

Richardson Park United Methodist Church  
11 North Maryland Avenue  
Wilmington, DE 19804-1305

Phone: 302-654-0961  
Fax: 302-655-7446  
E-Mail: [rpumc@rpumchurch.org](mailto:rpumc@rpumchurch.org)



***O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!  
- Psalm 136:1 (Revised Standard Version)***

One of my favorite holiday memories is the baking of the traditional pumpkin pie for Thanksgiving dinner. My mother was famous for using an age-old, trusted family recipe, which she was happy to share because it came right off the back of the Libby® canned pumpkin that was sold at my grandfather's grocery store. Our logic was simple. They wouldn't put it on the can if it wasn't any good. Would they?? Oh well, us kids loved it because we got to help with the preparation and baking. My mom was really smart about it too. We were forbidden from touching the crust, but it was our responsibility to mix the wet ingredients for the filling, which we were much less likely to mess up. Anyway, under mom's careful supervision, we pulled the pumpkin out of the can, mixed it with the condensed milk, sugar and other ingredients to create what we remember being the perfect pumpkin pie. (My memory may suffer from a bit of romanticism, but I thought it was perfect . . .) It was a gift that we could give back to the rest of the family who had worked so hard to share their bounty with us.

This time of year most of us have the opportunity to reconnect with family and friends and the ability to share from the rich bounty that God has provided to us through our employment or other means. As we give thanks for this, we need to remember that we are simply stewards of what God has entrusted us with. We are the caretakers of these gifts, of our families, and of the earth created by God. In November we will have the opportunity to

share some of these gifts with the church and others. As we begin this year's giving campaign, I would invite you to join with me in being a piece of the PIE. Over the next three weeks, we are going to build a PIE that represents not what we get but what we can give. We will spend time talking about PIE. We will Peek Into the Eternal, Pitch In Everyone, and Proclaim It Everywhere. These times of worship and praise will help us catch an attitude of sharing, just as God has shared God's abundance with us! We become partners with God in building the Kingdom here on earth. Won't you help Christ and RPUMC in this eternal project?

Thanksgiving is fundamentally about being grateful, and I am extremely grateful to be your pastor. I have been so blessed to be with you over the last three years. I have laughed with you all and cried with you as well. But through all of this I have grown to love this church and the community that we live in. So, let me selfishly take this bit of space in the newsletter to say, "Thank You!" to all of you from the bottom of my heart for the continuing opportunity to walk with you. You are a church that I believe will one day hear God speak loudly and clearly, "Well done good and faithful servant." I love you all.

May your Thanksgiving overflow with love!

**Blessings and Peace to you all,**

*Pastor Tom*



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sandy Burkholder	11/1
Joseph Gallagher	11/1
Paul Ayala	11/2
Tracy Gamble	11/2
Sath Amara	11/3
Mary Fader	11/3
Frank Lindell	11/5
Kimberly Dale	11/6
Brandon Gamble	11/8
Robbie Swain	11/8
Bob Burkholder	11/11
Erin Lindell	11/11
Emma Logullo	11/11
Mary White	11/12
Barbara Sayles	11/13
Phyllis Bowman	11/14
Nickolas Gommer	11/14
John Ludlow	11/19
Clyde Nafzinger	11/20
Hannah Phillipe	11/23
Deborah Pruitt	11/25
Phyllis Thomas	11/25
Mary James	11/26
Sammy Pasmore	11/26
Louise Beck	11/27
Mallori Cochran	11/29
Laura Doughty	11/29
Kylie Parker	11/29
Tracy Simpson	11/29
Marvin Swain	11/29
Sherlynn Aurelio	11/30
Mary Alice Bair	11/30

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

## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

In November, Ruth Circle will take care of the flowers in the church.

### Circle Meetings

Esther Circle	Sun., November 27 11:30 a.m. - Lounge
Rebekah Circle	Tue., November 1 7:00 p.m. – Home of Debbie Allen-Freebery
Ruth Circle	Wed., November 2 10:00 a.m. – Lounge

### **UMW Unit Meeting**

**Sunday, November 27 11:30 AM**



### COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE AND POTLUCK DINNER

**Sunday, November 20 - 4 PM  
Calvary Presbyterian Church**

Calvary Presbyterian Church, Peniel UMC, St. James Episcopal Church, St. Matthew Catholic Church, Richardson Park UMC, and Wilmington Church of the Brethren will come together in a community worship service to thank God for our blessings. Bring a dish and we will break bread together after the service. The offering during the service will benefit the Richardson Park Community Action Program.

**Many thanks to Richard Beane for mowing and trimming the grounds here at RPUMC. Your contribution to the up-keep of our facility is greatly appreciated.**



**WESLEY TOWER BANKS**  
**October 2011     \$72.05**

**Daylight Saving Time Ends on**  
**Sunday, November 6 at**  
**2 AM.**  
**Time to turn your clocks back**  
**one hour!!!**

**Mark Your Calendars**

**Monday, November 14 – 7 PM**  
**RPUMC**  
**2011 Charge Conference**

Thanks to everyone for remembering to bring your filled banks to church the first Sunday of each month. Our total to date for 2011 is \$865.89. Remember to pick up an empty bank as you leave the altar area on Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE .



**Change the World:**  
**Mentor a Child**  
Do you want to make a difference right here in your community? Whether you have a busy schedule or have extra time to spare, THIS is your opportunity! Creative Mentoring partners with Richardson Park Elementary School

to provide their students with mentors who help these children become all they can be. All it takes is one hour per week and the desire to positively impact the life of a child. So many students need a mentor, and that's where we need YOU! If you have any interest in becoming a mentor, please contact Christina Saadeh (Mentor Coordinator at RPES) at [Christina.Saadeh@redclay.k12.de.us](mailto:Christina.Saadeh@redclay.k12.de.us) or talk to Pastor Tom. These children are our future— give them your time so they can believe that theirs is bright!

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.” - Proverbs 22:6



**FOOD FOR CAP**

Don't forget to bring food for CAP the first Sunday of each month. We are in need of:

Cereal, oatmeal, boxed potatoes,  
boxed sides, peanut butter,  
jelly, peas, beans and  
non-perishable items.

**THRIFT STORE NEEDS..**

Clean and sized clothing,  
detergent and bleach,  
paper products, diapers,  
sanitary items, and  
aluminum cans to recycle.



**MISSION TREE**



On Sundays in November, we will be hanging **Turkeys** on our Mission Tree. Hang a “turkey” on the tree in honor or memory of someone special to you. Minimum donation is \$1.00. Our tree is located in the Extension.



## **CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS THIS ADVENT SEASON**

The beautiful decorations which will adorn our church during Advent are graciously provided by the following members of RPUMC:

<i>Advent Wreath</i>	<i>Phyllis Bowman</i>
<i>Altar Trees</i>	<i>Clyde &amp; Carolyn Nafzinger</i>
<i>Altar Wreath</i>	<i>Jay &amp; Pat Cummings</i>
<i>Altar Wreath</i>	<i>Ruth Gibney</i>
<i>Balcony Wreath</i>	<i>Paulette Cleaver-Lazzaro</i>
<i>Door Wreath</i>	<i>Kathy Russell</i>
<i>Door Wreath</i>	<i>Dorothy Scarborough</i>
<i>Door Wreath</i>	<i>Joan Stadelman</i>
<i>Door Wreath</i>	<i>Marvin &amp; Betty Swain</i>
<i>Nativity Scenes</i>	<i>Koinonia Class</i>



### **NINTH ANNUAL ALUMNI CHOIR CONCERT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13 4 PM**

Under the direction of Ms. Bettie Smith, the Alumni Choir will hold their ninth annual concert. This year, the concert will be held at Richardson Park United Methodist Church. A hymn sing will be held at 3:45 PM and the concert will begin at 4:00 PM. A free will offering will be taken to benefit the Outreach Ministries at RPUMC.



CHRISTMAS

SHOPPE

*Every Thursday through December 22  
9 AM - 1 PM*

*Located next to the Parsonage  
Adjacent to the garage*



### **BRIGHTER DAY MINISTRY**

"A Brighter Day" Ministry is collecting gently used or new winter coats, hats, gloves, scarves and new socks for the homeless. Rebecca Shannon will pick up donations from the church the week of November 6. A barrel is located inside the sanctuary where you can place your donations. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rebecca at 543-5612.

### **MISSION TO MISSOURI TRIP! February 19 – February 25, 2012**

Come join us for this February excursion as we go to help rebuild the town of Joplin, MO after the destruction wrought by a tornado last spring. **SAVE THE DATES!** Planning has begun and more information will be forthcoming. Look for announcements in our bulletin and during worship. This trip is being co-sponsored by RPUMC and Marshallton UMC. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Tom.

**FAITHQUEST**  
**Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 PM**  
**Church Lounge**

Beginning November 2, Pastor Tom will be leading an 18-week study on leadership in the church. FaithQuest is a Bible Study unlike any other! It seeks to shift the paradigm of our understanding of Jesus' ministry and God's work in the world. Structured like a Disciple Study, FaithQuest invites participants to explore a call to leadership through Bible study focused on the Gospel of Luke, the Acts of the Apostles, the Epistle to the Ephesians, and some of John Wesley's best sermons. **IF YOU HAVE INTEREST IN APPLYING BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES TO REAL-LIFE SITUATIONS, THEN FAITHQUEST IS FOR YOU!**



**FREE LUNCH THURSDAYS**

**"Free Lunch Thursdays"** at RPUMC began on October 20. Lunch will be served every Thursday from 11 AM to 1 PM in Fellowship Hall. This ministry is geared to feed both body and soul by providing nourishing lunches and an opportunity to share the love of Jesus. Please pray for this ministry as it comes to our church.

**TOO MANY CALENDARS?????**

If you are receiving more 2012 calendars than you can possibly use, please leave your extra ones in the church office or give to Mary Alice Bair for the Prison Ministry. **Spiral calendars are unacceptable for security reasons.** Many thanks.

**KIDS' KORNER**



Greetings from Room 3! Everyone in Room 3 Sunday School has been very busy studying the Old Testament. We started the month of October with a skit about the Garden of Eden - quite exciting. Next, we went outside to measure Noah's ark and ran out of room! The skit inside the room included the "ark," animals, and even water. The last two weeks of October we focused on a man named Abraham. Please join us in Room 3 as we sing, enjoy Bible lessons, and make take-home booklets about the weekly lesson.

Blessings from Ms. Marlene

***FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....***

- People are often unreasonable and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.
- If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.
- If you are honest, people may cheat you. Be honest anyway.
- If you find happiness, people may be jealous. Be happy anyway.
- The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.
- Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway.
- For you see, in the end, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.

Mother Teresa, 1979  
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate



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# YOUTH NEWS



## ***LOCK IN!!***

### ***7PM, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18***

Join us for an overnight adventure inside the church. Friends are welcome to attend!!  
Please bring a snack and a big drink to share.  
Spend the night with God at RPUMC!!!!!!

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#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- November 5 or 6 — Visit to Ramsey's Farm for bonfire and night corn maze, 6:30pm.
- November 11 — Help with Kids' Night Out 5pm in Fellowship Hall.
- November 13 — Special music during morning worship and regular youth group.
- November 18 — Lock In!!! 7pm through the next morning.
- November 27 — No Youth Group

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## **COMMUNITY MEALS AND DISCUSSION**

Join us for some worship, fellowship, food, and discussion with real people who are in ministry to our community. It's conversation that you won't want to miss!

#### **SAVE THIS TUESDAY:**

**November 22**—6pm at St. James Episcopal Church  
Carol Holt leads us in a conversation on mentoring prisoners who have been discharged from prison.

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# CHRISTMAS ALTAR POINSETTIAS

Seventy red poinsettias have been ordered to be placed on the Altar on Sunday, December 18. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in Memory or Honor of Loved Ones, please return this form to the church office by Monday, December 5. The cost of each poinsettia is \$6.50. A check for the total amount should be included with this order form. Please make your check payable to Richardson Park United Methodist Church, marked "poinsettias." If possible, please pick up your poinsettia after the candlelight service on Saturday, December 24.

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

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

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
(for those not living) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
(for those living) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory and \_\_\_\_\_  
And Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Shall we deliver your flower to a Church Shut-In? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_



# November 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7 PM Rebekah Circle 8 PM AA Meeting	2 10 AM Ruth Circle  6:30 PM FaithQuest 7:30 PM NA Meeting	3 Kitchen Reserved 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 3:30 PM Kids Café 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 6:30 PM Alumni Choir 7 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	4 Kitchen & Fellowship Hall Reserved 10 AM Discipleship Exp. 11 AM Free Lunch Fridays - Peniel UMC  2 PM Pie Pick-up	5 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 9:30 AM Alumni Choir Rehearsal  4:30 PM Wedding
6 Fellowship Hall Res. 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Education Mtg.	7  6 PM Discipleship Exp.	8 8 PM AA Meeting	9  6:30 PM FaithQuest 7:30 PM NA Meeting	10 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 3:30 PM Kids Café 6:15 PM Chancel Bells 6:30 PM Alumni Choir 7 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	11 10 AM Discipleship Exp. 11 AM Free Lunch Fridays - Peniel UMC  5 PM Kids' Night Out	12 10 AM Alumni Choir Dress Rehearsal
13 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Trustees Mtg. 3:45 PM Alumni Choir Concert 5:30 PM Youth Group	14  6 PM Discipleship Exp. 7 PM Charge Conference	15 8 PM AA Meeting	16  6:30 PM FaithQuest 7:30 PM NA Meeting	17 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 11 AM Free Lunch 3:30 PM Kids Café 6:30 PM Chancel Bells 7 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	18 Church Reserved 10 AM Discipleship Exp. 11 AM Free Lunch Fridays - Peniel UMC  7 PM Youth Lock-In	19
20 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Council Mtg. 4 PM Joint Service & Covered Dish - Calvary Presbyterian Church	21  6 PM Discipleship Exp.	22 6 PM Community Meal and Discussion - St. James Episcopal Church	23  6:30 PM FaithQuest 7:30 PM NA Meeting	24 Happy Thanksgiving!	25 11 AM Free Lunch Fridays - Peniel UMC	26
27 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Esther Circle 11:30 AM UMW Unit Meeting	28  6 PM Discipleship Exp.	29 8 PM AA Meeting	30  6:30 PM FaithQuest 7:30 PM NA Meeting	8:15 PM AA Meeting		

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

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# *the Messenger* **NOVEMBER 2011**

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Office Phone: (302) 654-0961  
Parsonage Phone: (302) 652-6168  
Tom Pasmore, Pastor

Office Hours: 9 AM-1 PM T-F FAX #: 655-7446  
E-Mail: [rpumc@rpumchurch.org](mailto:rpumc@rpumchurch.org)



## LAY READERS

November 6  
November 13  
November 20  
November 27

Sandy Swain  
Linda Keffer  
Bob Collins  
Kristi Doughty

## ALTAR FLOWERS

November 6  
At the Cross  
November 13  
At the Cross & Lectern  
November 20  
At the Lectern  
November 27  
At the Cross

Mary White  
Kathy Russell  
William Farra  
Mary & Richard Sutor  
Charlene & Bruce Workman  
Bettie Smith  
John Burke  
Jeanne Thomas



## FLOWERS

For the month of November, Ruth Circle is responsible for the flowers.

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

Please submit your articles for the  
December/January Messenger to the church  
office by Tuesday, November 8. Thank you.

*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.*