

Name _____

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

New Contact Information

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Opportunities to Serve

Register for Confirmation

- ☐ My student (in 6th through 12th grade) wants to be a part of the Confirmation Class
- ☐ I want to be a volunteer or mentor to help with the Confirmation class.

Baptism Sunday (September 7):

- ☐ I want to be baptized or renew my baptism.
- ☐ I can 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 24, 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.

Two Rivers Readers will meet tomorrow, Monday, August 25 at 10 am in the back of the sanctuary to discuss the book, “Remarkably Bright Creatures” by Shelby Van Pelt. All are invited to join the discussion.

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 Follow us @RITworivers



11th Sunday after Pentecost, August 24, 2025

Luke 7:36-50

One of the Pharisees invited Jesus to eat with him. After he entered the Pharisee's home, he took his place at the table. Meanwhile, a woman from the city, a sinner, discovered that Jesus was dining in the Pharisee's house. She brought perfumed oil in a vase made of alabaster. Standing behind him at his feet and crying, she began to wet his feet with her tears. She wiped them with her hair, kissed them, and poured the oil on them. When the Pharisee who had invited Jesus saw what was happening, he said to himself, If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. He would know that she is a sinner.

Jesus replied, “Simon, I have something to say to you.”

“Teacher, speak,” he said.

“A certain lender had two debtors. One owed enough money to pay five hundred people for a day's work. The other owed enough money for fifty. When they couldn't pay, the lender forgave the debts of them both. Which of them will love him more?”

Simon replied, “I suppose the one who had the largest debt canceled.”

Jesus said, “You have judged correctly.”

Jesus turned to the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? When I entered your home, you didn't give me water for my feet, but she wet my feet with tears and wiped them with her hair. You didn't greet me with a kiss, but she hasn't stopped kissing my feet since I came in. You didn't anoint my head with oil, but she has poured perfumed oil on my feet. This is why I tell you that her many sins have been forgiven; so she has shown great love. The one who is forgiven little loves little.”

Then Jesus said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”

The other table guests began to say among themselves, “Who is this person that even forgives sins?”

Jesus said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.”

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE “Come, Christians, Join to Sing” - arr. Bill Ingram
Multi-generational Summer Handbell Choir

GREETING
*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Phil 2:6-11) Liturgist: Sarah McCoy
One: Beloved friends, we are called to adopt the attitude that was in Jesus:
All: Though he was in the form of God, he did not consider being equal with God as something to exploit.
One: What did Christ do?
All: He emptied himself by taking the form of a slave and by becoming like human beings. Then he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even on a cross.
One: So what happens, next?
All: God highly honors him, gives him a name above all names, and one day all will call upon Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*HYMN #171 UMH “There’s Something About That Namer”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION
All: Reconciling God, the sins that put Jesus on the Cross were the sins of imperialism, racism, sexism, and greed. It was a violent act of the powerful to quash a movement of love, generosity, and compassion. We still fall into these sins. In systems, in society, and in our own hearts. When we seek forgiveness, we are declaring that our sin does not rule us and the world’s sin does not conquer.
<Pause for silent confession and reflection>

One: Hear the good news: when we seek forgiveness and repent we live into Christ’s resurrection and we declare the Kingdom of God is at hand.
All: In the name of Jesus Christ who once died but now is risen, we are forgiven. Praise be to God. 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 “Come Follow Me” - Jay Althouse
Tamara Baugh, soprano

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 Luke 7:36-50 (CEB)

SERMON “Jesus: Incarnation over Atonement” by Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #177 UHM “He Is Lord” (repeat)

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 “Voluntary” - Sanders Dupuis/ arr. Rick Parks
*=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 24, 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:

