

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
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I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

- John 10:10b (New Revised Standard Version)

The theme for this year's Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference is *Live It!* I'm excited by the opportunity to take our faith out into the world and show others the importance of our life in Christ—a life transformed by our experience of God. As I said during our service on May 22, the day after Harold Camping predicted "Judgment Day," I am happy that we are all still here since there is much more work to do in this place before we meet Christ. *Living It* is about taking the gift that we have been given and sharing it with a world that needs to hear the truth about life abundant in Christ. The question that always comes to mind as I ponder this is, "What does it mean to give life?" How do we share what we have been given with our neighbors?

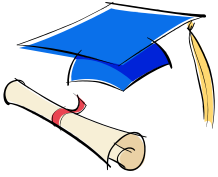
This has been the challenge facing the church since the resurrection of Christ, but here at Richardson Park, we are looking for ways to touch lives right here in our community. There are several opportunities over the summer to reach out in love:

- 1) **The summer feeding program with the Food Bank of Delaware** - We need several servants to help us make sure that kids in the neighborhood have access to nutritious meals while school is out for the summer. There is minimal food preparation required, and it will be a great opportunity to interact with the kids from the community.
- 2) **Free Lunch Fridays at Peniel UMC.** - We always are looking for talented chefs to whip up a large batch of soup to be served on Fridays from 11 AM-1 PM. You can cook on Friday mornings in Peniel's kitchen or make the soup ahead of time to be reheated for lunch. RPUMC usually provides soup about once a month. June 3 is the next scheduled time for us to provide soup.
- 3) **Home repair ministry** - Richardson Park Community Action Program (CAP) has been collecting the names of individuals who have homes that are in need of minor repairs. Would you be willing to help make a difference in the lives of someone in our own community by serving them?
- 4) **Volunteer at CAP** - There is always a need for volunteers over at the CAP house. If you would be interested in volunteering, please contact me or the CAP house directly at 428-1247.

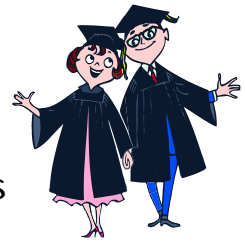
Opportunities to serve abound! What are you going to try this summer to take the love of Christ out into our world?

May the Spirit fill you to overflowing with eternal life,

Pastor Tom



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



On Sunday, June 5, during worship, we will celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates of 2011.

ELIZABETH LOCKEY BENNETT received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from the University of Tennessee in May 2011. She is the niece of Sandy and Ed Ide.

KIM BILLIPS received her Bachelor's Degree in Cognitive Science/Linguistics from the University of Delaware in May 2011. She is the granddaughter of Ella de Courcelle.

JESSICA CRUMLISH graduated from Delaware Technical and Community College with a degree in Physical Therapy and is employed at Crozier Hospital. She is the future granddaughter-in-law of Dave and Sandy Swain.

SUSAN SWAIN EVELAND graduated Summa Cum Laude from Wilmington University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education K-6. She is currently employed at Baltz Elementary and Anna P. Mote as a family interventionist. She is the daughter of Dave and Sandy Swain.

KRISTIN FLEMING received her Master's Degree in Business Administration from Wesley College in May 2011. Kristin is the Chair of the Finance Committee here at RPUMC. She is the daughter of Richard and Cindy Beane, the granddaughter of Marvin and Betty Swain, and the mother of Cole Richard Fleming.

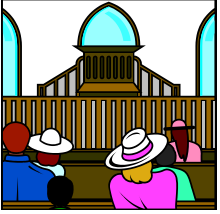
HEATHER MICHELLE REBURN will graduate with honors from Avon Grove High School. She will be attending East Carolina University in the fall. She is the granddaughter of Dave and Sandy Swain.

STEPHANIE JAYNE SWAIN will graduate with honors from Alexis I. duPont High School. She will be attending Delaware Technical and Community College, majoring in Dental Hygiene. She is the granddaughter of Dave and Sandy Swain.

LAUREN NICOLE WILL will graduate with honors from Avon Grove High School. She will be attending Penn State University main campus, majoring in Chemistry. She is the granddaughter of Dave and Sandy Swain.

BRISA PETERSON will graduate from Cab Calloway High School and AMANDA GRAHAM will graduate from McKean High School in June.

BLESSINGS TO ALL OF YOU!



Laity Enlightenment

Kathy Russell

A few months ago, my oldest brother, Wayne, eagerly reminded me that this year was a milestone year in my life. He's right, of course; I celebrated my 50th birthday on April 23, 2011. That's a half of a Century! WOW!! Immediately, when my brother reminded me of my age, I felt compelled to reflect on my life a bit. I decided, like most people I suppose, that "if I knew then what I know now" I may have done things a little differently. But I have no regrets and there really is no reason to dwell on the past.

Time is the thing that most affects me about turning 50. The realization that more than half my life is most probably over is taking some getting used to. It feels like every year goes by faster than the one before. My father and I developed a theory about this phenomenon. Let me try to explain it. When we are one year of age, a single day represents 1/365th of our lives. When we have lived 50 years, a day is now 1/18,250th of our life. At 75, each day is an even smaller portion of our total days on this earth. So each day is a smaller block of time out of each year, every year, as we get older. This makes the days, and years, seem shorter and shorter. It's an interesting concept, isn't it?

No matter how you try to rationalize it, there never seems to be enough time. The important question is: How do I want to spend the rest of my time on this earth? The Bible is our guide. It is the instruction manual to teach us what we need to know to live our lives in a way that is pleasing to God. The Bible has many references to time but mostly it **is** a reference for **how to make the most of our time**.

Jesus' parables and teachings also instruct us on the importance of love and forgiveness, grace and mercy, prayer and repentance. Then, spelled out in Galatians 5:22, there are the seven fruits of the spirit: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness. These are qualities that all God's children should strive to perfect. Recognizing these characteristics in others can also help us to be better Christians. Our church is full of Brothers and Sisters in Christ who are excellent examples of these traits. At the end of each day, my personal desire is to demonstrate self-improvement and spiritual growth in any or all of these areas beyond the day before.

There is a simple goodnight prayer that I remember reciting from the time I could speak and still say occasionally. My mother embroidered it on a cloth and put it in a frame which hung in my bedroom all my life. It hung in my daughter's room, too. It's a simple prayer and it seems always fitting:

*Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray thee Lord my soul to keep.
If I should die before I wake,
I pray thee Lord my soul to take.
If I should live for other days,
I pray thee Lord to guide my ways. Amen.*

My birthday wish this year was also simple. I wished that God would help me to recognize all that He has called me to do in this life and that He is pleased by how I spend my time and what I accomplish in His name.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Susan Durkee	6/1
Bette Farra	6/3
Brisa Peterson	6/5
Julia Maybroda	6/11
Billy Sorensen	6/11
Trish Williamson	6/11
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.



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.

WESLEY TOWER BANKS

May 2011

\$84.08

Thanks for remembering to bring in your filled banks the first Sunday of each month. Our year-to-date total is \$408.73. 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

Esther Circle	Will begin again in Sept.
Rebekah Circle	Will begin again in Sept.
Ruth Circle	Wed., June 1 11:00 a.m. Lunch – Meet at the Hunter's Den

Circle Leaders

Esther Circle	Yvonne Mitten
Rebekah Circle	Marlene Johnson
Ruth Circle	Joan Stadelman

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

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

On May 22, we had our closing session for 2010-2011. The children have been busy throughout the year. We used role-play, flannel board, Bible verses, crafts and songs to bring God's teachings to life in Room 3. Starting Sunday, June 5, I will be inviting the children to come back to Room 3 after "Time with Children." I do hope to see many of you there!

Blessings from Ms. Marlene



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

Busy, Busy, Busy!!!
had an overwhelming amount of clients coming to our organization recently. This means that pounds and pounds of food have been going out of our door each day. While I thank all of you for your donations, at the same time, we are still in need of food closet items. The items most needed include:



We have amount

Cereal, Oatmeal, Boxed Potatoes,
Boxed Sides, Peanut Butter, Jelly,
Peas, and Beans.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

CAP PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUND RAISER

Richardson Park UMC

Saturday, June 18

8 AM - 11 AM

Come join us for an “all-you-can-eat” pancakes, sausage, coffee and orange juice breakfast. Please come and support a great cause while enjoying a delicious breakfast. Cost:

Adults - \$5.00; Children - \$4.00

Children under 4 years of age - FREE



KIDS CAFÉ

This year's Kids Café Superstars met for their final session of the school year on Thursday, May 12 and again held a talent show for their families and the Kids Café tutors and staff. And what talents they shared with us!!! We were treated to a jump roping demo by Breanna; Joey playing his baritone sax; a Lego exhibit of items designed and built by Ben, “Mary Had a Little Lamb” on piano by Abigail; a karate demonstration by Sammy; dancing by Annabell (with a little encouragement from her Aunt Lisa!); a cheer-leading exhibition by Beth, Bethany, and Braelyn; and storytelling by Ms. Marlene where “Froggy Learned to Swim”!!!

With the guidance of their teacher, Marlene Johnson, and our dedicated staff of tutors, the children have enjoyed a year of fun and fellowship while solving a multitude of math problems, improving their spelling and reading skills, and continuing to blossom as children of God. A special thank you goes to our Kitchen Crew for providing delicious and nutritious dinners to all participants this year, but especially for our finale dinner... pizza with an ice cream sundae for dessert!!! Yum! Thanks to all...have a great summer!!!



My mom always said that the best things in the world come out of the kitchen! At this year's Vacation Bible School at Richardson Park, we are going into the kitchen to see what God has cooking for our lives. Whether you're going to preschool or can't remember the last time you were in school, we think you would enjoy a great week of VBS. "Kitchen crews" will be formed for anyone preschool (three or older) through sixth grade. If you are older than sixth grade and want to be involved, our VBS kids need you and we would love your help! There are so many ways that you can contribute, from decorating the church to sorting materials for crafts to moving children from place to place. Even if you aren't available the week of VBS, we have opportunities for you to pitch in!

Shake It Up Café will be held Sunday, June 26 through Thursday, June 30. Come and enjoy dinner, crafts, music, games, storytelling, and lots of fun. Each night we begin with dinner at 5:30 pm and finish in the sanctuary at 8:00 pm. We are asking everyone to preregister so that we have enough food and materials for all of our "chefs." Registration begins this month. Simply fill out a registration form and place it in the offering plate on Sunday or turn it into the office.

Got questions about what's going on in our kitchen?? We have all the answers! Please contact either Sarah Pasmore (652-6168), Kristy Doughty (832-1271) or the church office (654-0961) for more information about this ministry and our special time in the kitchen the last week of June. We hope to see you here for Vacation Bible School!



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 26 - THURSDAY, June 30

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

AGES 3 THRU GRADE 6

NOTE: HELPERS (7TH-12TH GRADES) MUST PRE-REGISTER

****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 ten 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 (over ten) to leave on his/her own at the end of the evening.

- o My child will be picked up in the sanctuary each evening.

- o My child may leave on his/her own at the end of each evening.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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

Signature: _____ Date: _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Due to the new UMC Safe Sanctuary policy, registration forms must be completed and signed by a parent or guardian!

Questions? Please call 654-0961.

Please bring a canned good for CAP!

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

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“THE MESSENGER” JUNE 2011

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Parsonage Phone: (302) 652-6168 E-Mail: rpumc@rpumchurch.org
Tom Pasmore, Pastor



LAY READERS

June 5	Pat Cummings
June 12	Bob Collins
June 19	Yvonne Mitten
June 26	Dave Rogers

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 8. Thank You.

ALTAR FLOWERS

June 5	Tod and Yvonne Mitten
At the Cross	Winfield Lane
At the Lectern	Ginger Pettyjohn
June 12	Rob and Michelle Anderson
June 19	Alvretta Crozier
At the Cross	Bob Collins
At the Lectern	Ruth Gibney
June 26	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.