

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:

- Leave a cold drink out for your mail carrier.
- Pray for the people, leadership, and ministry of Two Rivers Church.
- Pray for peace in the world.

Two Rivers Connection opportunities:

- Attend New Members Luncheon on 7/16 as:
 - Someone wanting to join
 - Long-time member wanting to get to know the new people.
 - I am interested in membership but cannot attend on the lunch on the 16th

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.

Welcome Statement



From the beginning of the Jesus movement, followers of Christ declared that there is no Jew or Greek, no slave or free, nor is there male and female. We, the people of Two Rivers United Methodist Church join in this movement of the Holy Spirit and declare that we celebrate the diversity of our neighborhood and the world.

We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual and affectional orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We believe that the body of Christ is more vital in its ministry when the whole diversity of the human family may enjoy full participation and leadership in the Church.

We welcome all who have known the pain of exclusion or discrimination in the Church and society, and acknowledge the pain caused by the exclusionary policies of the United Methodist Church. We will continue to work toward a more inclusive Church and invite you to join us in following Jesus Christ on the Way, marked by greater hospitality, kindness, justice, peace, understanding, and mutual respect.

Announcements for July 9, 2023

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

Discipleship Schedule Monday Bible Study will not meet again until Monday, July 17 in Epworth Hall at noon. Wednesday Prayer & Devotion Time meets 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.

Youth Group Two Rivers UMC Youth will meet at Camp Milan this week from 1-3 pm. Please register at tinyurl.com/TwoRiversSummer so that he group can plan accordingly.

Worship at the Park On Sunday, **July 16 at 10:30am**, Two Rivers UMC will join with 3 other local congregations to have a special worship service at Schwiebert Park. All are invited to bring a lawn chair to the bandshell at Schwiebert Park for a time of worship.

New Members Luncheon Those who are interested in joining Two Rivers United Methodist Church as members are invited to a lunch at Epworth Hall on **Sunday, July 16, at 12:00 p.m.** At the lunch, families can learn a little history of Two Rivers Church, go over the basics of Wesleyan theology, and learn some about each other and Pastor Robb. The lunch will be catered by a local restaurant, so please RSVP ahead of time by indicating so on the blue tear off sheet of this bulletin and placing it in the offering plate. Current members who would like to participate are invited as well.

Liturgist Needed If you would like to be a part of the worship experience and assist Pastor Robb with readings and possibly communion, please sign up for a Sunday or more on the sign up sheet in the back of the sanctuary.

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



Donation QR Code



July 9, 2023

Psalm 23

(CEB)

The Lord is my shepherd.

I lack nothing.

He lets me rest in grassy meadows;

he leads me to restful waters;

he keeps me alive.

He guides me in proper paths

for the sake of his good name.

Even when I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no danger because you are with me.

Your rod and your staff—

they protect me.

You set a table for me

right in front of my enemies.

You bathe my head in oil;

my cup is so full it spills over!

Yes, goodness and faithful love

will pursue me all the days of my life,

and I will live in the Lord's house

as long as I live.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

July 9, 2023



PRELUDE "Your Grace is Enough" - Matt Maher

GREETING

*OPENING HYMN #641 UMH "Fill My Cup Lord" x 2

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: The goodness and mercy of God pursues me, and I am invited to dwell in the house of the Lord for the rest of my days.

All: Love pursues me, but for some reason I run away. Goodness is chasing me down, but I resist. I don't even know why. You invite me to dwell with you for the rest of my days, but I am drawn to other things. I ignore the invitation. I seek harmful things. I pursue idols. I do the things I hate, and ignore the path of justice that you lay out before me. Forgive me for running from your love. Please don't stop pursuing me. Every day I learn to slow down a little. Help me to rest in the house of your love forever.

Pause for silent reflection and confession

One: Hear the good news! God is the Good Shepherd who will search for the sheep, even when they are lost. In Christ, you are forgiven.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and empowered. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

PRAYER HYMN #136 "The Lord's my Shepherd" vs. 4 & 5

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 "Shepherd Me, O God" - Haugen
Tamara Baugh, soprano

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 Psalm 23 (CEB)

SERMON Love Pursues Me - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONSE HYMN #399 "Take My Life and Let It Be"

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*OFFERING HYMN #188 UMH "Christ is the World's Light" vs. 1 & 4

(All are invited to place your offering and the detached part of the bulletin in the offering container at the front of the sanctuary as we sing)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: O God our God, you are the good shepherd. You provide all that we need. You bring us to Sabbath rest and restore us to right relationship. You create space for peace to grow and empower us to work for justice. You guide us through difficult times and shed light upon our path. Thank you for pursuing us with goodness and mercy. Thank you for your eternal love. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY #94

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "Infinite Grace" - Sarah Hart & Marc Byrd

* 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: _____