

NAME: _____

- First time guest Member
- Returning guest Interested in membership or Baptism
- 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 19, 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 & Youth Sunday School @ 10:30am—3rd Floor Class Rooms

Adult Sunday School Class The Adult Sunday School Class will begin a new Bible Study using Adam Hamilton's book, "Making Sense of the Bible" starting this morning after service in the Asbury Parlor. All adults are welcome and book are available.

Caring Sisters FKA Sisterhood will have their first meeting back on Friday, September 24 at 11am in Epworth Hall at Two Rivers. A sub sandwich lunch will be available with a free-will donation to help offset the cost. All woman are invited for this special time together. Please let the church office (309-788-9384) or Rita Anderson (309-788-7150) know if you plan to attend this lunch.

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.

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



September 19, 2021

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14

21 The Lord was attentive to Sarah just as he had said, and the Lord carried out just what he had promised her. 2 She became pregnant and gave birth to a son for Abraham when he was old, at the very time God had told him. 3 Abraham named his son—the one Sarah bore him—Isaac.

22 After these events, God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" Abraham answered, "I'm here."

2 God said, "Take your son, your only son whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah. Offer him up as an entirely burned offering there on one of the mountains that I will show you." 3 Abraham got up early in the morning, harnessed his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, together with his son Isaac. He split the wood for the entirely burned offering, set out, and went to the place God had described to him.

4 On the third day, Abraham looked up and saw the place at a distance. 5 Abraham said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will walk up there, worship, and then come back to you."

6 Abraham took the wood for the entirely burned offering and laid it on his son Isaac. He took the fire and the knife in his hand, and the two of them walked on together. 7 Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father?"

Abraham said, "I'm here, my son."

Isaac said, "Here is the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the entirely burned offering?"

8 Abraham said, "The lamb for the entirely burned offering? God will see to it,[a] my son." The two of them walked on together.

9 They arrived at the place God had described to him. Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He tied up his son Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. 10 Then Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice. 11 But the Lord's messenger called out to Abraham from heaven, "Abraham? Abraham?"

Abraham said, "I'm here."

12 The messenger said, "Don't stretch out your hand against the young man, and don't do anything to him. I now know that you revere God and didn't hold back your son, your only son, from me." 13 Abraham looked up and saw a single ram caught by its horns in the dense underbrush. Abraham went over, took the ram, and offered it as an entirely burned offering instead of his son. 14 Abraham named that place "the Lord sees." That is the reason people today say, "On this mountain the Lord is seen."

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Prelude "Shout to the Lord" - Zschech

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 #163 UHM

"Ask Ye What Great Things I Know" vs. 1 & 4

*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.

Musical Offering

"If You Will Trust in God to Guide You" - G. Neumark/arr. R. Summers
(Psalm 55:22, UMH #142)
Nancy Schwegler, piano

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 21:1-3; 22:1-14(CEB)

Sermon

Be Grounded: Binding of Isaac - Robb McCoy

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Response Hymn #116 UMH

"The God of Abraham Praise" 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 UMH

"Forth in Thy Name" v. 1

*Blessing and Dismissal

Postlude

"Aria in F Major"

- Handel

* You are invited to stand as you are able.
FWS - The Faith We Sing (black hymnal)
UMH - United Methodist Hymnal (red hymnal)
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September 19, 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: _____