

Richardson Park United Methodist Church  
11 North Maryland Avenue  
Wilmington, DE 19804-1305

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*When times are prosperous, enjoy your happiness; when times are bad, consider this: one is God's doing as is the other, in order that humanity may know nothing of God's destiny. In this fleeting life of mine I have seen so much: the virtuous man perishing for his virtue, for all his godlessness the godless living on.*

*- Ecclesiastes 7:14-15 (Jerusalem Bible)*

There is an expression attributed to the ancient Chinese that says, "May you live in interesting times," and I've often wondered if this were a curse or a blessing. As I have reflected on all that is going on around us, I am struck by how interesting our times are getting. Just think back over the last month: Joe Biden, Sarah Palin, nor'easters, Merrill Lynch and Bank of America, Ellen Kullman, \$700 billion bailout, and so on and so forth. Times don't get a whole lot more interesting than that! However, I think that we often fail to see the uncertainty, the chaos that is happening all around us as simply a part of what it means to be alive. Every generation has had to struggle with an uncertain and tenuous future. In hindsight, we see the actions of forefathers as the only conceivable option at the time. We assume that they knew what they were doing. My guess is they were flying by the seat of their pants just like we are today. I think we gloss over the uncertainties of any given time as we look back into history. The future has never been certain and in my estimation, never will be.

As the author of Ecclesiastes says, "In this fleeting life of mine I have seen so much," and in my observation, the best alternative to hand-wringing and despair over where we are headed is God's gift of prayer. When we pray, we tap into the divine, the transcendent, the eternal. This helps us to keep perspective and to chart a course into the future based on Jesus, our North Star, and God's call upon our lives. Hope and transformation come through prayer. This simple process of communicating with God gives us not only direction but the peace and perseverance to navigate troubled waters. Just as Paul survived unspeakable hardships in his quest to spread the gospel, we also have access to the great power source and directional beacon of the Holy Spirit. Prayer can work miracles, prayer can change lives, and prayer can even change the world.

This month I want to extend a personal invitation to you. I want to ask you to pray. As Richardson Park UMC begins its second century in ministry to the world, where do you feel that God is calling us to head? What is God calling us to do to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ? Over the next year I want us all to pray and ask God to reveal God's self to us in a powerful way, and I want us seeking ways to get on board with the Holy Spirit as she is moving through this world. I want to just sit and spend time seeking God's guidance for our church for an entire year. I believe that if we are still, and listen intently, that God will answer our prayers and give us a tangible call to ministry and mission. Won't you join me? Won't you pray for God to speak directly to Richardson Park UMC? I would love to hear the stories of your conversations with God.

Blessing and Peace to you all,

*Pastor Tom*



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Karen Boyd	10/1
Brittany Brown	10/1
DeeDee Painter	10/3
Jane Thomas	10/3
Tim Williamson	10/3
Bob Evely	10/4
Edward Przywara	10/4
Brandon Henderson	10/5
Claire Austin	10/6
Alyssa Ayala	10/6
Cheryl Chilcutt	10/7
Eve Thomas	10/7
Herb Atkinson	10/8
Angela Ott	10/8
Jessica Donnelly	10/9
Will Fader	10/9
Carol Haynes	10/10
Kaia Phillips	10/10
Logan Phillips	10/10
Melissa Hughes	10/11
Winfield Lane	10/12
Sarah Pasmore	10/12
Emma Perugini	10/13
Jerry Toy	10/13
Jay Cummings	10/19
Patrick Donnelly	10/22
Charles Ober	10/24
Esther McDowell	10/25
Paulette Cleaver	10/26
Dianna Deaton	10/26
Eric Fleming	10/27
Tod Mitten	10/27
Scott Cloud	10/28

## MISSION TREE

On Sundays in October, we will be hanging **Pumpkins** on our Mission Tree. Hang a pumpkin on the tree in honor or memory of someone special to you. Minimum donation is \$1.00. Our tree is located in the Extension.

## KIDS' KORNER Kristi J. Doughty



What a beautiful time of year fall is! The weather is finally getting cooler and God graces us with the beauty of His world every day! We invite the children and youth to come spend time with us at RPUMC – there's much to be learned and fun to share. Our lives are enriched by the grace of God and fellowship we share.

Here are the topics for October:

Pre-Kindergarten/K – focusing on I Samuel to teach us how God helps us do hard things (David defeats a lion and a bear!); God helps us trust Him (David does big things for God); God helps us obey Him (David follows his father's directions) and God helps us be brave (God helps David defeat Goliath!).

Grades 1-3 –focusing on the book of Esther to teach us how God has a purpose for everything (Esther is made queen); we can trust God to work things out for the best (Mordecai serves the King); God gives us the courage to carry out His plans (Esther intervenes for her people); and God can use us to bring good out of bad situations (The King helps the Jewish people).

Grades 4 – 6 – focusing on Who is God - Isaiah 25:1 - Where did God come from? How can God be everywhere? Why does God let bad things happen? Is there anything God can't do? Luke 9:20 to teach us Jesus is always truthful (What if Jesus is a Liar?); Jesus' style of religion (What if Jesus is a lunatic?); Jesus is the biggest winner! (What if Jesus is a loser?); and Jesus is God (What if Jesus is Lord?)

Grades 7 – 12 will continue with "Believe It or Not!" stories from the Bible: An Odd Weapon: Samson and the Donkey Jaw (Nothing is impossible with God!); God's Rightful Place: Dragon's Fall (We must honor God); Unbelievable Power: Elisha and the Bears (God has amazing power); and Healing Water: Naaman's Baths (We can trust God!).



## God's Little Angels

Our next God's Little Angels project is helping the **Ronald McDonald House of Delaware!** The Ronald McDonald House of Delaware is a safe home-away-from-home, where families can live together and receive the kind of special care they need in difficult times when their child is receiving medical care.

On **Saturday, October 18, 2008** we'll meet at the Church in the kitchen at **9:30 a.m.** to bake some yummy cookies and delicious casseroles. We're asking the congregation for donations of wish list items the RM House can use (see below) or monetary donations – some funds will be used to buy beanie babies to help comfort the children and families. After the baking is done, we'll deliver the goodies and donated items to the Ronald McDonald House at 1901 Rockland Road, Wilmington at 1:00 p.m. and will return to the church around **2:00 p.m.** If you have questions or contributions of items or money, please contact the RPUMC office. Thank you for your support and we welcome all children, youth and adults who wish to join us on October 18<sup>th</sup>!

### **Ronald McDonald House Wish List**

#### **Food Stuff**

- ♥ Butter / Margarine
- ♥ Bread
- ♥ Eggs
- ♥ \*\*\*Individually Wrapped Snack Foods
- ♥ Cookie box mixes
- ♥ Juice Boxes or larger
- ♥ \*\*\*Cereal Boxes (individual servings)
- ♥ Regular and De-caf tea bags

- ♥ Individual pudding, jello and fruit snacks
- ♥ Microwave popcorn
- ♥ Mayonnaise or Miracle Whip
- ♥ \*\*\*Canned fruit
- ♥ Canned meats
- ♥ Oil
- ♥ Pepper
- ♥ Salt

#### **Kitchen Items**

- ♥ Trash Bags (13 33 & 55 gallon)
- ♥ Dishwasher Detergent
- ♥ Large freezer bags
- ♥ \*\*\*Facial tissues
- ♥ \*\*\*Paper Towels
- ♥ Aluminum Foil- Reg. or freezer
- ♥ \*\*\*Storage Containers – Gladlock
- ♥ \*\*\*9X13 Disposable Aluminum Casserole Pans

#### **Office Supplies**

- ♥ Paper (white or color, letter size)
- ♥ Postage Stamps
- ♥ HP Desk Jet Print Cartridge # 28&27,93&98

#### **Cleaning Supplies**

- ♥ Spray Air Fresheners
- ♥ Fabric Softener Sheets
- ♥ \*\*\*Disinfectant Cleaner- Lysol
- ♥ \*\*\*Soft scrub
- ♥ \*\*\*Disinfectant wipes
- ♥ \*\*\*Laundry Detergent
- ♥ Mops
- ♥ \*\*\*Mr. Clean
- ♥ \*\*\*Tub and Tile Cleaner-Tilex or Lysol
- ♥ \*\*\*Mr. Clean Magic Eraser
- ♥ \*\*\*Febreze
- ♥ \*\*\*Scouring sponges
- ♥ Bagless Vacuum Cleaners

#### **Household Items**

- ♥ \*\*\* Toilet Paper
- ♥ Hair Brushes
- ♥ Mattress Pads – full and twin size
- ♥ \*\*\*Plastic regular-size Pillow Covers (zippered)
- ♥ Luggage Racks
- ♥ Universal TV remotes
- ♥ Pillow cases
- ♥ \*\*\*Towel sets-wash cloth, bath, and hand
- ♥ Crib Mattress sheets

#### **Additional Needs**

- ♥ Gift Certificates- Restaurant, Target, Sporting Event tickets, Movie passes
- ♥ Toys – small-ex. Barbies, trucks, games (Please no stuffed animals)
- ♥ \*\*\*Phone cards
- ♥ Gas cards

\*\*\* **Items that are especially needed.**

# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

In October, Rebekah Circle will take care of the flowers in the church.

## Circle Meetings

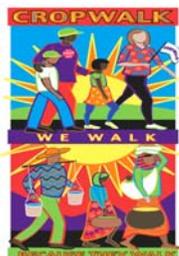
Ruth Circle                      Wed., October 1  
10:00 a.m. – Church Lounge

Rebekah Circle                  No meeting in October

## KIDS' CAFÉ

Kids' Café will begin on Thursday, October 16, 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Kindergarten through sixth grade are eligible to attend but must complete an application. Activities include crafts, devotions, a light dinner, tutoring (children are asked to bring their homework), and story time. **ADULT TUTORS ARE NEEDED!!** Thank you for supporting this worthwhile mission!!

For more information, contact Ms. Marlene or Ms. Janet.



## CROP WALK

Sunday, October 26 - 1 PM  
Peniel United Methodist Church  
See Bob Evely for sponsor packets.



## WESLEY TOWER BANKS

September 2008 \$92.16

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Our year-to-date total is \$907.69. Empty banks can be picked up as you leave the altar area each Communion Sunday. **AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.**

# YOUTH NEWS

Thank you everyone who joined us for brunch on September 28. We hope you enjoyed the delicious meal cooked by the Koinonia Class! A huge thanks to the Koinonia's for their very generous donation of time, food, and LABOR all in the name of the youth group. The money raised will be used to feed everyone on our Fall Retreat being held in the Pocono's, November 14 - 16.

## **Special Youth Group activities October**

Trip to Lancaster to see "In the Beginning" on Saturday, October 4. Meet at church at 3:00 p.m.

Youth Group performs "Give it Away" during Sunday morning worship on October 5.

Trip to Frightland, Sunday, October 19  
12-4:00 p.m.

## NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

Neighborhood House in Wilmington and the Hope Commission are looking for volunteers with computer skills to monitor and tutor in the computer laboratory at Neighborhood House for two hours a week. If you have these skills and are willing to work, please let Rev. Porter know what hours of the week, day/evening you can volunteer. Rev. Derrick Porter can be contacted at [mrpastor@juno.com](mailto:mrpastor@juno.com).



**"Let's give  
Jesus 'our all'.  
It will soon  
be fall!"**

*By Shirley Delpizzo*

## FOOD FOR CAP

CAP is in need of the following items for their food pantry: canned tuna and spam, canned fruit, peanut butter and jelly. Don't forget to bring food for CAP the first Sunday of each month.

## REMINDER UTILITIES CONSERVATION EFFORT

This year, due to the rising costs of oil and fuel, utility expenses are expected to be higher than ever before.

We need your help curbing our electric and heating bills. Please follow the guidelines listed below:

Last person to leave an area of the church:

- Turn off all lights;
- Unplug or turn off any appliances;
- Lower the thermostat to 60 degrees in the winter, or turn air conditioning to off position in the summer;
- Close all interior doors and lock exterior doors.

YOUR HELP IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

RPUMC Trustees



Daylight Savings Time Ends  
on Sunday, November 2 at  
2 AM.

Time to turn your clocks back  
one hour!!!

## **CHARGE CONFERENCE** **Tuesday, October 28** **7:00 PM**

The primary responsibility of the annual Charge Conference is the review and evaluation of the total mission and ministry of our church. All are invited to attend.



Many thanks to Pastor Tom for his caring, visits and prayers and to all the friends of the congregation who prayed for us and visited us. And special thanks to our wonderful United Methodist Women for the lovely luncheon at the church and the flowers you brought to our home.

Alvretta Crozier

## CONCERT SPONSORS UPDATE

Thanks to those of you who have become a sponsor for our October concert. We really appreciate your support. To date we have received \$610 of the required \$1,200. If you would like to become a sponsor, please make checks payable to RPUMC and note "Organ Concert Sponsor" on the memo line. Any amount would be greatly appreciated. Thanks again for your support and we hope to see you there!

Terri Weaver                      Sandy Swain  
Music Director      Finance Chairperson



### ZINGO TAPES

Don't forget to bring your Zingo tapes to worship on Sundays. Just place them in the offering plates or in the wicker basket in the vestibule. Your support is greatly appreciated.



### TOO MANY CALENDARS?????

If you are receiving more 2009 calendars than you can possibly use, please leave your extra ones in the church office or give to Mary Alice Bair for the Prison Ministry. **Spiral calendars are unacceptable for security reasons.** Many thanks.



## RECYCLE PAPER AT RPUMC It's A FUNdraiser!

You can help raise money for the church and protect the environment by bringing your recyclable paper to the green and yellow Paper Retriever collection bin located in the back parking lot alongside the parsonage.

### WHAT TO INCLUDE

Catalogs  
Magazines  
Newspapers  
Junk Mail  
Envelopes  
Notebooks  
Folders  
Shredded Paper  
Office and Copy Paper

### WHAT NOT TO INCLUDE

Food Containers  
Cardboard  
Phonebooks

The church can receive up to \$20.00 per ton based on the number of tons collected. Let's get in the habit of bringing our paper to church. Tell your friends and neighbors about our new recycling program and invite them to church as well!

Thanks for your contributions and support for this effort!

*The RPUMC Trustees*

**Happy Halloween**

***COSTUME PARTY***

**Richardson Park**

**United Methodist Church**

**11 North Maryland Avenue**

**654-0961**

**WILL HOLD ITS ANNUAL**

**Mischief Night Party!**

**October 30**

**6 PM - 8 PM**

**Games      Fun House**

**Prizes      Goodies**

**A safe place to celebrate the holiday!**

**COME JOIN THE FUN!**

**BRING A CANNED FOOD FOR CAP  
AND/OR A MONETARY DONATION FOR  
OUR YOUTH GROUP.**



# MUSIC NOTES

Terri Weaver, Director



It's great to have additional voices and new handbell ringers in the choirs, but we are missing your help. Now is the time to join us on Thursday evenings. Bells start at 6:30 and choir at 7:30. If you are not sure about reading music, below is a suggestion.

## Learn to Read Music Class

Have you always wanted to learn to read music but were afraid to ask? A FREE "Learn to Read" music workshop will be held for anyone over 6 years of age. Concepts of rhythm, note values and tricks to help read Treble and Bass Clef will be taught. These lessons can help you to play an instrument, learn handbells or chimes. Sessions will be taught in a group setting. Come join in the fun!

Dates: November 6, 13, 20 and Dec. 4 (Not 11/27; it's Thanksgiving!)

Time: 6:00 pm to 6:25 pm

Ages: 6 and over

## FAQ:

1. Must I sign up ahead of time? **Yes**, a notebook of information is given to you to keep for future references.
2. Do I need to take all four classes? – **Yes**, each week new concepts are taught building skills from the previous week's class.
3. What will I learn? To read treble clef and bass clef notes and tricks to remember them, note values, key signatures with sharps and flats, time signatures, rhythm etc.
4. What can I do after I learned these skills? Play hand chimes or hand bells, be more confident to join a choir, learn keyboard or other musical instruments.

Hope to see you on Thursday's after Kids Café. Contact Terri Weaver to sign-up.



American  
Guild of  
Organists

an  
international  
organ  
celebration  
2008-2009

Organ  
Spectacular

19 October 2008

Dr. Gordon Turk  
Dr. Gordon Turk

Featured on a 57 rank pipe organ

Richardson Park United Methodist Church and the Delaware Chapter of the American Guild of Organists present a FREE concert to the community.

Sunday October 19, 2008

7:00 PM

11 N. Maryland Ave.

Wilmington, DE 19804

*The American Organist* magazine... "Dr. Turk proved a huge success; he rendered a program of virtuoso playing combined with impeccable artistry and strong rhythmic drive. The concert ended with a standing ovation". Plan on an evening of entertainment the whole family can enjoy. A free will offering will be collected. Refreshments will be provided. Visit our website: [www.rpumchurch.org](http://www.rpumchurch.org) or call 302.654.0961.

**RICHARDSON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**11 North Maryland Avenue**  
**Wilmington, DE 19804**  
**654-0961**

**FELLOWSHIP HALL/KITCHEN RENTAL**

MEMBERS: \$100.00

NON-MEMBERS: \$250.00

**EXTENTION/KITCHEN RENTAL**

MEMBERS: \$40.00

NON-MEMBERS: \$100.00

- The Church is an alcohol-free and a drug-free zone.
- Smoking is not permitted inside the building; ash trays are set up outside the Fellowship Hall doors for your convenience.
- Trash should be placed in the dumpster, which is located in the far parking lot.
- Because we respect our neighbors, all events should be no longer than six hours and end by 10:00 p.m.
- Decorations and set up should be included in the six-hour time frame.
- Open and lock up by Pastor Tom Pasmore, if available. If he's not available, a church representative/member of Trustees will be designated.
- Added charges: A deposit of \$75.00 for clean up is required. This deposit will be returned if Hall is cleaned appropriately. A fee of \$50.00 will be charged if set up of Fellowship Hall is required.
- Payment is due one week in advance of event, along with the signed contract.
- It is the responsibility of the renter to supply paper towels, trash bags, dish detergent, etc.
- Food brought in must be removed.
- Please follow all rules posted in the kitchen.

Revised: 8/21/2008

HA General: RPUMC Folder

## Update from Richardson Park Community Action Program: Sept. 11, 2008

### SMALL AMOUNTS SOON ADD UP ...

#### ZINGO'S VOUCHERS

Don't forget to give CAP your **Zingo's Register Tapes**. Zingo's very kindly allows CAP to redeem your register tapes for cash. Last year we made over **\$320** from redeemed Zingo's register tapes.

#### ALUMINUM CANS

If your closets are unstuffed, bring us **aluminum cans**. We redeem them for cash at the Wilmington recycling center. Last year we made over **\$100** from recycling aluminum cans.

### IT'S THE END OF SUMMER ...

It's a perfect time to clear out your closet.

From wall hangings to cookware, kitchenware and gadgets to small appliances, glassware and dishes, home décor, curtains, sheets and towels, shorts, skirts, tops and shoes.

CAP wants all that stuff that's stuffed in your closet.

Bring your donations to CAP anytime. We are located at 107 South Maryland Avenue, Wilmington, De 19804.

### SEND YOUR RECIPES TO CAP ...

*Christmas is fast approaching.*

*To raise extra funds during this very busy time, CAP is going to create and sell a "CAP Cookbook".*

*We would love your help.*

*Please send us your favorite and unique recipes. The recipes can be for anything you like – starters, snacks, soups, entrees, desserts, cakes, cookies etc.*

*Send recipes to CAP at 107 South Maryland Avenue, Wilmington, De 19804 or email your recipes to us at [rpcap107@verizon.net](mailto:rpcap107@verizon.net).*

RICHARDSON PARK  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
11 NORTH MARYLAND AVENUE  
WILMINGTON, DE 19804-1305

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# “THE MESSENGER” OCTOBER 2008

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Parsonage Phone: (302) 652-6168 E-Mail: [rpumc@rpumchurch.org](mailto:rpumc@rpumchurch.org)  
Tom Pasmore, Pastor



## LAY READERS

October 5	Bettie Smith
October 12	Kathy Russell
October 19	Laity Sunday
October 26	Ed Ide

## ALTAR FLOWERS

October 5	Bob Ashton
October 12	Sandy Ide
October 19	Susan Watkins
October 26	Dorothy Scarborough
At the Cross	Anna Mae Shewbrooks

For the month of October, **Rebekah Circle** is responsible for the **flowers**.

\* \* \* \* \*

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING FOOD FOR  
CAP THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

\* \* \* \* \*

Please submit your articles for the  
November Messenger to the church office  
by Friday, October 10. Thank you.

*The purpose of Richardson Park United Methodist Church is to help people  
experience the amazing love of God and develop a vital relationship with Jesus Christ.*