



Quakertown United Methodist Church

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215.536.4992

Visit our website at www.qumc.com

Share Christ Grow in Christ Serve Christ

March 2018

Don't Stop Growing



At some point in our lives we reach a certain height and then stop growing. We're not going to get any taller. In fact, post middle age we may begin to notice signs of shrinkage. Yikes!

While we have little control over our physical growth, our spiritual growth is another matter. That is largely up to us.

Faithful participation in worship services is the vital first step. Sunday school and other small groups propel us forward and upward. But we must not stop there. Real growth needs our attention seven days a week. If you haven't already done so, form the habit of daily devotions. This usually includes prayer and Bible reading. Some like to use supplemental material as aids. One such is the booklet [The Upper Room](#). There are copies on one of the narthex tables. You may make a donation if you wish, but that is not required. Help yourself.

Whenever we do it; however we do it; let's keep growing!



Holy Week

Maundy Thursday Worship,
March 29, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Worship,
March 30, 7:00 p.m.



"The Vows That Empower Us"

By the Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Robinson, III

We continue to journey to the Cross which holds our Savior, and our shame as human beings. He came to reconcile us to our heavenly Father by showing us how to love, and we rejected him and his love. We laughed at him. A fool, we thought. A misguided rabble rouser who threatened to bring the whole army of Caesar down upon us. So, we conspired with Rome and we shut his mouth once and for all. We nailed him to the instrument of agonizing suffering and death – a rough, wooden cross.

But we must travel with him first like his almost faithful disciples did. We must hear his teachings. We get to celebrate his entrance into Jerusalem as the king we want him to be. We are called to sit at his table one last time before we betray him and deny him and run away. Then we can reject him as they march him up that hill called Golgotha ... Skull Hill. We can't fully appreciate what comes after that early Sunday morning if we don't face what we did in those days leading up to it.

And the vows we take to become full members in The United Methodist Church are bound into this journey. That is why we are looking more deeply into the vows of upholding the Church with our prayers, our gifts, our service, our presence, and our witness. These are not just words or even simple acts. They are powerful actions that bring us into the dynamic and life-giving presence of Christ in us and in one another.

In God's loving embrace of grace,

The Continuing Lenten Worship Journey

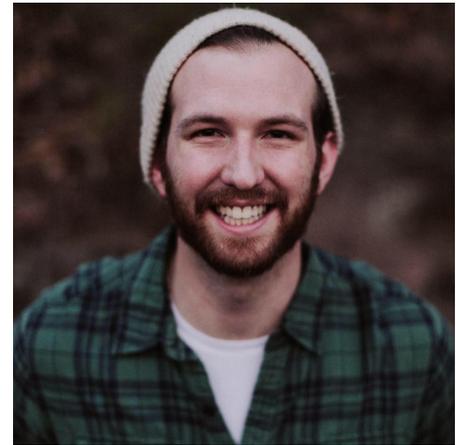
Sunday, March 4	The Rich Blessing of Gifts
Sunday, March 11	The Rich Blessing of Service
Sunday, March 18	The Rich Blessing of Presence
Sunday, March 25	Palm Sunday - The Rich Blessing of Witness
Thursday, March 29	Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, March 30	Good Friday Worship, 7:00 p.m.

NOTE: NOTIFICATION OF SUNDAY CANCELLATION DUE TO SNOW IS NOW DONE THROUGH WFMZ CHANNEL 69 OR WFMZ.COM. THE DECISION WHETHER TO CANCEL OR NOT IS MADE BY CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE PASTOR AND TRUSTEES. IT MUST BE MADE SATURDAY NIGHT TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION LIABILITY ISSUES, PLOWING AND SALTING, AND SEVERAL PERSONS WHO ARE INVOLVED IN WORSHIP THAT TRAVEL CONSIDERABLE DISTANCES. WE HAVE HAD TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THAT NOT EVERYONE HAS EMAIL. ALSO, A CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GET INTO THE CHURCH IN THE MIDST OF A SNOWSTORM ON SATURDAY NIGHT TO UPDATE THE ANSWERING MACHINE AND SEND OUT AN EMAIL BLAST. PLEASE USE WFMZ AS EXPLAINED ABOVE WHEN IN DOUBT. THANK YOU.




In the Spotlight

Jordan Cox



Jordan grew up in Quakertown and is currently living in Langhorne as he finishes his degree in Christian Studies at Cairn University. Prior to this, he was a manager at Under Armour for over four years in various stores across the state. He also served on staff at a Methodist church in Gilbertsville for three years in Student Ministry. He is passionate about pursuing Christ and feels called to serve in Student Ministry, enjoying hearing the stories of other people and students. He is also passionate about music and fitness. In his free time, Jordan likes to go to the gym, as well as take adventures with his fiancée, Steph. He loves staying active and discovering new finds in music. Jordan makes sure that everyone he encounters feels heard and cared for; these individuals his priority.

His vision for QUMC Student Ministries is to establish relationships with students, parents, the church body, and the community. Jordan wants to see a community of believers reach the unchurched generation. He believes in “trickle down” mentorship, where each generation pours into the next and sees ministry as a partnership with those already raising up this generation. Jordan is very excited to cast a vision for the church with Pastor Robinson.



From Missions Commission

FEAST Food Pantry items for the month of March: peanut butter and jelly or jam.

Easter Dinner for Jerusalem House and community. We will again be collecting hams and non-perishable side dishes to share Easter dinner with our neighbors in inner city Allentown. Please bring everything in to the church kitchen by March 26. Thank you.

Easter Eggs for sale. Missions will be making peanut butter and coconut cream Easter eggs as a fundraiser. We will be taking orders in the narthex on March 4 and March 11. They will be ready for pick-up on March 25.



Jammies for Jesus



88 pairs of pajamas were donated for Jammies for Jesus, along with 61 books. Thank you to all who participated. The pajama party was a huge success! Thank you to all who contributed and volunteered. A special thank you to Elaine Aber for making the crafts and to the Praise Band for playing and leading the children in song.



Church Directory

Updated directories will be available later this month. You can also check the church's email. Contact Liz Cole (215.536.2046) for a printed copy at \$5 to cover printing costs.

Keeping in Touch



Thanks to all who sent cards and letters to our members in the military. An updated list is on the table at the office. It will be kept up-to-date as much as possible. Send cards and letters only, please.

What should you share? Any military experiences of your own, news from QUMC or Quakertown, etc. Don't expect them to write back, as they may not have time.



Spring Ahead!

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 11. Turn your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.



Altar Flowers

Sponsoring altar flowers for Sunday services is a way to remember a loved one, honor someone special, or celebrate a birthday or special event. Sign up in the entryway of the church to beautify the church in this way. Cost is \$38 for two altar vases of flowers. Sponsors are welcome to take their flowers home following the conclusion of the 11:00 a.m. service.

Soup Sale



The UMW (United Methodist Women) is selling homemade soup the weekend of March 9-11. Please order by March 5. Vegetable beef, chicken noodle, chicken rice and potato corn chowder. \$6.00 a quart.



Girl Scouts

The Girl Scout troops that meet in our building will attend, and sing at, our 9:00 service on Girl Scouts Sunday, March 11. They will serve refreshments following the service.

Fun & Games



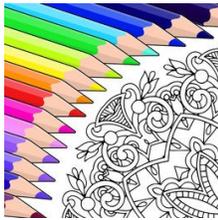
Family Game Night, Saturday, March 10, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Come and go as you can; you don't need to stay the whole time. Bring your favorite game and a dessert or snack to share. There will be group games and foursomes. Sign up in the narthex. Contact Steve or Janet Finch with questions (215.538.0835).



Tools for Ministry



The North District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church will host Tools for Ministry Training, Saturday, March 10, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at First UMC of Schuylkill Haven. Based on Luke 10:25-37, the topic will be “To Whom Am I A Neighbor,” joining us to look for the Good Samaritan in each of us. For more information, contact the district office at 610.395.6661.



Color Your World

UMW Program, Tuesday, March 13, 7:00 p.m., Miller Hall. All women of the church are invited. Continuing our theme of Prayer, we are focusing on the benefits of praying and coloring. Come out for a fun and inspirational night. Any questions? See Janet Finch or Gail Schadler.

Catch Some Hoops!



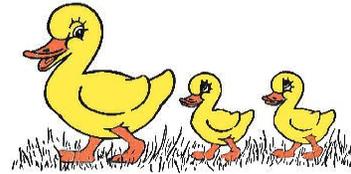
United Methodist Night with the Philadelphia 76ers, Wednesday, March 28, 7:00 p.m. Enjoy fellowship while watching the 76ers as they take on rivals the New York Knicks. Good seats are available for \$36 and \$45. A portion of ticket sales will support ministries of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference United Methodist Men. Pre-game access is included so you can enjoy watching the warm-up! Those attending will receive a free 76ers drawstring bag. To purchase tickets, go to <https://groupmatics.events/event/UM76ers>.

Safe Families for Children is a community-wide ministry and now is the time to get involved. A Team Development and Training Event will be held at First United Church of Christ (151 South 4th Street, Quakertown), Saturday, March 10, 9:00 a.m. At this event, you will learn about the volunteer roles needed; host families, family friends, family coaches, drivers, babysitters, meal prep, donors, and more. You will learn what your role can be, what training you will need, and the necessary steps to join the team. To learn more, visit the Safe Families website at www.safe-families.org.

We need an active, trained team before we can begin to offer this valuable service to our community. RSVP to First UCC (215.536.4447 or info@firstucc.net) by Monday, March 5. Contact Elaine Ely (215.915.4370) with questions.



Family Matters



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to: Dorothy Largent - March 11, Edith Lightkep - March 18,
Mary Schwer - March 28.

Correction: Birthdays listed are of members age 80 and older, not 70 as stated in the February newsletter. Please let us know if you should be included, but haven't been.

A NOTE OF THANKS:

"A huge thank you to the congregation for making the Middle School Class' pretzel sale a giant success! We raised \$191 for our mission project of school lunches."

Janet Finch



A LOOK *at the* BUDGET

Revenues through the end of January 2018 - \$33,265.99*

Expenditures through the end of January 2018 - \$21,242.74

Important Notes:

1. *The revenue figures for January include a \$10,823.19 carryover from 2017.
2. We are reaching to the congregation to request your prayers and contributions as our church has added the new assistant pastor. This much needed position also needs your support.
3. QUMC is currently undergoing the annual audit process.

FROM THE TRUSTEES

I would like to clarify concerns regarding the church closure on Sunday, February 18, 2018. The decision was discussed and decided upon late Saturday night by the Pastor and Trustees for the following reasons: the safety of the congregation to travel to church, as well as being financially responsible to the church. We knew the snowstorm would be bad, then melt by Sunday afternoon. That said, we thought it best to simply close church to save the monumental cost of plowing and salting of the parking lot and walkways.

As per the notice in the church bulletin, Pastor Tom contacted WFMZ for this closure. However, we neglected to change the message on the church answering machine. As we move forward, that step will be taken in the event of future cancellations.

Our apologies to anyone who was inconvenienced by the cancelling of church on that day. We simply made the best decision we could with the information we had at the time. If anyone would like to further discuss this subject, please contact me at 215.378.7773.

Thank you for your courtesy and understanding,

Jerry P. Umstead, President
Quakertown United Methodist Church Board of Trustees



March 2018

Church Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
** 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				1 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band	2	3
4 ** Miller Hall Reserved 6:00 p.m. Life Group	5 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes	6 7:00 p.m. Trustees	7 6:30 a.m. Life Group 5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	8 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band	9 9:00 a.m. UMW Soup Making 6:00 p.m. Miller Hall Reserved	10 Miller Hall Reserved 7:00 p.m. All-Church Game Night
11 ** Daylight Savings Time Begins Girl Scout Sunday 6:00 p.m. Life Group	12 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes	13 7:00 p.m. Finance, UMW Program	14 6:30 a.m. Life Group 5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	15 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band	16	17 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Conference Mission U 10:00 a.m. Ministry Fair Set-Up Begins
18 ** Ministry Fair Sunday 6:00 p.m. Life Group	19 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes 7:30 p.m. Milford-Trumbauersville Democrats	20 7:00 p.m. Church Council	21 6:30 a.m. Life Group 5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	22 9:00 a.m. Missions Easter Egg Making 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band	23 9:00 a.m. Missions Easter Egg Making	24
25 ** 6:00 p.m. Life Group	26 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts (Miller Hall & Kitchen Reserved) 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes	27	28 6:30 a.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	29 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship	30 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Worship	31