



Ecclesiastes 1:3-11 (CEB)

What do people gain from all the hard work that they work so hard at under the sun?

⁴ A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains as it always has.

⁵ The sun rises, the sun sets; it returns panting to the place where it dawns.

⁶ The wind blows to the south, goes around to the north; around and around blows the wind; the wind returns to its rounds again.


⁷ All streams flow to the sea, but the sea is never full; to the place where the rivers flow, there they continue to flow.

⁸ All words are tiring; no one is able to speak. The eye isn't satisfied with seeing, neither is the ear filled up by hearing.

⁹ Whatever has happened—that's what will happen again; whatever has occurred—that's what will occur again. There's nothing new under the sun. ¹⁰ People may say about something: "Look at this! It's new!" But it was already around for ages before us.

¹¹ There's no remembrance of things in the past, nor of things to come in the future. Neither will there be any remembrance among those who come along in the future.

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 October 13, 2024

International Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Class Room
Adult Sunday School—10:45 am in Asbury Parlor
Youth Sunday School—10:45 am Epworth Hall

Discipleship Schedule Monday Bible Study meets every Monday in Epworth Hall at noon. **No Bible Study This Week.** 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.

Today is Pastor Appreciation Day Please take a moment to recognize Robb and his family's ministry - tell them how they have positively impacted your life; ask how you may help with his ministry (volunteer to be on a Church Board or sign up for an Opportunity to Serve on the Sunday Bulletin); or otherwise express your thanks for Pastor Robb's work.

Stewardship Brunch Next Sunday On October 20, we will celebrate the mission and ministry of Two Rivers Church with a brunch in Epworth Hall and celebrate those who volunteer in the many ways that make Two Rivers special.

Braver Angels Workshop The "Skills for Disagreeing Better" workshop will be held at Port Byron First UMC on Saturday, October 26 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. This is a part of a growing relationship between the United Methodist Churches in the area and a perfect workshop to align with our Campaign for Kindness. For more information and to register go to www.tworiversumc.org/Braver-angels-workshop/.

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Assistant Greeter
10/13	Cooley Family	Gerry Etzel, Roger Pohlman, Kevin & Brianna Pollock	
10/20	David Martin	Dick & Kala Lee and Kevin & Brianna Pollock	
10/27			

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

Scan this Code to schedule a time you can be an usher, liturgist, or greeter.



I can help with:

- Trunks for Trunk or Treat at Earl Hanson. October 30 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Help with Advent art project and banner
- Stewardship Celebration on October 20, bringing in an brunch dish to share.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE "Charlie Brown Theme" - Vince Guaraldi

INTRODUCTION

* HMYN (see screens) "I'll Be a Sunbeam"

* ENTRY OF THE LIGHT

One: Holy God, there is Good News to be found in the characters of The Peanuts.

All: Today we search for us a deeper understanding of faith through the character of Charlie Brown, the seeker.

One: He is the seeker, like the writer of Ecclesiastes, constantly searching for meaning and affirmation. We join in his enduring struggle and find a kindred spirit on our own journey.

All: We pray this in the name of Jesus, the Center that Holds, and the power of the Spirit That Transforms. Amen

* HYMN (see screens) "I'll Be a Sunbeam"

PRAYER OF LAMENTATION

All: God of the front page and the funnies, we come together to recognize our common struggle captured in the pages of both. We curse the kite-eating tree. We wonder if we will ever win a baseball game. We wait in vain for the Great Pumpkin, who never shows up. We get rocks for trick or treats. We lose the spelling bee. We think this time will be the time we will finally kick the football. We mumble "Good Grief." We shout "You block head!" Sometimes it feels like there is nothing in life but disappointment and loss. Help us to find our path in the process, and somehow have a chuckle along the way.

(Pause for silent lamentation and prayer)

One: Prayers of lamentation can be a release. They are an expression of faith in the midst of trouble. Expressions of lament can take a load off of one's mind.

All: Sound theology has a way of doing that. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

* HYMN #698 UMH "God of Ages"

* You are invited to stand as you are able.

PROCLAMATION OF THE GOOD NEWS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Gracious God, open our hearts and minds by the power of the Holy Spirit that, as we read the Scriptures and proclaim your Word, we may be transformed by the Good News. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Ecclesiastes 1:3-11 (CEB)

SERMON

Charlie Brown, the Seeker - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONSE HYMN #452

"My Faith Look Up to Thee"

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

PASTORIAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

ANTHEM

"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" - Gesner/Huff
Two Rivers Sanctuary Choir

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

* HYMN #463 UMH

"Lord, Speak to Me" vs. 1, 3, 5

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

* IT'S AN AFFIRMATION OF COMMUNITY, CHARLIE BROWN!

All: O God, we are the Peanuts. We are frustrated seekers like Charlie. We are fierce, vulnerable, and sometimes cruel like Lucy. We are passionate and dedicated like Schroeder. We are philosophical and faithful like Linus. We are marginalized and embraced like Franklin, Patty, and Marcie. We are dreamers and dancers like Snoopy. We are complicated, messy, and full of curiosity and hope. Wrap us like a warm blanket in your love. Hold us together as we find happiness every day in Jesus. Together. Amen.

* DOXOLOGY #94 UMH

* BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

One: You are sent to love God

All: With all our heart, soul, mind, and strength

One: You are sent to love neighbor

All: Who was created in the image of God

One: You are sent to love yourself

All: With grace and assurance that I am worthy of God's love

One: Go in peace and with one accord we say, Amen!

POSTLUDE

"The Rejoicing" - George Frederick Handel



PRAYERS FOR 10/13/2024

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:

