

Name _____

☐ First time guest

☐ Returning guest

☐ Interested in baptism or membership

☐ Member

New Contact Information

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Opportunities to Serve

Request for a student Bible

- ☐ My student (in third through 8th grade) needs a Bible and we will be here on August 31.
- ☐ Name, age of student:

September 7 helpers:

- ☐ Help set up chairs for outside worship

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 17, 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.

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.

Jazz Sunday, 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.

Guest Wifi



Online Giving



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10th Sunday after Pentecost, August 17, 2025

Psalm 13

How long will you forget me, Lord? Forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
How long will I be left to my own wits,
agony filling my heart? Daily?
How long will my enemy keep defeating me?

Look at me!
Answer me, Lord my God!
Restore sight to my eyes!
Otherwise, I'll sleep the sleep of death,
and my enemy will say, "I won!"
My foes will rejoice over my downfall.

But I have trusted in your faithful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
Yes, I will sing to the Lord
because he has been good to me.

Romans 8:26-27

In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness. We don't know what we should pray, but the Spirit himself pleads our case with unexpressed groans. The one who searches hearts knows how the Spirit thinks, because he pleads for the saints, consistent with God's will.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE “Hymn of Promise” - Natalie Sleeth

GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 143:1, 7-10)

Liturgist: David Martin

One: Listen to my prayer, LORD. Because of your faithfulness, hear my requests for mercy. Because of your righteousness, answer me.

All: Answer me LORD, and quickly. My breath is fading. Do not hide your face from me or I will be like those going down to the pit..

One: Tell me about your faithful love come morning time because I trust you. Show me the way I should go because I offer my life up to you.

All: Deliver me from my enemies, LORD. I seek protection from you. Teach me to do what pleases you, because you are my God. Guide me by your good spirit into good land. Amen.

*HYMN #2128 FWS “Come and Find the Quiet Center”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Holy and Gracious God, even when we can accept your divine transcendence, it can be difficult to understand your place in our lives. There are times when we feel you have forsaken us. Even if we believe that you exist, it is difficult sometimes to feel that you care. We pray for peace, and there is war. We pray for food, and there is hunger. We pray for healing, and every day loved ones die of disease. We confess that it is difficult to believe. Help our unbelief.

<Pause for silent confession and reflection>

One: Hear the good news: Trust in God’s faithful love. Though Christ felt forsaken on the Cross, still he rose so we all may have life.

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 “Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone”
Myka Walljasper, piano and voice.

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 Psalm 13 & Romans 8:26-27 (CEB)

SERMON “Prayer: Presence over Performance” by Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #480 UHM “O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go” vs. 1-3

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 “Hornpipe” - G.F. Handel

*=please rise if you are able

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

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PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK
August 17, 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:

