



## RIVERSIDE REPORTER: OCTOBER 2023

“Therefore, since **we are** justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

—Romans 5:1

“So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually **we are** members one of another.” —Romans 12:5

“For **we are** God’s servants, working together.”

—1 Corinthians 3:9

“For **we are** what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.”

—Ephesians 2:10

“**We are** not among those who shrink back and so are lost, but **we are** among those who have faith and so are saved.”

—Hebrews 10:39

As Christians, our faith is rooted in an individual relationship with Christ. We believe God hears our prayers and calls us to carry our own unique cross. We read Scripture in the comfort of our own homes, and we all possess distinct gifts. In this, faith is deeply personal: *Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so.*

And also: faith is not solitary. We come together for worship (praying, “*Our Father who art in heaven...*”). We break bread *together*. We stand by each other during hard times and happy moments. We serve together—in ways that allow us to do more than we could accomplish alone. Ready or not, faith in Jesus is a team sport. We are the body of Christ: together.

As concepts, “together” and “individual” are opposites, but church isn’t a theoretical idea. *We are the church.* We *are* believers who come together to build Christ’s Church (Christ’s Kingdom). And this gathered community makes space for our individual faith to flourish.

...Like the mural above: close up, it’s individual brushstrokes (each one is needed), but step back and you see a whole, powerful and vibrant story.

We are part of God’s story.

*Rev. Emily Knight*



**James Pickren Youth Room Rededication**



**Church Campus Tour**



**Visit to the Childrens Home**



**Sunday Youth**



**Kick-off for Kids Club & Kids Choir**



**3rd Grade  
Bibles**







**RIVERSIDE PARK**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## KIDS CHOIR & KIDS CLUB

**Sunday Mornings  
Songs & Instruments.  
Bible & Blessings.**

**Pre-K to 5th grade**

**Education room #402 (The room  
next door to the nursery).**



## Youth Ministry

The youth would like to thank the Pickren's for sharing your son James Thomas with us and rededicating the youth room this past month. The youth will honor his memory and continue to grow into oaks as the years progress. On Sunday the 24th the youth started the journey with youth day where they youth ran the services. Their talents and love for God amaze me each week and I hope the congregation saw the same.

### Sunday Morning Schedule:

10-10:10 Sign-in

10:10-10:30 Kids Choir

10:30-10:50 "Kids Club"

10:50 Closing blessing

10:50-11am Sign-out

Our RPUMC family ministry verse is  
*Ephesians 3:17-19.*

*We will repeat parts of each blessing for the month, so please echo them at home as a prayer for your own family and kids. Turn them to prayers by replacing the word "you" with your child's name).*

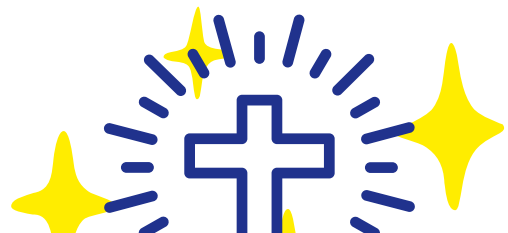


October

May you have the power to understand  
how wide, how long, how high,  
and how deep the love of Christ is.  
(from Ephesians 3:18-19)

**We are planning a youth lock-in  
on Friday October 20th, anyone  
who wishes to volunteer is  
welcome.**

Contact Ty Strong:  
[youth@riversideparkumc.com](mailto:youth@riversideparkumc.com)





# FIRST FRIDAY FRIENDS

(Lunch & Fellowship for Older Adults)

## THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM: MERCY SHIP IN AFRICA



**OCT. 6TH  
11 A.M.**      **PLEASE RSVP BY 10/3  
(904) 355-5491**



## Margaret's Memories

### Bereavement Box Assembly

**Sat., Oct. 7th - Fellowship Hall**  
**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**



# Charge Conference

Our conference will be shared  
with 8 local UMCs.

**October 7th at 10 a.m.**  
**RPUMC Sanctuary**

## CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED FOR TRUNK OR TREAT

Please bring bags of individually wrapped mini candy to the church office or breezeway. No full size candy bars or allergy items like peanuts, please.





## Women In Mission

Sisters of Service  
Tues., Oct. 10th - 7pm

Circle of Joy & Peace  
Wed., Oct. 18th - 11am

Circle of Hope  
Thurs., Oct. 12th - 11am

# OUR WESLEYAN ROOTS

HOLY CONFERENCING BIBLE STUDY  
Join Pastor Emily for two Bible studies.  
During these gatherings, participants will  
discuss Scripture and a biblical approach to  
questions of faith.

**Join us for Bible study:**  
**Thursday, October 26th**  
**& November 2nd**  
**@ 1pm in the Church Office Library**

## New Member Sundays: October 8th October 29th

Join us in worship  
as we welcome  
new members and  
reaffirm our  
commitment to  
Christ

## from the Anti-Racism Team

Contact Linda Labell for links or more information for  
any of the following. [Lsabell@yahoo.com](mailto:Lsabell@yahoo.com)

### A Conversation with Bishop Berlin on Anti-Racism

Oct. 4 | 12 p.m. via Zoom

### Banned Book Panel Discussion at 904WARD

Oct. 6 | 6 p.m.

### Americans and the Holocaust Exhibit

through Oct. 12 | Jacksonville Public Library

*FYI: if someone you know needs help getting voting rights restored,  
contact the League of Women Voters at (407) 710-5496 or  
[CanIVote@LWVFL.org](mailto:CanIVote@LWVFL.org)*



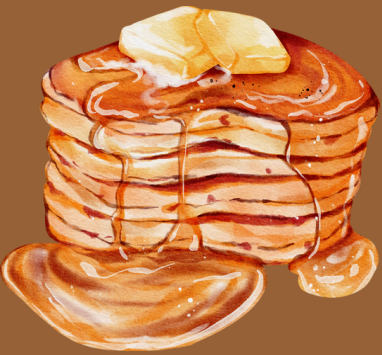
# Trunk or Treat

October 29th 4-6 p.m.

RPUMC Parking Lot

Candy Donations & Volunteers Needed

Scan for more info or  
to sign-up:



## Free Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, October 29th @ 10 am  
Rhames Fellowship Hall  
hosted by United Methodist Men

**SUNDAY**  
**OCTOBER 29<sup>TH</sup>**  
**7:30 PM**

## TRICKS & TREATS

### SPOOKTACULAR PIPE ORGAN CONCERT

**COME HEAR A REAL PIPE ORGAN !!**

Creepy Music by J.S. Bach,  
Saint-Saens, Gounod and more....

Featuring Rich Lewis  
with Special Guest Mary Holladay



# WEDNESDAY NIGHT MINISTRY

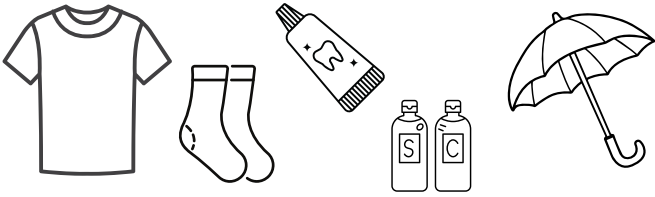
Awesome response for plastic grocery bags which we are now well-stocked. Besides our ongoing list of socks, shirts, and weather related gear all of which we are low on, I am adding small size hygiene items, shampoo, soap, and toothpaste only. At least a hundred toothbrushes were donated recently so that is not on the list. (Thank you Corky!) Many of you met Zach Patrick as he was a regular at our WNM and the church. He did have surgery and is recovering in UF Health/ 2nd floor of the Pavilion Bldg. He texted that he would love cards and visitors! As always, thank you all for your support, love, and prayers.

To sign-up, scan the QR code to the right or call the church (904) 355-5491



## *Items Needed:*

Socks, Shirts,  
Rain Gear,  
Toothpaste,  
Shampoo, Soap



# COMMUNITY BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet on Thursday, October 19 in the library at 1:00pm. Our discussion will be on The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah.

Kristin Hannah's book is set in Texas 1934 when millions of people are out of work and a drought has broken the Great Plains. Farmers are fighting to keep their livelihoods as water dries up and dust makes it difficult to manage. In this dangerous time Elsa Martinelli must make an agonizing choice—fight for the land she loves or go west to California in search of a better life. The Four Winds is a story of the American Dream as seen through the eyes of one indomitable woman whose courage and sacrifice will come to define a generation.

This book is available in the Jacksonville Public Library in a variety of formats.

# GRACE GALLERY

Grace Gallery is planning an art show featuring the works of our congregation. If you create, using almost any medium, we would love for you to be a part of this installation. Please contact Ron Richardson at [ronald.j.richardson@gmail.com](mailto:ronald.j.richardson@gmail.com) or Cathy Salzer at [csalzer52@gmail.com](mailto:csalzer52@gmail.com) for details. We look forward to hearing from you.



# Trustees Update

**The Trustees' renovation work continues. Work has started on the Education building with the installation of seven new a/c units**







As finance committee prays and prepares for our 2024 ministries, we invite you to be part of the planning process.

We will gather pledge cards through November 1st in these ways:

1. Online (via QR code provided below)
2. Offering plates during worship in October (extra cards will be available starting October 8th)
3. Office: bring or mail your pledge card to the church office
4. Altar: During worship on October 29th, we will have a time of prayer for anyone who wants to place their pledge card on the sanctuary altar.

We will celebrate and give thanks in a special worship service on Sunday, November 29th.

We are stewards.  
We are generous.  
We are investing in the Kingdom of God.  
We are growing in faith.

Online Pledge Card:



## **Wanted: Part-time coordinator in family ministry**

We are hiring! Do you know someone with administrative gifts and a passion for empowering kids and youth to grow in Christ? We need someone to help coordinate volunteers, connect families, and communicate special events with parents.

Contact  
[pastoremily@riversideparkumc.com](mailto:pastoremily@riversideparkumc.com)  
for job description and more information.

## **Wanted: Upright Freezer**

The trustees committee would like additional freezer space to store donations for our Wednesday dinners.

We currently have several frozen turkeys waiting to serve at Thanksgiving, so if you have an upright freezer at home, please contact the church office:  
(904)355-5491





# Easy Online Giving

Get the My Well Ministry Giving app today!

## 5 Ways to Connect to MyWell

- Go to [www.mywell.org/give/rpumc](http://www.mywell.org/give/rpumc)
- Text rpumc to 40101
- Download the My Well Ministry app
- Go to [riversideparkumc.com](http://riversideparkumc.com) & click on Give
- Scan the QR code with your phone's camera or code reader



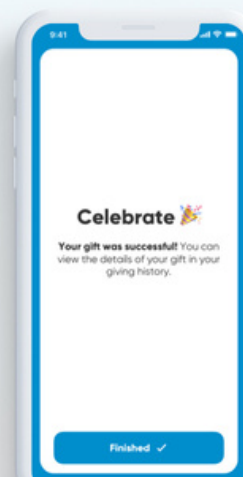
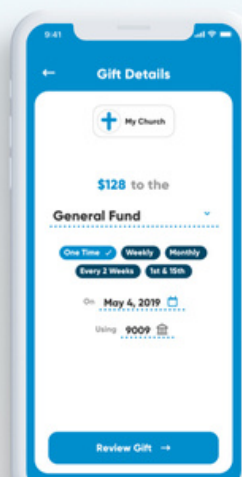
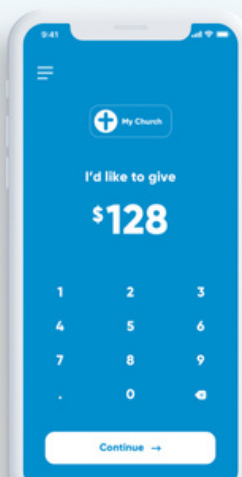
*"Empowering  
others to  
live life  
abundantly  
in Christ."*

### Easy Online Giving 1..2..3!

1 Select Amount

2 Confirm Details

3 Review & Give!



If you prefer to write a check, make it out to RPUMC and mail it to 819 Park St., Jacksonville, FL 32204 or place it in the offering late on Sunday morning.

Do you want offering envelopes for 2024? To order your free envelopes, contact the church office at (904) 355-5491 by November 1st.





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

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1 COMMUNION</b> <b>WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY</b> 9 am Contemporary Worship 10 am Sunday School/Groups 10 am New Member Class	2	3 10:30 am Tai Chi <b>5:30 pm Girl Scouts</b> 7 pm Tai Chi	4 2:30 pm Yoga 5:30 pm Free Dinners 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	5	6 <b>11 am First Friday Friends</b> 1 pm Yoga	7 <b>10 am Charge Conference</b> <b>10-2 Margaret's Memories</b> <b>Bracelet Making</b>
8 9 am Contemporary Worship 10 am Sunday School/Groups 11 am Traditional Worship 5 pm Chancel Ringers	9	10 10:30 am Tai Chi <b>6 pm SPR/Finance</b> 7 pm Tai Chi <b>7 pm Sisters of Service</b>	11 2:30 pm Yoga 5:30 pm Free Dinners 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	12 <b>11 am Circle of Hope</b>	13 1 pm Yoga	14
15 9 am Contemporary Worship 10 am Sunday School/Groups 11 am Traditional Worship	16 <b>6 pm Board of Trustees</b>	17 10:30 am Tai Chi <b>5:30 pm Girl Scouts</b> <b>6 pm Church Council</b> 7 pm Tai Chi	18 <b>11 am Circle of Joy &amp; Peace</b> 2:30 pm Yoga 5:30 pm Free Dinners 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	19 <b>1 pm Book Club</b>	20 1 pm Yoga	21
22 9 am Contemporary Worship 10 am Sunday School/Groups 11 am Traditional Worship 5 pm Chancel Ringers	23	24 10:30 am Tai Chi 7 pm Tai Chi	25 2:30 pm Yoga 5:30 pm Free Dinners 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	26 <b>1 pm Holy Conference</b> <b>ending Bible Study</b>	27 1 pm Yoga	28
29 <b>5TH SUNDAY</b> 9 am Contemporary Worship <b>10 am Pancake Breakfast</b> 11 am Traditional Worship <b>4-6 pm Trunk or Treat</b> <b>7:30 pm Organ Concert</b>	30	31 10:30 am Tai Chi 7 pm Tai Chi				





- 1st Chris Holmes  
Hogan Litwin
- 3rd Caleb Diao  
Reid Dupries
- 9th Chase Cogburn
- 10th Mackenzie Carrigg  
D. J. Flagler  
Evan Ruffino
- 11th Jennifer Cogburn  
Jeff Cornett  
Leigh DiSalvo  
JoAnn Goodwin
- 12th Christi Allen
- 13th Kate Riechmann
- 14th Diane Take
- 16th Melissa Matthews  
Ron Richardson
- 18th Larry Figart  
Radley Remo
- 19th David Holladay
- 23rd Pastor Emily
- 25th Mary Middleton
- 27th Emory Cook  
Julie Hemphill
- 28th Andy Carrigg
- 29th Tony Wilbourne
- 30th Emily Popp
- 31st Bonnie Allen  
Brayden Briscoe  
Scott Laflash  
Gordon Middleton, III  
Chris Renne

## Committee Meetings:

Finance/SPR Committee  
Tuesday, October 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees  
Monday, October 16th at 6:00 p.m.

Church Council  
Tuesday, October 17th at 6:00 p.m.

If we miss your birthday,  
please let us know.

If you move, please let us know.

Do you get our newsletter in the  
mail? How about the weekly RPUMC  
Updates sent by email on Fridays?

Call the church office at  
(904) 355-5491  
to update your information.

## May God's love surround...

### Home

- † Emory Cook
- † Joe Dorsie
- † Shirley Early
- † Jo Herron
- † Steven Jarvis
- † Carol Stelly
- † Jim Todd
- † Betty Walters

### College Students

- Cooper Crowell
- Frankie Crowell
- Tre Devine
- Brenna DuPries
- Isabella Laffy
- Hogan Litwin
- Emily Matthews
- Kaden Neufeld
- Kyle Neufeld
- Emily Popp
- Matthew Popp
- Dallas Renne







# RIVERSIDE PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Empowering others to live life abundantly in Christ."



*Worship with Us!*



**Sunday Mornings  
in the Sanctuary:  
@9am Contemporary  
@11am Traditional**

**Nursery care available.  
Sunday school @10am**

**Worship Online:  
Facebook live Sundays  
@9am Contemporary  
@11am Traditional**

**facebook.com/RiversideParkUMC**  
*(services are also uploaded  
later to YouTube)*

**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

Ty Strong, Youth Leader  
youth@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

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RIVERSIDE PARK  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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