

Name _____

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

New Contact Information

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____



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.

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.

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.

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 today will be mailed.

Two Rivers Readers Two Rivers Readers will meet tomorrow, Monday, January 26 at 10 am in Epworth Hall to discuss the book, *Fourteen Days*, a collaborative novel by the Authors Guild. All are invited to join the discussion.

Ash Wednesday Dinner Volunteers Ash Wednesday is coming up on February 18. We will be gathering here at Two Rivers with the congregation from Church of Peace UCC for a meal and our Ash Wednesday worship service. For the meal at 5:30, we would like to host a pancake dinner. To make this happen we will need a few volunteers to flip some jacks and grill some sausage links. Please let us know if you would like volunteer.

Guest Wifi



Online Giving Follow us @RITworivers



January 25, 2026 - The third Sunday after Epiphany
Matthew 6: 1-18

"Be careful that you don't practice your religion in front of people to draw their attention. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

"Whenever you give to the poor, don't blow your trumpet as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets so that they may get praise from people. I assure you, that's the only reward they'll get. But when you give to the poor, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing so that you may give to the poor in secret. Your Father who sees what you do in secret will reward you.

"When you pray, don't be like hypocrites. They love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners so that people will see them. I assure you, that's the only reward they'll get. But when you pray, go to your room, shut the door, and pray to your Father who is present in that secret place. Your Father who sees what you do in secret will reward you.

"When you pray, don't pour out a flood of empty words, as the Gentiles do. They think that by saying many words they'll be heard. Don't be like them, because your Father knows what you need before you ask. Pray like this:

Our Father who is in heaven, uphold the holiness of your name. Bring in your kingdom so that your will is done on earth as it's done in heaven. Give us the bread we need for today. Forgive us for the ways we have wronged you, just as we also forgive those who have wronged us. And don't lead us into temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.

"If you forgive others their sins, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you don't forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your sins.

"And when you fast, don't put on a sad face like the hypocrites. They distort their faces so people will know they are fasting. I assure you that they have their reward. When you fast, brush your hair and wash your face. Then you won't look like you are fasting to people, but only to your Father who is present in that secret place. Your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE "Chorale Prelude on 'Dix'" - Mark Weston

GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 25:4-10

One: Make you ways known to me, LORD. Teach me your paths.
All: Lead me in your truth - teach it to me - because you are the God who saves. I put my hope in you all day long.
One: LORD, remember your compassion and steadfast love, they are forever.
All: The LORD is good and does the right thing, teaching sinners which way they should go.
One: God guides the weak to justice, teaching them his way.
All: All of the LORD's paths are loving and fruitful for those who keep his covenant and laws.

*HYMN #390 UMH "Forgive Our Sins" vs. 1- 4

*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 call us to quiet kindness, but we often crave attention for our good deeds. 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 the firm foundation of your words, yet we build on the sinking sand of self-gratification. 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: You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world. Shine with the grace of God.
All: We are forgiven through the grace of Christ. We will not be hidden. We will shine like a city on a hill. Amen

*PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER SONG #394 UMH "Something Beautiful"

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

CHORAL ANTHEM "Peace Like a River, Kum Ba Ya" - arr. Shafferman

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 6:1-18(CEB)

SERMON Public Religion - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #389 UMH "Freely, Freely"

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 believe in piety that draws me closer to God, not in showy religion that makes me look good.

I am strengthened by prayer which opens me to the divine presence and helps me stay rooted in faith.

I am blessed by generosity, which comes from acknowledging that God is the source of all good gifts. Generosity will help others and it is rewarding, but it is not about gaining status or favor among people.

I am kept humble by fasting which teaches me that I gain victory over temptation. In my fasting, I can draw closer to God and resist the evil of this world that judges people by what they produce or consume.

I believe that the treasures of the Kingdom of Heaven are far more valuable than the treasures of worldly systems.

Amen.

DOXOLOGY #94 UMH

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "Minuet in G" - Henry Smart

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK

January 25, 2026

Your Name _____

Prayers for our Church and its ministry:

*=please rise if you are able

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (red book) FWS = Faith We Sing (black book).
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