

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
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Greetings in the Name of our Risen Savior,
Jesus the Christ!

I have met some of you by now; however, our journey together is just beginning. Thank you for the hospitality you have shown to my husband, sister and brother-in-law and me during the week of the move...from the representative of the Trustees (Mike) who went with me on the walk-through of the parsonage, to the work of Harriet-Ann who provided me with names and contact information of many of the leaders of the church. Believe it or not, I had to use that information before I officially became your pastor. Yes, during the thunderstorm last Friday evening, we had a power failure in the parsonage. I had been here for about four hours. I learned a lot that first evening. First, if you call someone, you get results. Second, if they can't help you, they know who can. Rob Anderson came to the rescue in the storm to assure me that the power failure was that of the grid, not a tripped breaker in the home, but all was not lost. He ushered me into your well-equipped kitchen so that I could continue to cook the food that I was attempting to salvage. (That is another story.) Needless to say, all is well that ends well, and power was restored by Delmarva Power by 9:00 p.m. on Friday evening.

Moving is a good time to reflect and count blessings. You can count a lot of blessings packing and unpacking boxes. You locate items that you haven't seen in years, and you can even toss a few things that you finally

decide don't need to make the current move. Change is inevitable in our lives, but the one thing that is lasting in faith is Jesus the Christ. It is good to remember that when the movers are not living up to your expectations and it seems that all is going wrong, that God has a hand in everything. Tom and I are similar in that we had Vacation Bible School the final week of our appointments. On Sunday, June 30 you closed out and celebrated, and so did I at Mt Calvary UMC in Preston, MD. You may be asking now, Beverly where did you find God? Tuesday morning, when I arrived, a small group was about to begin a six-week study about the "Holy Spirit." I entered the room and met three women of this congregation. I was presented a welcome gift by Dixie Sease. Still looking for God? The VBS that I closed down in Preston, MD was Family Reunion Remix, with the theme Scripture, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" Joshua 24:15b. The welcome gift had that very passage in needlepoint under large print "WELCOME."

Coincidence? No! It is God reminding us that everything matters – the way you begin and the way you leave. Glenn and I feel welcome, and we are looking forward to getting to know each of you. Again, thank you for your hospitality. Together, we all serve the Lord of love, forgiveness, mercy and new beginnings.

In Christ,
Pastor Beverly



FAREWELL FROM PASTOR TOM

All of our praise rises to the One who is strong enough to make you strong, exactly as preached in Jesus Christ, precisely as revealed in the mystery kept secret for so long but now an open book through the prophetic Scriptures. All the nations of the world can now know the truth and be brought into obedient belief, carrying out the orders of God, who got all this started, down to the very last letter. All our praise is focused through Jesus on this incomparably wise God! Amen!

As you read these words, I have already left Richardson Park for Avenue UMC in Milford, and I'm trying to settle in to my new appointment. Although I am no longer your pastor, I wanted to use my last messenger article to say, "Thank you!" for everything.

It has not always been easy to pastor here in the shadow of the city of Wilmington, but you all have made this adventure well worth the occasional challenge. You have welcomed us with open arms. You have loved us and the kids. You have been the best congregation that I have ever worked with. You will always be a part of me wherever I go.

It has been a fabulous experience and I will never be able to thank you adequately. But I will have to try!

Thank you for our lovely gifts and for the opportunity to be your pastor.

Thank you for so many memories and smiles and even a few tears. Thank you for the hugs and handshakes and hymns and especially for all the food. (You know that I love food!) Thank you for being exactly who you are and putting up with me, and all my eccentricities, mistakes, failures, and forgetful moments. Keep extending grace and smiles and hugs and all the good stuff to your new pastor, Pastor Beverly.

Best wishes and Godspeed on your new journey and new adventure in Christ. I love you all!

Peace and Blessings always,

Pastor Tom



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
Nancy Perugini	7/18
Alysha Maybroda	7/19
Nancy Jaegers	7/21
Dixie Sease	7/21
Harold Follett	7/25
Daniel Gallagher	7/25
Elsie Bixler	7/26
Julia Lynch	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



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Shirl Snapp	8/1
Kathy Evelyn	8/3
Rachel Heckler	8/3
Scott Doughty	8/4
Jerry Arms	8/7
Marlin Johnson II	8/7
Benjamin Williams	8/7
Brandan Williams	8/7
Jacalyn Foraker	8/8
Sharon Panaccione	8/8
Isabella Warfel	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
Chad Hughes	8/15
Carol Puelo	8/15
Nicole Anderson	8/18
Sara Anderson	8/18
Sandy Ide	8/20
Suzy Price	8/20
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

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!

KOINONIA FELLOWSHIP

We met on Friday, June 21 at 5:30 PM for a picnic on the church grounds. The weather was perfect and, as usual, the food was fantastic! Plans are under way to take a scenic boat ride on the Wilmington River Front sometime in July (date to be announced). Also, it was decided to hold a large yard sale on Saturday, July 13 from 8 AM to 2 PM. In August, we will meet at the home of Dave and Sandy Swain on Saturday the 24th at 1 PM. Anyone who wishes may take a dip in the pool, and we will enjoy a covered-dish picnic on the porch.

AFFILIATE AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Our congregation includes faithful and valued persons who retain their professing membership in their United Methodist home church out of the area. The Discipline of the United Methodist Church, Section 227, states that upon their request that they may be enrolled as affiliate members of our church. Affiliate membership entitles them to the fellowship, pastoral care, and activities of our church including the holding of local church offices. Affiliate members are counted and reported as professing members by their home churches only. Their membership in their home church remains intact.

Similarly, a member of another denomination may request to become an associate member under the same conditions but may not become a voting member of the church council.

Mary Alice Bair, Membership Chair

WESLEY TOWER BANKS

June 2013 \$92.50

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Our year-to-date total is \$415.68. Empty banks can be picked up as you leave the altar area each Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE

SECOND MILE GIVING

Stained Glass Windows Renovation Update

A big THANK YOU to those who have contributed to this fund. I hope to see more of you give as you are able in support of this much needed major repair. Remember, no amount is too small.

Betty Swain

Upgrade Needed for Audio and Visual Equipment

RPUMC has many long-time, loyal parishioners who are now shut-ins and cannot attend our Sunday morning worship services. To accommodate these members, RPUMC has provided them with a CD and/or DVD which allows them to "attend" the services from their homes. The audio and visual equipment that was previously used is no longer functional. **WE ARE SEEKING YOUR HELP.** If you would like to make a donation to the Audio/Visual Equipment Fund, please write a check to RPUMC and note that it is for the Audio/Visual Equipment update. Checks can be dropped off at the church office or placed in the offering plates on Sunday mornings. Any amount will help and every dollar received will get us closer to our goal of \$2,000, so that we can again provide this service to our shut-in congregation. May the grace of God be with each and every one of you!

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE MADE A CONTRIBUTION. YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!

TALK AND TEA

Tuesdays, 10 AM - Lounge

Pastor Wendy will be leading a discussion group about our faith and belief in the Holy Spirit on Tuesdays beginning July 2 through August 4. Our talk will be based on the book "The Forgotten God: Reversing our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit" by Francis Chan. No pre-work or reading is required. Refreshments will be served. Please join us – drop-ins are always welcome!



MUSIC NOTES

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS – Start planning now for a fall burst of energy in our music programs. With your support and participation, we will truly be making a “joyful noise unto the Lord.”

The rehearsal schedule, starting on Thursday, September 12, will be:

CHANCEL BELLS – 6:15 pm to 7:00 pm
CHANCEL CHOIR – 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm

Our “Fall 2013” music plans include a revitalization of the Chancel Bells, and plans are under way for a special musical presentation approaching Christmas that will include both of these adult programs as well as our Sunday School students. More on this a bit later!

There are some basic requirements for joining our Chancel Bells or Choir. First, be enthusiastic and committed; second, be age 14 and up (we hope to have opportunities for those younger than 14 through our Sunday School program); third, *LOVE THE LORD AND MUSIC*. That’s it; no special skills are required otherwise and all are welcome.

The remainder of the summer will include a special appearance on July 14 by the Chorus of the Brandywine (outstanding Barbershop singers) and guests from other churches in our area. The Choir will gather at 10 a.m. to rehearse and sing an anthem on the first Sundays of August and September, and we will continue the Richardson Park Summer Hymn-Sing to start worship. So be thinking about your favorites to “shout out” each Sunday morning. Anytime you have a special request, hymn, anthem, or anything related to our music program, please share it with me. You can reach me via email: music@RPUMChurch.org or via telephone in the evenings at 302-427-8465.

Thanks, everyone and have a great summer!

Don McFarland
Director of Music

VBS – A GREAT SUCCESS!!!

What a fantastic time we had during Vacation Bible School! A special thanks goes out to all of our volunteers! Over 48 youth and helpers and 40 adult helpers attended...not to mention our wonderful congregation who spent time praying for this event. An additional thank you goes out to all those who donated food for this program. Below is a list of the businesses that donated items:

Acme
Rita’s Water Ice
Shop Rite
Stroehmann Bakery
Wal-Mart

I would like to ask each of us to take some time over the next month to praise God for the volunteers and children who attended VBS. Even though we don’t get to see these children each week, we can be involved in their lives by praying for them.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

YE OLDE SHOPPE AND MINI YARD SALE

Saturday, July 13

8 AM to 2 PM

Please join us for this special event. Come, browse and shop. There are special treasures for you, your family and your friends. The yard sale will take place in Fellowship Hall. And Ye Olde Shoppe is located across from the garage. There are many new items available. We hope to see you there!



Laity Enlightenment

The article I wrote for the May Messenger about the Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-25) received some very positive feedback. Along with this feedback came a comment that gave me pause and a reason to write this month's article as a part two. The comment, which I'll paraphrase here, was essentially that it is much easier to work on improving our character traits when times are good. If this concept is true, then wouldn't the reverse also be true? Wouldn't it be harder to concentrate any effort on bettering our self-control, patience or kindness, for example, when everything seems to be going wrong in our lives? Not only could it be harder to improve these qualities during difficult times but it can be nearly impossible when life's challenges put us in damage control mode, causing stress and anxiety. Simply attempting to prioritize and focus on the problems we can do something about takes all the strength and perseverance we have sometimes.

Let's use my mother as a brief case study. Kathryn Maude (Strickland) Jackson died in September of 1971 with cancer. By all accounts, she was a good Christian woman, a devoted daughter, wife and mother who used much of her time and talents as a servant of God at the Richardson Park United Methodist Church. At the time of her death, she had three children; Wayne 18, Donald 12 and me 10. Years later, people told me that while she was preparing for her inevitable death, she was very concerned about leaving her children motherless. She went about connecting with some of the mothers in the neighborhood whose children were our playmates and entrusted them with the care of her children as mother figures. I can't imagine how hard it must be to know that you won't see your children grow up, get married and have children of their own. But apparently that was not the most difficult challenge for my mother. She was dealing with her own personal fear of losing her faith during this time of trial. During this time of pain, worry, sadness and fear, she

knew that human nature may cause her to blame God and turn away from belief that her death at age 46 was part of God's plan. She prayed to God to help her reconcile all these feelings and prevailed, remaining faithful to the end. I ask myself, would I do as well under similar circumstances? I did gain a new appreciation for the phrase, "Keep the Faith."

We can all think of times when the hardships of life have pushed the limits of our love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. But it is how we handle each hardship that allows us to build and grow these personal character traits. So although it may be easier to consider what aspects of our nature we should work to improve when times are good, life's disappointments and difficulties prompt us to practice what needs to be improved (whether we are aware of it or not). When we're unhappy, how much harder is it to show others kindness? If we can find it in ourselves to be kind to others when we are down, that selfless act can work as a soothing balm, diminishing our own unhappiness, ultimately bringing joy to both the giver and receiver.

My grandmother used to say, "Whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger." This usually applied to our childhood illnesses, bumps and bruises, but I believe it applies to our emotional experiences as well. Trials and tribulations are a "necessary evil" to building the strength of character that helps us survive, mature and flourish as faithful believers. When times are bad, we look to God to help us and give us that strength. When times are good, let us not forget to be thankful for the many blessings that God gives to us, remembering always that God knows what is best in every situation for each one of us.

Blessings to you all,

Kathy Rogers

July 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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August 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch - RPUMC 8:15 PM AA Meeting	2 11 AM Free Lunch - Peniel UMC	3 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe
4 9 AM Wesley Class 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Worship 11:30 AM Worship Team	5	6 10 AM Talk and Tea 3 PM Alateen 8 PM AA Meeting	7 7:30 PM NA Meeting	8 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch - RPUMC 8:15 PM AA Meeting	9 11 AM Free Lunch - Peniel UMC	10
11 9 AM Wesley Class 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Worship 11:30 AM Education Mtg. 11:30 AM UMW Unit Mtg.	12	13 3 PM Alateen 8 PM AA Meeting	14 7:30 PM NA Meeting	15 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch - RPUMC 8:15 PM AA Meeting	16 11 AM Free Lunch - Peniel UMC	17
18 9 AM Wesley Class 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Worship	19	20 3 PM Alateen 7 PM CAP Board Mtg. 8 PM AA Meeting	21 7:30 PM NA Meeting	22 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch - RPUMC 8:15 PM AA Meeting	23 11 AM Free Lunch - Peniel UMC	24 1 PM Koinonia Covered- dish, pool party and meeting - The Swain's
25 9 AM Wesley Class 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Worship 11:30 AM Refreshments and Council Meeting	26	27 3 PM Alateen 8 PM AA Meeting	28 7:30 PM NA Meeting	29 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch - RPUMC 8:15 PM AA Meeting	30 11 AM Free Lunch - Peniel UMC 3 PM Wedding Rehearsal	31 4 PM Wedding

RICHARDSON PARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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WILMINGTON, DE 19804-1305

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

the Messenger

JULY-AUGUST 2013

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Beverly Lewis, Pastor



READERS

July 7
July 14
July 21
July 28

Lee Powell
Ben Brindle
Sandy Swain
Chad Hughes

August 4
August 11
August 18
August 25

Pat Cummings
Anna Mae Shewbrooks
Joe Tucker
Ed Ide

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 5. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS

July 7
July 14
July 21
At the Cross
July 28
At the Cross

Ruth Gibney
Harold and Shirly Ritter
Phyllis Bowman
Shirley Roberts
Lee Powell
Roger Longest

August 4
At the Cross
August 11
August 18
August 25

Bob Collins
Muriel Campbell
Joan Stadelman
Jay and Pat Cummings
Lynn Lafferty

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.