March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 **12 pm** Meal Site
3 **Fill the Wagon Sunday for the Little free Pantry** ***3rd Sunday of Lent*** **9:30 am** Worship/ Communion **10:45 am** Sunday School for all ages **8 pm** Zoom Lenten Devo	4 **4:00 pm** Grief-Share	5 **Pastor Robb On Vacation March 4-11**	6 **6:00 pm** Bell rehearsal **7:30 pm** Choir rehearsal	7	8	9 **12 pm** Meal Site
10 ***4th Sunday of Lent*** **UMCOR Sunday** **9:30 am** Worship **10:45 am** Adult Sunday School ***Lily Orders Due*** **8 pm** Zoom Lenten Devo	11 **12:00 pm** Pastor's Bible Study **4:00 pm** Grief-Share	12 **3:30—6pm** YLR	13 **12:00 pm** Zoom & FB Live Prayer & Devotion **3:30—6pm** YLR **6:00 pm** Bell Rehearsal **7:30** pm Choir rehearsal	14 **8:00 pm** Big Steppers	15	16 **12 pm** Meal Site
17 ***5th Sunday of Lent*** **9:30 am** Worship **10:45 am** Sunday School for all ages **8 pm** Zoom Lenten Devo ***HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!***	18 **12:00 pm** Pastor's Bible Study **4:00 pm** Grief-Share	19 **Polling Location 6am—7pm** **3:30—6pm** YLR	20 **12:00 pm** Zoom & FB Live Prayer & Devotion **3:30—6pm** YLR **6:00 pm** Bell rehearsal **7:30 pm** Choir rehearsal	21 **3:00-7:00pm ImpactLife Blood Drive for Olivia** *April Compass Deadline*	22	23 **12 pm** Meal Site
24 ***Palm Sunday*** **9:30 am** Worship **10:45 am** Sunday School for all ages **11 am** Trip to St. Paul's UMC in Cedar Rapids **8 pm** Zoom Lenten Devo	25 **10:00 am** Two Rivers Readers **12:00 pm** Pastor's Bible Study **4:00 pm** Grief-Share	26 **3:30—6pm** YLR	27 **12:00 pm** Zoom & FB Live Prayer & Devotion **3:30—6pm** YLR **6:00 pm** Bell rehearsal **7:30 pm** Choir rehearsal	28 **5:30 pm Maundy Thursday Potluck and Service at Church of Peace**	29 **3-6 pm Good Friday Stations of the Gospel**	30 **11 am** Operation Safety Net **12 pm** Meal Site
31 ***Easter Sunday*** **9:30 am** Worship/ Communion **10:45 am** Kids Easter Egg Hunt						

a publication of

TWO RIVERS CHURCH
A RECONCILING UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

Compass

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Vol. 32 No. 3

Connect Online: **www.tworiversumc.org** **www.facebook.com/RITwoRivers**

Holy Week at Two Rivers

Maundy Thursday – March 28 at 5:30 p.m. All are invited to Church of Peace UCC (1114 12th Street, RI) for a potluck dinner at 5:30pm followed by a Maundy Thursday worship service.

Good Friday Stations of the Gospel– March 29. — The church will be open from 3:00-6:00 p.m. for our "Stations of the Gospel." This is a self-guided tour through the Gospel of Matthew with prayers and devotion. This is a chance for pilgrims to consider the journey that Jesus took from baptism to the Cross.

Easter Sunday – March 31. During worship the sanctuary choir will sing, we will share Communion, and declare that "Christ has risen!" Then kids are invited to an Easter egg hunt after worship in Epworth Hall.

Palm Sunday – Trip to Cedar Rapids

After worship on March 24, Pastor Robb and people from Two Rivers Church will travel to Cedar Rapids to worship with the people of St. Paul's UMC. Pastor Daniel Niyonzima leads the "African Nationals Ministries" worship service in Swahili, Kirundi, French, and English. It is our hope that we will learn from their worship and get inspired to create something similar at Two Rivers.

The address of St. Paul's UMC is 1340 3rd Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA. According to Google it is a one-hour-and-twenty-minute drive from Two Rivers to St. Paul's. This means that if we leave at 11:00 a.m., we will be able to get to worship on time, even with a possible pit stop for a bite to eat. There will be a sign-up sheet available for people to RSVP. Pastor Daniel has asked for an approximate number of guests.

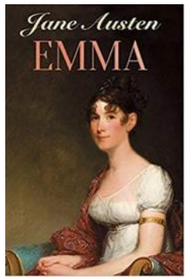
03/08 **Jen Kean**
03/09 **Sebastian Durbin**
03/10 **Ed Payton**
03/12 **Peggy Hallas**
03/14 **Jan Morrison**
03/19 **Josefina Mejia**
03/22 **Kathleen Hanna**
03/24 **Ellen Baldridge**
03/25 **John Crede**
03/28 **Brianna Pollock**
03/28 **Harold Truitt**
03/29 **Jeanna Ndayislimiye**

If you have a birthday in March and we've missed it, please call the church office to update our records.

UMCOR SUNDAY MARCH 10th

UMCOR Sunday giving allows the United Methodist Committee on Relief to make a difference in the lives of communities and individuals whose lives have been upset by storms, wars, fires, displacement and climate change. This offering underwrites UMCOR's "costs of doing business," allowing UMCOR to keep the promise that 100% of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project, not administrative costs. For more information on the work that UMCOR does you can visit their website at www.umcmission.org. A special offering envelope will be including in the bulletins on **March 10** for those wishing to give to this important mission. You may also mail your special offering for UMCOR Sunday to the church office at 1820 5th Ave, Rock Island IL 61201. Make sure to mark your offering "UMCOR Sunday".

Two Rivers Readers



The Two Rivers Readers will meet on March 25 at 10:00 a.m. in the back of the sanctuary to discuss our next book, *Emma*, by Jane Austen.

Emma is a novel about youthful hubris and romantic misunderstandings. It is set in the fictional country village of Highbury and the surrounding estates of Hartfield, Randalls and Donwell Abbey, and involves the relationships among people from a small number of families. The novel was first published in December 1815.

As always, our group is safe and nonjudgmental, and our discussions are insightful, challenging, and a lot of fun.

We'd love to have you join us!

Questions? Please contact the church Office.

Easter Lily Orders

If you wish to purchase an Easter Lily to be displayed during worship on Easter Sunday, March 31, please complete the order form and place it in the offering tray on Sunday morning or mail it to the church office, 1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201. All Easter Lilies must be paid for in advance. **If you are mailing in your order please call or email the church office as well before March 10th to make sure we receive your order in time.** The cost is $12.00 each. Please make checks payable to "Two Rivers Church" and mark it "Easter Lily."

Safety During Severe Weather

On February 8, 2024, the first ever February tornado for the state of Wisconsin hit just south of Madison following record high temperatures. With our own volatile weather - sub-zero temperatures, 14 inches of snow, and experiencing record high temperatures during the last two months - keeping you safe during severe weather is important to us.

To keep you safe, we want to prepare you should evacuation to a safer area in the church be necessary.

If severe weather occurs, you may be asked to leave the Sanctuary and to go to a safer area on the lower level. Ideally, instructions will be given from the pulpit. Sanctuary exits leading to the lower level include: 1) the stairway by the 5th Avenue (Narthex) entrance at the back of the church, and 2) the exit behind the organ. These exits are the quickest routes to the lowest level from the Sanctuary. If an exit is blocked, use the main hallway down the stairs toward Epworth Hall. Move to the lowest level of the church where there are chairs available in the hallway and in room(s) designated by signs. If the threat occurs during Sunday school, teachers will lead their students to these safe areas, and if there are children in the Nursery, the attendants will bring them to the lower hallway where they'll be reunited with parents. If there is a severe weather threat during weekday small group sessions, evacuate to the lowest level of the church.

At Camp Milan, proceed to the lowest level of the Retreat Center, away from windows.

Thank you for helping us keep you safe.

Don't forget to change your clocks March 10th

Two Rivers

Prayers Presence Gifts Service

Remember in Prayer-
All those in need of prayers for healing and strength.

Our Sympathies to -
The family and friends of Jack Swim who passed away on February 15.
Lee Farrar and family on the passing of his daughter, Valerie S. Farrar on February 9.

Our presence—

February 4	= 66
February 11	= 59
February 18	= 65
February 25	= 67

Our gifts—
General Fund Offerings

February 4	$6,015
February 11	$3,749
February 18	$7,978
February 25	$1,614

Our Service -
Members of the community served at Two Rivers Saturday Meal Site & Operation Safety Net (OSN):

February 3	— 64 Meal Site
February 10	— 60 Meal Site
February 17	— 70 Meal Site
February 24	— 99 Meal Site, 76 OSN

Prayer Chain

Charlotte Peterson
793-7783
Nancy Schwegler
781-5334

If you want the prayer chain to pray for your concern or you wish to be part of this prayer ministry, please call one of the persons listed above. They will alert the remaining chain members.

Winterfest Youth

The Winterfest youth retreat at Camp Milan Retreat Center was a group of kids from Surge youth group in Bloomington-Normal. The youth group includes youth from Wesley UMC, Normal First UMC, and Hope Church UMC. During the retreat Pastor Robb led four worship services covering Psalm 23 in depth. On Sunday, the group came to Two Rivers Church to help organize, sort, and clean out our coat room. Claudia Applegate and Candy Canik oversaw the nearly 20 workers. Their work made a huge impact on how we can serve our guests on Saturday, making it much easier for people to find coats and shoes that can fit their needs.

The youth from Hope Church were particularly excited when they realized that Two Rivers was "that Church" from their Christmas Eve service. They remembered the gift that we gave to their new congregation and were excited to learn that they would be helping out as a part of our ministry together.

Learn about General Conference

Our Illinois Great Rivers Conference churches and leaders are invited to learn more about our denomination's upcoming global legislative meeting General Conference 2024. This body of elected delegates from around the world will meet in Charlotte, N.C. from April 23 through May 4 to deliberate policy, doctrine, and denominational statements for The United Methodist Church. You're invited to learn more about General Conference and to preview some of their discussions through our online GC24 Countdown, which will meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm beginning on March 6 and ending on April 17.
Hosted by our Director of Connectional Ministries, Curtis Brown, we will include presentations and discussions on various topics, including:

March 6 -- What is General Conference and How Does It Work?
March 13 - Revised Social Principles
March 20 - Global Regionalization Legislation
March 27 - New Clergy Pension Plan
April 3 - Continuance/Removal of LGBTQ Restrictive Language
April 10 - Discussion of Other Legislation and Actions
April 17 - General Conference Overview and Prayer for Delegates

To join GC24 Countdown, you will need to use a device that can access this Zoom link that will be posted on our website at TwoRiversUMC.org. This will NOT be the same Zoom meeting room that we use for our prayer group and/or Lenten discussion.

Meeting ID: 828 5189 6863
Passcode: 649797
You may also dial in on a phone connection, but you will only have the ability to listen to the presentations: (646) 931-3860.
Meeting ID: 828 5189 6863
Passcode: 649797

We will be recording the meetings and presentations if you would like to review them at a later time.
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Curtis Brown, cbrown@igrc.org, and please join us as we surround our delegates, our leaders, our churches, and our denomination in prayer for preparation of General Conference 2024.

Compass

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Online Giving at Tworiversumc.org

Two Rivers Donate QR Code

1. Website Giving:
Go to www.tworiversumc.org to give through the church website. It's a safe and easy way to give any time.
OR
2. Tithe.ly Giving App:
Download the Tithe.ly App from the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play Store (Android). Once you've downloaded the app select your church and follow the instructions given.

Newsletter deadline

The deadline for items for the **April** issue of the *Compass* is **Thursday, March 21, 2024.** Please have information or articles in by this deadline date. Thank you.

Pastoral Leadership
Rev. Robb McCoy
mccoy@tworiversumc.org

Program Staff
Director of Music
Mark Swessinger
mswess@mchsi.com

Interim Accompanist
Andrzej Kozlowski

Organist Emeritus
Judith Litherland

Ministers
All of us

Support Staff
Church Office Manager
Brianna Pollock
office@tworiversumc.org

Volunteer Financial Secretary
Charlotte Peterson
char1728@aol.com

Church Custodian
Brianna Pollock

Camp Milan Caretaker
Kent Hessman

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.

1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201
Office Phone: **(309) 788-9384** email: **office@tworiversumc.org**
Office Hours: **Monday -Thursday 8 am—2 pm**
Connect Online: **www.tworiversumc.org — www.facebook.com/RITwoRivers — twitter.com/RITwoRivers**

If you wish to purchase an Easter Lily to be displayed during worship on Easter Sunday, March 31, please complete the form below and place it in the offering tray on Sunday morning or mail it to the church office, 1820 5th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201. ALL EASTER LILIES MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE. The cost is $12.00 each. Please make checks payable to "Two Rivers Church" and mark it "Easter Lily." You may pick up your plant after worship on Easter Sunday.

The deadline for ordering is Sunday, March 10. No Late Orders Will Be Accepted.

Easter Lily Order Form

I would like to order _____ Easter Lily(s) @ $12.00 each.
Enclosed is my cash/check in the amount of _____

My Easter Lily should be designated as follows:
In memory of _____
_____
In honor of _____
_____
Given by _____
Phone Number _____

_____ I will pick up my Lily(s) from the church after the Easter Service.
_____ Please deliver my Lily(s) to my home address.
_____ Please deliver my Lily(s) to a shut-in.