

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
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Then little children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them; but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."

-- Matthew 19:13-14 (NRSV)

As we prepare for our yearly adventure of Vacation Bible School (VBS), I would like to share a story of God at work in the world. This story comes from the VBS program of the previous church that I served, Hope UMC in Dover, Delaware.

During VBS at Hope in 2007, one quote stuck in my mind and I will probably never forget it. The quote in question comes directly out of the mouth of a three-year-old member of the congregation. To give you a bit of background, my wife Sarah and another volunteer ran the recreation part of the VBS program where they and the kids would play games in the parking lot behind the church. To keep the kids safe, we had put up orange traffic cones to mark off the boundaries of the play area, and Sarah had a strict rule for the kids to stay inside of these boundaries. Sarah and her helper took great pains to insure the kids understood how important this rule was. They repeated it several times. Later that first night when one of the teachers, as part of her lesson, asked the kids what God had instructed Abraham to do instead of move to the promised land, Lily quickly blurted out, "Don't go past the orange cones!!" It still makes me laugh when I think about it.

After some reflection, however, I asked myself, what would have happened if Abraham had decided not to listen and stayed inside "the orange cones?" What if he hadn't extended himself and reached out as God had asked him to? One of the things that I am in constant danger of is blocking off my own very comfortable space with big "orange cones" and not continuing to reach out to people. It's so much easier not to extend one's self. But Jesus is pretty clear about the commandment to spread the Gospel to the entire world. Loving your neighbor as yourself is the ultimate form of extending your boundaries because it forces you to walk "a mile in their shoes." You begin to see life from a point of view besides your own and this can be very uncomfortable at times. Some big "orange cones" need to be moved for it to happen. It takes relying on God, a leap of faith, and sometimes a big dose of courage. But I know that through God Richardson Park UMC will always be capable of it. VBS may be an opportunity for you to try doing something new that is outside the orange cones. God is calling, are you willing to answer?



Come join us for an adventure in space! Whether you're going to preschool or can't remember the last time you were in a classroom, we think you would enjoy our week of Vacation Bible School. Classes will be held for anyone preschool (three or older) through sixth grade. Anyone older will be asked to help (see note below).

Our Galactic Blast will be held Sunday, June 27 through Thursday, July 1. Come and enjoy dinner, crafts, music, games, storytelling, and lots of fun. Each night we begin with dinner at 5:30 pm and finish in the sanctuary at 8:30 pm. We ask everyone to preregister. Registration begins this month. Simply fill out a registration form and place it in the offering plate on Sunday or turn it into the office.

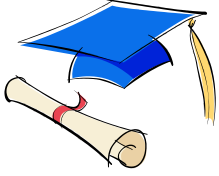
If you are older than sixth grade and want to be involved, our VBS kids need you and we would love your help! We have many ways you could help, from decorating the church to sorting materials for crafts to moving children from place to place. Even if you aren't available the week of VBS, we have opportunities for you to help out. Please contact either Sarah Pasmore (652-6168), Kristy Doughty (832-1271) or the church office (654-0961) for more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Annual Strawberry Festival
Saturday, June 5 9 AM - 3 PM

Help is needed in the kitchen on Friday, June 4 beginning at 1 PM to clean and cut berries. On Saturday, June 5, beginning at 9 AM help is needed in the kitchen and at various tables (plants, baked good, flea market, strawberries, etc.). **We also are in need of baked goods to sell.** Please contact Sandy Ide at 593-3395 if you can help. Thank you for your support!

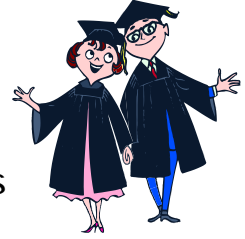
PARSONAGE REPAIRS PLANNED

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.



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

On Sunday, June 6, during worship, we will celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates of 2010.



BRYAN CUMMINGS received his Bachelor of Science Degree in History Education and a minor in Drama from the University of Delaware on May 28. His parents are Mark and Sue Cummings and his grandparents are Jay and Pat Cummings.

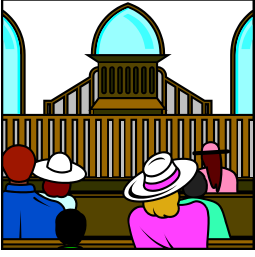
ALLIE HEATWOLE graduated from Elon College in Elon, North Carolina on May 22. She received an BA Degree in Psychology, with a minor in Criminal Justice. Her grandparents are Ed and Sandy Ide.

KATHRYN (KAT) MITTEN will graduate from Alexis I. duPont High School on June 5. She will be attending the University of Delaware in the fall, majoring in Biology with a minor in Spanish. Her parents are Tod and Yvonne Mitten.

BYROM PRICE is receiving his Associates Degree from Wilmington College. He is the husband of Suzy and the father of Abigail Price.

KELLY REBURN will graduate from Avon Grove High School on June 15. She will be attending East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina in the fall, majoring in Elementary Education. She is the daughter of Alan and Denise Reburn and the granddaughter of Dave and Sandy Ide.

BLESSINGS TO ALL OF YOU!



Laity Enlightenment

I need a vacation! Have you ever said these words to yourself? Have you ever felt like answering that Southwest commercial question, “Wanna get away?”, with a resounding YES? What makes us feel like we need to escape sometimes? And what kind of vacation or get away would make us feel better? These are questions we all may ponder at times.

Life is about balance. The spiritual, emotional and physical aspects of life all affect this balance. Our career, health and relationships with family, friends and God all play an important role in maintaining the balance. Maintain the balance and we feel stable, secure, satisfied. When something goes wrong and the scale tips too far, we become stressed, uneasy, discontent. There are many events that take place during the course of each day and numerous possible outcomes for each situation. We can't predict them or control them. So we shouldn't live our lives worrying about what could happen. In Luke 12:25-26, Jesus said...”what's the use of worrying? What good does it do? Will it add a single day to your life? Of course not! And if worrying can't even do such little things as that, what's the use of worrying over bigger things?” (The Living Bible)

When our lives get hectic or seemingly out of control, we can turn to God for help, strength, courage or wisdom. It's natural to look for help and guidance in times of trouble. Our faith in God can serve as a firm support on which we lean when life gets difficult. Many of us have experienced first hand how God answers prayer so we continue to go to God and ask for peace, healing or direction. We know God is great, merciful and faithful so it always helps to take our cares and concerns to Him. God is an integral part of the balance we need to lead healthy and happy lives.

But do we also think of God when things are going great? And if we're lucky enough to get that much deserved vacation or few easy days, do we remember to include God then? Let's not forget to bring God along on our next vacation or day off. Maybe pack our Bible along with our clothes, camera and CDs. We could plan to have a daily devotion, say a blessing at meal times and thank God in prayer each night before we sleep.

So don't worry over the little or even big things that come our way. Remember to put God first and He will help us maintain the balance in our lives! Have a safe and joyous summer. And, as our Spanish friends might say, Vaya con Dios; Go with God!

Kathy Russell, Lay Leader



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Susan Durkee	6/1
Bette Farra	6/3
Brisa Peterson	6/5
Julia Maybroda	6/11
Billy Sorensen	6/11
Trish Williamson	6/11
Miles Keogh	6/12
Ruthann Will	6/13
Julie Lundgren	6/14
Chase Stout	6/14
Yvonne Mitten	6/15
Megan Thomas	6/18
Jeannine White	6/18
Kayla Brown	6/19
Rob Anderson	6/21
Alicia Ott	6/23
David Pruitt	6/23
Earle Snapp	6/23
Carolyn Swain	6/23
Charlene Workman	6/23
Kaitlyn Adams	6/24
Franz Kappel	6/25
Ida Burgos	6/29
William Cathell	6/29
Brian Maher	6/29

NOTE: If your name is not listed on our birthday calendar, please call the church office at 654-0961. Thank you.

WESLEY TOWER BANKS

May 2010 \$157.68

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Our year-to-date total is \$510.06. Empty banks can be picked up as you leave the altar area each Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



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

Circle Meetings

Rebekah Circle	Tue., Sept. 7 7:00 p.m. Church Lounge
Ruth Circle	Wed., June 2 11:30 a.m. Lunch – Meet at the Red Lobster

Circle Leaders

Rebekah Circle	Marlene Johnson
Ruth Circle	Joan Stadelman

If you are interested in joining a Circle, please contact Marlene or Barbara for more information.

Metal cans are needed so that we can deliver flowers to shut-ins. Large cans are preferable but smaller cans also would be appreciated. Thanks for your help.

ZINGO



TAPES

What a wonderful "fundraiser" the Zingo receipt rebate program is turning out to be for RPUMC, and it's thanks to all of you who forward your receipts to us for processing!! We are expecting another check shortly. Thanks for supporting this program and making it such a great success!

Flag Day, always June 14, is a day for Americans to celebrate and show respect for our flag and its designers and makers. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States by resolution of the Second Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. Our church proudly flies an American flag each day. If you have a new or gently used flag (approximately 5' by 9-1/2') that you would like to donate for this purpose, please contact the church office at 654-0961.

KIDS CAFÉ

EXERCISE ROOM COMING SOON TO RPUMC!



The "Tower of Power Fitness Room" is coming soon to Richardson Park UMC! If you are interested in using the fitness room, please contact Kathy Russell at 302-999-0445 to sign up now. More information on a Grand Opening/Open House will be publicized when the room is finished and the date is set.

MISSION TREE



On Sundays in June, we are hanging "**Sailboats**" on our Mission Tree. Hang a "sailboat" 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 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.



food for
of each



CHANCEL CHOIR/ BELLS

Covered-Dish Supper
Thursday, June 3 6 PM

All members, past and present, of the Bells and Chancel Choir are invited to attend. Bring your families.

Our Kids Café Superstars met for their final session of this school year on Thursday, May 13, 2010 and held a talent show for their parents, tutors, and staff. And what talents they shared!!! We were treated to singing and dancing to one of Michael Jackson's finest songs by Emmanuel; "Over the Rainbow" on alto sax by Joey; "Moonlight Sonata" on piano by Ben; pencil sketches by Bethany; a "martial arts" demo vs. their favorite superhero by Donny and Sammy; jump roping by Breanna and Chrysta (sometimes on only ONE foot); storytelling by Ms. Marlene assisted by Jake, Sammi and a very cool bear (with some very enthusiastic audience participation); and Abigail teaching us a portion of the Greek alphabet.

With the guidance of their teacher, Marlene Johnson, and our dedicated staff of tutors, the children have enjoyed a year of fun and fellowship while solving a multitude of math problems, improving their spelling and reading skills, and continuing to blossom as children of God. A special thank you goes to our Kitchen Crew for providing delicious and nutritious dinners to all participants this year, but especially for our finale dinner...yummy Grotto's pizza and a "create-your-own" ice cream sundae!!! Thanks to all...have a great summer!!!

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

This summer will be an exciting time in Room 3. Children in grades 1-6 are invited to come with me and an assistant on a journey. This journey starts June 6 after "Time With Children." We will be completing a "travel journal" as we "put on" the armor of God. Hopefully during the Summer Sunday School, children will realize they can turn to God for protection, guidance and comfort. Join us this summer!

Blessings from Ms. Marlene

LOOK WHO TURNED 90 THIS YEAR!!



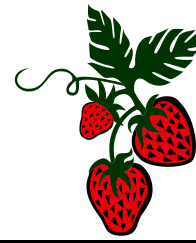
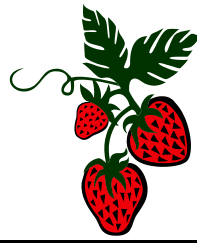
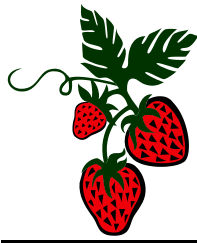
DICK GEORGE

His family would like to invite all of his friends to celebrate this milestone as we reminisce about his involvement in our church and community. Many remember Dick as the Band Director at Conrad High School, leading the marching band as they performed wonderful halftime shows in the 40's and 50's and/or as Choir Director here at RPUMC for nearly 20 years.

The celebration will be held in our Fellowship Hall on Saturday, July 24th. Stop by anytime between 4:00 - 5:30 PM for a bite to eat and to catch up with a long-time friend.

In lieu of a gift, his family is creating a keepsake album and would appreciate receiving any memories you would like to share with him -- a written note, a recollection or story involving both of you, pictures of you (past or present). Include any other photos/mementos that we can keep, as well. These items can be brought to the party, dropped off at the church office, mailed to Sherlynn Aurelio at 2308 Forestwood Drive, Wilmington, DE 19810, or emailed to sherlynnau@gmail.com. There will be a table set-up at the party for any mementos you would like to bring to share for the day.

IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE CELEBRATION,
PLEASE RSVP TO SHERLYNN AT 302-475-9061.



ANNUAL CAP STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 5, 2010

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Rain or Shine

RICHARDSON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Corner of Maryland and Matthes Avenues

Come and Join Us!

**Featuring hot lunch, fresh berries, shortcake, flea market,
plant table, bake table, children's activities, fun
and fellowship.**

**To volunteer or to donate plants or baked goods, leave a message for
Sandy Ide at 798-8664.**

**To rent a flea market table (\$15.00), mail a check to CAP at 107 South
Maryland Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19804.**

**For more information, call CAP at 302-358-5357 or leave a message at
428-1247.**

TO BENEFIT THE

RICHARDSON PARK COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM (CAP)

RICHARDSON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION

NAME: _____ HELPER:

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

HOME TELEPHONE: (_____) _____ AGE: _____

LAST SCHOOL GRADE COMPLETED: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: HOME _____ CELL _____

ALLERGIES OR OTHER MEDICAL CONDITIONS: _____

HOME CHURCH: _____

ONE SPECIAL FRIEND YOUR CHILD MIGHT LIKE TO BE WITH AT VBS: _____

SUNDAY, JUNE 27 - THURSDAY, JULY 1

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

AGES 3 THRU GRADE 6

NOTE: HELPERS (7TH-12TH GRADES) MUST PRE-REGISTER

****PLEASE SEE ADDITIONAL INFO ON BACK OF REGISTRATION****

All children must be picked up promptly at 8:00 p.m. If your child is over ten years old, you may sign below to allow him/her to leave the church without adult supervision. We recommend you make every effort to pick up any child regardless of age; however, we realize that some children walk or may be capable of going home on their own. Please sign below to indicate you accept responsibility for your child (over ten) to leave on his/her own at the end of the evening.

- o My child will be picked up in the sanctuary each evening.
- o My child may leave on his/her own at the end of each evening.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please sign here if you will allow your child's photograph to be taken at Galactic Blast Vacation Bible School and posted within the church building.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Due to the new UMC Safe Sanctuary policy, registration forms must be completed and signed by a parent or guardian!

Questions? Please call 654-0961.

Please bring a canned good for CAP!

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

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“THE MESSENGER” JUNE 2010

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



LAY READERS

June 6	Melissa Hughes
June 13	Jen Fitzgerald
June 20	Marlene Johnson
June 27	Volena Sease

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

Please submit your articles for the July/August Messenger to the church office by Wednesday June 9. Thank You.

ALTAR FLOWERS

June 6	Tod and Yvonne Mitten
At the Cross	Winfield Lane
At the Lectern	Ginger Pettyjohn
June 13	Rob and Michelle Anderson
June 20	Alvretta Crozier
At the Cross	Bob Collins
At the Lectern	Ruth Gibney
June 27	United Methodist Women

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

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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.