

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
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Celebrating the offering is a spiritual act of worship every believer can actively participate in each week. Giving becomes a celebration when the believer discovers the joy of generosity, which grows out of God's grace." — Melvin Amerson, *Celebrating the Offering*

I came across this article on our United Methodist website. It's a great reminder for us as we approach Stewardship/Laity Sunday on October 21st. It encourages us to remember why we give, what we should give and to whom it belongs.

We Give

To belong to our congregation is to be a steward. Some may say that "stewardship" is just a polite way of referring to financial giving to the church. But it's far more than that.

One character in some of Jesus' parables is the steward — the servant charged by the master to care for the master's property. It is the master, not the steward, who owns the property, but the steward is responsible for it and is accountable to the master. So it is, said Jesus, between God and us. As God's stewards we have three responsibilities:

- *Receiving:* We receive with joyful thanksgiving the many gifts that God

showers upon us — time, talent, treasure, our bodies, our friendships, natural resources, and the beauty around us.

- *Managing:* We take good care of what we have received. We manage these resources wisely — for our own good and the good of others.
- *Giving:* Out of our gratitude in receiving so abundantly, we want to share with others. Let's look at four kinds of gifts that we receive, manage, and share:

Our time

We did nothing to earn the hours, the days, the weeks of our lives. Time is a gift of God. How we choose to use it is a matter of stewardship. Some people lead lives of frenetic activity, always over-extending themselves to the point of exhaustion, while others sit around in apathetic boredom. Some spend all their hours serving the needs of others at the expense of their own, while others live only for themselves.

As Christian stewards we try to manage time wisely and in a balanced way. And we give our time gladly to family and friends, to strangers, to the community, the church, and to ourselves.

Our abilities

Do you remember Jesus' parable of the three servants who received different amounts of money to manage while the master was away? We've each received from God distinctive gifts and talents. How we develop and use these talents is a matter of stewardship. Like two of the servants in Jesus' story, we can invest them wisely — or like the third, out of fear we can hide them (Matthew 25: 14-30).

As stewards, we acknowledge the gifts we have without apology. We develop them further, practicing new skills and putting our talents to work in ministry.

Our resources

We may think that our financial resources are our own. But when we recall that the time, the energy, the good health, and the opportunities for employment behind these dollars are all gifts from God, we see that the funds belong to God too. We are the stewards; God is the owner. So questions about what we earn, how we earn it, how we save, spend, and give it away, are all questions of Christian stewardship.

One vital aspect of our stewardship is our giving to Christ's work in the world. We've learned that giving is most effective when we commit ourselves to give a definite proportion of our income through the church. For many, this proportion is one-tenth, or a tithe. Whatever the amount, we have discovered the joy in giving to God the "first fruits," an amount "off the top" of our income, not what's left over at the end of the month.

See you at the Joash Chest on Sunday October 21st!

Blessings,

Pastor Carolyn

2018 CHARGE CONFERENCE WILMINGTON DISTRICT

**Saturday, October 27
9:30 AM**

**Hillcrest-Bellefonte UMC
400 Hillcrest Avenue**

All charge conferences are in a cluster now. We are in a cluster with the churches who participated in the revival. Our cluster is: Hillcrest-Bellefonte, Brandywine Community, Church of the Atonement, Holly Oak Calvary, Mt. Lebanon, Mt. Salem and RPUMC.

PARKING LOT CLOSURES

Both of our parking lots will be closed on Monday, October 1 through Wednesday, October 3 for repair work and lines painted for parking spaces. Positive Performance, across the street, graciously offered to let us use their parking lot if necessary.

Koinonia Class

The Koinonia Class will meet at 11 AM on the following dates:

Saturday, October 20
Saturday, November 17
Saturday, December 15



**Daylight Saving Time Ends on Sunday,
November 4 at 2 AM.**

Time to turn your clocks back one hour!!!



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Karen Boyd	10/1
Brittany Brown	10/1
Allison Cox	10/2
Chrysta Martin	10/3
DeeDee Painter	10/3
Jane Thomas	10/3
Bob Evely	10/4
Edward Przywara	10/4
Claire Austin	10/6
Alissa Ayala	10/6
Lincoln Klingler	10/6
Roger Longest	10/6
Mike Phillips	10/6
Cheryl Chilcutt	10/7
Angela Buhner	10/8
Jessica Donnelly	10/9
Mary Hall	10/9
Tony DiMauro	10/10
Kaia Phillips	10/10
Logan Phillips	10/10
Melissa Hughes	10/11
Chelsea Chilcutt	10/12
Sarah Pasmore	10/12
Ken Bourdon	10/13
Dan Freebery	10/13
Emma Perugini	10/13
Jerry Toy	10/13
Dennis Earvase	10/16
Yvette Hayman	10/17
Riley Kaucz	10/19
Patrick Donnelly	10/22
Lovedy Berkley	10/26
Paulette Lazzaro	10/26
Dianna Deaton	10/26
Eric Fleming	10/27
Tod Mitten	10/27
Scott Cloud	10/28
Ashley Lang	10/30
Anthony Steward	10/31

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

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



What a wonderful start to the UMW circles – new members! This is a great way to start our new season.

In October, Rebekah Circle will take care of the flowers in the church. We do need help delivering the beautiful bouquets. Our shut-ins love to see visitors and share news. Please let Marlene or Betty know if you are willing to help in this outreach ministry.

Circle Meetings

Rebekah Circle	Tuesday, October 2 7:00 p.m. – Lounge
Ruth Circle	Wed., October 10 12 Noon – Lounge

Circle Leaders

Rebekah Circle	Marlene Johnson
Ruth Circle	Betty Swain

United Methodist Women is a sisterhood of caring. If you are not a member, prayerfully consider becoming a member of this dedicated group of women.

Dates to Remember!

Sunday, October 21
UMW/Laity Sunday

Who will receive this year's mission recognition pin? Come to church and it will be revealed during the worship service.

Saturday, October 27
Pen-Del Annual Conference in the
Easton District

Saturday, December 8
Annual Cookie Walk
9 AM - The Extension

Sunday, December 9
Covered Dish Luncheon and
"Baby Shower for Jesus"
11:30 AM - Fellowship Hall

Have a great autumn season!



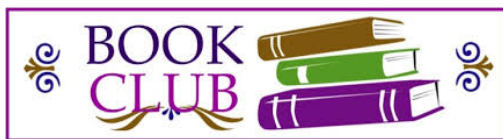
ALOHA!!

Come join us on Sunday, October 7 immediately following the morning worship service for a Hawaiian Luau-themed luncheon.

We will be welcoming new members. It's also a great opportunity to get together and fellowship.

We will be featuring pulled pork and Hawaiian meatballs.

All are welcome!



At our September meeting, book club discussed "The first Phone Call from Heaven" by Mitch Albom. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 24 at 7 PM (date changed from October 10). At that meeting, we will discuss "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger. Our November book will be "The Man I Never Met" by Adam Scheffer. Coming soon (November?) will be "Beartown" by Fredrik Backman and "Mudbound" by Hillary Jordan.

If you see a book that you like or have one to suggest, or if you are in the mood for lively conversation and good fellowship, please join us at a future meeting. We would love to have you come out and share in our spirited discussions and friendly conversation.

CHANGE THE DATE October Yard Sale

The October yard sale will be held on Saturday, October 6 INSTEAD OF Saturday, October 22. It will be held in the Shoppe at RPUMC, the parsonage and the annex. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

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
Charlene Workman.



Many thanks for all the prayers on my behalf during treatment. It was very comforting to receive all the cards, flowers, calls and visits from our church family.

Blessings to all,
Glenda Donnelly

Mind Tricks
by Rev. Constance Hastings, MSCC, NCC
Daybreak Counseling Services

“Be renewed in the spirit of your minds.”
Ephesians 4:23 (NRSV)

With all that we hear from media and those around us, the voice that we listen to most is the one inside us, our minds. What’s just as true is that we believe this voice more so than any others, and we believe that voice is always right. In truth, the ability that our minds have been given by our Creator is likely the strongest asset we have. By the ability our minds possess, we learn and from there apply what we think and believe. But that power also can trick us, especially when it is negative or points us to paths that can be destructive. Countless numbers of people have said to themselves, “At the time, it seemed so right.” That’s when experience and reality can prove our minds to be so wrong.

Emotional and mental health are structured and dependent on how we think. This is so vitally important now as the seasons change, and there is less natural sunlight to stimulate the chemicals in the brain that produce good mood. Add to the normal stressors of our lives the expectation that the holidays should be full of good cheer, and there is the perfect storm for that voice to dispel negativity. “You’ll never finish this job (or school, decorating, gift shopping, cooking.)” Then there is, “I’m just not good looking enough for people to pay attention to me, like me, love me, think I have something to offer.” Or we replay the things we’ve been taught about ourselves in our own voice. “Like your dad said, you’re stupid, lazy, a mistake that never should have been born.” By allowing these voices to control our thoughts without refuting them, beliefs that our lives will never change, get better, or even that God would have them that way, we fall deeper into sadness, despair, anxiety and depression.

Yet, the real truth is that we were created to be joyous, loving, kind-hearted persons to both ourselves and those relationships we hold. Best of all, inherent to our creation, these thoughts patterns can change, and even small adjustments to our thinking can produce positive results in how we approach life. As in the words of Jesus, “I came that they may have Life, and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10) Living life fully is wholeness in body and spirit, and God has equipped us in our minds to make that possible.

Should you or someone you love find making these changes in thought processes feel impossible, know that the counseling process is designed to help train one to think differently. It can be the beginning of the renewal of thought and love for God and those around us.

Daybreak Counseling Services is a nonprofit clinical pastoral counseling agency that not only addresses the presenting issue or problem but also allows for the inclusion of spirituality within sessions. It is supported through payments determined on a sliding scale basis, private grants, and individual donations. Rev. Constance Hastings, a nationally certified counselor and United Methodist deacon, sees clients at St. Paul’s United Methodist Church with both day and evening hours. Call 302-745-1042 for information or to make an appointment.



TRUNK or TREAT
at
RICHARDSON PARK UMC
Parking Lots
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27
3:00 – 5:00PM


YOU ARE INVITED to join us for the 2017 TRUNK or TREAT. It is open to everyone and is a wonderful community outreach for children and adults. Fun and fellowship for all ages!

Pick a theme and decorate your auto's trunk (just like decorating your house!) Bring wrapped/bag candy to share with the kids who come in costume and go from trunk-to-trunk to get their treats. Everyone is invited to wear a costume. WATCH for the poster on the bulletin boards to reserve your parking lot location and get registered for this year's limited spaces. Prizes for BEST, NEXT BEST, and BEST EFFORT will be awarded at 4 PM. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Start planning now and tell everyone to come and enjoy "Trunk or Treat" at Richardson Park UMC – Saturday, 10/27, 3:00-4:00 PM.



October 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Parking Lot Closed 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts	2 Parking Lot Closed 7 PM Rebekah Circle 8 PM AA Meeting	3 Parking Lot Closed 6:30 PM Scout Board Meeting	4 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch Ministry 6:30 PM Bells 7:15 PM Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	5 10 AM Disciple – RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	6 Fellowship Hall Reserved 8 AM YARD SALE The Shoppe at RPUMC, the Annex and the Parsonage
7 Fellowship Hall Reserved 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM UMW Unit Meeting 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Church 11:30 Missions Meeting 11:30 AM Luau 4:30 PM Contemp. Service	8 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts	9 8 PM AA Meeting	10 12 PM Ruth Circle	11 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch Ministry 8:15 PM AA Meeting	12 10 AM Disciple – RPUMC 10 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	13 Fellowship Hall Reserved
14 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Church 11:30 AM SPRC Mtg. 4:30 PM Contemp. Service	15 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts	16 8 PM AA Meeting	17 7 PM Bible Study	18 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch Ministry 6:30 PM Bells 7:15 PM Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	19 10 AM Disciple – RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	20 11 AM Koinonia Meeting/Lunch
21 Laity Sunday 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Church 11:30 AM Trustee Meeting 3 PM Worship Committee 4:30 PM Contemp. Service	22 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts	23 8 PM AA Meeting	24 7 PM Book Club	25 9 AM The Shoppe at RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch Ministry 6:30 PM Bells 7:15 PM Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	26 10 AM Disciple – RPUMC 11 AM Free Lunch – Peniel UMC	27 3 PM Trunk or Treat
28 9 AM Adult S.S. 10 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Church 11:30 AM Council Meeting 4:30 PM Contemp. Service	29 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts	30 8 PM AA Meeting	31 Happy Halloween 			

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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WILMINGTON, DE 19804-1305

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the Messenger **OCTOBER 2018**

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READERS

October 7	Bob Collins
October 14	Sherlyn Aurelio
October 21	Laity Sunday
October 28	Roger Longest

ALTAR FLOWERS

October 7	Frank Pugh
At the Cross	Fran Tebutt
October 14	Susan Watkins & Family
October 21	Dorothy Scarborough
At the Cross	Anna Mae Shewbrooks
October 28	Kathy Rogers

FLOWERS

For the month of October, Rebekah 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
November Messenger to the Church Office by
Friday, October 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.*