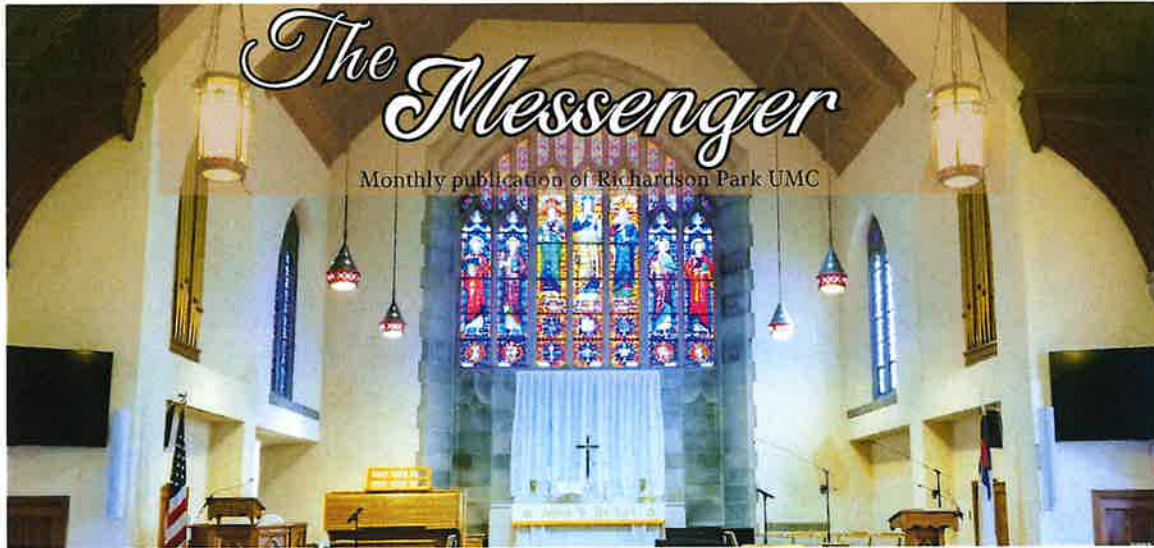


MAY 2024



A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Written by Rev. Chris Pennington

All Those Years

My friend Debbie's two daughters were in high school when she experienced severe flu-like symptoms. Debbie visited her family doctor, who told her the flu bug had passed her by. Instead, she had been touched by the "love bug" and was now pregnant. The birth of Tommy, a healthy, beautiful son, was an event for celebration, and as time went by, it seemed as though every day brought another reason to celebrate the gift of Tommy's life. He was sweet, thoughtful, fun-loving and a joy to be around. One day when Tommy was about five years old, he and Debbie were driving to the neighborhood mall. As is the way with children, out of nowhere, Tommy asked, "Mom, how old were you when I was born?" "Thirty-six, Tommy. Why?" Debbie asked, wondering what his little mind was contemplating. "What a shame!" Tommy responded. "What do you mean?" Debbie inquired, more than a little puzzled. Looking at her with love-filled eyes, Tommy said, "Just think of all those years we didn't know each other."

By Alice Collins (From Chicken Soup for the Mother's Soul)

I wonder if this is how Jesus feels when years go by in a person's life and they haven't come to know him, I mean really know him. I think about all the opportunities afforded to each of us throughout our lives and yet for many there is a distance between them and God. That distance doesn't need to be there and certainly God yearns for the closeness of parent and child in its most beautiful form. My mom and I were close and I thank God for that.

As we think about our moms in this month of May, let us not forget that our Creator Mother/Father knew us from the beginning of time and sewed us together cell by cell with complete unconditional love. That God sent Jesus Christ into the world to save us from all that was keeping us apart from God and that his sacrifice and our belief in his resurrection assures us that we will be reunited with pure love in the appointed time.

I would like to wish my beautiful wife, Christy, and all of the wonderful ladies I know a Happy Mother's Day!

Grace and Peace!
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

God has really blessed us this year with early blooming flowers. I urge you to take a walk and enjoy the beautiful colors this month of May. That's right- May!

Our wonderful group of Sisters of Faith at RPUMC joined together in the extension on April 14th (Native American Sunday). There was a display of items from Native Americans- what workmanship. Through an article in "Response" magazine, we learned more about the Native American women. There was also a map of agencies that assist people in the United States. We are very fortunate to have Neighborhood House in Wilmington where we donated many of the hygiene kits. Let's just say they were very thankful. A few also were delivered to Door of Hope. Thank all of you for spending time after church to put the kits together.

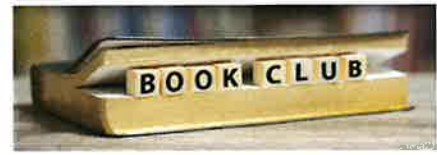
Our next meeting will be May 12th following the worship service. Although it is Mother's Day, the group voted to meet. This is our last meeting until September- don't miss it!

Activities for May:

1. Cards for shut-ins and V.A. The basket will appear in the back of the sanctuary on May 5th and will stay until May 19th. It is wonderful to bring a little bright spot to these folks. Thank you for supporting this project.
2. Stop by the extension and visit with each other during the social time (10am-10:25am) on Sunday mornings- Thanks to Dottie, Marie and Rose.
3. Attend the May 12th United Women in Faith meeting following church.
4. Read Ecclesiastes 3:11

Prayer: Jesus, remind me to take time out when I need it, seeking little respites of peace to help quiet my heart and soul. Amen

Blessings from Marlene



BOOK CLUB

BY PAUL WEAVER

Our April meeting was held on Friday, April 12 at 2pm at the church. We discussed "Seventy Times Seven" by Alex Mar. We had a lively, very interesting discussion. We will attend the event with the author on April 30, 2024 at 7pm at the Chase Center. We will meet for dinner at Iron Hill at 5:15pm before the event.

Our May meeting will be on Friday, May 10th at 2pm at the church. We will discuss "Familia" by Lauren E. Rico.

Coming attractions include "I Know Who You Are" by Barbara Rae-Venter, "The Senator's Wife", by Liv Constantine, "The Guest List" by Lucy Foley. And if you would like to join us and have a book to share with the club, please let me know. A number of our recent books have come from your suggestions, please keep those coming!

Thanks, Paul

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 at the main door of the church. 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 100 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

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





TECHNOLOGY TIPS

BY JIM CHILCUTT

Microsoft One Drive

OneDrive offers features that help protect data and make it available to all your devices. There are some precautions to consider however to protect the data.

First, to use OneDrive the user must have and use a Microsoft logon. OneDrive uses that ID to access the "cloud" server. The ID needs to be used by each of your devices.

OneDrive needs to decide what data is important. It will copy key folders used by most people. This includes the desktop contents, the documents folder, and the photo directory. One key part of the process is OneDrive does not copy your data to the cloud, but it moves it. This means your data no longer resides on your hard drive. It is very difficult to copy the data back or to have it exist in both locations.

Once the data is moved the owner no longer has complete control of the information. OneDrive controls it. Changing how One Drive works can cause loss of data if you are not careful. One significant situation to be aware of is NEVER use your Microsoft ID to access your data on someone else's computer. If you do that OneDrive may be able to sync with the data directories on the new host computer.

If you have any questions or suggestions send an email to rpumc@rpumchurch.org or call the church office.



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

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



THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

BY MARLENE JOHNSON

The weather is warmer and it is exciting to see all the flowers popping up. What wonderful things God gives us! In Children's church during the month of May, we are learning about a few of the exciting things God shares with us. You must come to find out what they are! If you are between the ages of 4-12, meet in the back of the sanctuary on Sunday morning. We then proceed to our room to discover the many things God shares with us. On May 12 (Mother's Day) we also have a special craft.

Come and join the adventure-you never know what we will discover.

Blessings from Ms. Marlene

ALTAR FLOWERS
 May 5-Roger Longest
 At the Cross: Beth Robinson
 May 12-OPEN
 At the Lectern: Bob Collins
 May 19-Mary Alice Bair and
 The Swain children, grandchildren
 and great grandchildren
 May 26-OPEN
 At the Cross: Julia Lynch
LAY READERS-To be announced

**NATIONAL
DAY OF
PRAYER**

First Thursday of May





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

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-Alon 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 **May 2, 2024** for the next
podcast.

You can join at 8 a.m. or listen any time on:
Spotify, Apple Podcasts or at
pdcbwc.org/thursdays-at-the-table.html



The Bulletin

A newsletter published by Bishop LaTrelle Easterling is a reproducible resource for local
churches. In the most recent issue, Bishop LaTrelle Easterling offers a word of gratitude for
the United Methodists serving faithfully in a vast array of mission and ministry. "It is a
privilege to serve in ministry with you as we share the love of God and bring hope to our
communities," she writes. "Because you rise every morning and say, 'Yes!' to discipleship,
seeds are being planted, challenges are being met and lives are being transformed."

You can view The Bulletin at: www.pdcbwc.org/the-bulletin

TROOP 339

2024 SUB SALE

Orders due by **Sunday 5/12/2024**
Subs ready to pick up on **Sunday, 5/19/2024 @ 12P – 1P**

We are offering 8" Subs with chips and a water for
\$12.00

1 Sub Per Form Please

Please make checks payable to:
Troop 339

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Mark All Items you want with an X

Sub Type:

_____ Italian

_____ Turkey

On Your Sub:

_____ Lettuce

_____ Tomato

_____ Onion

_____ Salt

_____ Pepper

_____ Oregano

On the side:

_____ Pickles

_____ Hot Peppers

_____ Sweet Peppers

_____ Oil

_____ Mayo

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Claudia McFarland	May 1
John Parks	May 1
Frank Anderson, Jr.	May 2
Joshua Bourdon	May 2
Brian Panaccione	May 2
Carolyn Nafzinger	May 3
Christopher Doughty	May 4
Katie Meadows	May 6
Zach Farley	May 7
Christina Weah Kranger	May 10
Maegin Coverdale	May 12
Richard Beane	May 13
Ed McFarland	May 13
Volena Sease	May 13
Steven Ott	May 14



Daniel Cathell	May 16
Katie Klingler	May 17
Allan Daniels	May 17
Allison Perugini	May 17
Maria Ott	May 18
Brielle Chilcutt	May 20
Robert McFarland	May 20
Daniel Arnold, Jr.	May 22
Wendy Owen	May 22
Karlee Boyd	May 23
Janet Hughes	May 25
Brenda Tucker	May 26
Cameron Przywara	May 29
Jimmie Focht	May 30
Peter Davis	May 31

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



St Mark's UWF Outside Yard Sale

- May 18th 8AM- Noon
- Rain or Shine
- Vendor spaces by contract only \$30 ea
- BYO Table/Shelter
- Contact Church Office at 302-994-0400 for contract/payment

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

DEMAND JUSTICE + CHANGE

May 26th

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



If interested you must fill out a reservation form and return it with your CASH payment to the Church office. Payment will be held until we confirm there is enough interest, and refunded if there is not.

It is a first come first serve process, so secure your space ASAP

For a reservation form, CONTACT the OFFICE AT; office@stmarksumcde.org or (302) 994-0400



St. Mark's UMC
1700 Limestone Rd.
Wilmington, DE 19804

MAY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 6:30PM Scouts Board Mtg. - Lounge	2 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 	3	4 11AM-2PM OPEN First Saturdays' - The Shoppe & Annex at RPUMC
5 9AM Adult Sunday School 10AM Fellowship Time 10:30AM Worship & Children's Church	6	7	8	9 9AM BMG - EXT. 11AM-2PM -The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30AM-12:30PM -Free Lunch - FH	10 2PM Book Club - Lounge	11
12 MOTHER'S DAY 9AM Adult Sunday School 10AM Fellowship Time 10:30AM Worship & Children's Church 11:30AM UWIF Mtg. - Ext	13	14	15	16 9AM BMG - EXT. 11AM-2PM -The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30AM-12:30PM -Free Lunch - FH	17	18 ARMED FORCES DAY 
19 PENTECOST WEAR YOUR RED 9AM Adult Sunday School 10AM Fellowship Time 10:30AM Worship & Children's Church 11:30AM - Trustee Mtg. - Lounge	20  Messenger Deadline Articles Due	21	22	23 9AM BMG - EXT. 11AM-2PM -The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30AM-12:30PM -Free Lunch - FH	24	25
26 PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY 9AM Adult Sunday School 10AM Fellowship Time 10:30AM Worship & Children's Church	27 MEMORIAL DAY Church Office & Building Closed 	28	29	30 9AM BMG - EXT. 11AM-2PM -The Shoppe at RPUMC 11:30AM-12:30PM -Free Lunch - FH	31	

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



The Messenger



May 2024



RICHARDSON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

11 NORTH MARYLAND AVENUE
WILMINGTON, DE 19804-1305
Office: (302) 654-0961
E-Mail: rpumc@rpumchurch.org
Website: www.rpumchurch.org

Rev. J. Christopher Pennington
Cell Phone (302) 229-5626
E-Mail: pastorchris@rpumchurch.org
Office Hours: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. M-F
Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Boyce



May 27th

MEMORIAL DAY
REMEMBER AND HONOR

In-Person and **Live Streaming** Sunday Worship Services at the following sites:

rpumchurch.org/html/streaming_service.html or
Facebook at: facebook.com/rpumchurch

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



Please have articles and information for the June Messenger to the Church Office by Monday, May 20th. Remember to submit all announcements for the Sunday Bulletin no later than Wednesday. Email to: rpumc@rpumchurch.org Thank you! -Jen



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.