

the Messenger

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

JULY-AUGUST 2011

Phone: 302-654-0961
Fax: 302-655-7446
E-Mail: rpumc@rpumchurch.org



One day children were brought to Jesus in the hope that he would lay hands on them and pray over them. The disciples shooed them off. But Jesus intervened: "Let the children alone, don't prevent them from coming to me. God's kingdom is made up of people like these." After laying hands on them, he left. - Matthew 19:13-15 (the Message)

God sometimes works in ways that we cannot anticipate. A couple of years ago I taught a Sunday School class called *Beginnings* and, on the first Sunday that I was teaching, a man named James joined us for worship. Well, after the conclusion of worship, James asked if he could talk to me for a minute. I told him sure but that I was teaching a class and he would have to wait until after the class was over before we could talk. He said OK, and I was led by the Spirit to invite him to join us for *Beginnings*. He agreed to this as well. So, James and I joined Larry Merchant for the first meeting of Hope's new *Beginnings* class. I was a bit leery, to say the least, about having someone I didn't know in a class that I had never taught before. But, I also felt that *Beginnings* was where the Spirit wanted both James and me to be.

During our time together, there were two things that touched my heart and let me know that God was at work in that classroom. First, there was the answer to a question that caught me totally off-guard. I had asked us, "Who is Jesus to you?" And I had answered first with a very orthodox Methodist understanding of the second

person of the trinity. While it was technically accurate and specific, it was also an intellectual answer to the question and not a "gut" answer. Basically, I answered from my head and not my heart. Larry then answered the question in this way, "To me, Jesus is the only sure thing. Other things will come and go, but Jesus is always there no matter what." That answer floored me. I thought to myself, that's really it, isn't it? Jesus was not only the solid Rock, the Way, the Truth, the Life, the Alpha, the Omega, but now he was also the Only Sure Thing. That very simple statement spoke volumes to me. Larry, with these few words, had given me assurance of Jesus' place in my faith and my life.

Second, James told us about himself and how he was down on his luck, homeless, and alone. While this touched my heart, what really hit me was when he said that he had four children, two girls in New York and a boy and a girl in Florida. Because of his situation, he rarely saw them and hardly ever talked to them on the phone. This immediately made me think of my own kids. I am so blessed to have such a loving family that I see every day. In fact, I am blessed to have two families, Sarah and the kids are one, and then there's my loving church family. It assured me that God has me right where God wants me to be: Pastoring the most loving, prayerful, friendly, warm, joy-filled, Jesus-focused, faith-sharing community on the entire Eastern Shore. Because I sometimes forget this, God loves to remind me of it. James had done just that. He had given me a joy and peace that I hadn't felt in quite a while. He also made me extremely grateful for everything that God had given me. The whole experience left me feeling like what John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, may have felt after his Aldersgate experience in May 1738; an experience that was essentially responsible for launching the Methodist

movement. Not being a man who minced his words, Wesley summed up his feelings in his journal entry from May 24, 1738:

In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me that he had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death. I began to pray with all my might for those who had in a more especial manner despitefully used me and persecuted me. I then testified openly to all there what I now first felt in my heart.

I couldn't have said it better myself . . .

Have a joy-filled and peaceful summer,

Pastor Tom

* * * * *



ANOTHER DROP IN THE BUCKET

The Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference is scrambling to help those in need who have been affected by the spring storms and flooding across the South and the Midwest. The Conference is trying to assemble 500 cleaning buckets as part of this massive relief effort, and Richardson Park has agreed to be a part of this mission. Over the next two weeks, we hope to collect 1000 scouring pads and 5000 clothes pins. Would you be willing to help? You can either bring scouring pads or clothes pins to church and drop them in our collection barrel, or simply make a monetary donation. Either way, the United Methodist Committee on Relief will get the materials to where they need to be as soon as possible. Thanks in advance for your generosity to those in need.

* * * * *

HOME REPAIR MINISTRY



The home repair ministry is getting ready to kick off! We will be doing missions work right in our own back yard. If you are interested in being a

part of this new and exciting opportunity to be the hands of Christ to our neighbors, then let Pastor Tom know and we will include you in our planning.

CAP ANNUAL MEETING

CAP's Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 20 at 7 PM at Calvary Presbyterian Church. At this meeting, electors will choose people to serve on CAP's Board. Electors are people who live within CAP's service area plus others, regardless of where they live, who work in furtherance of CAP's programs. For more information or to explore possible service on CAP's Board, please call Jaime Daly at 302-428-1247.

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

For most children, summer is a time of fun and play. For others, it's a time of hunger because of the loss of free or reduced meals at school. RPUMC is stepping in to make a difference in the lives of those who are hungry by offering free lunch to children from the neighborhood during the summer. Starting June 27, every Monday through Friday at 11:30 AM, lunch will be served at Richardson Park UMC in our Fellowship Hall. To make this program a success, we need your help! Please stop by any day at 11 AM to sign up and receive training. We will be serving simple lunches with minimal food preparation time, and no experience is necessary to get started. For more information or to volunteer, call Pastor Tom at 654-0961.

NEW WORSHIP TEAM

Richardson Park and Peniel continue work on a new worship experience to be introduced in our community in the coming year, but we need help to plan and organize this new service. If you are interested in being a part of something brand new that seeks to carry the gospel out into the neighborhood, then join us on the worship planning team. We are looking for people with passion and vision for something new and exciting that will speak the Good News to the emerging generations. Just let Pastor Tom know that you are interested and he will get you involved.

YOUTH GROUP EVENTS JULY AND AUGUST

- **July** **Cookout at Beth and Ryan Warfel's Date TBD**
- **August** **Pool Party at Dave and Sandy Swain's Date TBD**

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES COMING THIS FALL!!

Part of our walk of faith is a fervent and vital relationship with the Word of God. As we understand the Bible, we begin to understand God's call on our lives. This fall there will be five different opportunities to build community through Bible Study. These include the following:

Shor-Term *Disciple* Studies

Monday evenings at 6 PM
Friday mornings at 10 AM

We will be looking at five different five-six week studies which will include: *The Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, Other Religions, I & II Samuel, the Mystics, and I & II Corinthians. The class will be meeting weekly from September through the end of May and will be led by pastors from the various churches involved, including RPUMC, St. James, and Peniel. Since both classes will cover the same topics, you are welcome to come to either one. Locations will rotate through the various churches.

FaithQuest

Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 PM at RPUMC

Starting this September, Pastor Tom will be leading an 18-week study on leadership in the church. FaithQuest is a Bible Study unlike any other! It seeks to shift the paradigm of our understanding of Jesus' ministry and God's work in the world. Structured like a Disciple study, FaithQuest invites participants to explore a call to leadership through Bible study focused on the Gospel of Luke, the Acts of the Apostles, the Epistle to the Ephesians, and some of John Wesley's best sermons. If you have interest in applying Biblical principles to real life situations, then FaithQuest is for you.

Wesley Bible Study

Sunday mornings at 9 AM in the Lounge

This class meets weekly before worship and is an excellent opportunity to dig deeper into God's Word. Led by various instructors, the class explores a variety of topics. All are welcome.

The Gospel of John

Sunday mornings at 9 AM in Fellowship Hall

Pastor Tom will lead a short-term *Disciple* study on the Gospel of John starting in September. This 11-week course will look at the portrayal of Jesus depicted in John and its impact for our world.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Joey Davis	7/1
Diane Maloney	7/2
Tom Pasmore	7/2
George Reinert	7/5
Joe Tucker	7/5
Bob Collins	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
Bill Martin	7/17
Ashley Arms	7/18
Marie Cloud	7/18
Nancy Perugini	7/18
Alysha Maybroda	7/19
Dixie Sease	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
Ruth Taylor	8/11
Donna Chambers	8/15
Carol Hopkins	8/15
Chad Hughes	8/15
Carol Puelo	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
Lisa Martin	8/25
Natalie Parks	8/27
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:

Cereal, oatmeal, boxed potatoes, boxed sides, peanut butter, jelly, peas and beans and non-perishables.



WESLEY TOWER BANKS

June 2011

\$83.28

Thanks to everyone for remembering to bring your filled banks to church the first Sunday of each month. Our total to date for 2011 is \$492.01. Remember to pick up an empty bank as you leave the altar area on Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.

A MOMENT TO REFLECT

**Jesus had no servants, yet they called Him Master.
Had no degree, yet they called Him Teacher.
Had no medicines, yet they called Him Healer.
Had no army, yet kings feared Him...
He won no military battles, yet He conquered the world.
He committed no crime, yet they crucified Him.
He was buried in a tomb, yet He lives today.
Feel honored to serve such a Leader who loves us.**

Larry T. Hedges 1st Sgt U.S. Marine Corps Retired

Submitted by our Lay Leader, Kathy Russell



IN CASE OF EMERGENCY (ICE) FOR YOUR CELL PHONE

Apparently there is a standard procedure that paramedics follow at the scene of an accident when they come across your cell phone. That's where the ICE Campaign comes in.

We all carry our cell phones with names and numbers stored in its memory, but nobody other than ourselves knows which of these numbers belong to our closest family members or friends.

If we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our cell phone but wouldn't know who to call. Yes, there are hundreds of numbers stored, but which one is the contact person in case of an emergency??? Hence, the "ICE" campaign.

The concept of "ICE" is catching on quickly. It is a method of contact during emergency situations. As cell phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the number of a contact person or persons who should be contacted during an emergency under the name "ICE" (In Case of Emergency).

The idea was thought up by a paramedic who found that when he went to the scenes of accidents, there were always cell phones with patients, but they didn't know which number to call. He, therefore, thought that it would be a good idea if there was a nationally recognized name for this purpose. In an emergency situation, emergency service personnel and hospital staff would be able to quickly contact the right person by simply dialing the number you have stored as "ICE."

For more than one contact name, simply enter ICE1, ICE2 and ICE3. A great idea that will make a difference!

MUSIC NOTES

Ella de Courcelle, Director



This is an article on "The Hymnal" that I find fascinating that was written by my graduate school mentor, organ teacher and dear friend, Paul Jordan.

“On The Hymnal” -- by Dr. Paul Jordan

What a wondrous thing is our hymnal! -- and are, for that matter, other fine hymnals.

Some of my happiest hours are spent exploring the hymnal, free-associating, as it were, from one hymn to another and, also, seeking out fascinating, untried ground. Have you considered -- though they are all in the form of hymns -- how many kinds of music are encompassed in this one book? Without attempting a comprehensive catalogue, I will mention the categories of Medieval chant, Renaissance polyphony, Baroque harmony, the Classical style (e.g., of Haydn), the styles of mid-to-late Romanticism, of spirituals and gospel, a modicum of more and less dissonant Euro-American Modernism, "ethnic" (Hispanic, Chinese, Korean, African, Indian) -- and American folk -- melodies, then: patriotic songs -- including even the tunes of present-day British, German / Austrian and former Russian national anthems . . . all this -- and Christmas carols, too.

It would be interesting to go through the 700-odd hymns to ascertain how many of them one actually knows -- I suspect a quite small percentage . . . And, let me be frank, it will -- forever -- stay that way unless we can develop a greater sense of curiosity and adventure in our hymnody. It goes counter to the intentions -- the beneficent visions and longings -- of the compilers of such a magnificent resource to use it to pluck out, repeatedly, the same old, and few, reassuringly familiar hymns -- though some of these are indeed great and important -- to the exclusion of the many other potentially stimulating, challenging, and revealing ones that "subsist" just next to them.

How can we become more hymnologically conscientious, broaden our horizons and joyously expand our hymn culture, our collective and personal liturgical repertoires? I do not know 'the' answer to this question (many responses have been offered and tried around the world) -- but raise it to encourage pondering by all readers. Certainly our choir, if/when there are enough singers, can help significantly in imparting and leading new hymns. Another thought that comes to mind -- as a way to keep the hymn-'pot' boiling -- would be for us to consider, say, three services per year, each consisting entirely of (ca. 12?) hymns -- with all verses, of course! In one the selections would, optimally, come from the congregation (via your prior written requests), another would consist of the Minister's choices, and selections for the third would emanate from the Organist/Choir Director. Perhaps the Worship Committee will consider both the broad questions and specific proposal I've tendered here.

* * * *



Paul Jordan is an organist, conductor, composer. He was born in New York City and educated in the USA, Germany and Cuba. Paul holds degrees from Yale University, the State Music Academy in Frankfurt am Main, and the American Conservatory (Chicago). His organ teachers were Helmut Walcha, Arthur Poister and Charles Krigbaum. He himself taught for two decades in the music department at Binghamton University (of the State University of New York system), where he is now a Professor Emeritus. {I met Paul at Tabernacle UMC in Binghamton and went on to study with him under the Edwin Link -- of "Link Trainer" fame -- graduate organ assistantship.}

Concert tours have taken Paul Jordan, who also held a Solo Recitalist's Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, to more than a hundred cities worldwide, with concert venues including the Freiburg and Vienna Cathedrals, the Leipzig Gewandhaus, the State Playhouse in Berlin, the Oregon Bach Festival, and the Barbican Centre in London. One of his recordings was nominated by the German Phono Academy for the Deutscher Schallplattenpreis (the German Grammy).

2011 Summer Lunch Program



Richardson Park United Methodist Church

**Serving Lunch
11:30a—12:30p
Monday through Friday
Starting on June 27**

**Questions, please call the
church at 654-0961**

- Located at 11 N Maryland Ave in the Richardson Park neighborhood.
- Open to anyone under the age of 19.
- Lunch served every Monday through Friday until August 19, except July 4.
- Occasional activities for the kids.
- Other summer programs available for kids.

August 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	2 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	3 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	4 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	5 11 AM Soup Kitchen 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	6 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe Wedding
7 9 AM Wesley Sunday School Class 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School 11:30 AM Education Mtg.	8 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	9 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	10 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	11 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	12 11 AM Soup Kitchen 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	13
14 9 AM Wesley Sunday School Class 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School 11:30 AM Trustees Mtg.	15 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	16 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	17 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	18 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	19 11 AM Soup Kitchen 11:30 AM Summer Lunch Program	20
21 9 AM Wesley Sunday School Class 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School 11:30 AM Council Mtg.	22 1:30 PM UMW Unit Meeting	23	24	25 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe	26 11 AM Soup Kitchen	27
28 9 AM Wesley Sunday School Class 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Joint Worship Service and Cookout	29	30	31	8:15 PM AA Meeting		

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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Wilmington, DE
Permit No. 162

the Messenger

JULY-AUGUST 2011

Return Postage Guaranteed
Address Service Requested

Office Phone: (302) 654-0961 Office Hours: 9 AM-1 PM T-F FAX #: 655-7446
Parsonage Phone: (302) 652-6168 E-Mail: rpumc@rpumchurch.org
Tom Pasmore, Pastor



READERS

July 3	Ed Ide
July 10	Kristin Fleming
July 17	Kathy Russell
July 24	Linda Keffer
July 31	Joan Stadelman
August 7	Tod Mitten
August 14	Tammy Brindle
August 21	Anna Mae Shewbrooks
August 28	Lillian Simmons

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 8. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS

July 3	Ruth Gibney
July 10	Harold and Shirley Ritter
July 17	Phyllis Bowman
July 24	Shirley Roberts
July 31	Lee Powell
At the Cross	Roger Longest
At the Cross	Cliff and Muriel Campbell
August 7	Richard and Mary Sutor
August 14	Joan Stadelman
August 21	Lynn Lafferty
At the Cross	Jay and Pat Cummings
August 28	Joint Service at RPUMC

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.

