Name _____

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

New Contact Information

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

_____

Advent Preparations

Our time of preparation for Christmas is just a few weeks away. There are some extra volunteer and growth opportunities.

- ❑ Print me a copy of the daily Advent devotional.
- ❑ Print me a Family Advent Calendar
- ❑ I will bring a soup to share after Hanging of the Greens.
- ❑ I want to help with Advent banner designs and special decorations.
- ❑ I want to be a part of the Christmas Eve service hospitality team.
- ❑ I will help with "Breakfast Church" on the Sunday after Christmas.

Reconciling Ministries Network

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 November 8, 2026

Adult Sunday School -10:45 am 1st floor classroom ***(No Class November 8th)***
Swahili Sunday School - 10:45 am Asbury Parlor 2nd Floor
Kids & Youth Choir and Sunday School - 10:30 am 3rd floor classrooms

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 Ministry Informational Event After worship today, all and invited to join us in the back of the sanctuary for some light refreshments and a chance to learn more about our 5 ministry areas and how you can get involved.

Guest Wifi

Online Giving

Subscribe to weekly Email

TWO RIVERS CHURCH

A RECONCILING UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

November 8, 2026

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

So then, brothers and sisters, we ask and encourage you in the Lord Jesus to keep living the way you already are and even do better in how you live and please God—just as you learned from us. You know the instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. God's will is that your lives are dedicated to him. This means that you stay away from sexual immorality and learn how to control your own body in a pure and respectable way. Don't be controlled by your sexual urges like the Gentiles who don't know God. No one should mistreat or take advantage of their brother or sister in this issue. The Lord punishes people for all these things, as we told you before and sternly warned you. God didn't call us to be immoral but to be dedicated to him. Therefore, whoever rejects these instructions isn't rejecting a human authority. They are rejecting God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

You don't need us to write about loving your brothers and sisters because God has already taught you to love each other. In fact, you are doing loving deeds for all the brothers and sisters throughout Macedonia. Now we encourage you, brothers and sisters, to do so even more. Aim to live quietly, mind your own business, and earn your own living, just as I told you. That way you'll behave appropriately toward outsiders, and you won't be in need.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship" - J. Carter

GREETING

***CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 78**
Responsive reading found on page 799 of the Red Hymnal

Sung Response:
We shall listen, Lord, to your teaching, and heed the words of your mouth.

*** HYMN #156 UMH "I Love to Tell the Story" vs. 1, 2, 4**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

All: Faithful God, you call us to be your people, not as individuals but together. We confess that we are still becoming. Our faith grows tired, our hope wears thin, and our love keeps score. We tear down when you call us to build one another up. We hurry past the weary and stay quiet when courage is needed. We want to be holy without the hard work of belonging to one another. Forgive us. Mend what is broken in us and between us, and make us whole. In this time of silence, hear the prayers we cannot say aloud.

Pause for silent confession and reflection

One: Hear the Good News: the One who calls us is faithful, and God will finish what God has begun in us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

PRAYER SONG #451 UMH "Be Thou My Vision" 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.

**=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:

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

ANTHEM "God Be in my Head" (Victor C. Johnson) – Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen

SCRIPTURE 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 (CEB)

SERMON *Becoming a Community of Holiness and Love* - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #399 UMH "Take My Life and Let it Be"

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

***OFFERTORY #2223 FWS "They Will Know We are Christians by Our Love"**

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 DEDICATION** (both quotations are of John Wesley)

All: Creating God, you are knitting us together into a community of holiness and love. You call us to be holy, and we give you thanks for the sanctifying grace that meets us where we are and won't leave us there. Your Spirit keeps moving us onward toward perfection. Our joy is found in pursuing "a renewal of the soul in the image of God." We are not finished yet, and we cannot become holy alone, for there is "no holiness but social holiness." By your grace, we are still becoming the church you call us to be. We bring these gifts, along with our time and our very selves, as a sign of our commitment to loving more perfectly and living into your holiness. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY #94 UMH**

***BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

POSTLUDE "Immortal, Invisible" - G. Peterson

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK
November 8, 2026

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:

_____

_____

_____

_____