

RIVERSIDE REPORTER:

MAY 2022

Celebration Sundays in May

- **May 1st:** Communion
- **May 8th:** Mother's Day (join us as we honor all women)
- **May 22nd:** Graduate & Senior Sunday
- **May 29th:** Ascension Sunday and 5th Sunday Children's Home Offering



Dear RPUMC Family,

I am so grateful to be part of this church (and very happy that I have been appointed here for at least another year). Maybe it was the joy of celebrating Easter in a slightly more normal capacity or because our kid is now old enough to be *excited* about coming to church, but the past few months have especially affirmed my love for this community--for all of you.

And speaking of Easter resurrection, it is amazing to see new teams forming and ministries moving forward. Truly, this is a re-building year for our church. A season to re-group and re-gather (while celebrating gifts and milestones along the way).

May is a great season for these blessings, so especially this month:

MAY the Lord bless you and keep you.

MAY The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

MAY The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace. Alleluia and Amen!



Rev. Emily Knight

RPUMC Family Ministry



Sunday Morning Family Ministry

ALL ages invited to Sunday mornings in the fellowship hall
~with snacks~
@ 10:10 in the fellowship hall
6th-12th grade group also meeting

MAY 15, 2022 YOUTH Calendar Meeting (6-12th grade)

Just after the traditional service on Sunday, May 15th (i.e. noonish) parents AND students are invited to meet with Bobby Brazell in the fellowship hall. We will set dates for summer celebrations and fall retreats/gatherings.



We will celebrate graduates on Sunday, May 22nd.

Send graduate photos, names and info to Joye by May 16th at j.hampton@riversideparkumc.com



The church nursery is open today for our littlest disciples (up to four years old)
Welcome, little ones!

Our church nursery has re-opened on Sunday mornings! We need two more adults to complete the volunteer rotation and we are looking to hire a Sunday morning nursery attendant to regularly staff the nursery. If you have someone in mind, contact Pastor Emily or SPRC



VBS 2022: "Let It Shine!"

July 11-15th 9-noon

Jesus is the light of the world!

God is with us through the shadows.

God's light shines through you, so let it shine!

Registration opens Friday, May 20th

****With a 'vbs afterparty' for middle school & high school students*
(think pizza and a bible study for older students just after VBS ends)***



A God Moment in The Little Things

One day at work during Lent, I saw a little Willow Tree figurine on the sale cart at the hospital gift shop. I went in to look at it and noticed it was called "Little Things". I shared with the worker at the gift shop about that fitting in with our church's theme for Lent ("Lent in the Little Things") and the fact that she was repaired made her more special. The employee said, "Here! I'm gifting her to your church!" What a special God-moment at work that was. It made my day. --Shirley Davis



Welcome New Members!

As part of our combined unity service on Palm Sunday, we blessed and celebrated six new members of the church!

**Jonathan Smith, Fred & Susan Russell,
Cathy Salzer, and Larry & Amanda Figart
We welcome you to RPUMC!**



Young Adult Ministries: Second Saturday Summer Game Nights

**7pm in the Fellowship Hall
May 14th, June 11th,
July 9th**

**BYOG (game: board, card,
video, yard) Some games
and snacks will be provided**

**Questions? Email
Kaitlyn.Fuller@outlook.com**

Memorials & Special Gifts



- We celebrate a special gift to Wednesday night dinners in memory of Tom Orr
- Hardage-Giddens Funeral (employees shown to the left) made a generous gift to help feed our neighbors on Wednesday nights.
- RPUMC received an 'Amazon Smile' donation, so thank you to everyone who has designated RPUMC as their charity of choice

Senior Adult Lunch & Bingo
FRIDAY, MAY 6TH
Please RSVP: (904) 355-5491

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, McCord Bldg and Education Bldg. Both the Sanctuary and McCord 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 McCord 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, Chair



**United Methodist Men's
Organizational Meeting
May 1st after 11am Service
Fellowship Hall**

**contact Clark Burner for more info:
gcburner@att.net**

For all of the Men of Riverside Park UMC.

After two years of cancelling all face-to-face meetings at the church, our health environment seems to have changed enough to get the gang back together again.

I would like to schedule a brief (30 minute or so) meeting in the Fellowship Hall after the 11AM church service on Sunday, May 1, to meet with everyone who is interested in participating in a renewal of our UMM Charter and regular Men's activities here at Riverside Park.

The United Methodist Men is open to all the men of the church, age 18 and over. We have traditionally supported our church, and the community, through many varied service projects and activities, and I think it's time we started these again.

The Agenda for May 1 will be brief: 1. Determine who is interested in participating. 2. Set a time and dates for future monthly meetings, and their format. (Weekend or Sunday breakfast, evening cookout on the grill, meet at a restaurant somewhere, etc.) 3. Proposals for the kinds of missions and activities the UMM want to sponsor in the coming year.

If you are unable to attend this first meeting, but still want to participate, please notify me via email, gcburner@att.net, and I will make sure you are kept in the information loop.

Clark Burner - Acting President UMM

WHAT IS A WIM? (Not to be confused with a whim)

Well - at Riverside Park it's a Woman In Mission. Our women's mission group is now going to be called The Women In Mission. And The WIM of Riverside Park want and need you. Right now we have two circles in the WIM but we are open to more. We have a daytime group, the Circle of Joy and Peace, which meets at the church on the third Wed. of each month, and a night time circle, The Circle of Hope, which meets on the first Tuesday of each month.

What do WIMs do? They support missions that benefit women and children. They support them with both monetary gifts and hands on involvement. They pray together, they fellowship together, and they help with activities like the Palm Sunday luncheon. In the Fall, the Circle of Hope will sponsor a Bible Study using the book, The Women of the Bible Speak, by Shannon Bream.

If you are not a member of these groups but would like more information about them, please call me at 904-891-6731. If you would be interested in helping start a new mission group under the umbrella of The WIM, please contact me too. Not all groups need to meet monthly. Semi monthly would be fine. Zoom meetings are another possibility.

Groups can meet in homes. Groups can be formed based on like interests - such as mothers of young children. The possibilities are endless. Come be a WIM. We need you.

Bonnie Allen, Chairperson
The WIM

Women In Mission

Thank you to the MANY teams and choirs and leaders and greeters who enabled Holy Week to be a celebration. These are just a few...

April Joos as the Easter Bunny (and our current nursery coordinator)

Ron Richardson & Brandea Doran took amazing photos of our Palm Sunday celebration (Brandea covered the family photo booth and Ron snapped shots of worship and the egg hunt). Ironically, we didn't get pictures of either photographer.



Kim Moseley updated the bulletin board outside our church nursery



Chris & Janis Schmitz and the Strong family were greeters at the Easter flower cross



Kate Riechmann designed and made welcome bags for the nursery.



Emily Rehberg, Terrie Lee, Zada Stroble, Ashley Alston, and Tre Devine arranged Easter flowers



Palm Sunday 2022



Congregational Care Team

We are building a Congregational Care Team to help assure we are sharing God's love, support, and encouragement within our church family.

If you have a heart for praying for others, writing notes/cards/emails, visitation, phone calls or have other ideas to share, please call me (JoAnn Goodwin at (561) 762-3727 or email jayegoodwin@gmail.com.

If you or a family member that could use this type of support or prayers, please call the church office at (904) 355-5491.

PRAISE TEAM SINGERS NEEDED

Auditions are being held

June 5th 12:15-1:30pm

SIGN UP TIME SLOTS AND REQUIREMENTS
WILL BE POSTED IN THE BREEZEWAY



Before



Wonder where the money you paid for chili in February went? The Circle of Hope used a portion to redo a room at the City Rescue Mission on McDuff. This was the third room the Circle of Hope has redone there. Kudos for this one all go to Susan Bush and Janis Schmitz. New furniture and new furnishings including a beautiful angel painting by Janis turned an 'ugly duckling' into a warm and welcoming home for two CRM clients.

After



The Circle of Hope will have its last meeting before summer break on Tuesday, May 3 at 7 PM in the parlor. All ladies of the church are invited if you would like to learn more about our circle. In the fall as a part of our meetings, we will begin discussions based on the book *The Women of the Bible* by Shannon Bream. This will carry us from September to May of 2023. We have 3 copies of the book that will be shared so that the chapter of the month can be read prior to our meeting.

Florida United Methodist Children's Home

Dear Church Family,

Just a reminder that May 29th will be the 5th Sunday of the month when our offering goes to support one of our core missions, the Florida United Methodist Children's home. The following is a brief blurb that explains FUMC's service to children in need and below that is the website address where you can learn more about this important work. Last year we surpassed our giving goal to FUMC and I hope we can do so again this year.

Earlier this year, RPUMC hosted several Local Church Representatives (LCRs) from Northeast Florida in a meeting in Fellowship Hall where Elisabeth Gadd, Chief Development Officer did a training session.

Thank you for your support.
God Bless,
Jeff Cornett, LCR for RPUMC

WHAT IS THE CHILDREN'S HOME?

How We Help Children In Need

The Florida United Methodist Children's Home was established in 1908 to provide a home for orphans and other children that had nowhere else to live.

Today it serves as a diverse ministry with two campuses that include residential, therapeutic group, foster and emergency shelter care. The Home also provides independent living assistance and a community child care center.

Everyone in our care is safe and loved and treated as a unique and special creation of God.



Take a Virtual Tour

<https://www.fumch.org/media-press/day-on-campus/>

Join Us For a Race Cards Conversation

Save the date! June 2, 2022 from 6:30 – 8:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall, the Racial Justice committee is excited to be partnering with 904WARD to host a “RACE CARDS Conversation.” Race cards were developed by 904WARD, a local group dedicated to racial healing and equity in Jacksonville. The goal of Race Cards conversations is to facilitate honest, authentic conversations around race in a safe space that helps us to better understand one another. Seating is limited, so we encourage you to register early at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-evening-with-the-race-cards-tickets-323600737517>. Please indicate if you will need childcare so we can plan accordingly.

If you aren't aware, the Racial Justice Committee is a new Ministry at Riverside Park. It was established in answer to the Conference's call for local churches to commit to the journey of dismantling racism within the conference, local church and communities. The Conference's Comprehensive Plan on Dismantling Racism states: In our baptismal vows, we commit to “renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world” and “resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.” Racism and white supremacy are evil and sinful. It is our duty as disciples of Jesus Christ to take a lifelong commitment to opposing these forces of evil. Therefore, the work of anti-racism is the work of discipleship and the ongoing process of sanctification. This work begins with recognizing, renouncing, and dismantling our own prejudices, which all persons hold in varying ways. At RPUMC, the Racial Justice Committee's goal is to “better understand racism of all types and to help each other explore our own attitudes, beliefs and prejudices (implicit and explicit) in a safe and non-judgmental space.

At RPUMC, the Racial Justice Committee's goal is to “better understand racism of all types and to help each other explore our own attitudes, beliefs and prejudices (implicit and explicit) in a safe and non-judgmental space. Through our readings, conversations and site visits we hope to grow in Christ's love and become allies of our brothers and sisters of color and to help create a just world for all of God's children.

Please contact one of the steering committee members if you have questions or if you would like to help with this event and or join our group. We need volunteers to help with set up, to make/bring cookies and snacks. and most importantly, friendly greeters to welcome people, and handle registration.

Steering Committee

Linda LaBell	Islabell@yahoo.com
Connie Hodges	conniehodges904@gmail.com
Nancy Schubiger	nancy.schubiger@gmail.com
Beth Joyner	elizabetjo@comcast.net

Uncomfortable talking about race? Let's talk about it.



Join us for an evening of deep discussion and personal connection centered around the topic of race that is accessible to everyone.

Register today at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-evening-with-the-race-cards-tickets-323600737517>

**Hosted by:
Riverside Park United Methodist Church
819 Park Street**



- 1st Darren Nettles
Maisie Remo
- 5th Brian Hough
- 6th Kyle Neufeld
- 10th Judy Marks
- 12th Tony Quails
- 14th Kevin Round
- 17th Michael Hodgkin
Beau White
- 19th Tommy Cashman
Rachel Murray
- 20th Susan Bush
Hudson Gunby
- 21st Quinton Scott
- 22nd David Hannah
- 23rd Debra Whitaker
- 29th Brian Alvarado
Brooke Lawrence
Matthew Popp
- 30th Mike Litwin
Anthony Owens

Committee Meetings:

Finance/SPR Committee (Zoom)
Tuesday, May 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees (Zoom & In-Person)
Monday, May 16th at 6:00 p.m.

Church Council
Tuesday, May 17th at 6:00 p.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 3/30/2022

	Actual	Budget
Contributions	\$107,009	\$112,164
Expenses	\$120,819	\$122,060
Surplus/Deficit	-\$13,810	-\$9,896

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.

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 COMMUNION 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship 12pm UMM Meeting 5pm Chancel Ringers	2	3 7pm Circle of Hope	4 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	5	6 11am Senior Adult Fellowship	7
8 MOTHER'S DAY 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship 5pm Chancel Ringers	9	10 6pm SPR/Finance Committee Meeting	11 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	12	13	14 7pm Young Adult Game Night
15 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship 12pm Parents and Youth 5pm Chancel Ringers	16 6pm Board of Trustees	17 6pm Church Council	18 11am Circle of Joy & Peace 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	19	20	21
22 GRADUATE CELEBRATION 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship 5pm Chancel Ringers	23	24	25 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	26 10:30am Bible Study at Riverside Park Apartments	27	28
29 5th Sunday 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship 5pm Chancel Ringers	30 MEMORIAL DAY Office Closed	31				



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
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
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Rich Lewis, Organist
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