

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 gloves 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.

## January 23, 2022 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—

**All Sunday Schools are postponed until further notice due to COVID-19**

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—Epworth Hall

**NEST Café** will offer their pop-up restaurant once again at the Two Rivers Church parking lot on **Wednesday, January 26 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.** (or until supplies last). NEST (which stands for Nourish Everyone Sustainably Together) Café has been doing pop-up restaurant locations since June of 2020. Once again, it will be a drive-in and carry out experience. The menu that night will be Spinach, Mushroom & Onion Lasagna with Garlic Bread and an Orange-Almond Biscotti for dessert. As always, the concept of NEST Café is that you can pay what you want for the meal. The baseline donation is \$10. If you do not have that, you can give less (or nothing). If you feel generous, you can help pay for the next person's meal by giving more.

**Discipleship Schedule** Monday Noon Bible Study will meet on Zoom until further notice. 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.

**Operation Safety Net Needs** Operation Safety Net is still in need of small household items. For example: towels, pans, dishes, measuring cups and other kitchen items. They are also in need of adult and children's winter gloves. These items can be dropped off in the kitchen during office hours, Saturdays around noon or Sunday mornings. Thank you.

Network: Two Rivers Sanctuary

Password: TwoRivers2013

www.TwoRiversUMC.org

@RITwoRivers



Donation QR Code

January 23, 2022  
Third Sunday of Epiphany



### John 3:1-21

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a Jewish leader. He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one could do these miraculous signs that you do unless God is with him."

Jesus answered, "I assure you, unless someone is born anew, it's not possible to see God's kingdom."

Nicodemus asked, "How is it possible for an adult to be born? It's impossible to enter the mother's womb for a second time and be born, isn't it?"

Jesus answered, "I assure you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it's not possible to enter God's kingdom. Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. Don't be surprised that I said to you, 'You must be born anew.' God's Spirit blows wherever it wishes. You hear its sound, but you don't know where it comes from or where it is going. It's the same with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said, "How are these things possible?"

"Jesus answered, "You are a teacher of Israel and you don't know these things? I assure you that we speak about what we know and testify about what we have seen, but you don't receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you don't believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Human One. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so must the Human One be lifted up so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life. God didn't send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him isn't judged; whoever doesn't believe in him is already judged, because they don't believe in the name of God's only Son.

"This is the basis for judgment: The light came into the world, and people loved darkness more than the light, for their actions are evil. All who do wicked things hate the light and don't come to the light for fear that their actions will be exposed to the light. Whoever does the truth comes to the light so that it can be seen that their actions were done in God."

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Prelude "River of Glory" - Dan Schutte

Greeting

Call to Worship (adapted Psalm 66:1-5)

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name.

All: Give God glorious praise.

One: All the earth worships God; All of Creation sings praises to you.

All: Come and see what God has done.

\*Hymn #452 UMH "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" vs. 1 & 2

\*Prayer of Confession

All: O God of Epiphany your light shines and the darkness shall not overcome it. Shine your light upon the darkened recesses of our spirit. Shine upon the places of bitterness and long-held grudges. Shine upon the places of selfishness and deceit. Shine upon the places of self-doubt and self-loathing. Shine upon the doubtful and fearful places. Help us to enter your light of love and remember that the darkness shall not overcome it.

(Pause for silent reflection and confession)

One: In the name of Jesus, the light of the world, you are forgiven.

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

\*Passing of the Peace

Spirit Hymn #397 UMH "I Need Thee Every Hour" 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 John 3:1-21(CEB)

Sermon "Jesus Encounters Nicodemus" - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Response Hymn #568 UMH "Christ for the World We Sing" vs. 1 & 3

Offering Reflection and Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: God of Epiphany and source of epiphanies, we thank you for your guidance along our path.

All: You call us over all tumult and struggle, and show us the way to life. We thank you for revealing to us your way and for inviting us to 'come and see' for ourselves. We thank you for all we have seen and experienced in your love. We thank you for your blessings, grace, strength, and endurance. We respond in love and generosity, knowing that the best way to love you is to love one another.

(pause for silent reflection and thanksgiving)

One: We praise you Lord and thank you. We will make a joyful noise to God and sing the glory of God's name.

\*Hymn #398 "Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult" vs. 1 & 5

\*Blessing and Dismissal

Postlude "Amazing Grace" - John Newton



January 23, 2022

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 first name only during our Wednesday online prayer service.

Please be in prayer for:

Four horizontal lines for writing prayer requests.

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: \_\_\_\_\_

\* 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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