

WORSHIP IN THE PARK

We hope today's worship service was a positive experience for you. If you have questions or comments you would like to share with us concerning today's worship, please feel free to call any of the participating churches listed below. Also, please know you are always welcome at any of the regularly scheduled worship services held each week at our churches.

All-Creatures.Org	608-514-7579
Boaz United Methodist Church	608-536-3603
Church of the Nazarene	608-647-4724
First Baptist	608-647-8662
Grace Community Church	608-647-2222
Hidden Valley Community Church (RC) (Dodgeville)	608-383-4872 608-930-4822
New House Richland	608-647-7226
Richland Center Free Methodist	608-647-4141
Richland Center United Methodist Church	608-647-3203
St. John's Lutheran Church	608-647-3000



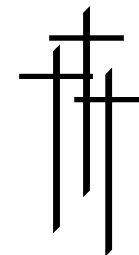
Thank you for your demonstration of Christian Unity by participating in today's worship service and fellowship. Your presence is a great testimony to the power of Christ to unite hearts. God Bless you!



LABOR DAY WEEKEND WORSHIP IN THE PARK

10:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 6, 2026



Have a safe Labor Day



OUR 21ST YEAR!

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OUR PASTORS:

Frank Hoffman	All-Creatures.Org
Jan Star	Boaz United Methodist Church
Jonathan Young	Church of the Nazarene
Ron Fruit	First Baptist Church
Leland Schmidt	Grace Community Church
Scott Craddock, Rodger Wilson, Justin Hofer	Hidden Valley Community Church
Mike Breininger	New House Richland
Tim Ward	Richland Center Free Methodist Church
Mitch Richards	Richland Center United Methodist Church
Michelle Elfers	St. John's Lutheran Church
Wayne Fife	Retired



Our thanks to all who helped to make our worshipping together a success! We appreciate your good work! God Bless!

We thank all of you who attended as well. Please have a safe holiday and drive safely when you leave.

The Worship Team Band members are made up of musicians who love to play for the Lord. They are from the churches involved in this year's service. The Worship Leader for this group is led by Liz Niemeyer.

Thanks to the Richland Center UMC singers for providing the music during our Offertory. The leader of the group is Rosanne Knower with Jennifer Hall as the pianist.

**Organizing churches for this year's
Labor Day Service in the Park event:**

Church of the Nazarene
Grace Community Church
Richland Center Free Methodist Church

**ORDER OF SERVICE
WORSHIP IN THE PARK
SEPTEMBER 6, 2026**

Please silence all electronic devices so we can all enjoy a more meaningful worship experience. Thank you.

THEME: OUE HOPE

*Welcome to worship on this Labor Day weekend.
We're pleased that you have joined us
as fellow workers in God's Kingdom.*

Welcome, Invocation

Pastor Mike Breininger

Nicene Creed

Pastor Leland Schmidt

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
Scriptures;

The ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Worship in Song

Liz Niemeyer

Everlasting God (by B. Brown and K. Riley)

Verse

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord, we will wait
upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord, we will wait
upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.

Chorus

Our God, You reign forever; our hope, our strong Deliverer.
You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God.
You do not faint, You won't grow weary.
You're the defender of the weak; You comfort those in
need; You lift us up in wings like eagles.

Verse

Chorus

A PRAYER FOR LABOR DAY

Bless, O God, all those who labor.

Whether they are compensated by
paycheck or pride, let them know
their true worth in your eyes.

May all workers be gifted with a sense
of service to the common good, and
graced with the satisfaction of a job
well done.

Thank you for those whose work
provides protection, comfort, healing,
and relief from suffering and stress.

May all of our labors be for your
goodness and glory, O God.

Amen.

--author unknown



A Brief History of Worship in the Park

What started as a dream in 2004 between three area churches and their pastors: Pastor Chuck Hayes: Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Greg Marsh: Free Methodist Church and Pastor Tom Tarver: Peace United Methodist Church, became a reality in 2005 when we launched our very first “Worship in The Park” on Labor Day Sunday. Why would three pastors of different denominations want to have a worship service together? Well, a hope to see area churches come together in Christian unity, involve the community on a more spiritual level and lowered church attendance on Labor Day Sunday, are only three of the reasons.

Our purpose is twofold and has never changed. We want to honor Christ through Christian unity in a community worship setting and to foster the fellowship and harmony between community Christian congregations.

These three churches, with their dream, have now grown to ten area churches becoming involved.

What originally started as a dream has become a reality! It is our hope to see that dream stay a reality for many more years to come. All it takes is team effort on the part of the churches and the community to keep us going strong. It’s an awesome experience!

Pastor Chuck Hayes was the last pastor of the three to leave the area. The three pastors hoped the churches involved would continue with the dream and to grow. Worship in the Park is now a part of the Richland County Ministerial Association.

We’ve endured a few things since we opened. In 2007, we had to cancel the service altogether due to flooding in Krouskop Park. In 2008, it looked like a flood would cancel our plans again, however, the rains stopped and we had a wonderful sunny day. Then in 2020, COVID-19 pandemic invaded the world, but we were still able to have our worship service, just not in a park. We got through it just fine and we still continue to hold our worship service.

Our thanks to all of you who came today to worship with us and help keep the dream alive. Whether you were part of the service or not, your presence means a lot to all of us involved.

We thank you very much! God Bless!

Happy Labor Day!

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord

by J. Myrin and M. Redman

Chorus

Bless the Lord, o my soul, o my soul, worship His holy name.

Sing like never before, o my soul, I’ll worship Your holy name.

Verse 1

The sun comes up; it’s a new day dawning; it’s time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me- let me be singing when the evening comes.

Chorus

Verse 2

You’re rich in love and You’re slow to anger; Your name is great and Your heart is kind.

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing- ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Chorus

Verse 3

And on that day when my strength is failing- the end draws near and my time has come- still my souls will sing Your praise unending- ten thousand years and then forever more!

Chorus

Holy Spirit (Torwalt)

Verse

There's nothing worth more, that will ever come close,
nothing can compare, You're our living hope- in Your
presence, Lord

Chorus

Holy Spirit, You are welcome here; come flood this place
and fill the atmosphere.

Your glory God is what our hearts long for, to be overcome
by Your presence, Lord (In Your presence, Lord).

Verse

Chorus

Bridge

Let us become more aware of Your presence; let us
experience the glory of Your goodness. X4

Chorus

Offering:

Pastor Tim Ward

*The offering will be split between Lydia's House Ministries
and the RCMA. If paying by check, please make it payable
to either one of these. Thank you.*

Hymns:

by the RC-UMC Singers

**See Ye First
Rock of Ages**

LYDIA'S HOUSE MINISTRIES

Lydia's House Ministries was established by the churches
in Richland Center area and now operates as an independent
corporation with an IRS 501©(3) status and operates the
following ministries.

Lydia's House Shelter

A 15-day shelter for homeless people in emergency
circumstances that provides shelter, food, spiritual care, and
assistance with housing and employment.

A Child's Place

A 90-day shelter for homeless people with children
providing shelter, food, spiritual care, and professional
assistance and training for families to become independent
in housing and food.

The Youth and Family Initiative

An advisor works with children in the Richland Middle
School and the Intermediate School to help people apply the
principles of Christ in their lives and families.

These ministries help hundreds of people each year with
no government funding. The entire budget of Lydia's House
Ministries comes from the donations of caring people with
the love of Jesus extended to those in need.

***Please help support Lydia's House Ministries. Today's
offering will be given to aid in their very worthwhile
ministry.***

About RCMA:

Richland County Ministerial Association

Labor Day Worship in the Park is sponsored by the Richland County Ministerial Association (RCMA).

The RCMA is a cooperative effort among many of the churches of Richland County to serve the community together and promote the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In addition to the Labor Day Worship in the Park,
*the RCMA sponsors the National Day of Prayer the first Thursday of May each year,
*the pastors rotate in leading prayer at the Richland County Board meetings.

The RCMA promotes and supports:

*Lydia's House shelter ministries
*and the Richland County Food Pantry and offers services in the nursing homes.

The churches of the RCMA provide many spiritual and practical services, guidance, and assistance to everyone in Richland County and beyond. The RCMA is an example of the Greater Church of Jesus Christ working together to promote the Kingdom of God on earth.

Churches involved with RCMA are as follows:

All-Creatures.org; Boaz UMC; Church of the Nazarene; First Baptist Church; Five Points Lutheran Church; Grace Community Church; Hidden Valley Community Church; New House Richland; Park Street Christian Church; RC Free Methodist Church; RC United Methodist Church; St. Barnabas Church; St. Mary's Catholic Church; St. John's Lutheran Church; The Mission Church.

Scripture: Isaiah 43:1-7 (NIV)

43 But now, this is what the Lord says—

he who created you, Jacob,

he who formed you, Israel:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters,

I will be with you;

and when you pass through the rivers,

they will not sweep over you.

When you walk through the fire,

you will not be burned;

the flames will not set you ablaze.

³ For I am the Lord your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;

I give Egypt for your ransom,

Cush and Seba in your stead.

⁴ Since you are precious and honored in my sight,

and because I love you,

I will give people in exchange for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

⁵ Do not be afraid, for I am with you;

I will bring your children from the east

and gather you from the west.

⁶ I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’

and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’

Bring my sons from afar

and my daughters from the ends of the earth—

⁷ everyone who is called by my name,

whom I created for my glory,

whom I formed and made.”

Ephesians 4:1-6 (NIV)

Unity and Maturity in the Body of Christ

4 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. **2** Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. **3** Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. **4** There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; **5** one Lord, one faith, one baptism; **6** one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Introduction of Speaker: *Pastor Jonathan Young*
Rev. Chuck Hayes

Sermon: Our Hope

Closing Prayer: *Pastor Jonathan Young*

Closing Hymn: How Great Is Our God (S. Hine)

Verse 1

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds Thy hands hath made.
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

Chorus

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee - how great Thou art! How great Thou art! X2

Verse 2

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing, sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in.

That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin.

Chorus

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee - how great Thou art! How great Thou art! X2

Bio for Rev. Chuck Hayes:

Rev. Chuck Hayes was born and raised in Wisconsin, graduating from Menomonie High School in 1976. He holds both a B.A. in Pastoral Ministry (1980) and a Master of Divinity (1984).

He and Kathy were married on May 26, 1979, in Kansas City. He served 41 years as a senior pastor in the Church of the Nazarene including more than 17 years in Richland Center.

While in Richland Center he was very active in the community, volunteering in many capacities.

Chuck & Kathy have two children: Isaac & Andi (both graduates of RCHS), and 5 grandchildren. They currently make their home in Greeley, Colorado.