

NAME: _____

- First time guest
- Returning guest
- Member
- Interested in membership or Baptism

New Contact Information:

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Opportunities to serve

Random acts of kindness:

- Send someone a Valentine this week.
- Pray for the people, leadership, and ministry of Two Rivers Church.
- Pray for peace in the world.

Two Rivers Outreach Ministry opportunities:

- Donate new or used household items to Operation Safety Net.
- Provide blankets and cheap cotton gloves to Operation Safety Net.
- Donate non-perishable food and hygiene products for our Little Free Pantry.

Worship team opportunities to serve:

- Liturgist for Lent**— Assist Pastor in readings and communion during worship.
- Greeter**— Greet people at the West parking lot.
- 4th Sunday Usher**—Greet people as they come into the service. Help with offering and Communion.
- Tech Support** -Video recording, editing, sound board and /or slides. Get behind the scenes and help create a meaningful worship experience for those in the sanctuary and those watching from home.

February 12, 2023 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 placed in the collection bowl at the front of the sanctuary 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.

Adult Sunday School—10:45 am (The Adult Sunday School Class will be joining the LGBTQ Inclusion Study lead by Pastor Robb in the back of the sanctuary)

Kids Sunday School—10:45 am starts in Epworth Hall

Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Class

Discipleship Schedule Monday Bible Study meets in-person every week in Epworth Hall at noon. Wednesday Prayer & Devotion Time also continues to meet on Facebook Live and Zoom at noon every week. Zoom Meeting ID # for Wednesday is 961 006 728. The Zoom meeting 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.

Conversations around LGBTQ inclusion Jan. 8—Feb. 19 During the Sunday school hour, Pastor Robb will lead a discussion / 7-week study and writing process on LGBTQ Inclusion at the back of the sanctuary. Two Rivers Church member Viminda Shafer will assist in leading the discussions. After the study and writing process, we will enter a 28-day call to prayer for the entire congregation. The study portion of the process will utilize the Wesleyan Quadrilateral – a tool for theological and spiritual discernment as described in the United Methodist Book of Discipline.

College Care Packages We are putting together college care packages at the end of the month to warm our students' hearts and fill their bellies! The weeks between the semester break and spring break can be pretty monotonous and lonely. So we are going to fill a package with goodies. If you would like to donate home-baked treats, gifts, or money to the cause, let us know. If you donate money please mark your donation "College Care" then we will spend the money on filling the packages and shipping them off. If you would like to make a gift of homemade treats, contact the church office to coordinate the timing of when we will send them (we want them to be as fresh as possible).

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



Donation QR Code



February 12, 2023
Sixth Sunday of Epiphany

Matthew 13:24-43 (CEB)

Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like someone who planted good seed in his field. While people were sleeping, an enemy came and planted weeds among the wheat and went away. When the stalks sprouted and bore grain, then the weeds also appeared.

"The servants of the landowner came and said to him, 'Master, didn't you plant good seed in your field? Then how is it that it has weeds?'

"'An enemy has done this,' he answered.

"The servants said to him, 'Do you want us to go and gather them?'

"But the landowner said, 'No, because if you gather the weeds, you'll pull up the wheat along with them. Let both grow side by side until the harvest. And at harvesttime I'll say to the harvesters, 'First gather the weeds and tie them together in bundles to be burned. But bring the wheat into my barn.'"

He told another parable to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and planted in his field. It's the smallest of all seeds. But when it's grown, it's the largest of all vegetable plants. It becomes a tree so that the birds in the sky come and nest in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast, which a woman took and hid in a bushel of wheat flour until the yeast had worked its way through all the dough."

Jesus said all these things to the crowds in parables, and he spoke to them only in parables. This was to fulfill what the prophet spoke:

I'll speak in parables;

I'll declare what has been hidden since the beginning of the world.

Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

Jesus replied, "The one who plants the good seed is the Human One. The field is the world. And the good seeds are the followers of the kingdom. But the weeds are the followers of the evil one. The enemy who planted them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the present age. The harvesters are the angels. Just as people gather weeds and burn them in the fire, so it will be at the end of the present age. The Human One will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that cause people to fall away and all people who sin. He will throw them into a burning furnace. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in their Father's kingdom. Those who have ears should hear."

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

PRELUDE "Your Words" - Powell/Lee/Anderson

GREETING

*OPENING HYMN #428 "For the Healing of the Nations" vs. 1 & 2

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All God of word and deed, you have laid out a path before us of love and peace, yet we have strayed. As a people we have faltered. We have failed to care for all. We have pursued idols that provide no meaning. We have forgotten our place in your Kingdom. We have missed the mark of your love and need to re-aim ourselves. You have called us to repent—to change our hearts and lives. Forgive us and restore us on your path. Help us to see your love more clearly and empower us to live out our calling in word and deed. Amen.

Pause for silent reflection and confession

One: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners. This proves God's love for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

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

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

PRAYER HYMN #349 "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

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.

ANTHEM "Move that Mountain, Lord" - Clatterbuck

Two Rivers Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy and gracious God, your ministry of Word and Deed gave us instructions for life and empowered us to follow. Fill us with your Spirit as we hear your word and inspire us to follow with our actions as we go forth. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 13:24-43 (CEB)

SERMON "Parables of the Kingdom" -Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONSE HYMN #384 "Love Devine, All Loves Excelling" vs. 1 & 2

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*OFFERING HYMN #257 "We Meet You, O Christ" vs 1 & 4
(all are invited to place your offering in the offering container at the front of the sanctuary as we sing our Offering hymn)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: God of word and deed, we thank you for the ways you have taught us to live. We thank you for your teachings — the sermons, stories, and lessons that stir our minds. We thank you for your actions—the miracles, healings, and feeding that stir our hearts. We thank you for revealing to us your Way. We thank you for guiding us in word and deed. We thank you for providing for us in your Kingdom. Amen.

Pause for silent reflection and thanksgiving

*DOXOLOGY

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "With One Voice" -Manalo

* 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

February 12, 2023



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:

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: _____