

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
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On that day I will gather you together and bring you home again. I will give you a good name, a name of distinction among all the nations of the earth. They will praise you as I restore your fortunes before their very eyes. I, the LORD, have spoken!

- Zephaniah 3:20 (New Living Translation)

What does the word *home* mean to you? It probably conjures up all kinds of images in your head. Most are probably good memories like being *home* for the holidays or the day you made your current house your home, or something similar. (For me, because I grew up in the Midwest, home usually reminds me of something painted by Grant Wood.) Warm and fuzzy thoughts tend to go racing through my brain at the mention of *home*. It's one of those things that we often take for granted like sunshine and air. It's so much of a part of who we are that we often forget what "home" really "means" to us. I'm just as guilty as you are about taking home for granted, but what if we had to leave suddenly, taking only what we could pack in our suitcases, with little hope of returning ever? Luckily, barring catastrophic tragedies like Hurricane Katrina, we probably won't ever have to. We live in a peaceful and prosperous country where storms like Hazel or Katrina only come along once in a lifetime, and I feel truly blessed to live in such a wonderful place as Wilmington, DE, USA with all of you making this feel like home for me. Home is where the heart is.

Last year when I was still in seminary, I was able to attend a symposium of Latino biblical scholars and theologians. The key note speaker was man by the name of Fernando Segovia, who is a New Testament scholar from Vanderbilt University. He is also a Cuban exile who left in the first wave of exiles in July of 1961 right after the failed Bay of Pigs invasion when he was 16 years old. As a refugee in New York, the thing that he missed the most was that sense of *community* and *home* that he had back in Havana. This left him feeling isolated and adrift, even in the sea of people that is New York City. For over 40 years he dreamed of a return to his homeland; going back to the places and the people that he left behind. In 2004 he had the opportunity to return as part of a seminary teaching exchange. He was able to take a dozen students to the island of Cuba for a 3 week intensive course on religion under communism. He showed slides from the trip and talked about how he felt instantly at home when he landed back in Havana. Because of the lack of money and the trade embargo with the US, not much has changed since Prof. Segovia left all those years ago. In fact, the lack of change surprised him, but also allowed him to find his old home, old school, and his grandfather's tomb rather easily. To him it was

a watershed trip and marked a change in the direction of his scholarly work. He has dedicated his life to talking about Cuba and what can be done to help the people of that country. Home can have that kind of effect on you, because home is where the heart is. Prof. Segovia has devoted the rest of his life to trying to help prepare Cuba for the upheaval that is coming when the current administration ends. Home still has a powerful pull for Prof. Segovia, and I think for all of us.

What if your “church home” suddenly disappeared? How would that affect you? I know for me, Richardson Park has become my home and I would miss it terribly. These questions are important for two reasons. First, if you haven’t thought about Richardson Park’s future, now is the time to start. We have been praying since September about where we think God is calling us in our second century of ministry. Has God spoken to you? Do you have any ideas of ways that we can be more effective in our ministry? The second reason relates to our work in the world. Who would miss us if we were gone? Would it just be us? If so, how much of an impact on Wilmington could we be having? God calls us into a church home not just to feed our own souls or simply to help support each other, but to allow us as a community to reach out and help those who are in need, who are hurting, and who are lost. We are helping people through CAP, through missions donations to Neighborhood House and Angel Food ministry, through Youth Group and Kids’ Café, and through our support to the Annual Conference through apportionments. It’s important that we continue to look for opportunities to serve. Staying focused on those outside of our doors keeps us focused on the purpose of “doing church.”

My prayer is simply that we are able to make RPUMC into a “home” where Jesus himself would want to worship and serve God.

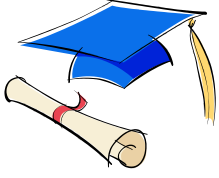
Blessing and Peace to you all,

Pastor Tom



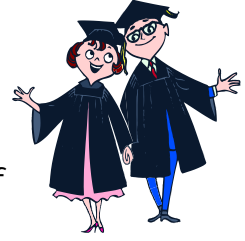
Audio of Pastor Tom's Sermons

Weekly "Web-casts" of Pastor Tom's sermon's are now available either to listen to on your computer or to download and take with you on any portable MP3 player. Just go to the website (www.rpumchurch.org) and click on the "Pastor's Notes" tab on the homepage. There you will find last week's message, just the way that it was presented in church and available anytime and anyplace. Thanks to Jim Chilcutt for helping launch this new ministry and for continuing to make our presence real on the web.



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

On Sunday, May 31, during worship, we celebrated the accomplishments of our graduates of 2009.



NICOLE ANDERSON will receive her High School Diploma from A. I. DuPont High School on Saturday, June 6. She plans to attend Wilmington University in the fall to major in Elementary Education. Her parents are Rob and Michelle Anderson.

SARA ANDERSON will receive her High School Diploma from A. I. DuPont High School on Saturday, June 6. She plans to attend Wilmington University in the fall to major in Elementary Education. Her parents are Rob and Michelle Anderson.

JEN FITZGERALD will receive her High School Diploma from A. I. DuPont High School on Saturday, June 6. She plans to attend Delaware Technical and Community College in the fall in a two-year nursing program and then plans to attend the University of Delaware to pursue a degree in Psychology. One of her goals is to be involved in Youth Ministry.

AUBREY GAIL EVELAND will graduate from St. Mark's High School on June 7. She plans to attend the University of Delaware in the fall. Her grandparents are Dave and Sandy Swain.

SUSAN SWAIN EVELAND has received an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Development from Delaware Technical and Community College. She plans to attend Wilmington University in the fall to pursue a B.S. Degree in Education. Her parents are Dave and Sandy Swain.

RYAN DAVID PATTERSON will graduate from St. Edmond's Academy on Sunday, June 7. He will attend Salesianum School in the fall. His grandparents are Dave and Sandy Swain.

BLESSINGS TO ALL OF YOU!



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Bette Farra	6/3
Brisa Peterson	6/5
Julia Maybroda	6/11
Billy Sorensen	6/11
Trish Williamson	6/11
Miles Keogh	6/12
Ruthann Will	6/13
Julie Lundgren	6/14
Chase Stout	6/14
Yvonne Mitten	6/15
Megan Thomas	6/18
Jeannine White	6/18
Kayla Brown	6/19
Rob Anderson	6/21
Alicia Ott	6/23
David Pruitt	6/23
Earle Snapp	6/23
Carolyn Swain	6/23
Charlene Workman	6/23
Kaitlyn Adams	6/24
Franz Kappel	6/25
Ida Burgos	6/29
William Cathell	6/29
Brian Maher	6/29

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

WESLEY TOWER BANKS

May 2009 \$94.48

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Our year-to-date total is \$485.48. Empty banks can be picked up as you leave the altar area each Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



In June, Rebekah Circle will take care of the flowers in the church.

Circle Meetings

Rebekah Circle	Dinner – Hunter’s Den Date to be determined
Ruth Circle	Wed., June 3 11:30 a.m. Meet at Hunter’s Den RSVP to Barbara Sayles

Circle Leaders

Rebekah Circle	Marlene Johnson
Ruth Circle	Barbara Sayles

If you are interested in joining a Circle, please contact Marlene or Barbara for more information.

ZINGO



TAPES

What a wonderful “fundraiser” the Zingo receipt rebate program is turning out to be for RPUMC, and it’s thanks to all of you who forward your receipts to us for processing!! In April, we received a check for \$253.99 bringing our year-to-date total to \$425.79. Thanks for supporting this program and making it such a great success!



Flag Day, always June 14, is a day for Americans to celebrate and show respect for our flag and its designers and makers. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States by resolution of the Second Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. Our church proudly flies an American flag each day. If you have a new or gently used flag (approximately 5’ by 9-1/2’) that you would like to donate for this purpose, please contact the church office at 654-0961.

MISSION TREE



On Sundays in June, we are hanging "**Sailboats**" on our Mission Tree. Hang a "sailboat" on the tree in honor or memory of someone special to you. Minimum donation is \$1.00. Our tree is located in the Extension.

FOOD FOR CAP

Don't forget to bring **CAP** the first Sunday of each month. They are in need of canned meats and stews, peanut butter and jelly, hot & cold cereals, tuna, baked beans, canned fruit.



food for
of each



CHANCEL CHOIR/ BELLS Summer Schedule

The Chancel Choir will sing the first Sunday in July and August. Practice will be held at 9:30 a.m. on these Sundays.

Covered-Dish Supper

Thursday, June 4 6 PM

All members, past and present, of the Bells and Chancel Choir are invited to attend. Bring your families. A brief rehearsal will follow the meal.

SUMMER WORSHIP

June 7 - August 30
10 :00 AM

KIDS CAFÉ

We wish to extend a special thank you to all the Kids Cafe tutors and kitchen crew for a very successful year...and to all the children who joined in the fun each week! Our finale...a Kids Cafe Carnival...was held on Thursday, May 14. The carnival featured pizza, fresh popcorn, ice cream sundaes, crafts, stories, games, balloon animals/light sabers/swords created by Brenda Tucker, face painting for both the children and adults provided by Sharon Wright, a strolling musician (Ed Ide), a clown complete with bubbles and bubble wands (Marlene Johnson), a "real" live zebra (Sandy Swain), a tattooed strong man (Sponge Bob Evely), and a "target" for luscious whipped-cream pies (Janet Dickerson). A great time was had by all!!! Have a wonderful summer!

Ms. Marlene and Ms. Janet

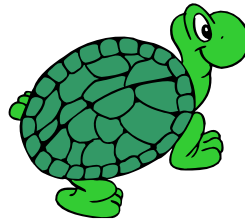
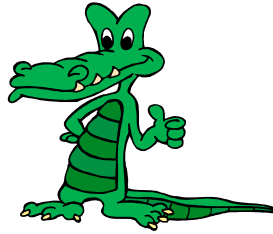
SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL



It's time for Summer Sunday School!! Every Sunday following "Time with children", I will lead the group of "Bible Detectives" to Room 3. We are going to have a grand time exploring the New Testament! There will be songs, stories, role-play, and take-home Bible story booklets! Now--- do you take on the mission to become a "Bible Detective" this summer? I will be waiting for you -----

Blessings from
Ms Marlene and helpers

Join our Vacation Bible School's Bayou Bash!!!



This year we will be in the Bayous for

Crocodile Rock

Sunday June 28 - Thursday July 2

5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Richardson Park Church

Ages: 3 years through 6th grade

Everyone Welcome - No Charge

Each night, our young explorers will enjoy dinner at the Swamp Café and participate in fun activities at the Dockside Drive-in, Crawfish Crafts, Bible Bayou, Sing and Play Swamp Stomp, and Gator Games. We'll end each night with a Firefly Finale where we'll review the daily Bible Point and Scripture lesson.

So mark your calendar for this
summer's biggest Bayou Bash!



For more information call the church office or see Tammy Brindle or Kristi Doughty, co-chairs.

Volunteers always are welcome to assist our leaders at each station. Please call the church office at 654-0961 and leave your name if you'd like to join in on the fun. Also, students who have completed 7th through 12th grades are encouraged to give us a hand, but need to register by June 24 using the form included in this newsletter.

RICHARDSON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION

NAME: _____ HELPER:

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

HOME TELEPHONE: (____) _____ AGE: _____

LAST SCHOOL GRADE COMPLETED: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: HOME _____ CELL _____

ALLERGIES OR OTHER MEDICAL CONDITIONS: _____

HOME CHURCH: _____

ONE SPECIAL FRIEND YOUR CHILD MIGHT LIKE TO BE WITH AT VBS: _____



SUNDAY, JUNE 28 - THURSDAY, JULY 2

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

AGES 3 THRU GRADE 6

**NOTE: HELPERS (7TH-12TH GRADES) MUST PRE-REGISTER WITH
TAMMY BRINDLE OR KRISTI DOUGHTY BY JUNE 24**

*** PLEASE SEE ADDITIONAL INFO ON BACK OF REGISTRATION* ***

All children must be picked up promptly at 8:00 p.m. If your child is over 10 years old, you may sign below to allow him/her to leave the church without adult supervision. We recommend you make every effort to pick up any child regardless of age; however, we realize that some children walk or may be capable of going home on their own. Please sign below to indicate you accept responsibility for your child (who must be over 10 years of age) to leave on his/her own at the end of the evening.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please sign here if you will allow your child's photograph to be taken at Crocodile Rock Vacation Bible School and posted within the church building.

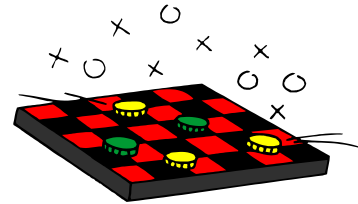
Signature: _____ Date: _____

Update from Richardson Park Community Action Program

RICHARDSON PARK COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

This month CAP launched its website – www.richardsonparkcap.org.

We would love to know what you think. Please send your feedback to us at rpcap107@verizon.net

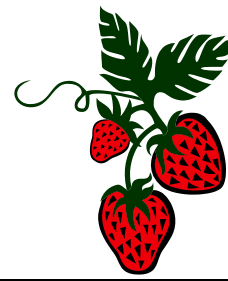
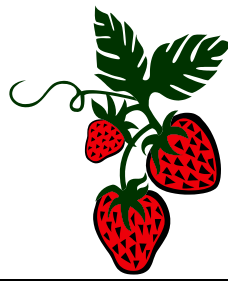
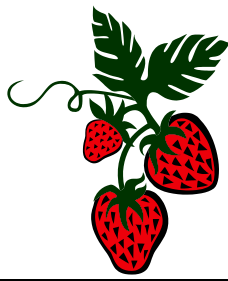


It's Spring Cleaning Time,
and the CAP Thrift Shop wants all that
“stuff”* stuffed in your closets.

*Knick knacks, curios, dust catchers, junque, and bric a brac. Also **jewelry**, scarves, hats, and other accessories. Dolls, toys, games. Wall hangings, cookware, kitchenware, gadgets, small appliances, glassware and dishes. Sheets, towels, blankets, curtains, home decor.

Please bring us all donations during the hours we are open –
Monday & Tuesday: 10am–3pm,
Thursday: midday–6pm & Friday – 10am–2pm

Our address is: 107 South Maryland Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19804



CAP STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 6, 2009

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Rain or Shine

CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Boxwood Rd. and Maryland Ave. (Rt. 4)

Come and Join Us!

- Flea market tables available: \$15.00 to rent
- Luncheon served
- Fresh berries by the quart
- Strawberry shortcake
- CAP flea market tables – donations appreciated
- Baked goods table – donations needed
- Help wanted

All are welcome and admission is free.

Contact Sandy Ide at 798-8664 to volunteer, donate,
rent a table, or ask questions.

**TO BENEFIT THE
RICHARDSON PARK COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM (CAP)**



MUSIC NOTES

Terri Weaver, Director

Choirs

Chancel Bells and Chancel Choir will participate in the June 7th service as we continue to celebrate Pentecost at the 10:00 a.m. service. Please help me to thank all members of both choirs for their dedicated service and glorifying God through music. THANK YOU! They will resume practices at the end of August to prepare for the next season. Special music will be used throughout the summer months. Can I add your name to the schedule? Please contact me at 610-869-7704.

Covered-Dish Dinner

A choir covered-dish dinner will be held on Thursday, June 4th at 6:00 p.m. All current and prior members of both choirs and their families are invited to attend. A brief rehearsal will be held after the dinner to prepare for the June 7th service.

“New” Piano

The piano located in the Sanctuary needs to be replaced, according to the piano tuner. Do you know of someone wanting to donate a gently used or new piano? Contact Terri Weaver for information on our search for a ‘new’ grand quality instrument.

Piano Lessons

Are you interested in taking piano lessons at the church? Or is a member of your family from ages 6 through adult interested? Piano lessons will be offered to congregation members at a discounted rate. A portion of this fee will be donated to the church for a new piano for the Sanctuary. Music books will be available for purchase at cost. Contact Terri for details on availability.

FYI... Ben Brindle will be taking piano lessons with me as he also learns more about the organ. Ben spent time with Jay Cummings to learn about the pipes, chambers and blowers. Now he will learn more about the pistons, keyboard and pedals during his lessons as he learns to read music.

Faithfully,

Terri Weaver

RICHARDSON PARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
11 NORTH MARYLAND AVENUE
WILMINGTON, DE 19804-1305

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“THE MESSENGER” JUNE 2009

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Tom Pasmore, Pastor



LAY READERS

June 7	Muriel Campbell
June 14	Betty Swain
June 21	Paul Weaver
June 28	Joe Tucker

ALTAR FLOWERS

For the month of June, Rebekah Circle is responsible for the flowers.

Please submit your articles for the July/August Messenger to the church office by Wednesday June 10. Thank You.

ALTAR FLOWERS

June 7	Tod and Yvonne Mitten
At the Cross	Winfield Lane
June 14	Rob and Michelle Anderson
At the Cross	Carol Cathell
June 21	Alvretta Crozier
At the Cross	Bob and Joyce Collins
At the Lectern	Ruth Gibney
June 28	United Methodist Women

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PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING FOOD FOR CAP THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

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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.