

November 2021

a publication of

Two Rivers Church

November 2021
Vol. 29 No.11



Connect Online: www.tworiversumc.org

www.facebook.com/RITwoRivers

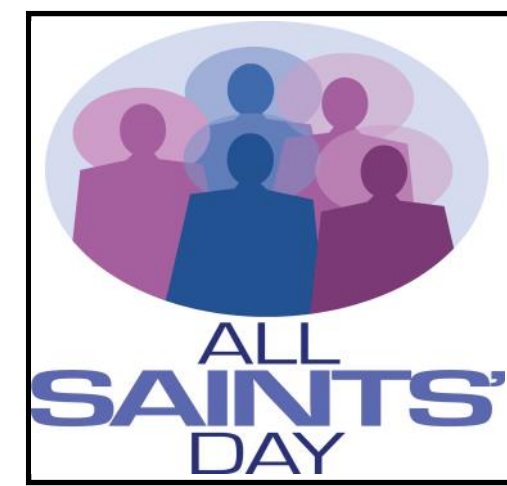
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn Bible Study	2	3 12:00 pm Zoom & FB Live Prayer & Devotion 4-5:30 PM Two Rivers Youth @ Camp Milan 6:00 pm Bell Rehearsal	4	5	6 12 pm Meal Site
7 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30am In-person/Zoom Sunday School 2:00 pm FB/YouTube Worship	8 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn Bible Study	9 6:00 pm Zoom Leadership Meeting	10 No Prayer & Devotion Group or Youth Group 6:00 pm Bell Rehearsal	11	12	13 12 pm Meal Site
14 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30am In-person/Zoom Sunday School 2:00 pm FB/YouTube Worship 3:00 pm Church Thanksgiving Dinner @ Camp Milan	15 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn Bible Study	16 6:30 pm U.M.M. Meeting	17 12:00 pm Zoom & FB Live Prayer & Devotion 4-5:30 PM Two Rivers Youth @ Camp Milan 6:00 pm Bell Rehearsal	18 <i>November Compass Deadline</i>	19	20 12 pm Meal Site
21 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30am Hanging of the Greens 2:00 pm FB/YouTube Worship	22 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn Bible Study	23	24	25 Happy Thanksgiving	26	27 11:00 am Operation Safety Net 12 pm Meal Site
28 UM Student Sunday 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30am In-person/Zoom Sunday School 2:00 pm FB/YouTube Worship Poinsettia Orders Due	29 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn Bible Study	30				



Two Rivers Evangelism/ Presents:
HARPIST, LYDIA OLSON
At our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner at Camp Milan
Sunday, Nov. 14th
Doors open at 3pm, Dinner Starts at 3:30pm
RSVP by October 31st!!



Thanksgiving is such a joyous time of year. A time to gather together and give thanks to God for all his blessings. What's a more wonderful place to give thanks and enjoy our sixth Annual Thanksgiving Dinner than at our beautiful Camp Milan in the country. As at any Thanksgiving dinner there will be turkey, dressing, potatoes, gravy, rolls, and drinks all provided. We do wish to have the right amount of food so please **RSVP by October 31st** using the sign-up sheets in the church or by calling the church office at 309-788-9384. There is also a space on the sign-up sheets for those who would like to bring pumpkin pie, whip cream topping, cranberry sauce or whatever Thanksgiving favorite dish you'd like to share. Once we have enjoyed our Thanksgiving dinner we will have an after dinner performance by Lydia Olson. She will give a wonderful presentation of the harp and a very delightful performance. We hope to see everyone at our beautiful Camp Milan for a Thanksgiving dinner to remember.



During worship on Sunday, November 7, we will pause to remember those who have passed away during the past year. The names of the people who have passed away will be read, a candle lit and a bell will toll in memory of each one. Those that will be remembered are:


11/14/2020 Dale Owen	02/18/2021 June Britton
12/15/2020 Jackie Atkinson	05/30/2021 Patsy McGinnis
12/28/2020 Sandra King	08/19/2021 Barbara Nightingale
01/01/2021 Mickey Dotson	09/27/2021 Betty Taylor
01/17/2021 Dannie Shryack	



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 November | Dave Dehnel |
| 1 November | George Atkinson |
| 5 November | Denise Reeves |
| 7 November | Pam Lossing |
| 7 November | Anne-Belle Munezero |
| 11 November | Payton Glass |
| 12 November | Rebecca Tessen |
| 14 November | Yvette Ahishakiye |
| 17 November | Taddy Kalas |
| 17 November | Korry Tessen |
| 18 November | Ellen Pohlman |
| 18 November | Tim Muir |
| 18 November | Jude Muir |
| 19 November | Lois Howell |
| 24 November | Kalie Tessen |
| 26 November | Heather Muir |

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



Caring Sisters

Caring Sisters will not be meeting in the months of November or December due to the holidays. Please keep each other and our older adult brothers and sisters in Christ in your thoughts and prayers. Look for more information regarding their next meeting in upcoming issues of the *Compass*. Contact Rita Anderson at (309) 788-7150 for more information.

U.M.M Meeting

Methodist Men of Two Rivers will be having another organizational meeting on Tuesday, November 16 at 6:30 pm in Epworth Hall. There will be no program or dinner for the evening and masks will be required with social distancing.

Harold Truitt, UMM President



Over the last 20 months, as we've dealt with COVID-19 and the sorrows and hardships it has visited on us, our Two Rivers staff has shown faith, commitment and creativity in fulfilling their duties.

While we were not meeting in person, cleaning, maintaining, repairing and freshening our physical properties continued. Custodian Ellen Martin's work at the Church (interior painting, potted plants, lawn ornaments, plantings on Church grounds, etc) and Camp Milan Custodian Kent Hessman's work at Camp Milan / Verlea Ewing Retreat Center, ensured the buildings and grounds were kept clean, attractive and safe for our return. Music Director Mark Swessinger made use of his vast musical contacts to provide beautiful vocal and instrumental selections from a variety of artists, most at no cost to the Church. He provided audio visual contributions for the Sunday afternoon Facebook Live broadcasts and the Parking Lot Services, continues to expand musical offerings while keeping the musicians and congregation safe, and we are grateful for his care and talent. Organist / Church Accompanist Mary Ellen Carroll joined us last July. As we continue to keep our distance from one another, getting to know Mary better has been difficult. Until Mary can actually see our smiling faces and we feel more comfortable in physically approaching her, we want Mary to know how much we appreciate her musical offerings. Office Manager Brianna Pollock has also met the challenges raised by the pandemic, increasing mailings and email contact with the congregation, and "herding the many cats" who frequent her office. In addition to routine work - preparing Sunday bulletins, *Compass*, and Sunday worship slides; paying bills and payroll with all attendant withholdings and reports; handling Camp Milan and Church rentals; etc. - Brianna also volunteers / cooks for Wednesday Youth sessions, volunteers monthly at our Meal Site, runs the audio-visual equipment on Sunday mornings, helps teach children's Sunday school, participates in Bible study and Caring Sisters, and helps out in other ways too numerous to mention.

Please tell these wonderful folks how much their service to the Two Rivers family means to you.

Chaddock Santa Express



Chaddock's Santa Express will be rolling into town the first week of December and Two Rivers Church is once again a drop off site for gifts for Chaddock's children.

Included in this issue of the *Compass* is a list of needed items as well as gift items for the children in Chaddock Foster Care. If you wish to give any of these gifts, please bring them (unwrapped) to the church office by Sunday, December 5. If you wish, wrapping paper, bows, etc. are also accepted to help wrap the gifts for the children.

Thank you for making Christmas brighter this year for the children of Chaddock.



United Methodist Student Day

Sunday, November 28 is United Methodist Student Day. It calls the church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge. Gifts on United Methodist Student Day support U.M. scholarships and the U.M. Student Loan Fund.

United Methodist Student Day offering envelopes will be available in the Sunday bulletin on November 28 for anyone wishing to donate. Thank you in advance for your gifts.



Online Giving at www.tworiversumc.org



Two Rivers Donate QR Code

1. Website Giving:

Go to www.tworiversumc.org to give through the church website. It's a safe and easy way to give any time.

OR

2. Tithe.ly Giving App:

Download the Tithe.ly App from the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play Store (Android). Once you've downloaded the app select your church and follow the same steps as above.

Two Rivers

Prayers Presence Gifts Service

Remember in Prayer-

Lois Howell, Judy Litherland and Summer Etzel Volk

Our Sympathies to—

The friends and family of Betty Taylor who passed away on September 27, 2021.

Our presence—

October 3	= 54
October 10	= 31
October 17	= 45
October 24	= 50

Our gifts—

General Fund Offerings

October 3	\$4,428.84
October 3	\$4,554.14
October 3	\$4,085.33
October 3	\$1,682.04

Our Service -

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

October 2	— 30 Meal Site
October 9	— 29 Meal Site
October 16	— 40 Meal Site
October 23	— 40 Meal Site

Thank You



A big 'Thank You' to Beline Shukuru, Benise Nyambanguka and their friend, Briana for putting together these whimsically decorated bags so that all the guests at Meal Site could take home a candy bag for Halloween this year.

Support Our Little Free Pantry

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

During this month of Thanksgiving, let us consider those whose circumstances are not as blessed as our own, and put our thanks and faith into action.

As a Two Rivers' congregational project, our Little Free Pantry is dependent on our individual donations. Providing unscented hand creams or lotions, lip moisturizers, hand sanitizers, tissues, disposable masks, feminine hygiene products, diapers, and nonperishable foods will help keep our Free Little Pantry stocked. Your donated items may be brought to the Church during regular office hours or placed in the labeled box at the back of the sanctuary before services on Sundays. Monetary donations are also welcome. Please make your check out to Two Rivers UMC, and write "Free Little Pantry" on the MEMO line.



We, and those who utilize the Free Little Pantry, THANK YOU!

DOLLAR\$&CENTS

Two Rivers Church 2021 3rd Quarter Financial Report

General Fund

Income total as of Sept. 30, 2021	=\$161,721.20
(General Fund Offerings = \$122,758.12)	
Expense total as of Sept. 30, 2021	=\$177,332.08
Surplus (Deficit)	=(\$15,610.88)

Camp Milan Fund

Income total as of Sept. 30, 2021	=\$16,728.00
Expense total as of Sept. 30, 2021	=\$16,376.88
Surplus (Deficit)	= \$351.12

Missional Giving Total as of Sept. 30, 2021

(UMCOR, UM Special Sundays, UM apportionments, Saturday Meal Site, and many other causes)
=\$29,053.50

If you have any questions regarding the financial state of the church please feel free to contact the church treasurer, Brianna Pollock, in the church office.



Hanging of the Greens

On Sunday, November 21 we will gather in the Sanctuary following the service for our annual "Hanging of the Greens". It will be all hands on deck as we decorate our church for the Advent season. The Christmas tree will be erected and festooned with the many beautiful handmade Christmas ornaments. The Giving tree will be put up and decorated with information about families and children for whom we help make Christmas happen. The communion table and the Advent wreath will be assembled and decorated for the season. There will be two garlands to be hung at the front of the church and across the balcony. Plus several other decorations to be hung or put up around the church.

Because of Covid we are limiting the decorations that are put up this year, and our emphasis will be on decorating our sanctuary to make it beautiful for this holiest of seasons. Mark your calendars and join us on November 21, to make our church festive and bright.

Any questions regarding the Hanging of the Greens can be directed to Mark Swessinger at 309-788-2440 or mswess@mchsi.com

Coat Ministry Gearing Up Now!

All too soon, the distribution of winter wear will be in full swing. Please consider donating gently used coats or other winter outdoor wear to this worthy and most appreciated ministry. Adult sized gloves are especially needed. We also accept new items, as well as cash donations and checks made out to Two Rivers UMC; please designate either cash or checks for the COAT MINISTRY. As this ministry enters its 25th year, we thank you for demonstrating Christian love through providing a warm hug via a coat. Please contact Claudia Applegate at 787-5097 for more information.



Advent begins November 28

This Advent we will be using the study All the Good: A Wesleyan Way of Christmas. Small groups that use the book can purchase one for \$12. There is also a daily devotional that can be purchased for \$8. The daily devotional has a different reading for 31 days in December.

During the four Wednesdays in Advent, there will be a small group that meets after Bell Choir Rehearsal at 7pm. The small group will meet in Asbury Parlor for an hour as we reflect on the Wesleyan Way of Christmas.

The Bible study and worship schedule:

Week 1 - Monday 11/22, Sunday 11/28, Wednesday 12/1 – Prepare the Way

Week 2 – Monday 11/29, Sunday 12/5, Wednesday 12/8 – Prayer

Week 3 – Monday 12/6, Sunday 12/12, Wednesday 12/15 – Caring for Others

Week 4- Monday 12/13, Sunday 12/19, Wednesday 12/22 – Sharing in God's Mission



Youth Service Day

Youth service day will be Sunday, November 7. After church and Sunday school that day, we will have lunch together in Epworth Hall and then form work teams to help members of the congregation with yard work. The Caring Sisters have identified a couple of people who would like some work done. If there is some light yard work that you would like to have completed by one of our work teams, please contact Pastor Robb at mccoym@tworiversumc.org or call the church office.



Kids and Youth at Camp Milan

The kids and youth will continue to meet at Camp Milan from 4:00-5:30 for two Wednesdays in November. There will not be youth group on November 10 or the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. As a way to keep meeting as safe as possible, the group will continue to meet outside through November. If the weather turns wintrier, expect the kids and youth to start meeting at church on December 1.



It's time to order poinsettias to be placed in the sanctuary on December 19th and Christmas Eve, December 24. Please fill out the form below and place it along with your payment in the offering plate on Sunday morning. You may also mail the order form and payment to the church office—1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201.

The cost is \$9.00 per poinsettia. Please make checks payable to Two Rivers UMC and mark "Poinsettia" in the memo portion of your check. Also, please indicate if your poinsettia is to be delivered to a homebound member or if you will pick it up after the Christmas Eve Worship on December 24.

Order deadline is November 28th

No Late Orders Will be accepted

I would like to order a poinsettia(s) at \$9.00 each. Enclosed is my check/cash in the amount of \$ _____

Please designate the poinsettia as follows:

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

Phone Number _____

_____ I will pick up the poinsettia after the Christmas Eve worship on December 24.

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

_____ Please deliver poinsettia to a shut-in.



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.

**Statement of Ownership
Management and Circulation
(Required by DMM 300, section 707.8.3.1)
PS Form 3526-R**

Title of Publication: Compass
Publication Number: 658720
Date of Filing: September 28, 2021
Frequency of Issues: Monthly
No. of Issues Published Annually: 12
Mailing Address of Publication: 1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201-9998, Rock Island County
Publisher: Two Rivers United Methodist Church, 1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201
Editors: Robb McCoy, 1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201
Managing Editor: Brianna Pollock, 1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201
Owner: Two Rivers United Methodist Church, 1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201
Known bondholder, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities: None
The purpose, function, and non-profit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income purposes: has not changed during preceding 12 months
Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 167
Average no. of paid distribution each issue during preceding 12 months: 167

Pastoral Leadership

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

Program Staff

Director of Music
Mark Swessinger
mswess@mchsi.com

Organist
Mary Ellen Carroll

Organist Emeritus
Judith Litherland

Ministers

All of us

Support Staff

Church Office Manager
Brianna Pollock
office@tworiversumc.org

Volunteer Financial
Secretary
Charlotte Peterson

Church Custodian
Ellen Martin

Camp Milan Caretaker
Kent Hessman



Prayer Chain

Charlotte Peterson 793-7783

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 persons listed above. They will alert the remaining chain members.

Newsletter deadline

The deadline for items for the December issue of the *Compass* is **Thursday, November 18**. Please have information or articles in by this deadline date. Thank you.

1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201

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

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 8 am—2 pm, Wednesday 8am—1pm

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