

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
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"Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning, for in you I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul." Psalm 143:7

As I prayed and asked God, "How do you want RPUMC to answer your call in the surrounding community and beyond, I was reminded of our Annual Conference Mission. The mission is: **"Cultivating Christ communities through our CALL—Connecting, Acting, Leading, and Loving.** The question for us to contemplate is how are we connecting, acting, leading and loving? Most importantly, how can we grow in these areas?

A prayerful heart is the first step in cultivating. We connect with God's heart through prayer and our hearts are transformed by God. We begin to worry less and praise more. *"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."* (Philippians 4:6 NRSV)

We must cultivate joy. Praise and gratitude are essential if we want to grow our faith and trust in God. Praise transforms our thoughts from negative ones to joyful hope in Christ. Joy in the

Lord builds our spiritual muscles and gives us strength for the journey. *"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit."*

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-19)

We must cultivate humility. When we humble ourselves, we realize we are totally dependent upon God. Humility opens the way for us to receive all God has to offer us as His beloved children. Humility reminds us we must constantly open our hearts and allow ourselves to grow. *"Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."*

Matthew 11:29

Prayer, joy, and humility go a long way in cultivating Christ communities through the call. Are you willing to take on the call with me? Are you ready to go and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world? Are you ready for God to do a new thing in our midst? If so, let's meet one another at the altar in prayer.

*Blessings,
Pastor Carolyn*



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Joey Davis	7/1
Diane Maloney	7/2
Tom Pasmore	7/2
Joe Tucker	7/5
Bob Collins	7/6
Eric Granby	7/7
Gail Eney	7/8
David McFarland	7/10
Joey Beane	7/11
Mark Panaccione	7/13
Jennifer Patterson	7/15
Christopher Swarter	7/16
Jim Chilcutt	7/17
Bill Martin	7/17
Nancy Perugini	7/18
Bruce Cooke	7/19
Aidan Chilcutt	7/21
Nancy Jaegers	7/21
Dixie Sease	7/21
Lisa Williams	7/21
Harold Follett	7/25
Daniel Gallagher	7/25
Julia Lynch	7/26
Wyatt Rash	7/26
Michelle Anderson	7/27
RuthAnn Woodward	7/27
Mabel Dunfee	7/28
Nicole Cummings	7/30
Glenda Donnelly	7/30



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Shirl Snapp	8/1
Kathy Evely	8/3
Scott Doughty	8/4
Jacalyn Foraker	8/8
Sharon Panaccione	8/8
Isabella Warfel	8/8
Emmett Swanson	8/9
Jennifer Pettyjohn	8/10
Elmer Krebs	8/11
Kathryn Mitten	8/11
Donna Chambers	8/15
Chad Hughes	8/15
Carol Puelo	8/15
Nicole Anderson	8/18
Sara Anderson Abramov	8/18
Sandy Ide	8/20
Tom Manley	8/20
Suzy Price	8/20
Jacob Farley	8/22
Samantha Farley	8/22
Patti Green	8/24
Lisa Martin	8/25
Natalie Parks	8/27
Sandy Swain	8/27
Jane McAllister	8/29
Carol Ewing	8/31
Abigail Price	8/31

If your name is missing from our birthday list, please call the office at 654-0961. We don't want to miss your special day!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



In July, Ruth Circle will take care of the flowers in the church and in August, Rebekah Circle will take care of the flowers.

Circle meetings will resume in September.

Rebekah Circle Marlene Johnson
Ruth Circle Betty Swain

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



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Calling all "Bible Detectives! During the summer, children will come to the sanctuary. Following "Time with Children" with Ms. Beth, our group of "Bible Detectives" will venture down to Room 3. What excitement awaits! Passports will be stamped and our detective work begins as we discover "fruits of the spirit." What are these things? Become a "Bible Detective" and you will discover the answer.



WESLEY TOWER BANKS

June 2017 \$57.21

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Our year-to-date total is \$377.94. Empty banks can be picked up as you leave the altar area each Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.



Book Club had an interesting and enjoyable June meeting discussing a book by Debbie Macomber. Our book for the July 12 meeting is *David and Goliath* by Malcolm Gladwell, and for our August 9 meeting, the book is *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman. Hope to see you at one of these meetings. We meet at 7 PM in the Lounge.

July/August 2017 Technical Tips What is the Cloud?

This month the subject is the "cloud". What is it and how does it work? The following is an over simplification but should provide a basic understanding of the "cloud."

There are basically two things contained on a computer for it to be useful. They are applications and information. Early computers were self-contained machines in that all the applications and information were held on one computer.

As applications and computers became more complex, the designers began to separate them onto multiple computers. The computers running the applications and the computers storing the information were connected by a network.

Over time, organizations owned more and more application and data servers often numbering in the hundreds. Costs of maintaining the servers kept growing. Eventually someone figured out a way to sell server space to clients so that companies could better manage costs. Vendors called this product the "Cloud."

The Cloud is simply applications running over a network. The network can be a simple internal network within a specific organization such as the church or it can be a more complex application running over the internet. A good example of an internet-based Cloud application is FaceBook. The application runs on a personal device such as a smartphone, iPad or computer and the data is stored somewhere out on the internet. Another application for the Cloud is data storage such as Dropbox and Google Drive.

In summary, the Cloud is computer and/or disk space purchased from a vendor and accessed over the internet.

PRAYER SHAWLS

Nimble fingers are still at work making prayer shawls. If you know of someone who would like one, please contact Marlene or Lee. Have a great summer!

**Updates from the Missions Team
Used Stamp Collecting to Benefit
Children in South America**

As you may already know, the RPUMC Missions Team is collecting used postage stamps which will ultimately be sent to the Alliance Stamp Ministry in Fort Myers, Florida and sold to a dealer to allow for the purchase of children's Sunday School materials.

The materials are then translated into Spanish and sent to children's ministries in South America. The two baskets placed inside the church have already filled up with stamps, and the Missions Team trimmed them to size during the crafting night in early June. The stamps are then delivered to Peniel UMC to be combined with those from Marshallton and mailed all together. We're off to a great start, so keep those used postage stamps coming to support an outreach to children who might otherwise never learn about the transforming love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

A Door of Hope

On May 19, 2017, members of the RPUMC Missions Team visited A Door of Hope (ADOH) on Lancaster Avenue. Carol Doherty gave a complete tour of the facility, including the comfortable client meeting/counseling rooms, an ultrasound/exam room, the education/teaching area and a room dedicated to collecting, sorting and distributing baby clothes, diapers, bottles and other necessary items and equipment for mothers and babies. Many clients continue to stay connected to the organization and its staff long after receiving the initial help and services provided by ADOH. There are dozens of photos of happy and healthy babies displayed on the walls.

Richard Park UMC recently participated in the ADOH Baby Bottle Boomerang Fund Raiser. We received 90 empty baby bottles from ADOH and 52 bottles were picked up by people in our church family during the month of May. At the end of the fund raiser campaign on May 28, 39 baby bottles were returned to the church with cash or checks inside with an average donation of \$25 per bottle for a total of \$975.37! Carol wrote a lovely note to the Missions Team to extend a sincere "Thank You" with great appreciation for the generosity of the people of Richardson Park Church. The money will be a big help to support the vital work at A Door of Hope!

Sojourner's Place

Volunteer in Clothing Closet
Meet in RPUMC parking lot.

Saturday, July 15 at 12:00 PM

Please contact Kathy Rogers or the church office to let us know if you want to join us. Thanks in advance for your help with this important service of caring for others.

**Vacation Bible School (VBS)
Sunday, July 9 – Thursday, July 13
5:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Decoration Items Needed**

The theme for this year's VBS is "Maker Fun Factory. Start saving items we can use for decorations. We need:

- Styrofoam containers, tubes
- Buckets, old tools
- Dryer vent hoses, plastic tubing
- Metal sheets

anything that might relate to a factory. Please place items in the container located under the coat rack by the Lounge door.

Thanks for your help. Brenda Tucker

Morning Worship Video System

If you are interested in running the video system for Sunday morning worship, please call the church office at 302-654-0961 for more information.

The Shoppe at RPUMC

The Shoppe at RPUMC is open for browsing and shopping every Thursday from 9 AM to 1 PM. The Shoppe also will be open the first Saturday of each month from 9 AM to 1 PM, along with a regular or mini yard sale in Fellowship Hall. Stop in and look for some special treasures for you, your family or your friends.

Laity Enlightenment

Let's talk about sin. But first, maybe we should ask the question, why **don't** we talk about sin? Well, let's face it, sin is not the most popular topic for Sunday school teachers, pastors and laity to discuss. The mere mention of the word can immediately evoke feelings of guilt, failure, unworthiness, regret and sorrow. A sermon on sin might cause people to take offense or feel hurt because it is suggested that they have done wrong of some kind. The sensation of being judged by others may then quickly follow. No wonder no one wants to talk about sin, right?

Webster's definition of sin is as follows:

- 1 a : an offense against religious or moral law
- b : an action that is or is felt to be highly reprehensible: *it's a sin to waste food*
- c : an often serious shortcoming : fault
- 2 a : transgression of the law of God
- b : a vitiated (faulty or defective) state of human nature in which the self is estranged from God.

These definitions are all accurate, but a more applicable description of sin is any thought, word, action, omission or desire that is contrary to the law of God. The fact is that sin is a very personal thing. When we think about sin, we most likely recall our own sins or the sins of others against us. Both can affect us intensely with a flood of emotions like fear, anger, humiliation and shame. We each have our own understanding of sin and have experienced it first-hand.

To really understand sin, we must first admit that all humans are prone to sin and that Jesus was the only perfect human. The Bible says in Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." The concept of "original sin" speaks to something different than individual or personal choices. It implies that sinning is unavoidable for humankind. Temptation is often the precursor to sin. Conceivably, if there was no temptation or there was no sin, there would be no evil in the world. Thought provoking, isn't it?

So what is the prescription to cure sin? The answer is God's boundless love and grace!

Romans 3:8 reads, "But God proves His love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Remember the words of the Communion Liturgy, A Service of Word and Table, which is one of the fundamental disciplines of Methodism:

"Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another."

Each time we take communion, we have a chance to make things right with God. When you take communion again, really pay attention to the words the pastor speaks and focus especially on your response to the above, which is:

"Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

So, the next time we look in the mirror, we should look very closely and be honest with ourselves about our sins. While we admit that we are sinners, we can then recognize our shortcomings, repent and begin to see ourselves as children of God with a new opportunity each day to be a reflection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us recommit daily to follow God's laws and practice what is good in God's eyes. In the words of scripture in the book of Micah 6:8, "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God. AMEN."

Kathy Rogers, RPUMC Lay Leader

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITY
September 8, 2017 – May 18, 2018
Fridays from 10 AM to Noon
Class rotates among RPUMC, Peniel UMC and St. James

Dear Friends,

Grace and peace! We hope that you are having a restful summer. Before you know it, the fall will be upon us. This coming year the plan for the Disciple Class is to focus on two works. We will begin the year reading and studying The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, with Douglas Abrams recording this historic encounter. This is a fascinating recording of the meeting and conversation of these two wise and holy men.

Our next endeavor will be a study of the Bible. Forward Movement, a periodical publishing company, has developed a study of the Bible entitled The Path. This study is predicated on the importance of Christian people's reading and prayerful study of the Bible. In 24 weeks, we can investigate the entire Bible. Even though much of the Bible is familiar, we believe that it is a living document where God continually reaches out to speak to us.

We are looking forward to this new year of Discipleship with each of you. The cost of the two books for the coming year is:

The Book of Joy \$17
The Path \$18

St. James will order these books and you may pick them up from the St. James Church office in early August.

Blessings,

Pastors Carolyn, Ruthann and Sarah

Note: A schedule of the dates and locations is located on the bulletin board. If you would like a copy, please see Harriet-Ann in the church office. If you have questions regarding the class, please see Pastor Carolyn.

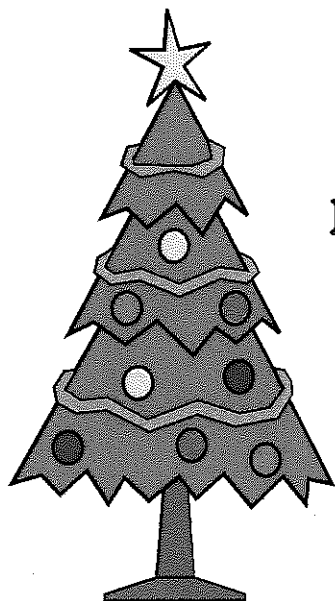
Richardson Park United Methodist Church Young Person's Ministry

Invites you to join us for...

Christmas in July

Tuesday, July 25, 2017

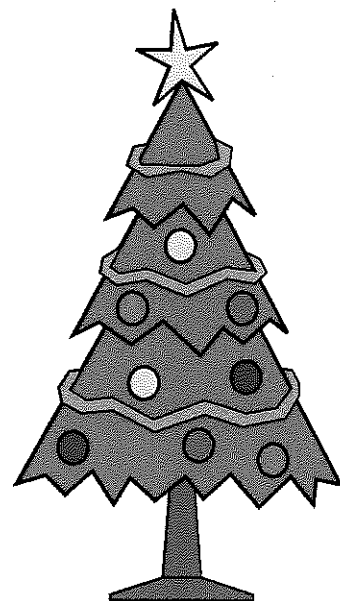
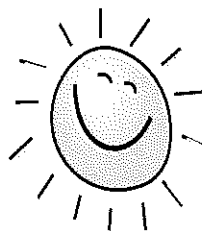
5:30—7:30pm



Kids of all ages are invited!

Families are welcome to join us!

Dinner will be provided!



Activities will include:

Melted Snowflake Fun

Cookie Decorating

Sandy Beach Ornaments

Lighting of the Tree

Singing Carols

Doing Good While Having Fun:

Prayer for Soldiers

**Operation Kid-to-Kid
(Water for Peru)**

Canned Food For CAP

Event will be held outdoors weather permitting!

Please wear clothes you don't mind getting wet!

Richardson Park UMC 11 N. Maryland Ave. Wilmington, DE 19804

July 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC & Outdoor Sale
2 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM Missions Meeting	3 VBS Set Up	4 Independence Day! Office Closed 8 PM AA Meeting	5 VBS Set Up	6 VBS Set Up 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 8:15 PM AA Meeting	7 VBS Set Up	8 VBS Set Up
9 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM UMW Unit Meeting 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM REM Team Meeting 5:30 PM VBS	10 5:30 PM VBS	11 5:30 PM VBS	12 5:30 PM VBS	13 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 5:30 PM VBS	14	15 12 PM Sojourner's Place 7 PM Scouts trip to Cowtown Rodeo
16 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM Trustee Mtg. 11:30 AM SPRC Mtg.	17 6:30 PM Scout Planning Meeting	18 8 PM AA Meeting	19	20 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 6:30 PM CAP Board Meeting 8:15 PM AA Meeting	21	22
23 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM Council Mtg.	24	25 5:30PM Christmas in July Youth Event 8 PM AA Meeting	26	27 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 8:15 PM AA Meeting	28	29
30 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church	31					

August 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 8 PM AA Meeting	2	3 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 8:15 PM AA Meeting	4	5 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC & Outdoor Sale
6 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10 AM UMW Unit Meeting 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM Mission Meeting.	7 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	8 8 PM AA Meeting	9	10 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 8:15 PM AA Meeting	11 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	12
13 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM REM Team Meeting	14 Scouts – Camp Pecometh	15 8 PM AA Meeting	16	17 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 6:30 PM CAP Board Meeting 8:15 PM AA Meeting	18	19
20 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM SPRC Mtg. 11:30 AM Trustees Meeting	21 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	22 8 PM AA Meeting	23 76:30 PM Scout Parent Meeting	24 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 8:15 PM AA Meeting	25	26
27 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship and Children's Church 11:30 AM Council Mtg.	28 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	29 8 PM AA Meeting	30	31 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 8:15 PM AA Meeting		

RICHARDSON PARK
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11 NORTH MARYLAND AVENUE
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the Messenger

JULY-AUGUST 2017

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Carolyn Williams, Pastor Cell Phone: 302-545-3528 E-Mail: pastor@rpumchurch.org



READERS

July 2	Joan Stadelman
July 9	Carol Cathell
July 16	Rob Anderson
July 23	Yvonne Mitten
July 30	Gloria Williams
August 6	Tod Mitten
August 13	Katie Klingler
August 20	Joe Tucker
August 27	Roger Longest

FLOWERS

For the month of July, Ruth Circle is responsible for the flowers and for the month of August, Rebekah Circle is responsible.

Please submit your articles for the September Messenger to the Church Office by Tuesday, August 8. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS

July 2	Ruth Gibney
July 9	Harold Ritter
July 16	Phyllis Bowman
At the Cross	Shirley Roberts
July 23	Lee Powell
At the Cross	Roger Longest
July 30	Koinonia Class
August 6	Bob and Karen Collins
August 13	Joan Stadelman
August 20	Debbie Freebery
August 27	Lynn Lafferty

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

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