

Name _____

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

New Contact Information

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Opportunities to Serve

I would be interested in a weeknight Lenten study that featured dinner, a documentary, and discussion. I could:

- Attend on Tuesday nights (6:00-8:30)
- Attend on Thursday nights (6:00-8:30)
- Attend on Sunday nights (5:00-7:30)
- Help with at least one dinner

Volunteer opportunities:

- Help serve at Saturday meal site.
- Read to kids at Earl Hanson Elementary (on Tuesday mornings with Pastor Robb)

Worship volunteers:

- 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.
- Counters** - Monday mornings, help take account of Sunday offering (Must be a member of the church in good standing for at least 6 months.)



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

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 February 9, 2025

Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Classroom

Adult Sunday School - 10:45 am in the Asbury Parlor

Youth/Kids Sunday School - 10:45 am in Fellowship Hall

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.

NAACP Community Day The Annual NAACP Religious Affairs Community Day worship will be at 3:00 p.m. on February 23 at Grace City Church in Rock Island. This is the tall-steepled church across the street from Two Rivers at 1925 5th Avenue. The keynote speaker will be Ciera Bates-Chamberlain. She is a dynamic speaker and will bring an inspiring and motivating message. In addition to Rev. Bates-Chamberlain, there will be music from Voices of Quad Cities Choir and other ensembles.

Grief Support Group Church of Peace UCC (1114 12th St Rock Island) will have an informational gathering for a Grief Support group tomorrow, February 10th, starting at 5:30pm in their Fellowship Hall. A light meal will be provided. All interested are invited to attend.

Online Giving



Follow us at @RITwoRivers



February 9, 2025 – Fifth Sunday of Epiphany

Luke 6:20-36

Jesus raised his eyes to his disciples and said:

“Happy are you who are poor,
because God’s kingdom is yours.
Happy are you who hunger now,
because you will be satisfied.
Happy are you who weep now,
because you will laugh.

Happy are you when people hate you, reject you, insult you, and condemn your name as evil because of the Human One. Rejoice when that happens! Leap for joy because you have a great reward in heaven. Their ancestors did the same things to the prophets.

But how terrible for you who are rich,
because you have already received your comfort.
How terrible for you who have plenty now,
because you will be hungry.
How terrible for you who laugh now,
because you will mourn and weep.

How terrible for you when all speak well of you.

Their ancestors did the same things to the false prophets.

“But I say to you who are willing to hear: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on the cheek, offer the other one as well. If someone takes your coat, don’t withhold your shirt either. Give to everyone who asks and don’t demand your things back from those who take them. Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you.

“If you love those who love you, why should you be commended? Even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, why should you be commended? Even sinners do that. If you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, why should you be commended? Even sinners lend to sinners expecting to be paid back in full. Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend expecting nothing in return. If you do, you will have a great reward. You will be acting the way children of the Most High act, for he is kind to ungrateful and wicked people. Be compassionate just as your Father is compassionate.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE “Rigaudon” from “Almira” - Handel

GREETING

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 37:1-6) Liturgist: Dave Martin

One: Don't get upset over evildoers; don't be jealous of those who do wrong.

All: Because they will fade fast, like grass; they will wither like green vegetables.

One: Trust the Lord and do good; live in the land and farm faithfulness.

All: Enjoy the LORD, and he will give what your hearts asks.

One: Commit your way to the Lord! Trust him! He will act.

All: God will make your righteousness shine like the dawn. Amen.

***HYMN #98 UMH “To God Be the Glory”**

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Jesus came down from a mountain to the level place and taught the crowds. He pronounced blessings on the poor and warnings to the rich. He told us to love our enemies and live with compassion. It is the foundation of our faith, but good and gracious God, it is not an easy way to live. Forgive us for falling short of your call to love. We, however, have not failed alone. We are stuck in systems and institutions that ignore your teaching, and we feel helpless. Grant us grace. Grant us mercy as we try to navigate a cruel world. Guide us on the path of compassion. Strengthen our bonds of faith so that we live into the Reign of God, not the fiefdoms of cruelty.

<Pause for silent confession and reflection>

One: Hear the good news: Jesus came to preach the good news of the Kingdom of God and forgives us so that we join him on this mission.

All: We are forgiven by - and for - compassion and love. 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

CHOIR ANTHEM “Jesus Be Present Now”

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 6:20-36 (CEB)

SERMON “Jesus on the Plain” - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN (See Screens) “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

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

(All are invited to lace your offering and the detached part of the bulletin in the offering container atp 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 “The Heavens Declare His Glory” - Beethoven

**=please rise if you are able*

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal. You can use the red books in front of you. Music used with permission under CCLI License:

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK OF 2/9/2025

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 publish this prayer.

Prayers for the community/world:

Prayers for myself:
