

NOVEMBER 2024



## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

*Written by Rev. Chris Pennington*

A "wise" person once said that there are only two things for sure, death and taxes. I know that these two things are for sure, but I also know that these are not the only things that are for sure. We deal with many absolutes during our existence here on earth; death and taxes are among those things. They, however, are not the only things that are "for sure." For example, we are entering a new season. Fall has begun to give way to winter, Pentecost will give way to Advent, the Thanksgiving holiday season will give way to the Christmas season, and so the list goes. These seasonal changes have always been there, and they always will. They are an integral part of the precision with which the universe was created. We also deal with emotional changes on a daily, weekly, and yearly basis. These changes are caused by more things than could be listed in any particular writing and they are part of the precision with which we, as human beings, were created. We are constantly being affected by situations we find ourselves in and by the events of the world around us. I would say that this could well be included in the list of "for sures." Sometimes things happen in life that we don't understand. Not only can this be counted among the "for sures" but it also can be attributed to the precision of the created universe. While we are on the earth, we will not understand every part of the creation, but we can understand a vital part of it. That is, God's love for us and everything that God has created. When we accept in our hearts that God sent Jesus to die on the cross to save us from our sins, we quickly realize the aspects of God that we cannot and may not ever understand are not important. Life is not always a rose garden and disappointment and sorrow can enter our lives at the most unexpected times. I don't look for answers from God as to why this happened as I didn't look to God to answer why the events of September 11th occurred or any other tragedies. These things can remain a mystery without diminishing any of the power or glory of our Creator. God never meant for us to know everything which is why God instructed Adam and Eve not to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. As Adam and Eve hid themselves from God, a part of God will forever be a mystery to us. The lesson I have learned is that the only "for sure" that matters is that God is about love, and we cannot explain why all the things of His world happen.

Grace and peace to you and a very happy Thanksgiving!  
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

Take a moment to enjoy the beautiful colors of autumn God provides for each of us. Thanksgiving is quickly approaching. How have you been blessed this year?

October 20th was Laity Sunday at RPUMC. What a wonderful service which included members of the United Women in Faith, children and children at heart and a wonderful speaker - Nicole Staz. Thank all of you for the support. Our mission recognition award for 2024 was given to Carol Cathell for many, many years of service to RPUMC - thank you!

Please join our wonderful group of women in faith on November 10th. This is our pledge service for 2025. What will each of you pledge for the coming year- prayer, visiting, helping at church, monetary support- be thinking of what you can do to show God's love. This is also the month for gathering food to fill the Thanksgiving baskets and thinking of you cards for the V.A. Now, we also will be deciding on boxes of winter items for the schools. There will be an additional box for Door of Hope. We will be busy!

Now, my friends:

1. Attend our meeting on November 10th following worship service.
2. Share God's love with the folks you meet each day- a greeting or a smile surely brightens a day.
3. Read: Matthew 9:35-38
4. Take time to enjoy each day.

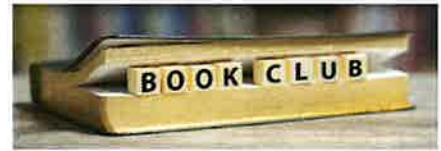
Blessings from Marlene



## THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

BY MARLENE JOHNSON

The weather is getting cooler and the leaves on many trees are changing color- it's a beautiful time of year. We have been learning about God's creations and the joy they bring to each of us. There have been different things at the Discovery Center . . . what will appear in November? Please come to Children's Church and find the answer. There will be a new attendance chart for the month of November- how many stickers will you earn? Come light a candle, sing a few songs, learn more about God and do a craft. See you soon- Ms. Marlene



## BOOK CLUB

BY PAUL WEAVER

Our October meeting was held on Friday, October 11th at 2pm at the church. We discussed "The Family Game" by Catherine Steadman. We had a lively, very interesting discussion.

Our November meeting will be on Friday, November 14th at 2pm at the church. We will discuss "I Know Who You Are" by Alice Feeney. If anyone has trouble getting a copy please let me know. I have access to a copy.

Our December meeting will be on Friday, December 12th at 2pm at the church. We will discuss "One Summer" by David Baldacci. If any one has trouble getting a copy please let me know. I hope to have access to a copy.

Coming attractions include "Dreamland: A Novel" by Nicholas Sparks, "Hidden Pictures" by Jason Rekulak, "The Housemaid's Secrets" by Freida McFadden, "Must Love Flowers" by Debbie Macomber and several books by Ariel Lawson ("The Frozen River" and "Flight of Dreams").

## 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 from Fellowship Hall. 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 130 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

## 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



## TECHNOLOGY TIPS

BY JIM CHILCUTT

Is Your Computer Protected, part 2?

Last month's article covered the first level of software protection on your computer and that was anti-virus software. Remember anti-virus software functions by looking for identifiable character strings associated with virus code. This is because most viruses are programs that sneak onto your computer by hiding in programs you trust. For example, let's say your trusted program is "thing". The virus is inserted into "thing" and it now becomes "thxxxing". It is something that can be searched for.

The next level of protection is a firewall. As a rule, firewalls do not examine code the way anti-virus programs do. Instead firewalls look for data strings coming from the internet via the network.

Firewalls form a "wall" between your computer and the internet. All communications over the internet is done following strict rules. Every message sent to or from the internet by your computer must follow internet traffic rules. The firewall examines every message and validates that the message is sent to or received from a valid location and follows the rules. If the message fails the rules it is rejected.

Next month the topic will be VPN's. What they are and what they do.

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

## Harvest Home In-Gathering

November 24th



## MEMORIAL TREE

BY GLENDA DONNELLY

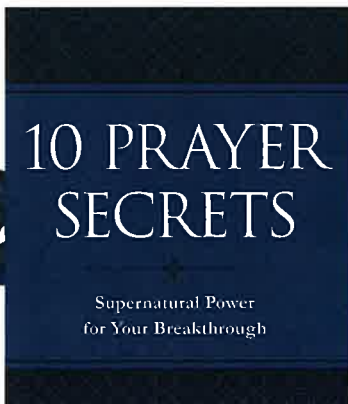
Thanks to the great work of the Trustees and the BMG, we have a beautiful Memorial Tree to recognize all our loved families and friends who have passed.

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 at (302) 998-5047 or call the Church Office.

Thank you. Glenda

## FLOWER CONTAINERS NEEDED

We love delivering altar flowers to shut-ins and they love the visit **BUT** we are in need of containers. I have found the 1 lb. metal coffee cans do work very well. Please donate these so we can continue this wonderful program. Blessings from Marlene



## BIBLE STUDY

BY REV. TONY ARRINGTON

From Pastor Tony's Desk...

Attention: Church and community members!

I am excited to introduce my first teaching opportunity and offering for RPUMC: "10 Prayer Secrets, Supernatural Power for Your Breakthrough" by Hakeem Collins. It doesn't matter if you are a seasoned prayer warrior or a new comer to prayer, this book will propel your prayer life beyond your wildest expectations.

Come and join in as the Lord opens our spirits and invites us to be purpose driven with our prayers and powers us to see the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit working through us in miraculous ways! Classes will be held in the Lounge at RPUMC on Tuesdays from 1pm to 2:30pm starting on September 17th. A light lunch will be served. Please sign up now at ([rpumchurch.org](http://rpumchurch.org)) and get your book!



### November 1st is All Saints' Day

We will celebrate All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 3rd with a Service of Remembrance. On that day you are invited to come light a candle in honor and remembrance. If you cannot join us on that day, we will light a candle for you. The names of those we love and have lost will be read during our service. If you would like to include your loved one, please reach out to the office (302-654-0961) to make sure your loved one's name is on our list of people being honored.



### SELLING RAISERIGHT GIFT CARDS TO SUPPORT RPUMC MISSIONS

BY KATHY ROGERS

The holidays are fast approaching and gift cards are a great way to give friends, family, coworkers, teachers or anyone exactly what they want by allowing them to choose for themselves. The RaiseRight program has over 600 retailers to choose from and each retailer donates a percentage of the value of the gift card to our church. You can find and download the current retailers list online using at [www.Raiseright.com](http://www.Raiseright.com) or copies of the list will be in the back of the sanctuary. You just select the retailers and the value of the gift cards you want and place your order directly with Kathy Rogers by emailing [rpumc@rpumchurch.org](mailto:rpumc@rpumchurch.org). The deadline to place an order will be 11/10/23 so that the gift cards can be received and distributed before Thanksgiving.

This is an opportunity to get a jump on your Christmas shopping and support RPUMC Missions! Thank You and God Bless You!!

Kathy Rogers, RPUMC Lay Leader and Missions Team Chairperson



### New Castle United Methodist Church

invites you to our Annual Fall Bazaar!

Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>

9:00 am until 2:00 pm



510 Delaware Street, Historic New Castle, DE  
Parking and Entrance behind Church



### HARVEST HOME IN-GATHERING

BY PAUL WEAVER

Harvest Home Sunday is November 24, 2024. Last year we distributed a record number of baskets and expect a high number of requests this year. With your continued support and the support of our local Wegmans, we expect another successful year! Attached is the list of items we are collecting to be included in the baskets. Please drop them off at the church. Cash donations are also welcome.

If you know of a person or family in need of (or if you or your family have a need) please contact Pastor Chris to have them included on our list.

The generosity of our congregation never ceases to amaze me! Thanks in advance for your participation.

Paul



## ONLINE GIVING - TITHES & OFFERINGS

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE

**Hello RPUMC Family!**  
 We are pleased to announce that  
**ONLINE GIVING is NOW Available.**

You can support the work and  
 ministry of Richardson Park UMC  
 through your tithes and offerings by  
 either sending them in the mail or 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)

## Peniel Soup Kitchen

PENIEL UMC CHURCH

*Soup Kitchen*

OPEN EVERY FRIDAY  
 FROM 10AM to 12PM

OPEN TO ANYONE WHO WANTS  
 A HOT MEAL

115 E Market St, Newport, DE 19804

**FREE  
 BREAD**

**Thursday 9:00am -  
 12:30pm**  
**Friday 9:00am -  
 12:30pm**  
**Sunday 11:15 am -  
 12:30 pm**


PENIEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
 115 E. MARKET STREET NEWPORT, DE 19804



### 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.





### Women's Al-Anon 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.



### 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 November 7th for the next podcast. You can join at 8:00am 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)





## CHRISTMAS ALTAR POINSETTIAS



Red poinsettias will be ordered to be placed on the Altar on Sunday, December 22nd. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in Memory or in Honor of Loved Ones. Please return this form to the church office by Sunday, December 15th. The cost of each poinsettia is \$9.00. Please make your check payable to Richardson Park United Methodist Church. On the memo line of the check, please indicate "Poinsettias". If possible, please pick up your poinsettia after the Christmas Eve candlelight service on December 24th.

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Plants \_\_\_\_\_

Flowers given:



In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

(for those not living) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

(for those living) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory and \_\_\_\_\_

Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Check/Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Shall we deliver your flower to a Church Shut-In?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_



# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sandy Burkholder	November	1
Joseph Gallagher	November	1
Paul Ayala	November	2
Tracy Gamble	November	2
Sath Amara	November	3
Frank Lindell	November	5
Christopher Owen	November	5
Lis-Ana Wegman	November	5
Brandon Gamble	November	8
Alice Lang	November	9
Rob Swain	November	10
Bob Burkholder	November	11
Erin Cox	November	11
Mary White	November	11
Dennis Johnson	November	12
George Sease	November	13



Phyllis Bowman	November	14
Shawn Creese	November	18
Jim King	November	20
Debbie Davis	November	22
Hannah Phillippe	November	23
Janis Williams	November	23
Deborah Pruitt	November	25
Phyllis Thomas	November	25
Sammy Pasmore	November	26
Karen DiTullio-Ewell	November	28
Mallori Cochran	November	29
Laura Doughty	November	29
Kylie Parker	November	29
Marvin Swain	November	29
Sherlynn Aurelio	November	30
Mary Alice Bair	November	30

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



Daylight Saving Time Ends  
Don't forget to  
**Fall Back**  
Sunday, November 3rd

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT 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](http://ResourceUMC.org/SSGive)

TO GIVE ONLINE SCAN QR CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE CAMERA

November 24th

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

November 11th  
**VETERANS DAY**  
HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Come join  
**Scout Troop 339!**

MONDAY NIGHTS  
AT 6:30 PM

Contact [troop339de@gmail.com](mailto:troop339de@gmail.com)

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

November 3 - Open  
November 10 - Kristi Doughty  
November 17 - Julia Lynch  
November 24 - Kathy Rogers



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1 ALL SAINTS' DAY</b>	<b>2</b> 11AM-2PM <b>OPEN</b> First Saturdays' - The Shoppe & Annex at RPUMC
<b>3 ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY</b> <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS</b> 9AM Adult Sunday School-Lounge 10AM Fellowship Time- Ext. 10:30AM Worship & Children's Church	<b>4</b>	<b>5 ELECTION DAY</b> NO Bible Study 	<b>6</b> 6:30PM Scout Board Mtg. - Lounge	<b>7</b> 9AM BMG-EXT. 11AM-2PM -The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30AM-12:30PM -Free Lunch-FH	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9AM Adult Sunday School-Lounge 10AM Fellowship Time- Ext. 10:30AM Worship & Children's Church 11:30AM UWif Mtg.- Ext.	<b>11 VETERANS DAY</b>  <b>Church Office &amp; Building Closed</b>	<b>12</b> 1PM-2:30PM Bible Study - Lounge	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9AM BMG-EXT. 11AM-2PM -The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30AM-12:30PM -Free Lunch-FH	<b>15</b> 2PM Book Club- Lounge  <b>Messenger Deadline Articles Due</b>	<b>16</b> 11AM Koinonia Mtg.-Ext.
<b>17</b> 9AM Adult Sunday School-Lounge 10AM Fellowship Time- Ext. 10:30AM Worship & Children's Church 11:30AM Trustee Mtg.- Lounge	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 1PM-2:30PM Bible Study - Lounge	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9AM BMG-EXT. 11AM-2PM -The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30AM-12:30PM -Free Lunch-FH	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24 UM STUDENT DAY</b> <b>HARVEST GATHERING</b> 9AM Adult Sunday School-Lounge 10AM Fellowship Time- Ext. 10:30AM Worship & Children's Church	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28 THANKSGIVING DAY</b> <b>Church Office &amp; Building Closed</b> <b>CLOSED</b> Shoppe <b>NO Free Lunch</b> 	<b>29</b> <b>Church Office &amp; Building Closed</b>	<b>30</b>

**COME ON OUT & SHOP AT  
THE SHOPPE AT RPUMC**

**on Thursdays 11 AM-2 PM  
and select FIRST SATURDAYS'**

**PRE-LOVED GOODS  
DISCOVER GREAT FINDS**



Thank you for supporting the mission.



@rpumchurch.org

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT  
MISSIONS/OUTREACH**





# Harvest Home Shopping List

*Sunday, November 24th*



Product	Amount per Family	Cash/Gift Card only	can/boxed
Apple juice	1 or 2		Yes
Canned Corn	2		Yes
Cranberry Sauce	2		Yes
Green Beans	2		Yes
Yams	2		Yes
Cheerios	1		Yes
Fresh Dinner Rolls	1		Yes
Grape Jelly	1		Yes
Instant Potatoes	2		Yes
Mac&Cheese	3		Yes
Spaghetti	2		Yes
Pasta Sauce	2		Yes
Apple Pie	1		Yes
Pumpkin Pie	1		Yes
Rice Krispies/Cheerios	1		Yes
Stuffing (Stove Top)	2		Yes
Turkey Gravy	2		Yes
Wonder Bread	1		Yes
Soup/Ramen Noodles	1 or 2		Yes
Creamy Peanut Butter	1		Yes
Sugar Free Powder Drink	1		Yes
<b>These items will be purchased fresh. Please donate by Check or Cash.</b>			
Butter	1	Yes	
Carrots (baby)	1	Yes	
Frozen Turkey	1	Yes	
Milk	1	Yes	
Orange Juice	1	Yes	
<b>Cash gifts are always appreciated in any amount.</b>			
<b>By Check, please make your check payable to Richardson Park UMC</b>			
<b>and put Harvest Home on the "For" line.</b>			
<b>Harvest Home In-Gathering Will Be Sunday, Nov. 24, 2024</b>			

**Please share with Pastor Chris those whom you feel would benefit from the outreach.**

The Messenger



November 2024

**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  
E-Mail: [pastorchr@rpumchurch.org](mailto:pastorchr@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)

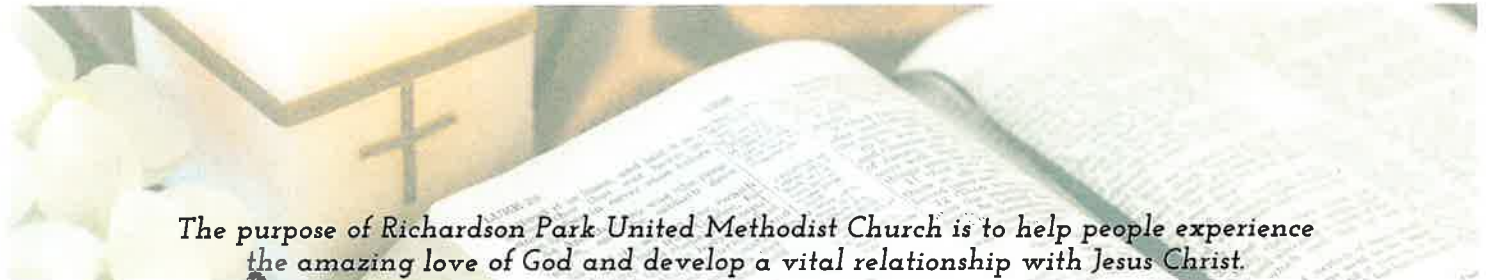
Sunday School.....9:00 A.M.  
Fellowship Time.....10:00 A.M.  
Worship & Children’s Church.....10:30 A.M.



The Church Office & building  
will be closed on  
Monday, November 11th



Please have articles and information for the December Messenger to the Church Office by Friday, November 18th. 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



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