

Name _____

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

New Contact Information

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Ways to Serve

OUTREACH

- ☐ Donate monetary funds to our Hygiene Bag ministry. Write “Hygiene” on the memo line of your check or on your envelope.
- ☐ 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 January 11, 2026

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.

Special MLK Worship Service The Quad Cities Methodist Coalition is hosting a special worship service to honor the ministry and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This second annual service will be held at Trinity UMC in Milan on Sunday, January 18 at 3:00 p.m. Clergy and youth from many of the area United Methodist Churches will participate in this service. It promises to be a powerful afternoon of worship and building a more powerful United Methodist connection.

2025 Giving Statements Giving statements for 2025 are now available. You may pick up your statement from the table located in the back of the sanctuary. Any statements not picked up by January 25 will be mailed.

Guest Wifi



Online Giving Follow us @RITworivers



January 11, 2026

The first Sunday after Epiphany

Matthew 5:1-16

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up a mountain. He sat down and his disciples came to him. He taught them, saying:

“Happy are people who are hopeless, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

“Happy are people who grieve, because they will be made glad.

“Happy are people who are humble, because they will inherit the earth.

“Happy are people who are hungry and thirsty for righteousness, because they will be fed until they are full.

“Happy are people who show mercy, because they will receive mercy.

“Happy are people who have pure hearts, because they will see God.

“Happy are people who make peace, because they will be called God’s children.

“Happy are people whose lives are harassed because they are righteous, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

“Happy are you when people insult you and harass you and speak all kinds of bad and false things about you, all because of me. Be full of joy and be glad, because you have a great reward in heaven. In the same way, people harassed the prophets who came before you.

“You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its saltiness, how will it become salty again? It’s good for nothing except to be thrown away and trampled under people’s feet. You are the light of the world. A city on top of a hill can’t be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket. Instead, they put it on top of a lampstand, and it shines on all who are in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE “The Love of the Lord” - Jeanne Cotter

GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 37

One: Turn away from evil! Do good! Then you will live in the land forever.

All: The Lord loves justice. He will never leave his faithful all alone. They are guarded forever.

One: But the children of the wicked are lost.

All: The righteous will possess the land; they will live in it forever.

*HYMN #585 UMH “This Little Light of Mine”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Holy God, You call us to a way of life that is honest, humble, and rooted in love, yet we confess how often we fall short. You bless the poor in spirit, but we cling to self -reliance. You bless the meek, but we chase after control. You bless the merciful, but we hold onto grudges. You call us to be salt and light, but we blend in when courage is required. You tell us not to worry, yet we let anxiety shape our days more than trust in you. You command us to love our enemies, but we struggle to love even our neighbors. You invite us to build our lives on your words, yet we often choose the easier path. Forgive us, Lord. Renew our hearts. Teach us again the way of Christ, that we may live with integrity, compassion, and joy in your kingdom.

Pause for silent confession and reflection

One: Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again.

All: I here accept Christ as the living Way. I join myself with Jesus. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER SONG #394 UMH “Something Beautiful”

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O LORD, our rock and our redeemer. Amen

SCRIPTURE Matthew 5:1-16 (CEB)

SERMON The Beatitudes, Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #2155 FWS “Blest Are They”

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*OFFERTORY #559 UMH “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation” vs. 1, 2, 4
All are invited to place your offering and the detached part of the bulletin in the offering basin at the front as we sing

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I am blessed to depend on others, for I know that I cannot do it all, and it is a blessing to surrender myself to Christ.

I am blessed to grieve, for grief is love persisting, and in taking time to grieve I can find comfort.

I am blessed by humility, for I am opened to learning and growth.

I am blessed in working for right relationships with God and others, for in pursuing justice I find fulfillment and meaning.

I am blessed by the steadfast love of God, and respond by sharing love with others.

It is a blessing to peel away the distractions, turn away from idols, and keep my priorities fixed on God, for then I can see God more clearly.

I am blessed by peace making, which is the natural result of building community and advocating for justice.

It is a joy to follow Christ, not for external reward or to avoid eternal punishment, but because bringing the Kingdom of Heaven closer to earth is a blessing to me and to all.

Amen.

DOXOLOGY #94 UMH

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE “God of All Righteousness” - David Paxton

**=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
January 11, 2026

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:

