

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

Phone: 302-654-0961  
Fax: 302-655-7446  
E-Mail: [rpumc@rpumchurch.org](mailto:rpumc@rpumchurch.org)



Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

We have had a rather harsh winter; however, it is spring! We may have more snow, but it can't hang around for long because the earth is warming. See the crocus, see the daffodils. God in God's majesty provides for us the seasons; they mark time but they provide for us hope for the future. April is an important month for Richardson Park UMC. We are preparing for our first 'big day' of 2014. A big day is a day that we all get serious about inviting friends and family to come and attend worship with us. This big day was provided for us by our Savior, Jesus Christ. Yes, he was crucified on Friday, but he arose on Sunday, resurrected. Easter is a big day for people of faith, but it can also be a big day for persons who may not know the story, persons who may not know why we get so excited for a holy day that changes from year to year. Beginning the first Sunday in April, we will have invite cards for everyone to take and use to invite friends and family to join us on Resurrection Sunday, April 20, 2014. We have included one invite card with your newsletter. Give it to someone.

Holy week will provide opportunities for you to bring friends to a Christian Seder meal on Holy Thursday, followed by a musical offering by our chancel choir, "Lift High the Cross." These two worship experiences can help us as we celebrate God's gift for us at Easter, but it also may be a way to introduce others to the saving grace of Jesus the Christ.

We have been preparing our spirits during Lent by reading our devotional, The Lord's Prayer at Lent, worshiping every Wednesday at noon and participating in a Bible

study, "The Hole in Our Gospel" on Tuesdays. Sundays we celebrate a little Easter, being reminded of what Jesus did for each of us on the cross over 2000 years ago. Are we worthy? No, but Christ has claimed us and paid the price for our sin. We accept the gift of Christmas and that gift is exchanged for our sin at Easter. What a mighty God we serve. We have a story to tell, and there are many persons that we are with every day that don't know the story. They may have bits and pieces, but they don't understand who we are in Christ.

Make it your business to share the Good News of Jesus with someone this month. Ask them to join you on our Big Day or some other time that we gather as a faith community. Maybe your friend(s) would appreciate working in our Free Lunch ministry, or joining the choir, or helping with Vacation Bible School, helping out in Ye Olde Ole Shoppe, hanging with the Building Maintenance Group (BMGs), or sharing in the fellowship of the Koinonia Club. Unlike in years past, people who have not accepted Christ are more likely to participate in ministry first, then we can introduce them to why we do what we do and the Jesus Christ that we serve.

Our Sunday worship number is hanging between 80-95 persons, with an occasional first-time guest. Let's invite friends and family to our worship service on Easter, our big day in April, so that we can break 100. All of heaven rejoices when one person accepts Christ. Let's plan for a celebration as we extend the invitation. Come and follow Jesus, He is our Savior, He is arisen!

In Christ!  
Pastor Beverly



## 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 |
| Kiralyn Phillippe   | 4/20 |
| Robert Boyd, Jr.    | 4/21 |
| Katherine Burge     | 4/22 |
| Robert Collins, Jr. | 4/22 |
| Howard Eney         | 4/23 |
| Kathy Rogers        | 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 2014      \$58.30

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Our total to date is \$291.22. 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.

### Circle Meetings

|                |                               |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Rebekah Circle | No Circle meeting in April    |
| Ruth Circle    | Wed., April 2 10:00 am Lounge |

### Circle Leaders

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Rebekah Circle | Marlene Johnson |
| Ruth Circle    | Joan Stadelman  |

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



## COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

### Wednesdays at Noon

**April 2**

St. James Episcopal Church

**April 9**

Wilmington Church of the Brethren

***Please join the noon prayer services during Lent, followed by a light lunch.***

### 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.

## Worship Team

### The Connect Card

Thank you for completing your Connect Cards each week. Since we began using them in January, we have identified first-time guests and followed up with thank you notes. The low number of first-time guests suggests that we are not inviting - growth is related to the number of first-time guests who attend and return. Most persons, who did not grow up in the church, come to faith because a friend invited them to join them in an activity or worship. Never miss an opportunity to invite friends or family to join you in worship. Pray about it and be ready when they say yes!

### You are invited to a Christian Seder Meal

Passover and Easter are very closely linked. When you read about the upper room where Jesus gathered with his disciples, you realize that something special happened at that meal. Jesus took the bread, gave thanks and gave it to his disciples and said, "this is my body, broken for you for forgiveness of sin, take and eat" and when the supper was over, he took the cup, "this is the blood of a new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sin, drink from it all of you, and as often as you drink it, remember me." These are holy words for us. They were spoken by Jesus and they forever link our Holy Communion and the Passover meal. Jesus was our sacrificial lamb; his life was given to save us. Come and join us; there is no limit to the number who can attend; however, because it is a special meal, you will need to make a reservation no later than Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. The best way save your space is to check the box on the Connect Card. We will need readers, greeters and ushers for this special gathering as we extend hospitality to our friends and guests. Watch your Connect Card to say yes to this one-time service opportunity.

### Small group opportunities

Read the Bible in 90 days!

**Read the Bible in 90 Days** A new Bible study! This small group study will be led by Howard Eney and Glenn Lewis. The study is designed for those of you who loved the 5- and 6-week

summer school courses. Get it done types! Just think, you will have the opportunity to say I have read the Bible from cover to cover the day after you finish this study. You will join the ranks of an elite few. The start date has not been set; however, it is anticipated that this journey will begin sometime this month. Watch the monitors. The cost of the latest addition of the Bible used in the study is \$20; however grants are available. Everyone can participate. You will be required to read twelve (12) pages each day and gather once a week for discussion. No study guide; just allow the Holy Spirit of God to teach you as you grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

### ***On Being a Contagious Christian***

If you are afraid to extend the invitation to friends and family, we have the answer. The week following Easter, we will begin a series called, "***On Being a Contagious Christian.***" This six-week study will provide you with all that you need to boldly share your faith and invite friends and family to join you on your path and into a relationship with Jesus Christ. We will begin on April 29 and follow our pattern of gathering at 10:00 AM and 6:30 PM on Tuesdays in the Lounge. The participant guides will be available following worship on Easter Sunday, April 20. This small group is limited to 12 participants. Reserve your space by calling the office or check the box on your Connect Card.

### From the Directory Team

We have submitted all materials for our new Pictorial Directory. Thanks to all of you for participating and helping by supplying pictures for our activity pages, setting up our roster, and showing up for appointments for photography. We anticipate that we will have our new directory by Mother's Day.

### **YE OLDE SHOPPE**

**Ye Olde Shoppe is open for browsing and shopping every Thursday from 10 AM to 2 PM. The Shoppe also will be open the first Saturday of each month from 10 AM to 2 PM. Stop in and look for some special treasures for you, your family or your friends.**

## STAINED GLASS WINDOWS UPDATE

### KIDS' KORNER



Spring has arrived and RPUMC Sunday School has exciting things happening! We are planning special activities for Easter Sunday, such as our annual breakfast get-together...so come to Sunday School...we don't want you to miss these special times.

Preschool with Ms. Beth and friends 9:30 AM  
K-4<sup>th</sup> grade with Ms. Marlene & Ms. Brenda 9 AM  
5<sup>th</sup> grade and up with Mr. Rob and Mr. Joe 9 AM  
Adult Wesley Class 9 AM Church Lounge

### VBS News

"Weird Animals" is the theme for VBS 2014. It starts on Sunday, July 13...mark your calendars and be ready to attend, have fun, and learn about God's world. There will be a planning session for the wonderful people who are willing to volunteer. You help make VBS a great success!! This will be in April - hope to see you there.

Have a great spring!

### Koinonia Fellowship

The Koinonias met on Friday, March 21. We thoroughly enjoyed snacking on a variety of goodies. After a business meeting, which included a discussion on the plans for the upcoming Giant Semi-Annual Indoor/Outdoor Yard Sale, we broke into two groups to play dominoes. The room was filled with laughter and shouts of joy, as well as groans of dismay. Marvin Swain happily announced that he won two rounds for the first time in five years! Really now? Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 16 at 6 PM in the Extension. This will be a covered-dish dinner. Who knows what culinary delights will appear this night??? Why not plan to join us?

The work on the stained glass windows is scheduled to begin on Monday, May 5. Nidia Mezalick and her crew will lovingly clean, repair and restore these windows to their original beauty. Please keep this project in your prayers.

Many thanks to those who have so generously supported this endeavor. However, donations are still needed to pay for this restoration and should be submitted to "Richardson Park United Methodist Church" with a footnote indicating "Stained Glass Windows." This is a large undertaking and, quite honestly, we need your help to pay the bill. No amount is too small.



## INDOOR/OUTDOOR YARD SALE

Friday, April 4 10 AM – 2 PM  
Saturday, April 5 10 AM – 2 PM

Come out and shop. We have an assortment of clothing, linens, kitchenware, electronics, books, toys, furniture, lamps and pictures. Then plan to join us for lunch -- hot dogs, chili, homemade baked goods and more!

Please plan to drop off any donations before Wednesday, April 2.

Ye Olde Shoppe will be open for shopping, also.



**RPUMC MUSIC  
SPRING DATES FOR SPECIALS**

Be sure you reserve your seat for Seder and Worship for Maundy Thursday, April 17, beginning at 6:00 PM. Following a very special Seder Meal, the Chancel Choir will perform "Lift High the Cross," a musical journey for Holy Week composed by Lloyd Larson. This spiritually moving music includes familiar hymns and songs that will help us all "lift high the Cross" on Easter Sunday. Mark your calendars now for Thursday, April 17, beginning at 6:00 PM for a special meal in Fellowship Hall followed by the Easter Cantata. Call the church office to reserve a seat for the Seder and be sure to invite friends and family to join us for our musical offering, beginning at 7:30 PM.

Our Chancel Bells will offer special music on Easter Sunday, April 20, as the Prelude to our worship at 10:30 AM. Their ensemble is a joy to have in worship and they look forward to presenting special music on a regular basis.

Anyone, ages 14 and up, is always welcome to join our music program at Richardson Park. If you love to sing and are willing to commit to regular rehearsal attendance, please know you are warmly welcomed to try us out. Thursdays at 7:15 PM – we'd love to have you with us!

**SUMMER CAMP FOR YOUTH AT  
CAMP PECOMETH**

In our church family, we currently have four youth that are interested in going to camp for a week this summer. If other youth are interested in attending, please see Joe Tucker.

The major hurdle is that it costs \$500 per week for each youth to attend. Some of our families are not able to cover the cost. We have a Campership Fund, but the fund does not have enough money to support this program. I am hoping that our congregation will contribute the extra money needed so that all our youth who are interested will be able to attend this summer camp.

To contribute to this fund, please put your contribution in your weekly contribution

envelope and mark it "Special Campership Fund Contribution. This contribution will appear on your Annual Contribution Report. If you prefer to contribute cash, please see me and I will make sure it is on your annual statement. Or you can mail your contribution to the church and designate it to the Special Campership Fund.

Thank you for helping our youth have a life-changing experience at our church-related summer camp. Camp Pecometh information is located on line at [www.pecometh.org](http://www.pecometh.org) for camp selection and registration.

Joe Tucker

***HOLY WEEK***

**PALM SUNDAY**

**Sunday, April 13 – 10:30 AM**

**HOLY THURSDAY**

**Thursday, April 17 6:00 PM  
Seder Meal followed by a  
Chancel Choir Musical Journey**

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES**

**Friday, April 18  
12:00 PM - Peniel UMC  
7:00 PM – Richardson Park UMC**

***EASTER CELEBRATIONS***

**Sunday, April 20**

**6:30 AM - Sunrise Service  
St. James Episcopal Church Cemetery**

**7:30 AM - Pancake Breakfast  
Calvary Presbyterian Church**

**10:30 AM - Easter Worship  
Richardson Park UMC**



## From the Trustees

By the time you read this article, you may have already noticed a slight difference in the main parking lot. The large pine tree at the entrance was removed because it was becoming a safety hazard. Limbs had been falling off creating a potentially dangerous situation. There was also a large hollow spot that was identified by one of the arborists about 5 to 6 feet above grade that was impossible to tell how it got there or how deep it really was. At this time, we are simply grading off the area and planting grass seed.

An item that has been identified as a need is to add and improve signage in and around the building. There is no real direction on Matthes Avenue to direct or move people to the main entrance of the building. While this is not always an issue for everyone who comes here on a regular basis, there are occasions when it would be helpful for new arrivals and deliveries. Once people find their way into the building, there is also a lack of direction to help find specific areas that they are looking for. The trustees want to know if there is anyone in the audience that would like to help derive a plan and help improve this situation. If you are interested in getting involved, you can either call me (Rob Anderson) at 302-633-0201 or send an e-mail to [robanderson21@comcast.net](mailto:robanderson21@comcast.net). We really look forward to your input.

Another item you will be noticing in the near future is that in some areas we will be installing occupancy sensors. Occupancy sensors are automatic switches that will turn lights off and on. There are too many occasions when lights are being left on. By installing sensors in strategic locations, we hope to eliminate some of the waste in electricity. Don't be alarmed if you walk into a bathroom or corridor and cannot find the switch. It may have been removed.

We have had such a positive response in regards to the hearing impaired equipment that was purchased by Rich Locke that we were asked to purchase more devices. Rich has since picked up 4 more units and 20 spare ear covers. If you would like a hearing assistance device, please see one of the ushers or one of the members of the sound team and they will see you get what you need. If you are a regular user of a device, it will be designated and labeled with your name on it to ensure you feel comfortable germs are not being spread.

As always, as we move forward, if you have any questions, concerns or ideas, please don't hesitate to let one of us know.

## When I say, "I am a Christian" by Carol Wimmer

When I say, "I am a Christian"  
I'm not shouting, "I've been saved!"  
I'm whispering, "I get lost!  
That's why I chose this way".

When I say, "I am a Christian"  
I don't speak with human pride  
I'm confessing that I stumble -  
Needing God to be my guide

When I say, "I am a Christian"  
I'm not trying to be strong  
I'm professing that I'm weak  
And pray for strength to carry on.

When I say, "I am a Christian"  
I'm not bragging of success  
I'm admitting that I've failed  
And cannot ever pay the debt.

When I say, "I am a Christian"  
I don't think I know it all  
I submit to my confusion  
Asking humbly to be taught.

When I say, "I am a Christian"  
I'm not claiming to be perfect  
My flaws are all too visible  
But God believes I'm worth it.

When I say, "I am a Christian"  
I still feel the sting of pain  
I have my share of heartache,  
Which is why I seek His name.

When I say, "I am a Christian"  
I do not wish to judge  
I have no authority...

### **I only know I'm loved!**

What about you? Are you searching for inner peace and unconditional love? Are you having a difficult time finding true peace? If you would like to have a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ or if you already have a personal relationship with Christ and would like to renew your commitment to God, you can say this prayer:

*Dear Father, I need you. I acknowledge that I have sinned against you by directing my own life. I thank you that You have forgiven my sins through Christ's death on the cross for me. I now invite Christ to again take His place on the throne of my life. Fill me with the Holy Spirit as You commanded me to be filled, and as You promised in Your Word that You would do if I asked in faith. I pray this in the name of Jesus. As an expression of my faith, I thank You for directing my life and for filling me with the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Saying this prayer is the first step towards a personal relationship with Jesus, who will guide and encourage you every step of the way. If there is someone in your life who needs to know Christ, this one page could help them on their way.

This Easter, take the time to read the story in the Gospels and share it with others. Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24 and John 20 all tell the resurrection of Christ in a slightly different way but the message is the same.

**CHRIST is RISEN; HE is RISEN, Indeed!**  
Halleluiah, Praise be to God! Kathy Rogers

ALTAR EASTER LILIES

*If you would like to place a lily on the Altar for Easter, please return this form to the church office by Monday, April 7. Cost of each plant is \$8.00. Please make your check payable to Richardson Park United Methodist Church and mark "Easter Lilies."*

Number of Plants \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

(for those not living) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

(for those living) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

and Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Check/Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Shall we deliver your flower to a Church Shut-In? YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

*Please arrange to pick up your flowers immediately after the Easter worship service if they are not being delivered to a shut-in. Thank you.*



# April 2014

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY                        | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY  |
|--|-------------------------------|--|--|---|--|---|
|  |                               | <b>1 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b><br>10 AM Bible Study<br>6:30 PM Bible Study<br>8 PM AA Meeting | <b>2 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b><br>10 AM Ruth Circle<br>12 PM Lenten Service – St. James Episcopal<br>7:30 PM NA Meeting | <b>3 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b><br>10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe<br>11 AM Free Lunch<br>6:15 PM Chancel Bells<br>7:15 PM Chancel Choir<br>8:15 PM AA Meeting | <b>4 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b><br>10 AM YARD SALE<br>11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC  | <b>5 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b><br>8:30 AM UMW Conference Spring Event<br>10 AM YARD SALE |
| <b>6</b><br>9 AM Sunday School<br>9:30 AM Pre-School<br>10 AM Usher Training<br>10 AM Fellowship Time<br>10:30 AM Worship<br>11:30 AM Trustees Mtg.<br>11:30 AM SPRC Meeting             | <b>7</b><br>7 PM Worship Team | <b>8</b><br>10 AM Bible Study<br>6:30 PM Bible Study<br>8 PM AA Meeting                          | <b>9</b><br>12 PM Lenten Service – Church of the Brethren<br>6:30 PM NA Policy Group<br>7:30 PM NA Meeting                 | <b>10</b><br>10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe<br>11 AM Free Lunch<br>6:15 PM Chancel Bells<br>7:15 PM Chancel Choir<br>8:15 PM AA Meeting                         | <b>11</b><br>11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC   | <b>12</b>   |
| <b>13 Palm Sunday</b><br>9 AM Sunday School<br>9:30 AM Pre-School<br>10 AM Usher Training<br>10 AM Fellowship Time<br>10:30 AM Worship<br>11:30 AM Education Mtg.                        | <b>14</b>                     | <b>15</b><br>10 AM Bible Study<br>6:30 PM Bible Study<br>7 PM CAP Board Mtg.<br>8 PM AA Meeting  | <b>16</b><br>7:30 PM NA Meeting  | <b>17</b><br>10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe<br>11 AM Free Lunch<br>6 PM Seder Meal<br>7 PM Chancel Choir – Musical Journey<br>8:15 PM AA Meeting                | <b>18 Good Friday</b><br>11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC<br>12 PM Good Friday Service – Peniel UMC<br>7 PM Good Friday Service - RPUMC | <b>19</b><br>7 PM Easter Vigil – Calvary Presbyterian                                       |
| <b>20 Easter</b><br>6:30 AM Sun Rise Service – St. James<br>7:30 AM Pancake Breakfast - Calvary<br>9 AM Sunday School<br>9:30 AM Pre-School<br>10 AM Fellowship Time<br>10:30 AM Worship | <b>21</b>                     | <b>22</b><br>8 PM AA Meeting   | <b>23</b><br>7:30 PM NA Meeting  | <b>24</b><br>10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe<br>11 AM Free Lunch<br>6:15 PM Chancel Bells<br>7:15 PM Chancel Choir<br>8:15 PM AA Meeting                         | <b>25</b><br>11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC   | <b>26</b><br>12 PM Koinonia Fellowship trip to PA   |
| <b>27</b><br>9 AM Sunday School<br>9:30 AM Pre-School<br>10 AM Fellowship Time<br>10:30 AM Worship<br>11:30 AM Council Mtg.  | <b>28</b>                     | <b>29</b><br>8 PM AA Meeting   | <b>30</b><br>7:30 PM NA 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” APRIL 2014

Address Service Requested

Office Phone: (302) 654-0961 Office Hours: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM T-F FAX #: (302) 655-7446  
Parsonage Phone: (302) 652-6168 E-Mail: [rpumc@rpumchurch.org](mailto:rpumc@rpumchurch.org)  
Beverly Lewis, Pastor



## LAY READERS

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| April 6  | Bettie Smith |
| April 13 | Paul Weaver  |
| April 20 | Ed Ide       |
| April 27 | Suzy Price   |

## 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 11. Thank You.

## ALTAR FLOWERS

|              |                             |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| April 6      | Lynn and Bryant Lafferty    |
| April 13     | Joyce and Jerry Toy         |
| At the Cross | Clyde and Carolyn Nafzinger |
| April 20     | Easter Lilies               |
| April 27     | Ruth Gibney                 |

\* \* \* \* \*

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.*