

Riverside Reporter: September 2021

It's funny how God works.
The day before this newsletter went in the mail,
we opened the floor for questions from kids at
the traditional service.

I was expecting a personal query ("What's your
favorite food?" or "Do you have any pets?").

**Instead of a simple question,
we heard the sweet voice of a six-
year-old ask, "How do you KNOW
when Jesus is calling you?"**

I laughed because that question is exactly what
we will be discussing this month in worship:

***Does God still speak to us nowadays?
How can we listen? How do we know when it's
actually God showing us something?***



Listening for God can be frustrating. Scripture is *full* of stories where people hear the voice of the Lord or see things from God that are obvious and bold (making it seem like these interactions were effortless and constant) but the Bible also speaks of times when "the word of the LORD was rare... there were not many visions." (1 Samuel 3:1).

There are Psalms that lament God's silence or express impatience over the waiting.

And also: Jesus calls us to have "ears to ear"--promising that we will know the Shepherd's voice. Scripture tells us to ask and wait and listen.



Even in our own church, there are testimonies:
modern people HAVE heard or noticed signs from God.
Usually, these encounters don't happen out of nowhere.
Just like photography is an art that requires a *way* of
seeing and noticing, there is an art to hearing God in the
world around us. And we can help one another to listen.

**So if you have a story of a time in your own
life when you heard from God, let me know.
Pastoremily@riversideparkumc.com**

In the meantime, may God bless our listening and
looking...

*Pastor
Emily Knight*

Celebrating Baptisms

*We will surround these persons
with a community of love and forgiveness,
that they may grow in their trust of God,
and be found faithful in their service to others.*



Annaleigh Jane Pearsall
Baptized August 8, 2021

Parents: Katie & Adam Pearsall

Pastor (and Uncle): Bobby Hoover

Granddaughter of Pam Pearsall &

Greatgranddaughter of Emily & Gordon
Rehberg



Henry Michael Wilson & Emily Rose Wilson
Baptized August 15, 2021

Parents: Justin and Victoria Wilson

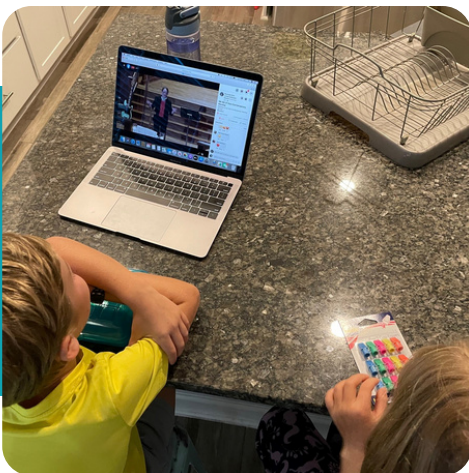
Big Brother: James Wilson

Grandparents: Pat Allen, Betty McKim, Anthony Bloodworth

Godparents: Gene and Joy Fraser



~ Faith ~ Life ~ Sharing Together ~



Meanwhile, in worship online:

The Gunby and Simpson Families gather for online worship;
blessing backpacks and school supplies to carry with them into
the new schoolyear.

We grieve the loss of Geneva
Rantz and celebrate her
resurrected life in Christ
AUG 7, 1947 – AUG 4, 2021



Rockin' Back to School August 7, 2021





CALLING All Senior Adults (55+)

Time to get back together for fun, food and fellowship.

Date: Friday, September 3, 2021

Place: Fellowship Hall

Time: 11:00 - Social Hour

12:00 - Lunch

12:30 - Bingo

Please text/call/email so we can get enough food and prizes.

Church Office: 904 355 5491 (calls only)

Jim Lewis : 904 655 4002 (call/text)

Email: lewisj2fla@yahoo.com



Save the Date

November 14th

Daniel Francabandiero Memorial Concert



Charge Conference

(with 8 other UMCs)

Thursday, October 21st

7:00 p.m.

RPUMC Sanctuary

"Price of admission": Support for Highlands UMC food pantry such as jelly, canned fruit, canned vegetables, soups, or mac & cheese.

New Membership Secretary



Nancy Schubiger has offered to serve as our church's new membership secretary (maintaining and upgrading our list of baptisms, new members, transfers, moves, etc...). When you see her around church, please thank her for her service and leadership!

Here are a few things to know about Nancy:

1. Favorite Hobby? I like to knit
2. Favorite food? anything Italian
3. Favorite way to relax? go to the beach.
4. Favorite vacation spot? Long Beach Island, NJ
5. Random interest? I enjoy American sign language
6. Tell us a little about your family... I have been married to Charlie for 34 years. We have two adult children: Rebecca and David. And One grandson: Mikhail



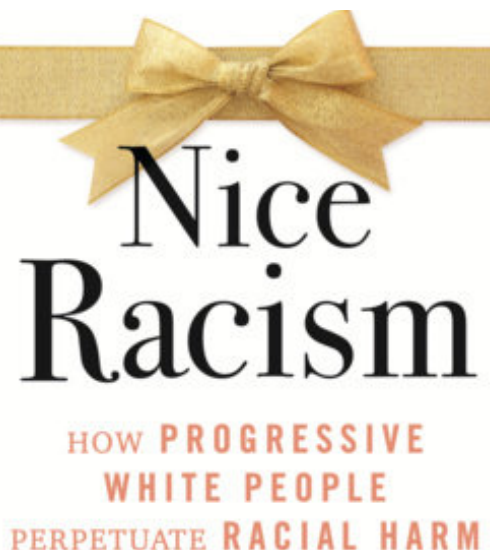
COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT FALL BOOK READING

**Mondays at 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 13 - Oct. 25
via Zoom**

**CONTACT KAITLYN.FULLER@OUTLOOK.COM
FOR DETAILS**

Continue the conversation about anti-racism...
Our anti-racism small group will meet online September 12th to discuss Nice Racism by Robin De Angelo.
Contact Linda Labell for the zoom link:
LSLABELL@yahoo.com

Also: save the date for November 6th
Community Collaboration with the Campus to City
Wesley Foundation



Margaret's Memories Update

Even with social distancing we have been busy!
Here is what has been going on:

- ♥ Memory Boxes have been donated to Baptist Medical Center, Flagler Hospital and UF North.
- ♥ Several memory boxes have been mailed to families out of state. This is not something I advertise on the web site but if a request comes in and we can help, we do. Usually when a family reached out to us it is because they did not have the same type of resources where their baby is going to be delivered (or was born).
- ♥ Many High School young adults have been working on projects at home for volunteer hours.
- ♥ We continue to receive thank you notes and emails from families/friends to thank Margaret's Memories for giving the gift of memories. We are continually told all of the handmade items are very touching.
- ♥ I am still attending Tear Catchers, a pregnancy/infant loss bereavement support group as a peer parent.
- ♥ The Infant Loss Remembrance Day sponsored by many local hospitals is in the planning phase for this fall. The event is probably going to be a staggered start time walk.

Margaret's Memories

Saving memories ...
...one footprint at a time.

Save the Date

September 18th

9am - 2pm

Sewing Bee for
Margaret's Memories
and Tiny Treasures
(pick up supplies in
the Fellowship Hall)

TBD

Bracelet Making

October 6th

Memory Box Night ~
Event might need to
be modified for
social distancing

For more information, email Nicole at margaretsmemories@hotmail.com or call the church office at 904-355-5491. You can also "like" us on Face Book and visit our website: www.margaretsmemories.org
Thank you to everyone that makes this mission possible through your service, time, talents, and PRAYERS. Together we are...

...Saving Memories One Footprint AT A Time.

Nicole Remo

Welcome Back Chancel Choir!
We hope you enjoyed your much deserved time off.

RPUMC Family Discipleship

empowering kids and families to live life abundantly in Christ!



Our New (Interim) Minister of Family Discipleship

Hey everyone!

As most of you know, I'm Dakota and I have had the joy of serving our church as Family Ministry Intern over the last two years. I moved to Jacksonville in 2019 with my fiancé, Ty, and have had the joy of growing in community with you all at Riverside Park while working towards obtaining my bachelor's degree in Elementary Education at UNF. The experiences that I have gained over the last two years serving our congregation leave me incredibly excited to share that I will be stepping into the role of Minister of Family Discipleship this fall! The spiritual growth of children is a ministry that is very

Dakota & her fiancé, Ty

dear to my heart. Without the community provided by the church in my own childhood, I know that my relationship with Christ wouldn't be what it is today. I also know that the world continues to change in ways that make it difficult for families to find themselves in church consistently. To me, this reality emphasizes our need to help empower our families to live into their journey with Christ outside the churches walls in addition to providing spaces for growth on campus.

A firm sense of community for all ages is something I believe to be vital to the growth of Family Discipleship and an individual's faith in Christ. Bishop Robert Schnase once wrote that "It only takes two or three gathered in Jesus' name to experience the presence of Christ and to grow in faith." Imagine the growth that could occur in a church with 65 students ranging in ages from pre-K to high school!

I have spent a great deal of time thinking on all of my experiences and what they mean for my discipleship path and believe that they have served to prepare me for this position. I only ask now for the same prayers, support, and encouragement that I have felt my entire time serving at Riverside Park. I look forward to working together with our families in the intentional development of our faiths in ways that will provide and sustain a sense of community for all.


Blessings, ~ Dakota Storm-Lewis

NEW EMAIL: Families@Riversideparkumc.com



**NEW: FAMILY MINISTRY
FAITH FORMATION
GROUPS**

**Sundays @10am
in the Fellowship Hall
Starting September 12th
masks required.
snacks provided**



**Parent Check-in:
Sunday, Sept 26th @ 3pm
(Via Zoom)**

**Save the date:
Nov 20th 5-7pm
Family Bonfire Night**

Conversations about "Articles of Faith" -by Ron Richardson of Testament Photography.

Since the pandemic has made it challenging for some to make it to church and view our first art installation, "Articles of Faith," in the McCord Building, we decided to bring the photographs to you a few images at a time along with some information about each.

From its earliest moments, Christianity has been filled with architecture, symbols, sculptures, and effigies offering connections to the kingdom of Heaven. "Articles of Faith" offers the viewer an opportunity to engage with a broad spectrum of images and consider their place in the community of faith.

The first image was created at Tucson's La Fiesta de los Vaqueros.

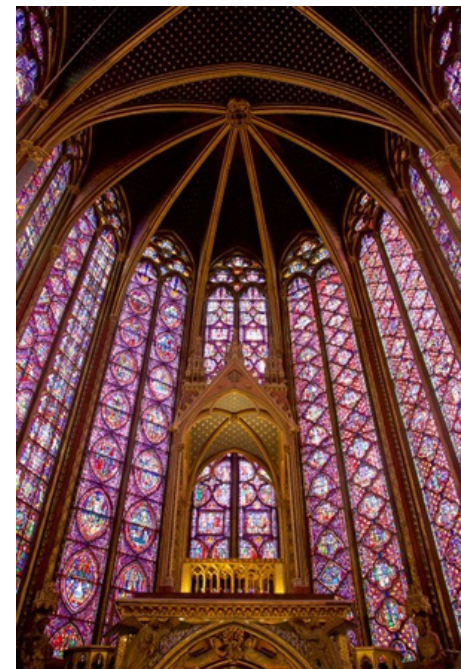
Waiting in line at the concession stand this cowboy's belt and wallet, adorned with crosses, caught my eye. I followed him through the crowd hoping he would pause long enough for me to get a good angle. When he stopped briefly to talk with a friend, I dropped to one knee and made two photos. For the record, photographing someone's backside at a crowded rodeo will get you noticed.



The second photo in the exhibition is the San Jose Catholic Church in Cuchillo, New Mexico, which was built in 1907. The population of Cuchillo is 35 and the church is the largest building in town. I chose this angle and the black and white processing to get the viewer to focus on the visual elements of light versus shadow and the strong architectural lines of the building. For me, the missing section of the cross near the left window and the large crack in the wall on the right are symbolic of the struggles that many churches are currently facing.

The simplicity of San Jose Catholic Church is a stark contrast to the incredible artistry on display in Sainte-Chapelle. Built in seven years during the mid-13th century by King Louis IX, it is the finest royal chapel in France. The 1,113 stained glass windows grace all four sides of the building and are dazzling. We visited several beautiful cathedrals during our time in France, but Sainte-Chapelle stood above them all. It was the only place where I saw people with their mouths open in wonder as they gazed at the windows.

As you compare these last two images, please consider how they are connected and how they are different. I would be interested in hearing your thoughts. You can email me at ronald.j.richardson@gmail.com



Riverside Connections



**Active Disciples
Who Go and Serve**

Empower others to live abundantly in Christ!

SUNDAY MORNING

READER/LITURGIST

Lend your voice!
Read scripture and other
pieces for Sunday worship.
Could be recorded from home

Sundays (occasional)

DURING THE WEEK

NEWSLETTER HELP

Lend a hand!
Fold and place labels on
the monthly newsletter

Once a month

OCCASIONAL OR ONE-TIME

SEND LOVE TO OUR SHUT-INS

Send cards or make a visit to
some of the folks at home who
continue to stay at home.
Send love and con

occasional team

TECH TEAM

Connect folks to the words of
worship.
Britt will train you.
tech@riversideparkumc.com

once a month

OFFICE VOLUNTEER

Answer phones, greet
visitors, help with
administrative tasks.

once a week (or less)

PRAYER TEAM

We want a team of people
willing to intentionally
pray. Contact the office if
you are willing!

Occasional

GREET/HOSPITALITY TEAM

Help people feel welcome in
worship. Stand by the
welcome table and offer
warm presence.

once a month

WEDNESDAY DINNER SERVER

Feed God's sheep.
Several positions available
(boxer, runner, greeter, deliver)

**Wednesdays ~5-6:30pm
once a month**

CLEANUP COORDINATOR

One local way that we can
be a good neighbor is to
rally folks to help pickup
trash in the neighborhood.
We need a point person.

once or twice a year

RIVERKIDS GUIDE

Go with our youngest
disciples as they head off
for age-specific activities
during the Sunday school
hour

once a month

LIGHT CANDLES

We're looking for families to
'set the table' for 9am
worship & students to serve
as acolytes for the 11am
service. Contact Pastor Emily
or John Larsen for more info

once/occasional

DECORATE BULLETIN BOARDS

Are you crafty and creative?
We need one or two folks
to bring new life to bulletin
boards around the church.

special project

All worship services will be in-person and streamed live on Facebook. Please check the website or the RPUMC Family group on Facebook for any updates. Worship service videos will be posted on YouTube and the church website the following business day.



Office Hours

9 am—3:30 pm
Monday-Thursday

9 am—1 pm
Friday

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	2	3 11am Senior Adult Fellowship	4
5 COMMUNION 9am Contemporary Worship 11am Traditional Worship	6	7 7pm Circle of Hope	8 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	9	10	11
12 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Family Formation 11am Traditional Worship 3pm Anti-Racism Group	13 7:30pm CAYA Book Club	14 6pm SPR/Finance Committee Meeting	15 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	16	17	18 9am-2pm Margaret's Memories Sewing Bee
19 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Family Formation 11am Traditional Worship	20 7:30pm CAYA Book Club	21 6pm Church Council Meeting	22 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	23	24	25
26 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Family Formation 11am Traditional Worship 3pm Parent Check-in	27 7:30pm CAYA Book Club	28	29 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	30		

SEPTEMBER

Birthdays

- 2nd Robert Moseley
- 4th Jane Riechmann
Connie Skinner
- 7th Lee Brideson
Cory Lek
- 8th April Joos
Sharon Prescott
Tiffany Wascom
- 9th Max Cogburn
Linda Rooks
- 12th Kevin Crowell
Amy Litwin
- 13th Ruben Allen
Xavier Diao
- 14th Ed Fleming
Isam Mardini
- 15th Emily Matthews
- 16th James Wilson
- 18th Kimberly Julia
- 20th Shep Riechmann
Misty Weisman
- 21st Debbie Colbert
Zada Stroble
Frances Tavolieri
- 22nd Makarios Brown
- 23rd Krissy Nettles
Charlie Schubiger
- 24th Jo Herron
- 26th Kaden Neufeld
- 28th Amber Brockel
- 30th Oregon Lybass

Committee Meetings:

Finance/SPR Committee (Zoom)
Tuesday, September 14 @ 6:00 pm

Board of Trustees (Zoom & In-Person)
Monday, October 18 @ 6:00 pm

Church Council (Zoom)
Tuesday, September 21 @ 6:00 pm

Stewardship & Generosity

Give your gifts and tithes online:
Set up one-time or recurring giving through your bank's
bill pay service. Or visit <https://tinyurl.com/RP-Give>

Give your gifts and tithes by check:
you can bring or mail them to
Riverside Park UMC
819 Park St. Jacksonville, FL 32204

Operating Fund Year-to-Date as of 7/31/2021

	Actual	Budget
Contributions	\$251,774	\$200,352
Expenses	\$263,367	\$282,640
Deficit/Surplus	- \$11,593	-\$82,288

May God's love surround...

Home

- † Emory Cook
- † Joe Dorsie
- † Shirley Early
- † Jo Herron
- † Steven & Theresa Jarvis
- † Betty Nolen
- † Connie Skinner
- † Jim Todd

College Students

- Isabella Array
- Zachary Bradley
- Taylor Bohannon
- James Cashman
- Tommy Cashman
- Topher Cogburn
- Tre Devine
- Lindsey Grady
- Hogan Litwin
- Allison Matthews
- Emily Merton
- Kaden Neufeld
- Kyle Neufeld
- Matthew Popp
- Dallas Renne
- Hannah Stomps
- Dakota Storm-Lewis





RIVERSIDE PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Empowering others to live life abundantly in Christ."



Worship with Us!



Worship Online:

**Facebook live Sundays
@9am Contemporary
@11am Traditional**

facebook.com/RiversideParkUMC
(the service is also uploaded to
Youtube on Monday mornings)

Worship in Person:

**in the Sanctuary
Sundays @9am & @11am**

*(everyone wears masks,
designated pews are 6 feet apart,
and hand sanitizer is at all
entrances)*

Church Office: (904) 355-5491

www.riversideparkumc.com

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9-3:30

Friday 9-1

Rev. Emily Knight, Pastor
pastoremily@riversideparkumc.com

Joye Hampton, Office Manager
j.hampton@riversideparkumc.com

John Larsen, Director of Traditional Worship
j.larsen@riversideparkumc.com

Millie Hudson, Director of Contemporary Worship
m.hudson@riversideparkumc.com

Jack Barnard, Bookkeeper
j.barnard@riversideparkumc.com

Rich Lewis, Organist
r.lewis@riversideparkumc.com

Britt Scott, Tech Team Leader
tech@riversideparkumc.com

Nancy Schubiger, Membership Secretary
membership@riversideparkumc.com

Tre Devine, Custodian
t.devine@riversideparkumc.com

Dakota Storm-Lewis, Family Discipleship Intern
families@riversideparkumc.com

Electronic Service Requested

Jacksonville, FL 32204

819 Park Street

RIVERSIDE PARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Jacksonville, FL
Permit No. 2717

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. Postage
PAID
Jacksonville, FL