

RIVERSIDE REPORTER

NOVEMBER

GRACE AND PEACE TO YOU IN THE NAME OF CHRIST!

I am blessed and grateful to be your pastor here.
Thank you.

Thank you for your generosity in bringing diapers and wipes for baby luv. Thank you for showing up and sharing candy for trunk or treat. Thank you for the birthday wishes and the notes and gifts for pastor appreciation month. I am deeply touched to be part of a church who sees me as a person as well as a pastor. This is an incredible gift that I do not take lightly.

I also love celebrating our church! I tell others that you are a warm and generous church (both in welcome and in love). This is something my friend Derrick experienced when he stepped in to preach for laity Sunday. He and I reflected afterwards— agreeing that Riverside Park UMC is a fun place to preach and worship.

So yes, Church, thank you. I give thanks to God for you. Your generosity and goodness in the name of Jesus continues to bless others. And on this day—in this moment—I am grateful for the ways that you have blessed me.

—Pastor Emily Knight

20
24



STAFF SPOTLIGHT MEET APRIL JOOS



What is your position at Riverside Park UMC?

I am the head of the nursery at church where I get to take care of the younger members of the church.

How long have you been at RPUMC?

I have been blessed to be at Riverside Park UMC for 10 1/2 years but only in the nursery for 2 years.

What's your favorite Bible verse?

My favorite Bible verse is Psalm 119:105. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."

Do you have any pets?

I have two dogs. One is our 9 year old sweet little girl named Willow. She is a Border Collie and Lab. Our 10 year old sweet little girl named Dixie. She is a border collie and Aussie.

What's your favorite food?

It is hard to choose but my favorite food is Italian food. It is so yummy!

Have you always lived in Jacksonville?

I have lived in Jacksonville my whole life. I was born in Baptist Hospital downtown.

What are some things that bring your joy?

What brings me joy is being with my family and friends, cool weather, reading history books, and being able to serve in this position.

NOVEMBER NEWS

Blessings of the Animals

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Saturday, November 2nd
10-11:30am • John Gorrie Dog Park

*Join us as we celebrate and remember
our beloved furry friends.*



All Saints Sunday

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Sunday
November 3rd



Family Ministry Bonfire

Family Bonfire Night

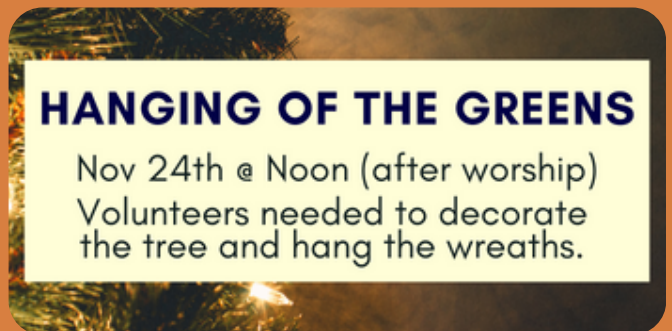
Saturday, Nov 10th
5:30 p.m.
Church Courtyard



Hanging of the Greens

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Nov 24th @ Noon (after worship)
Volunteers needed to decorate
the tree and hang the wreaths.



Conversation Covenant

RPUMC's 'Conversation Covenant' for election season:

(because we can love alike even
if we think differently)

1. Do no harm. Do good.
And "Take care that your spirits are not
sharpened against those on the other side."—
John Wesley
2. Speak with a heart of peace and prayer first
(otherwise just say "I am not at peace with this
conversation right now.")
3. We will not use candidate or party names on
campus—instead, we talk about
values and issues.
4. We will NOT label one another.

Save the Dates

Dec. 15th: One Service at 10:30 a.m.
Christmas Cantata

Dec. 18th: Blue Christmas Service
at 7:00 p. m. at Riverside Presbyterian

Dec. 24th: Christmas Eve Services
4:30 p.m. contemporary
7:00 p.m. traditional

Dec. 29th: One Service at 10:30 a.m.
Pancake Breakfast
Kids Wear Pajamas

RIVERSIDE PARK UMC CONCERT SERIES

Mark your calendars now.

December 15 – RPUMC Chancel Choir and Praise Team Cantata, 10:30 a.m. (one combined service) and our signature concert,



Chancel Ringers at Handbell Festival

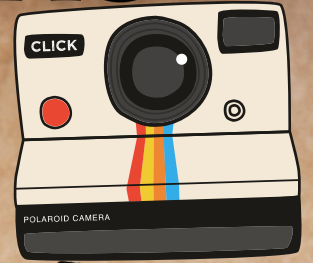
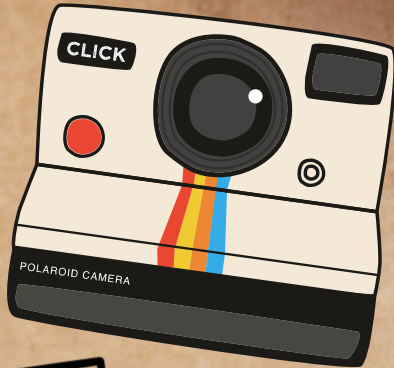
Our wonderful Chancel Ringers will be participating in a day long festival at Highland's United Presbyterian on November 9. The choir has been preparing a variety of selections from Beethoven to the Beatles and will work with an out-of-town clinician combined with other area handbell choirs.

The day will conclude with a free concert at 4:00 p.m. You are invited to attend. Highlands Presbyterian Church is located at 10900 McCormick Road.

March 13, 2025 - U.S. Naval Academy Glee Club in their only Jacksonville appearance, 7:00 p.m.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



Pam & Craig Coffey



Deb Day



Susan & Quinton
White



LaToya & Cam
McCorkle



Suzanne & Scott
Brooks-Cope



Juli Catlin



Hal Catlin



Miranda Snipes



not
pictured:
Jane
Hazlett



Michael Bone &
Abel Hernandez



RACIAL JUSTICE

**November 2024 Newsletter info for Racial Justice
Civil Discourse - How to Discuss Matters of Public Concern to Promote Knowledge and Understanding
November 13, 2024 | 7:00pm
University of North Florida John Delaney Student Union
1 UNF Drive, Bldg. 58.
Jacksonville, FL 32224**

Register at: https://events.com/r/en_US/registration/speaker-series-civil-discourse-jacksonville-november-945668

Bishop Berlin created “The Bishops Task Force on Anti-Racism” which is full of resources for creating equity within our churches and communities.

One of its departments is called the Beloved Community and one of its features is Table Talk—a series of conversations about Race and Religion. You can view the list here:

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/tabletalk>

For more information on his task force click this link and view the wealth of information there.

<https://www.flumc.org/bishops-task-force-on-anti-racism>



Mental Health & Wholeness Lunch

One out of every five persons has been diagnosed with a mental illness. Five out five people (ALL of us) have the same basic needs for mental health.

A small group of church members have committed to bring their lunch and meet in the office library at noon every second Friday. (Next gathering is November 8th). The purpose is simply to hold space for conversations around mental health and wholeness. All are welcome: whether you are struggling, supporting others, or simply open to the conversation. Bring your lunch and join us for prayer and conversation. Or let us know if you would like us to pray for your mental health.

Stewardship & Gratitude Sunday:

This month will also include church-wide conversations about stewardship, grace, and generosity, so be on the lookout for more information. Sunday, November 24th will be a special service of celebration and giving thanks. This service will include time to “bring forward” prayers and pledge cards (“estimated giving cards”) for 2025 ministries.

Family Promise

FAMILY PROMISE SCHEDULE

Our service week for Family Promise is coming up the week of Sunday, November 24th thru Saturday, November 30th. Please mark your calendars and pray about lending a hand to prepare and deliver a dinner to the homeless families with children at the Family Promise Shelter.

More info will be available soon, any questions in the meantime, contact JoAnn Goodwin.