

RIVERSIDE REPORTER:

AUGUST 2022

A comedian (it was John Mulaney, actually) once joked that Jesus' most incredible miracle was making 12 close friends as an adult.

To be fair, this joke is less about the miracles of Christ and more about the honest truth that relationships are hard. Adults can't just say "follow me" or "here's my crayon"—and suddenly have authentic, empowering relationships. But—like it or not—we need them. Scripture teaches what psychology echoes: humans are created to be in relationship. Our souls long for connection with our Creator and community with one another. Yet when I look at our current world and neighborhood, I see that many of our neighbors (even many of our church members) are lonely.

I also believe that the Church is uniquely equipped to address this particular crisis. Relationship is core to our Gospel in Christ and the practice of gathering and using our gifts together is integral to our purpose and process. Our own church's mission—"to empower others to abundant life in Christ"—is built with a vision for authentic relationships; the kind (as scripture would say) where "deep calls to deep" and "iron sharpens iron" and God has "loved (us) with an everlasting love." (see Psalm 42:7; Proverbs 27:17; Jeremiah 3:13).

How we get there and what this actually looks like is a longer conversation, but the good news is that Jesus shows us the way. And I do believe God is calling us to this critical need now—in our church, in our world, in our own hearts and lives.

How can we empower one another to grow authentic relationships in Christ?

Rev. Emily Knight

PERSONAL NOTE: THIS IS MY CLERGY COVENANT GROUP. WE HAVE BEEN MEETING TOGETHER FOR SEVEN YEARS TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER IN OUR FAITH AND MINISTRY AND FAITHFULNESS. I THANK GOD DEEPLY FOR THESE RELATIONSHIPS.



RIVERSIDE PARK UMC

... BACK TO SCHOOL ... BLOCK PARTY

Sat. August 6th

10 am- 1 pm

Church Parking Lot
& Riverside Park

-Lots o' Inflatables
- Free Health Screenings

-Playground
- Hot Dogs
- Freezer Pops



All church families are invited to our inaugural Back to School Block Party. Bring your neighbors and friends, too. We'll have free hotdogs, chips, drinks and freezer pops. The playground will be open and we'll have several inflatables in the small parking lot. St. Vincent's will be offering free health screenings and we'll have some free school supplies for the kids. Come on out! Volunteers are needed, too. If you'd like to help out, please scan the QR Code above to sign-up.



Three Square at RPUMC

SIGN-UP BY AUGUST 13

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.

Youth Lock-In by the Numbers

2 Churches

Riverside Presbyterian Church
Riverside Park United Methodist Church



19 Students
4 Chaperones



80 cookie bags
donated to Meals on Wheels

150 meals
served to the
community

TEN BAGS
OF
COLLARD GREENS
GLEANED & DONATED
TO YELLOW HOUSE



10 cases of books
donated to RPC's mini library

100
tampon
bags

assembled for Wednesday
ministries & local schools



4 BINS OF SHIRTS DONATED
FROM RPC TO RPUMC'S
WEDNESDAY MINISTRIES

3 hours
serving at
Sanctuary on 8th St.

seventy
servings of fruit
salad donated as a
healthy snack for
kids at Sanctuary
on 8th St.

Infinite value
through time for
Communion,
reflection, scripture,
games, and joy.

Scripture focus: Hebrews 13:16



260
student
service
hours





Warren Willis Camp

Quinton and Cade spent a week at Warren Willis United Methodist Camp (in Leesburg, Florida). Says Q "I had a lot of fun. There was very good food like Turkey and pizza. It was a very fun place in general. The worship parts were also good. Our worship leader talked about the different ways God shows love and how we can show love. The activities were very involving, so no one felt left out. They pack a lot into one week!"

Youth Ministry

Save the dates:

August 6: Back to School Block Party
August 7: Lunch & Serve
August 14: Family Ministry Zoom Call



Name the Hallway Gallery

Would you like to have a new car, an all expenses paid vacation to a location of your choosing, or a dream home? You'll probably have to win the lottery for that, but we can offer temporary congregational bragging rights for providing the winning entry in our "Name the Hallway Gallery" contest.

Please submit your ideas for naming our art gallery on the second floor of the McCord Building. You may provide up to 5 submissions and entries should be emailed to:

ronald.j.richardson@gmail.com . Contest ends at midnight August 21. All entries will be judged by real people and the winner will be announced shortly thereafter.





July 11-15

Rise & SHINE

2022 Vacation Bible School





River City Men's Chorus | River City Women's Chorus 2022 Concert Series

Rejoicing In

Saturday, August 13
4:00 PM
Lakewood Presbyterian Church
2001 University Boulevard West

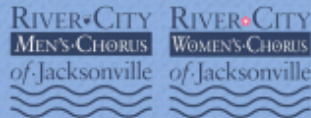
Featuring
R. Wayne Bailey - director
Sheffi Long - accompanist

All concerts are free and open to the public.

Sunday, August 14
4:00 PM
Riverside Park United Methodist Church
819 Park Street

Please call 553.8573 for more information.

Those in attendance are invited to make a donation to **Foster Closet** as they leave. 100% of the funds collected will help support this free resource for Northeast Florida's Foster Children, their Caregivers, and Independent Living Teens.



1st Sunday Communion & Canned Goods

Especially on the Sunday when we share God's table, we are mindful of others less fortunate. On the first Sunday of every month, we'll collect canned goods and other non-perishable food items for the Trinity Lutheran Food Pantry. Please mark your calendars and bring your donations to the collection baskets in the breezeway and narthex.



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



Margaret's Memories
Saving memories ...
...one footprint at a time.

Margaret's Memories Update...

Aug. 20 - Fundraiser Lunch at Blue Bamboo

Sept. 10- Box Assembly

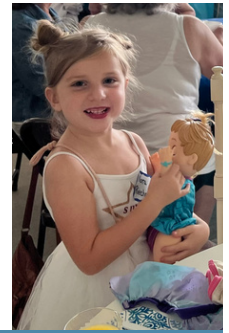
YOUNG ADULT BRUNCH

AUGUST 14 * SEPTEMBER 11 * OCTOBER 9TH
AFTER 11AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

QUESTIONS? EMAIL:

KAITLYN.FULLER@OUTLOOK.COM





Women In Mission Brunch

On Saturday, July, 16th, The WIM (Women in Mission) of Riverside Park had a wonderful time at our summer brunch. Over 40 women and girls gathered in the River Room at the Beau Rivage Condominiums, home of Mark and Jane Riechmann. The promised fun, fellowship, food and faith certainly was present. Everyone present seemed to have a wonderful time. Lots of laughter and warm chatter.

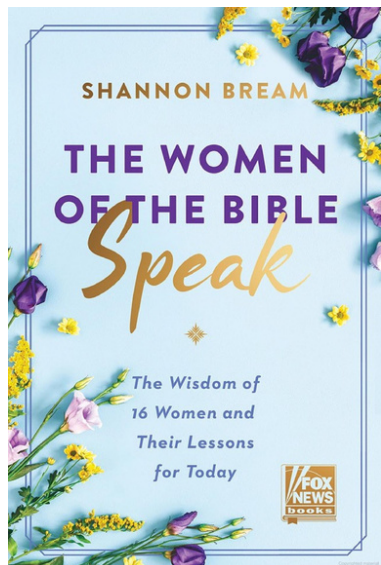
We learned about one another, Margaret's Memories (which is not under the WIM - but is certainly supported by it), and the two existing circles - one which meets for lunch at the church monthly, and one which meets in the evening with refreshments. We also learned that Pam Pearsall is willing to organize a third circle and already has women planning to be a part of that group.

If you are interested in one of the existing groups please contact the following women :

- The daytime lunch group at the church, The Circle of Joy and Peace - Emily Rehberg - (904) 739-1490 or Gordily@bellsouth.net
- The nighttime refreshment group at the church, The Circle of Hope - Jane Riechmann - (904) 384-8650 or stjohnsjane@bellsouth.net
- The new group being formed for the Fall - Pam Pearsall, who prefers email first - pearsallp@bellsouth.net (904) 616-5553.

If you have some ideas about how other groups could be formed in creative ways - Zoom, young mothers bringing their little ones with them to a Fellowship Hall meeting, or perhaps meeting every other month.....the possibilities are endless, please email me - earlj.allen@comcast.net or call me 891-6731
Looking forward to a stronger group than ever - Bonnie Allen Chairperson, WIM

Christian Book Study

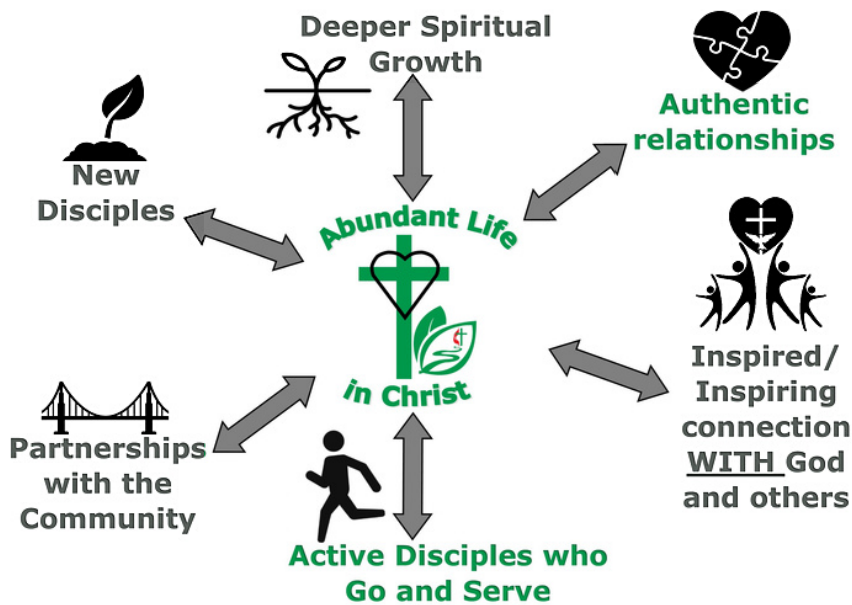


Beginning in September, the Circle of Hope will be using a book entitled "The Women of the Bible Speak" by Shannon Bream as their monthly devotion time. The chapters in the book are each divided into two parts, contrasting two women whose paths intertwine. For instance Sarah and Hagar, Rachel and Leah and others. Colleen Strong has graciously agreed to head up a group of women who would like to participate in an online group using the book. This might be by Zoom or a Messenger group. How often the group will meet and exactly how, will be decided by the group.

Accompanying this article is a picture of the book. If you are interested in knowing more about the group, please contact Colleen Strong at 904-903-0566. She may also be reached by email at Ty_Colleen@hotmail.com.

Happy reading,
Bonnie Allen, Chair, WIM

Church Council



Church Council continues to focus and build on our RPUMC mission and vision (seen here to the left).

Our current focus for the fall is "authentic relationships" and "active disciples who go and serve." We will focus on these areas for the rest of 2022, so be praying for growth and fruit.

Trustees Task Team

Hi folks, Joe DiSalvo here. I'm on the RPUMC Board of Trustees and also chair the RPUMC Task Team. Our church is in urgent need of major facility repairs, and the trustees are currently evaluating estimates from two contractors.

The trustees and church council are working with the RPUMC Task Team whose plan of action has three components: 1) Analyze our church's foundation fund and identify options that will grow this fund (which has been dormant for years); 2) Establish the church's O&M (Operations & Maintenance) priorities and establish a timing glidepath; and 3) Formulate a capital campaign plan that help resource the church's major maintenance repairs. At this point, I just wanted to let you all have awareness of the foundation and facility related efforts and look forward to updating everyone as the plan of action develops. Thanks, and God Bless.



"So we rebuilt the wall... for the people worked with all their heart."
—Nehemiah 4:6

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	2	3 11am Yoga 5:30pm Free Dinners	4	5 11am Yoga	6 10-1 Back to School Block Party
7 COMMUNION 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups Family Sunday School Re-turns 11am Traditional Worship	8 6pm SPR/Finance Committee Meeting	9 6pm SPR/Finance Committee Meeting	10 11am Yoga 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	11	12 11am Yoga	13
14 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship 3pm River City Choruses Concert	15 6pm Church Council	16 6pm Church Council	17 11am Yoga 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	18	19 11am Yoga	20 12pm Margaret's Memories Fundraiser @ Blue Bamboo
21 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship	22	23	24 11am Yoga 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir	25 1pm Bible Study at Riverside Park Apts.	26 11am Yoga	27
28 9am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School/Groups 11am Traditional Worship	29	30	31 11am Yoga 5:30pm Free Dinners 7:30pm Chancel Choir		The YMCA Camp will be held on campus weekdays from May 31st—August 12th.	



2nd Carrie Santa Lucia

4th Gina Brown
Matt Take

5th Clark Burner
Harriet Thurgood

9th Dan Marks

10th Janis Schmitz

11th Terrie Lee
Frank Morreale
Eli Murray
Claire Weaver

12th Lara Manalo
Shirley Post

15th Pam Allen

17th Diane Bowman

18th Allyson Popp
Dallas Renne

19th Tim Bush

21st Ty Strong

22nd Bettye Stilley

24th Diane Carrigg

25th Carol Beyer

25th Frankie Crowell
Zach Mathis

27th Malcolm Remo

28th David Bowman
Harper Gunby
Jeff Joos
Bill Markert
Brittany Scott

29th Mark Cashen

30th Jenny Cashen
Pam Pearsall
Bridget Ware

Committee Meetings:

Finance/SPR Committee (Zoom)
Tuesday, August 9th 6:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees (Zoom & In-Person)
Next meeting TBD

Church Council
Tuesday, August 16th 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 6/30/2022

	Actual	Budget
Contributions	\$202,975	\$224,328
Expenses	\$231,438	\$244,120
Surplus/Deficit	-\$23,463	-\$19,792

May God's love surround...

Home

† Sally Alston
† 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 Contemporary
@11am Traditional**

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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