

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 12:00 pm Zoom Lunch and Learn Bible Study	2	3 12:00 pm Zoom & FB Live Prayer & Devotion	4	5	6 12:00 pm Satur- day Meal Site
7 3rd Sunday of Lent LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SER- VICE @ 9:30AM FB LIVE 10:30am Zoom Sunday School 2:00pm Parking Lot Communion	8 12:00 pm Zoom Lunch and Learn Bible Study	9 6:00 pm Zoom Leadership Meet- ing	10 12:00 pm Zoom & FB Live Prayer & Devotion	11	12	13 12:00 pm Satur- day Meal Site
14 UMCOR Sunday 4th Sunday of Lent LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SER- VICE @ 9:30AM FB LIVE 10:30am Zoom Sunday School	15 12:00 pm Zoom Lunch and Learn Bible Study	16	17 HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY 9-5pm Life Line Screening 12:00 pm Zoom & FB Live Prayer & Devotion	18 <i>Easter Lily Orders Due</i>	19	20 12:00 pm Satur- day Meal Site
21 5th Sunday of Lent LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SER- VICE @ 9:30AM FB LIVE 10:30am Zoom Sunday School	22 12:00 pm Zoom Lunch and Learn Bible Study	23 April Compass Deadline	24 12:00 pm Zoom & FB Live Prayer & Devotion	25	26	27 11:00 am Oper- ation Safety Net 12:00 pm Satur- day Meal Site
28 Palm Sunday 6th Sunday of Lent LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SER- VICE @ 9:30AM FB LIVE 10:30am Zoom Sunday School	29 12:00 pm Zoom Lunch and Learn Bible Study	30	31 12:00 pm Zoom & FB Live Prayer & Devotion			



After extremely cold weather kept us from gathering for our parking lot Communion service in February, we are once again ready to come together for worship. Please join us in the south parking lot of Two Rivers Church on Sunday, March 7 at 2pm for another Parking Lot Communion service. Tune in to radio station 94.1 FM and follow along as Pastor Robb leads us in observing the sacraments of Holy Communion. Everyone will be required to remain in their vehicles.

As always, the focus of the service will be the full Communion liturgy. The elements will be prepared in pre-packaged cups and distributed to people who remain in their parked cars. In addition to the Communion Liturgy there will be music, Communion hymns, and a short devotional.

This service will be in addition to our weekly Worship at Home videos. The videos will continue to be released at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday on Facebook Live and our church website.



Lenten Journey Continues

Over the next several weeks of Lent we will continue to ask the important question of “Who?” as we travel through the Gospel of Luke. We will hear his story of lost coins, sheep, and a son, and wonder, “Who is lost?”. We will learn about the rich man and Lazarus and think about, “Who we can tell?”. We will read the story of Jesus and Zacchaeus the tax collector and ask, “Who can we invite?”

Lent is a chance to look deeper into our faith, dive deeper in the Scriptures, and pray deeper with God. To help you on this journey the Evangelism Team has put together Lent bags that have been mailed to members of Two Rivers. These bags include a Lenten Devotional Guide written by Pastor Robb, along with small items that will act as object lessons for each of the Sundays in Lent. The devotional includes daily readings and reflections to last through Easter Sunday, April 4.

If you did not receive a Lent bag and would like to receive one, please contact the church office at (309) 788-9384 or by email at office@tworiversumc.org and one will be mailed to you at no cost.

MARCH Birthdays

- 6 March **Jalia Mokola**
- 8 March **Jen Kean**
- 10 March **Ed Payton**
- 11 March **Delores Hollars**
- 12 March **Peggy Hallas**
- 14 March **Jan Morrison**
- 17 March **Jack Swim**
- 19 March **Josefina Mejia**
- 22 March **Barbara Nightingale**
- 25 March **John Crede**
- 25 March **Justin Martin**
- 28 March **Harold Truitt**
- 28 March **Brianna Pollock**
- 29 March **Jeanna Ndayislimiye**


Happy Belated Birthday to Gary Camp whose birthday was February 4.

If you have a birthday in March and we've missed it, please call the church office to update our records.

United Methodist Men, Sisterhood & Two Rivers Readers

Due to the continuing pandemic and everyone waiting to get vaccinated, the United Methodist Men, Sisterhood and the Two Rivers Readers have decided to not hold any get-togethers until further notice. Please keep each other in your prayers. Be well in mind, body and spirit and stay safe.

Life Line Screening



Life Line Screening can help make you aware of a previously silent, unrecognized problem that can now get treated at an early stage, or confirm that you are on the right path and should continue your healthy habits. Don't let heart disease and stroke get in your way of the life you love. Call toll free 1-888-653-6441, or text the word, "circle" to 797979 to schedule your health screening at Two Rivers UMC on March 17th.

A package of 5 vital screenings is offered for only \$149. If you call today to register, you will receive a \$10 discount!



HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday will be presented online. Our Maundy Thursday service will be on Facebook Live and our Website at 6:00 p.m. on April 1. The Maundy Thursday service will be co-produced by Two Rivers and the Church of Peace UCC. Much like the Ash Wednesday service, clergy, musicians, and laity from both churches will participate in the service.

The Good Friday service will be a quiet service of reflection presented on Facebook Live and our website at 6:00 p.m. on April 2.

On Easter Sunday we will gather in the south parking lot for a time of live worship on April 4 at 2:00 p.m. Pastor Robb will be outside with a speaker system. Guests are required to remain masked and physically distant but are invited to bring a lawn chair and gather outside their cars to be a part of worship. In case of rain, the sound system and speakers will move inside and broadcast via FM radio as we have done with the Parking Lot Communion services.

Music at our "tailgate" Easter will be pre-recorded, and if you prefer to remain in your car during the service, that will be an option as well. There will be room to spill-over into the west parking lot if the south parking lot gets full.

This will not replace the Easter Worship at Home video. Easter at Home will still be on Facebook Live and our Website at 9:30 a.m.

2021 Lenten Concert Series

POSTPONED:-(

Due to the ongoing Corona Virus Pandemic, our 2021 Lenten Concert Series has been postponed in hopes of keeping our audiences and performers safe. We hope to return to our regular schedule of concerts in 2022.

Under consideration is the implementation of an outdoor summer music series to be held in our parking lot, or at Camp Milan. Stay tuned!

Resignation of Church Organist

It is with regret that we announce organist Michael Smith's resignation, intended to be effective after Easter Sunday worship. Michael tells us that God is calling him to return to Michigan to another mission, and we respect his decision. As Michael told us, "When God calls, you don't say "no"." We appreciate all Michael has accomplished over this especially difficult last year. His musical talent and offerings have truly been a bright spot during the pandemic. With little time and COVID-19 restrictions, we cannot recognize Michael's service to Two Rivers as we would wish, but we can shower him with greeting cards expressing our gratitude and well wishes. Please send your cards to Michael Smith in care of Two Rivers UMC, 1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201, or bring them with you to the Easter Sunday parking lot worship at 2:00 p.m. on April 4th. We will gather your greetings and present them to Michael with sincere best wishes.



Part Time Church Musician Wanted

The Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee has begun the process to fill the Accompanist / Pianist / Organist position(s). We seek one (ideally) or more individuals to provide instrumental support for our music program. Duties, scope of responsibility, and salary are negotiable and dependent upon qualifications, demonstrated proficiency, skills, and interests of the candidate.

Until we return to worship in the sanctuary, the successful candidate(s) will have access to the church instruments to practice and record instrumental tracks, including solos and hymn accompaniment. Application information and duties of the position are posted on the Two Rivers UMC website.

Two Rivers

Prayers Presence Gifts Service

Remember in Prayer-

Ginny Cline, Betty Taylor, Barb Nightingale, and Summer Etzel Volk

Our sympathies to—

The family of June Britton who passed away on February 18th.

Our presence—

January 31	Livestream Worship ≈ 30
February 7	Livestream Worship ≈ 30
February 14	Livestream Worship ≈ 30
February 21	Livestream Worship ≈ 35

Our gifts—

General Fund Offerings

February 2021 (as of Feb. 25) - \$ 14,292.65

Our Service -

Members of the community served at Two Rivers Saturday Meal Site & Operation Safety Net (OSN):

January 30	— 79 Meal Site, 46 OSN
February 6	— 62 Meal Site
February 13	— 53 Meal Site
February 20	— 81 Meal Site

Our thanks to -

Thank you so much to the volunteers who give of their time and talents in the kitchen on Saturdays during our Saturday Meal Site. You have done an amazing job throughout this pandemic and have kept serving those in our community in need even through the ice, cold and snow.



Prayer Chain

Charlotte Peterson	793-7783
Nancy Cornish	236-1049
Nancy Schwegler	781-5334

If you want the prayer chain to pray for your concern or you wish to be part of this prayer ministry, please call one of the three contact persons listed above. They alert the remaining chain members.



NEWS FROM AFRICA UNIVERSITY

Please hold Africa University (AU) staff and students in your prayers.

Africa University is the first and only fully accredited institution of higher learning established on the African continent by action of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Africa University has provided online classes, as well as, housing and meals for international students who could not go home due to COVID restrictions. A group of these international students organized a Feed a Family campaign to donate food and money to communities in need during the pandemic.

While Missionary Larry Kies has officially retired, he continues to teach at AU on a volunteer basis, and his wife, Jane, still works as a United Methodist missionary in her capacity of teaching English as a second language. They remain healthy and thank us for our encouragement and prayers.

The AU community has suffered several tragedies over the last few months. Last August, the newly elected President of the AU board, Bishop John Yambasu from Sierra Leone, was killed in a vehicle accident. On January 13, Vice Chancellor Munashe Furusa died suddenly after being taken to the hospital in Mutare. He was 59. Vice Chancellor Furusa served in several university roles both in the United States and Zimbabwe, and was well-respected. Vice Chancellor Furusa graciously met with the 2019 IGRC mission team of which Claudia and Bob Applegate were a part, and graciously spent time answering the team's questions. On January 15, Patrick Matsikenyiri, the AU choir director and music teacher, died from COVID complications at the hospital in Mutare. He developed the 4-year music education program at AU, the only 4-year music degree program in all of sub-Saharan Africa. He was much loved by his students and led the AU choir on several trips to the States. All these men were courageous, innovative leaders and excellent educators, and will be greatly missed.

We also request prayers for the children, house mothers, and administrative staff at the Fairfield Children's Home in Old Mutare. At least two house mothers have been infected with the COVID-19 virus, and one has reportedly died.

Compass

COMPASS (USPS #658-720) is published monthly by Two Rivers United Methodist Church, 1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201. Periodicals postage paid at Rock Island, IL. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Two Rivers United Methodist Church, 1820-5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201.

Newsletter deadline

The deadline for items for the April issue of the *Compass* is **Tuesday, March 23**. Please have information or articles in by this deadline date. Thank you.



DVDs, Weekly Email, and Weekly Newsletter

Remain current with information from Pastor Robb by signing up for the church e-newsletter. If you have not been getting this email, please check your spam folder. If it is not there, please go to TwoRiversUMC.org/subscribe. Fill out that short form and you will begin to receive the weekly email.

If you do not get the weekly email, and would like to receive a weekly printed newsletter, please contact the church office. These newsletters contain much of the same information as the weekly e-mail, but also includes a summary of the week's sermon.

Finally, DVDs for every Worship at Home experience are also available. Please contact the church office if you would like to have one of these DVDs sent to you. They can be played in any regular DVD player or computer. They are designed to begin to play as soon as you enter it into the player.

Pastoral Leadership

Rev. Robb McCoy
mccoy@tworiversumc.org
(815)514-3779

Program Staff

Director of Music
Mark Swessinger
mswess@mchsi.com

Organist
Michael Smith

Organist Emeritus
Judith Litherland

Ministers

All of us

Support Staff

Church Office Manager
Brianna Pollock
office@tworiversumc.org

Volunteer Financial Secretary
Charlotte Peterson

Nursery Attendants
Mpawenayo Divera
Autumn Glass

Church Custodian
Ellen Martin

Camp Milan Caretaker
Kent Hessman

1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201

Office Phone: (309) 788-9384 email: office@tworiversumc.org

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 8 am—2 pm

Connect Online: www.tworiversumc.org — www.facebook.com/RITwoRivers — twitter.com/RITwoRivers



If you wish to purchase an Easter Lily to be displayed during worship on Easter Sunday, April 4, please complete the form below and mail it to the church office, 1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201. ALL EASTER LILIES MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE. The cost is \$12.00 each. Please make checks payable to "Two Rivers Church" and mark it "Easter Lily." You may pick up your plant after worship on Easter Sunday. **The deadline for ordering is Thursday, March 18. No Late Orders Will Be Accepted.**

Easter Lily Order Form

I would like to order _____ Easter Lily(s) @ \$12.00 each.

Enclosed is my cash/check in the amount of _____

My Easter Lily should be designated as follows:

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Given by _____

Phone Number _____

_____ I will pick up my Lily(s) from the church after Easter.

_____ Please deliver my Lily(s) to my home address.

_____ Please deliver my Lily(s) to a shut-in.