

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 our World Relief Good Neighbor Team that is assisting a family settling into the community.
- ☐ 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:

- ☐ **Counters - Monday mornings, help take account of Sunday offering (Must be a member of the church in good standing for at least 6 months.)**
- ☐ **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.



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 August 10, 2025

**Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Classroom**  
**Youth/Kids Sunday School - 10:45 am**

#### Discipleship Schedule

Monday Bible Study meets at noon in Epworth Hall. 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.

**Two Rivers Music Ministries Starting up Wednesday, August 13th!** If you are interested in making beautiful music with great friends, consider being a part of our sanctuary choir and/or handbell choir. No experience necessary. Choir rehearsals begin August 13th. Handbells rehearse at 6pm and Choir rehearsal starts at 7:30pm. Hope to see you there!

**Baptism Classes August 24 and August 31** 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.

Guest Wifi



Online Giving



Follow us @RITworivers



9th Sunday after Pentecost, August 10, 2025

### Job 37:1-7

Then the Lord answered Job from the whirlwind:

Who is this darkening counsel

with words lacking knowledge?

Prepare yourself like a man;

I will interrogate you, and you will respond to me.

Where were you when I laid the earth's foundations?

Tell me if you know.

Who set its measurements? Surely you know.

Who stretched a measuring tape on it?

On what were its footings sunk;

who laid its cornerstone,

while the morning stars sang in unison

and all the divine beings shouted?

### Colossians 1:15-17

The Son is the image of the invisible God,

the one who is first over all creation,

Because all things were created by him:

both in the heavens and on the earth,

the things that are visible and the things that are invisible.

Whether they are thrones or powers,

or rulers or authorities,

all things were created through him and for him.

He existed before all things,

and all things are held together in him.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE “I Will Sing of Thy Great Mercies” - Mandelssohn / arr. Lani Smith

INTRODUCTION

Music Director Jon Hansen

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

(adapted Colossians 1:3-10)

Liturgist: Meghan Cooley

One:

We always give thanks to God for you. Since we heard of your faith and your love for all God’s people. We haven’t stopped praying for you and asking you to be filled with the knowledge of God’s will, with all wisdom and spiritual understanding.

All:

We seek spiritual understanding and pursue scientific wisdom. These things are not mutually exclusive. We know God better by knowing the world God created.

One:

We are striving to live lives that are worthy of the Lord and pleasing to him in every way, by producing every good work and growing in knowledge of God.

All:

We love God’s people by loving the pursuit of knowledge. Amen.

\*HYMN #152 UMH

“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of stars and synapses, help us to wade into the mystery of Creation and bridge divides that should have never been built. Forgive us for times when faith and knowledge felt at odds. Forgive us for falling for culture-war tactics that create false dichotomies and make us feel foolish for embracing mystery. Dispel easy answers and lead us into a deeper faith.

<Pause for silent confession and reflection>

One: Hear the good news: Jesus told us to love God with our whole mind. We can trust that the pursuit of knowledge and the pursuit of God can be held together in mystery and grace.

All: Through the grace of the Lord, we take courage in one another and build one another up in forgiveness and love. Amen.

\*PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER SONG #507 UMH

“Through It All”

PASTORAL PRAYER 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

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Whirling Leaves” - Simon Cooley, piano  
“The Stormy Sea” - Bennet Cooley, piano

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

Job 38:1-7, Colossians 1:15-17 (CEB)

SERMON

“God: Einstein and Chaos” by Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #144

“This is My Father’s World”

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

\*HYMN #2056 FWS

“God is So Good” (Mungu u mwema)

(All are invited to place your offering and the detached part of the bulletin in the offering basin at the front as we sing)

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God who laid the earth’s foundations and set its measurements, we give thanks for our place in the universe. We are humbled by the vastness of the cosmos. We are in awe of the complexity of a single particle. We marvel at the intricate dance of matter and energy, planets and stars, waves and particles, electrons and neutrons.

Every breath we take is a gift, so we will use the gifts you gave us to maximize our understanding of your creation. We will investigate and wonder. We will demand evidence and embrace mystery. We will pursue knowledge and hold onto faith. We will live fully into our humanity and embrace our place in Creation.

In the name of the Son who is the image of the invisible God, the one who is first over all creation, we pray. Amen.

\*DOXOLOGY #94 UMH

\*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE “Fugue in G Major” - J.S. Bach

\*=please rise if you are able

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (red book) FWS = Faith We Sing (black book).

Music used with permission under CCLI License:

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK

August 10, 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: