

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

### New Contact Information

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Ways to Serve

#### OUTREACH

- ☐ Donate food and/or funds to Two Rivers Meal Site, Operation Safety Net and Little Free Pantry ministries.
- ☐ Volunteer on Saturdays at Meal Site, set up, serving, cleanup, or all of the above.

#### WORSHIP

- ☐ **Liturgist** – Assist Pastor with readings and communion during worship.
- ☐ **Video** - Work the camera in balcony to improve YouTube video
- ☐ **4th Sunday Ushers** —Open the church for Sunday worship and make coffee. Take offerings in bank bag to bank depository.



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 history of 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 December 24, 2025

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

**Advent Multi-generational Sunday School - 10:45 am in Fellowship Hall**

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

#### Discipleship Schedule

Monday Bible Study meets at noon in Epworth Hall. 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.

#### Youth Retreat

A junior high and high school retreat at Camp Milan will be held from Monday, December 29 at 12:00 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 28. The retreat is only for Two Rivers Youth and friends.

#### Christmas Gift

Every year our Christmas offering is given away. This year it will be split between our Good Samaritan Fund and the Reconciling Ministries Network. Our Good Samaritan Fund is used for local people in need of utilities and rental assistance. The Reconciling Ministries Network is an organization dedicated to the spiritual welfare and inclusion of LGBT+ people. Two Rivers has been a member of RMN since June of 2023.

Guest Wifi



Online Giving



Follow us @RITworivers



PRELUDE "We Are Waiting" arr. Priscilla Lamparter Landis  
Two Rivers Sanctuary Choir



\*READING Isaiah 9:2-7

ONE: We light the Candle of Peace  
ALL: The Prince of Peace has been born. His reign breaks the rod of oppression and silences the march of war.  
ONE: Peace is not a dream deferred. It is a presence that surpasses all understanding.  
ALL: Peace is God’s presence alive in us.

\* HYMN 240 “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”



READING John 1:1-5, 14

ONE: We light the Candle of Hope  
ALL: A hope rooted in the eternal Word of God. Present since Creation, the Word is made flesh and was laid in a manger.  
ONE: Hope is not wishful thinking. It is Emmanuel.  
ALL: Hope is God’s eternal Word dwelling with us.

BELL CHOIR “Away in a Manger” -arr. Tammy Waldrop



READING Psalm 96

ONE: We light the Candle of Joy  
ALL: All of Creation sings at the birth of Christ. Joy is not momentary happiness - it is the deep gladness of knowing God is near.  
ONE: True happiness is like a tree planted by the water - bearing the fruit of compassion, generosity, kindness, and justice.  
ALL: Joy is found in following the way of God.

CHOIR "In the Bleak Midwinter" - arr. Bernard Sexton  
feat. Adele Shirkey, Flute

CHRISTMAS GIFT



READING Luke 2:1-7

ONE: We light the Candle of Love  
ALL: Love is from God, and everyone who loves is from God and knows God.  
ONE: This is how God’s love is revealed to us  
ALL: God sent his Son because God first loved us. The only way to love God is to love one another.

SERMON “No More Waiting” - Robb McCoy

COMMUNION



READING Luke 2:8-20

ONE: We light the Candle of Christ  
ALL: This is wonderful, joyful news! Our savior is born.  
ONE: Everyone was amazed at what they saw and heard  
ALL: We will glorify and praise God for all we have heard and seen.

\*HYMN 239 “Silent Night, Holy Night”

POSTLUDE

*\*=please rise if you are able*  
*UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (red book) FWS = Faith We Sing (black book).*  
*Music used with permission under CCLI License:*

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK  
December 24, 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:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_