

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

*Written by Rev. Keisha R. Dukes*

Greetings, Richardson Park UMC!

I Greet you in Shalom and the power of God that enables us to live prosperously as disciples of Christ. First, Brother Brandon and I thank you for our incredible welcome reception. We are grateful to everyone who helped make that day a huge success. To God Be the Glory. Now we must press forward and begin working in the vineyard of souls as Pastor and People.

With that in mind, working in the Kinship of God can be tiresome. Yes, there is a reward for the righteous who remain faithful (James 1:1-12), but sometimes our exhaustion seems more significant than the reward. So, we need hope as we continue to keep our eyes on the prize in Christ Jesus. In Galatians 6:9-10, Paul confronted an exhausted church when he wrote:

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for, at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially those who belong to the family of believers."

"Weariness" comes from trying to survive on the bare minimum. We will not get very far like a car with an empty tank. Eventually, our vehicle will be running on fumes. Ultimately, it is exhausting and dangerous when running on fumes. At some point, we must refill our tank for the journey ahead. Within the Ministry, we are exhausted, empty, and running on fumes. With this in mind, there is a hopeful message from the Lord to remedy our burnout.

*We must Rest, Revive, Refill and Redirect.*

- **Rest** A tired soul is a restless soul. And when there is instability, we lack sustainability. Take the time to relax so we can think with a clear head and gentle spirit.
- **Revival** is when we advocate for life. We need to advocate for the life of the Church and community. We should pray that God's Spirit fills us again. Lord, send a revival and let it begin at Richardson Park!

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

*Written by Rev. Keisha R. Dukas*

...Continued

- **Refill!** You cannot pour out of an empty pitcher. Take time to revisit sermons, bible study notes, and devotionals that filled you up. "Fill our cups Lord, come and Quench this thirsting in our soul."
- **Redirect:** We call this in the Church repentance! We have directed our hearts inwardly long enough. Now we must pray, ask for forgiveness and turn our hearts back to our Creator.

Beloved, We have some work to do, but if we intentionally rest, revive, refill and redirect, we will see the fruit of our labor. God has given us just what we need to thrive as a church. We should not run on fumes but the fullness of the Spirit of God. Remember, we must submit ourselves to God's will even when weary because God will give power and strength to the weak. (Isaiah 40:30-31)

WE ARE ONE at RPUMC. We are one in Christ, Church, community and unity is our strength! I ask that you continue to practice prayer, fasting and devotions this season as we grow in the Ministry as one.

Blessings,

*Pastor Keisha*

### ALTAR FLOWERS

August 7-Robert Collins

August 14-Beth Robinson

August 21-Lynn Lafferty

At the Cross: Debbie Freebery

August 28-OPEN

At the Cross: Ginger Pettyjohn

GREETER-Neal Davis

LAY READERS-To be announced



### Barratt's Chapel Summer Services

7:00 PM

**Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>** Rev. Amy D. Yarnall - Wesley UMC/Dover

**Aug. 25<sup>th</sup>** Rev. Jacob Macklin - St. Matthews By The Sea /Fenwick Island, DE



United  
Women  
in Faith

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

BY MARLENE JOHNSON

Calling all "women in faith" at RPUMC. As I have previously mentioned, it was voted upon to continue to meet in the summer months. As we enter August, please mark your calendars for August 14th. Directly following the worship service, we plan to meet in the Extension for our meeting. This active group of dedicated women are serious about sharing their faith with other folks. If you have not had the chance to join us in the past, please plan to stop by. Our meeting lasts 30-35 minutes. Those of you who know me can attest to that schedule. However, there is time after our meeting to socialize. Our gentlemen seem to enjoy this section of time to meet in the sanctuary-the result is a wonderful time of fellowship for everyone.

Circle sisters-be ready to discuss Patience, Kindness and Goodness. What ways do we exhibit these fruits of the spirit to other folks? You know I will ask!

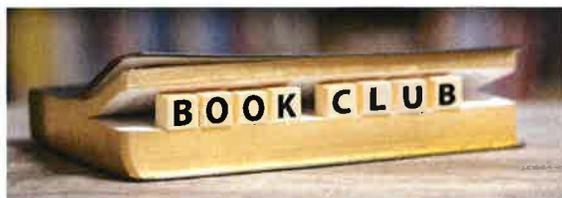
On August 7th there is a great way to share-filling school backpacks with supplies. Come to Fellowship Hall following the worship service. Hope to see you there!

Now, my sisters united in faith your August assignment:

1. Attend August 14th meeting
2. Read Galatians 5:22-23
3. Continue your "Daily Blessings" journal
4. Help fill back packs on August 7th

Closing Prayer:

Dear God, We realize demonstrating Fruits of the Spirit will draw folks to you. May we exhibit these wonderful attributes to the folks we meet every day. In your Name we pray --Amen  
Blessings from Marlene



## BOOK CLUB

BY PAUL WEAVER

On Friday, July 8, we met to discuss "We Are the Brennan's" by Tracey Lange. We also discussed "Hamilton". (You never know what we'll cover in Book Club.) We had great conversation and a fun evening!

We will discuss "West With Giraffes" by Lynda Rutledge at our August 12 meeting at 7 pm. Please join us for an interesting conversation and good fellowship.

We will read "Home Front", by Kristin Hannah for our September meeting and are considering "The Island of Sea Women" by Lisa See. In addition, a number of our recent books have come from your suggestions; please keep those coming! And after that, I hope to be in touch with Rev. Brown about "Sam" in hopes of scheduling a visit from her in the coming months.

Club Members,

"The Island of Sea Women" was suggested to me by friends this weekend. Please check it out before our next meeting.

Thank you. Paul

## 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 gallon storage 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





## TECHNOLOGY TIPS

BY JIM CHILCUTT

### What to do if Malware locks your screen

Its phishing season again. Have you received an email from a message service informing you there is an encrypted message for you? Or a message from fed-ex that a package is being held awaiting payment? Have you ever received a message appearing to come from Amazon informing you your account has been frozen due to suspicious activity? If you answered yes to any of these questions then you have been phished.

Somewhere in the phishing email is a link you are requested to click. Whatever you do, resist the temptation. Clicking on any embedded links will transfer you to a site that will do things to you that you don't want. Some examples are insert ransomware, embed a virus, install a keystroke logger etc. Your anti-virus may or may not block these things.

What should you do? First never click on an embedded link in an email. If you are 100% sure the email is safe then make sure its really safe by verifying the source manually. For example, I received a very well formatted note informing me that there was an encrypted email being held for me by a service provider. The provider was legitimate but when I went to the provider's site there was a warning on their home page about phishing attempts using their name.

A simple rule of thumb to prevent trouble in virtually all cases is don't click on any embedded links.....ever.

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

## FELLOWSHIP TIME

BY LINDA KEFFER

Please join us for Fellowship Time on Sunday mornings from 9:40-10:20 am. We will have snacks, coffee and tea to enjoy. We are also in need of donations of pre-wrapped snacks. Please see Linda Keffer for details. Thank you for your generosity.



## 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

## United Methodist Men's Annual Gathering

Saturday, Sept. 10 8:30AM-4:00PM Pecometh

Join us for a day of fellowship, sharing, and learning. We begin with continental breakfast followed by our morning program led by Rev. Dr. Rob Townsend.

After lunch, our afternoon sessions will include:

- \*United Men's Ministry – James Turner
- \*Live Bold, the Power of Prayer – Bill Paxton
- \*Looking Back, Looking Forward – Allan Loomis

The Days music by: *Sons of Thunder*

**Registration by 8/28 - \$50 Day of: \$60**

Printable Flyer, details & registration form:

[www.delawaredistrictumc.org/UMM2022.pdf](http://www.delawaredistrictumc.org/UMM2022.pdf)



## THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

BY MARLENE JOHNSON

Calling all children age 4 and up. If you are between the ages of 4 and 12 there will be Children's Church. If you are older- come and be a helper...we need you!

It is August which means Children's Church will be starting soon! We cannot wait to see all of you! It will prove to be an exciting time together.

This year we will meet in the sanctuary at 10:25 a.m. We will gather in the back together. Pastor Keisha will call us to come up to the front as a group. In this way, she will get to meet all of us. We will then proceed quietly to our meeting room.

Wonder what we will be talking about? What craft will we be doing? What songs will we sing? To find the answers to these questions- get ready to come to Children's Church!

Our start date will be in the September Messenger!

Blessings from Ms. Marlene, Ms. Ruth, Ms. Ginger and Ms. Alice

SEE YOU  
IN  
SEPTEMBER



## MISSIONS TEAM-SCHOOL KIT ASSEMBLY PROJECT

Education is a key element of success and understanding in our world today. Some children and schools don't have enough school supplies and other resources needed for a quality education. School kits can help these children and lighten the financial burden for parents and schools.

The RPUMC Missions Team, in conjunction with the Koinonia Fellowship, is planning a School Kit Assembly Project on Sunday, August 7, 2022 at 11:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our mission is to put together 150 book-bags with school supplies inside. Fifty book-bags filled with school kits will be distributed to children in need at Shorlidge Academy and an elementary school in our area.

Each book bag with a school supply kit inside costs between \$15 and \$20 and contains the items listed below:

- One book-bag
- One pair of blunt scissors
- One box of 24 crayons
- Three composition or spiral notebooks
- Six unsharpened pencils
- One hand-held pencil sharpener
- One two-inch long eraser

The Missions Team will purchase the items and will graciously accept any monetary donations to help offset the costs. Then, on August 7th, we'll need help to assemble the kits and stuff the book-bags. Please consider contribution either financially or physically as this is what we as Christians are called to do. Although we are not planning to have a luncheon as in years past, please bring an appetite for service and expect to be satisfied and filled with the blessing of helping children in our surrounding community.

We live in hopes that by offering these book-bags and schools supplies we will make a difference in the lives of the children who receive them. We pray that the children we help with this project and those who participate in this project will be touched in some way by the love of Christ. Thank you in advance for your support of this important outreach mission!

The RPUMC Missions and Koinonia Fellowship



## ONLINE GIVING - TITHES & OFFERINGS

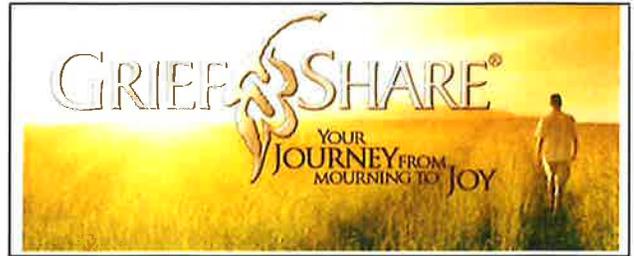
ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE

**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)



## 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 7 Tues. Aug 2, 2022 7:00pm-8:00pm
- Session 8 Tues. Sep 6, 2022 7:00pm-8:00pm
- Session 9 Tues. Oct 4, 2022 7:00pm-8:00pm
- Session 10 Tues. Nov 1, 2022 7:00pm-8:00pm
- Session 11 Tues. Dec 6, 2022 7:00pm-8:00pm
- Session 12 Tues. Jan 3, 2023 7:00pm-8:00pm
- Session 13 Tues. Feb 7, 2023 7:00pm-8:00pm

**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!**



**The Shoppe at RPUMC**

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



**PROCEEDS BENEFIT MISSIONS/OUTREACH**

**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.




# August Birthdays

Shirl Snapp August 1  
 Kathy Evely August 3  
 Scott Doughty August 4  
 Jacalyn Foraker August 8  
 Sharon Panaccione 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 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  
 Carol Ewing August 31  
 Abigail Price August 31

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



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Shoppe at RPUMC, Parsonage and Annex OPEN for shopping Thursdays from 11AM until 2PM	1	2 7-8PM Grief Share - Session 7 via ZOOM	3 6:30PM Scout Board Mtg. - Lounge	4 9:00AM BMG - EXT. 11:30AM Free Lunch 11AM-2PM The Shoppe at RPUMC	5	6
7 9:00AM Adult Sunday School 9:40-10:20AM Fellowship Time-Ext. 10:30AM Worship 11:45AM Missions Team-School Kit Assembly - FH	8	9	10	11 9:00AM BMG - EXT. 11:30AM Free Lunch 11AM-2PM The Shoppe at RPUMC	12 7:00PM - Book Club - Lounge	13
14 9:00AM Adult Sunday School 9:40-10:20AM Fellowship Time-Ext. 10:30AM Worship 11:30AM UwiF Mtg. - Lounge	15	16	17	18 9:00AM BMG - EXT. 11:30AM Free Lunch 11AM-2PM The Shoppe at RPUMC	19	20
21 9:00AM Adult Sunday School 9:40-10:20AM Fellowship Time-Ext. 10:30AM Worship 11:30AM Trustee Mtg. - Lounge	22  <b>Messenger Deadline Articles Due</b>	23	24	25 9:00AM BMG - EXT. 11:30AM Free Lunch 11AM-2PM The Shoppe at RPUMC	26	27
28 9:00AM Adult Sunday School 9:40-10:20AM Fellowship Time-Ext. 10:30AM Worship	29	30	31			



**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. Keisha R. Dukes, MDiv  
Cell Phone (443) 447-9101  
E-Mail: [pastor@rpumchurch.org](mailto:pastor@rpumchurch.org)  
Office Hours: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. M-F  
Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Boyce



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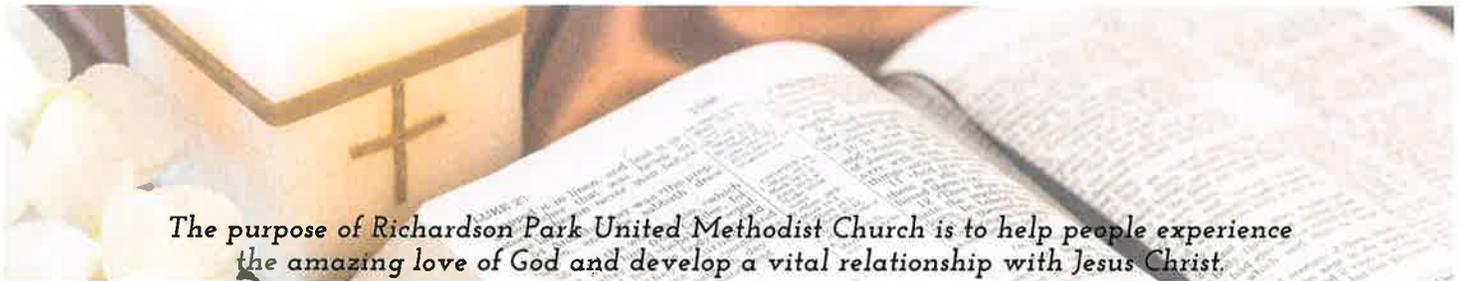
**In-Person and Live Streaming Sunday Worship Services  
at the following sites:**

[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  
Friday, August 2nd. 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.*