

NAME: _____

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First time guest | <input type="checkbox"/> Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Returning guest | <input type="checkbox"/> Interested in membership or Baptism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Looking for a church home | |

New Contact Information:

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Opportunities to serve

Saturday Meal Site opportunities to serve:

- Hosts: Someone who can greet guests and sit with them during the meal.
- Clean-up crew. Come around 12:00-1:30pm.
- Provide grocery bags and/or socks for Meal Site & Operation Safety Net

Worship team opportunities to serve:

- Greeter—Greet people at the West parking lot.
- Usher—Greet people as they come into the service. Help with offering and Communion.
- Video—Get behind the camera to make a video recording of the sermon.
- Editor—Take the footage of the worship series and edit into a video to be posted on youtube.
- Sound—Help with the sound board, making sure mic levels are correct during worship.
- Slides—Help switch the slides during the service.

September 12, 2021

Announcements

We are blessed by your presence, and pray that worship is meaningful for you. You are invited to note your attendance and mailing address on the blue attendance tear-off sheet found in each bulletin. This sheet may be left at your seat for the ushers to gather after service. We encourage family participation in worship. We can provide activity bags for children upon request. Please see an usher for more information. Ushers can also provide you with large print bulletins if needed. We extend a special welcome to you and trust you will experience God's presence today.

Sunday School Classes

Adult Sunday School Class @ 10:30am— Asbury Parlor and Zoom

Swahili Bible Study Class @10:30am—Swahili Class Room

Children's Sunday School will meet in Epworth Hall Today @ 10:30am

Church Fall Picnic and Movie Under the Stars Saturday, September 18 at 5:00 p.m. at Camp Milan. We will grill hamburgers and hot dogs. Bring a dish to share if you wish, and enjoy the fellowship of eating outside under the covered pavilion. There will be games for all ages. Learn more about new ministries and small groups at Two Rivers. Stick around after dinner for a family friendly movie. Please RSVP by signing up in the west entrance or in the back of the sanctuary.

Discipleship Schedule Monday Noon Bible Study meets in-person in Epworth Hall and on Zoom. Wednesday Noon Prayer & Devotion Time continues to meet on Facebook Live and Zoom. Zoom Meeting ID # for both is 961 006 728. All Zoom meetings can also be joined by phone simply by dial 312-626-6799. Once connected, dial the Meeting ID # 961 006 728, and you will join in the conversation.

Two Rivers Kids & Youth Two Rivers Kids and Youth will meet at Camp Milan on Wednesdays from 4:00-5:30pm starting in August. Adult volunteers are needed to help supervise and/or provide a meal for the group. Kids and youth in need of rides should contact Pastor Robb by texting him (815-514-3779). New adult volunteers must have approved background checks.

Online Giving Option at TwoRiversUMC.org We have an easy and convenient way of giving online at Two Rivers Church through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tworiversumc.org/donate), a safe and secure giving platform that allows you to give one-time or recurring gifts! Go to tworiversumc.org/donate or scan this QR Code with your smart phone camera and follow the steps to donate.



Network: Two Rivers Sanctuary
Password: TwoRivers2013
www.TwoRiversUMC.org



September 12, 2021
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Genesis 1:1-2:4a

When God began to create the heavens and the earth— the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God's wind swept over the waters— God said, "Let there be light." And so light appeared. God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. God named the light Day and the darkness Night.

There was evening and there was morning: the first day.

God said, "Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters to separate the waters from each other." God made the dome and separated the waters under the dome from the waters above the dome. And it happened in that way. God named the dome Sky.

There was evening and there was morning: the second day.

God said, "Let the waters under the sky come together into one place so that the dry land can appear." And that's what happened. God named the dry land Earth, and he named the gathered waters Seas. God saw how good it was. God said, "Let the earth grow plant life: plants yielding seeds and fruit trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind throughout the earth." And that's what happened. The earth produced plant life: plants yielding seeds, each according to its kind, and trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was.

There was evening and there was morning: the third day.

God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will mark events, sacred seasons, days, and years. They will be lights in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth." And that's what happened. God made the stars and two great lights: the larger light to rule over the day and the smaller light to rule over the night. God put them in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw how good it was.

There was evening and there was morning: the fourth day.

God said, "Let the waters swarm with living things, and let birds fly above the earth up in the dome of the sky." God created the great sea animals and all the tiny living things that swarm in the waters, each according to its kind, and all the winged birds, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was. Then God blessed them: "Be fertile and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth."

There was evening and there was morning: the fifth day.

God said, "Let the earth produce every kind of living thing: livestock, crawling things, and wildlife." And that's what happened. God made every kind of wildlife, every kind of livestock, and every kind of creature that crawls on the ground. God saw how good it was. Then God said, "Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth."

God created humanity in God's own image, in the divine image God created them, male and female God created them.

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it. Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, and everything crawling on the ground." Then God said, "I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food. To all wildlife, to all the birds in the sky, and to everything crawling on the ground—to everything that breathes—I give all the green grasses for food." And that's what happened. God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good.

There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day. The heavens and the earth and all who live in them were completed. On the sixth day God completed all the work that he had done, and on the seventh day God rested from all the work that he had done. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all the work of creation. This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Prelude "The Light of the World is Jesus" - Philip Bliss

Greeting

*Call to Worship

One: We gather as a people grounded in Scripture.

All: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

*Opening Hymn #443 UHM "O God Who Shaped Creation" vs. 1 & 3
(tune Lancashire #303)

*Prayer of Confession

All: Holy and Gracious God, every human was created in your image, and the root of every sin is denying that truth. Forgive us for ignoring your image in others and in ourselves. You created all things, and said it was good. Indeed, it was very good. Forgive us for the forgetting our original goodness. Forgive us for straying from the path of shalom that you set out before us. Help us to restore the peace, balance, and justice which you intend for our hearts, our communities, and all of Creation.

(Pause for silent reflection and confession)

One: Hear the Good News: Christ was born in love. Christ showed us how to love. Christ died for the sake of love and rose in the power of love. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Spirit Hymn #408 UHM "The Gift of Love" 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.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

All: Holy God, open our hearts to the story of your love. Open our minds to new ways of knowing you. Open our doors for all whom you would welcome. Amen.

Scripture Reading Genesis 1:1—2:4a(CEB)

Sermon Be Grounded: Creation by Word - Robb McCoy

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Response Hymn #109 UHM "Creating God, Your Fingers Trace" vs. 1 & 2

Offering Reflection and Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: If 'Thank you' is the only prayer we ever say, it would be enough. Let us pause and reflect on the goodness of God.

(Pause for silent reflection and gratitude)

All: Holy and Gracious God, we gather as a people grounded in Scripture. We are grounded in the Law, the Prophets, the Writings, the stories of Christ, and the letters and visions of the early Church. We thank you for the words of life which keep us rooted in your love, nurtured by your spirit, and growing in your grace. Help us to be like the tree planted by streams of water, every bearing fruit in its season. Amen.

*Closing Hymn #438 UHM "Forth in Thy Name" v. 1

*Blessing and Dismissal

Postlude "America the Beautiful" - Samuel Ward

* You are invited to stand as you are able.
FWS - The Faith We Sing (black hymnal)
UMH - United Methodist Hymnal (red hymnal)
Words of anthem/hymn reprinted under CCLI License

September 12, 2021



PRAYER MINISTRY

NAME: _____

Who would you like to see this prayer?

- Pastor Only.** Only the pastor will see this prayer. He will most likely see it and be in prayer for it on Monday morning.
- Prayer Chain.** These prayers will be sent to those who have signed up for prayer chain email. They will also be prayed for by name only during our Wednesday online prayer service. Names only will be printed in newsletter if it is an ongoing need.

Please be in prayer for:

Please pray for this:

- For this week only.
- Until _____
- This is an ongoing need.

I am interested in being a part of the Prayer Chain:

Email: _____