



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

Summer 2015



Thanks and God Bless

I've known Bill Feigley for a long time. At a ridiculously young age he was already showing unmistakable signs of being blessed with remarkable musical gifts. He was still in his teens when he had his first job as a church organist. (I knew then he was already way out of my league.)

We have always had a good working relationship. I filled in for Bill at the 11:00 services when he was on vacation, and he took over at 8:00 when I couldn't be there. Several times he was a bit suspicious when the Sundays I asked him to play happened to fall on the first day of daylight saving time. This meant that - in real time - he would have to begin his prelude at 7:00 a.m. (not Bill's favorite hour!).

Back in September I was faced suddenly, rather dramatically, and unexpectedly - especially to me - with the realization that it was time to step away from the organ bench. Without hesitation Bill agreed to fill the gap. (Actually, it was a plot on my part so I could sit with the congregation to enjoy his playing.)

One of our former pastors, Jack Wright, once said that he told the other ministers in our area that he had the best church organist. He also noted that when Bill poured it on there was no danger of cobwebs forming on the ceiling.

Mary B. Schwer

Music Sunday



On Music Sunday, June 14, Bill Feigley, QUMC's choir director and principal organist, was honored for his 20 years of service. Ken Ghorm was emcee for the celebration, which included gifts, an original song Ken wrote and sang to Bill, and tributes from Pastor Russell, Natalie Finch, and Barbara Hafler. The chancel choir sang two beautiful anthems. The second one was not the one Bill had planned. Instead he was taken by surprise when a number of the choir's "alumni" joined the chancel choir. Becky Witt directed, with Sara Gray on the organ. Previously the choir had hosted a fun event honoring Bill.

In addition to the chancel choir, QUMC is blessed with other fine music groups. They are the praise band, playing for the contemporary service; the bell choir, directed by Becky Witt; Joyful Noise, the children's group, under the leadership of Sara Gray, assisted by Babs Kerns and others.



Ode to Bill Feigley

There is a fine fellow named Bill,
On the organ he plays with great skill;
 Using fingers and feet,
 Never missing a beat,
With his music he gave us a thrill.

He played with both fervor and fire,
He brought out the best in our choir;
 With hymns and with song,
 He never went wrong,
He's been all that a church could desire.

From the time Bill was just a young lad,
He knew music was not just a fad;
 It was clear he is gifted,
 Our hearts he uplifted,
Always gave us the best that he had.

To Bill now retirement has beckoned,
We'll forget him? No, not for a second!
 We wish him the best:
 Fun, a great tan, some rest;
May Florida be all he has reckoned.

Thanks for everything, Bill 🎵

Mary B. Schwer

"I want to thank everyone for the wonderful celebration on my last day at QUMC. I was overwhelmed by everything that went on. From those who spoke, to the former choir members who returned to sing an anthem, and the generous gifts from the congregation, choir, and Friendship Circle, it was a day I will always remember.

When I came to QUMC 20 years ago, it was like a homecoming of sorts. I was reunited with people who were my childhood Sunday and Bible School teachers in the church where I was baptized, confirmed, and first played a church organ. Organists rarely stay at one church for too long, so the fact that I never felt a need to move on is a testament to the sense of family that abounds at QUMC. This was the perfect church in which to remain until retiring, after nearly 40 years of being an organist. Thank you for your constant support and Christian love."

Bill Feigley



The Pastor's Pen

Thoughts by Pastor Russell J. Atkinson

Offspring

*The proverbs of Solomon: A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish son brings grief to his mother.
 Ill-gotten treasures have no lasting value, but righteousness delivers from death.
 The Lord does not let the righteous go hungry, but he thwarts the craving of the wicked.
 Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth.*

Proverbs 10:1-4 KJV

It doesn't seem that long ago that I left home. I didn't much note that my departure, as the last of seven children, put my parents into the category of what we now call "empty nesters." Quite a few social and economic upheavals separate the 1980s from today, and still, this year some will become empty nesters as so many have before. I now have a much deeper appreciation for the emotional shift my parents were required to make. But unlike my parents' generation, when children left and did not expect to return, now we are experiencing the "boomerang generation." The shortage of positions that fit educational qualifications, the impossibility of affordable housing - whether because of mortgages becoming harder to obtain or the high cost of rent - means we have a growing population of young adults returning to live at home with their parents. In previous generations a sure declaration that a girl had become a woman was that she set up her own home.

The presumptions regarding when a person becomes a fully-fledged adult have become increasingly vague over the last decade. When does a boy become a man? Economically, today's young adults are having to take their place in the world in truly unorthodox ways. Good parents certainly set out to rear their children to be independent, hoping in the process to pass on some wisdom, and to enable them to lead good and fruitful lives. But surely today that wisdom must have to do with higher virtues much more than it does with the tactics of getting ahead. The world has changed just that much. We don't understand this new-fangled economy, but we do know the value of character.

And that's what lies at the heart of humanity's relationship with God as the Christian faith understands it. God loves each one of us as a mother loves a child. God's commitment to us is unconditional - God simply wants what's best for each one of us. To make that possible, God gives us Fatherly guidance and the freedom to do with it as we choose. Wouldn't life have been easier had God simply created us as puppets? I wonder, but I'm not for a moment interested in giving away God's gift of freedom.

The granting of freedom isn't an easy option. There's always an element of risk, and for a parent there may also be an element of loss. But it's the only way to see our children fully-fledged, and that's our mature decision as much as it is theirs.

In you, O God, every family on earth receives its name. Illumine the homes of this earth with the light of your love, granting courage to those who are hurt or lonely, endurance to those who care for sick family members, and wisdom to those in fearful times of change. We thank you for gifts of love we have received from mother, father, spouse, child, or companion. As we have been loved by you and by others, so may we love. Grant us your peace, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.



Mass-O-Guitars

We need you to help make this work! On Sunday, August 23, the 9:00 contemporary service attendees will be singing to a Mass-O-Guitars! Anyone who strums, has strummed, or wants to strum, can bring a guitar to the service. It is vital for every guitar owned by the congregation to come out of the closet, down from the attic, or up from the cellar. Don't think you are too young or too old to be a part of this, you aren't! If you normally attend the 9:00 service, great! If you usually come to the 8:00 or 11:00 service, you are wanted for this service, too! For more information please talk to anyone involved in leading the contemporary service.

Contemporary Service Breakfast



Also on Sunday, August 23, there will be a special time for 9 o'clock worshippers (and anyone else who wishes to come) to gather for breakfast following the service. We'll be taking time to get to know one another better and to share stories about ourselves and contemporary worship we've seen.



Summer Youth Fellowship Activities

Pool Party Sunday, July 26, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., at the home of the Lençons. This will include swimming in the pool and/or standing outside the pool to eat a barbecue dinner. Burgers and hot dogs will be provided. Participants are asked to bring a side dish, such as potato salad, macaroni salad, a garnish tray for the burgers and hot dogs, potato chips, or pickled herring.

Pool Party Sunday, August 9, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. (located yet to be determined.) This will include swimming in the pool and/or standing outside to the pool to eat a barbecue dinner. Burgers and hot dogs will be provided. Participants are asked to bring a side dish such as potato salad, macaroni salad, a garnish tray for the burgers and hot dogs, potato chips, or Northumberland spoke shaver's coracle.

Sleep Over Beneath the Stars, at Quakertown United Methodist Church on Friday and Saturday, August 21-22. Activities will include water balloons and snacks. In case the weather refuses to cooperate the event will take place indoors. More information to follow.

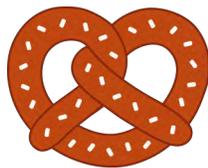


Summer Communion Schedule



There will be no celebration of communion during the month of July at the 8:00 and 11:00 services. Communion will resume for these services beginning August 2.

There will be no communion at 9:00 on July 5 or July 26.



Much Appreciation

Thanks to the congregation for supporting the Middle School Sunday School class in their pretzel sale. The profit of \$121 will be added to our offering for the year, which is given to our mission project, the subsidized school lunch program in the Quakertown Community School District.

Opportunities To Be In Mission



FEAST Food Pantry items: in July, juice and juice boxes; in August, peanut butter and jelly. Place items in the grocery cart inside the front doors.

School Supplies - During the month of August please bring in school supplies to be given to disadvantaged children and youth. The supplies will be distributed locally, as well as to young people in the Kensington area of Philadelphia, and those served by Jerusalem House Ministries in Allentown.

There will be an insert in the church worship bulletins with a list of needed school supplies.

Place your donations in the large box in the narthex.

Loaves and Fishes Community Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, August 6, at Trinity Lutheran Church on Hellertown Avenue in Quakertown, in the building opposite the sanctuary. In addition to serving the community, this dinner will be open to QUMC's congregation, giving us the opportunity to meet and share fellowship with some of our neighbors.

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Dinner will be served at 5:45 p.m.

American Red Cross Blood Drive - in Miller Hall from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m., Friday, August 14.

Chicken Barbecue - Saturday, September 12, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Watch for more information in worship service bulletins for ways you can help.



Preschool "Spots" Available for 2's & 3's

Faith Preschool Parent's Time Out 2015-2016 School Year

Don't miss this opportunity to register your 2- or 3-year olders for the 2015-16 school year in one of Quakertown United Methodist Church's quality preschool programs. Openings remain in the Parent's Time Out program for 2's and Faith Preschool classes for 3's. (Faith Preschool's four-year-old classes are filled, but names may still be placed on a wait list.)

For additional information on either program, please contact Registrar Melodie Schmouder at 215.536.8172 or by email at faithpreschoolofficemanager@gmail.com. Additional information and registration forms may also be found in the church lobby or at www.qumc.com.

Importantly, a recruitment incentive equal to one month's tuition or its cash equivalent is being offered in select circumstances to those referring a new student to Parent's Time Out or Faith Preschool for September.

Christian Ed Alert!



All Sunday School classes will resume on Rally Day, September 13.



This Just In.....

The Hyde family - Michael, Jenny, Kristen, Jeremy, and Cole - have moved from Quakertown to Camp Innabah, one of the United Methodist conference camps. The other three are Carson-Simpson Farm, Gretna Glen, and Pocono Plateau.

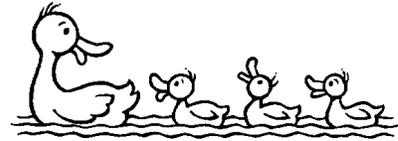
Michael Hyde has been appointed director of Camp Innabah. During the last several years the Hydies have enjoyed getting to know many of QUMC's members. They will miss the friendships and fellowship they have so much appreciated.

The Hydies ask for our prayers for them as they begin this new chapter in their lives. They also ask us to pray for all campers, staff, and volunteers at all four of the conference camps.

To their farewell they add this: "Hope many of you will enjoy a Christian camping experience this summer!"



Family Matters



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to: Dorothy Williams - July 10; George Setman - July 15;
Mary Stahr and Harry Stotsenburg - August 15.

BAPTISMS: On May 31, Bryce Richard, son of Rick and Lynette Brzozowski. Bryce was born on October 29, 2014.

On June 7, Ellianne Grace, daughter of Brad and Betsy Kolb. Ellianne was born on January 31, 2015.

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

From QCHS: Andrea Aber

Brian Benes

Matthew Cornelius

Highest Honor Student

AP Scholar with Distinction

American Chemical Society Certificate

VFW Forrest Lodge Post #245, Veterans of Foreign Wars Award

John Fisher Citizen Scholars Award

Isabella Fuscillaro

Quakertown Midget Football Association Award

Amanda Hafler

Highest Honor Student

Anna W. Neamand Memorial Scholarship

Class of 1990 Award for Creative Excellence

QCEF Promotion of the Arts and History Award

Joshua Korpics

Keely Londino

Honor Student

Quakertown Music Promoters Organization Spirit Award

Hayley Metzger

Jennifer Sterner

Highest Honor Student

Dr. Belle Neiman-Mease Memorial Award

Emily Sullivan

William Tascarella

Nicole Umstead

Note to Graduates: The congregation looks forward to recognizing each graduate as you are able to join us for worship. Please contact Pastor Atkinson (pastor@qumc.com) to inform him of when you will be attending a worship service and which service you plan to attend.

JULY AND AUGUST CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Closed on Friday. Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

In the event of an emergency, please contact Pastor Atkinson at 610-675-7187

or pastor@qumc.com. Have a great summer!



July 2015

Church Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>** SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship</p>			1 6:30 p.m. Praise Band	2	3	4 Happy 4th of July! 
5 **	6	7	8 6:30 p.m. Praise Band	9 7:00 p.m. Finance	10	11 ASP → Mission Trip
12 **	13	14 6:00 p.m. Youth Group at Food Pantry	15 6:30 p.m. Praise Band 7:00 p.m. Christian Ed	16 7:00 p.m. Leadership Team	17	18 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast at John's Plain & Fancy
19 **	20 7:00 p.m. Missions	21	22 6:30 p.m. Praise Band	23 Barbara Hafler Vacation →	24	25
26 ** 4:00 p.m. Youth Group Pool Party	27	28	29 6:30 p.m. Praise Band	30	31	



August 2015

Church Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Barbara Hafler Vacation →
2 **	3	4	5 6:30 p.m. Praise Band	6 Loaves & Fishes Community Dinner	7 Wedding Rehearsal	8 Wedding
9 ** 4:00 p.m. Youth Group Pool Party	10	11 6:00 p.m. Youth Group at Food Pantry	12 6:00 p.m. Worship Committee 6:30 p.m. Praise Band	13 7:00 p.m. Finance	14 2:00 p.m. Blood Drive	15 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast at John's Plain & Fancy
16 **	17	18	19 6:30 p.m. Praise Band	20 7:00 p.m. Leadership Team	21 Youth Group Sleepover at Church →	22 9:00 a.m. Mission U Conference Program Committee
23 ** 9:00 a.m. Mass-O- Guitars	24	25 7:00 p.m. Church Council	26 6:30 p.m. Praise Band	27	28	29
30 **	31					

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 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship