

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
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I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

- 1st Corinthians 9:22-27 (New International Version)

I love football. Whatever form it may take, wherever it's being played, I love it. It is one of those guilty pleasures that I still hold on to, even with all the changes in my life over the last few years. It doesn't matter what kind of football either, whether it is American, Canadian, Australian, soccer, or rugby. I love to watch it all. Whether it's seeing Bart Starr going into the end zone behind Jerry Kramer on 3rd and goal with 26 seconds left on the clock, or Landon Donovan's header past Mexican legend Oscar Perez in the 65th minute of the game, or the upending of the All Blacks by a small, undersized French team who outscored New Zealand 23-7 in the closing 20 minutes of the match. Football manages to capture my imagination and allows me to blow off some much needed steam, occasionally. I wonder what we ever did for fun before the invention of the inflatable ball.

Last month the FIFA World Cup of Soccer started in South Africa where the best of the best will play to see which country will take home the right to be called world champions for the next four years. While the U.S. is competing, I find it much more entertaining to watch a wide variety of nations play against each other. It's fascinating to see the different ethnicities and cultures come together on the field and battle it out for 90 minutes. It's like traveling the world from the comfort of your La-Z-Boy and it's so cool. (Although I wish I could find a vuvuzela to blow during the matches. I imagine that Sarah would probably put the kibosh on playing it in the house. Oh well, a guy can dream can't he?) However, there is a point to the 64 matches. In the end, only one team can win the prize. Only one can claim the Cup.

Paul talks about "the prize" in his first letter to the church at Corinth. He focuses in on what it takes to be a hero in life and what it takes to win the ultimate prize of *eternal life*. We need to train through spiritual disciplines to run the race like a champion. We need to pray, study, worship, fellowship, give, and serve. These disciplines will help us to develop stamina in our spirits and help us to get in touch with God's plan for our lives. Success in this race requires that we also seek help in our training -- the practice of all of

our Spiritual disciplines. This help comes through the Holy Spirit who gives us energy and life and the help of other Christians who cheer us on. Throughout the training and the struggles of life, we learn to rely on God and mold our will to His. You see, we need to see God, not just as the judge of our race, but also as our teammate, cheerleader, fan, and best friend. It takes that kind of relationship to develop a winning lifestyle and to acquire the highly sought after prize.

As you watch the sport of your choice this summer, and I recommend football or soccer, think about the game of life that we all find ourselves in. Remember that we need to be training continually, running to win the prize, ready to face the most difficult opponent, and that no matter what happens, God is on our side. God wants us all to be winners.

Blessing and Peace to you all,

Pastor Tom

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MUSIC NOTES

“FAVORITE HYMNS AND SONGS”

PLEASE LIST YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS BELOW AND WE WILL SING THEM OVER THE SUMMER MONTHS.

HYMN TITLE _____

RETURN TO: Ella de Courcelle, the Church Office, or place in the offering plate.

Your Name: _____ **Phone No.:** _____



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Joey Davis	7/1
Diane Maloney	7/2
Tom Pasmore	7/2
George Reinert	7/5
Joe Tucker	7/5
Robert Collins	7/6
Ali Knott	7/6
Eric Granby	7/7
Michael Haynes	7/7
Gail Eney	7/8
Gerald Nichols	7/8
Jennifer Atkinson	7/9
David McFarland	7/10
Joey Beane	7/11
Mark Panaccione	7/13
Jennifer Patterson	7/15
Jim Chilcutt	7/17
Ashley Arms	7/18
Marie Cloud	7/18
Nancy Perugini	7/18
Alysha Maybroda	7/19
Kathy Smallwood	7/21
Harold Follett	7/25
Daniel Gallagher	7/25
Elsie Bixler	7/26
Wyatt Rash	7/26
Michelle Anderson	7/27
RuthAnn Woodward	7/27
Mabel Dunfee	7/28
Nicole Cummings	7/30
Glenda Donnelly	7/30

If your name is missing from our birthday list, please call the office at 654-0961. We don't want to miss your special day!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Will you please notify the church office if you have a change of address. The Post Office charges us for returned mail. Thanks so much.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Shirl Snapp	8/1
Kathy Evelyn	8/3
Rachel Heckler	8/3
Lisa Maher	8/3
Scott Doughty	8/4
Jeanne Thomas	8/6
Jerry Arms	8/7
Jacalyn Foraker	8/8
Sharon Panaccione	8/8
Dorothy Burris	8/9
Thomas Logullo	8/9
Jennifer Pettyjohn	8/10
Kathryn Mitten	8/11
Stephen Moore	8/11
Ruth Taylor	8/11
Donna Chambers	8/15
Carol Hopkins	8/15
Chad Hughes	8/15
Nicole Anderson	8/18
Sara Anderson	8/18
Sandy Ide	8/20
Suzy Price	8/20
David Collins	8/21
Sarena Yarrusso	8/21
Jacob Farley	8/22
Samantha Farley	8/22
Patti Green	8/24
Richard Hall	8/25
Sandy Swain	8/27
Jordon Howard	8/28
Jane McAllister	8/29
Carol Ewing	8/31
Abigail Price	8/31

MISSION TREE

On Sundays in July and August, we will be hanging **Stars** and **Seashells**, respectively, on our Mission Tree. Hang a star or seashell on the tree in honor or memory of someone special to you. Minimum donation is \$1.00. Our tree is located in the Extension.

FOOD FOR CAP



Don't forget to bring food for CAP the first Sunday of each month. They are in need of:

canned meats and stews,
peanut butter and jelly,
hot & cold cereals,
tuna, baked beans,
canned fruit.

Compassion Commendation

Dave Rogers, Bob Evely and Donna Chambers are to be commended for their efforts in providing a special clean up service at Bob Ashton's house recently. Harold Spedden suggested we recognize them for their caring and selfless compassion for their brother in Christ.

Thank you Dave, Bob and Donna!

It is always inspirational to hear of these acts of love and kindness. If you'd like to recognize someone for their efforts, please send a note to the church office.

PARSONAGE REPAIRS PLANNED

During the last two weeks of July, the Trustees will be making some miscellaneous repairs to the parsonage. Rob Anderson, Chair, will be meeting with Pastor Tom and will start compiling a list in the upcoming weeks. Volunteers are needed to help complete these tasks. If you are available either in the day time or evening hours during the last two weeks of July, please contact Rob Anderson via e-mail at robanderson21@comcast.net or phone him at 633-0201. Work will include items such as painting, minor plumbing and electrical. All are welcome to participate.

RICHARDSON PARK COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM (CAP) WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR A SUCCESSFUL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL.

There are many ways for you to support CAP:

Bring us your aluminum cans

Bring us all of those old items just lying around the house

Volunteer in our Thrift Shop

Shop at our Thrift Shop

Please feel free to stop by our Thrift Shop and support our program. CAP is located at 107 S. Maryland Avenue, next to the QuickMart. We are open Monday and Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Thursday Noon to 6:00 p.m.; Friday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Telephone (302) 428-1247.

UPCOMING YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Saturday, July 10 Blue Rocks Game

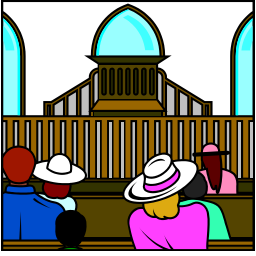
Thursday, August 5 & Friday, August 6
9 AM – 2 PM
Missions work at the Sunday Breakfast Mission

Saturday, August 7 **8 AM – 12 Noon**
Begin remodeling of the Nursery at church

Sunday, August 8 **12 Noon – 4 PM**
Finish remodeling of the Nursery

Monday, August 9 **7:30 AM – 7 PM**
Trip to Six Flags
Cost: **FREE ADMISSION**

(Must have completed three out of four days of missions work between August 5-8.)



Laity Enlightenment

It's Summer time! Temperatures are on the rise, baseball season is in full swing and school is out. That is, except for the Wesley Adult Sunday School Class at Richardson Park Church. Although the other Sunday morning classes have disbanded for the summer, a lovely group of God's children get together in the lounge every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. And don't let the name Adult Sunday School scare you. The group is always open to new members and the teachers create a relaxed, unintimidating atmosphere to study God's Word.

The Bible is such a BIG book that it seems a bit overwhelming to just pick up and start reading. Have you ever tried opening the Bible to a random page and reading the first thing you see? This can be interesting and sometimes frustrating. When we look to God's Word for answers or guidance, it's all there but it can be hard to find. My Grandfather, Percy Strickland, read the Bible 32 times all the way through in his lifetime and was on number 33 when he died at age 98. He could quote appropriate scripture, word for word, as an occasion warranted. Next to my Grandfather, I admit my knowledge of the Bible is very limited, but I'm happy to be reading and learning more and more since I joined a Sunday school class.

Currently, we are studying Thessalonians. We've discovered again and again that Paul was a man of many words. This is why it helps that the class starts and ends with prayer; prayer for our congregation, family and friends as well as for an understanding of the lesson. There are a few ladies who rotate through the teaching position giving their time and talents to bring the lesson to the class in their unique styles. And Lillian Simmons often interjects her special stories and witty quips which are always a delight. The teachers allow class members to read aloud from the scripture and the lesson book so everyone gets involved. There is usually lively discussion at various points during the hour while we try to discern the meaning of the lesson and apply it to our everyday lives and current events. You are guaranteed to learn something new every Sunday. And, in this class, you can't help but become more comfortable reading and learning from the Bible.

In September, regular Sunday morning bible study and youth Sunday school classes will resume. The Friday morning Disciple class will begin again as the summer winds down as well. A new Wednesday evening Disciple 1 class is also planned for those of us who cannot make the daytime class. But don't wait until September! We'd like to see you in July and August. So, if you happen to get up early on Sunday morning thinking you have plenty of time to get ready for church at 10:30 a.m., come early to school. We'd love for you to come and pray with us, read with us, laugh with us and learn with us!

May God Bless You throughout this Summer Season.

Your Lay Leader, Kathy Russell

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) MISSION PROJECT

As part of our VBS program this year, our mission project is to assemble health kits to send to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Health kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. Health kits also are used as learning tools in personal hygiene, literacy, nutrition and cooking classes. Each health kit includes:

- 1 hand towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27") No kitchen towels
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large and sturdy) No pocket-sized combs
- 1 nail file and/or fingernail clippers No emery boards or toenail clippers
- 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. or larger)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper) No child-size brushes
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste
- One-gallon plastic bags to hold health kit supplies

We invite you to participate with us in this mission project. Any donations you can make to this worthwhile cause will be greatly appreciated. We will assemble as many kits as possible during VBS and will continue to collect supplies and assemble health kits throughout the summer. Please drop off your donations in the box located at the back of the Sanctuary. Thank you so much for your support!

July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Fellowship Hall Res. 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 5:30 PM VBS 8-15 PM AA Meeting	2	3 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe
4 9 AM Wesley Adult Sunday School Class 10 AM Social Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School	5 5:30 PM Weight Watchers	6 8 PM AA Meeting	7 8 PM NA Meeting	8 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 8-15 PM AA Meeting	9	10 6:05 PM Youth - Blue Rocks Game
11 9 AM Wesley Adult Sunday School Class 10 AM Social Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School	12 5:30 PM Weight Watchers	13 8 PM AA Meeting	1 8 PM NA Meeting	15 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 8-15 PM AA Meeting	16	17
18 9 AM Wesley Adult Sunday School Class 10 AM Social Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School	19 5:30 PM Weight Watchers	20 8 PM AA Meeting	21 8 PM NA Meeting	22 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 8-15 PM AA Meeting	23	24 Fellowship Hall Res.
25 9 AM Wesley Adult Sunday School Class 10 AM Social Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School	26 5:30 PM Weight Watchers	27 8 PM AA Meeting	28 8 PM NA Meeting	29 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 8-15 PM AA Meeting	30	31 Sanctuary Reserved

August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9 AM Wesley Adult Sunday School Class 10 AM Social Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School 11:30 AM Education Mtg.	2 5:30 PM Weight Watchers	3 8 PM AA Meeting	4 8 PM NA Meeting	5 9 AM Youth - Sunday Breakfast Mission 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe	6 9 AM Youth - Sunday Breakfast Mission	7 8 AM Youth - Remodel Nursery 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe
8 9 AM Wesley Adult Sunday School Class 10 AM Social Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sun. School 11:30 AM Trustees Mtg. 12 PM Youth - Remodel Nursery	9 7:30 AM Youth Trip - Six Flags	10 8 PM AA Meeting	11 8 PM NA Meeting	12 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 8:15 PM AA Meeting	13	14
15 9 AM Wesley Adult Sunday School Class 10 AM Social Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School 11:30 AM Council Mtg.	16 5:30 PM Weight Watchers	17 8 PM AA Meeting	18 8 PM NA Meeting	19 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 8:15 PM AA Meeting	20	21
22 9 AM Wesley Adult Sunday School Class 10 AM Social Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School	23 5:30 PM Weight Watchers	24 1 PM UMW Unit Mtg. 8 PM AA Meeting	25 8 PM NA Meeting	26 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 8:15 PM AA Meeting	27	28
29 9 AM Wesley Adult Sunday School Class 10 AM Joint Service at St. James Episcopal	30 5:30 PM Weight Watchers	31 8 PM AA Meeting				

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

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



READERS

July 4	Bettie Smith
July 11	Suzy Price
July 18	Kristin Fleming
July 25	Katie Meadows
August 1	Anna Mae Shewbrooks
August 8	Brenda Tucker
August 15	Sheldon Edwards
August 22	Bob Collins
August 29	Joint Service at St. James

FLOWERS

For the month of July, Ruth Circle is responsible for the flowers and for the month of August, Rebekah Circle is responsible.

Please submit your articles for the September Messenger to the Church Office by Monday, August 9. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS

July 4	Ruth Gibney
July 11	Harold and Shirly Ritter
July 18	Phyllis Bowman
At the Cross	Shirley Roberts
July 25	Lee Powell
August 1	Richard and Mary Sutor
At the Cross	Cliff and Muriel Campbell
August 8	Jay and Pat Cummings
August 15	Joan Stadelman
August 22	Lynn Lafferty
August 29	Joint Service at St. James

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

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.