

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
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"And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers (the community of faith) in Macedonia and in Achaia."

- 1st Thessalonians 1:7 (NRSV)

Community. It is a difficult word to define. While Webster's tells us that community is a unified body of individuals, it has come to mean so much more. Just about any grouping of people has come to mean community. So we live in the community of Richardson Park. We are members of a community of faith. We could be part of a school community or a community gathering at the senior center. It is a hard word to pin down.



RPUMC the community that it is? How do I fit into our church? It is easy to say that Jesus is the reason that we are all here, and while it is a true statement, what is the glue, beyond that provided by the Holy Spirit that holds us together? And how do I help others in Richardson Park or beyond get attached to and stuck in the same glue that binds us? It is a question that has been running through my brain for the last several months. What is this strange concoction of faith, friendship,

identity, love, peace, joy, Holy Spirit, intimacy, mission, and commitment that makes our church work?

Joseph R. Myers is no stranger to community. He is a Christian, a church member, a husband, a father, a consultant, an author, and someone who thinks about community a lot. He says this in his 2003 book entitled, *The Search to Belong*, "Community is a complex creature." The things that pull us together into communities are as broad and varied as we are, Myers tells us. Just as Joe Myers is part of twelve different communities, we are also a part of a vast number of different communities. The questions that I always find myself asking are, "What makes these communities viable, in other words, what gives them life? How do I fit into each one of these communities?"

I would love to hear what you think about when RPUMC comes to mind. I would love to hear what makes this church the place that you want to be. How can we connect with others and invite them into this community of faith that we share?

Seeking God's grace in community,
Pastor Tom

A community of faith is no different from any other. The questions are exactly the same. What makes



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

André Burgos	9/1
Jim Durkee	9/1
Tyler Hughart	9/2
Alanis Stout	9/2
Jean Van Vliet	9/4
Meghan Logullo	9/5
Ed Ide	9/6
Maggie Painter	9/6
George Brittingham	9/7
Bob Gamble	9/7
Richard Locke	9/7
Molly Mucha	9/7
Madison Mucha	9/10
Sami Davidson	9/12
Lillian Simmons	9/12
William Crozier	
9/13	
Karen Davis	9/15
Patt Jones	9/15
Annette Ott	9/16
Patricia Pugh	9/17
Sharon Wright	9/17
Mark Cummings	
9/18	
John Pruitt	9/20
Charles Simpson	9/21
Alvretta Crozier	9/22
Marlene Johnson	9/22
Katelyn Carlson	9/25
Kristen DelCampo	9/25
Matthew Logullo	9/25
Mildred Reinert	9/25
Mary Heckler	9/26
Katelynn Thomas	9/27
Robert Swain	9/28
Christopher Bowen	9/29
Pat Cummings	9/30
Amy Przywara	9/30

Note: If your name is not listed on our birthday calendar, please call the church office at 654-961. Thank you.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

In September, Ruth Circle will take care of the flowers in the church.

Circle Meetings

Rebekah Circle	Tue., September 4 7:00 p.m. – Church Lounge
Ruth Circle	Wed., September 5 10:00 a.m. – Church Lounge

KOINONIA FELLOWSHIP

Splish, Splash! The Koinonia met at Dave and Sandy Swain's house on Sunday, July 22. There was a good deal of joyful activity in the pool, as well as friendly conversation among the land lovers who occupied the porch. As always, we enjoyed a delightful Potluck Lunch - trying out some new recipes as well as some old favorites. A short productive meeting was held, led by our Vice President Brenda Tucker. It was agreed to send \$300 to the Camp Pecometh Alumni to help with expenses that they incur in sprucing up the old Chapel on site. The dates of October 5 and 6 were set for our Giant Fall Indoor/Outdoor Yard Sale. It was agreed to close the Shoppe for the Labor Day holiday weekend. Our next meeting will be held on Friday, September 14 at 7 PM in the Extension.



CHANCEL BELLS AND CHOIR SCHEDULE

Regular bell and choir rehearsals will resume on Thursday, September 8. Bells will begin at 6:15 p.m. and choir will start at 7:00 p.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



MISSION TREE

On Sundays in September, we will be hanging **Apples** on our Mission Tree. Hang an “apple” on the tree in honor or memory of someone special to you. Minimum donation is \$1.00. Our tree is located in the Extension.



WESLEY TOWER BANKS

June 2012 \$ 44.21

July 2012

\$ 95.67

Thanks to everyone for remembering to bring your filled banks to church the first Sunday of each month. Our total to date for 2012 is \$579.76. Remember to pick up an empty bank as you leave the altar area on Communion Sunday. **AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.**



FOOD FOR OUR COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM (CAP)

The Food Bank is out of items that CAP is in need of to feed their clients. The items are as follows:

**Cereals, Tuna, Canned Meats,
Pancake Mix and Syrup,
Peanut Butter and Jelly,
Crackers of all kinds and Mini
Crackers,
Ketchup, Mustard and
Spaghetti.**

Your donations are very much appreciated!

Don't forget to bring food for CAP the first Sunday of each month.

CROP WALK **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7**

The Crop Walk will begin at Peniel UMC. More information will be in our weekly Worship Bulletins.



Thank you for all of your prayers, cards and gifts since June 12, 2012 as I am recovering from surgery and a broken rib. Your kindness is very much appreciated.

Pat Pugh

I would like to thank everyone for the flowers, cards and prayers that I received during my surgery. Also, I would like to thank the UMW for the wonderful prayer shawl. It is warm and comforting. I would appreciate it if you would continue to prayer for me as I go forward with a treatment plan. I appreciate your many kindnesses.

Bruce Workman

**RICHARDSON PARK
COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM (CAP)
ANNUAL MEETING
Tuesday, September 18 7 PM
Richardson Park UMC**

CAP's Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 18 at 7 PM. At this meeting, new members will be inducted into CAP's Board. For more information or to explore possible service on CAP's Board, please call CAP at 302-428-1247 or RPUMC's church office at 302-654-0961.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM DRIVE
RICHARDSON PARK ELEMENTARY**



The kids of RPUMC encourage you to please bring donations of either new or gently used clothing to the church over the next couple of weeks to support families and kids in our neighborhood who need help with school uniforms. We will be receiving donations through September 9.

We are seeking the following:

Polo Shirts or Button Down Shirts
(Light Blue, Navy, or White)

Pants, Walking Shorts, Skirts, Skorts, or Jumpers
(Navy or Khaki)

Sweaters/Sweatshirts
(Light Blue, Navy, or White)

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!

YE OLDE SHOPPE

Ye Olde Shoppe is open on Thursdays between 9 AM and 1 PM, and on the first Saturday of each month from 9 AM to 1 PM. 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.

Please note: The Shoppe will not be open on Saturday, September 1.



TOO MANY CALENDARS?????

If you are receiving more 2013 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.

TYG KICK-OFF

Sunday, September 9 5:30 PM



JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, September 2, 2012

St. James Episcopal Church 10:00 AM



Peniel UMC, RPUMC and St. James Episcopal Church will hold a joint service on Sunday, September 2 at 10:00 a.m. at St James Episcopal Church. A covered dish will follow the service. Hot dogs, hamburgers, ice and paper products will be supplied by the churches. Please bring a covered dish, dessert or beverage to share. We hope to see you there!

KIDS' KORNER



Hi everyone! Summer Sunday School has come to a close. Our "Bible Detectives" have filled their journals with weekly Bible verses and illustrations. We discovered God gives each of us clues which show how to live and treat one another. Our weekly discussions (quite lively at times) and games stressed God's clues for living. The nursery joined us each week for a few favorite songs such as, "Jesus Loves me," the "Bible," "Deep and Wide," and other selections. Have a wonderful autumn!!

P.S. Regular session Sunday School starts on Sunday, September 9 at 9 AM.

Blessings from Ms. Marlene

Disciple Bible Study

Sunday mornings at 9 AM in Fellowship Hall

Pastor Tom will lead a Disciple 1 study, starting with Genesis and ending with Revelation, beginning in September. This 35-week course will cover almost the entire Bible over the course of the year. This study will take you places that you may never have been in Scripture.

Discipleship Experiences

Friday mornings at 10 AM

We will be looking at five different five-six week studies that focus on both Scripture and tradition. 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. Locations will rotate through the various churches. They will begin at Peniel on Friday, September 7. At that time, schedules will be handed out.



FREE LUNCH THURSDAY AT RPUMC

Don't forget our "Free Lunch Thursdays" at RPUMC from 11 AM to 1 PM in Fellowship Hall. This ministry is geared to feed both body and soul by providing nourishing lunches and an opportunity to share the love of Jesus. Please join us as we come together for fellowship and to enjoy a delicious lunch.

If you would like to volunteer to help prepare, serve and clean up, please call the church office.

Violence and Mental Illness

By Rev. Constance Hastings, MSCC, NCC
Daybreak Counseling Services, Inc.

“He healed people who had every kind of sickness and disease...And whatever their illness and pain...he healed them all.” Matthew 4:23b-24 (NLT)

This summer our news media has all too often reported details of innocent persons in safe places being gunned down. The killing of twelve people in Aurora, Colorado by James Holmes will be scrutinized for months to come. Whereas the responsibility of what has been called one of the worst mass killings in our nation’s history must remain on Holmes, questions linger as to what could have been done to prevent it. Details indicate that Holmes was suffering from mental illness. His isolation from people and academic problems also were factors in his mental state. For whatever reasons we may never fully understand, effective help was not accessed. The result was tragic.

It must be emphasized as Mike Fitzpatrick, Executive Director of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill has stated, “generally the likelihood of violence from people with mental illness is low,” a report affirmed by the U.S. Surgeon General. But the stigma against mental illness is strong, making it so very difficult for persons to find help or support in getting it.

Though it is often denied, the facts from The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) state that about half of adults in America will develop a mental illness during their lifetime. One in four adults experiences a mental disorder in any given year, and one in seventeen lives with a serious mental illness like schizophrenia, major depression or bipolar disorder. These persons are our spouses and children, live in our neighborhoods, attend our churches. Yet a new report from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) indicates that only 40 percent of adults with serious mental illness receive any treatment.

Recognizing there is a problem is always the first step but can also be the hardest. Persons sometimes report when diagnosed with a mental illness, their feelings are akin to grief, giving up or losing a part of whom they think they are. It is not unusual for persons then to self-medicate with alcohol or substance abuse. Here the Surgeon General has pointed out the risk of violence among individuals with mental illness increases to some degree in the

case of substance abuse or psychosis, a symptom which typically involves a “break with reality” through paranoia, hallucinations or delusions. Fitzpatrick goes on to report social withdrawal may precede such breaks. Other early warning signs of psychosis, particularly in the year leading up to the break, may include a worrisome drop in academic or job performance, trouble thinking clearly or concentrating, suspiciousness or uneasiness with others, a decline in self-care or personal hygiene, increased sensitivity to sights or sounds, mistaking noises for voices, unusual or overly intense new ideas, and/or strange new feelings or having no feelings at all.

At this time of year when young persons are leaving home for college or the military, it is also important to note that young adults in their 20s are the most common age group to experience the first onset of psychosis. Immediate family members, who usually are most aware of changes in behavior of a loved one, play a less central role at this time, particularly if a person has moved to another city or state, such as to attend college or graduate school.

Psychosis is significant but with treatable many people recover from a first episode of psychosis and never experience another one. Most importantly regardless of whether or not violence is a concern, the first step is to recognize warning signs of all kinds of mental illness and to reach out to a person who may be in trouble.

Throughout the Gospels, we read of both the people that Jesus healed and the people that brought them to Him. Sometimes, healing cannot happen without others to carry the least, the last, and the lost. It is no different with mental illness. God tells us to help them get help.

Daybreak Counseling Services is a nonprofit clinical pastoral counseling agency that not only addresses the presenting issue or problem but also allows for the inclusion of spirituality within sessions. It is supported through payments determined on a sliding scale basis, private grants, and individual donations. Rev. Constance Hastings, a nationally certified counselor and United Methodist deacon, sees clients at St. Paul’s and Atonement United Methodist Churches with both day and evening hours. Call 302-745-1042 for information or to make an appointment.



**RICHARDSON PARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
11 NORTH MARYLAND AVENUE
302-654-0961**

**YARD SALE AND
YE OLDE SHOPPE**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5
9 AM – 4 PM**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6
8 AM – 2 PM**

CLOTHING, LINENS, KITCHENWARE, ELECTRONICS, BOOKS

TOYS, FURNITURE, LAMPS, PICTURES

GOODIES SERVED DAILY

**HOT DOGS, CHILI, HOMEMADE BAKED GOODS
AND MORE!**



September 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Jt. Service – St. James Episcopal Church followed by a covered dish luncheon	3 Labor Day!	4 7 PM Rebekah Circle 8 PM AA Meeting	5 10 AM Ruth Circle 7:30 PM NA Meeting	6 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch – RPUMC 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	7 10 AM Discipleship Experience – Peniel UMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	1
9 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Education Mtg. 11:30 AM Trustees Mtg. 5:30 PM Youth Group	10	11 6 AM Primary Election – Fellowship Hall 8 PM AA Meeting	12 7:30 PM NA Meeting	13 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch – RPUMC 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	14 10 AM Discipleship Experience – Peniel UMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC 7 PM Koinonia Meeting	15
16 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM TYG Parents' Meeting 5:30 PM Youth Group	17	18 7 PM CAP Annual Mtg. 8 PM AA Meeting	19 7:30 PM NA Meeting	20 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch – RPUMC 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	21 10 AM Discipleship Experience – Peniel UMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	22
23 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Council Mtg. 5:30 PM Youth Group	24	25 8 PM AA Meeting	26 7:30 PM NA Meeting	27 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch – RPUMC 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	28 10 AM Discipleship Experience – Peniel UMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	29

30
9 AM Sunday School
10 AM Fellowship Time
10:30 AM Worship
5:30 PM Youth Group

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

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the Messenger

SEPTEMBER 2012

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Tom Pasmore, Pastor



READERS

September 2	Kristin Fleming
September 9	Jen Fitzgerald
September 16	Kristi Doughty
September 23	Roger Longest
September 30	Anna Mae Shewbrooks

ALTAR FLOWERS

September 2	Jt. Service – St. James
September 9	Sath Amara
September 16	Koinonia Class
September 23	At the Cross Barbara Sayles
September 30	Brenda & Joe Tucker Sandy Ide

FLOWERS

For the month of September, Ruth Circle is responsible for the flowers.

Please submit your articles for the October Messenger to the Church Office by Thursday, September 6. Thank you.

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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.