

## *The Messenger*

Monthly publication of Richardson Park United Methodist Church

### A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

*Written by Rev. J. Chris Pennington*

#### **How are things with your soul today?**

As we are in the midst of a normal summer of some heat, an article about ice cream seemed appropriate. This is not my story and the author is unknown.

Last week, I took my children to a restaurant. My 6-year-old son had asked if he could say Grace. As we bowed our heads, he said "God is good, God is great, thank you for the food, and I would even thank you more if Mom gets us ice cream for dessert, and liberty and justice for all, AMEN". Along with the laughter from the other customers nearby, I heard a woman remark "that's what's wrong with this country...kids today don't even know how to pray, asking God for ice cream. Why I never...!" Hearing this, my son burst into tears and asked me "Did I do it wont? Is God mad at me?" As I held him and assured him that he had done a terrific job and God was certainly NOT mad at him, an elderly gentleman approached the table. He winked at my son and said, "I happen to know that God thought that was a great prayer." "Really?" my son asked. "Cross my heart" said the man. Then, in a 'stage whisper' the man added (indicating the woman whose remark had started this whole thing) "Too bad she never asks God for ice cream. A little ice cream is good for the soul sometimes." Naturally, I bought my kids ice cream at the end of our meal. My son stared at his for a moment and then did something I will remember for the rest of my life. He picked up his sundae, and without a word, walked over and placed it in front of the woman. With a big smile he told her "Here, this is for you. Ice cream is good for the soul sometimes, and my soul is good already."

How are things with your soul today? I'm always in the mood for a little ice cream, if you'd like to join me!!

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Chris

*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.*



United  
Women  
in Faith

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

BY MARLENE JOHNSON

Our summer months are flying by- it's August. This means September will quickly follow and we will meet again. The date is September 10th. I am anxious to hear what adventures you have experienced. I know all of you have been showing God's love as you spend time with family and friends.

Our children's book program is still strong thanks to donations from you! Each time I deliver the books to Cosmos- they are very please- The children love them- What a wonderful outreach. The folks at Door of Hope meet me at the door- they are so pleased to be remembered! Keep those children's books coming.

Now, my sisters in faith: The assignment for August:

- 1.) Be ready to share your summer activities of showing God's love.
- 2.) Smile- that always brightens someone's day.
- 3.) Take time to be thankful for each day.

A thought to remember:

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

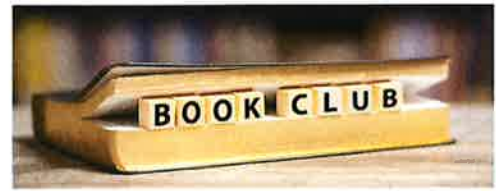
Blessings from Marlene



## BAGS OF BLESSINGS

### DONATIONS NEEDED

Please donate "single-served" food items such as granola bars, fruit cups, pudding cups, 16 oz. water bottles, snack crackers, cookies, peanut butter, etc. in support of this important adjunct ministry to our Free Lunch program. Volunteers are needed to fill the Bags of Blessings which are given out at the Free Lunch Ministry on Thursdays. Any questions, please contact Kathy Rogers, Missions Chair



## BOOK CLUB

BY PAUL WEAVER

On Friday, July 14th at 2 pm, we met at the church, to discuss "The Lies I Tell" by Julie Clark. We had an interesting discussion.

Our August meeting, will be on Friday, August 11th at 2 pm at the church. We will discuss "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus.

In the coming months, we will be reading "The Spectacular" by Fiona Davis, "I Know Who You Are" by Barbara Rae-Venter, "The Only Woman In The Room", by Heather Teller and "The Neighbor's Secret" by L. Alison Heller. In addition, a number of our recent books have come from your suggestions, please keep those coming!"

We were thrilled to have Janis Williams back at our July meeting and we welcomed a new member, Kathy Rogers. We look forward to welcoming you at our next meeting!

Thanks, Paul



## THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

BY MARLENE JOHNSON

We are getting closer to September! I hope each of you have been enjoying the summer. We have now reached the month of August...soon it will be September!

Mark your calendars for September 10! Children's Church will start! We will meet in the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. After we are gathered, we will go up to Children's Church. I can't wait to hear your summer adventures.

You need to be here on September 10th to share your fun times of the summer and find out what adventures we will have this fall!

Blessings from Ms. Marlene



## TECHNOLOGY TIPS

BY JIM CHILCUTT

### Is Your Personal Data Safe?

They say the only certain things in life are death and taxes. Now thanks to the advent of computers there is a new certainty. It's the loss of a computer or the contents on a computer. Computers get dropped, stolen, spilled on, blasted by electrical surges, attacked by malware and a huge list of other things.

Are you ready to recover if your data is lost? What's more do you even know what data is on your computer and exactly where it's stored? Are your emails backed up? Do you know where your email is stored? Where are your photos? Where are your texts and spreadsheets?

What should a backup include? Give it some thought. If your hard drive fails, how would you recover? If the drive failed and you have your critical data saved, how will you restore it if the operating system is gone? To get your data back you need to install the operating system first. Most backup programs do not recover the operating system. Once the operating system is restored you will need to recover all the installed applications. Most backups do not include the installed apps so you need to reinstall all of the apps in addition to the operating system. Once the OS and apps are restored/installed you need to restore the data. The next question you need to answer is how much data has been changed since the last backup.

Over the next few months we will cover methods to:

- Recover the operating system and apps.
- Saving and restoring data.
- Learn the basics of backup planning.

If there is a special topic you want to see, just send a note to [rpumc@rpumchurch.org](mailto:rpumc@rpumchurch.org)

**FYI: The United States Postal Service has increased the price for a regular letter from 63¢ to 66¢ effective July 9th.**



## MEMORIAL TREE

BY GLENDA DONNELLY

Thanks to the great work of the Trustees and the BMG, we have a beautiful Memorial Tree to recognize all our loved families and friends who have passed.

Take a moment and stop by the Extension and see the Memorial Tree. If you are interested in adding a loved one's name to the Memorial Tree, there are forms located on the table near the Tree. Any questions, please contact Glenda Donnelly a call on (302) 998-5047 or call the Church Office. Thank you. Glenda

## PAPER RECYCLING CAN

Please be aware that effective 3/3/23, Richardson Park UMC is no longer participating in the Paper Retriever program and the collection container has been removed from the back parking lot. The initial objective of gaining a very small revenue stream along with a positive environmental impact, based on the reuse of clean paper, is no longer viable. We thank the many people who contributed to this program over the past several years! We welcome any new ideas for Sustainable Solutions that can be incorporated into the operations of the church. We will continue to look for ways to nurture and protect the people of our church, surrounding community and God's Green Earth. Thank you, Kathy Rogers

## FREE LUNCH MINISTRY

BY JOE TUCKER

Free Lunch program is continuing every Thursday 11:30 am to 12:30 pm with a grab-n-go lunch. We deliver a hot lunch in a take-out container at the main door of the church. Each person also receives a bag of crackers, power bars, a bottle of water, cup of pudding, etc. Our group of dedicated volunteers work Wednesday morning preparing food and 'bags of blessings' to hand out on Thursday morning. We are averaging about 100 meals a week. Contributions of items are always accepted. Currently, Free Lunch is in need of plastic grocery shopping bags at this time.

Some church members pick up meals and deliver them to family and elderly neighbors. Thank you to all volunteers who help on Wednesday and Thursday to prepare and serve free lunch!! Thank you. Joe



## ONLINE GIVING - TITHES & OFFERINGS

ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE

Hello RPUMC Family!

We are pleased to announce that ONLINE GIVING is NOW Available! During this time of social distancing and quarantine, you can still support the work and ministry of Richardson Park UMC through your tithes and offerings by either sending them in the mail or now by giving online through our website!

(Click the "GIVING" tab on our website).

[www.rpumchurch.org/html/giving.html](http://www.rpumchurch.org/html/giving.html)



## New Women's Al-Alon Meeting

Women's Al-Anon Family Group is an open meeting available to all women on Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30 pm at Ebenezer United Methodist Church, 525 Polly Drummond Hill Road, Newark, DE 19711. Please use the main front entrance of the church.

The Al-Anon Family Groups are a fellowship of relative and friends of alcoholics who share experience, strength and hope in order to solve their common problems.

If you have any questions please call 302-731-9495, Ext. 10.

## Peniel Soup Kitchen 10:30 to 12:30—Every Friday

Pick Up Free Lunch—Goodie Bag For All

Looking forward to seeing all of our friends again. Please come everyone.



WELCOME!



## Holy Land Tour Opportunities

District Superintendent Archie authorized the following link from a local tour agent offering a variety of Holy Land tours for 2023.

<http://www.etstours.com/larue>



## ALTAR FLOWER ORDERS

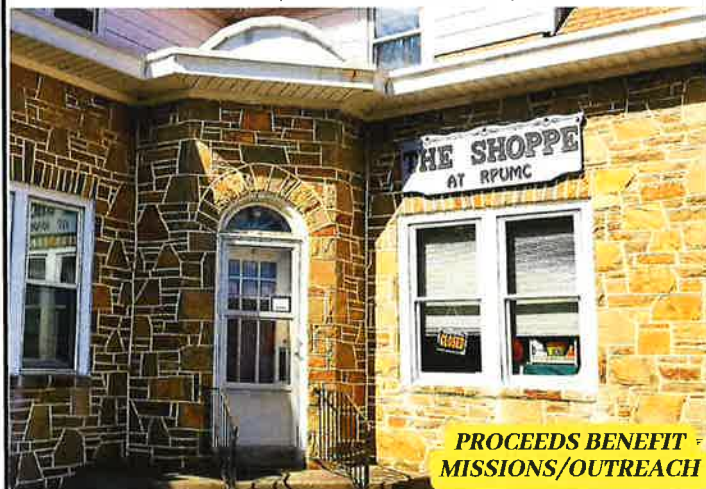
Please remember that if you would like to dedicate altar flowers "In Honor of" or "In Loving Memory of" a loved one, please submit your order and donation to the church office at least one week before.

Thank you.

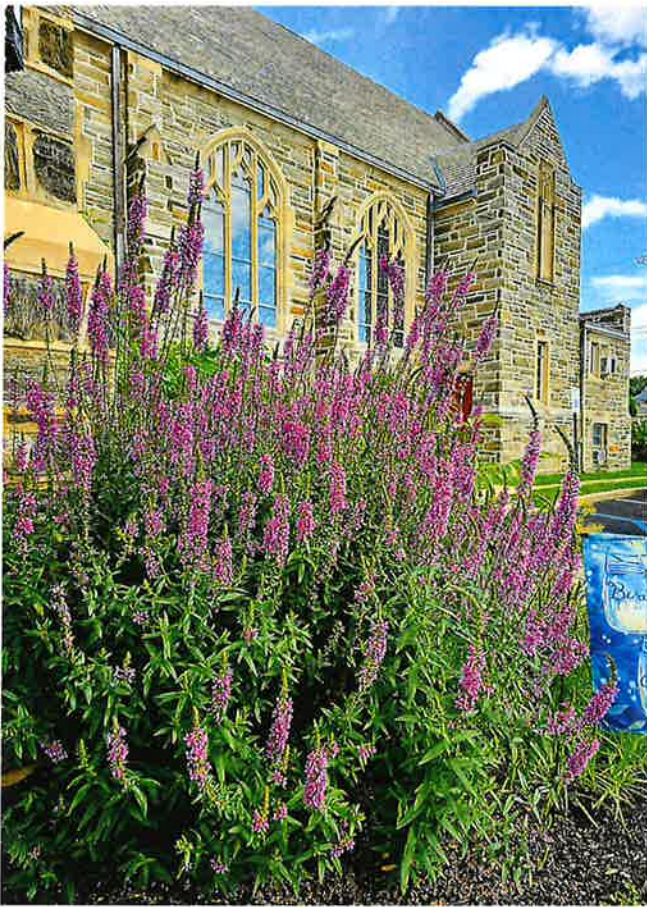


## The Shoppe at RPUMC

The Shoppe at RPUMC will be open for shopping on Thursdays from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



PROCEEDS BENEFIT MISSIONS/OUTREACH



July 24, 2023



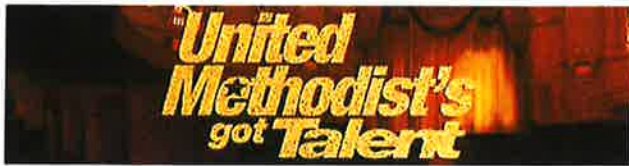
Bishop LaTrelle Easterling continues her podcast.

**Thursdays at the Table**

Asking good questions, engaging in deep conversation and telling the whole truth can change the world. In her podcast Bishop LaTrelle Easterling invites you to join her for Thursdays at the Table as she is joined by leaders from across the connection, serving up new insights and interesting ways of experiencing our lives together.

New podcasts are the first Thursday of each month. Tune in **August 3** for the next podcast.

You can join at 8 a.m. or listen any time on: Spotify, Apple Podcasts or at [pdcbbc.org/thursdays-at-the-table.html](http://pdcbbc.org/thursdays-at-the-table.html)



**Register now** for a day of fun and fellowship at "United Methodist Got Talent." Beginning at 11 a.m. on Sept 30, youth and youth leaders of the BWC and Pen-Del will spend the day together at Camp Pecometh enjoying games, inspirational talks, music, and a talent show. All youth are invited to attend; performing is not required. The cost is \$5 per person for lunch, snacks, games, and more. For every four people registered, the fifth is free using the discount code Talent!

Contact [ccook@bwcumc.org](mailto:ccook@bwcumc.org) for more details.

**UMC's Got Talent Virtual Audition Information**

Youths interested in performing must fill out the [audition form!](#) We welcome acts of all kinds -- spoken word, dancing, skits, comedy, singing, chalk stories, and more -- and most sizes. We can accommodate 1-15 people performing at a time. We require the completion of this form -- including uploading a video -- **no later than Monday, September 25, 2023**, to ensure all acts are appropriate (clothing, gestures, and language) and meet the time requirements. Skits may be up to 5 minutes, everything else must be 3 minutes or less.

Acts will need to provide all equipment/materials necessary to perform. We will provide up to 3 microphones, a stage, and a sound system. Plan on arriving at 10:00 a.m. for a sound and stage check.

Website link: <https://www.pen-del.org/newsdetail/umcs-got-talent-audition-form-and-information-17483609>

**DISTRICT CLERGY MEETING**



Rev. Archie will be having a Delaware District Clergy meeting on Wednesday, **September 27th @ 10:00am**. The meeting will be held at Whatcoat UMC, Dover. Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend. All appointed Delaware District pastors should attend.

More details to follow.....

**Sexual Ethics Training**



We have tentative dates of September 29 & 30 for the next Sexual Ethics Training class. It's on the Conference website under Event Calendar as a save-the-date. It will be via Zoom. More details to follow as they are confirmed.



*Humor in Preaching*  
*This is NO joke!*  
**SAVE THE DATES**  
*Monday, September 25 from*  
*4-9 PM at Asbury UMC,*  
*Salisbury*  
**OR**  
*Tuesday, September 26 from*  
*9 AM - 2 PM at Grace UMC,*  
*Wilmington*  
*\$35 each*  
*Sponsored by the*  
*Dunkle-Mackey Preaching*  
*Seminar*

## REGISTER TODAY

Asbury UMC, Salisbury:

<https://www.asburyweb.org/dunklemackey>

Grace UMC, Wilmington:

<https://gracechruchwilmington.org/dunklemackey>



## BeADisciple Study App

Disciple Bible Study has gone digital! Help your congregation learn the Bible and connect with each other in meaningful small groups. The new BeADisciple Study App offers everything you need to participate in a Bible study on a smartphone, tablet, or computer — with weekly meetings on Zoom or IN PERSON! The app is

easy to navigate and offers powerful ways to connect through a 24/7 prayer thread, message board and built-in zoom access. All assignments can be read and/or listened to. This new platform is launching now. For more information and to signup go to: [www.BeADiscipleApp.com](http://www.BeADiscipleApp.com)

Disciple Bible Study has been completely updated with all new scholars from around the globe, new videos, and even new scholarship. It is now on a Small Group Studies App called the BeADisciple Study App, a state-of-the-art digital platform for small-group Christian studies. We believe this new platform will reach thousands of people all over the world.

The Bishop Richard and Julia Wilke Institute for Discipleship has developed this technology, which allows small groups to experience studies entirely on their smartphone, tablet, or computer. Bulky study manuals and DVDs are gone — everything is on the app. Groups can meet in person or on Zoom. Churches don't even need to have their own Zoom accounts or Bible apps, since Zoom access and the entire CEB Bible are built right into the app!

This new platform will soon host dozens of studies. For the launch, the institute has partnered with the United Methodist Publishing House to offer the popular and transformational Disciple Fast Track I and II studies.

We know churches are looking for ways to include and support the people who have difficulty attending in-person meetings due to health, schedules, or distance, and we built this app to answer that need. We also find it exciting that churches will now be able to invite their worldwide mission partners to participate in their small groups.

We hope the BeADisciple Study App will be something new and life-changing, serving as a beacon of hope to clergy and churches.

Here is a link to learn more: [beadiscipleapp.com](http://beadiscipleapp.com). There are many more promo tools you may access. Registration is open now so study groups can start as early as August 1.

# August Birthdays

Shirl Snapp August 1  
 Kathy Evely August 3  
 Scott Doughty August 4  
 Jacalyn Foraker August 8  
 Isabella Warfel August 8  
 Emmett Swanson August 9  
 Jennifer Pettyjohn August 10  
 Kathryn Mitten August 11  
 Donna Chambers August 15  
 Chad Hughes August 15  
 Nicole Anderson Capano August 18  
 Sara Anderson Abramov August 18



Carol Puelo August 19  
 Sandy Ide August 20  
 Tom Manley August 20  
 Suzy Price August 20  
 Jacob Farley August 22  
 Samantha Farley August 22  
 Patti Green August 24  
 Lisa Martin August 25  
 Natalie Parks August 27  
 Sandy Swain August 27  
 Jane McAllister August 29  
 Abigail Price August 31

Note: If your name is not listed on our birthday list, please call the church office.

Wednesdays June-Oct 3:30 pm-6:30pm

**WESTSIDE FARMERS MARKET**  
 COOL SPRING PARK  
**WEDNESDAYS**  
 JUNE-OCT 3:30PM-6:30PM

Logos at the bottom include: WIC Senior, WIC, SNAP Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, West Side, and a signature.

## FREE LUNCH Announcement

*Thank You*  
*For your support*

### Thank you Teri Williams!

We are possibly handing out over 100 lunches and we want to thank all the present working volunteer staff. Teri Williams has resigned due to health concerns. We may need more staff. If you are interested, please contact us. Blessings, Joe Tucker



Now the Lord is that Spirit:  
 and where the Spirit of the Lord is,  
 there is liberty.  
**2 Corinthians 3:17**



## ALTAR FLOWERS

August 6-Robert Collins  
 August 13-Beth Robinson  
 August 20-Lynn Lafferty  
 August 27-OPEN

At the Cross: Ginger Pettyjohn

**LAY READERS-To be announced**





# Pen-Del Conference United Men's Ministry



## UMM Connection Day at Pecometh

### We Are Gifted

*To make a Difference, To Serve, To Build up the Church, and to have Many Ministries*

September 9, 2023 Time 8:30am - 4pm., Continental Breakfast 8:30am - 9am

Location: Pecometh 401 Jack Elliott Way Centreville MD 21617

Riverview Retreat Center *entire program will be held there*

Welcome: *James Turner*, President

Opening Devotion: *Bill Paxton*, Prayer Advocate

"Reading God's Word to find our Spiritual Gifts for the Common Good"

Music: *Asbury Male Choir, Asbury UMC, Easton, Md.*

1st Session-Delaware DS *Rev. Joseph W. Archie, III*

Lunch

Music

2<sup>nd</sup> Session- *Rev William (Bill) Ross*, Hurlock UMC & Pastor Coordinator UMM

Break: 15 Min.

3 Session- *Allan Loomis* -Past Conference President

"Discerning The Call"

Music

4th Session *Bill Paxton* - Prayer Advocate - God has Gifted Us for His Purpose -

"Discovering your Spiritual Gift- For the Common Good"

Communion: *Rev. William Ross*

Closing Remarks: *James Turner*

Closing Prayer: *Rev. Bill Ross*

*(Separate registrations required for each person)*

**Make checks payable to: Peninsula Delaware Conference United Methodist Men**

Mail check to: Mr. Samuel Scott - 29 Sherwood Ct. Dover, DE. 19904

Phone (410) 253-4529 E-mail to: sammyscottsr@gmail.com

**Phone or e-mail reservations will be held for seven days only—payment must be received by then.**

Amt. Enclosed:

Sept. 9th includes 2 meals \$45.00

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Registrations are due by August 31, 2023. Registrations on Retreat day will be \$10.00 more.**

### SEPTEMBER 9, 2023 REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

District: (Circle One)


Delaware, Upper Shore, Lower Shore

*(Separate registrations required for each person)*





# AUGUST 2023

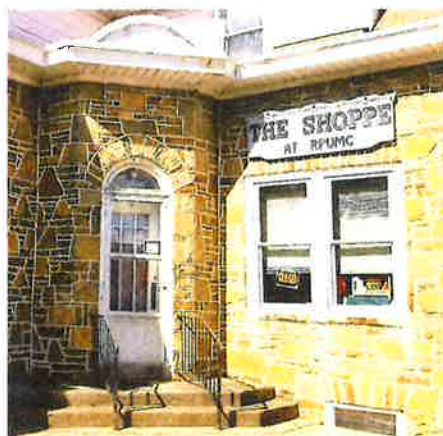
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 6:30PM Scout Board Mtg. - Lounge	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 11AM-2PM <b>OPEN</b> First Saturdays' - The Shoppe at RPUMC
<b>6</b> 9AM Adult Sunday School 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30AM Worship	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9AM BMG - EXT. 11AM-2PM -The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30AM-12:30PM -Free Lunch - FH	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 9AM Adult Sunday School 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30AM Worship	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9AM BMG - EXT. 11AM-2PM -The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30AM-12:30PM -Free Lunch - FH	<b>18</b> 2PM Book Club - Lounge	<b>19</b> 11AM Koinonia - Ext.
<b>20</b> 9AM Adult Sunday School 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30AM Worship 11:30AM - Trustee Mtg. - Lounge	<b>21</b>  <b>Messenger Deadline Articles Due</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9AM BMG - EXT. 11AM-2PM -The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30AM-12:30PM -Free Lunch - FH	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9AM Adult Sunday School 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30AM Worship 11:30AM Council Mtg. - Lounge	<b>28</b> 6PM Cub Pack 339 Returning Parents Mtg. - FH	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 9AM BMG - EXT. 11AM-2PM -The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30AM-12:30PM -Free Lunch - FH		

The Shoppe at RPUMC, Parsonage and Annex will be OPEN for shopping on Thursdays' from 11AM-2PM the month of August and First Saturday.

**COME ON OUT & SHOP  
FIRST SATURDAYS' AT  
THE SHOPPE AT RPUMC**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 5TH  
and on Thursdays 11 AM-2 PM**

**PRE-LOVED GOODS  
DISCOVER GREAT FINDS**



@rpumchurch.org

proceeds benefit  
missions/outreach

*The Messenger*



**August 2023**

**RICHARDSON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

11 NORTH MARYLAND AVENUE  
WILMINGTON, DE 19804-1305  
Office: (302) 654-0961  
E-Mail: [rpumc@rpumchurch.org](mailto:rpumc@rpumchurch.org)  
Website: [www.rpumchurch.org](http://www.rpumchurch.org)

Rev. J. Christopher Pennington  
Cell Phone (302) 229-5626  
E-Mail: [pastor@rpumchurch.org](mailto:pastor@rpumchurch.org)  
Office Hours: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. M-F  
Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Boyce



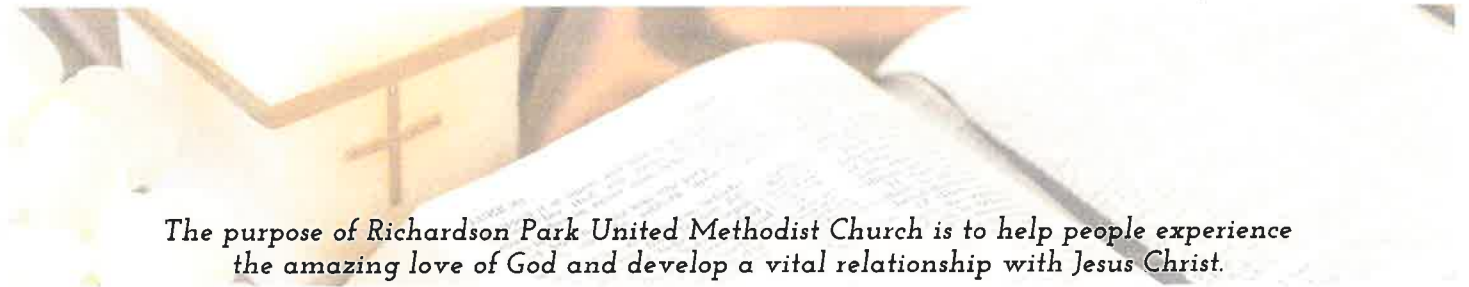
In-Person and **Live Streaming** Sunday Worship Services  
at the following sites:

[rpumchurch.org/html/streaming\\_service.html](http://rpumchurch.org/html/streaming_service.html) or  
Facebook at: [facebook.com/rpumchurch](https://facebook.com/rpumchurch)

Sunday School.....9:00 A.M.  
Fellowship Time.....9:40 A.M.  
Worship Service.....10:30 A.M.



Please have articles and information for the September  
Messenger to the Church Office by Monday, August 21st. Remember to submit all announcements for the Sunday  
Bulletin no later than Wednesday. Email to:  
[rpumc@rpumchurch.org](mailto:rpumc@rpumchurch.org)  
Thank you! -Jen



*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.*