

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
11 North Maryland Avenue
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Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

By now most of you know that I believe in using systems and processes to assure that the church actually fulfills its mission. As a pastor with a nursing background, it is no surprise that I look at the health of the church. When one system of our body is not functioning, all other systems are impacted. Using systems save time, energy, stress and money. For the past year, I have asked the leaders to look at the systems in their functional area and assess their health. We have put in place the connect card which is key to the assimilation system. We follow up on all comments, prayer concerns, and identify first and second time guests each week. We have identified persons who have accepted Christ since January and we have an easy way for persons to volunteer to serve in ministry areas by using the Connect Card.

The systems include:

Assimilation: Moving people from first time guests to members.

Stewardship: Developing extravagant givers at the church.

Evangelism: Attracting people to the church and mobilizing church members for evangelism.

Worship Planning: How we plan, implement and evaluate the worship services at our church.

Small Groups: How we fill and reproduce small groups at our church.

Ministry: How we mobilize people for significant ministry.

Leadership: How we develop leaders at all levels of our church.

Strategy: How we constantly evaluate and improve our church.

This year, I plan to focus on the stewardship system, as we need to identify new givers and challenge our regular givers to become tithers and extravagant givers. Without a solid financial base, it is difficult to have a healthy evangelism or ministry system. I will also be focusing on the evangelism system because I believe that God wants this church to grow. Providing the members with opportunities to invite and welcome plays an important role in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with others.

Our mission is to feed the body and the soul in the name of Jesus Christ! We feed the stomach pretty well. Participating in a small growth group gets at the "soul" food that we need for the journey. Check out the small group opportunities and sign up and plan to become a part of a group this fall.

In Christ,
Pastor Beverly



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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
Richard Allen	9/11
Gerry Keogh	9/11
Sami Davidson	9/12
Norma Allen	9/13
Karen Davis	9/15
Patt Jones	9/15
Annette Ott	9/16
Jessica Saunders	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
Andrew Opalach	9/23
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
Christina Collins	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 2 7:00 p.m. – Church Lounge Please bring a snack to share – beverages will be provided.
Ruth Circle	Wed., September 3 10:00 a.m. – Church Lounge

Circle Leaders

Rebekah Circle	Linda Keffer
Ruth Circle	Joan Stadelman

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

UMW Fall Fund Raiser Luncheon **Saturday, October 25 12 Noon** **Tickets - \$10.00**

More information will follow in the October newsletter.

School Uniform Drive **Richardson Park Elementary**



If you would like to donate new or gently used clothing for the children of Richardson Park Elementary School, please drop your donations off at the church office. The children are in need of:

Polo Shirts or Button-down Shirts
(Light Blue, Navy, Red or White)

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

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



MUSIC NOTES

Don McFarland, Music Director

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 4, will be:

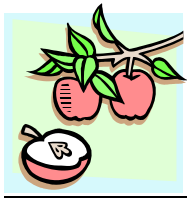
CHANCEL BELLS – 6:15 pm to 7:00 pm

CHANCEL CHOIR – 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm

Our “Fall 2014” music plans include 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.

Anytime you have a special request, hymn, anthem, or anything related to our music program, please share it with Don. You can reach him via email: music@RPUMChurch.org or telephone him in the evenings at 302-427-8465. Thanks everyone and I hope you had a great summer!



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.



Greetings from the Bible Detectives in Room 3. Children in Kindergarten through grade 6 have met in Room 3 this summer. We have learned many things about the Bible. Using Bible stories, role-play, songs and hands-on activities – the Bible came to life! A big thank you for parents and grandparents for following the Safe Sanctuary guidelines to come to Room 3 and sign for the children.

Thank you to all the children who visited Room 3!

I look forward to more adventures in the fall.

Blessings from Ms. Marlene

Fall Sunday School Program

Hi all! It’s time for Sunday School to begin again.

Children in Kindergarten through grade 6 are invited to Room 3 following “Time with Children.” Come join Ms. Marlene and friends for many exciting activities. Following worship, parents will need to come to Room 3 to sign out their children to comply with safe sanctuary guidelines.

Beginning Sunday, September 7, Grades 7-12 will meet at 9 AM in the youth room. Led by Glenn Lewis, Rob Anderson and Kristi Doughty, we will play games and choose topics to study that the youth would like to cover. Come join us and bring a friend!



WESLEY TOWER BANKS

July 2014	\$113.52
August 2014	\$ 94.19

Thanks to everyone for remembering to bring your filled banks to church the first Sunday of each month. Our total to date for 2014 is \$763.32. Remember to pick up an empty bank as you leave the altar area on Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE .

THE BIG DAY

Another big day is just around the corner. Mark your calendar, **Sunday November 9, 2014** will be our third "big day" for 2014. We will be rolling out the red carpet for all service members, active, inactive and retired. Begin today to list the names of persons that you know so you know how many invite cards you need. Member of a VFW or American Legion group, associated with USO or the Department of Veterans Affairs? We want to show these men and women that we care and invite them to join us for worship. Everyone is welcome but we will provide special recognition for all who have or are now serving. No cook out this time, but a full meal in the fellowship hall will follow the service. Big days provide us with the opportunity to break attendance records and introduce new persons to us as a congregation. Got ideas on how to make this day special for our guests? Contact anyone on the worship team or, better yet, join the worship team. We meet the first Monday evening of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the parsonage, except September.

ACTIVE PARENTING

Active Parenting is a training program for families with children ages 5-12. Its aim is to restore the joy of family life and to support disciplined healthy children.

The dates are set. We will begin our Active Parenting training here at Richardson Park UMC on Saturday morning, October 11, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. Breakfast will be available from 9:00 a.m. for families who are participating in this training. Registration forms are available on our web site. Please contact the church at 654-0961 if you have any questions.

This first training session will be limited to 15 families, so register early if you plan to attend. If the Saturday dates and time do not work for you, the same training will be offered on Wednesday evenings, beginning October 1, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. and training session begins at 6:30 p.m. at Neighborhood House. Please contact them at 652-3982 if you have any questions.

Active Parenting is a ministry of Richardson Park United Methodist Church, with a goal of interacting with families with children ages 5-12 in our community. We plan to partner with the elementary school as a means to support families in this area. There are service opportunities available in this ministry. Greeters, set-up persons for breakfast, take down persons for breakfast, cooks, child care room attendant, sign placement, etc.

Pastor Beverly

HOSPITALITY

We are looking for someone who has a heart for people who can lead our hospitality ministry. This is not the historical cooking and baking team. The Hospitality team becomes the face of the church for returning members and guests. If you feel that this is where you can serve, please check the box on your connect card. In the New Testament we find this important passage in **Hebrews 13:2** *Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.* (NRSV) If we believe that God wants our church to grow, we also believe that every first time guest is a gift from God. Our goal is to welcome and set our guests at ease.

Pastor Beverly

GRIEF SHARE

Grief Share Seminar/Support Group begins again at our sister congregation, **St. Mark's UMC**. You are invited to attend **Thursday evenings, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.** starting Thursday, September 11, 2014.

Grief Share is a weekly video seminar featuring experts on grief recovery topics. Each session includes a video followed by group discussion to allow participants to talk about the content of the seminar and how they are dealing with the death of their loved one. The seminar continues for 13 weeks however, you can enter at any time during the 13; weeks. There is a \$15 fee which covers the cost of the workbook. Questions, go to www.griefshare.org

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ centered recovery program that uses eight basic life principles combined with a 12-step study. This format allows participants to draw hope from one another and opens the door for God's healing grace. By application, spiritual growth begins to replace dysfunctional, compulsive and addictive behavior with the freedom of peace, joy and hope found in God. Celebrate Recovery is open to anyone. Topics include: Food Addiction, Financial Recovery, Chemically Dependent, Gambling Addiction just to name a few. The group meets **Monday nights at 6:45 p.m. at Wilmington Church of the Brethren, 27 Belmont Ave, Wilmington, DE 19804.** A typical meeting includes fellowship, large and small group sharing experience, strength and hope to be free of our hurts, hang-ups and habits. For more information contact George J. at 302-438-7882.

**CROP WALK
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12**

More information will be in our weekly worship bulletins.

**RICHARDSON PARK
COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM (CAP)
ANNUAL MEETING
Tuesday, September 16 7 PM
Richardson Park UMC**

CAP's Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 16 at 7 PM. 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.

NEW CAP HOURS

Monday	10 AM – 3 PM
Tuesday	10 AM – 3 PM
Wednesday	10 AM – 2 PM
Thursday	12 PM – 5 PM
Friday	CLOSED



TOO MANY CALENDARS?????

If you are receiving more 2015 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.** Also, we would appreciate receiving used Upper Room booklets for the ministry. Many thanks.

FREE LUNCH MINISTRY AT RPUMC

Don't forget our "Free Lunch Ministry" on Tuesdays at RPUMC from 11 AM to 12:30 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.

OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY

How wonderful it is to have a new directory! Thanks to all who participated! We've noted a few corrections needed to date:

- o The Klingler Family's name was misspelled under their picture.
- o Debbie Freebery's granddaughter's name is spelled Kelliann.
- o Jimmie Focht has moved. His new address is: 12 Archer Circle, Newark, DE 19702. His phone number is 302-723-1869.
- o LifeTouch reversed the phone numbers we listed. So, if there are two numbers shown, the second will usually be the home phone number and the first an alternate family cell contact. We apologize for the confusion but, hopefully, the directory will prove useful to all.

If you note additional corrections needed, please contact the church office and we will be sure to convey the information via our monthly Messenger. Thanks very much!

FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP

This workshop is the first in a series of training sessions that are planned to help individuals and families become financially healthy. The session begins at **9:00 a.m., Saturday, September 6** at Richardson Park UMC and will end by 11:00 a.m. This workshop is being provided in partnership with the Richardson Park Community Action Program and Neighborhood House, a ministry of the United Methodist Women. To register, please call 428-1247 or 654-0961.

THANK YOU

Thank you to our fantastic church family for all your prayers, phone calls, visits, and media messages for the last month. Brenda and I had some free time this summer between VBS and gearing up for the church year in September that we needed a "distraction" to fill. Your thoughtfulness has been overwhelming. This shows what praying, loving, caring people are in our church, but this was no surprise to us. I have turned the corner on this battle, but I still have heart issues to deal with in the fall. Your continued prayers will be very comforting. We know that our future is in God's hands, not ours. As in the past many years, we must continue to do His work the way we believe He is leading us. Thank you to our loving, caring church.

Love, Brenda and Joe

FROM THE TRUSTEES – AUGUST 2014

The stained glass window project (phase 1) has been completed. The contract work to date is finished and the contractor is now demobilized from the site. I have heard a lot of compliments on the work that was performed. This was a large undertaking for all of us, and there is still more work that needs to be done to restore the remaining windows. We are in the process of getting quotes for that work.

We entered into a contract with the same contractor to restore two of the precast window mullions that are cracked and falling apart. Since we first entered into this contract, we have discovered at least two more locations that have cracks in them. These need to be repaired also. If they are not repaired, as water gets into them and freezes this winter, they will more than likely crack more and could also cause cracks in other parts of the mullions that are not currently damaged.

The baby grand piano was sold this month. After discussion with Don McFarland, it was decided that due to long-term maintenance issues on this instrument that it was not suitable for the intended purpose. Roger Longest listed the piano on Craig's list and was able to find a new home for it.

Another project that is currently on our target list is the doors on the Matthes Avenue side of the building. These doors are in pretty bad shape and need replacement. There are deteriorated to the point that they may be causing a security risk. We have a specialty contractor pricing out options now. If anyone wants to target donations towards this restoration project, it would be greatly appreciated.

A couple of months ago we had log books put in the office so that anyone performing tasks in and around the church and parsonage could record the work done, along with products or parts used. The books are in place on the credenza behind Harriet Ann's desk. Please use them. If you do a project and don't have access to the office, make a note of it and log it in when you can or leave it in the office and someone will write it down for you. This will be very helpful

down the road and will also give us some recorded history of projects performed.

I hope you all noticed how good the final tops look along the stone wall along Maryland Avenue. Dave Rogers did a great job cleaning them up and painting them. They really stand out. "Thanks Dave!"

A Prayer for God's Most Beautiful People: Women

God the Father maker of Heaven and Earth thank you for you, thank you for this day and thank you for all women! Lord God, please bless all women for they are all motherly, loving, beautiful and comforting. Lord God please send much love and protection to your glorious women because they are kind, gentle and graceful. Please Lord strengthen and reward women for they are very respectful. Teach us men to learn from their example of love, beauty, gentleness and patience. Lord our Heavenly Father teach us men to love and respect all women and treat them right always for they are so loving and respectful! In Jesus' Holy and Precious name I pray. Amen.

Written on Saturday, February 8, 2014 by Anthony Sabatino DiMauro, "Tony"

**YE OLDE SHOPPE AND
MINI YARD SALE
Saturday, September 6
10 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. Furniture will be available in the parking lot and Ye Olde Shoppe is located across from the garage. There are many new items available. We hope to see you there!

SMALL GROUPS

Small groups are important for our spiritual growth. If you are willing to host a small group, please contact Pastor Beverly. A list of topics for small groups will be available on the back ledge in the worship center during September. Each Sunday in September, we will highlight one or two of the topics before worship. To host a small group, you need to be able to be welcoming, operate a DVD player or Video player, set out a snack and let the Holy Spirit work.

Fall 2014 Small Group Offerings

Wild at Heart: Discovering the Secret of a Man's Soul

Tuesday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m.

This is an eight-session DVD series. It is designed to facilitate conversation between a small group of men and provide some direction and questions for going deeper on each topic. As you begin this journey, you are asked to yield your mind, volition, heart, spirit soul and masculinity to God and simply invite God to be the leader of your life.

Led by Glenn Lewis

An invitation to the New Testament (Disciple Short Course)

Tuesday October 7 at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Explore the writings of the New Testament using the story of Jesus as the starting point. This survey of the testament looks at how the early church took ownership of and was shaped by the story of Jesus and how the church learned how to develop as disciples and create communities of faith.

Participants find a deeper conversation with the writers of the NT and a renewal of our commitment to be shaped---personally and communally---by the story of Jesus.

In the weekly video segments, listen as scholars fascinate you with facts and information that open new understanding and enlightenment for your group. In the second video, sit in on a table conversation between guest scholars and debate key issues in the text.

Sessions:

1. Jesus Calls Us Into God's Redemption Story
2. Jesus Calls Us to a Transformed Life
3. Jesus Calls Us to Minister to a Hostile World
4. Jesus Calls Us to Complex Communities of Faith
5. Jesus Calls Us to Serve One Another
6. Jesus Calls Us to a New Relationship With Tradition
7. Jesus Calls Us to Live in Light of His Coming Again
8. Jesus Calls Us to Experience the Gifts of His Dying and Rising

Led by Beverly Lewis

September 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 11 AM Free Lunch Ministry 7 PM Rebekah Circle 8 PM AA Meeting	3 10 AM Ruth Circle 7:30 PM NA Meeting	4 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	5 10 AM Disciple – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	6 9 AM Financial Workshop 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe
7 9 AM Adult and Grades 7-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School	8 7 PM Finance Committee Meeting	9 Fellowship Hall Reserved 11 AM Free Lunch Ministry 8 PM AA Meeting	10 6:30 PM NA Policy Group 7:30 PM NA Meeting	11 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	12 10 AM Disciple – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	13
14 9 AM Adult and Grades 7-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School 11:45 AM Education Mtg. 11:45 AM Missions Meeting.	15	16 Koinonia Day at the Beach 11 AM Free Lunch Ministry 7 PM CAP Annual Meeting 8 PM AA Meeting	17 7:30 PM NA Meeting	18 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	19 10 AM Disciple – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	20
21 9 AM Adult and Grades 7-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School 11:45 AM Trustee Mtg. 11:45 AM SPRC Mtg.	22	23 11 AM Free Lunch Ministry 8 PM AA Meeting	24 7:30 PM NA Meeting	25 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	26 10 AM Disciple – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	27 9:30 AM Membership 101
28 9 AM Adult and Grades 7-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Sunday School 11:45 AM Council Mtg. 6 PM Membership 101	29	30 11 AM Free Lunch Ministry 8 PM AA Meeting				

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the Messenger

SEPTEMBER 2014

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READERS

September 7	Ed Ide
September 14	Yvonne Mitten
September 21	Lee Powell
September 28	Kristi Doughty

ALTAR FLOWERS

September 7	Debbie Freebery
September 14	Sath Amara
September 21	Sandy Ide
September 28	Barbara Sayles
At the Cross	Brenda & Joe Tucker

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 Tuesday, September 9. 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.