

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

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Christ is Risen! So What!

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

Our first big day of the year is now history. We marched in step during the forty (40) days of lent getting ready to receive the gift of Easter, as we held our breaths for the coming of our long-awaited savior at Christmas. Are we changed or do we go back to business as usual? Special services are over; all the equipment is in top notch working order. The building is clean as we prepared to welcome our guest. As a faith community, in a community called Richardson Park, so what?

As the church, we have a heightened sense of thanksgiving. As a pastor, I am called to respond to the will of God. Some of you might ask, How do we know the will of God? The first place to look is in the Holy Scriptures. Did you know that there is a small group right here at Richardson Park UMC currently plowing madly through all sixty-six books of the Bible in three months? They started a week before Easter and by now they have finished Genesis and Exodus. Odds are that they will be more in tune to the will of God when they finish than they were when they started the journey. Some of you used the devotional at Lent and reflected upon the Lord's Prayer for the forty days. If you missed the discipline, may I suggest you pick one of the gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke or John and read for fifteen minutes each day as you continue the discipline of inviting the Holy Spirit of God to influence your life's activities each day. There is another small group of

disciples who are learning to sharpen their tools of evangelism. Yes, they are learning to use their own stories and relationships with Jesus to invite others. We are getting everything ready to change the lives of persons around us, thus transforming our community one person at a time. A message to Satan: Watch out, there are some bold Christians taking a stand for Christ in area code 19804.

This month we have something exciting scheduled to happen in our community. We will confirm a youth who was baptized as an infant at this church and he is now ready to say yes to the love that Jesus offers. Join us on Sunday May 18th at Christ United Methodist Church as we celebrate 14 confirmands from 4 congregations here in our area. But don't fret; we will have our own special celebration during our next **big day**. Mark your calendars! We will raise the roof and paint the town red on Pentecost Sunday, June 8th and roll out the red carpet for our newest member.

Back to the so what? Christ is risen and that means a lot to anyone who has said yes to his leadership. His resurrection is a message to us that he is the Messiah, he is our hope, and we too will experience resurrection in this life and into the life to come. We can shout Halleluiah at the top of our voices and fall in line with those who came before us and who will follow "that at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow, every tongue confess: Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God!" AMEN.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Courtney Burke	May 1
Claudia McFarland	May 1
John Parks	May 1
Frank Anderson, Jr.	May 2
Joshua Bourdon	May 2
Brian Panaccione	May 2
Carolyn Nafzinger	May 3
Christopher Doughty	May 4
Tara Sheridan	May 4
Joyce Toy	May 4
Muriel Campbell	May 5
Jacob Gommer	May 6
Johnathan Gommer	May 6
Katie Meadows	May 6
Destiny Dale	May 7
Zach Farley	May 7
Shirley Roberts	May 8
Doc Holliday	May 9
Katherine Banks	May 10
Kayla Griffith	May 10
Maegin Coverdale	May 12
Ed McFarland	May 13
Volena Sease	May 13
Richard Beane	May 14
Steven Ott	May 14
Brianna Jones	May 15
Patty Meadows	May 15
Danny Cathell	May 16
Anna Mae Shewbrooks	May 16
Billy Bentley	May 17
Katie Chambers Klingler	May 17
Allison Perugini	May 17
Maria Ott	May 18
Robert McFarland	May 20
Daniel Arnold, Jr.	May 22
Wendy Owen	May 22
Sydney Thomas	May 22
Karlee Boyd	May 23
Leonard Moore	May 23
Linda Connor	May 26
Brenda Tucker	May 26
Cameron Przywara	May 29
Jimmie Focht	May 30
Peter Davis	May 31

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

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



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

Circle Meetings

Rebekah Circle Tues., May 6 6:00 PM
Dinner at Big Fish Grille
Please connect Marlene.

Ruth Circle Wed., May 7 10:00 AM
Church 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.



WESLEY TOWER BANKS

April 2014 \$83.68

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Our year-to-date total is \$374.90. Empty banks can be picked up as you leave the altar area each Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.

MISSION TREE



On Sundays in May, we are hanging "**Flowers**" on our Mission Tree. Hang a "flower" 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



It's May and we are learning about God's world. The Lower Sunday School starts with singing and then learns about the Bible through interactive skits, reading Bible verses, and doing crafts. Join us on Sunday mornings!

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

VBS NEWS

It's coming! Get ready for VBS 2014. Many people are working to make this year's VBS a wonderful and exciting Bible adventure! **Mark your calendars** - the kick-off for this exciting time is Sunday, July 13. Come and join us for "Weird Animals." Look for the registration form in the June Messenger. **We need volunteers to help.** Please connect Kristi Doughty or Marlene Johnson.

KOINONIA FELLOWSHIP

The Koinonias will be meeting on Friday, May 16 at 6 PM in the Extension. This will be a covered-dish dinner. Ummm, I wonder what new surprises our Koinonia cooks will whip up for this meal! Why not plan to come out for an evening of good fellowship, as well as a delicious meal. Hope to see you there!

Also, we are in need of volunteers who could help work in Ye Olde Shoppe on Thursdays from 10 AM to 2 PM, as well as the first Saturday of the month from 10 AM to 2 PM. If you spare some time to meet this need, please contact Betty Swain at 302-818-6044.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

May 19 is the starting date for work to begin on our stained glass windows. The first down payment has been to Mezelick Studios to enable them to order supplies. Work will begin on the large window at the front of the sanctuary and the two side windows in the altar area. These windows are leaking water into the building each time it rains. Thanks so much for the support so many of you have given to this much needed repair work. Please remember, we still need donations to pay the bill. No amount is too small.

IMAGINE NO MALARIA

Last year, many of you donated to support this endeavor by giving \$10 or more to purchase a mosquito netting in honor or memory of a loved one on Mother's Day.

The church received a thank you from United Methodist Communications. It stated that a mountain of insecticide-treated nets – provided through your gifts – are protecting families as they sleep. Children are in classrooms – kids who might otherwise not have lived long enough to go to school. Lives are being saved. However, the need is still there. Many more nets are needed. Therefore, the Church Council has voted to participate again this year with a special Mother's Day Campaign.

Please give careful thought to not only honor a loved one but to save lives as well. A donation of \$10 will provide one mosquito net.

When we say, "Thank you for everything you've done and will continue to do" think of a child's smile, a mother's answered prayers and a village's rebirth. Think of revitalized churches, healthy children and togetherness as a denomination. Think of being God's hands and feet in a world starving for love.

God Bless You for Caring!

CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION

At a special service on **Sunday, May 18 at 3:00 pm** young people from local United Methodist Churches, **including Chad Hughes from RPUMC**, will be confirmed at a joint celebration at Christ United Methodist Church, 6 North Clifton Avenue, Wilmington. Please join us if your schedule permits.

CALLING ALL GRADUATES!!

We invite you to submit the names of all students graduating this year from high school, college, and graduate degree programs to the church office at 654-0961 as soon as possible. Please include the name and location of the school, plus the diploma or degree they will receive. These very special people and their accomplishments will be recognized at our June 15 Worship Service.



Thank you to everyone for all the cards, prayers, rides and visits while I was recuperating from my recent fall when I broke my wrist.

Pat Cummings

YE OLDE SHOPPE

Ye Olde Shoppe is open the first Saturday of each month from 10 AM to 2 PM. If you can't stop in on Thursdays between 10 AM and 2 PM, 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. Furniture is available for sale on Saturdays.

From the Trustees

April has been another busy month for the Trustees. We continue to move forward gathering estimates on the roof and concrete repairs projects. Both Jim King and Ed Ide have made time to set up meetings with contractors to go over the scopes of work and get estimates. No decisions have been made at this point for either project but I assure you we are getting closer.

Rich Locke gathered estimates on cleaning the carpets throughout the church and this project was completed on Monday, April 28. We want to thank everyone who helped with moving and putting back the furniture. It is nice to see everyone step up when we need them.

You also may have noticed that two new cigarette butt disposal devices were put in place thanks to Dave Rogers and the BMGs. One is located on each side of the church. We hope this will eliminate some of the unsightliness of cigarette butts on the ground.

We renewed our annual maintenance contract for the heating and air conditioning units with Oliver Mechanical.

On Easter Sunday, we discovered termites in Pastor Wendy's office. We will be investigating this situation further and will keep you posted on the findings.

The Stained Glass Window Restoration project should be started by May 19th. Due to weather issues on our contractor's current project, our start date was pushed back.

HOLY WEEK

Many thanks to persons who provided invaluable support to all of our worship services during Holy Week this year.

Paul Weaver, Glenn Lewis, Wendy Owen and Pat Cumming for reading the Passion text on **Palm Sunday** and to the ushers who helped as we removed the symbols of Christ from the chancel area to begin our Holy Week experience.

Janet Dickerson, Betty Swain and Sandy Swain who helped with the set up for the **Christian Seder** meal and for Janet Dickerson, Ruth Gibney, Lee Powell and Pat Cummings who served as greeters for the

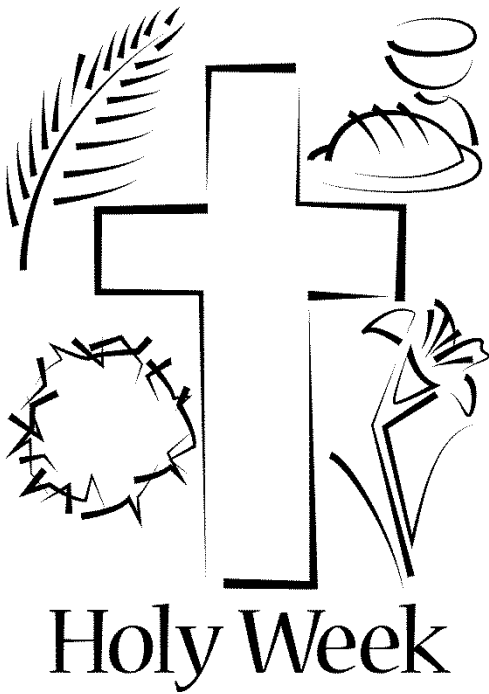
Christian Seder meal. A special thanks to persons who helped with the readings: Reggie Haile, Lee Powell, Pat Cummings and Wendy Owen and Sandy Swain on **Holy Thursday**. And finally, thanks to Sandy Swain and Janet Dickerson for audio visual support, Dennis Johnson for sound support, Dave Rogers for lighting and our readers, Glenn Lewis, Kathy Rogers and Wendy Owen during our **Good Friday** service.

May I also thank the Chancel Choir under the direction of Don McFarland with reader Wendy Owen for the wonderful Cantata "Lift High the Cross." The cantata provided a wonderful

ending to **Holy Thursday** and a special beginning to our Easter Sunday service. And finally, we would have all been lost without the many programs and worship guides that Harriet-Ann proofed and published.

All of you rolled out the red carpet on Easter Sunday and many of you invited and brought guests. Our numbers were great. Let's keep inviting and sharing the good news. Christ is indeed alive especially here at Richardson Park United Methodist Church.

Pastor Beverly





SPECIAL MOTHER'S DAY CAMPAIGN

This year on Mother's Day, May 11, RPUMC will honor our mothers and other important women in our lives by joining with United Methodists everywhere to raise money for Imagine No Malaria, a ministry of the United Methodist Church. Imagine No Malaria is launching the campaign so that mothers in Africa will be able to fight malaria and see their children grow into thriving adults. Eighty-five to 90 percent of deaths from malaria are women and children under the age of five.

We are making a difference! Today a child dies every 60 seconds from malaria; just a short time ago, it was every 30 seconds. The number of deaths per year has dropped from 1 million to about 655,000. Malaria is both preventable and treatable. There is currently a plan to eliminate malaria in our lifetime. It includes bed nets, medicine and training of health workers. A bed net costs \$10 and can protect four people from mosquito bites at night when the mosquitoes feed.

If you would like to give a contribution to help this worthy cause, please make your check payable to RPUMC and specify "Imagine No Malaria" on the memo line. One hundred percent of your donation will go directly to fighting malaria.

Special Mother's Day Campaign

I/we _____ honor the following women:

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Amount of Contribution: \$ _____

May 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8 PM AA Meeting	2 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	3 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 1 PM Confirmation Class – St. Mark's UMC
4 9 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Pre-School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship	5 6 PM Finance Meeting 7 PM Worship Team	6 10 AM Bible Study 7 PM Rebekah Circle 8 PM AA Meeting	7 10 AM Ruth Circle 7 PM Bible Study 7:30 PM NA Meeting	8 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	9 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	10
11 Mother's Day 9 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Pre-School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Education Mtg.	12 6 PM SPRC Meeting	13 10 AM Bible Study 8 PM AA Meeting	14 6:30 PM NA Policy Group 7 PM Bible Study 7:30 PM NA Meeting	15 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	16 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC 6 PM Koinonia Covered Dish	17 9 AM Confirmation Class – cook and serve at Emmanuel Dining Room
18 9 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Pre-School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Trustees Mtg. 3 PM Confirmation	19	20 10 AM Bible Study 7 PM CAP Board Mtg. 8 PM AA Meeting	21 7 PM Bible Study 7:30 PM NA Meeting	22 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	23 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	24
25 9 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Pre-School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship	26	27 10 AM Bible Study 8 PM AA Meeting	28 7 PM Bible Study 7:30 PM NA Meeting	29 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	30 11 AM Free Lunch - Peniel	31

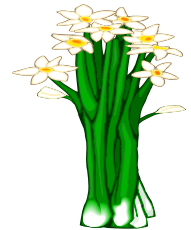
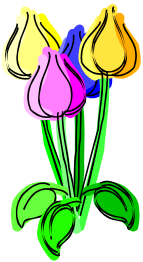
RICHARDSON PARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
11 NORTH MARYLAND AVENUE
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“THE MESSENGER” MAY 2013

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



LAY READERS

May 4	Roger Longest
May 11	Janis Williams
May 18	Bob Collins
May 25	Linda Keffer

ALTAR FLOWERS

May 4	Roger Longest, Nancy Jaegers & Janis Williams
May 11	Joyce and Jerry Toy
At the Cross	Joyce and Jerry Toy
At the Lectern	The Collins family
May 18	Mary Alice Bair
May 25	Julia Lynch

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

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PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING FOOD FOR CAP THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

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Please submit your articles for the June Messenger to the church office by Thursday, May 8. Thank You.

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.

