

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
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"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26 NRSV

We begin the season of preparation for the celebration of Easter because we do believe Jesus is the resurrection and the life. Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent are an opportunity for us to die to self so that we can bear fruit. I searched for something meaningful which would challenge us to observe Ash Wednesday all day long. I found a great article on our United Methodist site (umc.org) called, "10 Ideas for a more meaningful Ash Wednesday." I invite you to go through the list below and choose one you want to accomplish.

Worship: Join us on March 1 at 7:00 p.m. for a time of reflecting on our own mortality and acknowledging our need to confess our sins.

Serve: On Ash Wednesday, remember we are part of the entire human family, making it a great day to **serve others**. Maybe you can serve a meal during your lunch hour or take a personal day and offer your services to a non-profit organization.

Give: You can certainly give to your congregation or a United Methodist Organization like UMCOR. Or you can be creative and leave your server a generous tip, buy coffee for the person behind you in line or wait for God to reveal an opportunity to give.

Abstain/fast: We often give up our favorite food or try to kick a habit during Lent. Challenge yourself beyond food and try to abstain from gossip or complaining. Maybe letting go of a negative attitude, or fear and anxiety will challenge you.

Pray for your day: Instead of setting aside a specific time, pray for your day; pray for drivers in vehicles, people on trains or buses commuting. Pray as you pass the hospital, police station, and government offices. Lift up trash collectors, mail carriers, your co-workers throughout the day.

Make Something: Maybe you reflect and pray best when your hands are busy. Try getting back in the workshop if you have one. Sit at a piano and let the music flow. Take out the paints, glue, clay, and other supplies to create a work of art.

Be still: Maybe you find meaning in being still. Try a centering prayer by lighting a candle and pausing before the presence of God. Take a relaxing exercise class. Enjoy a cup of coffee in a special room of the house. Observe nature and listen to God speaking to you.

Clean something: As you remove things you no longer need be mindful of the ways God "cleanses us."

Burn something: If you have a fireplace, take some of the papers you no longer need after you finish cleaning, light and burn them to ashes.

Forgive and seek forgiveness: As we pray for God's grace, we should also seek forgiveness from those you have wronged. Ash Wednesday is a great time to go to those you have hurt or have hurt you.

I pray during this season of Lent that you experience the power of Christ's resurrection in your life.

Blessings,

Pastor Carolyn



COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays at Noon

March 8

St. James Episcopal Church
Senator Delcollo

March 15

Peniel United Methodist Church
Lenora Web – In Her Shoes, Inc.

March 22

Wilmington Church of the Brethren
Kim Eppehimer – Friendship House

March 29

Richardson Park UMC
Carol Doherty – Door of Hope

April 5

Calvary Presbyterian Church
Edwin Estevez – CAP

*Please join the noon prayer services during
Lent, followed by a light lunch.*

Offertory benefits Newport Soup Kitchen.

HOLY WEEK

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Sunday, April 9 10:30 AM

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 14 12:00 PM
Ecumenical Service
Peniel United Methodist Church

EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Sunday, April 16

6:30 AM - Sunrise Service
St. James Parking Lot
10:30 AM - Festival Worship
Richardson Park UMC



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Kathy Daniels	3/5
Morgan Straughn	3/5
Beth Warfel	3/5
Paul McGinnis, Jr.	3/6
Ryan Warfel	3/6
Janet Dickerson	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
David Rice	3/20
Tom Beane	3/22
Michael Coverdale	3/23
Austin Painter	3/23
James Keffer	3/24
Sue Cummings	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.



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

BEGINS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 12.

TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



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

Circle Meetings

- Rebekah Circle Will attend the Moravian Love Feast on Monday March 6. The circle will not meet on Tuesday, March 7.
- Ruth Circle Wed., March 8 – Meeting will be held in the Extension.

**Unit Meeting – Sunday, March 5 10:00 a.m.
Lounge**

**Moravian Love Feast
Monday, March 6 7:00 p.m.
Extension**

On Monday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m. the circles will join in the Moravian Love Feast. We share devotions, music, hot cocoa and hot cross buns. It is a time to step back in history. Please let Marlene know if you are attending.

**Queen's Tea
Saturday, April 8 12:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall**

SOLD OUT

Saturday, May 13 12:30 p.m.

A special combined circle activity! Look for your invitation to this special event!!

Circle Leaders

Rebekah Circle (evening) Marlene Johnson
Ruth Circle (daytime) Betty Swain

Please join our wonderful group of dedicated women. It is a very creative and supportive group. For information, contact Marlene at 328-5806 or Betty at 838-6044.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH



Everyone is Children's Church says "Hello." We want to share some of our activities with you! Our bulletin board hearts "grew" each week as we learned more about Jesus. We carried a "person" (really a puppet) and lowered him to Jesus because we believed Jesus could heal him. Yes, we use our great imaginations! Ms. Beth taught us songs of "love" as we made a chain of children (red, yellow, black and white) - Jesus loves all of us. We are not just sitting still... this is an active learning experience - come join us! Blessings!

WESLEY TOWER BANKS

February 2017 \$71.88

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Our total to date for 2017 is \$144.29. Empty banks can be picked up as you leave the altar area each Communion Sunday. **AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.**

THE SHOPPE AT RPUMC MINI YARD SALE

Saturday, March 4 9 AM – 2 PM

Come out and shop and enjoy some refreshments while you're here.

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 2 PM. Stop in and look for some special treasures for you, your family or your friends.

Book Club/Bible Study

The weeks for the March Bible Study and Book Club will be switched. Bible Study will meet on March 8.

On March 15, Book Club will be attending the movie version of *The Shack*, a book we read and enjoyed. Please notify Paul Weaver if you plan to attend and whether you can attend a matinee. You can reach me at paulweaver53@gmail.com. We are currently planning a matinee (hopefully around 3-4 PM) with dinner to follow. We will attempt to provide more specific times in the March 5 and March 12 bulletins. Please call me with any questions.

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

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

Youth Director Position

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is searching for a Youth Director, a 20-hour per week position. If you know someone who is interested, please have them submit their résumé to the church office.

Community Action Program (CAP)

Greetings from RICHARDSON PARK Community Action Program (CAP)!

Each month, we hope to highlight one "thing" that CAP is doing and one "thing" we need. We want you to know that your contributions—finances, volunteers,

awareness-raising, donations, and prayers—matter a great deal, not only to the spirit of community and ecumenical partnership, but to every single person who walks into CAP's door seeking assistance for food, funding, counseling and hope.

WHAT WE'RE DOING...

CAP has served 150 clients in collaboration with the Friendship House for financial counseling, bus tickets, legal help, and Pastoral care in the last 6 months (September 2016-Present).

Intake process with each client is about 30 minutes and about 8 clients a day receive a 15-minute follow-up. We average 20 clients a week for food, 10 clients a week for thrift store purchases, 30 calls are fielded a day with some repeats.

In addition, for Thanksgiving and Christmas, over 80 families were helped in partnership with Richardson Park Elementary School.

WHAT WE NEED...

In the meantime, we need:

Intake Volunteers and RPCAP 50th Anniversary Project Volunteers. Orientation will be provided.

Intake Volunteers: If you're looking for a great discipleship opportunity, this is a way to learn about advocacy and offering guidance and encouragement.

If interested, please reach out to: 302.428.1247 and leave a message with the person who answers the phone, or in the voicemail system; OR email Rev. Edwin Estevez at churchriverfront@gmail.com.

RPCAP 50th Anniversary Project Volunteers:

2017 is the year that RPCAP celebrates 50 years of community ministry. We would love to receive ideas for ways of commemorating this milestone, raising awareness about CAP and raising funds for our ministry.

If you would like to get involved, please contact our Board Vice-President/Secretary Deb Steinbrunner: Gia33mm@comcastnet or call her at 302.994.5225

March 2017 Safe Computing Tip

Last month I said this month's tip would be a tutorial covering how to find files to back up. However, since the last article, I have encountered several occurrences of phishing attacks so it seems appropriate to cover this topic again.

Phishing Attacks

Phishing attacks all have one thing in common – to cause you to expose your computer to the attacker so that malware may be installed. The most common form of malware is a keystroke logger. This software logs all your keystrokes and makes the log available to remote servers. The attackers then use the logs to scan for any personal or financial information such as passwords, logon ID's, social security numbers, etc.

How do the attackers operate?

There are two key ways that attackers gain access to your system. The first method is through links to malicious web sites embedded in an email or an attachment such as a word, excel or pdf document. When you access the link or open the attachment, a small script is loaded to your device which then connects to a remote server and downloads more software, such as the keystroke logger. The second method is to post an error message on your screen notifying you that your computer has a problem and will be locked until fixed. A phone number is provided for technical support to fix the problem. The technical support will want to remotely access your computer and "fix" the problem. Their software will report numerous problems and show that these have been fixed. All the messages are made up. All that really happens is the attacker installs a keystroke logger and tracking software. There is a nominal fee (\$100 to \$300) to fix the problem, and to pay them you of course need to provide your credit card number. At this point the attacker has access to all your personal information installed on your computer and your credit card number.

How do you block these attacks

It's important to understand that standard anti-virus software and firewalls will not block the malicious software. There are some very simple steps to follow:

- Do not open any emails from sources you don't know;
- Do not open any email attachments unless you are very sure of the source;
- Do not view emails in html format but use text format if possible;
- Do not automatically open emails;
- If you receive an error message that your computer is having problems and is locked, do NOT call the phone number provided. Take your computer to a reputable repair facility to fix the issue;
- If you receive a phone call from someone claiming to be from Microsoft, do not believe them. It's a phishing attack.

These attacks apply equally to Windows, Mac and smartphones.

Just follow these simple tips and be very careful opening emails and attachments. Good luck and safe computing.

Jim Chilcutt

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training – St. Mark's UMC Saturday, April 1 7:30 AM-5:30 PM

St. Mark's UMC is sponsoring this training program in their Fellowship Hall. The maximum number of participants is 40. St. Mark's has graciously offered us 6 slots. Please respond by Wednesday, March 15.

Learn how to protect yourself from an active shooter or a terrorist attack. This program is free. If you are interested in attending, contact Joan Wolf at jmwolf46@comcast.net.

CERT is a national program. Anyone who completes the course will be given a certificate signed by the Delaware Emergency Management Agency's (DEMA) Director and Program Manager. You will also receive a CERT Kit with helmet, vest, and other emergency supplies.

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 Friday March 31. 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.

March 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Ash Wednesday 12 PM Ash Wednesday Service – Peniel UMC 7 PM Ash Wednesday Service - RPUMC	2 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 6:30 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	3 Fellowship Hall Reserved 10 AM Bible Study – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	4 Fellowship Hall Reserved 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC and Mini Yard Sale
5 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM UMW Unit Mtg. 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship and Children’s Church 11:30 AM Mission Mtg.	6 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts 7 PM UMW Moravian Love Feast	7 8 PM AA Meeting	8 12 PM Ruth Circle 12 PM Lenten Service – St. James 7 PM Bible Study	9 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 6:30 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	10 10 AM Bible Study – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	11 RPUMC ATTIC CLEAN OUT
12 Daylight Saving Time 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship and Children’s Church 11:30 AM REM Team Mtg.	13 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	14 8 PM AA Meeting	15 12 PM Lenten Service – Peniel UMC Book Club – Matinee and Dinner (Time TBD)	16 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 6:30 PM CAP Board Mtg. 6:30 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	17 St. Patrick’s Day  10 AM Bible Study – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC 6:30 PM Koinonia Game Night	18 8:30 AM Missions – Sojourner’s Place
19 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. PM Fellowship Hall Reserved	20 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	21 8 PM AA Meeting	22 12 PM Lenten Service – Wilm. Church of the Brethren	23 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 6:30 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	24 11 AM Bible Study – St. James	25 Fellowship Hall Reserved
26 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship and Children’s Church 11:30 AM Council Mtg.	27 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	28 8 PM AA Meeting	29 Fellowship Hall Reserved 12 PM Lenten Service - RPUMC	30 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch 6:30 Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Mtg.	31 Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall Reserved 10 AM Bible Study – St. James 10:30 AM Visitation– Shirley Ritter Funeral 11 AM Funeral 12 PM Luncheon	

RICHARDSON PARK
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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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“THE MESSENGER” MARCH 2017

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E-Mail: pastor@rpumchurch.org



LAY READERS

March 5	Claudia McFarland
March 12	Linda Keffer
March 19	Carol Cathell
March 26	Sheldon Edwards

ALTAR FLOWERS

March 5	Tony and Glenda Donnelly
March 12	Pat Cummings
March 19	Joan Stadelman
March 26	Ruth Phillips
At the Cross	Carol Cathell

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

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

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Please submit your articles for the
April Messenger to the church office by
Monday, March 13. Thank You.

*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.*