

the Messenger

OCTOBER 2010

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
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***Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.
- James 1:22 (Contemporary English Translation)***

Our family received a Nintendo *Wii* for Christmas this year from my parents. I am amazed at the sophisticated technology that allows the system to track the motion of the remote and translate that into action on the screen. The kids have been really getting into the sports games, like golf, tennis, and baseball, which came with the system. It's wonderful for me as a parent to watch them learn the real basics of the sport in the comfort of our home, knowing that they can use these very simple lessons in the future.

For me, as someone who loves sports, the *Wii* is an easy alternative to going out and playing these games myself. It's so much nicer to sit at home and pretend to play these sports than it is to actually suit up, go out, and "just do it." I wonder how many of us are fans of Christian *Wii*? In other words, it's the opportunity to be part of the Jesus movement without actually changing anything about ourselves or going out and doing anything to change the world. We receive all of the good things from Christ but don't take time to respond to God's call upon our lives. Simply put, it's what theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer called *cheap grace*. We take what God gives to us, and then give nothing back in return. Are we just pretending to be in the game or are we seeking to live out the realities of what God would want from us? Where can you get out on the playing field and participate fully in the Kingdom of God?

Keep on praying, loving, living, and serving!

God bless you all,

Pastor Tom

BISHOP'S DAY ON THE DISTRICT



Bishop Peggy Johnson will be our guest in the Wilmington District during the month of October. To celebrate her visit, there will be a gathering for laity at 7 PM on Tuesday, October 12 at St. Paul's UMC on Foulk Road in north Wilmington to meet the bishop and talk over what is going on around the United Methodist connection. All are welcome and encouraged to come out and meet the Episcopal leader of our Annual Conference. If you would like to attend, please call the church office or talk with Pastor Tom so that we can make sure there is a seat available for you.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



On October 3, 2010, RPUMC will celebrate World Communion Sunday. It is a time to be in communion with Christians all over the world and to enable us to "press on toward the goal" of serving God in life-changing ministries. When the offering for this special Sunday is collected this year, the proceeds provided will be used to help UMCOR rebuild the lives of people who have lost everything in the cataclysmic flooding that took place earlier this year in Pakistan. Your gifts to World Communion Sunday lay the foundation for UMCOR to bring restoration, healing and hope for tomorrow to the people of Pakistan.

DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY



Want to learn more about the Bible? Have questions about how God is speaking to you? to this community? How God is speaking today? Want to read, learn and pray with others devoted to walking with Christ in their daily lives? St. James Episcopal Church, Peniel UMC, Calvary Presbyterian, and Richardson Park UMC are partnering in a weekly Bible study program known as **Disciple**. Rev. Sarah

Nelson, Rev. Tracy Mooney, Rev. Bob Richardson, and Pastor Tom will share leadership of the study. We are currently forming two groups. These groups will meet at different times during the week so as many people as possible can participate. Disciple I will meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30 PM until 8:30 PM. Disciple II will meet on Friday mornings from 10 AM until Noon. It's never too late to start! So join us for this thought-provoking exploration of God at work in the Scriptures and in the world. Journey with us as we together walk the path of a Disciple.

Come back to THE WELL!



The Well, a leadership training event for leaders in all areas of ministry, will be held on Saturday, October 16 at St. Thomas More Academy, 133 Thomas More Drive, Magnolia, DE. Over 400 attended last October so you don't want to miss it this year. Eleven agencies within the Peninsula-Delaware Conference are sponsoring classes at The Well so there is truly something for everyone. The cost of the event is only \$10 per person which includes lunch. If you are interested in being part of this great learning opportunity, please contact the church office or Pastor Tom. Pastor Tom will be attending the event and can help with transportation if that is a stumbling block to your participation.

BRAND NEW SOUP KITCHEN OPENING!

If you love me, feed my sheep -John 21:15

An exciting new ministry opportunity is opening up in the Newport-Richardson Park area! On Friday, October 15, at St. James Episcopal Church **Jusst Sooup Ministries** will be starting a soup kitchen that will run on Fridays from 11 AM until 1 PM. This new ministry is geared to feed both body and soul by providing nourishing lunches and an opportunity to share the love of Jesus. We are looking for volunteers who can bring a warm smile and some grace to those who need it most. RPUMC is getting on board with this effort by hosting the soup kitchen in coming months as well as providing opportunities for those interested in serving. Please contact the church office or Pastor Tom if you are interested in being a part of this outreach to the community! Help us help others through feeding God's children. **Please pray for this ministry as we head toward the launch day!**

An Open Letter from Rev. Derrick Porter on Prayer Evangelism

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

The church was born on the day of Pentecost for one purpose. That purpose was to share the good news of salvation in a risen Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit empowered them to speak in different languages so people from other lands would be able to understand the gospel message and be saved. Ultimately people receiving Christ as Lord and Savior is a work of the Holy Spirit. For us to grow in bringing people to Christ we must pray to God for a movement of the Holy Spirit. This is done through Prayer Evangelism. This is a method that was shared with me several years ago. It does not cost a dime and you already have all the tools you need. We utilized it in the church where I was pastor and we eventually filled the church to overflowing with people seeking and accepting Jesus.

I do not know God's plans for your church but I do know that God does answer prayer for God's purposes. I want to share this plan with you and pray that you will start using it to God's glory.

Prayer Evangelism

1. Establish a group of people who will covenant to do the following:

- Pray every day for people to accept Christ as Lord and Savior.
- Pray every day for these seekers and new disciples to worship, fellowship, work and support (your church).
- Pray every day that the pews will be filled with disciples of Jesus Christ.
- Come together once a week/month as a group, in the church, to pray for these purposes in a prayer meeting.

2. Every church member/attendee each do the following four-week evangelism plan regardless of age:

WEEK 1

Every day pray for God to identify who you should approach with the Gospel message. After prayer on this for several days, start making a list.

WEEK 2

Every day pray for each of these people by name. Pray that the Holy Spirit will go before you and make their minds and hearts receptive to the message. Pray that the Holy Spirit will empower you to communicate the Gospel in a way they will understand. (Acts 2) Pray that God will bless them no matter what happens.

WEEK 3

Approach each of the people on your list and share the good news of salvation and peace in Jesus Christ. Share how Christ received you (just as you are) and has changed your life.

WEEK 4

Invite the people that you shared the Gospel with to your church.

3. Memorize the following scripture verse:

Matthew 28:19-20 - Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Implement this plan and let us together see the amazing things that God will do!

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Rev. Derrick E. Porter, District Superintendent, Wilmington District



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

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
Alissa 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
Mary Hall	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
Esther McDowell	10/25
Paulette Cleaver	10/26
Dianna Deaton	10/26
Eric Fleming	10/27
Tod Mitten	10/27
Scott Cloud	10/28

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

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

Circle Meetings

Ruth Circle Wed., October 6
 10:00 a.m. – Church Lounge

Rebekah Circle October meeting cancelled

Unit Meeting Tuesday, October 12 1:30 PM

CROP WALK **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3 1PM**

The Crop Walk will begin at Peniel UMC.
Please see Bob Evely for details.



**Daylight Saving Time Ends on
Sunday, November 7 at
2 AM.**

**Time to turn your clocks back
one hour!!!**



ZINGO TAPES

The Zingo Receipt Rebate Program is still going strong! In September, we received a check for \$190.34, bringing our year-to-date total to \$622.07. Thanks to all in our congregation and our community who contribute to this very special fund raiser.



FOOD FOR CAP



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

peanut butter and jelly,
spaghetti noodles and soups
pasta sides and tuna fish
canned vegetables

Volunteers Needed - We still have positions open for volunteers who are capable of providing an overview to our food closet program and help with crisis alleviation. This will be someone who is capable of dealing with clients on a one-on-one basis. You can choose as many hours per week as you would like. Come and reward yourself by gaining knowledge and self-satisfaction while providing services to those in need through our **Community Action Program**.

New Program - CAP will be implementing a new program to help people who receive food assistance learn how to prepare and serve food. This program is being developed in conjunction with the Delaware Food Bank. Both of our organizations are seeking to improve the nutrition and health of the clients that we serve. CAP is in need of the following items to help make this program successful:

Pot holders, cooking utensils, eating utensils, dish towels, a toaster, pots and pans, a blender, a crock pot, small chairs, an island with wheels, and an electric fry pan with a see-through lid.

WESLEY TOWER BANKS

September 2010 \$98.93

Thanks to everyone for remembering to bring your filled banks to church the first Sunday of each month. Our total to date for 2010 is \$944.99. Remember to pick up an empty bank as you leave the altar area on Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.



TOO MANY CALENDARS?????

If you are receiving more 2010 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.

MISSION TREE



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



Friday, October 15
9 AM – 4 PM

Saturday, October 16
8 AM – 2 PM

HOLIDAY TASTING TEA POSTPONED

The "Holiday Tasting Tea" scheduled on November 6 has been postponed. It will be held at a later date.

Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, October 16 – 9 AM
"The Well"

St. Thomas More Christian Academy
Training event sponsored by the Pen-Del
Conference Vision Team

Saturday, October 30 – 9 AM
Asbury UMC in New Castle
District Conference

Tuesday, November 2 – 7 AM to 8 PM
General Election
Voting at RPUMC

Wednesday, November 17 – 7 PM
RPUMC
2010 Charge Conference

Sunday, November 21 – 4 PM
Joint Thanksgiving Service/Covered Dish
Place TBD

YE OLDE SHOPPE

Ye Olde Shoppe will be closed on Thursday, September 30, Saturday, October 2 and Thursday, October 7 to get ready for the Holiday season. The Shoppe will reopen on Thursday, October 14 with lots of new merchandise, especially items for the holidays. If you can't stop in during the week, we hope to see you the first Saturday of each month. Come, browse and shop. There are special treasures for you, your family or your friends.



I would like to thank Pastor Tom for his visit before my surgery and for his calls and concern afterward. I also would like to thank everyone for your phone calls and cards and for the lovely bouquet of flowers I received.

Anna Mae Shewbrooks

HALLOWEEN BLOCK PARTY



On October 31st our youth group will be hosting a Halloween Block Party in the parking lot between the parsonage and the church from 5:30 to 7 PM. There will be car trunks full of candy, loads of snacks, goodie bags, and great music for the whole family! Come out during trick-or-treating time in Richardson Park and join us for a relaxed, fun and safe time for kids of all ages.



KID'S KORNER

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.

Preschool – The preschool class is working through the Lord's Prayer. We're discovering that God "Listens," God "Provides," God "Forgives," God "Protects," and God "Rules."

Grades 4 thru 8 will finish their unit on Relationships talking about helping others (what if someone needs something from me?). They'll begin examining faith questions studying Isaiah 25:1, learning that God is eternal (where did God come from?); God is always with us (how can God be everywhere?); God is in control (why does God let bad things happen?); and God is holy (is there anything God can't do?).

Grades 9 thru 12 will be continuing using a course study called "Dark and Disturbing Stories from the Bible" learning about "Deadly Force, the Sequel" (Judges 4:1-10, 14-24); "Who Wants to be Famous" (1 Kings 10:23-25; 11:1-13; "The Trickmeister" (2 Kings 6:8-23); "Face-off" (2 Chronicles 26:9-23); and "Extreme Makeover" (many passages in Job).

PreK/K – Sarah Pasmore

Grades 1 thru 3 – Marlene Johnson, Michelle Anderson, and Donna Chambers

Grades 4 thru 8 – Rob Anderson and Joe Tucker

Grades 9 thru 12+ – Kristi J. Doughty and Annette Ott





RICHARDSON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Kids Café Mission Statement

Kids Café is a structured after-school Christian ministry committed to providing homework assistance, educational enrichment and recreational activities for the children of our community in kindergarten through 6th grade.

Kids Café is set to begin another exciting year at RPUMC on Thursday, October 21, 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. and we would love for your children to participate.

Our goal is to enable each participant to enjoy recreation and special programming along with the all important homework tutoring component.

Please complete the registration and Medical Authorization forms and give them to Marlene Johnson or bring them to Kids Café on Thursday, October 21. If you have any questions about this year's program, please call Marlene Johnson at 328-5806 or Janet Dickerson at 494-5247.

KIDS CAFÉ

REGISTRATION FORM - 2010-2011

Student's Name: _____

Birth Date: ____ / ____ Age: ____ Current Grade: _____

What School Does the Student Attend? _____

Parent or Care Giver Name: _____

Address: _____

An emergency phone or cell phone number is an absolute must!

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

If your child will be unable to arrive at Kids Café by the 3:30 p.m. starting time due to school location or dismissal time, please advise the expected arrival time.

Time _____ Parent/Guardian Signature _____

All children must be picked up promptly at 6:00 p.m. We recommend you make every effort to pick up your child regardless of age. However, if you give permission for your child to walk home without adult supervision, please sign below to indicate that you accept responsibility for your child leaving on his/her own at the end of Kids Café.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please sign here if you will allow your child's photograph to be taken at Kids Café and be posted within the church building.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Kid's Café at Richardson Park United Methodist Church

**11 N. Maryland Avenue
Wilmington, DE 19804
(302) 654-0961**

Medical Authorization

Child's Name: _____

Address: _____

Emergency Person to Contact: _____ Phone: _____

I understand that in the event medical treatment is required for my child while attending Kids Café, I give permission to Pastor Tom Pasmore, Marlene Johnson and/or Janet Dickerson to secure the services of health care personnel to provide appropriate health care for my child, including anesthesia, until such time as I or the person listed above, as the emergency contact person, can be reached.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please list medical allergies, medications being taken, medical problems or other pertinent medical information _____

KIDS CAFÉ
Educational Progress Disclosure

October 2010

Dear School Principal and Classroom Teacher,

I give Marlene Johnson and/or Janet Dickerson, Kids Café representatives, permission to discuss my child's educational progress and possible instructional interventions. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Child's Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

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

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OCTOBER 2010

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Tom Pasmore, Pastor



READERS

October 3 Joe Tucker
October 10 Muriel Campbell
October 17 Sarah Pasmore
October 24 Marlene Johnson
October 31 Maria Ott

October 3 October 10
October 17 October 24
 At the Cross
October 31 October 31

ALTAR FLOWERS

Bob Ashton
Sandy Ide
Susan Watkins & Family
Dorothy Scarborough
Anna Mae Shewbrooks
Lee Powell

FLOWERS

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

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

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Please submit your articles for the
November Messenger to the Church Office by
Monday, October 11. Thank you.

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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.*