

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

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## ***Lenten Study and Preaching Schedule***

"The Teachings of Jesus that are Changing the World."

Dr. George E. Drew has written a study book entitled, "The Original Ideas of Jesus that are Changing the World," and that book (with a slightly edited title) gives us the theme of this year's Lenten Study. Each Tuesday during Lent (2/24, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24 and 3/31), a class will be held in the Lounge at 10:00 a.m. (and at 6:30 p.m., if there is enough interest). The topic for each Wednesday will become the topic of a Sunday sermon on one of the following Sundays. Therefore, if you can't come on Tuesday, you will still hear a variation of that lesson later.

The lessons, each representing a teaching that is special to Jesus' message, are as follows:

Lesson One 2/24  
"Forgiveness is the Key"

Lesson Two 3/3  
"The Duty of Aggressive Help"

Lesson Three 3/10  
"The Seeking God"

Lesson Four 3/17  
"The Importance of the Individual"

Lesson Five 3/24  
"Christianity Is Fellowship"

Lesson Six 3/31  
"A Joyous Immortality"

It is my hope that this series of classes and sermons will help us all learn a bit more about what makes Christianity so special so we can better explain our beliefs to others and so we can better practice the teachings of Jesus in our own lives.

Please come to one of the sessions on Tuesday. If you cannot attend all six sessions, that is not a problem since each class will focus on a different teaching. And perhaps the sermon that follows the class will help cover whatever you miss.

Pastor Cooke



**HOLY WEEK**

**PALM/PASSION SUNDAY**

Sunday, March 29 10:30 AM

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

Thursday, April 2 7:00 PM  
Communion

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**

Friday, April 3  
12:00 PM – Ecumenical Service  
Richardson Park UMC  
Pastor Cooke

**EASTER CELEBRATIONS**

Sunday, April 5



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

10:30 AM - Festival Worship  
Richardson Park UMC



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME**

**BEGINS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 8.**

**TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR.**



**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

Tina Holmes	3/1
Morgan Straughn	3/5
Beth Warfel	3/5
Paul McGinnis, Jr.	3/6
Ryan Warfel	3/6
Hunter Williams	3/6
Janet Dickerson	3/7
Carmen Guelen	3/7
Steven Palmer	3/7
Stephanie Swain	3/7
Kim Cloud	3/10
John DuVall	3/10
Madison Keffer	3/10
Dave Rogers	3/12
Susan Eveland	3/15
Donald Painter	3/15
Kevin Cecelia	3/16
James A. Chilcutt	3/18
Makani Johnson	3/18
David Rice	3/20
Tom Beane	3/22
Michael Coverdale	3/23
Austin Painter	3/23
James Keffer	3/24
Sue Cummings	3/25
Grace Pettyjohn	3/25
Imogene Deford	3/26
J. Robert Ashton	3/30

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



**MISSION TREE**



On Sundays in March, we are hanging **Shamrocks** on our Mission Tree. Hang a "shamrock" on the tree in honor or memory of someone special to you. Minimum donation is \$1.00. Our Mission tree is located in the Extension.

# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



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

## Ruth Circle

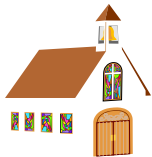
Women of the church are invited to attend "Lunch with Betty Swain" on Tuesday, March 3 at 12 noon at RPUMC. The purpose of this gathering is to discuss the possibility of reorganizing the Ruth Circle. This group of women will meet during the day, thereby giving the women of Richardson Park a choice of daytime as well as nighttime Circles. If you plan to attend, please call Betty at 302-838-6044 no later than Sunday, March 1.

## Rebekah Circle

In lieu of a meeting, the United Methodist Women invite you to attend the Moravian Love Feast on Tuesday, March 3 at 7:00 p.m. in the Extension. This devotional time will include readings and hymns as we begin Lent. There will be hot cross buns and cocoa served. We hope you will be able to join us. Please see Marlene Johnson or Pat Cummings to let us know if you are able to attend or need a ride.

## Unit Meeting

**Sunday, March 1**  
**11:45 a.m. - Extension**  
**All are welcome.**



## WESLEY TOWER BANKS

February 2015      \$58.82

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Our total to date for 2015 is \$124.87. Empty banks can be picked up as you leave the altar area each Communion Sunday. **AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.**

# CHILDREN'S CHURCH



During the month of February, the children and helpers have played, learned and grown together in God's love. We learned that God loves everyone, especially the children. Our attendance hearts "grew" each week as we studied the aspect of "Love." The nursery children come into Room 3 for attendance and music, which Ms. Beth leads. Following our "together time," the younger ones go to the Nursery. The older children read our Bible lesson, make their Bible story books and have a fun time. Oh my, it's time to close - the younger ones come back for a closing song and their Bible story book. Special thanks this month goes to Michelle and Yvonne in the Nursery.

Blessings from Ms. Marlene

## COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

**Wednesdays at Noon**

**March 4 – April 1**

**St. Mark's UMC**

**1700 Limestone Road**

A light lunch will be served after each service. If you would like to donate soup and/or bread for the lunch, please contact Cynthia Villec, the kitchen coordinator at St. Mark's. She can be reached at 995-6497.

## KOINONIA FELLOWSHIP

The Koinonia Fellowship met on Friday, February 20. At that time we snack, snack, snacked; held a short business meeting and then got down to the business of fun and games. If walls could talk!! Laughter filled the Extension!!

Plans were discussed to attend "Old-Time Gospel Radio Hour" at the Living Waters Theater in Strasburg, PA on Sunday, March 22 at 3 PM. If you wish to attend, please contact Clyde Nafzinger no later than Sunday, March 1. The concert is from 3 to 5 PM.

## URBAN PROMISE SPRING AUCTION

March 12 6 PM

For the past four or five years, Gail and I have been involved with the ministry of Urban Promise in Wilmington. Started by Rob Prestowitz, who grew up in Christ UMC, Roselle, Wilmington's Urban Promise provides educational and Christian growth opportunities for at-risk children and youth through school, after-school and summer day camp programs. They are making a very real difference in the lives of children, youth and families.

One of their major fund raisers is a Spring Auction, which will be held on Thursday, March 12, from 6 PM to 8 PM at the Carriage House at Rockwood Park, 4671 Washington Street Extension. Hearty hors d'oeuvres will be served. Tickets are \$25.00 in advance or \$30.00 at the door. For information, please call 425-5502, extension 115.

## STAINED GLASS WINDOW UPDATE

We began last year with the knowledge that all of the stained glass windows were in need of some type of repair. To date, the eight windows lining the Sanctuary and one badly damaged mullion in the Youth Room have all been restored. The restoration is so remarkable that it has garnered the attention from those outside the church, resulting in a generous \$10,000 donation from the Green Hills Lions Club for future restoration. At this time, we need \$35,000 for the completion of the restoration. Donations are still needed and no amount is too small.

## LOOKING AHEAD

We are pleased to announce that Rev. Carolyn Williams will be joining us here at Richardson Park United Methodist Church on July 5, 2015. Prior to her arrival, the Staff/Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) will be planning some informal get-togethers for everyone to become acquainted.

Rev. Williams grew up in a loving Christian home that showed by example their love for God. Her father became a minister when Carolyn was four years old. He worked full time and then traveled 100 miles one way to preach each weekend. Carolyn worked for Blue Cross/Blue Shield for 30 years and during that time felt a calling to God. While working, she obtained a B.S. in Human Services from Springfield College of Human Services. She later received a Master of Divinity from Palmer Theological Seminary.

From 2005 until 2012, she served as full-time Associate Pastor for Cornerstone UMC located in Bear, DE. She then became full-time Pastor of four churches of the Rock Hall-Fairlee Charge. At that time, she sold her home in New Castle so that she could be among the people whom she is currently serving.

Rev. Williams is single and has an adult daughter named Lisa. Rev. Williams plans on living in our church's parsonage.

I would like to share a quote from Rev. Williams' philosophy of ministry. "As disciples of Jesus Christ, it is our duty to create an environment where people feel loved, wanted, and needed."

Please join the SPRC in welcoming  
Rev. Williams.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY CHANGES

Bob Ashton - Address & Phone No.  
Kentmere Rehabilitation and  
Healthcare Center  
1900 Lovering Avenue, Room 206B  
Wilmington, DE 19806-2123  
302-652-3311 (Main No.)

Louise Beck - Room No. 609

Bob Collins - Cell No. 302-383-3612

Jimmie Focht - Address & Phone No.  
12 Archer Circle  
Newark, DE 19702  
302-723-1869

Katlyn Meadows - Address  
26 Lexington Drive  
Milford, DE 19963

Anna Mae Shewbrooks - Address  
4949 Ogletown/Stanton Road, Rm. 316  
Churchman's Village  
Newark, DE 19713  
Same phone number!

### "MISSION MOMENT"

*There is a line item in the Richardson Park Church Missions Budget that the team has carried for the past two years since I've been the chair but not many of us knew exactly what it was all about. It's called Sojourners' Place.*

Unlike emergency shelters which provide a place to get in and out of the weather, Sojourners' Place offers homeless women and men a place to get their lives back together, a place to come in to and go out from. Residents stay at Sojourners' Place as long as they need to stop being homeless. A successful graduate leaves Sojourners' Place with a full-time job and housing.

50 residents at a time stay as long as necessary to complete their individualized programs. Each resident is evaluated to determine their unique needs, and signs a contract that he or she will fully participate in achieving the goal of self-sufficiency, whether it is substance abuse education, life skills, GED, access to job training, mental health counseling or other services.

Once a resident completes the appropriate programs and is gainfully employed, Sojourners' Place continues to shelter them, teaching them how to manage their money, to save, to become responsible for their own lives. Only when they are ready, do they leave.



## INDOOR/OUTDOOR YARD SALE

**Friday, March 6 8 AM – 2 PM**  
**Saturday, March 7 8 AM – 2 PM**

Come out and shop and plan to join us for lunch. Homemade chili, hot dogs and an assortment of baked goods will be available.

Please plan to drop off any donations by Wednesday, March 4.

### 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.



### FOOD FOR CAP

Don't forget to bring food for CAP the first Sunday of each month. There is a container outside the sanctuary labeled CAP.

### ZINGO TAPES

It took all of 2014 for us to gather enough Zingo tapes to submit them to the Linden Hill Road store for the Rebate Program, but WE DID IT! In January, we received a check from Zingo's for \$172.87. Thanks to all in our congregation and our community who have contributed to this very special fund raiser. Keep those tapes coming!





## MEMORIAL TREE UPDATE – 3/1/2015

The add-on panels on the Memorial Tree have been installed and it is now complete. We have 33 names of loved ones on the tree and are receiving requests to add more names each week. Thanks to all who have honored their loved ones by adding their names to the Memorial Tree. Requesting a leaf in memory of a loved one is another way you can help support the programs of our church. Guidelines for ordering a leaf (or leaves) and order forms are located on the table beside the Memorial Tree.

Memorial Committee



## Showers of Blessings

UMW Spring Luncheon

Saturday April 11 at 12:00 noon  
Richardson Park United Methodist Church  
11 North Maryland Avenue

Join us as we celebrate the spring season.  
Enjoy sandwiches, salads, fruits, desserts  
and beverages.

Cost \$10.00

Tickets must be purchased by  
April 6, 2015

Contact Marlene Johnson 328-5806

## 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.

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, March 23. Cost of each plant is \$9.00. 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.*

# Richardson Park UMC Homemade Easter Candy Sale Fundraiser

Proceeds To Benefit RPUMC Missions

Variety of  
Fudges

## Sale Dates and Times:

Peanut  
Brittle

- Palm Sunday, 3/29/15

Before and after worship service  
10 A.M. through 1 P.M.

Dietetic  
Selections

Bark  
Candy

- Saturday, 4/4/15

During Koinonia furniture sale  
10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Chocolate  
Bunny  
Pops

And Much,  
Much More!

Cost is \$5.00/half pound and \$9.00/pound



**\*\* All proceeds to go to designated missions programs \*\***  
(More Details on the Missions Programs to Follow)

If you'd like to donate homemade candy, help with the sale of candy or have any questions about this fundraiser, please contact either Kathy Rogers at (302) 999-0445 or the church office at (302) 654-0961.

Thank You for your support!



# March 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:45 AM Mission Mtg. 11:45 AM UMW Unit Mtg.	<b>2 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b> 7 PM Endowment Committee Meeting	<b>3 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b> 10 AM Bible Study 12 PM Lunch with Betty Swain 6:30 PM Bible Study 7 PM Moravian Love Feast 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>4 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b> 12 PM Lenten Service – St. Mark's UMC 6 PM NA Unity & Activities Group 7:30 PM NA Meeting	<b>5 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b> 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 AM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>6 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b> 8 AM YARD SALE & Ye Olde Shoppe 10 AM Disciple – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	<b>7 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b> 8 AM YARD SALE & Ye Olde Shoppe
<b>8 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b> 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:45 AM Education Mtg. 11:45 AM Audio/Visual Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Bible Study 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>11</b> 12 PM Lenten Service – St. Mark's UMC 6:30 PM NA Policy Group 7:30 PM NA Meeting	<b>12</b> 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>13</b> 10 AM Disciple – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:45 AM SPRC Mtg. 11:45 AM Trustees Mtg.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>St. Patrick's Day</b>  10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Bible Study 7 PM CAP Board Mtg. 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>18</b> 12 PM Lenten Service – St. Mark's UMC 7:30 PM NA Meeting	<b>19</b> 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>20</b> 10 AM Disciple – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC 6 PM Koinonia Covered Dish	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:45 AM Council Mtg.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Bible Study 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>25</b> 12 PM Lenten Service – St. Mark's UMC 7:30 PM NA Meeting	<b>26</b> 10 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>27</b> 10 AM Disciple – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	<b>28 Fellowship Hall and Kitchen Reserved</b>
<b>29 Palm Sunday</b>  9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time and Candy Sale 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Bible Study 8 PM AA 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” MARCH 2015

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Rev. Dr. Bruce Cooke, Pastor Cell Phone: 410-924-4454 E-Mail: [becdgc@gmail.com](mailto:becdgc@gmail.com)



## LAY READERS

March 1	Chad Hughes
March 8	Tod Mitten
March 15	Kristi Doughty
March 22	Ed Ide
March 29	Janis Williams

## ALTAR FLOWERS

March 1	Tony and Glenda Donnelly
March 8	Pat Cummings
March 15	Joan Stadelman
March 22	Carolyn Swain
March 29	Jim and Cheryl Chilcutt

## ALTAR FLOWERS

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

Please submit your articles for the April Messenger to the church office by Monday, March 16. 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.*