

Richardson Park United Methodist Church  
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## ***"Vaya Con Dios"***

As I begin the final month of my six-month tenure as your Interim Pastor, I want to thank you all for the warm welcome and support that Gail and I have received. It has been a privilege to serve God and the church with you.

During this past month, I have been reminded of the great history and rich heritage of Richardson Park Church as I have read Dr. Edgar Miller's account of the nine years he and Dr. Elizabeth spent as missionaries in Nepal (1956-1965). As members of this congregation, they not only served this community for many years as physicians, but then went forth to help open one of the first modern hospitals in the very area that has recently been devastated by terrible earthquakes. I am sure that thousands of victims have received high quality medical care as a result of the medical training provided and the facilities developed by Drs. Miller. And RPUMC helped to make that happen!

I am even more thankful that this same spirit of mission and ministry continues to thrive in this church through CAP (the

Community Action Program), the Free Lunch Ministry, your thrift shop, and the 12-step programs that you host, as well as other missions you support.

This church is truly blessed with wonderful facilities, strong lay leadership, caring Christian fellowship and supportive community and, now more than ever, by a solid financial base. I have enjoyed working with your very fine church staff. Harriet-Ann van Boven keeps your church office and administrative services moving smoothly, and Don McFarland provides wonderful talent, experience and skill in leading your music ministry. You should continue to thank God for your many blessings as you welcome your new pastor and enter a new era of Christian ministry and service.

I will leave you with that wonderful and meaningful Spanish blessing:

Vaya Con Dios!

Go with God!

Grace and Peace,

Bruce



## **CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!**

On Sunday, June 14, during worship,  
we will celebrate the accomplishments  
of our graduates of 2015.

ABBI IDE graduated from the University of Delaware on May 28 with an Associates in Arts Degree. She is the granddaughter of Ed and Sandy Ide.

CHRISTOPHER OWEN will graduate from the Tatnall School on June 6. He will attend West Chester University in the fall to study Marine Science and Biology. He is the son of Pastor Wendy Owen.

ADAM V. PUGH is graduating from the University of Delaware with a degree in Environmental Engineering. He is the grandson of J. Franklin and Patricia A. Pugh.

VOLENA SEASE will graduate from Thomas McKean High School on June 6. In the fall, she will be attending Indiana University of PA. She will be majoring in Early Education with Special Needs with a minor in Italian. She is the daughter of George and Dixie Sease.

LAUREN WILL graduated from the Pennsylvania State University with honors with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences and a minor in Biology. She is the granddaughter of Dave and Sandy Swain.

***BLESSINGS TO ALL OF YOU!***



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

|                   |      |
|-------------------|------|
| Susan Durkee      | 6/1  |
| Bette Farra       | 6/3  |
| Nicholas Perugini | 6/4  |
| Brisa Peterson    | 6/5  |
| Ruth Peacock      | 6/7  |
| Katie Parker      | 6/10 |
| Julia Maybroda    | 6/11 |
| Sharon Pierce     | 6/11 |
| Billy Sorensen    | 6/11 |
| Trish Williamson  | 6/11 |
| Ruthann Will      | 6/13 |
| Julie Lundgren    | 6/14 |
| Chase Stout       | 6/14 |
| Yvonne Mitten     | 6/15 |
| Megan Thomas      | 6/18 |
| Jeannine White    | 6/18 |
| Kayla Brown       | 6/19 |
| Jaycen Holmes     | 6/20 |
| Carolyn Wootten   | 6/20 |
| Rob Anderson      | 6/21 |
| Alicia Ott        | 6/23 |
| David Pruitt      | 6/23 |
| Earle Snapp       | 6/23 |
| Carolyn Swain     | 6/23 |
| Charlene Workman  | 6/23 |
| Kaitlyn Adams     | 6/24 |
| Franz Kappel      | 6/25 |
| William Cathell   | 6/29 |

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



Flag Day, always June 14, is a day for Americans to celebrate and show respect for our flag and its designers and makers. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States by resolution of the Second Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. Our church proudly flies an American flag each day.

# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



In June, Rebekah Circle will take care of the flowers in the church.

### Circle Meetings

Rebekah Circle Will begin again in Sept.  
Ruth Circle Will begin again in Sept.

### Circle Leaders

Rebekah Circle Linda Keffer  
Ruth Circle Betty Swain

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

### Ruth Circle Minutes

The Ruth Circle met on Wednesday, May 13 at Noon. After enjoying lunch and lively conversation together, Mary Alice Bair read a report on the beginning of the Women's Group at Richardson Park through the years from 1923-1986. To her surprise, she had come across this report in the Archives, and it had been written by her mother, Lavinia Asquith. Hearing about the wonderful work that the women have done over the years was enlightening as well as exciting.

The group then got to work making May baskets. Each basket was original in design and they all looked very cheerful. We then decided who would receive a basket of cheer and who would visit and deliver each basket. From reports, the ladies doing the visiting found just as much enjoyment as the people who received these very special surprises that said, "We are thinking about you!"

After a relaxing summer, we will meet again on Wednesday, September 9 at Noon. Wouldn't you like to be a part of this lively group? Contact Betty Swain if you are interested.

Betty Swain, Leader



# RICHARDSON PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Greetings from everyone in Children's Church. We finished our regular session Children's Church in May. During that month, we learned that spreading God's message takes many, many people. The disciples needed helpers. One of these men was Paul ("the letter writer"). The children received cards to write about God and shared these with other folks. I hope you were selected to receive one of the cards the children wrote! As always, Ms. Beth led us in songs and Ms. Ruth has been a wonderful helper. The children will receive a special certificate for attending the regular session throughout the year. But wait!! We are not stopping for the summer in Room 3 - "Bible Detectives" are coming in June!! Are you ready for the challenge of becoming a "Bible Detective?" I certainly hope to see you in June.

Blessings from Ms. Marlene

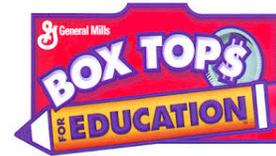
The Adult Wesley Class will not meet in June, July and August.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY CHANGES

Carter and Joyce Palmer – Address  
19 Fountainview Drive  
Newark, DE 19713-3860

Muriel Campbell – Address & Phone No.  
1212 Foulk Road, Apt. 306  
Foulk Manor North  
Wilmington, DE 19803  
302-478-7969

Pat Cummings – Address & Phone No.  
32942 Kiwi Court West  
Nassau Station  
Lewes, DE 19958  
302-644-4231



Thanks to all who have collected the Box Tops for Education for the Richardson Park Elementary School. All of these Box Tops help to buy supplies for the school and you also are helping to support one of the United Methodist Women's Mission Projects.

Look for the pink Box Tops for Education when you are shopping!

## COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY/INFRASTRUCTURE TEAM

It is time to get our building Communications Technology Team up and running again. We would like to form a team that will help lead and advise the Trustees on what our current and future needs are going forward. This would involve meeting to discuss and form a plan for the building infrastructure and systems needs going into the future.

If you are interested and would like to be involved, please notify Rob Anderson via email at [robanderson21@comcast.net](mailto:robanderson21@comcast.net). I would like responses by Wednesday, June 10. Once we know who is interested, we will set up a time and place to get together.

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR CAP

CAP has depleted their supply of baby clothes. They are in need of clothes from newborn to 24 months old. If you can help, please drop your gift off at CAP or leave in the church office.

## NEPAL RELIEF FUND

You may make gifts to the Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). One-hundred percent of your gift will go where it is needed most because the church already has the delivery system in place. You may make a donation using the Special Father's Day Campaign form in this newsletter.

## VBS NEWS

It's coming! Get ready for VBS 2015. 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 12. Come and join us for "Everest." The registration form is in this newsletter. **We need volunteers to help.** Please contact Kristi Doughty if you would like to volunteer.

## *YE OLDE SHOPPE*

*Ye Olde Shoppe is open every Thursday from 10 AM to 2 PM and the first Saturday of each month from 10 AM to 2 PM. If you can't stop in on Thursdays, we hope to see you the first Saturday of each month. Come, browse and shop. There are special treasures for everyone. Furniture is available for sale on Saturdays.*

## RICHARDSON PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLOTHING PROGRAM

Thanks to all who have donated to the Richardson Park School Clothing Program. Many coats, hats, gloves, scarves and boots, as well as slacks, shirts, blouses, underwear and socks have kept the children at Richardson Park Elementary School and their siblings warm and comfortably dressed this fall and winter. The need at the school is ongoing and, thanks to the generosity of the United Methodist Women at RPUMC, we are continuing to help meet the needs at the school.

Following are items still needed at the school as well as sizes that are appropriate for the ages of the children:

Coats - Small (6-8), Medium (10-12),  
Large (14-16)

Slacks - 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 and Husky sizes - navy blue or khaki

Shirts - Small, Medium, Large - navy, light blue, white, red (no logos)

Sweatshirts - Small, Medium, Large - navy, light blue, white, red (no logos)

Underwear and socks (both girls and boys)

Please keep the children in your thoughts and prayers. If you would like to donate items, please drop them off in the church office with a note designating them to the school

As always, thank you for your support and caring for the children in our community.

## From the Trustees - May 2015

As you can imagine, a lot of discussion and planning has been going on over the past couple of months. There are many projects under consideration that we have been planning and reviewing as a group.

We started by focusing on projects to improve the integrity of the exterior of the building, with roofing as our number one priority. Through the month of April, we started to have the roof flashing in the valleys replaced and/or repaired as needed. The slate had to be removed along the parapet wall so that the proper flashing could be installed and then the slate was reinstalled. There are quite a few broken and damaged slate shingles that need to be replaced, and that work is ongoing. Once the roof work was under way, we also started to get some repointing of the exterior stone walls. We focused on repairing the areas that were in critical shape. On the Matthes Avenue side of the building, there was a large crack in the mortar joint above the window and leading up towards the roof outside of the music director's office. That was repaired along with the interior of the window that had separated from the wall. Many other miscellaneous areas were re-pointed as we tried to address the immediate concerns first. There are obvious areas on the exterior that we will be addressing very soon.

We are moving forward with an exploratory boiler replacement project. We hired an engineering firm to design and develop specifications and budget cost to replace the existing boiler with a more energy-efficient unit.

Another major priority is our fire alarm detection system. Currently we have a hard wired system but it only covers the Wesley Tower and elevator. This was the minimum required by the state fire marshal when the addition was built. Once

you leave that area of the building, we are virtually unprotected. We will be installing and upgrading fire alarm detection components to the rest of the building. The purpose of this is to detect fire or smoke at the earliest possible stage. It is not a sprinkler system and does not put out fires. However, right now if there was fire or smoke in the building while in an unoccupied state, there would be no means of detection until it was too late.

As you know, in April we hosted an open meeting with the Organ-A/V Committee and the congregation to discuss the future of the organ. The Organ-A/V Committee is in the process of having organ rebuilding specialist come in to evaluate the organ and give us recommendations and proposals. Once these firms have completed their evaluations and responded with their proposals, we will meet with the committee to make a final determination.

Another Sanctuary project that is about to get under way is Audio Visual upgrades. Both systems are going to be replaced in their entirety. We will be moving all of the equipment to one central location in the balcony at the back of the church. This will involve removing all existing equipment and wiring which is somewhat outdated. There are two primary reasons for this project. First, we are going to improve the quality and functionality of our systems. The second reason is safety. There are a lot of non-working components and wiring issues. Upgrading this will decrease the likelihood of having a fire.

There are several other projects in the works, including:

- The carpet in the Pastor's office and hall just outside of the office is going to be removed and replaced.

(Cont'd on the next page.)

- Replacement doors on the Matthes Avenue side landing heading down to fellowship hall
- Security Upgrades
- Parsonage repairs and painting
- Parsonage air conditioner replacement
- Sidewalk and handicap ramp replacement
- Replace parsonage Bilco door

We are also in the process of getting the communications and technology team together. Notices have been put out and we are looking for participants to help lead us into the future and address and develop the infrastructure needs of the church.

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Dear RPUMC family,

I want to thank you for the lovely luncheon provided for me and Dixie on May 17 after church! As usual, the dishes were varied and very delicious, and I know they were all prepared with love! We are so blessed at our church to have the most loving and welcoming congregation! I will miss you all, as you are a part of my family. However, I will be back to see everyone on special occasions!

In Christian Love, Pat Cummings

**PLAY IT BACK (May Messenger)**

Please note that the article entitled, "BE HAPPY, BE HEALTHY" was written by Betty Swain. It encompassed many wonderful ways in which we all can participate in activities and volunteer work to keep us "happy and healthy!"

**WESLEY TOWER BANKS**

**May 2015 \$77.61**

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Our year-to-date total is \$357.57. Empty banks can be picked up as you leave the altar area each Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.



**Memorial Tree Update 6/1/2015**

With the Memorial Day Holiday just passed, we honored all who have served their country in all of the military services. A truly wonderful way to honor those of our congregation who served in the military and have passed (members and non-members) would be by adding their name(s) to the Memorial Tree.

Thanks to all who have honored their loved ones by adding their names to the Memorial Tree. Forms are located in the Extension, Sanctuary and the vestibule on the Matthes side of the church.





## SPECIAL FATHER'S'S DAY CAMPAIGN

This year on Father's Day, June 21, RPUMC will honor our fathers and other important men in our lives by raising money for two worthy causes: UMCOR/Nepal and the Delaware National Guard Family Fund. Help us help those in need and those who have served as we celebrate together on Father's Day.

UMCOR partners with local officials to help rebuild homes and lives. You can be a part of this through your giving on Father's Day and, as always with UMCOR, 100% of your donation goes to help those in need.

The Delaware National Guard Family Fund supports deployed members' families.

If you would like to make a contribution to these worthy causes, please make your check payable to RPUMC and specify Father's Day Campaign.

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### Special Father's Day Campaign

I/we \_\_\_\_\_ honor the following men:

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**RICHARDSON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Vacation Bible School Registration**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_ HELPER

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Last School Grade Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Phone Number: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or Other Medical Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of one special friend your child might like to be with during VBS: \_\_\_\_\_

***The Adventure Starts  
Sunday, July 12 – Thursday, July 16  
5:30 pm – 8:15 pm  
Pre-School Through Grade 6***



**NOTE: HELPERS (7<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADES) MUST PRE-REGISTER**

**\*\* PLEASE SEE ADDITIONAL INFO ON BACK OF REGISTRATION \*\***

We ask that all children be picked up promptly at 8:15 p.m. We recommend you make every effort to pick up any child regardless of age; however, we realize that some children walk or may be capable of going home on their own. If your child is at least ten years old and you wish to allow him/her to leave the church without adult supervision, please check the appropriate box below and sign and date this form. If your child will be picked up each evening, please check the appropriate box below and sign and date this form.

My child may leave on his/her own at the end of each evening.

My child will be picked up in the sanctuary each evening.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign here if you will allow your child's photograph to be taken at our Everest Vacation Bible School and posted within the church building.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**Due to the United Methodist Church's Safe Sanctuary policy,  
all registration forms must be completed and signed by  
a parent or guardian!**

**Questions??? Please call 654-0961.**

**Please bring a canned good for CAP!**

# June 2015

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY                          | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY   |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|
|  | <b>1</b>                        | <b>2</b><br>6:30 PM Bible Study<br>8 PM AA Meeting                         | <b>3</b><br>10 AM Bible Study<br>6 PM NA Unity & Activities Group<br>7:30 PM NA Mtg. | <b>4 Annual Conf.</b><br>10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe<br>11 AM Free Lunch<br>8:15 PM AA Meeting           | <b>5 Annual Conf.</b><br>Fellowship Hall Res.<br>11 AM Free Lunch - Peniel | <b>6 Annual Conf.</b><br>Fellowship Hall Res.<br>10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe & Mini Yard Sale |
| <b>7</b><br>10 AM Fellowship Time<br>10:30 AM Worship and Children's Worship<br>11:45 AM Missions Mtg.           | <b>8</b><br>7 PM Finance Mtg.   | <b>9</b><br>6:30 PM Bible Study<br>8 PM AA Meeting                         | <b>10</b><br>10 AM Bible Study<br>6:30 PM NA Policy Group<br>7:30 PM NA Meeting      | <b>11</b><br>10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe<br>11 AM Free Lunch<br>8:15 PM AA Meeting                       | <b>12</b><br>11 AM Free Lunch - Peniel UMC                                 | <b>13</b>  |
| <b>14 Flag Day</b><br>10 AM Fellowship Time<br>10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church<br>11:45 AM Education Mtg. | <b>15</b>                       | <b>16</b><br>6:30 PM Bible Study<br>7 PM CAP Board Mtg.<br>8 PM AA Meeting | <b>17</b><br>10 AM Bible Study<br>7:30 PM NA Meeting                                 | <b>18</b><br>10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe<br>11 AM Free Lunch<br>8:15 PM AA Meeting                       | <b>19</b><br>11 AM Free Lunch - Peniel UMC<br>6 PM Wedding Rehearsal       | <b>20</b><br>3 PM Wedding  |
| <b>21 Father's Day</b><br>10 AM Fellowship Time<br>10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church<br>11:45 SPRC Meeting  | <b>22</b><br>6 PM Trustees Mtg. | <b>23</b><br>8 PM AA Meeting   | <b>24</b><br>7:30 PM NA Meeting  | <b>25</b><br>10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe<br>11 AM Free Lunch<br>7 PM Chancel Bells<br>8:15 PM AA Meeting | <b>26</b><br>11 AM Free Lunch - Peniel UMC<br>6 PM Koinonia Covered-Dish   | <b>27</b>  |
| <b>28</b><br>10 AM Fellowship Time<br>10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church<br>11:45 AM Church Council          | <b>29</b>                       | <b>30</b><br>8 PM AA Meeting   |  |   |  |  |

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11 NORTH MARYLAND AVENUE  
WILMINGTON, DE 19804-1305

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# “THE MESSENGER” JUNE 2015

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## LAY READERS

|         |              |
|---------|--------------|
| June 7  | Linda Keffer |
| June 14 | Rob Anderson |
| June 21 | Ryan Warfel  |
| June 28 | Paul Weaver  |

## ALTAR FLOWERS

For the month of June, Rebekah Circle is responsible for the flowers.

Please submit your articles for the July/August Messenger to the church office by Tuesday, June 9. Thank You.

## ALTAR FLOWERS

|                |                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| June 7         | Joan Stadelman            |
| At the Cross   | Ginger Pettyjohn          |
| June 14        | Rob and Michelle Anderson |
| June 21        | Alvretta Crozier          |
| At the Cross   | Bob Collins               |
| At the Lectern | Ruth Gibney               |
| June 28        | United Methodist Women    |

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

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*The mission of Richardson Park United Methodist Church is  
to feed the body and soul in the name of Jesus Christ.*