



RIVERSIDE REPORTER: APRIL 2022

Every year as we approach Holy Week, I find myself noticing new details in the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. This year (perhaps because our theme is 'Lent in the little things') I've been wondering about very small details: Were there splinters in the cross? How heavy was the hammer? When Jesus knelt to pray in Gethsemane, was the ground carpeted with leaves or was he kneeling in roots and bare earth? (In other words: **did our savior die with his knees dirty from the very world he came to save?**)

I can only guess at these questions (e.g. I highly doubt that the Roman Empire took time to smooth down their instruments of execution, so yes, splinters seem likely); the tiny unknowns wouldn't change the huge hope of the Gospel story. In many ways, they are inconsequential. But also: little details make things real for us. When grieving a loved one, we miss the little things—the smell of their hair or the crinkle that appeared in their forehead every time they laughed. When Maddie was born and we were leaving the hospital, I clearly remember the *click* of the carseat. "*This just got real.*" I thought. "We are responsible for this little life."

It's the same for our faith and life in Christ: the details make it real. We want the Holy Week story (the Jesus story) to shape and cover every little detail of our lives. Because God's grief and love for our world (for us) is very very real. Knees-covered-in-dirt kind of real. Your-burdens-are-known-and-the-stone-is-rolled-away kind of real.

Jesus shows us the details of God's love made real.
So come and worship. Come and see.

Rev. Emily Knight



PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP
APRIL 10, 2022 @10:30AM
ONE ~COMBINED~ SERVICE
(FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AND EGG HUNT)
SUNDAY SCHOOL @9:30



Palm Sunday Luncheon

rsvp by April 3rd

On Palm Sunday, we will have a church wide dinner after our one combined worship service. The Women's Mission Ministry evening circle - The Circle of Hope, and a group of United Methodist Men, will team up to provide a delicious lunch of Fried Chicken, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Rolls and Iced Tea. We will ask for desserts to come in from many of you and we will feature a "Dessert Buffet". There will be no charge for the dinner but there will be baskets on the tables for donations. After the cost of the food is covered, any other donations will be split between the men and women's groups for their missions. There is no doubt, we do not need a dessert from EVERY attendee or family, but lots of desserts will be a sweet treat. The Council of Ministries members, who are not involved in the preparation that day, will be our clean up crew. Such an important task. If you furnish a dessert that day, please plan to take home any of yours that is left after lunch. If you have not turned in a reservation slip, please do so by Sunday the 3rd. No reservations can be taken after the 3rd. Hope to see many of you for lunch on the 10th.



RPUMC Egg Hunt

SUNDAY, APRIL 10 (Palm Sunday)

immediately following the church luncheon. All children from Toddlers to Grade 5 can participate. There will be 4 hunts divided by age: (Walkers through age 3); (Ages 4 and 5); (Grades 1 and 2); (Grades 3 - 5)



HOLY WEEK 2022

From the waving of palm branches to Jesus' final breath on the cross, Holy Week leads us through the details of Jesus' final days and into the first days of Easter resurrection.



Palm Sunday: April 10
ONE ~combined~ 10:30am service

Maundy Thursday: April 14
6:30pm Communion Service
with special music

Experience Jesus' journey from Gethsemane to the Grave

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Open Good Friday 4/15 9am-8pm

Visit a series of multi-sensory prayer stations that walk through details in the Good Friday story—from Gethsemane to the grave.

Pray in the garden. Feel the thorns that mocked Jesus.

Add your name to the cry of the crowd.

Hear the hammer. Breathe out with Christ.

Hand sanitizer will be available throughout. All ages welcome.

Open 9am-8pm on Good Friday (4/15) Look for the welcome table in front of the breezeway entrance off of Park St.

Also on Good Friday 4/15: Pastor Emily will join our neighbors at Riverside Presbyterian Church for their noon worship service

Join us for Easter Sunday

Worship with us on Sunday, April 17th
9am Contemporary & 11am Traditional

Bring a flower from your yard to cover the cross in signs of life!

Invite friends to join us, too.

Both services will be livestreamed.



Board of Trustees Update

Hello Church Family!

Just a quick update from your friendly Trustees. Room 305 has been transformed from a disappointing shell of its former self into a friendly and inviting room that is suitable for any purpose. It is matched to the hallway with blue carpeting and the same color of paint as the hallway. Room 305 will be left open the next couple of Sundays, so please feel free to stop by and take a gander. It is our purpose to ensure the facilities are the best that we can make them so that all of us can gather to worship, learn the Word and to provide opportunities for fellowship.

A further bit to the update is that we have identified several areas where repairs need to be accomplished on the Sanctuary, McChord Bldg and Education Bldg. Both the Sanctuary and McChord buildings have water seeping through the brick facing and gutters and downspouts are in a condition that repairs and/or replacement will be needed. Roof over McChord building needs to be resealed and all of the smaller entrance roofs around all buildings need the same care. The rooftop air conditioners over the Education building are significantly past their service life. (Eleven units, four have been replaced in last few years, the others were installed in 1993). This is a major facilities upgrade and we have had two general contractors do a walkthrough of all three buildings. We have received an initial quote from one of the GCs and are waiting for the second. Further updates will be provided as Trustees and Church Council work through this process.

God Bless, Chris Schmitz



Senior Adult Fellowship Fellowship. Programs. Lunch. First Friday of the month 11am in the fellowship hall **Friday, April 1st @11am**



Look at our new storage cubes for organizing Wednesday ministry donations! Thank you, Pam Pearsall and Danny and Judy Marks

Wednesday Night Ministries:

Our thanks to everyone who donated warm clothing and blankets for those in need this winter. With warm weather coming, our focus now is on short and long sleeve shirts. Ponchos & back packs are much appreciated. Remember RPUMC is not a clothing closet so please no dress clothes and no children's. Our weekly reports of meals served are amazing. Thank you to all our volunteers. We still need more. Jobs range from boxing the meals to organizing the pick up bags to greeting those who come to our door with a smile and a prayer. All are invited to our **1st in person planning meeting in quite a while: Sunday, April 24th at 10:00.** Thank you all for your support and prayers.
~Bonnie Dudley

Family Ministry



We will celebrate graduates on Sunday, May 22nd.

If you know of a graduate who is connected to RPUMC, we want to celebrate this milestone with them. Send their photo, name and information to Joye by May 16th at j.hampton@riversideparkumc.com



save the date
July 11th-15th
9-noon

Volunteers are needed to help with crafts, snacks and more. Please contact Pastor Emily if you are interested in helping.
New for this year: 'vbs afterparty' for middle school and high school students

Church Family egg hunt and photo booth following the Palm Sunday luncheon 4/10
****make sure to rsvp by 4/3****

Calling all Palm Sunday (kid) singers!
Millie is inviting kids to sing with the praise team for a special Palm Sunday song.
Come to the family ministry Sunday school (fellowship hall @10:10am on 4/3)
Then gather in the Sanctuary on Palm Sunday for a warm-up practice @10:10
~instruments welcome~



Family Ministry Sunday School

Sunday mornings in the fellowship hall
~with snacks between services~
Regularly @ 10:10 in the fellowship hall
On Palm Sunday 4/10, the group will gather at 9:30am in the youth room
Fun, dynamic lessons for all ages.
(parents encouraged to hang out)

Special thanks to Lara Manalo, Tami Crowell, Amanda Figart who have taken the lead in this critical ministry area.

Lead a lesson one Sunday!
The curriculum is great and we're looking for a wide rotation of teachers.

APRIL Birthdays

- 1st Charlene Grand
Linda Markert
Oliva Take
- 3rd Lorie Anderson
Tre Devine
- 4th Eli Monk
- 5th Jason Brown
- 6th Kaylee Drewry
Mark Riechmann
- 7th Ken Hess
- 10th Jackie Lewis
- 14th Peggy McCord
- 15th Yvonne Sloan
- 17th Ellie Roukey
Terry Williamson
- 18th Sarah Brinson
- 19th Tammy Morreale
- 20th Frances Mathews
- 21st Carole Rooks
Tim Ware
Nieve Wilbourne
- 25th Teresa Hanna
- 26th Beth Joyner
- 27th David Middleton
Millie Russell
- 28th Kris Gunby
Ed Hanna
- 29th Rhys Weisman
- 30th Ivey Hannah

Committee Meetings:

Finance/SPR Committee (Zoom)
Tuesday, April 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees (Zoom & In-Person)
Monday, April 18th at 6:00 p.m.

Church Council
Tuesday, April 19th at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Night Ministry Team
Sunday, April 24th at 10:00 a.m.

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 2/28/2022

	Actual	Budget
Contributions	\$80,318	\$74,776
Expenses	\$79,230	\$81,373
Surplus/Deficit	\$1,088	-\$6,597

May God's love surround...

Home

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



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.

April

Office Hours

9 am—3:30 pm
Monday-Thursday
9 am—1 pm
Friday

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 COMMUNION 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 10am Church Tour 11am Traditional Worship 5pm Chancel Ringers	4 7pm Circle of Hope	5 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	6 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	7	8 11am Senior Adult Fellowship	9
10 PALM SUNDAY ONE SERVICE 10:30am Sunday School/Groups 11:30am Lunch & Egg Hunt 5pm Chancel Ringers	11 6pm SPR/Finance Committee Meeting	12 6pm SPR/Finance Committee Meeting	13 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	14 MAUNDY THURSDAY 6:30pm Communion Service	15 GOOD FRIDAY Stations of the Cross 9-8 OFFICE CLOSES at Noon	16
17 EASTER SUNDAY 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship	18 OFFICE CLOSED 6pm Board of Trustees Meeting	19 6pm Church Council	20 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	21	22	23
24 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 10am Wed. Night Ministry Team Meeting 11am Traditional Worship 5pm Chancel Ringers	25	26	27 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	28	29	30



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**

*(masks available for those who
need one, 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
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John Larsen, Director of Traditional Worship
j.larsen@riversideparkumc.com

Millie Hudson, Director of Contemporary Worship
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Rich Lewis, Organist
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RIVERSIDE PARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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