

Richardson Park United Methodist Church  
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*"How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?"  
1 John 3:17*

Imagine, if you will, a child getting off a school bus and not knowing where they will lay their head at night. Imagine a parent going to work every day but their income isn't sufficient to cover unexpected expenses. Maybe they have to choose between paying their rent or repairing their car so they can continue to make it to work. Imagine parents losing their jobs and finding themselves in the predicament of trying to find a shelter which allows them to stay together until they can get on their feet. A person experiencing homelessness isn't always the stereotype we perceive them to be.

We often picture the homeless as people who have no shelter and walk the streets or sleep in the park. We think of them as that person holding up a sign that says, "Will work for food." Sadly, in the State of Delaware, one of every five people experiencing homelessness is a child.

We, the family and friends of Richardson Park UMC, have an opportunity to shine the light of Christ through the ministry of *Family Promise*. Family Promise provides

opportunities for faith communities to put their faith into action. Serving is not limited to any age. You can serve as a group or individuals.

In the early spring, Family Promise is opening a new facility which will provide an opportunity to churches who are unable to host families in their buildings to get involved. The new model will happen at a centrally located facility. Churches who are not currently involved are being asked to make this new adventure a success.

The Missions Committee and I are looking for volunteers who are willing to give a few hours for one week every three months to help four-five families experiencing homelessness. The families have participated in background checks prior to being accepted in the Family Promise program. These families have the potential to be back on their feet within months.

How can Richardson Park UMC help?

Room Set Up (Sundays 2 hrs. (4-10 people)

- Set up 4-6 rooms for families
- Prepare common/ dining area

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



Meal Preparation/ Dinner Host (Dinner, breakfast on Sat. and/or Sun.) (2-8 people)

- Prepare a meal to feed up to 25 people
- Serve the meal and eat with guest families
- Clean up after the meal

Evening Visitors: During and after meal  
5:00 pm - 9/10:00 pm (2-6 people)

- Listen and provide hospitality to guest families
- Participate in activities/games, read, assist with homework, watch movies, etc.

Overnight Hosts, Weekends: 8:00 pm-6:30 pm (2 people)

- Meet families and stay overnight
- Be sure families are ready in the AM
- Set out breakfast items and make coffee
- Lock all rooms in AM

Room Take Down: Sunday, 2 hrs. (4-10 people)

- Turn over linens in guest rooms and clean common areas

Take a look at the volunteer form in this newsletter and see where your name fits. We may not be able to do it all but we can do something! Let's make God smile by serving His children. Additional information to follow (i.e. training, start date, additional details etc.). *"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." Hebrews 13:16*

*Blessings, Pastor Carolyn*

Anastasia Hayman	2/2
Edward Podgorski	2/4
Beverly Cuomo	2/5
Terry Bourdon	2/7
Bill Green	2/7
Carol Cathell	2/10
Mary Sutor	2/11
Brian Crozier	2/12
Terri Antonine	2/13
Cassandra King	2/13
Byrom Price	2/13
Ellen Willard	2/14
Robert Davis	2/16
Karen Gibbons	2/17
Elaine Spedden	2/17
Frank Pugh	2/18
Kathy Gibbons	2/20
Bettie Smith	2/20
Robert Truitt	2/20
Kristin Fleming	2/21
Bethany Pasmore	2/21
Morgan Coverdale	2/23
Ben Brindle	2/24
Bob Thomas	2/24

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

*Thank You  
So Much*

**Many thanks to our church family for the generous Christmas gifts. It is a blessing to work with all of you. Your thoughtfulness and support are very much appreciated. May God bless you in 2018.**

***Pastor Carolyn, Don, Harriet-Ann and Beth***



# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

February is the month of Valentine's Day and thoughts of love. RPUMC certainly shared lots of love in December. The UMW held two events: The Annual Cookie Walk and the Baby Shower for Jesus. The congregation's response to both events was amazing! Thank you so much for supporting the clothes closet of Richardson Park Elementary School and the baby items donated for CAP.

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

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**  
**FEBRUARY 14 12 PM PENIEL UMC**  
**7 PM RPUMC**

## COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

### Wednesdays at Noon

**February 21**

Peniel United Methodist Church

**February 28**

St. James Episcopal Church

**March 7**

Wilmington Church of the Brethren

**March 14**

Richardson Park United Methodist Church

**March 21**

Calvary Presbyterian Church - Tentative

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

**Offertory benefits Newport Soup Kitchen.**

**March 30 Noon**

Community Good Friday Service  
Peniel United Methodist Church  
Bishop Peggy Johnson will attend



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME**

**BEGINS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 11**

**TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR**

### Circle Meetings

Rebekah Circle    Tues., Feb. 6    7:00 p.m.  
Lounge

Ruth Circle        Wed., Feb. 14    12:00 p.m.  
Lounge

**Unit Meeting – Sunday, February 4**  
**10:00 a.m. - Lounge**

**Mark your Calendars!**  
**Saturday, April 14 12:00 PM**

Come and enjoy the "Mad Hatter Tea"  
Tickets: \$15.00 Contact Marlene at 328-5806  
Don't miss this fun afternoon!

### Circle Leaders

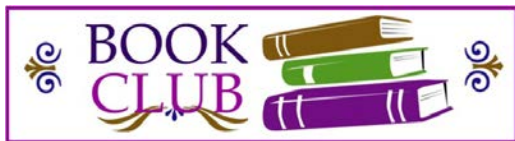
Rebekah Circle                      Marlene Johnson  
Ruth Circle                            Betty Swain

The United Methodist Women is a group of dedicated women who strive to develop a creative, supportive fellowship and expand concepts of mission. Please come and join a wonderful "sisterhood" of women. For information, contact Marlene at 328-5806 or Betty Swain at 838-6044.



### WESLEY TOWER BANKS

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Empty banks can be picked up as you leave the altar area each Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.



Due to our Ash Wednesday service, Book Club will not be held in February. We will resume normal monthly meetings on Wednesday, March 14.

**LAITY/CLERGY BANQUET**  
**Monday, March 5 7 PM**  
**Cornerstone UMC**

If you've ever had an opportunity to attend the laity/clergy banquet, you know it's a wonderful celebration. It's an opportunity to give thanks for the talented laity in the Wilmington District. This year the banquet is honoring Lay Leaders. Our very own Kathy Rogers is the honoree representing Richardson Park UMC. If you want to attend this event and show your support for Kathy, it's being held on Monday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. The location is Cornerstone UMC, 3135 Summit Bridge Rd., Bear, DE. Tickets to attend this celebration are \$10.00 and must be purchased in advance. This includes light refreshments. Let's show Kathy how much we love and appreciate her sacrifice of time and talent for the Kingdom of God.

**Tickets must be purchased by Sunday, February 18. No tickets will be sold at the door. Make checks payable to: *United Methodist Wilmington District*, MAIL TO: Karen S. Jones, 3983 S. DuPont Pkwy, Townsend, DE 19734. Mark checks for District Laity/Clergy Celebration.**



Thanks to everyone for the visits, cards, prayers and flowers during my illness. I hope to see all of you soon.

Ed Ide

## BAGS OF BLESSINGS

Bags of Blessings are truly appreciated by the recipients because they provide nutrition when a meal isn't available. The Mission Team appreciates all the donations given by the church which make this vital ministry possible. The supplies are running a little low and we need to restock. If you are out shopping and able to pick up a few supplies for the bags, please feel free to purchase the following items:

Bottled water (small 8 oz. size)

Individually wrapped packages of the following:

Crackers and Cheese or Peanut Butter Crackers-  
The 4 crackers to a pack type (can be found at the Dollar Store)

Goldfish (individual bags)

Cheez-it Crackers (individual bags)

Single serving Peanut Butter cups or Nutella cups  
(can be found at the Dollar Store)

Fruit Snacks (fruit cups can be found at the Dollar Store)

Protein Bars

Cookies

Any questions, please see Lee Powell.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

## FAMILY GAME NIGHT

**Saturday, February 17 5 – 7:15 PM**  
**Dinner Provided!!!**

Please join us for a Family Fun Night on Saturday, February 17 in Fellowship Hall for a Valentine's-themed game night. Enjoy an evening playing games and spending time with your family. Please bring your favorite family game(s) and a dessert to share. Children and adults of all ages are welcome! We'll have a great time!



## **The Shoppe at RPUMC**

**The Shoppe at RPUMC will be open for browsing and shopping every Thursday from 9 AM to 1 PM beginning Thursday, February 1. On the first Saturday of each month, beginning February 3, The Shoppe is open, along with a mini-yard sale! So stop by the first Saturday of each month from 9 AM to 2 PM and look for some special treasures for you, your family or your friends. Proceeds from the sale of items in the Shoppe support various Mission Projects.**

## **February 2018 Tech Tip**

Happy New Year everyone. Its time again to get ready for a new round of the old scams. This month's article will look at two popular methods to scam you out of your savings.

First is the windows tech support scam. I personally have received at least 4 of these this month. The caller claims to be representing Microsoft support and that they have detected a problem with your computer. The scammer is attempting to get you to allow them to have remote access to your computer to "fix" the problem. Once connected, the scammer is able to download malicious software which can track your keystrokes and allow the capture of personal information. In addition, the scammer will charge for the service by asking for credit card payment of an outrageous fee. The next part of the scam is identity theft since they now have your name, address and credit card information. Remember, you should NEVER give out your credit card information over the phone to an unsolicited caller.

The second scam to look out for is scammers attempting to get your Social Security Number. I have read that, starting in April of this year, Medicare will be sending out new Medicare

cards with a random ID instead of your social security number. Any time there is a change which may create uncertainty, scammers will try to use that to their advantage. Don't be surprised if there are a new set of scams to try to get you to reveal your name and SSN. An important fact to remember is it is rarely necessary to give out your Social Security Number. If asked to do so, challenge the requester and insist on justification.

Have an enjoyable year and remember your personal information is the same as cash. Protect it like you would your money. Never trust an unsolicited phone caller or sales person. Challenge all strangers coming to your door and always verify their identity.



**Thank  
You!!!**

**Golfers for Food  
Green Hills Lions Club, Inc.**

God bless you for all you do in partnership with Richardson Park UMC to help minister to those in need. Your ongoing contributions of food for our Free Lunch Program have enhanced our mission. The participants at lunch always look forward to your visits each month and appreciate all the extra staples you have to offer. We are grateful for the time and effort you put forth to make this mission project a success to those in our community who need a helping hand. And thank you for making the 2016 Christmas holiday extra special for everyone. We look forward to working beside you in 2017.



## Family Promise Serving Opportunities

**Family Promise volunteers commit to serve on a team for one week out of the year. Please see the opportunities below and check where you would like to serve.**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Info\_\_\_\_\_

Room Set Up (Sundays 2 hrs. (4-10 people)

- Set up 4-6 rooms for families
- Prepare common/ dining area

Meal Preparation/ Dinner Host (Dinner, breakfast on Sat. and/ or Sun.) (2-8 people)

- Prepare a meal to feed up to 25 people\_\_\_\_\_
- Serve the meal and eat with guest families\_\_\_\_\_
- Clean up after the meal\_\_\_\_\_
- Shop for food supplies\_\_\_\_\_

Evening Visitors: During and after meal 5:00pm- 9/10:00pm (2-6 people)

- Listen and provide hospitality to guest families\_\_\_\_\_
- Participate in activities-games, read, assist with homework, watch movies etc.\_\_\_\_\_

Overnight Hosts, Weekends: 8:00pm-6:30pm (2 people)

- Meet families and stay overnight\_\_\_\_\_
- Be sure families are ready in the AM\_\_\_\_\_
- Set out breakfast items and make coffee\_\_\_\_\_
- Lock all rooms in AM\_\_\_\_\_

Room Take Down: Sunday, 2hrs (4-10 people)

- Turn over linens in guest rooms and clean common areas\_\_\_\_\_

**Please return form to Pastor Carolyn or the office**



# February 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>1</b> 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30 AM Free Lunch 6:30 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>2</b> 10 AM Disciple – Peniel UMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	<b>3</b> 9 AM Sale – The Shoppe at RPUMC, the Annex and the Parsonage
<b>4</b> 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10 AM UMW Unit Mtg. 10:30 AM Worship & Children’s Church 11:30 AM Mission Team 11:30 AM Membership Class	<b>5</b> 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 279 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 329 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	<b>6</b> 7 PM Rebekah Circle 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>7</b> 6:30 PM Scout Board Meeting	<b>8</b> 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30 AM Free Lunch 6:30 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>9</b> 10 AM Disciple – Peniel UMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	<b>10 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b>
<b>11</b> 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship & Children’s Church 11:30 AM SPRC Mtg. 7 PM Worship Committee Mtg.	<b>12</b> 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 279 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 329 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	<b>13</b> 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>14 Valentine’s Day &amp; Ash Wednesday</b> 12 PM Ash Wednesday Service – Peniel UMC 12 PM Ruth Circle 7 PM Ash Wednesday Service - RPUMC	<b>15</b> 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30 AM Free Lunch 6:30 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>16</b> 10 AM Disciple – Peniel UMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	<b>17 Fellowship Hall Reserved</b> 12:30 PM Koinonia Game Day 5 PM Fun and Game Night
<b>18 Scout Sunday</b> 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship & Children’s Church 11:30 AM Trustees Mtg.	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 279 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 329 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	<b>20</b> 7 PM CAP Board Mtg. 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>21</b> 12 PM Lenten Service – Peniel UMC 7 PM Bible Study	<b>22</b> 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30 AM Free Lunch 6:30 PM Chancel Bells 7:15 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	<b>23</b> 10 AM Disciple – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	<b>24 Flag Day</b>
<b>25</b> 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship & Children’s Church 11:30 AM Council Mtg.	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 279 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 329 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	<b>27</b> 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>28</b> 12 PM Lenten Service – St. James			

RICHARDSON PARK  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
11 NORTH MARYLAND AVENUE  
WILMINGTON, DE 19804-1305

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Permit No. 162

## “THE MESSENGER” FEBRUARY 2018

Office Phone: (302) 654-0961 Office Hours: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM T-F FAX #: (302) 655-7446  
E-Mail, Pastor: pastor@rpumchurch.org E-Mail: rpumc@rpumchurch.org  
Carolyn Williams, Pastor



*Happy  
Valentine's  
Day*



### LAY READERS

February 4  
February 11  
February 18  
February 25

Linda Keffer  
Brenda Tucker  
Sherlynn Aurelio  
Kristi Doughty

### ALTAR FLOWERS

February 4  
February 11  
February 18  
February 25

Sherlynn Aurelio  
Chancel Bells & Choir  
Bob Evely  
Ruth Gibney

### ALTAR FLOWERS

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

\* \* \* \* \*

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

\* \* \* \* \*

Please submit your articles for the  
March Messenger to the church office by Monday,  
February 12. 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.*