

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 31, 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 Class 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 after worship today. 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.

September 7 Outdoor Worship On September 7, weather permitting, we will meet for worship outside in the south parking lot. As United Methodists, we understand that God can use any amount of water for baptism. Yet the symbolism of being fully submerged is a powerful experience. We will have multiple baptisms in one service as we conclude our Finding Faith for the Skeptic series. Helpers are needed to set up chairs, a sound system, and put things away. We will not share Communion, but will on September 14.

Guest Wifi



Online Giving Follow us @RITworivers



12th Sunday after Pentecost, August 31, 2025

2 Timothy 3:15-17

Since childhood you have known the holy scriptures that help you to be wise in a way that leads to salvation through faith that is in Christ Jesus. Every scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing mistakes, for correcting, and for training character, so that the person who belongs to God can be equipped to do everything that is good.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE “Amazing Grace”

Edgar Crockett Trio

GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(adapted from PSalm 119)

Liturgist: Liam and Jude Muir

One: Your word is a lamp before my feet and a light for my journey.

All: I have sworn, and I fully mean it, I will keep your righteous rules

One: I have been suffering so much, Lord let me live again

All: Please Lord, accept this gift of praise. Teach me your rules

One: Though my life is constantly in danger, I won’t forget your instruction.

All: I have decided to keep your statutes forever. Amen

*HYMN #526 UMH “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Gracious God, we are a people of the Bible, and should use your Holy Scriptures to teach, correct, and train people of faith so that we may excel at doing good. Too often however, the Church has used the Bible to justify harm, excuse dehumanization, and inspire fear. The Church needs to repent for the times we have the Bible to prop up our own prejudices instead of liberate the marginalized. Help us to read Scripture through the lens of Christ, so we may come to a deeper understanding of who we are in connection with God.

<Pause for silent confession and reflection>

One: Hear the good news: The Word of God was made flesh in Christ, and we who follow him are forgiven by his love and grace.

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 #474 “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

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.

*=please rise if you are able

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

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PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

MUSICAL OFFERING “Old Rugged Cross”

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 2 Timothy 3:15-17 (CEB)

SERMON “Bible: Human hands and God’s breath” by Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #191 UHM “Jesus Loves Me”

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*OFFERTORY “Pennies from Heaven”

(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.

*CLOSING HYMN #2158 FWS “Just a Closer Walk With Thee”

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE “When the Saints Go Marching In”

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK

August 31, 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:
