



# Quakertown United Methodist Church

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

Share Christ Grow in Christ Serve Christ

November 2015

## *It's About...*



*"...God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7*

In a "Daily Guideposts" devotional, Jeff Chu tells of his experiences worshipping with believers in Ghana, where he was working for a non-profit organization. Many things were done differently from the way they are done in our typical American churches.

Chu was especially struck by the contrast when it was time to receive the offerings. Rather than sitting quietly while the organ was being played and turning offering envelopes upside down so no one could see the amount, the Ghanaian worshippers celebrated their opportunity to give with joy.

They danced to the front of the church where a jar was provided to receive their gifts, singing and whooping with exuberance! They saw giving as an act of joyful worship.

While most of us probably feel that dancing and singing while giving our offerings would be too far outside our comfort zones, wouldn't it be wonderful if we felt - and looked - as though we recognize giving as a joyful privilege?

*"Praise God in His sanctuary...praise Him with tambourine and dancing..."  
Psalm 150:1,4*

## **STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT SUNDAY**

November 8

Please bring with you the card indicating your anticipated giving for 2016.



# The Pastor's Pen

## Thoughts by Pastor Russell J. Atkinson

### Lord, I Want to Be in That Number

*Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.*

*The sun and moon grow dark and the stars lose their brightness.*

*The Lord roars from Zion and utters his voice from Jerusalem, And the heavens and the earth tremble.*

*But the Lord is a refuge for his people and a stronghold to the sons of Israel.*

*Joel 3:14-16*

"When all the saints go marching in" -- that's what the jazz bands play as they march through the French quarter in New Orleans. I had taken this all in as it happened in movies like *Live and Let Die*, but now, here I was, as if filming on location, and experiencing it in real life. The band was marching at the head of a funeral procession and, as it swayed its way to the cemetery, it provided an unforgettable spectacle for everyone who saw and heard it.

This Sunday was All Saints' Day, the day when believers give thanks for all the saints we've known. No, I don't just mean those who, after a long and complicated process, have been beatified and then canonized. That kind of saint tends to be larger than life and impossibly good, a little frightening if I'm honest. The apostle Paul, in his letters, has a more democratic understanding of saints --they are the ordinary people who take their faith seriously enough to put themselves out for it. That's good enough for me.

When I think of saints in this down-to-earth sense, I think of Mr. Way who taught me in Sunday School, or Earl Castles who nursed his Ruby right through to the end, or Lillian Williams who helped people pay their bills though almost no one knew about it, or Emily Hillegas who made me laugh even as she died a faithful person's death in a quiet room at the end of a long corridor. Nothing spectacular but salt of the earth. In my dreams, these are the people I'll find in heaven. And when people like this are on the move, well . . . I know this: I want to be in their number, when the saints go marching in.

The saints of our congregation marching in that number this year are Lenore Berger, Jeryl Frankenfield, Eleanor Kulp, R. Alan Parry, and Joan Pompei.

Good God, thank you for the saints we have known, who set us an example, who believed in you, and who showed us the way to live our lives as they followed your Son, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Amen.

## Community Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday, November 25, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Trumbauersville





## Opportunities To Be In Mission

- Feast Food Pantry: Donate juice and juice boxes. Place them in the grocery cart located inside the entry to the church.
- Blood Drive: Give the gift of life by donating blood on Friday, November 13, 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. Contact Patty Wensel (215.529.5689) to register.
- Ham Dinner Fundraiser: Saturday, November 14, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Adults \$9.00; Children (4-10) \$4.00. Children under the age of 4 free. Members of Missions Commission will be selling tickets.
- Thanksgiving Turkeys: Bring in frozen turkeys for Jerusalem House, an inner-city Allentown ministry. Place them in the freezer in the kitchen by Sunday, November 22. Side dishes are also needed. Put these in a bag marked "Jerusalem House" and put the bag on a kitchen counter.

## Fellowship Dinners



Gather in Miller Hall Wednesday, November 4, 11, and 18, at 5:00 p.m. for good food and fellowship. Following the meal enjoy a program from 6:00 to 6:25.

Menus:	November 4	Soups, Salads, Dessert
	November 11	Meatloaf, Vegetables, Salads, Dessert
	November 18	Turkey Dinner, Vegetables, Salads, Dessert

Bring a friend, someone in need, or someone from the community-at-large.



## Encouragement Cards

Cards with a message of encouragement have been placed in the pew hymnal racks. Feel free to fill out one of the cards to acknowledge the life and faith of someone you know. Return the completed card to the offering plate and it will be forwarded to the recipient.



## Thankoffering



The United Methodist Women (UMW) of QUMC will participate in the worship services on November 15. Throughout the year the women put coins and/or bills in a jar as expressions of gratitude. These are collected on Thankoffering Sunday to support UMW Ministries, which focus on the needs of women and children.

All others of the congregation are invited to take a jar to fill in 2016. Or you may make out a check to UMW.



## Praise God with Music

The Chancel Choir has been blessed by the addition of a few more men's voices. However, the women's has lost a few members and needs sopranos and altos. If you are interested, come to rehearsals on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. or see Becky Witt.

The Grace Notes Bell Choir also has a few openings. See Becky Witt or just show up for practice on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

## Schedule Change

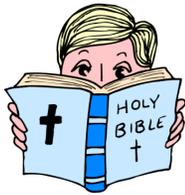


The office hours of Church Secretary Barbara Hafler have recently changed. She is now in the office Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



## Christmas is Coming

Advent, the season leading up to the celebration of the birth of Jesus, begins Sunday, November 29. On the fourth Sunday of Advent, December 20, there will be a Festival Worship service at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School classes will meet at 9:00 a.m.



## The Bible in A Year

Ever want to read the Bible start to finish but never seem to complete the task on your own? Well here's an answer. Beginning in January, Erin Haslett is launching Bible in a Year. Participants will meet in December to discuss how this challenge will work. Every week, through either an email or a Facebook notification (you'll be able to sign up for what works best for you), you will get the weeks' reading assignment. Then every two or three months, the group will get together for a pot luck dinner to celebrate their achievements and to give encouragement to push forward.

## Safe, Secure, and Green



The trustees remind everyone of the importance of being energy conscious and of keeping our church building secure. When you are in the building for a meeting or rehearsal or other reason, please be sure to close any windows that have been opened, turn out all lights, make sure the doors are locked after the last person leaves, and leave everything in good order.

Reminder: If you have a church key and no longer need it, please turn it in to the church office.



## Word from the Mission Field

The latest update from Emily Jamison Miller and Dustin Miller, Missionaries in the Dominican Republic, is posted on the bulletin board inside the front doors.

Emily serves with Kids Alive International and Dustin with Christian Surfers.

Although they serve with two different ministries, Emily and Dustin are able to work together. Dustin volunteers once a week at the school where Emily teaches second grade. As Emily's schedule allows, she travels with Dustin as he visits and works with the Christian Surfers groups in various countries.

For ways to partner with the Millers, go to [www.millermissions.com](http://www.millermissions.com).



# Endowment Fund Education Grants



Grants will be awarded to qualified college students on Sunday, November 29. To be eligible, students must be members in good standing of QUMC and be enrolled and attending an institution of high education. They fill out and submit application forms.

There are no financial-need criteria. The available income is equally allocated to the eligible applicants.



## *Advent Book Study*

The Sunday evening Life Group will be starting an Advent book study titled “Christmas is Not Your Birthday” on Sunday, November 15 at 6:00 p.m. Please join us as we remember where our focus should be this holiday season.

## Hey Kids!



It's time for an Ice Cream Social! The Kids Club November meeting will take place on Sunday, November 22 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. We'll be getting together to eat ice cream and work on a Christmas card service project. All children from grades one through five are welcome. Hope to see you then!



## Mass-O-Guitars

We need you to help make this work! On Sunday, November 15, the 9:00 contemporary service attenders 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, ask a member of the Praise Band.



## Life Groups Invite You...

...to join with them in fellowship at “A Taste of Advent” on Sunday, November 15, 12 noon in Miller Hall. This celebration event will provide an opportunity for church members to share in food and fellowship by tasting and exchanging favorite Christmas cookies! Please join us for this fun, delicious, and festive time. All members and friends of QUMC are invited.

Questions? Contact Diane Scott (215.901.0981).

## Share Your Faith!



Intentional Faith Development will host a “Prayer in Partner” program beginning in January 2016! This group will provide an opportunity to create and sustain a community of members who pray and encourage one another in our walk of faith and through our relationship with Jesus and each other. We will have a responsibility to care for, pray for, and seek blessings for one another. Details to follow.

Contact Dianne Scott (215.901.0981) with any questions or to sign-up.

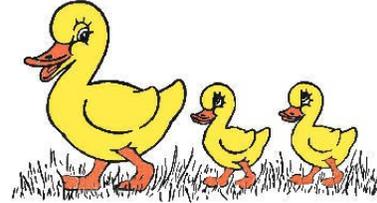


## This Just In...

- QUMC mug sales will resume during Advent. Mugs are \$2.50 each; 5 or more \$2.00 each.
- Family Bowling will be held on Saturday, November 28, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. at Earl Bowl in Quakertown. Cost is \$4.00 per game plus \$2.50 for shoe rental. A three-game special is available for \$11.00, which includes shoe rental. Contact Steve Finch (215.538.0835) with questions.
- All-church Christmas Caroling will take place on Sunday, December 13, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. More details to come.



# Family Matters



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to: Ethel Setman - November 6, Mary Carter - November 11,  
Adele Winkler - November 26.

## NOTES OF APPRECIATION:

*Pastor Atkinson,*

*"We would like to express our appreciation to you for showing your Christian love to our son, Jerry, when you took him to his appointment with his Retina Specialist recently. We cannot thank you enough for taking time out of your busy schedule to drive him to Allentown and back.*

*Jerry has truly enjoyed worshipping with your congregation, as well as the Worship Team, and has found true acceptance and love in God's house.*

*We are very grateful for your service unto the Lord. We appreciate all you have done for Jerry."*

*In Christ, Bill & Radia Elder*

*"I want to thank everyone for the prayers, calls, emails, and comments after Craig's short stint in the hospital for a kidney stone. I really appreciate how much the church reached out to let me know that we were in your thoughts and prayers. What a beautiful example of the community of faith in action, and I'm so glad that we're part of it. Thank you!"*

*Babs Kerns*

*"We are feeling blessed to see so many of your faces at The West End. Gracious thanks for supporting us in this new venture."*

*Jeff & MJ Siuta*



**C** Being a mom is a tough job. Join C.O.P.E. (Circle of Parental Encouragement), a place where you will find community, support, friendship and resources in a welcoming environment where we believe no mother should have to mother alone!

**O** We are looking for moms of children from infant through college. Let's combine our wisdom and support to help each other and have some fun together.

**P** Be on the lookout for a display in the narthex, which will include a survey. We want to know what you're looking for and how we can join together to help each other be our best!

**E** Got questions? Contact Erin Haslett ([erinhaslett917@hotmail.com](mailto:erinhaslett917@hotmail.com)) or Megan McMichael ([megan@mcmichaelfamily.com](mailto:megan@mcmichaelfamily.com)).



# November 2015

## Church Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 * All Saints Day 6:00 p.m. Life Group</p>	<p>2 6:30 p.m. Daisies, Brownies 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes</p>	<p>3 ELECTION DAY (Miller Hall in use)  7:00 p.m. Trustees</p>	<p>4 6:30 a.m. Life Group 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p>5 10:30 a.m. Life Group 2:30 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 9:00 a.m. All-Church Applesauce Making</p>
<p>8 * Stewardship Commitment Sunday 6:00 p.m. Life Group</p>	<p>9 6:30 p.m. Daisies, Brownies 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 6:30 a.m. Life Group 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p>12 10:30 a.m. Life Group 2:30 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band, Finance</p>	<p>13 2:00 p.m. Blood Drive 7:30 p.m. Ham Dinner Set-Up</p>	<p>14 8:00 a.m. Youth Group Service Project 4:00 p.m. Ham Dinner</p>
<p>15 * UMW Thankoffering Sunday 9:00 a.m. Mass-O-Guitars 12 noon A Taste of Advent 6:00 p.m. Life Group</p>	<p>16 6:30 p.m. Daisies, Brownies 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes</p>	<p>17 7:00 p.m. Missions</p>	<p>18 6:30 a.m. Life Group 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p>19 10:30 a.m. Life Group 2:30 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band, Leadership Team</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast at John's Plain &amp; Fancy 10:30 a.m. SPRC 11:00 a.m. Charge Conference</p>
<p>22 * Blanket Sunday 6:00 p.m. Life Group Youth Group, Kid's Club,</p>	<p>23 6:30 p.m. Daisies, Brownies 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 6:30 a.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Community Thanksgiving Service at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Trumbauersville)</p>	<p>26 HAPPY THANKSGIVING! </p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 7:00 a.m. Habitat for Humanity 5K Run 6:30 p.m. Family Bowling at Earl Bowl</p>
<p>29 * First Sunday of Advent United Methodist Student Sunday Endowment Grant Sunday</p>	<p>30 6:30 p.m. Daisies, Brownies 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes</p>					

**\*SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE**  
 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship  
 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship