

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:

- Pray for peace in the world.
- Pray for the people, leadership, and ministry of Two Rivers Church.


Two Rivers Outreach Ministry opportunities:

- Donate Grocery Bags to our Saturday Meal Site & Operation Safety Net.
- Donate non-perishable food and hygiene products to 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.
- 2nd & 4th Sunday Ushers**—Open the church for Sunday worship and make coffee. Take offerings in bank bag to bank depository. *(Must be a member of the church in good standing for at least 6 months.)*

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 February 18, 2024

Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Class Room
Kids Sunday School —10:45 am in the Youth Room on 3rd floor
Adult Sunday School—10:45 am in the Asbury Parlor

Discipleship Schedule Monday Bible Study meets every Monday 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.

Lenten Devotional—The *Unvarnished Jesus* daily devotional will include a Zoom gathering on Sundays at 8:00 p.m. All are welcome to come discuss their Lenten journey, even if they are not reading the daily devotional. The Zoom meeting can be found at [TwoRiversUMC.org/unvarnished-jesus](https://www.TwoRiversUMC.org/unvarnished-jesus).

Big Steppers will meet at Two Rivers Church on February 22 at 8:00 p.m. This men’s small group is designed to be a time of sharing, accountability, and growth. The meetings will last about an hour. There is no curriculum or book study. It is simply a time of intentional sharing. There is a light “agenda,” which allows space for everyone to share as they feel comfortable. It is a non-judgmental space to share our struggles, joys, and unpack the stress of life.

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Assistant Greeter
2/18	Dave Martin	Dick & Kala Lee and Kevin & Brianna Pollock	
2/25	Charlotte Peterson	Doug Stephens, Kevin & Brianna Pollock	
3/3		Candy Canik & Dave Dehnel	

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



Donation QR Code

February 18, 2024

First Sunday of Lent



Mark 12:38-44 (CEB)

As he was teaching, he said, “Watch out for the legal experts. They like to walk around in long robes. They want to be greeted with honor in the markets. They long for places of honor in the synagogues and at banquets. They are the ones who cheat widows out of their homes, and to show off they say long prayers. They will be judged most harshly.”

Jesus sat across from the collection box for the temple treasury and observed how the crowd gave their money. Many rich people were throwing in lots of money. One poor widow came forward and put in two small copper coins worth a penny. Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I assure you that this poor widow has put in more than everyone who’s been putting money in the treasury. All of them are giving out of their spare change. But she from her hopeless poverty has given everything she had, even what she needed to live on.”

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE

GREETING

MUSICAL OFFERING “A Lenten Meditation” - Robert J. Powell
Two Rivers Handbell Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP adapted from Joel 2:13

One: Rend your hearts not your clothing. Return to the Lord your God.

All: Turn to justice over oppression. Turn to compassion over judgment. Turn to relationship over isolation. Turn to mourning over retaliation. Turn to advocacy over apathy.

One: Return to the Lord, your God. For God is gracious and merciful.

All: God is slow to anger and abounds with steadfast love.

*HYMN #354 UMH “I Surrender All”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: O God your glory is always to have mercy. Be gracious to all of us who have strayed from your ways. Soften our hearts from the hardness of a sinful world. May your steadfast love restore us to steadfast trust. Help us to choose kindness, compassion, and relationship when temptation makes this choice difficult. Help us to trust your life-giving Word and follow your resurrected Son, Jesus Christ.

Pause for silent confession

One: Hear the good news, God’s forgiveness and grace is offered before we ask for it. The God who knows us well, forgives us fully.

All: We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE

CHILDREN’S MOMENT #277 UMH “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus” vs. 1

PRAYER HYMN #109 UMH “Creating God, Your Fingers Trace” vs. 1

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

ANTHEM “God Be In My Head” - Johnson
Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: God’s word is a lamp before my feet and a light for my journey. May the light of Scripture illumine the Way of Christ. Amen.

GOSPEL READING Mark 12:38-44 (CEB)

SERMON “Widow’s Offering” - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #87 UMH “What Gift Can We Bring”

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN #100 UMH “God, Whose Love is Reigning O’er Us” 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)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in the power of love to overcome the darkness, and that Sin is that which stands in opposition to love of God, love of others, and love of self.

I believe that love overcomes the power of Sin. Treating others as they wish to be treated, loving my enemy, praying for those who persecute others, and non-violent resistance are the Way toward the Kingdom of God.

I believe that Sin crucified Christ for loving those who were unloved, for feeding those who were unfed, and healing those who were in dis-ease. The Cross was the greatest display of the power of Sin, but was overcome by Christ’s power of love.

This Lenten season, I believe that by the grace of God I can turn away from the Sin of the world and toward the love of Christ, and that I can embrace the Cross and not fear it. I believe the grace of Christ empowers us all to eternal life. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY #95

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

* You are invited to stand as you are able.
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February 18, 2024



PRAYER MINISTRY

YOUR NAME _____

Prayers for our Church and its ministry:

Prayers for people I know:

- I have permission to publish this prayer.
- I do not have permission to share this prayer.

Prayers for the community/world:

Prayers for myself:

