

*Richland Center United Methodist Church*  
*A Community of Faith*  
*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter; April 14, 2024*



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: We are called to be God's children.

**People : God's love has been poured on us through Jesus Christ!**

Pastor: We have left our fears and doubts at the door.

**People: Joy and Celebration ring in our hearts!**

Pastor: Come, let us join our hearts in prayer, lift our spirits in praise, and raise our voices in song!

**People: Let us offer our whole selves -- body, mind, heart and soul -- to the Lord our God, our Creator, our Redeemer and our Sustainer forever. AMEN.**

**PASTOR'S OPENING PRAYER**

Lord of Light and Mercy, be with us this day as we again hear the stories of faith and sight. Help us to believe in your abiding presence with us, both in our darkness and in the light which you bring. Give us courage and strength we need to witness to your life, death and resurrection, and to

follow in your footsteps as you lead us day by day. We ask for these things, as we ask for all things, in your blessed name, AMEN.

**\*HYMN** *Thine Be the Glory* 308

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH for the Easter Season**

We believe in God, who is light in the darkness, who never gives up on love, who is always working for our good, who weeps when we weep and laughs when we laugh, who calls us to be more than we are as God relentlessly transforms our tears into alleluias.

We believe in Christ, present at and in the creation, heard in the words of prophets, enfleshed in the birth of a long-sought Messiah, alive in the lessons taught to disciples, not stuck in a tomb of despair, nailed to cross, or buried in the past, but living forever, and walking with us on our journeys today, seen in our stories, present in everything we can see, touch, and imagine.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the invisible presence of God, the joy, hope, and peace of possibilities opening all around us all the time.

We believe the Spirit calls us to community, to compassion, to welcome, and to acts of mercy and justice, so that the whole world will tremble with wonder and hope.

We are people of faith in the risen Christ, and we see our Christ in everyone and in everything.

We strive to live in such a way that the world will see Christ rising again, in us and through us, with the message of Easter.

God cannot be contained;

God lives.

Christ is risen.

Alleluia. Amen.

**MINI-MESSAGE (for Children of All Ages)**

**WORSHIP IN GIVING**

**\*Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Him, all creatures here below;  
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**WORSHIP IN PRAYER**

**Individual**

**Pastoral**

**The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**HYMN** *Spirit of God (verses 1, 2, 4, 5)* 2117

**WORSHIP IN THE WORD**

Scripture Reading: Luke 24:36b-48 (NIV)

Scripture Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7 (NIV)

Sermon: The Religion of Jesus

**\*HYMN** *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus* 462

**\*BENEDICTION**

**Hymn Leaders:** Connie Frye, Kathy Schweinefus

**Scripture Reader:** Jerry Bower

**Pianist:** Jennifer Hall

**Prayer: Lord Jesus, you broke the bonds of death. You are risen and alive! And now, you give us peace. Help me to enjoy the blessings of your peace. Amen.**

**Richland Center United Methodist Church**

Pastor: Rachel K. Olson  
 Pastor's Cell Phone: 608-373-4027  
 Pastor's Email: rkolson123@gmail.com

**RC UMC Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday:

12:00 – 4:00 p.m...

RC UMC Office: 608-647-3203

RC UMC Email: [trinityumc@mwt.net](mailto:trinityumc@mwt.net)

RC UMC Website: [www.umchurchrc.org](http://www.umchurchrc.org)

Administrative Assistant: Joan Wheeler  
 Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Monica Eernisse  
 Custodian: Bill Twining

**Richland Center United Methodist Church**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**April 14, 2024**

**Week's Events:**

- 14 **Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.**  
*Native American Ministries Sunday*  
**Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.**
- 15 Ad Council – 4:00 p.m. – Library
- 16 Women's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. – Library  
 Choir Practice: 6:00 p.m. - Sanctuary
- 17 Newsletter Deadline: Noon  
 Thrift Shop Workers: 1:00 p.m.  
 Dance Class: 4:00 p.m.
- 18 RAREA Mtg: 10:00 a.m.  
 Seeker's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m.

**Upcoming Events:**

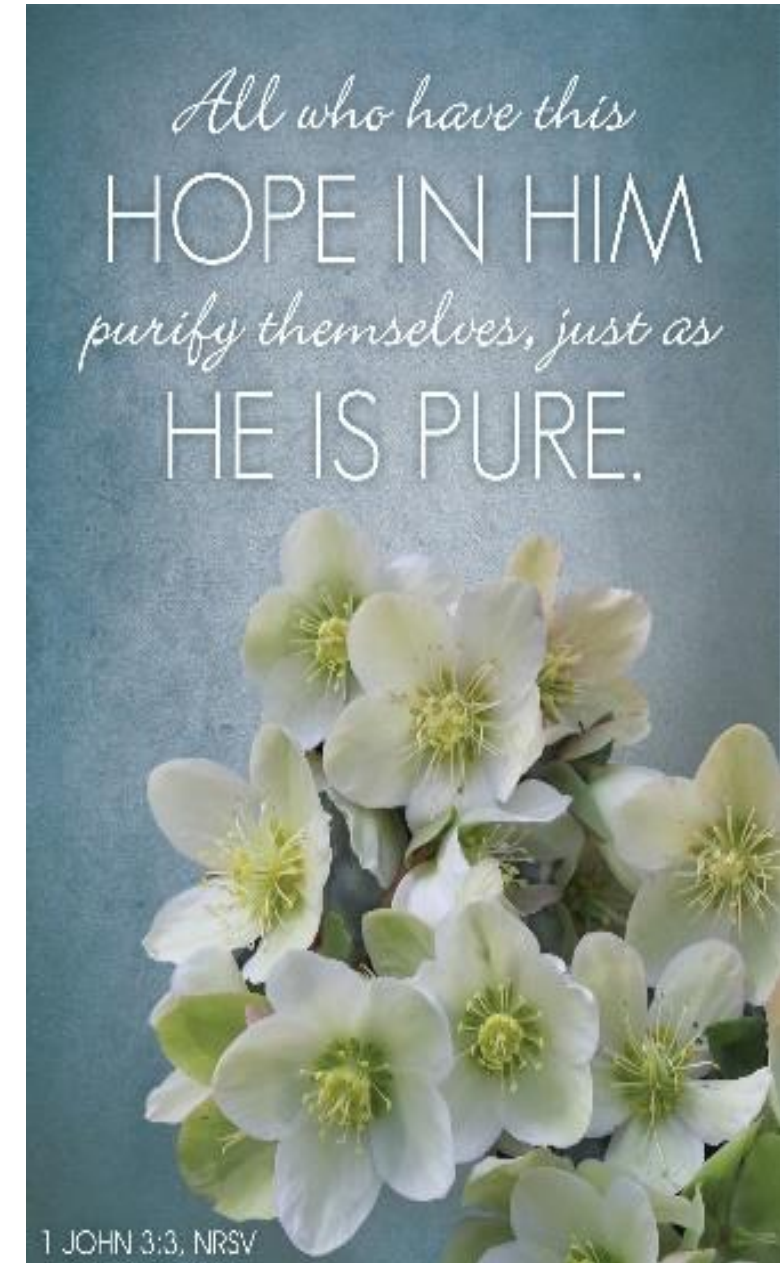
- 21 Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.  
 Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.
- 23 Women's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. – Library  
 Choir Practice: 6:00 p.m. – Sanctuary
- 24 Dance Class: 4:00 p.m.
- 25 Seeker's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. - Library



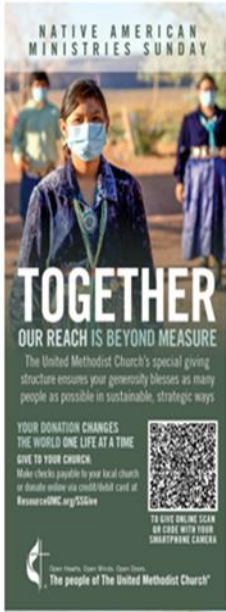
April Birthdays		April Anniversaries	
Linda Kesting	4/1	Rosanne Knower	4/18
Ryan Weber	4/1	Dick & Jan Hewuse	4/9
Mitchell Woodman	4/2	Timothy & Connie Hoppenjan	4/9
Linda Rohn	4/3	Jeff & Sandy Brice	4/15
Julie Jewell	4/3	Marty & Linda Rohn	4/17
Lester Studnicka	4/5	Dan & Becky Tracy	4/18
Austin Kaszubski	4/6	Timothy & Mary Otto	4/19
J. Francis Cooper (103)	4/7	Al & Chris Marshall	4/21
John Storer	4/13	Ed & Barb Nazer	4/27
		Chris & Destiny Shannon	4/29



**TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR HOSPITALITY**  
**Host ....**  
 Many thanks to Dianne Monson for hosting coffee hour today.



## General Announcements



### What is Native American Ministries Sunday?

**April 14, 2024**

Native American Ministries Sunday serves to remind United Methodists of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society and in our communities. With more than 20,000 Native Americans within the denomination, this Special Sunday helps to ensure that Native American United Methodist leaders are recognized and to celebrate their special voice in The United Methodist Church. Donations support vital ministries and churches in the Native American communities and allow The UMC to

partner with existing native ministries to develop new programs on behalf of Native Americans. Half of the donations collected remain within the Annual Conference to provide hope to children and youth, hope for a brighter future in impoverished communities and a voice to those who have felt voiceless for years. This fund is distributed by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. When you give generously on Native American Ministries Sunday, you equip seminary students who honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. You empower congregations to find fresh and culturally appropriate ways to minister to their communities with Christ's love.

### Ingathering 2024:

#### Items needed for the

#### kits must be new



- 1 hand towel – no kitchen towels
- 1 washcloth – no dishcloths
- 1 toothbrush – no multipacks
- 1 bar soap – 3 to 4 oz

1 shampoo – 12 to 19 oz

1 deodorant – 2 to 3 oz (stick, roll-on or pump)

1 lotion – 8 to 10 oz

1 1-gallon resealable plastic bag – furnished by Richland Center UMC

\$3.00 for toothpaste, carrying bag and postage.

**Please add your heartfelt prayers to each kit.**

**Two tubs are available for placing your bags in. One is in the Narthex by the fireplace, the other is on the pew by the parking lot door.**

Cost a completed kit is approximately \$13.00.

**Kits must be in to church by May 12<sup>th</sup>.**

