



James 2:14-26 (CEB)

My brothers and sisters, what good is it if people say they have faith but do nothing to show it? Claiming to have faith can't save anyone, can it? Imagine a brother or sister who is naked and never has enough food to eat. What if one of you said, "Go in peace! Stay warm! Have a nice meal!"? What good is it if you don't actually give them what their body needs? In the same way, faith is dead when it doesn't result in faithful activity.

Someone might claim, "You have faith and I have action." But how can I see your faith apart from your actions? Instead, I'll show you my faith by putting it into practice in faithful action. It's good that you believe that God is one. Ha! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble with fear. Are you so slow? Do you need to be shown that faith without actions has no value at all? What about Abraham, our father? Wasn't he shown to be righteous through his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? See, his faith was at work along with his actions. In fact, his faith was made complete by his faithful actions. So the scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed God, and God regarded him as righteous. What is more, Abraham was called God's friend. So you see that a person is shown to be righteous through faithful actions and not through faith alone. In the same way, wasn't Rahab the prostitute shown to be righteous when she received the messengers as her guests and then sent them on by another road? As the lifeless body is dead, so faith without actions is dead.

Luke 4:14-21 (CEB)

Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news about him spread throughout the whole countryside. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

Jesus went to Nazareth, where he had been raised. On the Sabbath he went to the synagogue as he normally did and stood up to read. The synagogue assistant gave him the scroll from the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the prisoners
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to liberate the oppressed,
and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.*

He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the synagogue assistant, and sat down. Every eye in the synagogue was fixed on him. He began to explain to them, "Today, this scripture has been fulfilled just as you heard it."

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.

RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

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 June 9, 2024

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

Discipleship Schedule Monday Bible Study is on break for the month of June. 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 dialing 312-626-6799. Once connected, dial the Meeting ID # 961 006 728, and you will join in the conversation.

"We Care" Gift Bags For Our Senior Members Today will be the day to deliver "We Care" gift bags to our senior members. If you would like to help with delivery, please see Judy Shryack after worship.

Beloved Community Sessions start Tomorrow This is an important opportunity to join a movement for positive change in our community. People from three churches are invited to participate in this groundbreaking program. Two Rivers UMC, The House, and Riverside UMC will be coming together for frank discussions and powerful learning. The workshops will take place from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Mondays, starting June 10. The location of the first gathering will be here at Two Rivers, June 10 from 6-8pm. To Register go to the following registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/3vvb4jkz>

Volunteers Needed for Pride Events We are in need of volunteers to be at our table on **June 15 from 3-7pm** at Bass Street Pride. This is a Saturday event organized by our own Viminda Shafer. Last year this was our first event, and it was a great experience.

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Assistant Greeter
6/9	Donna Burroughs	Gerry Etzel, Roger Pohlman, Kevin & Brianna Pollock	
6/16	Dave Martin	Dick & Kala Lee, Kevin & Brianna Pollock	
6/23	Charlotte Peterson	Doug Stephens, Brianna & Kevin Pollock	

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



Donation QR Code

NAME: _____

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

New Contact Information:

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Opportunities to serve

Searching for interest in fellowship:

- I'm Interested in volunteering at the Pride event on June 15 at Bass Street Landing.
- I'm interested in attending a Ministries Fair to find out more about ways to serve.
- I'm interested in learning more about the Beloved Community sessions.

Two Rivers Outreach Ministry opportunities:

- Donate household items to Operation Safety Net. (pots, pans, dishes, etc.)
- 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.)

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE "Prelude in C Major" - J.S. Bach

GREETING

***CALL TO WORSHIP** adapted from John Wesley Sermon #2

One: Since the Christian religion was in the world, there have been many in every age and nation who were 'almost Christian.' So, what then, is implied in being almost.

All: Those who give assistance to others only so that it does not harm themselves. They feed the hungry with what they have to spare, and clothe the naked from their own overflowing closet. They have a form of godliness, but lack sincerity. They abstain from evil only to avoid punishment.

One: But what does it mean to be 'altogether Christian'?

All: First, the love of God. Second is the love of neighbor. Faith which does not bring forth repentance, love, and all good works, is not a living faith, but is a dead and devilish one.

***HYMN #384 UMH "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** adapted from John Wesley Sermon #2

All: Holy God, it has been said that 'Hell is paved with good intentions.' We examine ourselves now—not just our intentions, but our works. So we pause and ask ourselves these honest questions. Is the love of God in my heart? Can I cry out, "My God and my all"? Am I happy in God? Do I love my neighbor as myself? Do I love even my enemies? Do I love my own soul and recognize that Christ loves me too?

(Pause of silent confession and prayer)

One: If the answers to these questions are found wanting, then The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who now stands in the midst of us, calls you to awaken. Call upon God who is merciful and gracious, and abundant in goodness and truth.

All: May we all experience what it is to be not almost, but altogether Christians! We are justified freely by his grace, and rejoice in the hope and glory of God. Amen!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT #699 UMH "Come, and Let Us Sweetly Join" vs. 1

PRAYER HYMN #355 UMH "Depth of Mercy" vs. 1

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy Spirit, open our hearts to the story of your love. Open our minds to new ways of knowing you. Open our doors to all whom you would welcome. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS James 2:14-26 & Luke 4:14-21 (CEB)

SERMON "Practical Divinity" - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #57 "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" vs. 1-4

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

***HYMN #413 UMH "A Charge to Keep I Have" 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 grace of God that precedes all things. God's creative energy is working in all and through all things. While creation has gone amiss through sin, God's grace is yearning for us all to return to love.

I believe in the grace of God that justifies through faith. Through faith, God's grace can begin to repair the breach that was created by sin. I have decided to follow Christ, so I am renewed, forgiven, and empowered to walk on Christ's path.

I believe in the grace of God that sanctifies me daily. Every day I am a new creation, formed in God's image and molded by Christ's love. It is the sanctifying grace of God that will move us on to perfection and into the glory of eternal life, not just in the hereafter, but as we live and breathe. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY #94 UMH**

***BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

POSTLUDE "Fugue in C Major" - J.S. Bach

* You are invited to stand as you are able.
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June 9, 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:

