

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

### New Contact Information

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Opportunities to Serve

#### Lent in 3D April 1

- Pastor Robb is proposing a change of plans for our April 1 gathering and wants to gauge interest. The Last Picture House in Davenport is showing the film "No Other Land." This movie won an Oscar this year for feature-length documentary. It examines the war in Gaza, and is made by a Palestinian and an Israeli. It is showing on Tuesday at 6:30. Tickets are only \$6 (\$7 online) and there are plenty of seats available .

#### Volunteer opportunities:

- Help serve at Saturday meal site.
- Be a part of a team that will adopt a family from World Relief.

#### Worship volunteers:

- Liturgist** – Assist Pastor with readings and communion during worship.
- 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 March 30, 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.

**UMCOR Sunday** Today is UMCOR Sunday. Gifts to UMCOR Sunday lay the foundation for all United Methodist Committee on Relief work by covering the costs of doing business. This means all contributions designated to specific programs can go 100 percent to those programs because UMCOR's basic expenses are covered. Please look for the special UMCOR envelope in this bulletin and give generously. Thank you.

Online Giving



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March 30, 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

Luke 16:19-31

“There was a certain rich man who clothed himself in purple and fine linen, and who feasted luxuriously every day. At his gate lay a certain poor man named Lazarus who was covered with sores. Lazarus longed to eat the crumbs that fell from the rich man’s table. Instead, dogs would come and lick his sores.

“The poor man died and was carried by angels to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. While being tormented in the place of the dead, he looked up and saw Abraham at a distance with Lazarus at his side. He shouted, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I’m suffering in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received good things, whereas Lazarus received terrible things. Now Lazarus is being comforted and you are in great pain. Moreover, a great crevasse has been fixed between us and you. Those who wish to cross over from here to you cannot. Neither can anyone cross from there to us.’

“The rich man said, ‘Then I beg you, Father, send Lazarus to my father’s house. I have five brothers. He needs to warn them so that they don’t come to this place of agony.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets. They must listen to them.’ The rich man said, ‘No, Father Abraham! But if someone from the dead goes to them, they will change their hearts and lives.’ Abraham said, ‘If they don’t listen to Moses and the Prophets, then neither will they be persuaded if someone rises from the dead.’”

## GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE "In the Garden" - Miles/arr. Coleman

### GREETING

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 41:1-3, 10-13) Liturgist: Shari Cole**

One: Those who pay close attention to the poor are truly happy! The Lord rescues them during troubling times,

**All: The Lord protects them and keeps them alive; they are widely regarded throughout the land as happy people. You won't hand them over to the will of our enemies.**

One: The Lord will strengthen them when they are lying in bed, sick. You will completely transform the place where they lie ill.

**All: Please have mercy on me, Lord, and lift me up...**

One: You support me in my integrity; you put me in your presence forever.

**All: Bless the Lord, the God of Israel from forever to forever! Amen**

**\*HYMN #139 UMH "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"**

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: God of Mercy and Righteousness, walk with us on this Lenten journey of reflection and renewal. There are times when we need the reflective peace of darkness and rest. Wrap us in your blanket of love when we need to simply lie down. But there are times when we need a light to illumine our way and the fire of the Spirit to kindle in us a passion for renewal. Be with us in the light and the darkness, and help us to know when each is needed. This Lenten season, lead us through the darkness and the light to righteousness. In your undying mercy, grant us moments of reflection and renewal. Through your grace, empower us to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you.**

*<Pause for silent confession and reflection>*

One: Hear the good news: God is slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and ever more merciful than we can imagine.

**All: We are forgiven by - and for - mercy. Glory to God. Amen**

### \*PASSING THE PEACE

Prayer Song #256 "We Would See Jesus" vs. 4

### 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

CHORAL ANTHEM "All Praise to Thee" - Tallis/Pooler

## PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**All: Holy Spirit, bless the reading and hearing of this sacred text. Speak through these words and reveal to us the living Word of Christ. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE Luke 16:19-31 (CEB)

SERMON: "Mercy for Lazarus" - Rev. Robb McCoy

## RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #560 "Help Us Accept Each Other"

MERCY IN POETRY "The Beggar" by John Newton

### INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

**\*HYMN #121 UMH "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"**

*(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 that God is love, and that God's love is revealed in mercy and justice. Justice is God's will for the world to be righteous. It demands repentance, the righting of wrongdoing, the protection of the weak, and the distribution of resources. Mercy is God's compassion, forgiveness, and loving kindness that restores community, reconciles relationships, and returns people to wholeness. These two, mercy and justice, work together to restore Creation to shalom.

I believe in the mercy and justice of Abraham, who welcomed Lazarus and challenged the rich man. I believe in the Law and the Prophets, which reveal to us that mercy is a fundamental part of faith.

I believe in the mercy of Christ, who challenges small-minded notions of fairness and economics, who gives us this life to learn how to show mercy and walk humbly, and invites us all into the Kingdom of God. Amen.

**\*DOXOLOGY #95 UMH**

**\*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

POSTLUDE "Menuetto Osservanza" - Chopin/arr. Parks

*\*=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 3/30/2025

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers for our Church and its ministry:

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Prayers for people I know:

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I have permission to publish this prayer.

I do not have permission to publish this prayer.

Prayers for the community/world:

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Prayers for myself:

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