

# Messenger

# DECEMBER 2015 JANUARY 2016

Richardson Park United Methodist Church  
11 North Maryland Avenue  
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As I think about the coming year, I thought I would take an inventory of how God has blessed us as a congregation since I came in July.

It's hard to believe we are entering the Christmas season and in a few weeks a brand new year. As I look back over the past six months, I have been blessed to witness the power of God's love working in the hearts of so many people.

It seems like only a few weeks ago we witnessed the awesome time the children had as they participated in the Everest VBS. It was a joy sharing a meal with everyone and watching the excitement of the children as the adults led the music, crafts, videos and storytelling. The creativity in decorating the rooms to look like they were on camping and climbing adventures was amazing.

What a blessing to see the answer to a long awaited prayer in the installation of the new Rogers Console system. In addition, God sent an added blessing with the installation of the Schulmerich Carillon System donated by the Peter Davis family and Arlington UMC in Arlington VA.

In September, we witnessed the rebirth of Cub Pack 339 under the leadership of Cub Masters Maritza Ramos and George Przybylski and their incredible volunteers. The addition of the scouts has truly blessed and enriched Richardson Park UMC (especially those pancakes and sausage at the breakfast!).

In October, we gathered to celebrate a homecoming service. I was privileged to interact with

so many wonderful people who have been a part of the Richardson Park church family. Not only did we celebrate, we participated in the CROP Walk for Hunger. Thanks to the REM Team, Halloween allowed us to interact and bring joy to families in the community.

As I stood and watched the people coming and going during the November Bazaar, I was amazed at the joy in the people's hearts. Each and every vendor I talked with appreciated the opportunity to participate in the day. One vendor was so thrilled that they wanted to make sure we had their name on the list for the next bazaar.

What truly amazes me is the many volunteers who still have the energy and sacrifice their time to make sure the weekly and monthly ministries of the church still are done with excellence.

As we prepare for the Cantata on December 20 and the Christmas Eve service, I can't wait to see how God will surprise and bless us this month and in the coming New Year.

May this season of hope, peace, joy, and love warm your hearts as you remember God is with you today and always.

Blessings,

Pastor Carolyn

**RICHARDSON PARK U.M.C.**  
**CELEBRATES ADVENT and**  
**CHRISTMAS!**



**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**



**Sunday, December 13**

11:30 AM

“Baby Shower for Jesus”  
 Advent Covered Dish  
 Everyone is invited.

**Sunday, December 20**

10:30 AM Worship

“Let There Be Christmas”  
 A Cantata by  
 Joseph M. Martin

**Thursday, December 24**

8:00 PM

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service  
 Everyone is welcome!



Tammy Brindle	12/1
William Edwards	12/2
Patrick Elliott	12/2
Devon Manley	12/2
Bruce Workman	12/2
Bryan Cummings	12/3
Andy Comeau	12/4
Brian Cox, Jr.	12/5
Marjorie Newton	12/5
Dorothy Scarborough	12/5
Don McFarland	12/7
Josiah Straughn	12/7
William Boyce	12/9
Zachary Casalvera	12/9
Andy Hughes	12/9
Billee Boyd	12/10
Emma Warfel	12/10
Carolyn Stafford	12/11
Dana Bourdon	12/12
Mary Lou Boyce	12/12
Rose Davis	12/12
Steven Ott, Sr.	12/12
Justin Farren	12/14
Melanie Mitten	12/14
Megan Edwards	12/15
George Smallwood	12/15
Holly Bentley	12/16
David Brown	12/16
William Klingler, Jr.	12/18
Shirly Ritter	12/19
Emma Mae Manley	12/20
Gladys Swain	12/21
Michael Toy	12/22
Adeline Le Breton	12/23
Cheryl Lynn Krebs	12/25
Barbara Przywara	12/26
Betty Swain	12/26
Bill Aurelio	12/27
Neal Davis	12/27
Jason Bourdon	12/29
Amanda Graham	12/31



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Michael Coverdale	1/2
David Swain	1/2
Donna Thomas	1/2
Karen Collins	1/3
Cole Bauer	1/4
Paigely Boyd	1/4
Sarah James	1/4
Gabriel Klingler	1/4
Harold Spedden	1/4
Ken Horne	1/5
Wendy Walls	1/5
Donny Pasmore	1/6
Lee Powell	1/8
Alexis Anderson	1/10
Cindi Beane	1/11
Riley Parent	1/11
Joseph Watkins	1/12
Dillon Keffer	1/14
Julie Oakley	1/15
Hunter Saunders	1/15
Kiersten Hughart	1/16
Ginger Pettyjohn	1/17
Emmanuel Lee	1/18
Kenneth Saunders	1/18
Jerry Paoli	1/19
Ruth Phillips	1/19
Tony Donnelly	1/20
Kristi Doughty	1/23
Christina Dale	1/29
Virginia Pridgen	1/30
Riley Ann Sullivan	1/30
Jen Fitzgerald	1/31

**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 December, Rebekah Circle will take care of the flowers in the church and in January, Ruth Circle will take care of the flowers. Both Circles will help with the poinsettias.

### Circle Meetings

Rebekah Circle	No meeting in December Tue., January 5 7:00 p.m. – Extension
Ruth Circle	No meeting in December Wed., January 13 12:00 p.m. - Extension

### **Advent Covered-dish Christmas Luncheon and “Baby Shower for Jesus” Sunday, December 13 11:30 AM**

During the United Methodist Women’s Potluck Christmas Luncheon on Sunday, December 13, we will hold a “Baby Shower for Jesus.” We hope you will be able to attend the luncheon and, if possible, bring one or more of the following items:

- New baby clothing (sizes 0-12 months)
- Canned formula – **needed most**
- Disposable diapers – **needed most**
- Baby blankets
- Small items such as bottles, pins, etc.

All of these items will be donated to CAP for their give-away program to new or expectant mothers. If you have any questions, please contact Lee Powell at 995-1307.

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12 Annual Cookie Walk 9 AM – 10:30 AM**

The proceeds from this event will go toward the coat program at Richardson Park Elementary School. We would appreciate your donations of cookies. Please label them because of allergies. Come take a “walk” down cookie lane and select from all those delicious cookies! The cookie elves will be there between 9 AM and 10:30 AM. The price for all of this fun is \$5.00 for a half-pound. We appreciate your making cookies and/or purchasing them. If you have questions, please call Marlene Johnson at 328-5806 or Lee Powell at 995-1307. Come join the fun and enjoy the cookies!



## **CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS THIS ADVENT SEASON**

The beautiful decorations which will adorn our church during Advent are graciously provided by the following members of RPUMC:

<b>Advent Wreath</b>	<b>Phyllis Bowman</b>
<b>Altar Trees</b>	<b>Clyde &amp; Carolyn Nafzinger</b>
<b>Altar Wreath</b>	<b>Pat Cummings</b>
<b>Altar Wreath</b>	<b>Ruth Gibney</b>
<b>Balcony Wreath</b>	<b>Raphael and Paulette Lazzaro</b>
<b>Door Wreath</b>	<b>Dave &amp; Kathy Rogers</b>
<b>Door Wreath</b>	<b>Dorothy Scarborough</b>
<b>Door Wreath</b>	<b>Joan Stadelman</b>
<b>Door Wreath</b>	<b>Marvin &amp; Betty Swain</b>
<b>Nativity Scenes</b>	<b>Koinonia Class</b>



### **YE OLDE SHOPPE**

*Every Thursday through December 17  
9 AM - 1 PM and  
Saturday, December 5, Christmas Shoppe  
and Mini-Yard Sale  
9 AM - 1 PM*

*Ye Olde Shoppe will be closed the month  
of January and will reopen  
Thursday, February 4, 2016*

## **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**



Greetings to all of you! The excitement in Children's Church is growing. We learn by using a very special tool - the BIBLE. Whatever you do, don't miss the Cantata on Sunday, December 20 at 10:30 a.m. The children have a great part to play. Ms. Beth is working with us already! In January, we will learn about Jesus, growing as a boy many years ago. Come and join us on Sunday mornings after "Time with Children." Blessings for a wonderful Christmas from Everyone in Children's Church.



### **WESLEY TOWER BANKS** **November 2015 \$92.45**

Thanks to everyone for remembering to bring your filled banks to church the first Sunday of each month. Our total to date for 2015 is \$932.05. Remember to pick up an empty bank as you leave the altar area on Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.



### **TOO MANY CALENDARS?????**

If you are receiving more 2016 calendars than you can possibly use, please leave your extra ones in the church office or give to Lee Powell for the Prison Ministry. Spiral calendars are not acceptable for security reasons. Many thanks.

### **CHURCH DIRECTORY CHANGE**

Marguerite Price - Address  
5500 Fairmont Drive, Apt. 302  
Wilmington, DE 19808-3415

## A Year in Review by Our Lay Leader, Kathy Rogers

This year was one of transition at Richardson Park UMC as we said farewell to Pastor Beverly Lewes in December 2014 and welcomed our new Pastor, Carolyn Williams, in July 2015. The guidance, leadership and inspired sermons from our interim Pastor, Bruce Cooke, helped everyone adjust to the changes during the first half of the year. Since then, we have been getting to know Pastor Carolyn and enjoying her Bible-based messages each Sunday.

As always, God has greatly blessed our church and many wonderful things have happened this past year. This brief recapitulation of events only touches on a small sampling of those things that have made this year one of the most exciting times in the life of the Richardson Park United Methodist Church. One of our long-time supporters, Helen Murphey, passed away in 2014 and made a remarkable provision for the church in her will. Her generous bequest has already made possible many improvements to the facility and property as was her wish. Trustees Chair, Rob Anderson, and members of the Trustees have initiated or completed many projects: a new organ console with renovations to some existing organ components, an audio visual system upgrade, concrete sidewalk and handicap ramp replacement and tree removal, to name only a few.

Early in the year, our church hosted a Community Good Friday service and we celebrated Easter with some wonderful music during our Sunday morning worship service. We also hosted a lovely group of young singers, Xpress, from Otterbein Church in Waynesboro, PA, who performed for us one Sunday in May. Their personal testimonials and portrait of Jesus painted live during a song was an inspiration to all who were a witness to the event.

The REM Team (Renew, Enrich and Make It Happen Team) was initiated this year by Kristi Doughty in an effort to reach out beyond the boundaries of the church building and find ways to invite people in to join us in fellowship, worship and relationship with God. Many people joined this team and some interesting new ideas have been the product of the first few team meetings. Our Music Director, Don McFarland, spearheaded the "Trunk or Treat" event on Halloween and it was a great success. An estimated 100 children and parents came to visit the participants who gave out candy from the trunks of their decorated cars in the church parking lots!

Pastor Carolyn, members of the worship team and the United Methodist Women group planned and hosted a Homecoming in October where we invited many old and new friends to a special worship service and covered-dish luncheon. There was a good turnout and a great opportunity for fellowship and fun! Also, in October, the United Methodist Women joined me in leading worship on Laity Sunday where the Volunteer Coordinator from Sojourner's Place, Michele Johnson, spoke about the opportunities this organization offers to those who often need help supporting themselves while battling addictions. This service was dedicated to support this worthwhile endeavor as part of the RPUMC Missions Program.

The Koinonia Group continues to provide a needed service to the surrounding community by selling items at the "Ye Olde Shoppe" and holding Furniture and Yard Sales where many donated used household items and clothing can be purchased at reasonable prices. Proceeds from these sales often go to support local charities like the Richardson Park Community Action Program (CAP) which also serves the neighborhoods in the immediate area of the church.

The Missions Team sponsored two other major events to raise funds for future Missions projects. The first was an Easter Candy Sale which was "sweet" work that became fun and allowed us to make a donation to the Neighborhood House, one of the local charities we pledged to support this year. We also planned a Holiday Bazaar as a way to bring people into the church for a fun, social event and introduce them to the Love of Christ through the people of Richardson Park Church. The proceeds of this event will be used for one or two planned mission activities or small projects next year.

It has been my pleasure serving this congregation as Lay Leader and Missions Chair for the past few years; however, it often feels like a task that deserves a full time commitment and a more concerted effort on my part. I have always felt the support and prayers of the people of Richardson Park Church have held me up and kept me going when work, health and things in life demanded much of my attention. This congregation is my family and I am grateful to have them as my teachers, friends and teammates. I believe that together we can continue to do great things and help others to come to know Christ as their Lord and Savior! That is my desire and prayer!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



## HOLIDAY BAZAAR UPDATE

If you missed the Holiday Bazaar on November 14, you missed a lot of great fun! The bazaar was organized by the RPUMC Missions Team to raise funds for missions supported by the church. The event was a great success and wouldn't have been possible without the planning, work, set up, food preparation and service of all the Missions Team members and many other volunteers who helped out. There were 18 tables of crafts and other goods for sale including jewelry, scarves & hats, toys, Avon, Sea Glass art, baked goods, baskets, wreaths and many other items! The kitchen crew served about 150 lunches of various donated soups & chili, hot dogs & pulled pork sandwiches, salads and drinks. An estimated 250 old and new friends came to fellowship and shop, making it possible to raise around \$1,200 toward missions to meet our commitments for 2015.

A BIG THANK YOU to all who came out to the Richardson Park Holiday Bazaar and supported this event with their time, talents, donations, purchases and other contributions! Look forward to more Missions events in 2016 which may include a trip to volunteer and learn more about Neighborhood House and Sojourners' Place! Thanks again for all your prayers and support! Kathy Rogers, RPUMC Missions Team Chair

## RPUMC WEBSITE

We are in the process of updating and improving our website, [www.rpumchurch.org](http://www.rpumchurch.org). If you have articles, announcements or content that should be presented on the website, please send the content of your message to [webmaster@rpumchurch.org](mailto:webmaster@rpumchurch.org) or [pastor@rpumchurch.org](mailto:pastor@rpumchurch.org). If you have any questions, please send me a note or check with Pastor Carolyn.

Thank you, Jim Chilcutt

## RICHARDSON PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

Richardson Park Elementary School is presently participating in the Box Tops for Education Program. This program is one of the nation's largest school earnings loyalty programs and has been helping schools succeed since 1996. With over 250 participating products, it's an easy way for schools to earn cash for the things they need. Following is a picture of the Box Tops for Education

Coupon that you will find on the product packaging and all you need to do is cut out the coupon and put it in the baskets located in the Extension, on the ledge in the back of the Sanctuary and in the vestibule on the Matthes Avenue side of the church.



I would like to thank my church family for all the wonderful cards, telephone calls and visits on the day of my brother's funeral. It means so much – my church family is the best! Love to all and a Happy Christmas and New Year from lower, slower Delaware!

Pat Cummings

## NOTE WORTHY NEWS

Rev. Harold Spedden will be celebrating his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on January 4, 2016. He would like to receive 90 birthday cards. Give him a call or stop by and visit with him.

ALSO, Rev. Harold and Elaine Spedden will be celebrating their 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on February 16, 2016. CONGRATULATIONS!!



## FUNDRAISING WHILE YOU SHOP [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com)

RPUMC Coordinator Contact  
Kathy Rogers – (302) 654-0961  
RPUMC Family Enrollment Code:  
L9F917F4481L3

Scrip fundraising is a no-selling program that enables families to raise money for their non-profit organization. Scrip is just another way to pay for everyday purchases using gift cards in place of cash, checks and credit cards. Great Lakes Scrip Center offers over 300 of the country's biggest brands, including grocery stores, department stores, gas stations, restaurants, hotels and more. Just by using scrip to pay for your normal weekly purchases, you can easily raise \$500 or more per year!! For more information contact Kathy Rogers.



# December 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b> 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>2</b> 6 PM Bible Study – Peniel UMC 7:30 PM NA Meeting	<b>3</b> 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>4 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b> 10 AM Bible Study - Peniel UMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	<b>5 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b> 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe - Christmas Décor Mini Yard Sale Furniture 20% off
<b>6</b> 9 AM Adult and Grades 5-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 Missions Meeting	<b>7</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>8</b> 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>9</b> 6 PM Bible Study – Peniel UMC 6:30 PM NA Policy Group 7 PM Civic Assn. Mtg. 7:30 PM NA Meeting	<b>10</b> 90 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>11</b> 10 AM Bible Study – Peniel UMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	<b>12 AM Extension Reserved</b> 9 AM UMW Cookie Walk 10 AM Choir Practice
<b>13</b> 9 AM Adult and Grades 5-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM REM Team Meeting 11:30 AM UMW Baby Shower for Jesus	<b>14</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>15</b> 7 PM CAP Board Mtg. 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>16</b> 6 PM Bible Study – Peniel UMC 6:30 PM Scout Board Meeting 7:30 PM NA Meeting	<b>17</b> 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>18</b> 10 AM Bible Study - Peniel UMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC 6:30 PM Koinonia covered-dish Christmas Party	<b>19</b> 9:30 AM Choir Dress Rehearsal
<b>20</b> 9 AM Adult and Grades 5-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM Trustees Mtg. 11:30 AM SPRC Mtg.	<b>21</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scout Holiday Party	<b>22</b> 7 PM REM Meeting 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>23</b> 7:30 PM NA Meeting	<b>24 Christmas Eve</b> <b>Office Closed</b> 8 PM Candlelight Christmas Eve Service 8:15 PM AA Meeting  	<b>25 Christmas Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>  	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9 AM Adult and Grades 5-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM Council Meeting	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>30 New Year's Eve</b> 7:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>31</b> 11 AM Free Lunch 8:15 PM AA Meeting		



# January 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> <b>New Year's Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>  	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 9 AM Adult and Grades 5-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM Missions Mtg.	<b>4</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>5</b> 7 PM Rebekah Circle 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>6</b> 6 PM Bible Study – St. James 7:30 PM NA Meeting	<b>7</b> 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>8</b> 10 AM Disciple – St James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9 AM Adult and Grades 5-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM REM Mtg.	<b>11</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>12</b> 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>13</b> 12 PM Ruth Circle 6 PM Bible Study – St. James 6:30 PM NA Policy Group 7:30 PM NA Meeting	<b>14</b> 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>15</b> 10 AM Bible Study – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC 6 PM Koinonia Mtg.	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9 AM Adult and Grades 5-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM SPRC Mtg. 11:30 AM Trustees Mtg.	<b>18</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>19</b> 7 PM CAP Board Mtg. 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>20</b> 6 PM Bible Study – St. James' 6:30 PM Scout Board Meeting 7:30 PM NA Meeting	<b>21</b> 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>22</b> 10 AM Bible Study – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9 AM Adult and Grades 5-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 PM Council Mtg.	<b>25</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>26</b> 7 PM REM Mtg. 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>27</b> 6 PM Bible Study – St. James 7:30 PM NA Meeting	<b>28</b> 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>29</b> 10 AM Bible Study – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 9 AM Adult and Grades 5-12 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church						

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11 NORTH MARYLAND AVENUE  
WILMINGTON, DE 19804-1305

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

*the Messenger*  
**DECEMBER 2015**  
**JANUARY 2016**

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Carolyn Williams, Pastor



READERS

December 6	Brenda Tucker
December 13	Jen Fitzgerald
December 20	Yvonne Mitten
December 27	Tod Mitten

January 3	Bob Collins
January 10	Linda Keffer
January 17	Bettie Smith
January 24	Paul Weaver
January 31	Glenda Donnelly

FLOWERS

For the month of December, Rebekah Circle is responsible for the flowers and for the month of January, Ruth Circle is responsible.

Please submit your articles for the February Messenger to the Church Office by Monday, January 11. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS

December 6	Rich Locke
At the Cross	Dorothy Burris
December 13	Dennis and Marlene Johnson
December 20	Poinsettias
December 27	Anna Mae Shewbrooks

January 3	Sandy Ide
January 10	Robert Truitt
January 17	Available
At the Cross	Rich Locke
January 24	Gail Eney
January 31	TBD

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.*