

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Change Making

In this third week of focusing on being Changemakers in the tradition of Jesus, we call upon our creativity. We don't have to come up with a grand scheme to obliterate injustice, no matter how much we wish we could. We are thinking of things that could make a small, ordinary, but important difference in our community, in people's lives.

- What is something you like to create? Bake, cooke, craft, sew, write?
- What is some small thing you could do that might make someone's life a little better?



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 September 28, 2025

Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Classroom
Youth/Kids Sunday School - 10:45 am K-5 grade in the Nursery & 6-12 grade in the 3rd Floor Youth Room
Adult Sunday School - 10:45 am in Asbury Parlor

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.

Next Sunday is World Communion Sunday World Communion Sunday offerings fund graduate racial-ethnic World Communion Scholarships. Donations also provide for undergraduate U.S. Ethnic Scholarship and Ethnic In-Service Training programs. Please look for the special offering envelope in your October 5 worship bulletin. Thank you in advance for your gifts to this special offering.

We Need Your Help Our Little Free Pantry and Meal Site funds are running low, and we need your help to continue serving those in need. Your donations—both monetary and non-perishable food items—are vital to sustaining these efforts. A list of needed pantry items is available at the back of the sanctuary, the west entrance, and the handicap-accessible entrance. Monetary contributions can be placed in the offering with “Meal Site” noted on the envelope. Thank you for helping us care for our neighbors.

Guest Wifi



Online Giving



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TWO RIVERS CHURCH
A RECONCILING UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

16th Sunday after Pentecost, September 28, 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. ³⁷ 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. ³⁸ 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. ³⁹ 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.

⁴⁰ Jesus replied, “Simon, I have something to say to you.”
“Teacher, speak,” he said.

⁴¹ “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. ⁴² When they couldn't pay, the lender forgave the debts of them both. Which of them will love him more?”

⁴³ Simon replied, “I suppose the one who had the largest debt canceled.”
Jesus said, “You have judged correctly.”

⁴⁴ 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. ⁴⁵ You didn't greet me with a kiss, but she hasn't stopped kissing my feet since I came in. ⁴⁶ You didn't anoint my head with oil, but she has poured perfumed oil on my feet. ⁴⁷ 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.”

⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”

⁴⁹ The other table guests began to say among themselves, “Who is this person that even forgives sins?”

⁵⁰ Jesus said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.”

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE

GREETING

CALL TO CHANGE MAKING

One: The world needs to change, a lot. There are so many things that need change.

All: We can get overwhelmed.

One: Especially if we think that we need to come up with all the ideas by ourselves. We need to remember that God is already at work.

All: God did not create. God is creating. God has been, and always will be, doing a new thing.

One: Made in God’s image, we are called to be co-creators. God is already doing it. Are we ready to join in the change making?

All: May this time of worship help us to get ready. May it inspire our creativity. May we be changed by the worship we share.

*HYMN #150 UMH “God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens” vs. 1, 3-4

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Creator God, you formed us from the dirt and placed us in the garden so that we could be co-creators. You wanted us to be good stewards of the beauty you set before us. Instead of glorifying in the goodness of Creation, we are fearful. Afraid of what we might lose instead of inspired by what we might create: we horde, we fight, we steal, we exploit, we manipulate. Forgive us for not having the imagination to trust you. Forgive us for not being creative enough to see another way. Forgive our closed hearts and minds. Forgive us for closing too many doors. Free us. Open us up to new possibilities. Give us the prophetic imagination that we need to co-create a garden of Shalom and Grace.

Pause for silent confession and reflection

One: You were created in the image of the Triune God, whose very existence is relationship. We are forgiven. We are created for creativity.

All: In the name of the first born of Creation, Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. We can create a new way. Amen

*PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER SONG #369 UMH “Blessed Assurance” vs. 1

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy One, Help us to hear the what you are doing in this Gospel story. May your Spirit help us imagine new possibilities for loving you, loving our neighbor, and for making change in our world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Luke 7:36-50 (CEB)

ANTHEM Two Rivers Sanctuary Choir with Lily Slater, guest soloist
Hymn of Promise - Natalie Sleeth

LECTIO DIVINA Mark 6:30-44 (CEB)

SERMON “Change making takes creativity” by Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #647 UMH “Your Love, O God Has Called Us Here”

INVITATION TO CHANGE MAKING

*OFFERTORY “Let Us Be Makers” - See Screens
to the tune of #369 “Blessed Assurance”

(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

All: We thank you God, for the blessed assurance of your steadfast love. While we are often paralyzed by fear or the overwhelming weight of it all, your love can free us. Thank you for the gifts that we share in this church and for the change you are calling us to make. Help us to articulate a vision for our community and a mission for our congregation. Continue to speak words of compassion, creativity, collaboration, and empowerment so that we, like Jesus, can make change in this world. Amen

DOXOLOGY to the tune of #369, “Blessed Assurance”
Praise to the Maker, the One who gives breath
Praise to Christ Jesus, who reigns over death.
Praise to the Spirit, our strength, and our friend.
Three-in-One present, world without end.

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

*=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
September 28, 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:
