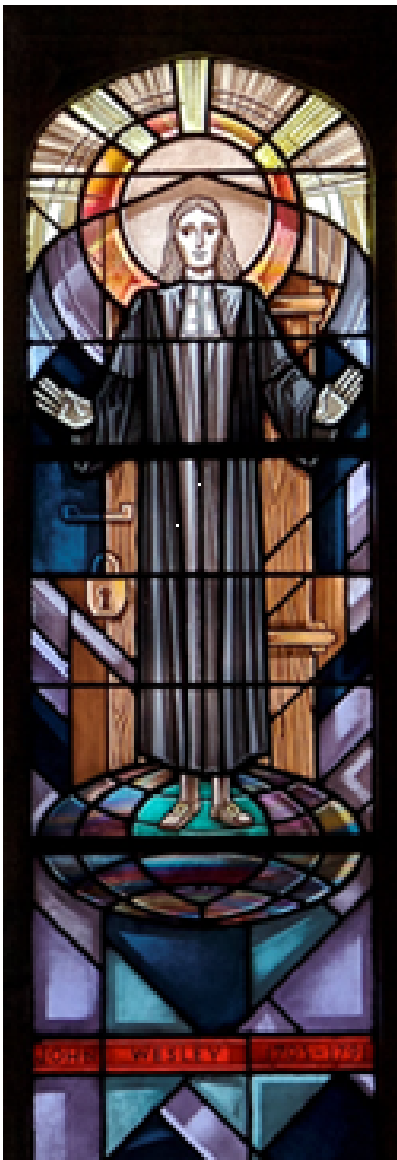


RIVERSIDE REPORTER: JULY 2022



I was initially hesitant about the idea, but I am loving the “portable pastor Emily” project (check inside if you need context). I love seeing your hilarious and creative photos. And I love that I get to be (at least somewhat) part of your away-from-church moments: as you play with toys, get groceries, eat breakfast, write legal documents, mow the lawn, attend rehab... **It's like you're carrying church with you.**

Which is biblical. Jesus preached his sermons from mountaintops and shorelines. He encountered people at wells and city gates. Instead of calling the disciples into pulpits, Jesus sent them out into the world. In Acts, the apostles shared the Gospel in jails and around tables.



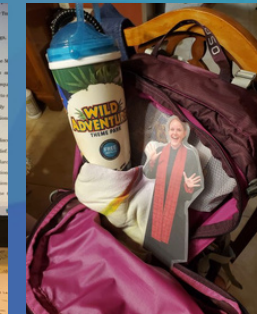
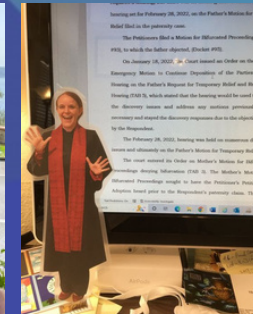
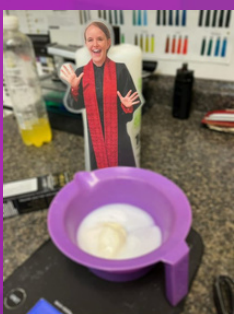
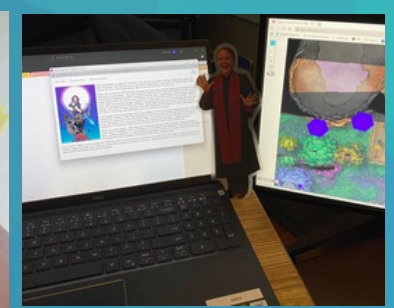
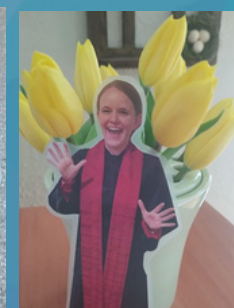
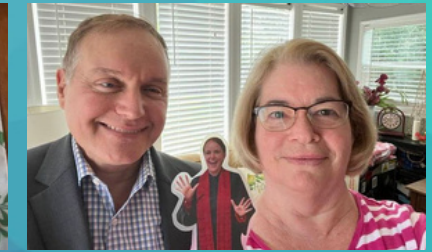
Centuries later, when John Wesley (the founder of our Methodist movement) was kicked out of the Anglican church, he took his sermons on the road and preached in fields, city squares, and outside the coal mines to anyone who would listen. The world became his parish.

“I look upon all the world as my parish; thus far I mean that in whatever part of it I am, I judge it meet, right, and my bounden duty to declare unto all that are willing to hear, the glad tidings of salvation. This is the work which I know God has called me to.” ~John Wesley (Journal, June 11, 1739)

So what if we carried faith into every situation? Could unexpected places become Holy ground? Could we find the Gospel of Jesus Christ connecting to places and people outside the walls of our sanctuary?

I'm leaning into this idea for the month of July. Each week's sermon will be inspired by your “PPE” photos and/or your suggestions for unlikely or unexpected places to find a pastor. (Seriously: give me your suggestions and I'll write sermons from some of them). I'm excited to see where the Gospel will show up for us this summer.

Rev. Emily Knight



INTRODUCING: PORTABLE PASTOR EMILY (PPE)



A fun way to stay connected with your church family over the summer!

Take Portable Pastor Emily with you on all your summer adventures. Snap photos with her and share with your church family in the private Facebook RPUMC Family Group. If you're not on Facebook, text your photos to (904) 571-4701 (Bridget Ware) or email your photos to PortablePastorEmily@gmail.com and your photos will be posted for you.

You can pick up your very own Portable Pastor Emily in the Narthex or in the church office, or call the church office to have one mailed to you.

Each week there will be a fun photo challenge for PPE. Watch Facebook and the church E-news each Friday for the new challenge (or just post your fun adventures). ***Have fun and stay connected!***



Young Adult Game Night

Second Saturday at 7 p.m.

July 9th

RPUMC Fellowship Hall

Questions? Email Kaitlyn.Fuller@outlook.com

Youth Ministry Dates

July 11-15: Vacation Bible School, 9 am - 12 pm

July 15: Post VBS Party, 12 pm

July 18-22: Warren Willis Retreat

August 6: Back to School Block Party

August 7: Sunday School Launch Party

August 14: Family Ministry Zoom Call



Wednesday Night Ministry

More volunteers will be needed during the summer. Jobs range from a sit down job organizing boxes and desserts to runners delivering the meals.

Please join the WNM team by calling the church office at (904) 355-5491 or texting me/ (904) 868-5370.

Bonnie Dudley, chair of Wednesday Night Ministry

Items Needed:

Socks, Shirts,
and Grocery Bags (plastic)



Saturday, August 6
10 AM to 1pm

🍏 Inflatables

🍏 Park Play

🍏 Hot Dogs

🍏 Snow Cones

🍏 FREE Kid's
Health Screenings



Block Party!

Women's Brunch

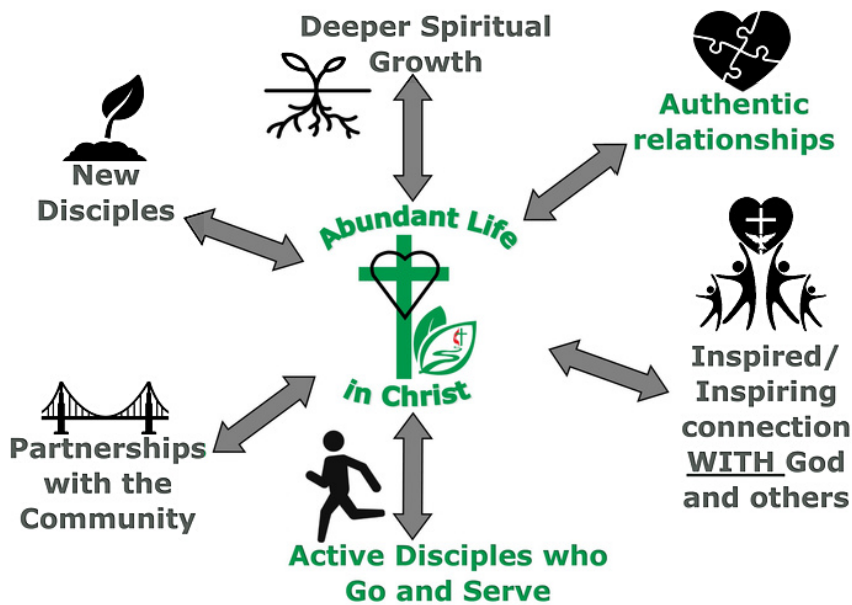
The RPUMC Women In Mission
invite all ladies and girls of the church
for brunch and fellowship.

July 16th
9:30 a.m.

River Room at Beau Rivage

Please RSVP by July 11th
(904) 355-5491

Church Council



Church Council continues to focus and build on our RPUMC mission and vision (seen here to the left). In our June church council meeting, we decided that the most critical needs are currently "authentic relationships" and "active disciples who go and serve." We will focus on these areas for the rest of 2022--gathering Church Council for a strategy session on Sunday, July 31st. (immediately following traditional worship)

Trustees

In addition to maintaining and repairing the facility, the Trustees committee is also responsible for faithfully using the church buildings (and sharing our space with the community).

Did you know that we have several groups from the community who gather to meet in our facility?

Prelude Chamber Music Camp
YMCA Summer Camp
Salsa Dance Group
Three Yoga Classes (M, W, & F)

Tai Chi
Girl Scout Troop
Daisy Troop

Thank you!

A memorial gift in memory of Donald & Lois Brandt
to God's glory from Ty and Colleen Strong.

Annual Conference 2022



Beth Joyner

Annual Conference was held in Lakeland June 9-11, the theme was Rebuilding the Church/Re-membering the body. Virtual pre-conference workshops were offered June 7th.

For me, Annual Conference has always been an uplifting experience. As you gather with 200+ other representatives you are reminded of the benefits and blessings of a connectional church. There are no strangers at this conference. Among the Retirement services and the Service of Remembrance, there are committee reports. Reports that tell the story of all the good things that are happening in the United Methodist Church.

The Laity Session that opened the conference was led by our Co-Lay Leaders, Alice Williams and Derrick Scott. The energy, enthusiasm, and love they demonstrated set the stage; their message, one of unity and hope. There is a lot of uncertainty and unrest in the church, but we can't let that distract us from what we are called to do, love one another and serve our Lord by serving His people, all of His people.

The formal departure of 13 churches from the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church was approved. Bishop Carter said he expects more churches to leave once their paperwork is complete. He said he will "strongly consider" asking for a special session in the fall that could speed the process for churches planning on leaving the Conference. A list of the departing churches can be found on the Conference website. The Conference also officially closed Riverview UMC in Ormond Beach but voted to keep open The Collective in DeLand.

Three resolutions were approved.

- Delegates overwhelmingly approved a resolution on gun violence which asks for United Methodists to advocate at the local and national level for laws that prevent or reduce gun violence.
- Equity in Congregational Development to the work of creating equity in clergy compensation, congregational development and debt reduction.
- and a third resolution offering apologies and support to the slate of 16 pastoral candidates who were NOT approved for provisional membership at the clergy session. The resolution would allow these candidates to participate in the Residency in Ministry process and would explore whether the coming year can count toward the required time before they can apply for ordination.

This latter resolution reflects our denomination's ongoing grappling with the role of LGBTQ+ persons in church leadership. This year, 16 candidates were board-approved for provisional clergy status, but the group's status failed to meet the final vote of approval (75% affirmation by the clergy session).

Bishop Carter has left open the possibility that he and the Cabinet could call a special clergy session in the fall to reconsider approval of the affected candidates rather than forcing them to wait until the 2023 Annual Conference.

In emotional arguments for and against this last resolution, there were two powerful comments made:

Retired pastor Jeff Kantz expressed his difficulty with his vote. "In the clergy session, we were presented with the option to choose grace or choose to live by our word of discipline: one or the other. There was an effort on the part of those to minimize the hurt that would happen, and we in the clergy session chose not to go that way of doing that specific work because, as (Assistant to the Bishop) Alex (Shanks) pointed out (Friday) night, the discipline has not changed," he said.

"I am split in half. Each time we hear the cheers and jeers, I feel the stones of my brothers and my sisters on each side. The Board of Ordained Ministry knew that this was still not a disciplinary action; it was brought to us for a decision. Seventy percent of us chose grace. Thirty percent of us chose to stand by our word. I see myself in both of those."

Teenager Norah Pancost joined with the youth caucus to urge passage of the resolution. "The vote of the clergy was not an accurate representation of how we, as the future of the church, feel or believe. Many of those resistant to passing the original vote will not even be a part of the future ministry that this vote will be affecting due to a split within our church."

Full committee reports and detailed content of the three resolutions can be found on the conference website at FLUMC - Annual Conference 2022, I encourage you to look at them.

Beth Joyner
Lay Representative to Annual Conference



Three Square at RPUMC

COMING IN SEPTEMBER

Three Square may be something you've never heard of or you may have participated in 2020 for RPUMC's inaugural Three Square before the pandemic ended it. To learn more, please read on! Three Square is a dinner group of church members and friends of the church. The same three 'couples', which may consist of husband/wife, two guys, two girls, two friends, whatever, join together for dinner at each of the couples' homes over a three month period. The hosts of the month invite one other couple to join the group thereby making the square. The invited couple may be a member not participating in the group or friends you'd like to have learn more about our church. Single? Not a problem. Get a friend to become your 'second'. Home not big enough to accommodate a group of eight? No problem. The group can meet at a restaurant with each paying for their own food or have a picnic in a park.

We plan to begin Three Square in September. The first couple (designated when the groups are determined randomly) selects an evening in September for the first meal of the group and invites a fourth couple. The second couple does the same for October and the third for November.

The host couple provides the main course and one of the other couples provides a side with bread while the third provides the dessert. There will be a sign up on our RPUMC website or you may call Jane Riechmann at (904) 568-8650 with questions or to sign up! All participants will need to be signed up by August 13.

Racial Justice Group



The racial justice group wishes to thank all who participated in and volunteered to help with the Race Cards Event last Thursday evening. We had 51 in attendance from both the church and community. And, so far, have gotten a lot of positive reviews including the wish for more authentic conversations like this. Thank you everyone.

Linda LaBell, Connie Hodges, Beth Joyner, and Nancy Schubiger

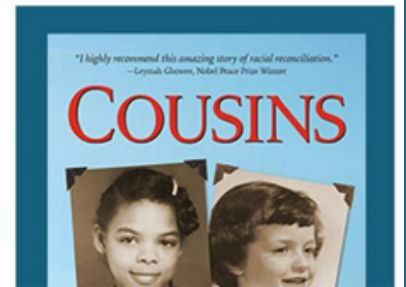
For more information contact Linda at lsabell@yahoo.com

RPC / RPUMC Summer Book Club

Scan to register:



July 6, 13 and 20 at 6:30 pm
RPC Edu Bldg Room 302/303 and Via Zoom



Women in Mission

Attention - All Women and Girls of the Church-

The Women in Mission (WIM) will be hosting a brunch on July 16th at 9:30am. All women and girls are invited and if we can't fit in the River Room at the beautiful Beau Rivage, we will move it elsewhere!! Somewhere larger but not as spectacular. But the more the merrier. The purpose is to get to know each other better, especially our new women in the church. We also want all women to know what your WIM is up to and how all can be a part of it.

There are reservation slips in the bulletin and you may call the office to reserve your place. We do need reservations by Monday the 11th. You don't want to miss this. See you on the 16th, I hope.

Bonnie Allen, Chairperson, WIM (Women in Mission)



Margaret's Memories Update...

Save the Dates: July 17 - Bracelet Making

Aug. 20 - Fundraiser Lunch at Blue Bamboo

Sept. 10- Box Assembly

Memory Boxes have been donated to Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville and UF Health Downtown. Volunteers have been scheduling time to help with quality controlling, crafting, and other projects that make Margaret's Memories possible.

We continue to receive thank you notes and emails from families and friends to thank Margaret's Memories for giving the gift of memories through bereavement boxes. We are continually told all the handmade items are very touching.

We have a bracelet making event and a box assembly event coming soon and we hope you will join us. On July 17th, we'll be making bracelets in the Fellowship Hall between 10:30 am and 2 pm. Then on September 10th from 9 - 11 am, we will assemble memory boxes pre-pandemic style in the Fellowship Hall.

In October, I will be attending the Pregnancy Loss and Infant Death Alliance conference in Denver, Colorado. The conference is an important educational event that also provides networking with other bereavement organizations.

A fundraiser meal and raffle will be held at Blue Bamboo on San Jose Blvd. on August 20th starting at 12 pm. Tickets are \$25 per person and must be purchased in advanced. Funds raised from this event will be earmarked for conference fees and travel expenses.



Flight: \$432.20 / Conference registration: \$550 / Hotel: Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel \$1,145
Scan the QR Code to purchase your ticket for the fundraiser luncheon at Blue Bamboo.

For more information, email Nicole at margaretsmemories@hotmail.com or call the church office at 904-355-5491. You can also visit us on the web at www.margaretsmemories.org and "like" us on Facebook!

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

*Asian Bazaar Luncheon
for Margaret's Memories*

Saturday, August 20th - 12pm

\$25 per person

Raffle Tickets \$5 each of 5 for \$20

<https://tinyurl.com/asianbazaar>

BLUE BAMBOO

10110 San Jose Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32257

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 Time TBD— Faith & Leadership Pint Night	2
3 COMMUNION 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY Office Closed	5	6 5:30pm Free Dinners 6:00pm Task Team 6:30pm Racial Justice Book Club	7	8	9 7pm Young Adult Game Night
10 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship	11 9-12 VBS	12 9-12 VBS 6pm SPR/Finance Committee Meeting	13 9-12 VBS 5:30pm Free Dinners 6:30pm Racial Justice Book Club	14 9-12 VBS	15 9-12 VBS 12pm Post-VBS Party	16 9:30am Women's Brunch
17 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 10:30am Bracelet Making 11am Traditional Worship	18 Warren Willis Camp 6pm Board of Trustees	19 Warren Willis Camp	20 Warren Willis Camp 5:30pm Free Dinners 6:30pm Racial Justice Book Club	21 Warren Willis Camp 1pm Bible Study at Riverside Park Apts. 7pm 9B Woodwind Concert	22 Warren Willis Camp	23
24 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship	25	26	27 5:30pm Free Dinners	28	29	30
31 5th Sunday Offering for Children's Home 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship 12:15pm Leadership Retreat					The YMCA Camp will be held on campus weekdays from May 31st—August 12th.	



Birthdays

- 1st Doug Matthews
- 2nd Cade Renne
- 3rd Carly Gunby
- 5th Henley Gunby
Susan Stone
- 6th Jennie Bibb
- 9th Joye Hampton
- 10th Paige Bush
Tim Riechmann
- 12th Bonnie Dudley
- 13th Rachel Bush
- 14th Mike Thurgood
- 15th Gealean Roeters
- 16th Matt Hemphill
- 17th Derrick Hittell
- 18th Scarlet Tompkins
- 19th Penelope Diao
Joanne Lipp Carlson
- 20th John Cogburn
- 22nd Kylie Rodriguez
- 23rd Chuck Pickren
- 25th Mia Anderson
Alex Anderson
Shirley Early
Alex Winter
- 27th Ashley Alston
- 28th Carmel Brown
- 29th James Cashman
- 31st Jack Barnard

Committee Meetings:

Finance/SPR Committee (Zoom)
Tuesday, July 12a t 6:00 p.m.

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

Leadership Retreat
Sunday, July 31st at 12:15 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 5/31/2022

	Actual	Budget
Contributions	\$178,270	\$186,398
Expenses	\$197,705	\$203,433
Surplus/Deficit	-\$19,435	-\$17,035

May God's love surround...

Home

- † Emory Cook
- † Joe Dorsie
- † Shirley Early
- † Jo Herron
- † Steven & Teresa 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
- Kaden Neufeld
- Kyle Neufeld
- Matthew Popp
- Dallas Renne
- Hannah Stomps



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
m.hudson@riversideparkumc.com

Gealean Roeters, Family Ministry Administrator
families@riversideparkumc.com

Rich Lewis, Organist
r.lewis@riversideparkumc.com

Jack Barnard, Bookkeeper
j.barnard@riversideparkumc.com

Britt Scott, Tech Team Leader
tech@riversideparkumc.com

Nancy Schubiger, Membership Secretary
membership@riversideparkumc.com

Tre Devine, Custodian
t.devine@riversideparkumc.com

Jacksonville, FL 32204

819 Park Street

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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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