

# THE MESSENGER

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RIVERSIDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Where the Spirit runs deep...*

1005 Park Ave. N. · P. O. Box 128 · Park Rapids, MN · 56470 · [www.riversideumcchurch.com](http://www.riversideumcchurch.com)

## THE PASTOR SHARES

Why do the summer months fly by so quickly while the winter months seem to last forever? Why do some afternoons go so slowly while the days pass so rapidly?

Time is a strange thing. When we're young, we can't wait until we're old enough to do things like drive a car and graduate from school. When we're old, we look back and wish we could do the things we used to be able to do.

The Apostle Paul encourages us to make the most of our time, "Take advantage of every opportunity because these are evil times." (Ephesians 5:16 Common English

Bible). Paul is telling us to use every moment we have to do the good things Christ would have us do as this time on earth holds so much that is contrary to the values of the kingdom of God.

Every moment we have been given is an opportunity for us to receive and share the love of God. If you've been thinking about getting involved in a ministry, do it! If you've been thinking about serving your community, do it! If the thought crosses your mind that you ought to call or write a note to that friend, do it! Scripture is telling us there is no time like the

present! If you've been wondering if you should start committing to a daily prayer time, do it!

At the very heart of this message is the realization that every moment we have is a gift from God. The seconds, minutes and hours of our lives are sacred. May you be blessed as you use your time to deepen your relationship with the God who loves you and as you serve your neighbors as Jesus commands.

In Christ's love, *Pastor Lori*



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## FALL RUMMAGE & ESTATE SALE

Friday, October 4th, 8:30AM-5:30PM  
Saturday, October 5th, 8:30AM-Noon

- Estate Sale located in the GYM
- Rummage Sale located in the Fellowship Hall, Lounge & Foyer



## THE MESSENGER

### WELCOMING MINISTRY

Greeting people who come to Riverside on a Sunday morning can have a huge impact on those who walk through the doors.

Imagine you are a first-time visitor to Riverside. This has been likened to going to someone else's family reunion where everyone knows each other, but you are left standing apart. However, if you are approached with a handshake, a

smile and a greeting, it may put you at ease and make you feel your presence is important.

Greeting is a hospitality ministry, making visitors feel valued and welcome. All it takes is a friendly smile, introducing yourself, and telling them you're glad to meet them (even if it's another church member you don't know). "Welcome Bags" are available for first-time visitors.

The Membership/Outreach team is trying something new. Instead of calling for greeters every week, there will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by the office. If you would like to help, please sign up for a Sunday. If you're unsure of what is involved, we'll be happy to work with you! Your service in this area will bless you and others!

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We have two employment opportunities at Riverside. Dave Kiehn, our **Custodian**, will be retiring at the end of the year. We are accepting applications for this position until October 7th when we hope to begin interviews.

The other job opening we have is **Nursery Attendant**. We would like to add a third person to our Sunday morning nursery rotation. This is a paid position.

If you are interested in either of these positions, job applications and job descriptions are available

in the church office. You are welcome to ask either Pastor Chip or Pastor Lori, or Mike Boettcher, chair of Staff Parish about these opportunities.

#### PIE & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

*You're thinking about pie, aren't you?"*



Join us for a slice of pie Sunday, October 13th, beginning at 9:30AM, a delicious way to support ministries at Riverside. Bet you'll find your favorite!

### FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

Recently the Stewardship and Finance teams decided to combine their ministries due to overlapping duties and responsibilities. If you have questions please talk to Judy Garbo, Pastor Lori or Roger Wilson.

### BOOK CLUB NEWS

The Riverside Readers have chosen "The Pearl That Broke It's Shell," by Nadia Hashimi as the book pick for October. Join us October 21st at 2PM in the Lounge. Books are available in the office.



We are inviting our young ghosts and goblins to join us in the church parking lot for a "Trunk-or-Treat" event Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> from 6-7PM. The kids can trick or treat around the parking lot and have the

opportunity to make s'mores around a campfire. If you'd like to be a part of this fun event, you can decorate your car's trunk and stock it with candy to hand out to the trick or treaters. If you don't want

to decorate your trunk, you can donate candy to be shared with the kids that evening!



## IN OUR PRAYERS

**Prayers for our church & its ministries including:** Shield 616 Officers, Missions in Laos and safe travels for missionaries; McCurdy School in New Mexico; Ministries at Red Bird Mission; Rev. Earl & June Harrison and the ministries in Jamaica; United Methodist Committee on Relief.

**The Intercessory Prayer Team and Prayer Chains are available to help support you.**

**Call the church office (732-5205) for more information, or if you are in need of pastoral support.**



*"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world."*  
- Nelson Mandela.

Be in communion with Christians around the world on World Communion Sunday. A special offering will be taken to provide scholarships to national and international graduate students.



### Circle Groups Meet 3rd Wednesday:

CURRENT ISSUE, FRIENDSHIP, CHARITY  
*Join at any time!*

For more information on UMW:

[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org)

### UMW BOOK NEWS

(Books reviewed by Gail Gruis)

***An Invisible Thread***, by Laura Schroff

Laura is a successful advertising executive in New York City. One day she passes a small boy. He asks for change as he is hungry. Laura walks on, but something makes her turn back. The boy's name is Maurice. Laura takes him to McDonald's and they begin a friendship that continues today. Both of them received

much more than they expected. A truly great story. Our church book club gave it a thumbs up! It can be found in the church library.

### OCTOBER UMW CALENDAR:

- 2-5** Set-up & Fall Rummage Sale
- 7** Executive board meets 9AM followed by planning session
- 12** Conference Annual Meeting in Roseville
- 16** Circles meet
- 28** Bingo at Heritage - Charity Circle in charge

## FROM THE GREEN TEAM

### FOCUS ON RECYCLING

The most effective way to reduce waste is to not create it. There are many benefits of reusing instead of buying new:

#### Benefits of Reducing and Reusing

- Prevents pollution that may come from harvesting new raw materials

- Saves energy by not manufacturing & transporting products
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions
- Helps sustain the environment for future generations
- Saves money & reduces waste

#### Buy Less Stuff

Consumer goods that are cheaper to throw away than to repair have become common. The amount of goods that we purchase, use, and then

throw away has risen over time. Some questions to ask yourself before buying:

- Do I truly need this, or can I get by without it?
- Can I borrow, rent, or trade for this item?
- Can I get it second-hand?
- If I buy new, is there a product with a Lifetime Warranty?

## Enjoy *The Messenger* - your way!

Riverside's newsletter, *The Messenger*, is available in a format that fits your lifestyle. You may receive it on your e-mail, regular mail delivery or on our website at [www.riversideumcchurch.com](http://www.riversideumcchurch.com). **Articles must be submitted for publication by the 15th day of each month.** Space is limited, and we reserve the right to review for content and appropriateness.



### OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday, 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

## October Schedule

- 4 & 5 Fall Rummage & Estate Sale
- 6 World Communion Sunday
- 13 Pie & Ice Cream Social - *begins 9:30AM*
- 30 Trunk-or-Treat at Riverside!



*"Casting the net of Christ's love to all through Faith, Action and Compassion."*

## CONTACT US:

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.riversideumcchurch.com](http://www.riversideumcchurch.com)

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### OFFICE HOURS

Mon. -Thurs: 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Building Open: 8:00 AM

### Sunday Worship

8:30 AM Traditional Service

9:30 AM Education

10:30 AM Contemporary Service

*Fellowship follows each worship service*

### Minnesota Annual Conference:

[www.minnesotaumc.org](http://www.minnesotaumc.org)

### United Methodist Websites:

[www.rethinkchurch.org](http://www.rethinkchurch.org)

[www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org)

[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org)



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