

Over a period of time, he came back to God, but a different kind of God. We will share some of his insights – some of which might be controversial – but some of which can be very helpful for those who wrestle with these issues. This can be a great chance to invite some skeptical friends to find a place they can find home with their faith.



### Edgar Crockett Trio August 31

On Labor Day Sunday, we will continue the fabulous tradition of hosting Edgar Crockett and friends for a toe-tapping good time in worship. Edgar is an extraordinary trumpet player and a man of faith who loves fun and jazzy arrangement of old hymns. He’ll have you feeling good as we wrap up the summer season.







08/01	Gwen Naylor
08/02	Samuel Bizimana
08/02	Lucy McCoy
08/02	Judy Nordquist
08/10	Kevin Pollock
08/10	Katie Lee
08/10	Elizabeth Tessen
08/11	Kathy Littlejohn
08/17	Rosa Mejia
08/21	Jim Nordquist
08/22	Sarah McCoy
08/23	Dan Dillon
08/25	Ed Bell
08/25	Doug Kean
08/26	Laurence Nkundimana
08/26	Kennadie Dean
08/30	Gerrold Atkinson
08/30	Joshua Martin
08/31	Virginia Payton

If you have a birthday in August and we’ve missed it, please call the church office to update our records.



If you or a young person in your life are interested in being baptized on September 7 in an outdoor service in the south parking lot, you can attend a baptism class on August 24 and August 31 after worship. Those interested in baptism will meet to learn more about the United Methodist understanding of baptism and prepare for this momentous decision. Young people who get baptized are invited to participate in the upcoming Confirmation class as well. The confirmation class will be a more thorough education program teaching students the basics of our faith and preparing them for full membership in the church.

Eden Cohort class

Eden Theological Seminary offers Ministry Cohorts, online learning opportunities for anyone interested in furthering their religious and theological education. Each cohort is a different topic, with a facilitator leading online discussions and individuals in the cohort learning on their own time with readings and video presentations by Eden faculty. This fall Pastor Robb is the facilitator of a cohort called “Complicated History and a Future for Justice.” This will be a fascinating look at some of the ancient church leaders and how they set the stage for modern justice work. Some of the other topics include “Spiritual care in times of grief,” “Psalms for Justice-Seekers and Peacemakers,” and “Visioning religious education for transcendent youth.” For more information go to <https://www.eden.edu/ministrycohorts/>

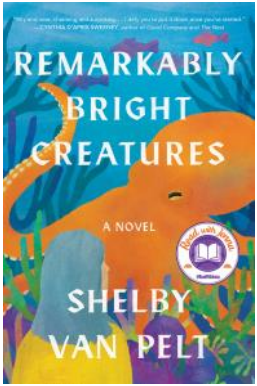


What Does Revelation Reveal?

A new weeknight Bible study will begin on Tuesdays in September. The first study will be “What Does Revelation Reveal?” by Warren Carter. It is an eleven-chapter book that will make for an interesting discussion on one of the most misunderstood and confusing books of the Bible. The Book of Revelation has been mysterious, confusing, and misunderstood for centuries.

Two Rivers Readers

The Two Rivers Readers will meet on **Monday, August 25 at 10:00 a.m.** in the back of the sanctuary to discuss their next book, “Remarkably Bright Creatures” by Shelby Van Pelt. As always, the group is safe and nonjudgmental, and their discussions are insightful, challenging, and a lot of fun. They'd love to have you join them! Questions? Please contact the church Office.



State of the CHURCH REPORT  
End of 2nd Quarter 2025  
Financial State of the Church

Income Total through Q2 2025	=\$151,052.87
Expense Total through Q2 2025	=\$145,016.35
Surplus (Deficit) through Q2 2025=	\$6,036.52
Bank Balances on June 30, 2025	
General	=\$55,243.83
Retreat Center	=\$6,208.22
Dedicated Cking	=\$97,310.26
Ded. Savings	= \$24,434.10

<b>Break Down</b>	
<b>General Church Fund</b>	
Income total through Q2 2025	=\$142,117.87
(General Fund Offering =\$87,289.44)	
(Other General Fund Income = \$54,828.43)	
Expense total through Q2 2025	=\$133,586.51
Surplus (Deficit)	=\$8,531.36

<b>Retreat Center Fund</b>	
Income total through Q2 2025	= \$8,935.00
(RC Rental Fees =\$5,700.00)	
(Donations=\$3,235.00)	
(Camp Milan Trust Income =\$0.00)	
Expense total through Q2 2025	=\$11,429.84
Surplus (Deficit)	= <b>(\$2,494.84)</b>

<b>Balances of Invested Funds on</b>	
<b>June 30, 2025</b>	
Principal-Protected	
Trust Funds	=\$1,723,442.91
(Permanent Endowment & Camp Milan Trust)	

Restricted Funds	=\$422,612.90
(Parsonage & Capital Funds)	

Available Funds	=\$7,295.22
(Undesignated Funds)	

<b>Missional Giving through Q2 2024</b>	
(UMCOR, UM apportionments, UM Special Sundays, Meal Site, Coat Drive, etc..)	
	=\$23,996.56

If you have any questions regarding the financial state of the church please feel free to contact the church treasurer, Brianna Pollock.

Two Rivers  
Prayers Presence Gifts Service

**Remember in Prayer-**  
Please be in prayer for all those in need of healing and strength, as well as their caregivers.

<b>Our presence—</b>	
June 29	= 61
July 6	= 43
July 13	= 58
July 20	= 69
July 27	= 59

<b>Our gifts—</b>	
<b>General Fund Offerings</b>	
June 29	\$1,737.35
July 6	\$3,867.50
July 13	\$1,921.37
July 20	\$2,939.35
July 27	\$2,685.35

<b>Our Service -</b>	
<b>Members of the community served at</b>	
<b>Two Rivers Saturday Meal Site &amp; Operation</b>	
<b>Safety Net (OSN):</b>	
June 28	— 119 Meal Site, 87 OSN
July 5	— 71 Meal Site
July 12	— 78 Meal Site
July 19	— 63 Meal Site
July 26	— 131 Meal Site, 107 OSN

STILL LOOKING FOR  
OFFERING COUNTERS

**Requirements:** A member of the church. Not related to Brianna Pollock or Charlotte Peterson. Available for 30 minutes at 9 a.m. on Monday mornings (occasionally Tuesday morning when Monday is a bank holiday). A rotating schedule will be established. Ability to read sloppy handwriting and write legibly.

**Duties:** Count offering and prepare bank deposit with guidance from the Voluntary Financial Secretary.

**Apply:** Call the church office 309-788-9384 or tell Charlotte Peterson.





# LifeWise STL

Life Skills for Better Futures

## Mission STL Recap

The Two Rivers Youth took part in an Immersive Service Learning trip to LifeWise STL in Saint Louis from July 14-19. The trip included service at the community center, learning about urban justice issues and navigating systems, and fun excursions.

They left on Monday at noon and arrived in Saint Louis in time to have pizza for dinner and go grocery shopping for supplies for the week. The team stayed across the street from LifeWise in the “Rutger House” which housed all 6 girls in one room, the 5 boys in another room, and the two adults in separate rooms upstairs. They shared two bathrooms (with one shower) a small kitchen and a meeting room. It was small, but big enough for hide and seek almost every night.

The Saint Louis summer was in full effect all week and staying cool wasn’t always easy, especially when the crew was helping sort merchandise for the LifeWise Holiday bazaar in public storage facilities, washing their four 15-passenger vans, or cleaning out the garage. Most of the service projects were done in the morning. The group would head back to the house to cleanup and have lunch. Then Dan, the Lifewise director of civic engagement, would lead the group in a learning activity.

One day the kids had to do a computer simulation to navigate difficult choices families living under the poverty line have to make. Another day, they learned about SNAP benefits and had to budget for a week of meal prep. They then went to Aldi to do some shopping with their meal plan. Another activity was playing Monopoly - with a more realistic, and less level, playing field. The group learned some real-life lessons about generational wealth and systemic oppression.

The fun activities included a trip to the Saint Louis Art Museum, the City Museum, the Saint Louis Zoo, a ride to the top of the Gateway Arch, and dinner at Fitz’s root beer bottling company and restaurant.

Most agreed however, that the highlight of the trip was spending time at the Freedom School, where our youth spent the “Harambe” time with the kids from the school. The 30-minute session to start each day included uplifting chants, a read-aloud, and an inspirational song called “Something Inside So Strong.” The kids loved the positivity and energy that the kids from Freedom School brought each day. They also spent a morning playing in the water table with the toddlers and the playground with the age 3-4 preschoolers.

The group also shared reflections each night and morning devotions. They read from Luke 10, when Jesus sent out 72 to go into the world and share the gospel. They made connections between the work they did at Lifewise and Jesus’ first disciples going into the world to heal and share the good news of love and generosity.





CHOIR REHEARSALS  
START WEDNESDAY  
AUGUST 13TH



HANDBELLS  
AT 6:00PM  
CHOIR  
AT 7:30PM



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Dear Two Rivers Methodist Congregation,

My name is Jon Hansen, and I am honored and excited to be joining you as your new Director of Music!

Music has been a central part of my life and faith journey, and I am super grateful for the opportunity to share that passion here at Two Rivers. I'm currently in my senior year at Augustana College, where I've had the privilege of being actively involved in several of the college's music ensembles. I sing in both the Augustana Choir and the Augustana Chamber Singers, and I also perform with the Ascension Ringers, our handbell ensemble.

In addition to my college experience, I previously worked as a music intern at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Bettendorf, Iowa, where I was blessed to work alongside talented church musicians and worship leaders. My time there helped shape not only my musical skills but also my excitement for music in ministry.

One of my favorite things about music is not only the bond it creates among people, but the joy it can spread throughout a community. My goal as Music Director is to foster a welcoming, tight-knit environment where we support each other, grow together, and bring out the best in our music ministry, both personally and musically.

Looking towards the future, I am very excited to get to know all of you, whether you're part of the choir, the worship team, the congregation, or someone considering getting involved. Please feel free to reach out, introduce yourself, and share your story or your musical interests. I would love to hear from you!

Thank you for welcoming me into your community. I'm truly looking forward to all the things we'll create together through music and worship.

Sincerely,

Jon Hansen  
Music Director  
Two Rivers Methodist Church, Rock Island  
jon55hansen19@gmail.com



### Prayer Chain

If you want the prayer chain to pray for your concern or you wish to be part of this prayer ministry, please call one of the persons listed below. They will alert the remaining chain members.



Charlotte Peterson 793-7783  
Nancy Schwegler 781-6609



### Online Giving at Tworiversumc.org

**1. Website Giving:**  
Go to [www.tworiversumc.org](http://www.tworiversumc.org) to give through the church website. It's a safe and easy way to give any time.



Two Rivers  
Donate QR Code

**OR**  
**2. Tithe.ly Giving App:**  
Download the Tithe.ly App from the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play Store (Android). Once you've downloaded the app select your church and follow the instructions given.

#### Pastor

Rev. Robb McCoy  
[mccoy@tworiversumc.org](mailto:mccoy@tworiversumc.org)

#### Church Office Manager

Brianna Pollock  
[office@tworiversumc.org](mailto:office@tworiversumc.org)

#### Director of Music

Jonathan Hansen  
[jon55hansen19@gmail.com](mailto:jon55hansen19@gmail.com)

#### Accompanist

Russell Rursch

#### Volunteer Financial Secretary

Charlotte Peterson  
[chari728@aol.com](mailto:chari728@aol.com)

#### Church Custodian

Brianna Pollock

#### Camp Milan Caretaker

Kent Hessman

#### Ministers

All of us

### Newsletter deadline

The deadline for items for the **September** issue of the *Compass* is **Thursday, August 21, 2025**. Please have information or articles in by this deadline date. Thank you.



### 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.

1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201

Office Phone: (309) 788-9384 email: [office@tworiversumc.org](mailto:office@tworiversumc.org)

Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 8 am—2 pm

Connect Online: [www.tworiversumc.org](http://www.tworiversumc.org) — [www.facebook.com/RITwoRivers](https://www.facebook.com/RITwoRivers) — [twitter.com/RITwoRivers](https://twitter.com/RITwoRivers)