

JANUARY 2023



A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Written by Rev. Keisha R. Dukes

In a former residence, I noticed my outlets were malfunctioning. Soon after, an electrician examined the outlets and said, "Next time, press the button that says "reset." He explained that resetting an outlet is a troubleshooting practice.

Thinking about the new year, this image resonates with me spiritually. What if God is giving us the grace to troubleshoot our faith? Even the calendar resets, with the new year beginning on the first day of the week. I cannot help but see an image of hope inspiring God's people to reset our faith.

In Exodus 14, with chaos beyond them and the fear of uncertainty ahead, the Israelites' faith called for a reset. Amid great distress, God inspired them to "stand firm and see the salvation of the Lord." With their faith reset, they were able to cross the red sea. Take the courage to press the reset button in moments of doubt or hopelessness. As we cross into the new year, God invites us to reset our faith.

Some "resetting" suggestions include participating in personal and corporate prayer moments, Bible study, worship, and holy communion. (Read Acts 2:42) Let us begin the new year with a RESET.

Join us during the week for Bible study, prayer calls, volunteering within mission ministries, and our weekly worship service. As we reset, please invite someone to join us in ministry. Now, take a deep breath and RESET.

Happy New Year!

"Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm, and you will see the salvation the Lord will bring you today." (Exodus 14:13)

With light and hope,

Pastor Keisha

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 METHODIST WOMEN

BY MARLENE JOHNSON

Happy New Year to everyone!

I am always amazed with such generous folks at Richardson Park United Methodist Church. During 2022 the support continued throughout each month. The card box was always filled, the book program always had books to share, the clothing box was overflowing in May and also in December. Thank you!! I am happy to report that the cards and clothing have been delivered and very appreciated.

In January we will be continuing how all of us are connected through our faith and dedication to helping other folks. It is such a heartwarming feeling as we meet monthly. Our first meeting of 2023 will be on Sunday, January 8th. I invite you to join us directly following the worship service in the extension.

Now, my sisters in faith, your January assignment:

- 1.) Bring 2 to 4 photos of meaningful moments in your life- we all have a story worth sharing!
- 2.) What motivates you- your passion.
- 3.) Attend our meeting!

A closing thought: Jesus, bless all those I come in contact with and help me bless them by being as much like You as I can.

Happy 2023, Marlene

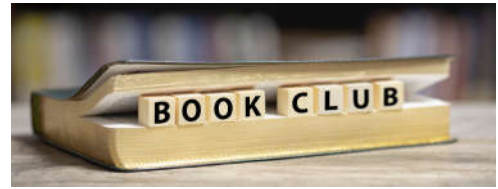
NURSERY NEWS

NURSERY IS REOPENING!

Our nursery is re-opening! A big thank you to Michelle Anderson and Alice Lang for volunteering to do this much needed ministry. It will be great to see our little ones and their parents.

However, we need substitutes to give these wonderful ladies a break once in a while. Please think about this exciting opportunity. Thank you for your support!

Blessings from Ms. Marlene



BOOK CLUB

BY PAUL WEAVER

On Thursday, December 15th at 7 PM we met at the church to discuss "Dear Santa" by Debbie Macomber. We had an interesting and enjoyable conversation.

We will discuss "Gentleman and Players" by Joanne Harris on January 13 at 2 PM at the church. If you have been thinking about joining the Book Club, the New Year would be a great time to jump in!

We hope to read "Sam" soon and are hoping to schedule a Zoom call with Rev. Robyn Brown to discuss that book.

We will be reading "The Neighbor's Secret" by L. Alison Heller and "The Lies I Tell" by Julie Clark in the coming months. In addition, a number of our recent books have come from your suggestions; please keep those coming!

Thank you. Paul



THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

BY MARLENE JOHNSON

Wow, it's a new year - 2023! We certainly had a busy fall. Can you remember what we studied?

1. September was God's creation
2. Noah
3. Abraham
4. The waiting for Jesus

Everyone was very active with role-playing, songs and making story books to take home. Yes, the youth room was very busy! We were very blessed to be given a special gift...a beautiful Nativity set. Each week in December we saw and were able to touch the people: angels, shepherds, Mary, Joseph and the manger. We were even able to hold baby Jesus. Now, the three Kings are almost to Bethlehem-wonder what they will look like? Come and join us to discover!

A big thank you to all the children who joined with the Scouts to provide such a wonderful live nativity! Great job!

See you in January- Ms. Marlene



TECHNOLOGY TIPS

BY JIM CHILCUTT

Bad actors are constantly coming up with ways to get access to your money and personal information. Here are some ways I have heard that are going around.

- You receive a phone call from someone claiming to be calling on behalf of a loved one. Your loved one has had an accident and needs cash to get home. Please send a money order. If you get such a call do your homework and verify the location of your family member. There are a lot of variations on this but the general theme is the same.
- You are having trouble with your computer. You call the support desk and are told support will cost some amount of money and would you please provide a credit card which of course requires you to give them personal data. After working on the computer you are told they have identified the problem but they need to remote in to your computer to fix it. While this is a common practice, you should end the call immediately if you are not 100% confident of the tech. First, a reputable tech company will not ask for money up front. Next if you allow them to remote in they can scan your computer for personal data and also plant malware.

If there is a special topic you want to see, just send a note to rpumc@rpumchurch.org



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

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

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

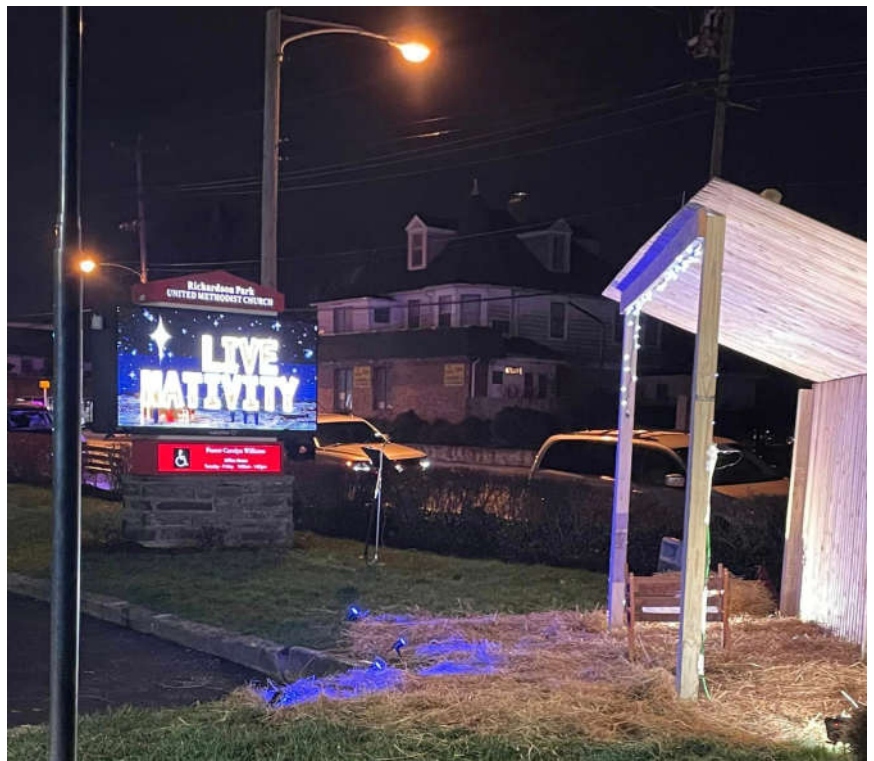
ALTAR FLOWERS

January 1-Bob Truitt
 January 8-Open
 At the Cross-Richard Locke
 January 15-Open
 At the Cross-Shirley Snapp
 January 22-Lee Powell
 January 29-Paul Weaver

GREETER-Neal Davis
 LAY READERS-To be announced



We were blessed to share a "Live Nativity" presentation with children from RPUMC and the Scouts, a choir, live animals, costumes, and Pastor Keisha as the Narrator, we were able to present an interactive retelling of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. A special thank you to the Neighborhood House, George and Kim Przybylski, Bro. Rob Anderson, along with the leadership and volunteers of RPUMC and the Scouts. Live Nativity 2022 was an incredible success!





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

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.

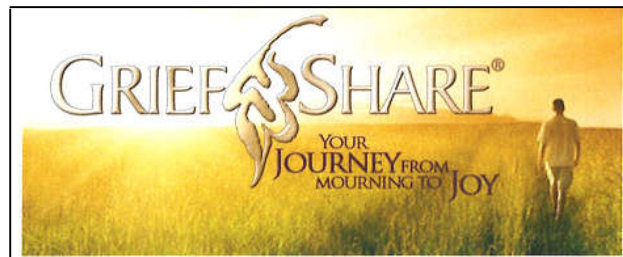
<http://www.etstours.com/larue>



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.



GRIEF SHARE 2022-2023

GriefShare groups meet to help you face challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. (Griefshare.org) GriefShare meets once a month via ZOOM at 7-8 p.m.

It may be hard for you to feel optimistic about the future right now. If you've lost a spouse, child, family member, or friend, you've probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. This can be a confusing time when you feel isolated and have many questions about the things you've never faced before.

"Going to GriefShare feels like having warm arms wrapped around you when you're shivering."

If you would like to participate please contact Pastor Jennifer Christy at (410-810-0110)

Schedule of upcoming ZOOM online meetings:

Session 12 Tues. Jan 3, 2023 7:00pm-8:00pm

Session 13 Tues. Feb 7, 2023 7:00pm-8:00pm

The Shoppe at RPUMC

The Shoppe at RPUMC will be open for shopping on Thursday, January 26th from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



PROCEEDS BENEFIT MISSIONS/OUTREACH

January Birthdays

Michael Coverdale January 2
 David Swain January 2
 Karen Collins January 3
 Paigely Boyd January 4
 Gabriel Klingler January 4
 Harold Spedden January 4
 Wendy Walls January 5
 Donny Pasmore January 6
 Lee Powell January 8
 Cindi Beane January 11
 Joseph Watkins January 12
 Dillon Keffer January 14
 Julie Oakley January 15



Hunter Saunders January 15
 Kiersten Hughart January 16
 Gail Cooke January 17
 Ginger Pettyjohn January 17
 Emmanuel Lee January 18
 Kenneth Saunders January 18
 David Goss January 19
 Jerry Paoli January 19
 Ruth Phillips January 19
 Anthony Donnelly January 20
 Kristi Doughty January 23
 Jennifer Fitzgerald January 31

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



Richardson Park
 United Methodist Church

Join us for prayer,
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Every Tuesday Evening

PRAYER CALL LINE

Confrencece number (605) 468-8733
 Code: 6102741#

LINE OPENS AT 5:45 pm

*"One day Jesus was praying in a certain place.
 When he finished, one of his disciples said to him,
 "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."
 ~ Luke 11:1*



Keisha R. Dukes, Pastor



Delaware District Board of Laity

The Delaware District Board of Laity currently has 2 volunteer positions open. They are in need of a secretary and treasurer.

For more information contact:

Rosalyn Harris rorz1948@aol.com
 Karen Jones kbstigars@gmail.com



HUMAN RELATIONS DAY



TOGETHER

OUR REACH IS BEYOND MEASURE

The United Methodist Church's special giving structure ensures your generosity blesses as many people as possible in sustainable, strategic ways

YOUR DONATION CHANGES THE WORLD ONE LIFE AT A TIME

GIVE TO YOUR CHURCH:
 Make checks payable to your local church or donate online via credit/debit card at ResourceUMC.org/SSGive




TO GIVE ONLINE SCAN QR CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE CAMERA

Sunday, January 15th



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
 The people of The United Methodist Church®

JANUARY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED No Cub Pack 339 Mtg.	3 7-8PM Grief Share - Session 12 via Zoom	4 6:30PM Scout Board Mtg. - Lounge	5 9AM BMG - EXT. 11:30AM -Free Lunch - FH CLOSED-The Shoppe at RPUMC	6	7
8 9AM Adult Sunday School 10:30AM Worship & Children's Church 11:30AM UMiF - Ext.	9 6PM Cub Pack 339 Mtg. - FH	10	11	12 9AM BMG - EXT. 11:30AM -Free Lunch - FH CLOSED-The Shoppe at RPUMC	13	14
15 HUMAN RELATIONS DAY 9AM Adult Sunday School 10:30AM Worship & Children's Church	16 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED No Cub Pack 339 Mtg.	17	18	19 9AM BMG - EXT. 11:30AM -Free Lunch - FH CLOSED-The Shoppe at RPUMC	20 6PM Book Club - Lounge  Messenger Deadline Articles Due	21 11AM KOINONIA - Ext.
22 9AM Adult Sunday School 10:30AM Worship & Children's Church 11:30AM Trustees Mtg. - Lounge	23 6PM Cub Pack 339 Mtg. - FH	24	25	26 9AM BMG - EXT. 11am-2pm -The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30AM -Free Lunch - FH	27	28
29 9AM Adult Sunday School 10:30AM Worship & Children's Church	30 6pm Cub Pack 339 Mtg. - FH	31				

The Shoppe at RPUMC, Parsonage and Annex will be **CLOSED** from December 22-January 25, 2023.



The Messenger



January 2023



RICHARDSON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Rev. Keisha R. Dukes, MDiv
E-Mail: 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 or
Facebook at: facebook.com/rpumchurch

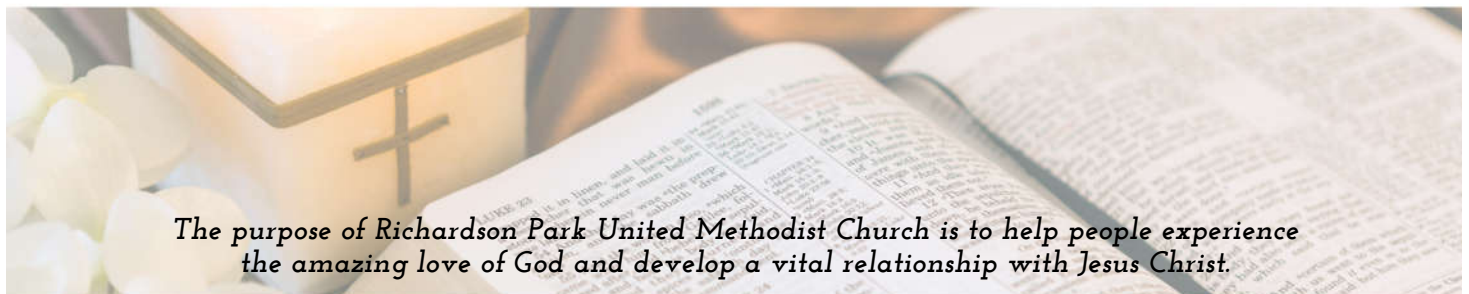
Sunday School.....9:00 A.M.
Fellowship Time.....9:40 A.M.
Worship and Children's Church.....10:30 A.M.



Please have articles and information for the February Messenger to the church office by Friday, January 20th. Remember to submit all announcements for the Sunday Bulletin no later than Wednesday. Email to: rpumc@rpumchurch.org
Thank you! ~Jen



The Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 2, 2023 and Monday, January 16, 2023



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.