

*Richland Center United Methodist Church*  
*A Community of Faith*  
*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter: April 21, 2024*



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: We rejoice in the One who leads us beside still waters,

**People: We rejoice in the One who gives refreshment to our souls.**

Pastor: The Lord is our Shepherd and He shows us the way we should go,

**People: We listen carefully for the sound of His voice. We are secure in His care.**

Pastor: Though trauma and trouble surround us on every side, we need not be afraid.

**People: For the Great Shepherd of our lives is always with us.**

Pastor: No matter where we wander, we are never far away from the love and mercy of the Lord.

**People: We shall follow Him and dwell in His gentle presence forever.**

**PASTOR'S OPENING PRAYER**

\*HYMN *He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought* 128

\*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

*The Gift of Love* 408

**WORSHIP IN THE WORD**

Scripture Reading: John 10:11-18

Scripture Lesson: 1 John 3:16-24

Sermon: Good Shepherding

\*HYMN

*They'll Know We Are Christians* 2223

\*BENEDICTION

Hymn Leaders: Rosanne Knower, Connie Frye,  
Kathy Schwinefus

Scripture Reader: Jim Brock

Pianist: Jennifer Hall

**Prayer: Loving God, I praise your name for being my Shepherd and for leading me to green pastures and still waters. Thank you for your loving care! In Jesus' name. Amen**

**This Week's 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

**Upcoming Events:**

- 28 Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.
- 30 Women's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. – Library  
Choir Practice: 6:00 p.m. - Sanctuary
- 01 Dance Class: 4:00 p.m.
- 02 Seeker's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. - Library



TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR HOSPITALITY  
HOST ....

Many thanks to Joan Wheeler for  
hosting coffee hour today.



April Birthdays		April Anniversaries	
Arlene Fruit	4/21	Al & Chris Marshall	4/21
Megan Sommer	4/21	Ed & Barb Nazer	4/27
Anita Bunge	4/26	Chris & Destiny Shannon	4/29
Braden Turgasen	4/26		
Jan Hewuse	4/27		
Donna Bower	4/28		
Jordan Kaszubski	4/28		
Jacob Storer	4/30		

**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)

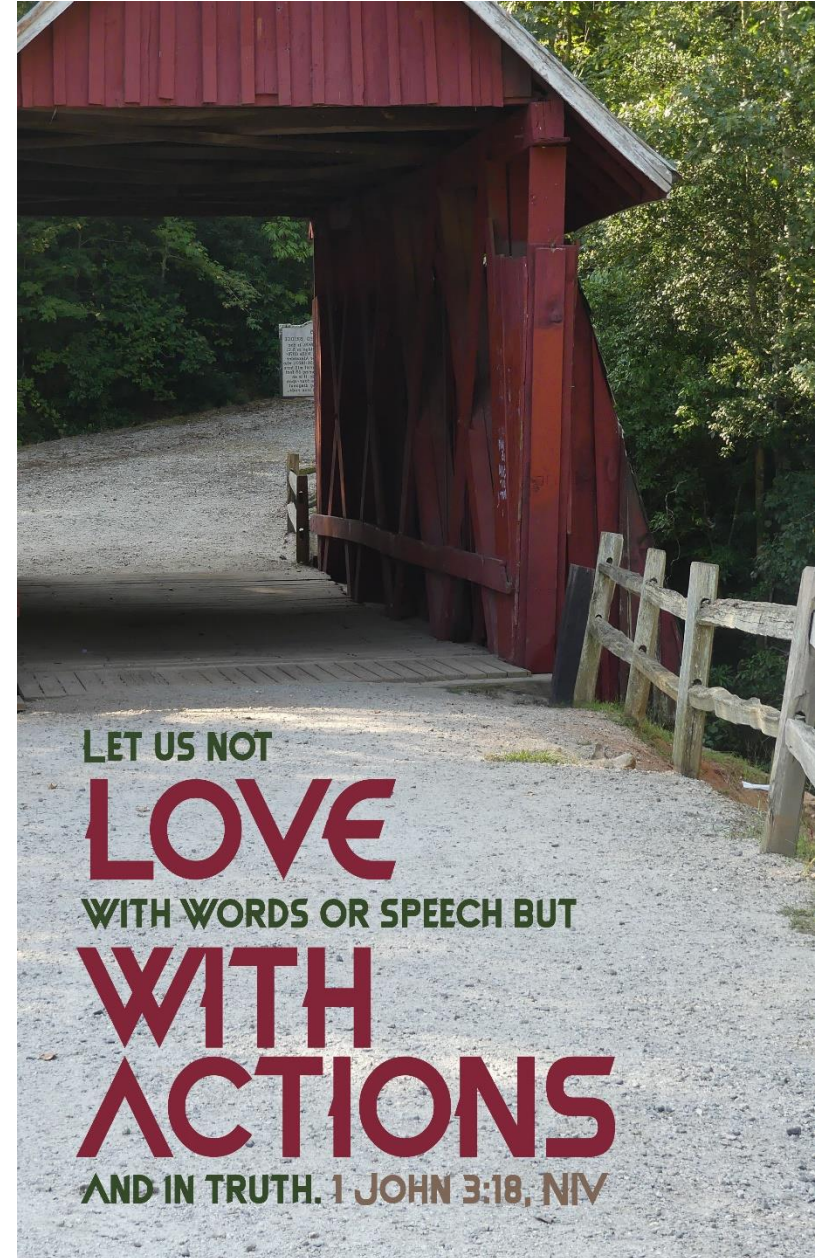
RC UMC Website: [www.umchurchrc.org](http://www.umchurchrc.org)

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



**Richland Center United Methodist Church**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**April 21, 2024**



*General Announcements*

**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 shipping.
- 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>.**

***National Day of Prayer***

May 2, 2024  
7:00 p.m.



At the Church of the Nazarene Outreach Center  
391 S. Main St  
Richland Center, WI

**SAVE THE DATE!  
JUNE ICE CREAM SOCIAL:**

**Supports Youth Activities Fund**



Richland Center UMC is looking forward to another fantastic ice cream social to take place on **Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00 p.m.** in Schmitt Hall. The ice cream social is a fundraiser for the youth activities fund, which assists those from Richland Center UMC who may plan to attend church camps, church trips, and other church activities planned for the year.

Sign-up sheets for workers and pies will be out by the middle of May. Please watch for them in the Narthex.



**Golden Cross Sunday  
May 19, 2023**