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# May 2019

## RIVERSEDGE UMC—A STEWARD OF HOLY CURRENCIES (THE CYCLE OF BLESSINGS)

Thank you for your amazing presence, support and love during this holy Easter season! A special “thank you” to everyone who helped prepare breakfast and joined in making our community breakfast with our church family and friends such a success. Your extraordinary participation, love and support reminds of me of St. Augustine’s quote: “God loves each of us as if there were only one of us.”

Local economies are revitalized when their communities return to focusing on those things that enhance sustainability, well-being and resilience. In a similar way, an intentional reinvention process is required for our local church family to achieve the Great Commission. In order to achieve that goal, we need a local “revitalization” process implemented to improve the way we do church. Church revitalization is critical in building a well-balanced, healthy momentum that can thrive into the future.

Eric Law’s book, *Holy Currencies: Six Blessings for Sustainable Missional Ministries*, proposes that our roles as God’s children are to be part of the recirculation of resources so all living things on earth may share God’s abundance. This was part of God’s first design. As a result, our church has been in Spring Bay, IL, for over 11 decades offering a safe place in our community to build relationships with God and with others. Experiencing many changes over those decades, we have found ourselves constantly looking for new ways to use the resources God has provided. Doing so requires the sacrifice or letting go of preconceived ideas. To do this, we are focusing on what Eric Law calls the “Cycle of Blessings”. Our abundance is based on the currency of blessings that Eric Law has identified as the “Cycle of Blessings”.

Our faith and perseverance have brought us to a new day and new season. Let’s explore together as a body of believers the six currencies formulated by Eric Law: Gracious Leadership, Relationship, Truth, Wellness, Money and Time and Place.

The idea of “holy currencies” goes beyond the common belief that money alone is needed for the support and operation of a viable church ministry or for a sustainable missional ministry model. These currencies permeate the ministry. They are constantly recirculating and exchanging themselves for other currencies. They are also regenerating more currencies, thereby growing and expanding the ministry.



*Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Circling through earth so all may grow  
Vanquishing fear so all may give  
Widening grace so all may live*

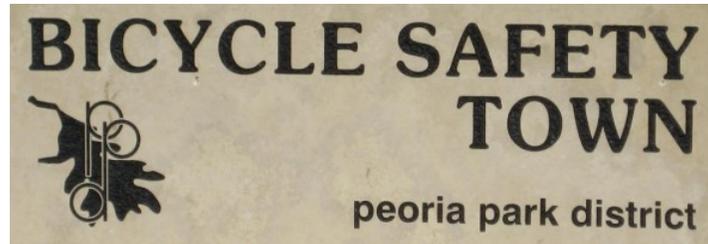
It is our hope that, together with our congregation and ministry supporters, we will continue to grow our mission of addressing the many needs of our community. We will be exploring this challenging missional ministry concept with our congregation in the coming weeks. As a show of your support, please join us in celebrating upcoming baptisms and our congregational revitalization emphasis.

The Lord is my rock, and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust (Ps: 18:2). In this verse we see an image of strength and protection. We see our God, who we can trust, no matter the circumstances.

**Blessings,**  
**Pr. Binu Peniel (D.Min).**



Alpha on a weekday at RiversEdge will be on **Wednesdays** at **6:00 p.m.** Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith. Alpha is for anyone who's curious. The talks are designed to encourage conversation and explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. No question is out of bounds and you are free to discuss as much or as little as you wish. Each session includes a short talk and a discussion at the end where you can share your thoughts. There's no pressure, no follow-up and no charge.



On **Sunday, May 5** from **1:00-3:00 p.m.**, come to the Bicycle Safety Town in Peoria for a Youth Sponsored Family Activity. It really is like a little town! There are nearly 80 traffic signs for young ones to learn, ramps to navigate, overpasses and even a 4-lane highway! Bring your bike and helmet and enjoy the great outdoors, and spend time with the family! The town isn't just for those who want to cycle either. There is a seating area for parents & others and picnic tables and a toddler playground for those little ones aged 2-5 not yet able to ride bikes. You adults without young ones, come and assist at the traffic stops, ramps and overpasses. Also, there is a hiking trail close by. See Joe Helms (635-3508) or Karen Hermacinski (431-0711) for more details.

## FOOD PANTRY



The King's Closet

Monthly **Food Pantry** Day is **May 24**. We will have our **King's Closet** upstairs at the Annex. We have clothes, other small items or produce for local people to take and use, if they need it. Bring items all month. It comes in free and goes out free, no charge. Anything left over will be taken to Good Will or South Side Missions.



Take Me Out to the Ballgame! Faith & Family Nights start **Saturday, June 22**, with an Adult Replica Jersey Giveaway for the first 1,000 fans (age 13 & up) and Post-Game Fireworks. And continue on **Saturday, July 27**, with a Javier Baez Bobblehead Giveaway for the first 1,000 fans (age 13 & up), Austin French Post-Game Concert and Post Game Fireworks. Both games start at **6:35 p.m.** See Joe Helms (635-3508) if you are interested.



**1 Peter 3:4:** You should be known for the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God.

**Proverbs 31:10-12:** A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm all the days of her life.

**Proverbs 31: 25-31:** She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

**Proverbs 14:1:** The wise woman builds her house, but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down.

**Proverbs 22:6:** Teach your children to choose the right path, and when they are older, they will remain upon it.

**Ephesians 6:1-3:** Children, obey your parents in the Lord, because this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise - that it may go well with you and that you may have a long life.

**Proverbs 11:16:** A kindhearted woman gains respect.

**Proverbs 23:25:** May she who gave you birth be happy.

**1 Corinthians 13:4-7:** Love is patient; love is kind. Love is not jealous; is not proud; is not conceited; does not act foolishly; is not selfish; is not easily provoked to anger; keeps no record of wrongs; takes no pleasure in unrighteousness, but rejoices in the truth; love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

**Proverbs 14:1:** The wise woman builds her house, but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down.

<https://www.gospelherald.com/articles/55388/20150506/10-inspiring-mothers-day-bible-verses-for-cards->

## STEP-UP AND SERVE.

USE WHATEVER GIFT YOU HAVE TO SERVE OTHERS.

10:30 a.m. **WORSHIP SERVICE HELPERS** are still needed. If you are interested in ushering, reading scripture, greeting or being an acolyte, please sign up on the Schedule Sheet in the back of the sanctuary. Also, if you are interested in doing a children's message, see Pastor Binu. There is room on the signup sheet for other **SPECIALS** (solos, duets, reading, etc.). If you are interested, please contact Judy at 822-8770 or 645-6625.

We still need one **SUNDAY SCHOOL** teacher. We are working towards having two teachers per class. Please talk with April Nauman if you'd like to help. Please help us raise the next generation of Christians. **REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS.** It would be helpful if we had a couple backup Sunday School teachers for the youth to fill in when regular teachers may be absent.

The **PRAISE AND WORSHIP TEAM** is looking for singers and musicians. If you have any interest learning more, please contact Jarrod Doty at church, by email at [jdoty69@gmail.com](mailto:jdoty69@gmail.com) or by phone at 657-8904.

**NURSERY—PAID POSITION.** Need an adult to assist/oversee the nursery on Sunday mornings. See Matt Freeman or Ron Call if you are interested or know of anyone that might be or if you would like additional information.



This year's Easter Lily donations were dedicated in the memory of:

- ◆ Don Hrabak in memory of wife, Sylvia
- ◆ Lloyd & Gloria Barth in memory of their parents
- ◆ Scott & Barbara Bishop in memory of mother, Marty Bishop
- ◆ Karen & Steve Hermacinski in memory of Richard and Fran
- ◆ Willella Rich in memory of her husband Bruce and parents Bill and Emma Williams
- ◆ Dianne Pointer—one in memory of Diane Vance and one in memory of Tommy Shepherd
- ◆ Barb and Randy Waldrip—one in memory of George Lung & Ralph Lung and one in memory of Frank & Mary Waldrip
- ◆ Orda Doty—one in memory of husband Harold and one in memory of son Monte
- ◆ The Reynolds family—one in memory of wife and mother, Gail Reynolds, and one in memory grandmother, Elizabeth Blakesley
- ◆ Ron & Linda Call—one in memory of Lester Call and one in memory of Jim & Louise Schoonover
- ◆ John & Judy Schaer in memory of their parents, John & Evelyn Schaer and Frank & Bernice Poignant
- ◆ Joey Courtney in memory of her 4 grandparents, Frank & Bernice Poignant and Perry and Katherine Curless
- ◆ Linda Dodwell in memory of husband, Dennis Dodwell
- ◆ Gladys Call in memory of husband, Lester Call



Scan the QR code at the end of the newsletter with your smart phone or visit [riversedgeumc.org](http://riversedgeumc.org). You will find the newsletters, calendars and announcements. Check out new pictures/videos that have been added. If you see pictures that you are in and would like them removed, please let Judy Schaer know.

**Submitted by: Communications Committee**

*We Can  
Recycle*

John Schaer is still collecting **ALUMINUM CANS** to recycle. CANS only, no aluminum disposable pans or other items. You may leave them in the entry area of the river side of the church or call John at 822-8770 if you would like him to pick them up. When he gets a truck load, he takes them to the recycle center. Not only will this help the earth, but the money will go to the Church account.

CHANGES IN THE CHURCH:  
**CHANGES IN WORSHIP**

The 2nd service worship planning team has been discussing how to change the order of the service to make it flow better. You may see changes being made over the next few Sundays. Change can be difficult or seem confusing. Please bear with us.

# GOD | AT | WORK

- ◆ Tracy Weber and fiancé Jack were able to attend church after their bad auto accident near Pontiac.
- ◆ Had a great joy that Virginia Munson was back to worship with us. She is thankful to all of you for what you have done for her and Jerry over the last years and now since Jerry's death. She will be moving to Missouri (where she grew up) and will visit us when she returns here on visits.
- ◆ The Huser's received word that their daughter-in-law was in labor with their expected grandson and left to drive to the East Coast.



The Midwest Mission Distribution Center of the United Methodist Church provides disaster relief supplies around the world. Supplies bought through DollarDays (<https://www.dollardays.com/midwestmission/wishlist.html>) would be the best way to donate, as they are shipped directly to MMDC at the Center's bulk prices. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Monetary donations may be sent to:

MMDC, 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee, IL 62558  
[www.midwestmissiondc.org](http://www.midwestmissiondc.org) | [office@midwestmissiondc.org](mailto:office@midwestmissiondc.org)

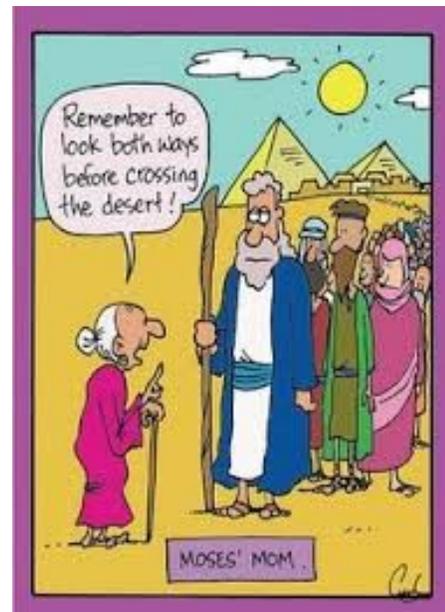
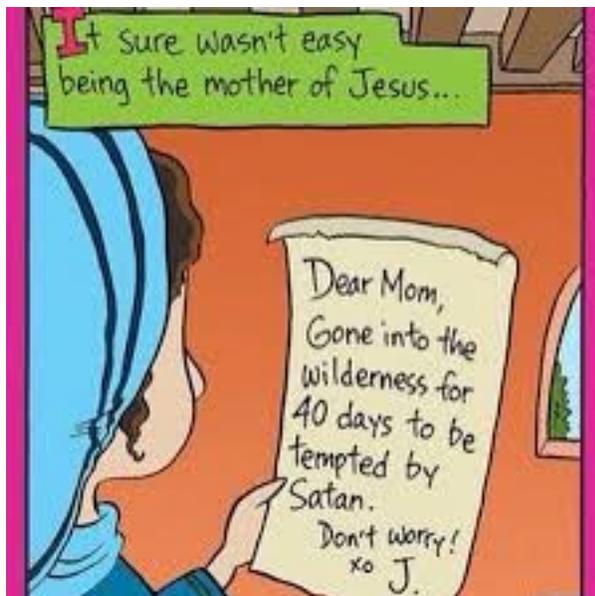


**Severe Weather in Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee    Wildfires in California**

**Hurricane Michael (Alabama – West Florida - South Georgia), Hurricane Florence (South Carolina) & Hurricane Maria (Puerto Rico)**

**Earthquakes and Tsunami in Indonesia    Typhoon Mangkut**

To support relief efforts consider a gift to U.S. Disaster Response at [https://secure3.convio.net/gbgm/site/PageNavigator/umcor\\_donate.html?type=1002&project=901670](https://secure3.convio.net/gbgm/site/PageNavigator/umcor_donate.html?type=1002&project=901670)





# May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:00 p.m. Alpha on a Weekday 7:00 p.m. 2nd Service Wor- ship Planning	2	3	4
5 1-3 p.m. Youth to Safety Town  5:30 p.m. O.U.R. @ The Schaer's	6 6:00 p.m. Trustees	7	8 4:00 p.m. 1st Service Wor- ship Planning 6:00 p.m. Alpha on a Weekday	9	10	11 
12 	13	14 7:00 p.m. Ad Council	15 6:00 p.m. Alpha on a Weekday	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 6:00 p.m. Alpha on a Weekday	23	24 9-11 a.m. Food Pantry/ King's Closet	25
26	27 	28	29 6:00 p.m. Alpha on a Weekday	30	31	

*Our Motto* "The Church That Cares"

## Our Mission

"Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

## OUR VISION

"Our vision is to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our neighbors through our witness, welcome and nurture ."

### WORSHIP SERVICES:

Sunday 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

### NURSERY:

Sunday 8-11:45 a.m. (infant-kindergarten)

### SUNDAY SCHOOL GROUPS : 9:15-10:15 a.m.

D.O.C.K. (Preschool – 5th grade)

Youth (grades 6 – 12)

Sunday Morning (All Ages)

### CHOIR PRACTICE: (7th grade-Adult)

September through May

7 p.m. Wednesday evenings, as announced

### O.U.R.: Outwardly Upwardly Righteously

(first Sunday of month)

### A prayer for Mother's Day

Lord, we remember the mothers who have gone before us.

**For their love, sacrifice, struggle and joy, we thank you.**

Lord, we remember the mothers of Scripture who are a part of our story as we are a part of your story.

**For their courage, faith, love and fierceness, we thank you.**

Lord, we remember those who have not given birth to us, but are mothers to us.

**For their gift of themselves that they have given, we thank you.**

For the women who struggle with fertility, for those women whom society labels as less in their childlessness, for those women who have lost children.

**For their tears, for their strength, for their wisdom, for their lives, we thank you.**

In your name we pray. Amen.

*by Claire Schoepp*



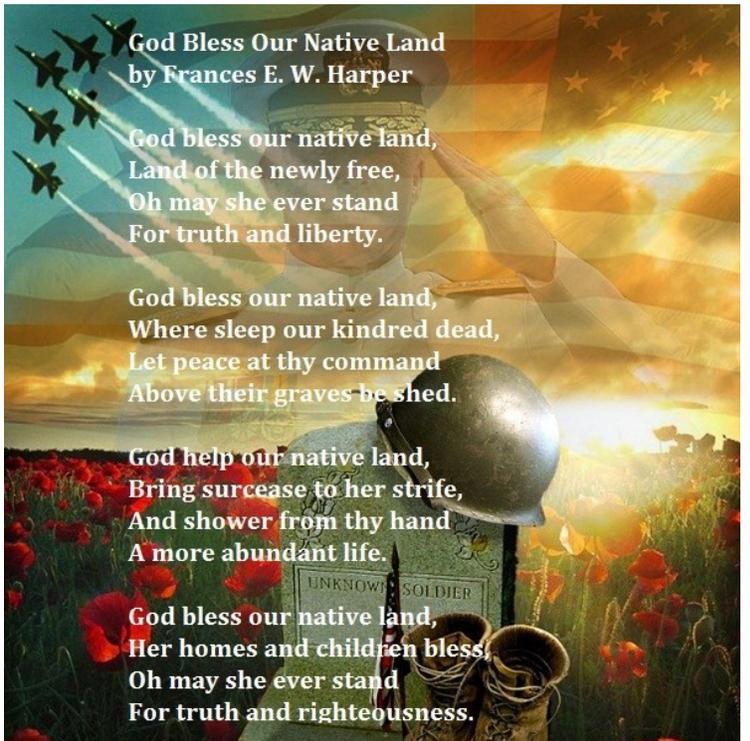
### God Bless Our Native Land by Frances E. W. Harper

God bless our native land,  
Land of the newly free,  
Oh may she ever stand  
For truth and liberty.

God bless our native land,  
Where sleep our kindred dead,  
Let peace at thy command  
Above their graves be shed.

God help our native land,  
Bring surcease to her strife,  
And shower from thy hand  
A more abundant life.

God bless our native land,  
Her homes and children bless,  
Oh may she ever stand  
For truth and righteousness.



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