



Romans 13:1-10 (CEB)

Every person should place themselves under the authority of the government. There isn't any authority unless it comes from God, and the authorities that are there have been put in place by God. So anyone who opposes the authority is standing against what God has established. People who take this kind of stand will get punished. The authorities don't frighten people who are doing the right thing. Rather, they frighten people who are doing wrong. Would you rather not be afraid of authority? Do what's right, and you will receive its approval. It is God's servant given for your benefit. But if you do what's wrong, be afraid because it doesn't have weapons to enforce the law for nothing.

It is God's servant put in place to carry out his punishment on those who do what is wrong. That is why it is necessary to place yourself under the government's authority, not only to avoid God's punishment but also for the sake of your conscience. You should also pay taxes for the same reason, because the authorities are God's assistants, concerned with this very thing. So pay everyone what you owe them. Pay the taxes you owe, pay the duties you are charged, give respect to those you should respect, and honor those you should honor.

Don't be in debt to anyone, except for the obligation to love each other. Whoever loves another person has fulfilled the Law. The commandments, Don't commit adultery, don't murder, don't steal, don't desire what others have, and any other commandments, are all summed up in one word: You must love your neighbor as yourself. Love doesn't do anything wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is what fulfills the Law.

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 July 21, 2024

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

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 dialing 312-626-6799. Once connected, dial the Meeting ID # 961 006 728, and you will join in the conversation.

Worship At The Park Next Week On Sunday, **July 28 at 10:30 a.m.** the people of Two Rivers are invited to join in a multi-church worship service at Schwiebert Park. There will not be worship at the church that day. Instead, everyone is invited to bring a lawn chair to the bandshell at Schwiebert Park for a time of worship. Let us know on the blue tear-off sheet if you would like to help out be bringing a dozen donuts to the worship.

Two Summer Youth Events:

Fusion Fest August 10 from 11am—2:30pm Fusion Fest will be held at the Riverside UMC Life Center in Moline (2420 41st Street, Moline). Nothing builds community like food and music! Fusion fest aims to fuse two things that everyone has in common to celebrate the things that make us different. Proceeds from the event will support an after-school academic mentorship program which caters to Moline High School students.

September 8th Youth Rally at Camp Milan. More details to come.

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Assistant Greeter
7/21	Kala Lee	Dick & Kala Lee, Brianna & Kevin Pollock	
7/28	Worship At Schwiebert Park		
8/4		Candy Canik & Dave Dehnel	

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 will bring a dozen donuts to the community celebration at Schwiebert next week.
- I can serve on the planning team for Fusion Fest and/or our Youth Rally at Camp Milan.

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.)*
- 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.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE "The Old Rugged Cross" -arr. Amy Potter

GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Personal and Social holiness are the twin foundations of Methodism. Holiness happens in community, and we recognize the ways we can work with God to move us onward toward perfection.

All: We recognize the need to worship in community. We come to be made new and be strengthened in our faith.

One: Today we recognize that "politics" means simply, the way that groups of people make decisions about how to live together.

All: Our call, even in the political world, is to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

*HYMN #64 UMH "Holy, Holy, Holy"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of Every Nation, you call upon your people to protect the dignity and worth of all people and to work for the well-being of all of Creation. Yet we create power structures that exploit, alienate, and oppress. Help us to be mindful of the ways we both contribute to injustice as well as suffer under it. Forgive us for failing to love our neighbor, especially our neighbors with whom we disagree. Soften our hardened hearts and strengthen our resolve to work together for a common good.

(Pause for silent confession and prayer)

One: Hear the good news, God pardons those who humbly repent and believe the gospel. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen

*PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER HYMN #171 UMH "There's Something About That Name"

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 READING

Romans 13:1-10 CEB)

SERMON

"Political Community" - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #2158 FWS

"Just a Closer Walk With Thee"

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN #733 UMH

"Marching to Zion" vs. 1,2,4

(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

adapted from the Revised Social Principles

We affirm that human beings are made for God and for one another. We celebrate the diversity of our human family and respond to God's call in the world through acts of mercy and justice.

We affirm that all creation belongs to God and is a manifestation of God's goodness. Humans, nonhuman animals, plants, and other forms of life are a part of a web of community that depends on each other. We affirm our sacred call to be good stewards of all that has been entrusted to us.

We profess that all we are and all that we possess, belongs to God. We are temporary stewards of resources and material goods that should be used to serve God and our neighbor. We recognize economic challenges of scarcity, but pledge to live into a Kingdom of God where all are cared for and all have enough.

We affirm that our involvement in political systems is rooted in the Gospel imperative to love our neighbor, to do justice, and to care for the vulnerable. Our political action is to be aimed at a common good and not a pursuit of power.

I believe that the Triune God is a God that is community, and that God created humanity to be in community. We are called to be holy, and are made holy through the saving work of Christ and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY #94 UMH

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "Finale" from *Music for the Royal Fireworks* - G.F. Handel

* You are invited to stand as you are able.
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July 21, 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:

