

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

Phone: 302-654-0961
Fax: 302-655-7446
E-Mail: rpumc@rpumchurch.org



*"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,
give thanks in all circumstances; for this is
the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

It's easy to be grateful for good times. When the sun is shining, flowers are blooming, and birds are singing, it's easy to give thanks. On the other hand, it's not easy to be grateful when it's raining outside, and we have to carry a load of groceries into the house or run errands.

It takes a special effort to give thanks for bad times, as well as good times; for set backs as well as successes; for weakness as well as strength.

Henry Nouwen, a Dutch priest, wrote these words about gratitude: "Still, we are only truly grateful people when we can say thank you to all that has brought us to the present moment."

If we cannot get beyond dividing our lives into things we want to embrace and all the rest that we prefer to forget, then we will not experience the fullness of God in every part of our life. Maybe God has something to say through our bad times. Even when we have to carry groceries through the rain and the bag breaks

spilling our groceries on the ground, God might be whispering to us in a still small voice. Perhaps we may need to look at the rain as blessing because it's the nourishment needed for the food which grows from soil; food we take for granted because we have the convenience of picking it up at the grocery store.

Looking ahead to Easter, let's see if we can look at every experience that has brought us to where we are now and trust that we have never been apart from God. When you feel discouraged remember this promise from God, *"I will never leave you or forsake you."* Hebrews 13:5b

Check out the messenger calendar for upcoming events leading to Resurrection Sunday!

Blessings,

Pastor Carolyn





MARCH BIRTHDAYS

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays at Noon

March 7

Wilmington Church of the Brethren

March 14

Richardson Park United Methodist Church

March 21

Richardson Park United Methodist Church

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

Offering benefits Newport Soup Kitchen.

March 30 Noon

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

EASTER WORSHIP – April 1

6:30 a.m. - Sunrise Service – St. James
10:30 a.m. – Easter Worship - RPUMC



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

**BEGINS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 11
TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR**

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
Jackson Beane	3/19
David Rice	3/20
Tom Beane	3/22
Michael Coverdale	3/23
Austin Painter	3/23
James Keffer	3/24
Sue Cummings	3/25
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.



Koinonia Class

LARGE YARD SALE

Friday March 9 – 8am – 3pm
Saturday March 10 – 8am – 2pm

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 16. Cost of each plant is \$9.00. Please make your check payable to Richardson Park United Methodist Church and mark "Easter Lilies" on the memo line.

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.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

We are in the season of Lent. As we travel these 40 days, the circles have special programs for reflection and devotions. Please join one of our circles if you are able.

Circle Meetings

Rebekah Circle Tues., Mar. 6 7:00 p.m.
Extension

Ruth Circle Wed., Mar. 14 12:00 noon

Unit Meeting – Sun., Mar. 4 10 a.m. - Lounge

The “Mad Hatter Tea” on April 14 is a sell-out! Thanks to everyone who bought tickets for this fun-filled afternoon. This is our major fundraiser of the year. Your wonderful response helps us to fund many of our on-going projects. Thank you!!

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. We are always so pleased to welcome new members to this wonderful “sisterhood” of caring women. For information, contact Marlene at 328-5806 or Betty Swain at 838-6044.



WESLEY TOWER BANKS

January 2018 \$93.74
February 2018 \$44.35

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.**



Book Club will meet on Wednesday, March 14, at 7 PM.

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

The Shoppe at RPUMC

The Shoppe at RPUMC is open for browsing and shopping every Thursday from 9 AM to 1 PM. On the first Saturday of each month, the Shoppe is open, along with a mini-yard sale! So stop by the first Saturday of each month from 9 AM to 1 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.



CRAYONS FOR CHRIST

Crayons for Christ is a new “once-a-month” small group for YOUNG people. We will meet the last Wednesday of each month from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m. Dinner will be provided. Kids/Youth ages 5 and up are welcome. We will find ways to connect with God through art and devotionals.

TRUSTEES ATTIC CLEAN-OUT

**Saturday, March 24 starting at 8 a.m.
All help will be gratefully received.**

RPUMC REM Missions Team Meeting is always the first Sunday of each month.

The next REM Missions Meeting is March 4, 2018 at about 11:45 a.m. after Worship Service. Please join us to plan and organize upcoming mission's events.

As you share you time and talents in service to others, you'll be blessed ten-fold!

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Upcoming REM Missions Opportunities*

Come join in serving others through these easy and fun activities!

***Sojourner's Place Clothing Closet Cleanup
Volunteering for two hours**

- Saturday, March 17, 2018
- Saturday, April 21, 2018

Meet in the Church Parking Lot at 8:30 a.m. to carpool to Sojourner's Place.

***Crafting for A Cause – Making Scripture
Crafts to Share God's Word with Others**

- Friday, March 16, 2018 – Easter Eggs for Holy Week
- Friday, April 20, 2016 – Celebration of Spring

Meet in the Church Lounge at 6 P.M. for an hour or two of creative fun and fellowship!

***Contact Kathy Rogers for additional information or if you plan to join any of these activities.**

Thank You and God Bless You!



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

March 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 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	2 10 AM Disciple – St. James Episcopal Church 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	3 2 PM – Celebration of Life for Kathy Daniels
4 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10 AM UMW Unit Mtg. 10:30 AM Worship & Children’s Church 11:30 AM REM Mission Team 11:30 AM Membership Class	5 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 279 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 329 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts 7 PM – Annual Laity/Clergy Celebration – Cornerstone UMC	6 Fellowship Hall Reserved 7 PM Rebekah Circle 8 PM AA Meeting	7 Fellowship Hall Reserved 12 Noon – Lenten Service – Church of the Brethren 6:30 PM Scout Board Meeting	8 Fellowship Hall Reserved 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	9 Fellowship Hall Reserved – 8 AM - 3 PM Koinonia Yard Sale 10 AM Disciple – St. James Church 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	10 Fellowship Hall Reserved 8 AM – 2 PM Koinonia Yard Sale
11 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship & Children’s Church 11-4 Scouts Pinewood Derby 11:30 AM SPRC Mtg.	12 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 279 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 329 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	13 8 PM AA Meeting	14 12 PM Lenten Service – RPUMC 12 PM Ruth Circle 7PM Book Club in the Lounge	15 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	16 10 AM Disciple –St. James Church 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC 6 PM Crafting for a Cause	17 8:30 AM Sojourner’s Place Clothing Closet Cleanup
18 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship & Children’s Church 11:30 AM Trustees Mtg.	19 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 279 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 329 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	20 8 PM AA Meeting	21 12 PM Lenten Service – RPUMC 7 PM Bible Study	22 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	23 10 AM Disciple – St. James 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	24 Attic Clean-out Trustees and Volunteers Needed Starting at 8 am.
25 PALM SUNDAY 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship & Children’s Church 11:30 AM Council Mtg	26 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 279 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 329 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Cub Scouts	27 8 PM AA Meeting	28 6 PM Crayons for Christ	29 Holy Thursday 7 PM Communion 8:PM Chancel Choir	30 Good Friday 12 Noon – Community Service – Peniel UMC (Bishop Peggy attending)	31

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 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

LAY READERS

March 4----	Sath Amara
March 11	Ashley Land
March 18	Sherlynn Aurelio
March 25	Carol Cathell

ALTAR FLOWERS

March 4	Tony & Glenda Donnelly
March 11	Pat Cummings
March 18	Joan Stadelman
March 25	Ruth Phillips
	At the Cross: Carol Cathell

ALTAR FLOWERS

For the month of March, 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
April Messenger to the church office by Monday,
March 19. 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.*