

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

United Church of Christ

Sunday, April 28, 2024

**for those able, please stand*

Gathering Music & Lighting of Candles

Drumming in honor of Vic Pavlenko

Centering Silence & Prayer

Prelude “Joyfully, We Adore Thee”

Ludwig van Beethoven, arranged by Howard Helvey

Words of Welcome

This is the Day that our God Has Made . . .

Let Us Rejoice and Be Glad in it!

*Opening Song “I Am the Light of the World”

See insert

*Sharing God’s Peace “Weave” *Rosemary Crow*

Weave. Weave, Weave us together.

Weave us together in unity and love.

Weave. Weave, weave us together

Weave us together, together in love.

Preparing Our Hearts

Reading

“Blessed Are You Who Bear the Light”

Jan Richardson

Special Music

“Crowded Table”

Hemby, McKenna, Carlile

A Time of Offering & Celebration

God is good....***all the time...***

and all the time...***God is good!***

Lighting the Way

Gean Rains

Children’s Time

This little light of mine

I’m going to let it shine

Oh, this little light of mine

I’m going to let it shine

This little light of mine

I’m going to let it shine

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Bible Bits & Scripture

Matthew 5:14-16

Sermon

“Bearers of Light”

Silent Reflection

Song of Response

“Alleluia” #316 (*verse one, 2x*)

A Time of Prayer

*God in your grace... **Hear Our Prayers***

*The Prayer of Jesus (*as created at Riverside by members of the “Greatest Prayer” reflection group*)

O Giver of all life,

clear a space within us for your light to dwell.

Create your holy reign of justice and love

here today, on Earth,

through our fiery hearts and willing hands.

Give us the bread and strength we need for this day.

Forgive us the harm that we do to all that you love,

as we forgive those who harm us.

And lead us not into numbness, distraction, or greed,

but bring us back from our fears.

****For You are the source of all that is good and holy—now***

and forever. Amen.

*Benediction

Rev. Tyler Connoley

*Congregational Response

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

Rev. Vicky Stifter | Minister

Dana Pricher | Youth Program Volunteer | Kristen Daly | Nursery Care Provider

Kristen Warnock | Guitar & Vocals - David Kelly | Pianist

Barbara Grant, Karen Harding, Frank Haskell

Kristen Warnock & Kathy Watson | Pop Up Singers

John Boonstra, Keith & Karen Harding, Stu Watson, Nancy Pavlenko | Drums

Betty Shalhope, Karen Roof, Sandy Spellecy, Elaine Johnson

Donna McCoy and Jeannie & Steve Chance | Diaconate Team

Gail Lyon | Reader

Beth Hartwell, Dave & Michelina Roth | Hospitality

Dave Roth | Audio-Visual System

Welcome to Riverside Community Church

United Church of Christ

GUESTS We are blessed to worship with you today. Thank you for the gift of your presence. We invite you to fill out a “welcome card” and place it in the offering plate or give it to Pastor Vicky after the service.

CHILDREN AT RIVERSIDE We joyfully welcome children of all ages at Riverside. Those 5+ are invited to join Dana Pricher for Sunday School after Children’s Time. Those birth-age 4 are invited to the nursery, located in the Fireside Room from 10:15 am – 12 noon.

THIS WEEK & NEXT SUNDAY AT RIVERSIDE

- **Today.** All are welcome after worship in the Riverview Room for coffee, conversation, and celebration for “Lighting the Way” Capital Campaign!
- **Tuesday.** Bible Study at Down Manor 10:30-11:30 AM.
- **Wednesday.** Meditation 3:30 – 4:30 Ruth Wells Room
Circles of Solace 5:30 – 7:00 PM.
- **Sunday.** Celebration of Holy Communion.
- Special congregational meeting to consider the Proposed Resolution for a Ceasefire in Gaza.

NEW RIVERSIDE OFFICE HOURS. 9 am – 1 pm beginning May 1.

COMMUNITY ACTION FOR PEACE Join us for an interfaith gathering for peace and a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. Fridays at 2nd and State Street, 4:30-5:00 p.m.

ROUNDHOUSE DANCE. May 3 at the Readiness Center in The Dalles. Volunteer opportunities. Please contact Pat Evenson-Brady 541-490-9064 or Beth Hartwell bethhart@gorge.net

DRUMMING with Clayton Miles Have an interest in learning how to drum? Thursday, June 6, 5:30 p.m. at Riverside. \$35 per person. Contact stu@watsonx2.com to register.

CPR TRAINING Mark your calendar! Riverside will be coordinating a CPR training June 22nd. Look for more information coming soon.



Welcome to Riverside Community Church.

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We are blessed by your presence.

Bienvenidos a la iglesia Riverside. Su presencia es una bendición para nosotros.

We are . . .

. . . a vibrant, Spirit-filled community of people who seek to follow in the ways of Jesus: loving our neighbors, doing justice and sharing the extravagant welcome of God with the whole of creation.

. . . an “*Open and Affirming*” congregation—affirming the full inclusion of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender persons (LGBTQ+) in the church's life and ministry.

. . . an “*Immigrant Welcoming*” congregation—called by our faith to stand together with our undocumented and documented immigrant brothers & sisters and their families.

We seek to honor and protect the gifts of God’s creation--divesting our financial resources from the fossil fuel industry, reinvesting in renewable energy and striving to reduce our use of fossil fuels.

Riverside’s youth ministry team supports: Sunday School, teen groups, and Our Whole Lives (OWL)--a comprehensive human sexuality program. Contact Youth Leader Katie Cook at 541.980.0505 or katie@riversideucc.com.

Our Justice and Witness & Immigrant Welcoming teams promote engagement with the Warming Shelter, FISH Food Bank, Somos Uno, Columbia Gorge Climate Action Network. Contact Ann Harris at 541-806-2525 or harris.annj@gmail.com.

Our "Cheers" team offers care, comfort, and meals to those with health, aging issues, new parenthood or other transitions. Contact Pastor Vicky if you have a need: 541-38-1412 / pastor@riverssideucc.com

More ways to connect, learn and feed the spirits of those of all ages: Men’s Discussion Group, monthly book group, adult education classes and a Tuesday Bible study & reflection group. Contact office@riversideucc.com or call 541.386.1412 for more information.

Keep up on what’s happening! Sign up for our weekly online newsletter, The Current, by contacting editor Kathy Watson, kathy@hungerchronicles.com Or visit our Facebook page: Riverside Community Church, UCC

On the Web: Riverside’s web site, www.riversideucc.com, includes: a calendar of all events, the most recent Current newsletters, a way to give electronically, and everything about the life of our congregation.

Riverside is one of more than 5,000 communities of faith that make up the “**United Church of Christ**” (UCC). The UCC has been on the cutting edge of justice movements in the U.S. since its work to abolish slavery in the 1800’s. For more information about the United Church of Christ visit <http://www.ucc.org>

For more information about Riverside contact the church office at 541-386-1412 OR office@riversideucc.com or visit www.riversideucc.com

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Visit our Facebook page: Riverside Community Church, UCC



Photograph by David Warnock

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Celebration Sunday
“Lighting the Way”
Sunday, April 28, 2024