

Richardson Park United Methodist Church
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Wilmington, DE 19804-1305

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“Never again will they hunger or thirst; neither sun nor any scorching heat will burn them, because the Lamb, who is in the center of the throne, will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of life-giving water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

– Revelation 7:16-17 (GNT)

As the kids were headed to bed last night, the realization dawned on them that school was going to be starting in just a couple of days. (In fact, by the time you receive and read this newsletter, they will have already had their first day.) Talking about the first day of school drew very different reactions from the kids. Sammy is so excited about starting kindergarten that he asked if he could go first thing tomorrow. The news that he would have to wait until that first day was not well received. Donny is not nearly as excited. He likes school but craves the unstructured time of summer where he can do pretty much what he wants, when he wants to do it. Teachers have a tendency to quash unstructured time like a steamroller running over a watermelon. Bethany is excited because she gets to see all her friends again. Katie has already started band camp. Thus, the first day of school for her just brings extra work which, as any high school kid can tell you, is zero fun.



My role as a parent is to remind them that they never go to school alone. They carry my and Sarah’s love with them and, more importantly, Jesus is already there—ready and waiting for them. Keeping Jesus at the center of what we do and who we are makes all the difference whether we are celebrating the return of friends or mourning the loss of summer work and freedom. He is the difference between going alone and going with your best friend. Over and over Scripture promises that Christ and his love will never leave us or abandon us, not even on the first day of school.

My prayer for RPUMC this fall is that we keep Christ firmly in the center of all that we do and all that we are out in the world. That in the busyness and chaos of our lives this fall, we make sure that Christ is the reason we are busy and chaotic.

Blessing and Peace to you all,

Pastor Tom



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

André Burgos	9/1
Jim Durkee	9/1
Tyler Hughart	9/2
Alanis Stout	9/2
Jean Van Vliet	9/4
Meghan Logullo	9/5
Ed Ide	9/6
Maggie Painter	9/6
George Brittingham	9/7
Bob Gamble	9/7
Richard Locke	9/7
Molly Mucha	9/7
Barbara Loose	9/10
Madison Mucha	9/10
Sami Davidson	9/12
Lillian Simmons	9/12
William Crozier	9/13
Karen Davis	9/15
Patt Jones	9/15
Annette Ott	9/16
Patricia Pugh	9/17
Sharon Wright	9/17
Mark Cummings	9/18
John Pruitt	9/20
Charles Simpson	9/21
Alvretta Crozier	9/22
Marlene Johnson	9/22
Katelyn Carlson	9/25
Kristen DelCampo	9/25
Matthew Logullo	9/25
Mildred Reinert	9/25
Mary Heckler	9/26
Katelynn Thomas	9/27
Robert Swain	9/28
Christopher Bowen	9/29
Pat Cummings	9/30
Amy Przywara	9/30

Note: If your name is not listed on our birthday calendar, please call the church office at 654-961. Thank you.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

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

Circle Meetings

Esther Circle	Sun., September 25 11:30 AM – Church Lounge
Rebekah Circle	Tue., September 6 7:00 p.m. – Church Lounge
Ruth Circle	Wed., September 7 10:00 a.m. – Church Lounge

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

“Holiday Tasting Tea” Saturday, October 22 1 PM

The United Methodist Women are having another wonderful “Tasting Tea” on Saturday, October 22 at 1:00 p.m. There will be a tasty assortment of soups, appetizers, salads, casseroles and desserts. A cookbook, with all the recipes from the Tea, will be available for purchase at a very reasonable price. **Tell all your friends and mark your calendars now because you sure won’t want to miss this event!** Tickets are \$10.00 and must be purchased by October 17. Contact Marlene Johnson at 328-5806.

We need recipes of your favorite holiday dish. Do you have something you serve on Halloween, Thanksgiving, or Christmas that is a tradition? We’d love to hear from you. Recipes must be submitted to Marlene by September 10. Remember, you will need to make the recipe for the Tea.



CHANCEL CHOIR SCHEDULE

Regular choir rehearsals will resume on Thursday, September 8 at 7:30 p.m.
ALL ARE WELCOME!



MISSION TREE

On Sundays in September, we will be hanging **Apples** on our Mission Tree. Hang an “apple” 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 food for CAP the first Sunday of each month. They are in need of:

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



WESLEY TOWER BANKS

July 2011	\$123.53
August 2011	\$ 96.39

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 \$711.93. Remember to pick up an empty bank as you leave the altar area on Communion Sunday. AGAIN, THANKS FOR SAVING YOUR CHANGE.

CROP WALK SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

The Crop Walk will begin at Peniel UMC. More information will be in our weekly Worship Bulletins.

INTERFAITH GATHERING

Saturday, September 10 3 PM
Wilmington Friends Meeting
401 N. West Street, Wilmington

Everyone is cordially invited to attend this interfaith gathering: **“Ten Years after 9/11 - Moving from Fear to Friendship: Living and Working Together as One Human Family.”** This gathering is preceding the actual anniversary day because we would like these voices of unity and peace to have the first word for a change - to be proactive rather than reactive. At the gathering, persons who practice the Bahai'i Faith, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, the Religious Society of Friends, and other faiths will share with us some of the readings, prayers, mantras, and chants from their traditions that help them move from fear to friendship or inspire them to feel hope and/or work for peace. The event, which will last for one hour, will be held mostly indoors but will move outdoors for the final portion. It will be followed by a time for fellowship and light refreshments. The co-sponsors of this event include: Pacem in Terris, the Bahai'i Community of Wilmington, Grace United Methodist Church, Richardson Park United Methodist Church, St. Joseph's Catholic Church on French Street, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Wilmington Monthly Meeting Ad Hoc Committee on Peace, and many more.



Friday, September 30
9 AM – 4 PM

Saturday, October 1
8 AM – 2 PM

RICHARDSON PARK
COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM (CAP)
ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, September 20 7 PM
Calvary Presbyterian Church

CAP's Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 20 at 7 PM at Calvary Presbyterian Church. At this meeting, electors will choose people to serve on CAP's Board. Electors are people who live within CAP's service area plus others, regardless of where they live, who work in furtherance of CAP's programs. For more information or to explore possible service on CAP's Board, please call Jaime Daly at 302-428-1247, extension 102.

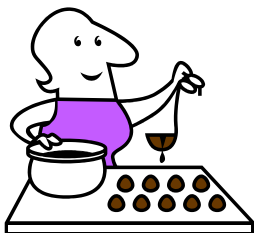
CAP'S 2011 CHOCOLATE FEST

Saturday, October 8 10:30 AM - 3 PM
Minquas Fire Hall - Newport

Face painting, chocolate samples, lunch and merchandise will be available. We are looking for amateur bakers who would like to show off their talents, along with bakers to bake for our bake sale table.

Vendor spaces are available starting at \$15.00 per table.

For more information or to see how you can help, contact Jaime Daly at 302-428-1247, extension 102.



YE OLDE SHOPPE

Ye Olde Shoppe is open on Thursdays between 9 AM and 1 PM, and on the first Saturday of each month from 9 AM to 1 PM. If you can't stop in during the week, we hope to see you the first Saturday of each month. Come, browse and shop. There are special treasures for you, your family or your friends.



TOO MANY CALENDARS?????

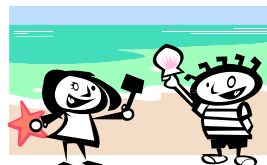
If you are receiving more 2012 calendars than you can possibly use, please leave your extra ones in the church office or give to Mary Alice Bair for the Prison Ministry. **Spiral calendars are unacceptable for security reasons.** Many thanks.

TYG KICK-OFF

Sunday, September 11 1 PM

"DESTINATION UNKNOWN??"

Bring a friend, comfortable clothes, walking shoes and \$10.00 spending money. Please RSVP to Pastor Tom by Thursday, September 1. Come join us for a great start to the year!!



SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

We will have a special service on Sunday, September 11 to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the tragedy of 9/11/01 and to honor 1st responders in our community - police, fire fighters and EMTs. The Five Points Fire Company will join us and be a part of the service. Please join us on this very special day.

KIDS' KORNER



Hi everyone! Fall is upon us. We welcome you back to Sunday School with fun and interesting plans, so please come and join us! Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 11 at 9 AM. To help us organize the classes, we invite you to register your children by calling the church office or filling out a yellow card located in the back of the church. We always are looking for teachers and helpers to enhance our Sunday School. If you are interested, please see Kristi Doughty or Pastor Tom.

During summer Sunday School, the children in Room 3 learned about "Fruits of the Spirit" based on the book of Galatians 5:22-23. We used Bible readings, role-plays, games, artwork, and fruit to stress the gifts God has given us. Love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control show what God has given to us. Now, Room 3 is getting ready for more adventures this fall. I hope to see you soon. Blessings from Ms. Marlene



SOUP KITCHEN COMING TO RPUMC

"Free Lunch Fridays" will be moving from Peniel UMC to RPUMC beginning on Friday, September 2. Soup and sandwiches will be served every Friday 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.



KIDS CAFÉ begins Thursday, October 6 3:30 - 6 PM

Kids Café is a structured after-school Christian ministry committed to providing homework assistance, educational enrichment and recreational activities for the children of our community in kindergarten through sixth grade.

Our goal is to enable each participant to enjoy recreation and special programming, along with the all-important homework tutoring component.

TUTORS AND KITCHEN HELP NEEDED!

It is our hope to expand this wonderful program to two days a week, but we need your help to make this happen.

If you have question about this year's program, please call Marlene Johnson at 328-5806 or Janet Dickerson at 494-5247.

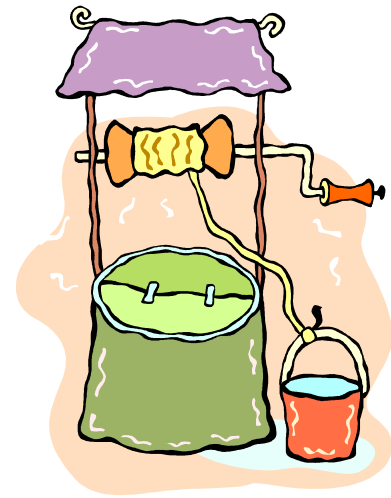
WE NEED YOUR HELP

Our church does not have current addresses for the following members:

Janet Aiken
Angela Brown
Robin Carson
Melissa Carter
Keith Coleman
Jonathon Connors
Debi Davis
Anthony DeRocili
Jeffrey Dudziak
Catherine Fawcett
Bettina Focht
William B. Focht
Lisa lane
Anna Longacre
Kim H. Manelski
Christine Martnick
Thomas McLean
Betty Sue Milburn
Linda Paoli
Donna Rainey
Anna Snitch
Robert Lloyd Spencer
Kenneth Taylor
Michelle Varner
Carol Walker
Michael Walker
Paul Woodward

If you know the current address for any of the above persons, please relay this information to the church office. Many thanks.

Mary Alice Bair, Membership Chair
Harriet Ann van Boven, Church Secretary



THE WELL

2 Kings 2:19-22
"Healing the Water"

Saturday, October 15
9 AM – 3:30 PM

St. Thomas More Academy
Magnolia, DE

THE WELL is a leadership training event that combines many of the best resources of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference. We invite your church to bring as many ministry leaders and potential leaders as you like to benefit from this gathering.

Each participant will choose either the **FLEX TRACK** or one of three **SPECIALTY TRACKS**. Participants in the **FLEX TRACK** may choose courses in any of 12 ministry areas. Those who choose a **SPECIALTY TRACK** will attend classes in their chosen ministry area throughout the day.

The cost is \$10.00 per person and includes registration, lunch and materials.

If you would like more information or are interested in this training event, see Pastor Tom or call the church office.

Exciting New Bible Studies! Beginning this Fall

Part of our walk of faith is a fervent and vital relationship with the Word of God. As we understand the Bible, we begin to understand God's call on our lives. This fall, there will be five different opportunities to build community through Bible Study. These include the following:

SHORT-TERM DISCIPLESHIP EXPERIENCES

**Monday Evenings at 6 PM
Friday Mornings at 10 AM**

We will be looking at six different five-six week studies. They will include: *The Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, Other Religions, I and II Samuel, the Mystics, the Gospel of Mark, and New Testament Letters. The classes will be meeting weekly from September through the end of May and will be led by pastors from the various churches involved, including RPUMC, St. James Episcopal Church and Peniel UMC. Since both classes will cover the same topics, you are welcome to come to either one. Locations will rotate among the various churches, beginning the week of September 12 at Peniel UMC.

WESLEY ADULT BIBLE STUDY Sunday Mornings at 9 AM in the Lounge

This class meets weekly before worship and is an excellent opportunity to dig deeper into God's Word. Led by various instructors, the class explores a variety of topics. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

**Sunday Mornings at 9 AM in
Fellowship Hall**

Pastor Tom will lead a short-term *Disciple* study on the Gospel of John starting September 11. This 11-week course will look at the portrayal of Jesus depicted in John, and its impact in our world.

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!**

BISHOP JOHNSON'S DAY ON THE WILMINGTON DISTRICT

Monday, September 26, 2011

**Elkton United Methodist Church
219 East Main Street
Elkton, MD 21921**

FOR CLERGY AND LAITY

Healthy Church Initiative Workshop
"Ministry with the Poor: It's More Than a Food Bank"
This workshop is being facilitated by Bishop Johnson.

Gathering Time: **6:30 pm**

Workshop begins at **7:00 pm** sharp and will end by **9:00 pm**.

The workshop will include Biblical, theological and practical insights into ministry with the poor both locally and abroad. Poverty is one of the Four Foci of the United Methodist Church and probably the one that is the most misunderstood. Charity is often where churches focus their ministry. Understanding the systemic causes of poverty and the need for churches to also work for justice is imperative as we strive to be in ministry with the poor.

DELICIOUS REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

ADMISSION **BRING WITH YOU** One item that cannot be purchased with food stamps (i.e.: household paper products, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, laundry soap, Pampers, dish liquid, shaving cream, etc.).

REGISTRATION Deadline for each workshop will be one day prior to the workshop. Registration is required in order to provide appropriate numbers of materials. To register, please contact the church office or talk with Pastor Tom.

*Questions? Contact Sandra Steiner Ball at ssteinerball@pen-del.org
Or call the Conference Resource Center: (302) 674-2626 or (877) 736-3351.*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>September 2011</h1>						
				1 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe	2 11 AM Soup Kitchen	3 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe
				8:15 pm AA Meeting		
4 9 AM Adult Sunday Sch. 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 am Worship and Children's Sunday Sch. 11:30 am Education Mtg.	5 LABOR DAY	6 7 PM Rebekah Circle 8 PM AA Meeting	7 10 AM Ruth Circle 7:30 PM NA Meeting	8 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 7:30 pm Chancel Choir 8:15 pm AA Meeting	9 11 AM Soup Kitchen	10 3 PM Interfaith Gathering
11 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 am Special Worship Service 11:30 am Trustees Mtg. 1 PM Youth Group	12 6 PM Discipleship Experience	13 8 PM AA Meeting	14 7:30 PM NA Meeting	15 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 7:30 pm Chancel Choir 8:15 pm AA Meeting	16 10 AM Discipleship Experience 11 AM Soup Kitchen	17
18 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 Worship 11:30 AM Council Mtg. 12 PM Fellowship Hall Reserved	19 6 PM Discipleship Experience	20 7 PM CAP Annual Mtg. 8 PM AA Meeting	21 7:30 PM NA Meeting	22 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 7:30 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	23 10 AM Discipleship Experience 11 AM Soup Kitchen	24
25 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship Time 10:30 Worship 11:30 AM Esther Circle	26 Fellowship Hall Reserved 6 PM Discipleship Experience 7 PM Healthy Church Initiative Workshop	27 Fellowship Hall Reserved 8 PM AA Meeting	28 Fellowship Hall Reserved 7:30 PM NA Meeting	29 Fellowship Hall Reserved 9 AM Ye Olde Shoppe 7:30 PM Chancel Choir 8:15 PM AA Meeting	30 Fellowship Hall Reserved 9 AM Yard Sale 10 AM Discipleship Experience 11 AM Soup Kitchen	

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

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the Messenger

SEPTEMBER 2011

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Tom Pasmore, Pastor



READERS

September 4	Rob Anderson
September 11	Brenda Tucker
September 18	Bettie Smith
September 25	Suzy Price

ALTAR FLOWERS

September 4	Sath Amara
September 11	Koinonia Class
At the Cross	Barbara Sayles
September 18	Brenda & Joe Tucker
September 25	Sandy Ide

FLOWERS

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

Please submit your articles for the October Messenger to the Church Office by Thursday, September 8. Thank you.

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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.