

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
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On that same day two of Jesus' followers were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking to each other about all the things that had happened. As they talked and discussed, Jesus himself drew near and walked along with them; they saw him, but somehow did not recognize him. Jesus said to them, "What are you talking about to each other, as you walk along?" They stood still, with sad faces. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only visitor in Jerusalem who doesn't know the things that have been happening there these last few days?" "What things?" he asked. "The things that happened to Jesus of Nazareth," they answered.

- Luke 24:13-19a (The Good News Translation)

There are a number of Walt Disney movies that I could watch over and over again. I think the reason that I love them so much is that they seem fresh and new each time I put them in the DVD player. One of my all-time favorites is the orchestral classic *Fantasia*, which has the power to entrance me with the vivid richness of both the music and the animation. I just love it. The rest of my family tolerates the film, but I feel this magnetic pull to *Fantasia* that I almost can't describe. It touches me at a level that is much deeper than I had anticipated the first time I saw this movie twenty years ago.

One of my favorite parts is at the end of the film where Disney has contrasted, to use his words, "the sacred versus the profane" in the last musical scene. It begins with the score from *Night on Bald Mountain* by Modest Mussorgsky overlaid on visions of demons and creatures of the dark cavorting and in frenzied abandon as they take over the earth. Then, the scene ends with these dark powers being driven away by the light of pilgrims with lanterns seeking out the rising sun to the accompaniment of *Ave Maria*

with Franz Schubert's score. I am continually amazed at the emotions that stir in my heart as I watch the darkness give way to the light.

I have this same sense of wonder when I reflect on what God did for us during Holy Week. Jesus succumbed to utter humiliation, contempt and derision. He died one of the worst deaths that I can imagine and suffered at the hands of evil. But just when we believed that evil had won, Jesus showed that the power of love can overcome anything. So, as the sun was rising on that very first Easter Sunday, Jesus was not in the tomb. Jesus was alive. Jesus is alive. The darkness can never win because it will never overcome the Light. The Light is with us always and forever.

He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

May the joy of Easter fill you again,

Pastor Tom

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY



Sunday, April 1 – 10:30 AM

HOLY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 5

12:00 PM Peniel UMC

7:00 PM Richardson Park UMC

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE



Friday, April 6 – 12:00 PM

Peniel United Methodist Church

Passion Readings

EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Sunday, April 8 - 6:30 AM

St. James Episcopal Church Cemetery

10:30 AM R.P.U.M.C. Sanctuary



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



Dawn Logullo Davis	4/1
Tessa Logullo	4/1
Paul Weaver	4/2
Ruth Rubican	4/4
Ruth Gibney	4/5
Denise Grubb	4/6
Marlin Johnson	4/6
Robert Boyd	4/8
Edward Rash	4/9
Kelly Gibbons	4/11
Joan Stadelman	4/11
Annmarie Haynes	4/12
Christopher Sutor	4/16
Rosalie Cascone	4/18
Amber Saienni	4/18
Richard Sutor	4/18
Julie Gibbons	4/19
Kiralyne Phillippe	4/20
Robert Boyd, Jr.	4/21
Katherine Burge	4/22
Robert Collins, Jr.	4/22
Howard Eney	4/23
Kathy Russell	4/23
Robert Evely, III	4/24
Linda Keffer	4/24
Trisha Parks	4/25
Shirley Delpizzo	4/27
Debbie Freebery	4/27
Daniel Swain	4/29

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



WESLEY TOWER BANKS
March 2012 \$68.71

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Our total to date is \$210.73. 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 April, Rebekah Circle will take care of the flowers in the church. All Circles will help with the Easter lilies.

Circle Meetings

Rebekah Circle Tue., April 3 7:00 pm
Lounge

Ruth Circle Wed., April 4 10:30 am

Unit Meeting: Sunday, April 15 11:30 am

Circle Leaders

Rebekah Circle Marlene Johnson
Ruth Circle Lee Powell

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

UMW LUNCHEON

Sunday, April 29 11:30 AM

The United Methodist Women are having a luncheon following the church service on Sunday, April 29. There will be homemade soups, sandwiches, salads and desserts.

Adults \$8.00
Children under 5 \$4.00

We hope you will be able to join us!

MISSION TREE



On Sundays in April, we are hanging "Easter Eggs" on our Mission Tree. Hang an "Easter Egg" 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



Good Morning!

News from Lower Sunday School!!!

In the Lower Sunday School (K-grade 3), we have been revisiting places and people Jesus met. We role-played many parables, met friends or believers of Jesus, and learned that Jesus truly loved the little children. The lessons are reinforced through songs, skits, and little books the children made to take home. Now, we are entering a most holy time - Holy Week. Again, the lessons will be supplemented in many ways so the children learn by doing and singing. Easter will be very special for us - I won't say anything else - but it will be quite an adventure. During the remainder of April, we will study things and people Jesus gave to us.

Blessings for a wonderful spring.
Ms. Marlene



This year, we have been blessed with a wonderful group of tutors, a great kitchen staff, and a terrific group of children. We have been able to create amazing crafts, make good candy and cookies, study for spelling tests, and READ!! This is due to the work of so many folks. There are only a few weeks left of Kids' Café until the fall. Time does go by too quickly!!!

Ms. Marlene

YE OLDE SHOPPE

Ye Olde Shoppe is open for browsing and shopping every Thursday from 9 AM to 1 PM. The Shoppe also will be open the first Saturday of each month from 9 AM to 1 PM. Stop in and look for some special treasures for you, your family or your friends.



FOOD FOR CAP

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

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

THRIFT STORE NEEDS..

Clean and sized clothing, detergent and bleach, paper products, diapers, sanitary items, and aluminum cans to recycle.

St. James Episcopal Church **Collecting Athletic Shoes**

St. James has a barrel for the collection of used or new athletic shoes (size 7 and up and not abused) to support the Perpetual Prosperity Pumps Foundation. Any shoes you collect can be brought to St. James on Monday through Friday between 9 AM and 12 Noon. Perpetual Prosperity Pumps Foundation will collect the shoes when the barrel is full.



Laity Enlightenment

April Fools! Have you played an April Fools' joke on anyone lately? Or maybe you've been made to feel like the fool? There are many theories about the origin and history of April Fools' Day. When I Googled it, I found that one explanation was provided by a professor of history at Boston University, Joseph Boskin. The Google entry of the origin of April Fools' Day reads, "Prof. Boskin explained that the practice began during the reign of Constantine, when a group of court jesters and fools told the Roman emperor that they could do a better job of running the empire. Constantine, amused, allowed a jester named Kugel to be king for one day. Kugel passed an edict calling for absurdity on that day, and the custom became an annual event. "In a way," explained Prof. Boskin, "it was a very serious day. In those times, fools were really wise men. It was the role of jesters to put things in perspective with humor." This explanation was brought to the public's attention in an Associated Press article printed by many newspapers in 1983. There was only one catch: Boskin made the whole thing up. It took a couple of weeks for the Associated Press to realize that they'd been victims of an April Fools' joke themselves.

I was born in the month of April and feel especially sensitive to the references made to April Fools. There were times in my life when I thought I was given an extra measure of the traits associated with fools. Without shame, I'll give you a couple examples. Have you ever been in conversation with someone and as you're speaking, you realize that what you are saying will undoubtedly be misconstrued or possibly even be offensive or hurtful to the other person. But for some unexplainable reason, you continue to talk and can't seem to stop the flow of words. In a split second the damage is done and you're left trying to lessen the impact or correct your mistake. Even after a sincere attempt at damage control, you can't stop the sensation of feeling bad and saying to yourself, "What a fool I am." There always seems to be that moment when you realize you must think before you speak. It's happened to me more times than I like to admit. But I know what that phenomenon is now, and I believe I have been improving over the years. Another good example is when we're young and we think our parents are fools and don't know anything. Soon enough we wake up older and come to understand that we were the fools to ever underestimate our parents. We may also find ourselves on the uncomfortable receiving end of that

sentiment from our own children. Ah, with age comes wisdom. Or so they say.

The dictionary definition of fool is a person who lacks judgment, sense or understanding or one who acts unwisely on a given occasion. The opposite of fool is sage or wise one. There are many quotable quotes that reference fools. Abraham Lincoln said, "It is better to remain silent and be thought a **fool** than to open one's mouth and remove all doubt." I happen to be born on the same day as William Shakespeare who said, "A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool." And a last quote from Benjamin Franklin is, "Any fool can criticize, condemn and complain and most fools do." The Bible includes many passages that add insight to the meaning of the word fool. A few such verses are listed below, but the entire book should really be read to put each verse into proper context.

Romans 1:22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became **fools**,

Psalms 92:6 Senseless people do not know, **fools** do not understand.

Psalms 107:17 Some became **fools** through their rebellious ways and suffered affliction because of their iniquities.

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: *but* **fools** despise wisdom and instruction.

Psalms 94:8 Take notice, you senseless ones among the people; you **fools**, when will you become wise?

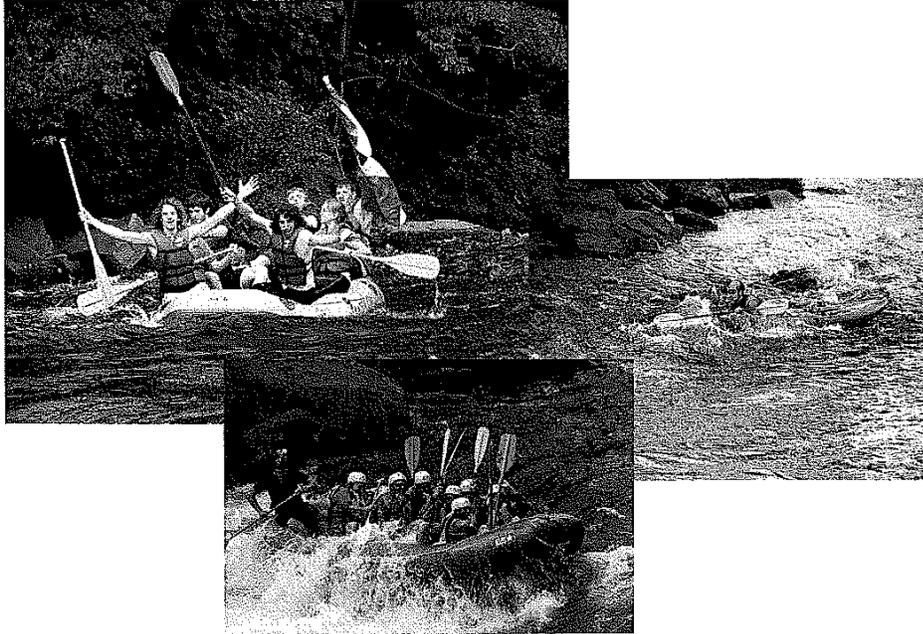
Take note of the last verse above. What might be your answer to that question? Do you consider yourself to be wise? Are there people in your life that you believe to be sages? As humans, will we ever be able to consider ourselves truly wise?

No matter how we answer these questions or define the word fool for ourselves, it's pretty clear how the Lord sees the actions of fools. I believe we can begin to transform ourselves from fools to sages with prayer, Bible study and worship. Our wisdom will grow as we grow our relationship with God and learn the wisdom of God's ways. Thankfully, He is faithful to be patient and merciful while we realize our foolish ways and allow Him to guide our steps in this life. May God walk with you this Easter.

Your Lay Leader,
Kathy Russell



YOUTH NEWS



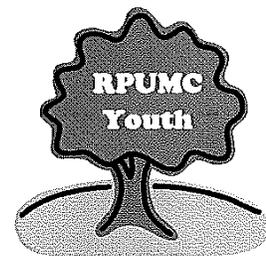
White Water Rafting

Saturday, May 26

Welcome to the world-famous Lehigh River Gorge in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains - home to one of the most popular whitewater rafting trips in the country! Here you'll discover a close-to-home adventure that feels a world away! Awesome wilderness scenery and exciting, fun-filled rapids combine for a picture-perfect outdoor day. You'll laugh. You'll scream. And you'll soak yourself silly! Absolutely no experience needed!

IMPORTANT DATES

- April 1 —
Regular Youth
Group at 5:30pm
- April 8 — HAPPY
EASTER!! (No
Youth Group)
- April 13-15 — Girls'
Chrysalis Weekend
- April 15 —
Regular Youth
Group at 5:30pm
- April 22 —
Regular Youth
Group at 5:30pm
- April 27-29 — Boys'
Chrysalis Weekend
- April 29 —
Regular Youth
Group at 5:30pm
- May 6 —
Regular Youth
Group at 5:30pm
- May 26 — White-
water Rafting trip
to the Poconos



PIE SALE
Sponsored by the Mission Committee
Richardson Park United Methodist Church
Corner of Maryland and Matthes Avenues

PICK-UP DATE!!
Friday, April 27
2 PM - 5:30 PM

PIES - 10" DEEP DISH - \$10.00

Apple	_____ Qty.	\$ _____
Cherry	_____ Qty.	\$ _____
Coconut Custard	_____ Qty.	\$ _____
	Total	\$ _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NO. _____

ALL ORDERS ARE PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

Please submit your order by Monday,
April 23 by contacting:

Bob Evely at 528-0509
Marlene Johnson at 328-5806
Sandy Swain at 994-9539
Church Office at 654-0961

April 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Palm Sunday 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Worship Team 5:30 PM Youth Group	2 6 PM Discipleship Exp.	3 7 PM Rebekah Circle 8 PM AA Meeting	4 10 AM Ruth Circle 7:30 PM NA Meeting	5 Holy Thursday 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch Thursday - RPUMC 12 PM Worship - Peniel No Kids Café 7 PM Worship - RPUMC 8:15 PM AA Meeting	6 Good Friday 11 AM Free Lunch Friday - Peniel 12 PM Passion Readings - Peniel	7 Easter Vigil 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 7 PM Easter Vigil - St. James Episcopal Church
8 Easter 6:30 AM Sunrise Service - St. James 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship	9 6 PM Discipleship Exp.	10 8 PM AA Meeting	11 6:30 PM FaithQuest 7:30 PM NA Meeting	12 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch Thursday - RPUMC No Kids Café 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	13 Girls Chrysalis Weekend 10 AM Discipleship Exp. 11 AM Free Lunch Friday - Peniel	14 Girls Chrysalis Weekend
15 Girls Chrysalis Weekend 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Education Mtg. 11:30 AM Trustees Mtg. 11:30 AM UMW Unit Mtg.	16 6 PM Discipleship Exp.	17 8 PM AA Meeting Meeting	18 Extension Reserved 7:30 PM NA Meeting	19 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch Thursday - RPUMC 3:30 PM Kids Café 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	20 10 AM Discipleship Exp. 11 AM Free Lunch Friday - Peniel	21
22 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Council Mtg. 5:30 PM Youth Group	23 6 PM Discipleship Exp.	24 Fellowship Hall Reserved - Presidential Primary 8 PM AA Meeting	25 7:30 PM NA Meeting	26 Kitchen and Fellowship Hall Resv. 11 AM Free Lunch Thursday - RPUMC 3:30 PM Kids Café 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	27 Kitchen and Fellowship Hall Res. Boys Chrysalis Weekend 10 AM Discipleship Exp. 11 AM Free Lunch Friday - Peniel 2 PM - 5:30 PM Pie Pick-up	28 Fellowship Hall Res. Boys Chrysalis Weekend
29 Fellowship Hall Res. Boys Chrysalis Weekend 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM UMW Lunch 5:30 PM Youth Group	30 6 PM Discipleship Exp.	8 PM AA Meeting	7:30 PM NA Meeting	8:15 PM AA Meeting	2 PM - 5:30 PM Pie Pick-up	2 PM - 5:30 PM Pie Pick-up

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

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“THE MESSENGER” APRIL 2012

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



LAY READERS

April 1	Jen Fitzgerald
April 8	Linda Keffer
April 15	Bob Collins
April 22	Suzy Price
April 29	Rob Anderson

FLOWERS

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

Please submit your articles for the May Messenger to the church office by Friday, April 12. Thank You.

ALTAR FLOWERS

April 1	Jim and Cheryl Chilcutt
April 8	EASTER LILIES
April 15	Lynn and Bryant Lafferty
At the Cross	Clyde and Carolyn Nafzinger
April 22	Jerry & Joyce Toy
April 29	Available

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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.