

NAME: _____

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

New Contact Information:

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Opportunities to serve


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.)*

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 January 12, 2025

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.

Special MLK Worship Service The QC Methodist Clergy Coalition is building a meaningful weekend experience to honor the life of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Churches from the surrounding area are invited to participate in the worship service on Sunday, January 19 at 3:00 p.m. at Bethel Wesley United Methodist Church (1201 13th St, Moline).

Human Relations Sunday Next Sunday, January 19 is Human Relations Sunday. Your gifts to the Human Relations Day offering strengthens United Methodist outreach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico, encouraging social justice and work with at-risk youth through Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Services, and Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs. Look for the special offering envelope in the January 19 worship bulletin.

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Assistant Greeter
1/12	David Dehnel	Gerry Etzel, Roger Pohlman, Kevin & Brianna Pollock	
1/19	Judy Smiley	Dick & Kala Lee, Kevin & Brianna Pollock	
1/26	Donna Burroughs	Brianna & Kevin Pollock	

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



Donation QR Code



January 12, 2025

Baptism of the Lord

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (CEB)

The people were filled with expectation, and everyone wondered whether John might be the Christ. John replied to them all, “I baptize you with water, but the one who is more powerful than me is coming. I’m not worthy to loosen the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. The shovel he uses to sift the wheat from the husks is in his hands. He will clean out his threshing area and bring the wheat into his barn. But he will burn the husks with a fire that can’t be put out.”

When everyone was being baptized, Jesus also was baptized. While he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit came down on him in bodily form like a dove. And there was a voice from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness.”

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE "I Will Sing of Thy Great Mercies" - F. Mendelssohn

GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 1:1-3, 6

One: The truly happy person doesn't follow wicked advice, doesn't stand on the road of sinners, and doesn't sit with the disrespectful.

All: **Instead of doing these things, these persons love the LORD's Instruction, and they recite God's Instruction day and night!**

One: They are like a tree planted by streams of water, which bears fruit just at the right time and whose leaves never fade.

All: **The LORD is intimately acquainted with the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked is destroyed.**

*HYMN # 357 UMH "Just as I Am, Without One Plea" vs. 1, 3, 5, 6

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: **Gracious God, we want to walk with Jesus. We want to be agents of healing and mercy. We want to feed the multitudes and inspire others. You can read our hearts and know our earnest desire. Yet the circumstances of the world and our own desires sometimes get in the way. This is sin, and for this we seek your forgiveness. Empower us to return to you and follow you. Give us the courage to walk where you would lead and love like you would love. In Christ's holy name we humbly pray.**

<Pause for silent confession and reflection>

One: Hear the good news, through the grace of Christ you can plant yourself by streams of water. Be renewed by the promise of baptism and bear the fruit of the Spirit.

All: **We will trust in the way of the righteous. Glory to God. Amen**

*PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER HYMN #393 UMH "Spirit of the Living God"

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

ANTHEM "Peace Like a River/Kum ba Yah"
Two Rivers Sanctuary Choir

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy Spirit, as we open up the Scriptures and read this Gospel story, help us to not only hear the good news, but to believe in the good news. Help us to not only believe in the good news, but to live out the good news. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (CEB)

SERMON "Baptism of Christ at the Jordon River" - Mark Swessinger

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #475 UMH "Come Down, O Love Divine"

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN #399 UMH "Take My Life, and Let It Be"

(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 God who is creating, active in the formation of lives and the healing of the world. God created humanity in God's image, and yearns for us to join in the process to restore Creation to Shalom.

I believe in Christ who is redeeming, who proclaims the Good News and shows us the Way to heal ourselves, each other, and the world. Christ helps us imagine the possibility of the Kingdom of God, and beckons us to follow in his footsteps.

I believe in the Holy Spirit who is sustaining us on the journey and empowering us to achieve what would be impossible to do alone.

As the Church, we share in this mission. We have the ability to proclaim the Good News, to heal and serve, to call and lead, to preach and teach, to restore community, to feed the multitudes, and to transform the world. We do this by the power of love and the grace of God. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY #94 UMH

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "Nachtstück" - R. Schumann

* You are invited to stand as you are able.
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PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK OF 1/12/25

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:

