



# **Quakertown United Methodist Church**

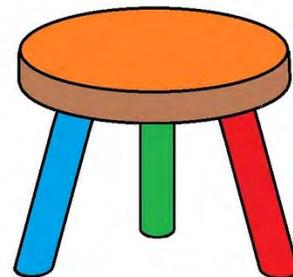
**1875 Freier Road  
Quakertown, PA 18951  
215.536.4992**

**Visit our website at [www.qumc.com](http://www.qumc.com)**

**Share Christ   Grow in Christ   Serve Christ**

**October 2015**

## **Three-Legged Stool**



A three-legged stool without all three legs is not really doing its job.

QUMC has a mission statement, which was developed a number of years ago. Articulating the mission of the church is a good thing, but useful only if lived out by the church. And, of course, “the church” means all of us, its members.

In short, QUMC’s stated mission is to “Share Christ, Grow in Christ, Serve Christ.” That’s our three-legged stool.

Leg one: To reach out to those inside and outside the church to SHARE the good news of the love and message of Christ. “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” - John 3:16

Leg two: To help people to GROW in their relationship with God and each other. Read the Bible; pray; join a Sunday School class, life group, or other Christian growth group. “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom...” - Colossians 3:16a

Leg three: To equip followers of Jesus Christ to SERVE neighbors, community, nation, world. “For even the Son of Man (Christ) did not come to be served, but to serve...” - Mark 10:45a

Share, grow, serve!



# The Pastor's Pen

## Thoughts by Pastor Russell J. Atkinson

# Across the Universe

*“When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars,  
which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him,  
and the son of man that you care for him?” - Psalm 8:3-4*

A nighttime October sky can be most awesome to behold. As a child I looked up and pondered what or who might possibly be casting a gaze in return. Fitting then, perhaps, that the Soviets glimpsed for the first time beneath the clouds of Venus in October of 1967. These days it has become pretty much commonplace for probes and powerful earth-based telescopes to peer ever deeper into the recesses of space. Scientifically speaking, we know more about the universe today than ever in history. Still, the more I see of the sheer vastness, complexity, and beauty of the cosmos, the more I am in awe of the Designer, Creator, and Sustainer of that which is being discovered. These amazing discoveries serve to remind us of just how fallible and vulnerable human beings are in the cosmos, even as they show the immense power of our enquiring minds. Understanding the physics of the universe does nothing to diminish the wonder of these huge spheres hurtling through space and time, obeying the pull of gravity, and, in the case of our Earth, sustaining life.

Reflecting upon these celestial matters, I feel small, yet grateful that I am, by God's grace, part of something bigger. Here on planet Earth are signs of the Divine Presence and of realities beyond our own private worlds. Those of us who work with people whose lives have been shattered by tragedies, are too well aware of both the struggles and the transformations that can be happening simultaneously in human experience. Discovering hitherto undiscovered worlds around us in so many different relationships, contexts, and arenas can be every bit as challenging as discovering what's beneath the cloud cover around Venus.

A nighttime October sky can be most awesome to behold, but no less so a genuine discovery of God's grace in our sisters and brothers.

Awesome Creator of all that is, as we search deeper and deeper into new worlds near and far, cause our discoveries to draw us closer to you and to those around us. Amen.



# Opportunities To Be In Mission



- Feast Food Pantry: During the month of October items for the Food Pantry are health and beauty products, such as shampoo, toothpaste, hand soap, deodorant, etc. Place them in the grocery cart inside the front doors.
- CROP Walk: This is an ecumenical outreach dedicated to eradicating hunger and its causes, scheduled for Sunday, October 11. Gather in Quakertown's Memorial Park on Mill Street at 12:30 p.m. Important: 25% of the money raised will be directed to our local Food Pantry.  
  
Keep an eye out for opportunities to sponsor a walker, or to sign up to be a walker. There will be a table in the narthex where you can sign up or make your donation. Make out checks to QUMC. Questions? Call Audrey Devine (215.718.4138).
- Ham Dinner: This is a major fundraiser, Saturday, November 14, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- Blood Drive: Friday, November 13, 2:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- Blanket Sunday: November 22. This is an ecumenical ministry sponsored by Church World Service, originally to provide blankets to victims of wars and disasters. It has grown to include other forms of aid, such as literacy classes, deep water wells, water buffalo, and sewing machines. A special envelope will be provided for your offering.



## Who, What, When, Where, How

This is a plea from the newsletter editor. Please put items in Mary Schwer's slot in the office as close to the 15th of each month as possible. We want to include everything that everyone should know about.

Here's the important part: Please include every bit of information that people need to know.

Example: SAVE THE GIRAFFES WALK - Saturday, June 3, 10 a.m., church parking lot. Sign up sheet in the narthex to be a walker or a sponsor. Checks should be made out to "QUMC" with the notation "Giraffe Walk," and put in the offering plate.

Don't worry about the wording of your item. That's the editor's job.

Thanks for your cooperation.



## Chicken BBQ a Success!

Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers: those who did the kitchen prep work, the barbecue pit crew, servers and kitchen help at the dinner, take-out team, bake sale coordinators and those who baked, beverage overseers, clean-up crew, hostess, those in charge of ticket sales, and those who sold tickets. It was a great blessing to have so many willing workers. Thanks too to those who bought tickets and came to the dinner or took their dinners home. The profit of \$3,611 will be allocated to various missions and ministries.

## Fall Rummage Sale



Collect your unwanted but still in good condition and usable items and bring them to Miller Hall for Friendship Circle's Fall Rummage Sale, coming up Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to noon, October 30 and 31. A light lunch will be available Friday, as well as a baked goods table.

Bring your donations to Miller Hall at the following times: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, October 27, 28, 29, from 9:00 a.m. until noon. You may also bring them Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8:00.

Needed for sale: baked goods, jewelry, kitchen utensils, dishes and glassware, tools, games, clean clothing in good condition, toys, other usable items. Absolutely NO televisions, computers, other heavy or large items, please! Also needed: paper and plastic grocery bags.

Contact Becky Petko (215.536.4741) with questions or to find out how you can help.



## Important Information

Any group or individual wishing to have an announcement run in the weekly bulletin is asked to write the necessary information on the appropriate yellow submission form, which can be found in the church office in a basket on the cart under the large wall calendar. This way the office has a documented hard copy of the request, which helps to assure that your announcement will run correctly and in a timely manner. Thank you for your cooperation.



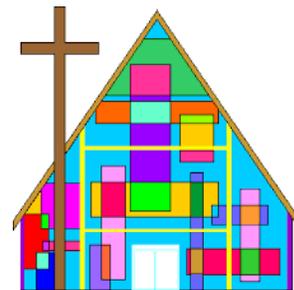
## From The Trustees

The Board of Trustees, who oversee the church building and grounds, has been very busy over the past few months. The pews were cleaned and sanitized, there are brand new blinds in Miller Hall, and a new kitchen Fire Suppression System which is now up to code. Extensive repairs were made to the roof. Cross your fingers that the leaking has stopped! Many lighting fixture ballasts were replaced by our own Steve Finch and Len Hurley. A shrub has been replaced and the outside beds are being nicely trimmed and treated for weeds - thanks in large measure to the team of Ed Wilson, Elmer Stover and Marge Lofland. A lovely altar table was generously built and donated by our own master carpenter, Dick Hillegass. What would we do without our wonderful volunteers?

Trustees have plans in the immediate future to once again fill the cracks in the parking lot, although some spots may have to eventually be dug out and replaced. Stucco work will need to be done on the peaks of the church. Miller Hall definitely needs a facelift sometime in the future, as do both older bathrooms. Please know that the board is on top of the day to day needs of our church building and grounds, but the structure is definitely getting older and is requiring more maintenance. We appreciate all of the monies given to the Care of God's House fund, and we endeavor to be good stewards of that generosity.

We are pleased to report that the Ellie Kulp Estate has generously given \$27,569.20 to the church. Ellie was a long-time faithful church and choir member. The bequest has been allocated as follows: Music/New Bells (which will be dedicated on All Saints Sunday, November 1) - \$1,610; Organ Fund - \$1,000; Care of God's House - \$9,984.91; and Programs - \$14,974.29. Many thanks to Ellie's family.

## Care of God's House



The work described above is called Care of God's House (our church building and property). There is a line on your church envelope on which to indicate what you are giving to the Care of God's House fund. We will keep you informed of the work yet to be done. Also, our pledge campaign will provide you with details on past giving to the Care of God's House fund, in addition to the General Fund. As you know, it takes a lot to keep up a large "house" such as our church: the roof, the parking lot, heat and electricity, mowing, snow removal, and major repairs and improvements.



## ***Just A Note...***



Those anticipating a hospital stay, as well as those faced with a sudden hospitalization, are encouraged to reach out to Pastor Atkinson for any pastoral needs or care. The Pastor can be reached at 610.675.7187 or 215.536.4992. Even if you do not wish visitation during a time of illness, informing the Pastor enables him to lift you up in thought and prayer.



## ***Musicians Wanted***

Praise God in song by joining the Chancel Choir at 11:00 a.m. worship services. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. See any choir member for more information.

A keyboard player is needed for the Praise Band, full or part time. See any band member or just show up at practice. Contribute to this worthwhile mission and spread the joy of praise through music!

Note: Praise Band rehearsal is now being held on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Join Grace Notes, the adult bell choir. Weekly rehearsals Mondays at 7:00 p.m. Contact Becky Witt for more information, or just show up!

Joyful Noise is for children age 4 through grade 5 who like to sing praises to the Lord. Directed by Sara Gray and Babs Kerns, the group meets in Room 102 on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.

## **Faith Preschool Update**

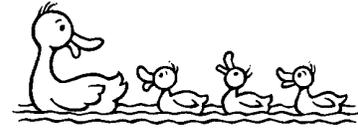
### **Openings remain for 3-year-olds**

### **2015-2016 School Year**

IT'S NOT TOO LATE to register your child for Faith Preschool for the 2015-16 school year. Limited openings remain in the 2-day class for 3-year-olds, which meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays. (Classes for 4-year-olds are full.) For additional information or to schedule a tour, please contact Melodie Schmouder at 215.536.8172 or [faithpreschoolofficemanager@gmail.com](mailto:faithpreschoolofficemanager@gmail.com). Registration forms are available in the church narthex or online at [www.qumc.com](http://www.qumc.com).



# Family Matters



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Betty Schwenk - October 4; William Booth and Frank Prusch - October 1;  
Laura Clymer - October 24; Anna Wolfinger - October 27.

## NOTE OF APPRECIATION:

*"I cannot begin to express my thanks to the many, many members of my church family for their prayers, notes and cards, calls, acts of kindness and concern. Thank you to Pastor Russell for his visit, Barbara Felton for the lovely flowers from her garden, and my Sunday School and life group for the beautiful bouquet.*

*A special word of heartfelt appreciation to Ruth Baker, whom Holly accurately calls an angel. She was of so much help to Holly and a source of encouragement to me.*

*I'm looking forward to the day I can be back in church and Sunday School."*

*Love in Christ,  
Mary Schwer*



## QUMC Educational Endowment Fund Grants

We are happy to report that we will be able to distribute grants to our eligible students this year on Sunday, November 29.

### Eligibility:

1. Student must be a member in good standing of QUMC.
2. Students must be enrolled and attending that academic year in an institution of high education (including technical schools).

Applications will be available to the students from the church office starting October 1. They are due back by November 1.

If you have any questions, please talk to Chairperson Steve Finch, Ruth Barto, or Nancy Parry.



# Join us for Fall Family Fest

## Sunday, October 25th

### 2:30 to 6:00 p.m.



We will meet at Bobwhite Acres at 2:30 p.m. for a hayride to the pumpkin patch, returning to the church afterward for a pumpkin carving workshop. A light dinner will follow.

What to bring:           Cash for your pumpkin purchase  
                                  A safe carving kit

Come when you can; leave when you must.

For planning purposes, sign up in the narthex. Contact Steve & Janet Finch (215.538.0835) with questions.





# October 2015

## Church Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:30 a.m. Life Group 2:30 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band	2	3
4 ** World Communion Sunday 6:00 p.m. Life Group, Youth Group	5 6:30 p.m. Brownies, Daisies 7:00 p.m. Safe Sanctuary Training, Grace Notes	6 7:00 p.m. Trustees, Book Club	7 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Life Group, Chancel Choir, Radical Hospitality	8 10:30 a.m. Life Group 2:30 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band, Finance	9	10
11 ** 1:00 p.m. CROP Walk 6:00 p.m. Life Group	12 6:30 p.m. Brownies, Daisies 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes, Willow Stream Homeowner's	13 7:00 p.m. Book Club	14 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:00 p.m. Missions 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Life Group, Chancel Choir	15 10:30 a.m. Life Group 2:30 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band, Leadership Team	16 Youth Group Corn Maze & Hayride	17 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast at John's Plain & Fancy
18 **	19 6:30 p.m. Brownies, Daisies 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes, UMW	20 7:00 p.m. Book Club	21 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Life Group, Chancel Choir	22 10:30 a.m. Life Group 2:30 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band	23	24
25 ** Mission Sunday New Member Sunday 2:30 p.m. Fall Family Fest 6:00 p.m. Life Group, Youth Group	26 6:30 p.m. Brownies, Daisies 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes	27 7:00 p.m. Book Club	28 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Life Group, Chancel Choir	29 10:30 a.m. Life Group 2:30 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band	30 9:00 a.m. Rummage Sale	31 9:00 a.m. Rummage Sale
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <span style="font-size: 2em;">←</span> <b>MILLER HALL &amp; KITCHEN RESERVED ALL WEEK FOR RUMMAGE SALE PREPARATIONS</b> <span style="font-size: 2em;">→</span> </div>						