

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:

- Invite a neighbor to worship.
- 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.
- Donate non-perishable food, hygiene products and rain gear for our Little Free Pantry.

#### Worship team opportunities to serve:

- Liturgist** – Assist Pastor with readings and communion during worship.
- Greeter**– Greet people at the West parking lot.
- 4th Sunday Usher**—Open the church for Sunday worship, make coffee, greet people as they come into the service, and 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.

## April 23, 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 at the end of the 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 in Asbury Parlor**  
**Family Sunday School—10:45 am starts in Epworth Hall**  
**Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Class**

**Adult Sunday School** The Adult Class study of the Book of Acts continues with Session 2, "What God does." Author Matthew Skinner helps us explore six key ways this book illustrates what is the work of the church and the challenges of living faithfully in a changing world. Come join us at 10:45 Sundays in Asbury Parlor.

**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.

**Native American Ministries Sunday** Today is Native American Ministries Sunday and your gifts to this special Sunday offering funds scholarships for Native American seminarians and strengthen, develop and equip Native American rural, urban and reservation congregations, ministries and communities and annual conference Native American ministries. Please look for a special offering envelope for NAMS in your bulletin this morning and give generously. Thank you.

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



Donation QR Code



April 23, 2023  
Third Sunday of Easter

### Acts 11:1-18 (CEB)

The apostles and the brothers and sisters throughout Judea heard that even the Gentiles had welcomed God's word. When Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him. They accused him, "You went into the home of the uncircumcised and ate with them!"

Step-by-step, Peter explained what had happened. "I was in the city of Joppa praying when I had a visionary experience. In my vision, I saw something like a large linen sheet being lowered from heaven by its four corners. It came all the way down to me. As I stared at it, wondering what it was, I saw four-legged animals—including wild beasts—as well as reptiles and wild birds. I heard a voice say, 'Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!' I responded, 'Absolutely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' The voice from heaven spoke a second time, 'Never consider unclean what God has made pure.' This happened three times, then everything was pulled back into heaven. At that moment three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea arrived at the house where we were staying. The Spirit told me to go with them even though they were Gentiles. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered that man's house. He reported to us how he had seen an angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and summon Simon, who is known as Peter. He will tell you how you and your entire household can be saved.' When I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them, just as the Spirit fell on us in the beginning. I remembered the Lord's words: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, then who am I? Could I stand in God's way?"

Once the apostles and other believers heard this, they calmed down. They praised God and concluded, "So then God has enabled Gentiles to change their hearts and lives so that they might have new life."



# GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

PRELUDE "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee" -Bach/Dykes-Berry

GREETING

\*OPENING HYMN #61 UMH "Come, Thou Almighty King"

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Liturgists —The Cooley Family

All: Holy, Risen Lord, in your last moments, you gave us a job to do. We are to teach the world to obey all that you commanded. Yet how are we supposed to teach others when we fail to obey ourselves? We don't practice the radical love that you showed. Forgive us for ignoring your command to love one another. Forgive us for failing to live into the Kingdom that you established. Empower us to be examples of your love in the world. Empower your Church to be the shining light set on a lampstand so all may see your love.

Pause for silent reflection and confession

One: When Jesus commissioned us to service, he also gave us a promise. He will be with us until the very end of the age. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, who is present still, we are forgiven. Amen.

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

# PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

PRAYER HYMN #322 "Up From the Grave He Arose" (v. 1 and refrain)

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 "A Canon of Praise" - Sleeth  
Two Rivers Sanctuary Choir

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION -Grundy

Lyrics: More Light, more truth  
Is Breaking from your Word.  
More Light, more truth.  
Holy Spirit, help us hear what needs to be heard.

SCRIPTURE Acts 11:1-18 Common English Bible

SERMON Peter's Vision - Rev. Robb McCoy

# RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONSE HYMN #521 UMH "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

(All are invited to place your offering in the offering container at the front of the sanctuary as we sing our offering hymn)

\*OFFERING HYMN #327 "Crown Him With Many Crowns" v. 1-2

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (adapted from the UM Book of Worship Service of Committal 155)

One: In the midst of life, we are in death. From whom can we seek help?

All: Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

One: God who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through the Spirit that dwells in you.

All: Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting, but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our risen Lord Jesus Christ.

\*DOXOLOGY #94

\*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "I Stand Amazed in the Presence" - Gabriel/Kerrick

\* 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

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_