



Quakertown United Methodist Church

1875 Freier Road

Quakertown, PA 18951

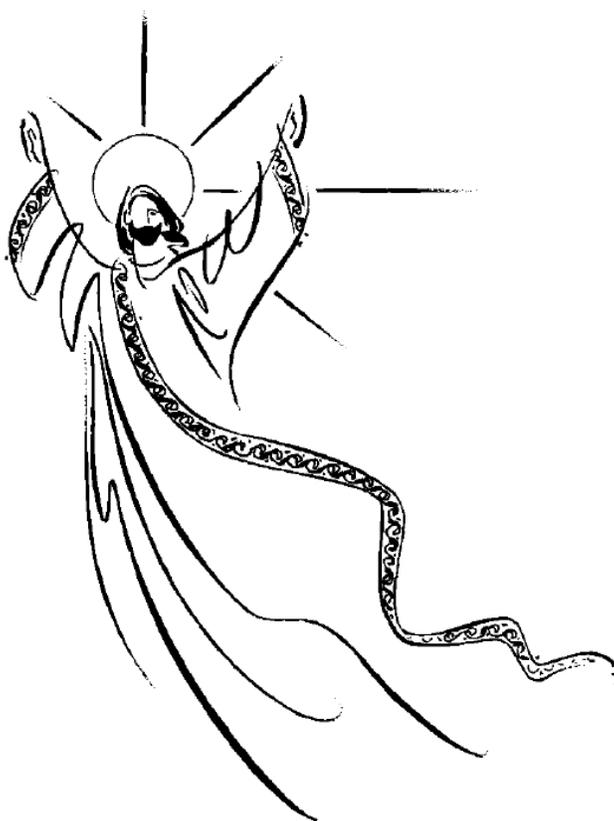
215.536.4992

Visit our website at www.qumc.com

Share Christ Grow in Christ Serve Christ

April 2015

Because He Lives



Does it make a difference? Does the resurrection of Jesus influence your life: the way you do your job or approach your studies; how you relate to your family and others; how you spend your time and your money; how you use your talents; your outlook on life? The list could go on.

Perhaps the most important question is: Do our lives give evidence that we are Christ's disciples, following our living Lord? And that we are who we are because He lives?



The Pastor's Pen

Thoughts by Pastor Russell J. Atkinson

Can't See Beyond Easter?

*Easter people, raise your voices,
 Sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
 Christ has brought us heavens choices:
 Heavenly music, let it ring.
 Every day to us is Easter,
 With its resurrection song.
 When in trouble move the faster
 To our God who rights the wrong.*

In common parlance, Easter is a day. Everyone knows that Easter is a day, “I can’t deal with that until after Easter” would commonly be understood to mean “Ask me about that the week after Easter Sunday.” Nevertheless, for Christians, this common Easter definition is insufficient in at least two crucial respects. For us, Easter is not a day but an event; an experience that affects all of life. We are Easter people. Easter informs everything we do. Even in our church calendar, Easter is celebrated for seven weeks (until Pentecost, this year May 24th). You need forty Lenten days to get ready for a seven week long Easter festival!

Another respect in which our common definition of Easter is insufficient for our religious understanding is that each Sabbath Day we rehearse again the message of Easter. Martin Luther called every Sunday “a little Easter.” He reminds us that each Sunday, when the church gathers in worship, we are celebrating the drama of God’s salvation in the good news of Easter; the power of the Resurrection of Jesus.

The early Christians became Easter people because the Resurrection changed their lives. New life was an absolutely real personal experience for them. Following the crucifixion of Jesus on Good Friday, the disciples, in the grips of fear, gathered in the Upper Room behind closed doors. They felt powerless, helpless, and alone. Suddenly everything changed! Responding to the power of the Resurrection, their powerlessness was replaced by courage. Helplessness became joy. They no longer felt alone. With confidence, these early disciples went forth and changed the world.

By every measure, the message of Easter for us today can be as powerful. We all face situations that may cause us to fear, yet because of the power of the Resurrection, fear can never overwhelm us, or have the last word. Sadness tears into our lives suddenly and in unanticipated ways, yet the promise of the Resurrection is that in the midst of our moments of sadness God’s everlasting arms uphold us in love. At times we feel lonely, yet because of the Easter message, we know that God is always with us.

Easter makes us completely new! Common parlance has no way to properly describe Easter faith. Our lives are changed forever by God’s love through the Resurrection.

A blessed Eastertide and Easter life to you all!



The Youth Spot

30 Hour Famine - Make It Your Fight!

“You always have a choice. When something happens, you can sit out, or stand up. The world can stay the same, or you can help shape it.”

This year QUMC youth will be spreading out their participation in the 30 Hour Famine over the course of a few weeks in April. They will spend time on Sunday nights learning about the problem of hunger in our world, as well as participating in some fun activities. Then, over the last weekend in April, they will fast together, breaking the fast on Sunday morning. Keep your eyes and ears open for more details.

April Calendar

Calendar

- April 1 NO OFFICE HOURS
- April 5 NO YOUTH GROUP - HAPPY EASTER!
- April 8 NO OFFICE HOURS
- April 12 Youth Group, 6:00 p.m.
- April 14 Food Pantry, 6:00 p.m.
- April 15 Office Hours at Panera, Middle School at 6:00 p.m., High School at 7:00 p.m.
- April 19 Youth Group, 6:00 p.m.
- April 22 Office Hours at Panera, Middle School at 6:00 p.m., High School at 7:00 p.m.
- April 26 Student Leadership, 4:00 p.m.
- April 26 Youth Group, 6:00 p.m.
- April 29 Office Hours at Panera, Middle School at 6:00 p.m., High School at 7:00 p.m.

Got A Graduate?

Please notify the church office (215.536.4992 or barb@qumc.com) if you, or a member of your family, is graduating this spring. Please include the name of the institution from which the person will graduate and also any post-graduation plans. Many thanks!



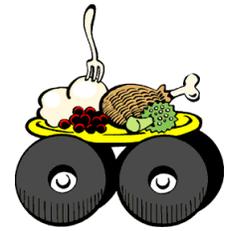
Organist/Choir Director

QUMC is accepting applications for the position of Organist/Choir Director. We ask any member or friend of the church who knows of a qualified musician interested in the position of Organist, Choir Director, or Director of Music Ministries, to direct that person to send a resume to our church office at barb@qumc.com.

A search committee has been established with Becky Witt serving as chair. All inquiries and requests for further details about this position should be directed to her.

Dr. William P. Feigley, our current Organist/Choir Director, will be retiring on June 14, after 20 years of service at QUMC. An outstanding musician, he began serving as a church organist when he was in his early teens.

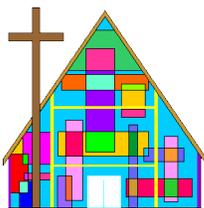
The Quakertown Area Meals On Wheels Program Needs You!



The Upper Bucks Senior Activity Center has been operating a Meals On Wheels service for the past several years. They deliver an average of 27 meals throughout the area, Monday through Friday. Recipients are friends and neighbors who do not have the ability any more to shop for food and prepare it themselves.

Volunteers to deliver meals can choose to do half of or all of the delivery route. Half the route takes less than an hour; the entire route takes about two hours. Volunteers will use their own cars, and will be paid by the mile. The Meals On Wheels program is sponsored by the Area Agency On Aging in Doylestown.

If you would like to volunteer, or know of someone else who might be interested, contact the Upper Bucks Activity Center at 215.536.3066 and ask to speak to Jodi Pitta, Assistant Manager of the center, who will answer any questions you may have.



Easter & Beyond!

Beginning on Sunday, April 12, Hilary Ann Golden will teach a four-week Faithbuilders Sunday School class on the 50 Days of Easter. The class will integrate Bible study, prayer, and worship, exploring the riches of the Easter season. Topics will include:

- 1) Celebrating Easter for Fifty Days
- 2) He Descended into Hell
- 3) Raised to Walk in Newness of Life
- 4) On Beyond Easter

Come join this class. Sunday School begins at 10:00 a.m.



New Member Class



A New Member Class will be held on Sunday, April 12, during the Sunday School hour. New members will be received into the congregation on Sunday, April 19. Contact Pastor Atkinson (pastor@qumc.com or 215.536.4992) for more information.



Share the Word of God

A short-term teaching opportunity is available within the Sunday School program of the church. Faithbuilders, an adult Sunday School class, is in need of a teacher for six weeks - from May 10 to June 14. The Christian Ed committee will provide teaching materials, or if you feel inspired to teach on a particular subject, they are open for suggestions. If you have an interest, see Gail Schadler or Hilary Ann Golden.

Friendship Circle Spring Rummage Sale



Friendship Circle's annual Spring Rummage Sale is coming up: Friday and Saturday, April 17 and 18. Lots of help required before, during, and after the sale. For more information or to volunteer, contact Becky Petko (215.536.4741). Hours are 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Friday, 9:00 to noon on Saturday. Light lunch menu and bake sale are available on Friday.

Items to be sold may be brought to Miller Hall at the following times: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, April 14, 15, and 16 from 9:00 a.m. to noon, and Wednesday night, April 15, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Check your closets and storage spaces for good, usable items that you no longer need. Examples: clean, in style, in good condition clothing and accessories; games; toys; tools; jewelry; kitchen utensils and dishes; household items. No heavy or very large items or electronics, please. Baked goods for sale and for luncheon desserts are also needed.



Time for Spring Clean-Up

Come on out and enjoy working with fellow members on QUMC's annual day to spruce up the church, inside and outside. The date is Saturday, May 16, beginning at 8:00 a.m. Work is always more fun when done with others. Come when you can, and stay as long as you wish.



Recycle Your Paper!

This past December Suburban Waste Services took over management and responsibility for over 1800 Paper Retriever customers in the Philadelphia area. They have resumed the Paper Retriever Program, offering cash incentives based on the tonnage collected. Paper collected is directed to a processing center where it is sorted and then routed to de-inking facilities and mills where it is used to manufacture recycled content newsprint. The paper you read two weeks from now just might be made from the paper you recycle today!

Suburban will allow us to recycle more types of paper than we could before. Acceptable are: non-laminated paper, phone directories, newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, envelopes, calendars, cards, and clean cardboard. Their motto is "If it tears, we'll take it!" Please remember though - **no corrugated cardboard**. Types of acceptable cardboard include cereal, cracker, Kleenex boxes, etc. Recycling your paper helps to care for the environment while raising money for missions.

Also, no plastic unless it is a plastic bag filled with shredded paper.

Food Pantry News



The former Milford Food Pantry is now the Feast Food Pantry, located at Christ Lutheran Church in Trumbauersville.

Suggested items to be brought in during the month of April are condiments, such as ketchup, mustard, mayo, and the like. Your donations should be placed in the grocery cart in the entryway of our church.



A Note of Thanks

Missions Commission expresses their appreciation for the volunteers who did such a great job to make the recent spaghetti dinner a success. Thanks, too, to all who sold and bought tickets in support of this important fundraiser.

A total of 173 persons were served and a profit of \$1,100 realized. The money raised will support local and worldwide missions.



Altar Flowers



If you wish to place flowers for the altar vases, sign in on the chart posted in the entryway of the church. Please specify if the flowers are in memory or in honor of someone or of an event.

Cost is \$30.00. You can include this on the “Other (specify)” line of your church envelope or in any other envelope.

Please take your flowers with you following the 11:00 service. Otherwise they will wither and have to be discarded.



Planting Partners

The Missions Committee and Adult & Family Ministries is teaming up to sponsor a new program for the church garden. Families and individuals may sign up to care for a garden spot beginning on April 12. We ask only that you contribute a portion of your harvest to the local food banks. Garden prep work days will be Saturday, April 25, and May 9, 9:00 a.m. to noon. Help is needed to: repair fencing, hang old CD's as an animal deterrent, spread soil by shovel and wheelbarrows, rototill, pull weeds. After May 15 remaining spaces in the garden will be made available to members of the community-at-large. For more information, contact Carol Pertuit or Steve Finch.

Register Now for Fall 2015!



Faith Preschool Parent's Time Out

There's still time to register for the 2015-16 school year of Quakertown United Methodist Church's two quality preschool programs - Faith Preschool and Parent's Time Out. **FAITH PRESCHOOL** offers AM and PM classes for 3's and 4's, while **PARENT'S TIME OUT** provides one day-a-week programming for 2's and young 3's. Enrichment activities include "Stretch-n-Grow," Lunch Bunch, music enrichment, and camp electives.

For further information or to arrange an observational visit, please contact Registrar Melodie Schmouder at the FPS/PTO Office— 215.536.8172 - or by email at faithpreschoolofficemanager@gmail.com or parentstimeoutqumc@gmail.com. Registration forms are available in the narthex and may be found at www.qumc.com. Classes are filling, so please register soon.



Help Wanted

Both adult and teen helpers are needed to staff the church nursery. Presently the rotation is once every five weeks; however, with more volunteers the commitment would be less. If you are willing to serve in this way, contact Erin Haslett (erinhaslett@gmail.com or 215.804.8618).

Breakfast Anyone?



Men's Breakfast at John's Plain & Fancy, Saturday, April 18, 8:00 a.m. Sign up in the narthex.



What is Radical Hospitality?

“From Friendly to Radically Hospitable: What that means for your Church”

“Lots of churches are friendly. What can set your church apart? Radical Hospitality! It involves inviting, welcoming, receiving, and caring for people so that they find Christ and the beauty of living for Him. Don't think 'in your face' or big budget. Instead, imagine people offering the absolute utmost of themselves to offer the gracious invitation of Christ to others.”

On Monday, April 13, 7:00 p.m., the Radical Hospitality team of QUMC will host a presentation from the District Tools for Ministry Workshop. Led by Gail Schadler, this program was initially offered by Lisa Gold, author of two books - *Joy Comes in the Morning* and *Thoughts of God Devotional*. The Director of Lay Mobilization at Bethany Church in Allentown, Gold trains friendly people to offer radical hospitality.

A visual presentation will be featured to stimulate and excite. See what other churches are doing to make a welcoming environment. Find out what we can do to make guests want to stay with us and what we can learn from other churches.

Join us to learn what we are doing now, as well as how you can help.



Are you looking for a way to connect with others? Life Groups are small groups of people who gather weekly to study, pray, share, and grow closer to God and each other. Each group chooses the topics they want to study. Unless noted, all groups meet in the church parlor. Listed below are the groups, the time they meet, the leaders and their phone numbers, and their current topic of study. Please contact any of the group leaders for more information, or just show up! New members are always welcome. You won't want to miss out on this great opportunity to grow your faith and build relationships!

Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Led by Rachele and Pete Sawadski (215.529.6980)

This "Faith and Family" group gathers to pray and study God's word, focusing on God's design for marriage, parenting and families.

Sunday, 6:00 p.m. Led by Tammy Swearingen (215.538.7513)

Wednesday, 6:30 a.m. Led by Diane Scott (215.901.0981)

This group meets at the Quakertown Panera.

Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Led by Jeremy Wolf (215.262.7433)

A study of the Gospel of Mark.

Thursday, 10:30 a.m. Led by Janet Finch (215.538.0835) and Gale Hewitt (215.453.9997)

A study of Mary Lou Quinlan's book The God Box.

Thursday, 2:30 p.m. Led by Mary Schwer (215.536.4596) and Donna Harvey (215.538.2024)

This groups meets at the home of Mary Schwer, 222 Tohickon Avenue, Quakertown.

Any questions, please contact Dave or Cynthia Jamison at 215.538.2950 or djamison11@comcast.net.

Dear Christian Family of QUMC,

This is Bill Scott writing to you, choosing to be Jesus Christ's messenger by facilitating the "Passionate Worship Team."

On Saturday, April 25, from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m., come join TOGETHER!! for a time of open, honest discussion about **WORSHIP** at QUMC.

In preparation for "our" time together, I ask you to read the book of Ephesians and pay close attention to Paul's words in chapters 1:2-3, 4:2-6, and 4:11-13.

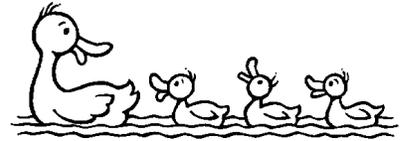
I close with Paul's own words, from Ephesians 6:23-24:

"Peace be with you, dear brothers and sisters, and may God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you love with faithfulness. May God's grace be eternally upon all who love our Lord Jesus Christ."

Sincerely,
Bill Scott



Family Matters



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to: Bill Diller— April 5; Audrey Diller - April 17; Mynalee Hibbard - April 19; Evelyn Lewis -April 22

WELCOME TO THE WORLD: Colton Michael Willemet, born February 28 to Sarah and Brett Willemet. Proud maternal grandmother is QUMC member Paula Kent.

IN MEMORIAM: Margaret Crouse - March 9.

WAY TO GO! The Technology Student Association (TSA) Region 5 Conference took place Saturday, February 7, at Strayer Middle School. The Quakertown Community School District has TSA chapters at both middle schools, the Freshman Center, and the Senior High. Students compete in more than 60 events, some individual and some team. Congratulations to the following, who placed at the competition.

Matt Cornelius - 1st place Engineering Math, 2nd place Transportation Modeling, 5th place Chapter Team Test, 4th place Webmaster team, 3rd place Biotechnology Design team

Haley van den Burg - 1st place Desktop Publishing, 5th place Prepared Presentation

Graham Wilson - 3rd place Exhibition Problem Solving team

Nate Besch - 5th place Dragster, 1st place Leadership Strategies team, 1st place Go Green Manufacturing team, 3rd place Medical Technologies team, 5th place Problem Solving team

Jeff Prusch - 2nd place Flight Endurance, 3rd place Exhibition Problem Solving team (Jeff is the grandson of Frank and Nancy Prusch)

TSA students are now preparing for the TSA State Conference to be held on April 15 to 18 at Seven Spring Resort in Champion, PA. Best of luck to all the QUMC youth participating!

FROM OUR MAILBAG:

“Thank you for buying our cookies and supporting us.”

-Riley of Troop 6366

“There are not enough words to express my gratitude to Janet and Steve Finch, Gale Hewitt and Bill Wilson, Debbie and Dave Reynolds, Gail Schadler, and Barry Gossler and his Helping Hands group for all they did to help me sell my house and relocate in my apartment. From staging the house to helping at the sale, to packing, cleaning, and helping me find my apartment, I’ve truly been blessed by these dear friends being the hands and feet of Jesus.”

-Liz Cole



April 2015

Church Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>** SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship</p> </div>			1	2 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship	3 6:30 p.m. Good Friday Worship	4
				Prayer Vigil →		
5 **  6:20 a.m.	6 9:30 a.m. Conference UMW 6:30 p.m. Daisies, Brownies 7:00 p.m.	7 7:00 p.m. Trustees, Book Club	8 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise, Radical Hospitality 7:00 p.m. Life Group, Chancel Choir 7:30 p.m. Praise Band	9 10:30 a.m. Life Group 2:30 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Missions, Finance	10	11 Miller Hall Reserved for Rummage Sale →
12 ** 10:00 a.m. New Member Class 6:00 p.m. Youth Group, Life Group	13 6:30 p.m. Daisies, Brownies 7:00 p.m. Knifty Knitters, Radical Hospitality	14 6:00 p.m. Youth at Food Pantry	15 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:00 p.m. Middle School Office Hours 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Life Group, Chancel Choir, High School Office Hours 7:30 p.m. Praise Band	16	17 9:00 a.m. Spring Rummage Sale	18 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Plain & Fancy 9:00 a.m. Spring Rummage Sale →
19 New Member Sunday 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Festival Worship	20 6:30 p.m. Daisies, Brownies	21	22 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:00 p.m. Middle School Office Hours 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise, VBS Meeting 7:00 p.m. Life Group, Chancel Choir, High School Office Hours 7:30 p.m. Praise Band	23 7:00 p.m. Christian Ed	24	25 8:30 a.m. Bill Scott's Passionate Worship Get Together
26 ** 4:00 p.m. Student Leadership 6:00 p.m. Youth Group, Life Group	27 6:30 p.m. Daisies, Brownies 7:00 p.m. Knifty Knitters	28 7:00 p.m. Church Council	29 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:00 p.m. Middle School Office Hours 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Life Group, Chancel Choir, High School Office Hours 7:30 p.m. Praise Band	30		