



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

January 2018

Only One



It's a new year! Many of us may be thinking: good riddance to the old one!

Quite a few people begin the year by making a list of resolutions. Alas. Many of those resolutions have been abandoned by February.

Maybe it would be better to make just one resolution. May I suggest this one: to let our light shine. Goodness knows it's a mighty dark world.

Most of us are familiar with the chorus: "This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine." In a sermon Jesus said, "...let your light shine before men (people), that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16). Notice to whom the praise is to go: to God, not to us.

Lest we think our little light won't make a difference, wait until dark with no light from any source, and then light one small candle. To which are your eyes drawn? The dark room or the candle?

Resolve to let your light shine!

M.B.S.



"Thank You Charming Gardeners"

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

"Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom."
-Marcel Proust

Over the past several weeks I have found myself so grateful and blessed by so many of you here at Quakertown UMC. My mom's passing shortly after her birthday in November, followed by pneumonia and broken ribs and who knows what else the doctors may find. It has been very stressful at this time of year dealing with all of this, but you graciously stepped up and allowed me some freedom to heal both physically and emotionally. I thank God for all of you.

We are in a new year where only God knows what each of us will be facing. The one thing I am glad we can all count on – no matter what – is one another. This has been the living out of our faith that Jesus surely envisioned when he called his first couple of folks to join with him and start a new life in him. We call it "Church" but we experience it most profoundly as "Family".

I am devoting some time in our holiday season to being in prayer for a vision of what God is guiding us to become that will define our unique identity in this area of Quakertown. Be in prayer for me as I seek God's gentle leading hand to gift us with a divine and specific purpose for serving this place where God has planted us.

Thank you all, once again, for the sympathy cards, the Christmas cards, the various gifts of appreciation you showered upon me and my family. They were all, every one of them, a sign of your caring hearts. You bless me!

In God's loving embrace of grace,

Pastor Tom 

The Sermon Series January to February 2018

January 7 – Dennis Pfeifer will deliver the message as Jane and I are taking some time off to celebrate our 35th Anniversary that weekend.

Then I will begin a series to take us up to Lent. The series is called "**Turning Points**" and we will examine some of the major turning points that occurred in Jesus' life and ministry and what they can inspire in us as we journey through our life and ministry today.

January 14 – Faith Outside the Box
(Luke 7:1-10)

January 21 – Jesus Blasphemes?
(Matthew 9:1-8)

January 28 – Jesus Can't Protect His Friends
(Matthew 14:1-13a)

February 4 – Jesus Loses a Challenge
(Matthew 15:21-28)

February 11 – TBD

February 14 – Ash Wednesday





Attention!



Middle and high school students are asked to attend Youth Group on January 14 and 21. At each meeting, you'll meet one of the candidates for the Assistant Pastor position. One of them will be your new Youth Leader. The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) would like your feedback.



Adult Sunday School

"The Other Twelve" will be the topic of the Faithbuilders class beginning Sunday, January 7, 10:00 a.m., Room 109/111. Led by Gail Schadler, the focus is on the partners of the Apostle Paul, who are almost as well known as the Twelve Apostles of Jesus. They helped spread the Gospel throughout the Roman Empire as contemporaries of the Twelve and of the Apostle Paul. How well do you know them? This class will run until the beginning of April and will include clips from the movie dramatization of the Book of Acts.

Good News



The Hospitality Table will return on Sunday, January 7.



From Missions Commission

FEAST food items for January: pasta and spaghetti sauce. Donations can be placed in the grocery cart located inside the entrance doors to the church.

Thank you to all who gave gifts for inner city children through our giving tree. Many of these children would have had no Christmas presents without these gifts.

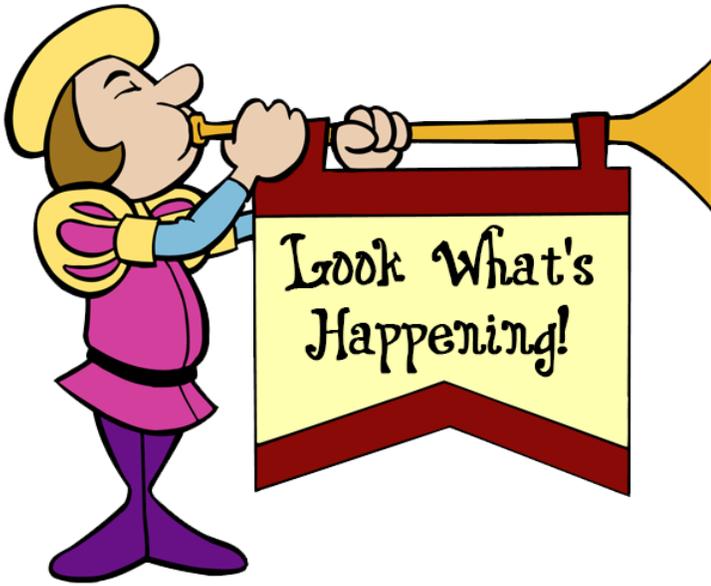


Great Job!

The Children's Christmas Pageant was held on Sunday, December 17, co-directed by Sara Gray and Babs Kerns. A job well done by the following children of the church: Roland Garges, Christopher Gray, Hope Gray, Logan Hudson, Jonathan Kerns, Thomas Kerns, Matthew McMichael, Mac Mitchell, Emily Mushrush, Kasey Mushrush, Mason Rush, Gavin Spray, Emma Tomlinson, Tara Vietmeier, Danica Young, Kennedy Young.



- The Ham Dinner served 181 meals, netting a profit of \$1,798 for mission outreach. We thank all who helped at the dinner and those who supported it in so many ways. These dinners would not be possible without your help and support. Thank you so much!
- The Fall Rummage Sale raised over \$3,100! The Friendship Circle thanks those who helped by donating items, baking, working in the kitchen, setting-up, cleaning-up, and working the days of the sale. It was a huge success due to the appreciated efforts of all. The Spring Rummage Sale will be held the week of April 15, 2018.
- Thank you to everyone who donated turkeys and side dishes for Jerusalem House and the surrounding community in Allentown for Thanksgiving Dinner.
- Many thanks to our congregation! \$1,213.29 was collected for the United Methodist Women (UMW) Thank Offering. Please pick up a jar in the narthex for next year. Again, thank you so much.



2017-2018 Faith Preschool Registration Information

It's registration time for the 2018-2019 school year for Quakertown United Methodist Church's Faith Preschool program. Celebrating 17 years of excellence in preschool programming, Faith Preschool looks forward to preparing for another school year and continuing to serve the needs of children and families in our church and community.

Priority registration will be held at the church on Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Doors will open at 6:45 p.m. (Snow date is Thursday, January 18.) Priority registration is offered to families who are members of QUMC or have children currently enrolled in Faith Preschool.

Special discounts include:

- One registration fee per family (\$35)
- Younger sibling tuition discount of 15%
- Tuition discount of 3% for annual tuition paid-in-full in August
- No activity fee
- Monthly enrichment activities provided at no additional cost

General registration to the public begins January 19.

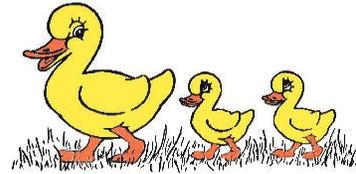
For further information, or to arrange an observational visit, please contact Erin Haslett, Registrar, at 215.536.8172 or by email at faithpreschoolofficemanager@gmail.com. Registration forms are available in the church lobby or online at www.qumc.com.

Since merging with the Parent's Time Out, Faith Preschool has enlarged its program to include classes for 2's, 3's, and 4's. Classes to be offered for the 2018-2019 school year include:

- Classes for 4's - AM & PM classes meet 3 days a week on Monday, Wednesday & Friday
- Classes for 3's - AM & PM classes meet 2 days a week on Tuesday & Thursday
- Classes for 2's - AM class meets 2 days a week on Tuesday & Thursday
AM class meets 1 day a week on Wednesday



Family Matters



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to: Richard Hillegass and Irene Hunsberger - January 4, and Grace Mohr - January 7.

NOTE OF THANKS:

“The outpouring of concern and encouragement from our friends at QUMC has been overwhelming. Your calls, visits, cards, and prayers have been most helpful and appreciated during my healing.

Please continue to support each other daily in working for God’s Kingdom.”

Thank you, Len Hurley



What? Valentine’s Party

*When? Friday, February 16, 2018
7:00 p.m.*

Where? Jerry & Debi Umstead’s House

Details to follow ♥



A LOOK *at the* BUDGET

Revenues through the end of November 2017 - \$269,006.82

Expenditures through the end of November 2017 - \$257,674.12

Important Notes

1. The 2018 church budget was approved in December of 2017 at the Church Conference. See page 8 of this newsletter for details.
2. If you have still not completed and returned your 2018 commitment card, please consider doing so. Your stewardship is important to the health of Quakertown United Methodist Church.



We Get Mail!



“Our office received your donations to assist with Hurricane Relief. My gratitude to your congregation for their generosity.

To date the district has received \$48,166 to help those in Texas, Louisiana, and Puerto Rico affected by the devastating hurricanes. Last month we sent a check of \$35,000 to UMCOR and a total of \$7,000 was hand-delivered to Methodist churches in Puerto Rico. We will continue to raise funds for the following district mission projects for 2017-2018 until June 30, 2018, dispersing these monies on a regular basis.

The Local Project: Raising \$5,000 or more for camperships for children and youth from North District churches to attend EPA UM camps. Currently we have collected \$1,917.

The National Project: Continuing to support those affected by the 2017 hurricanes. Our goal is to raise \$100,000 of which nearly one-half has been collected thus far. The forecast for some of the harder hit locations is as much as two years before living conditions will become normal again.

In light of these projects, I am insuring that your donation of \$1,076 will be used for Hurricane Relief. Again many thanks to you and the good people of Quakertown UMC.”

*Blessings,
Irving Cotto, Superintendent
The Northeast District Office*

“Peace and grace in Christ be upon you, your family, and your church.

I wish to express our deepest gratitude for your offering. Your offering has helped us alleviate the pain of our people and support the ministries and mission of our Methodist church of Puerto Rico. Hurricane Maria destroyed most parts of our island but she could not destroy our passion to serve and love the ones in need. Your help represents a gift from heaven that humbly and gratefully we receive.

*The Spaniard author Saint John of the Cross, in his work **The Dark Night of the Soul**, tells us about the adversities human beings and institutions face in our walk through life. Puerto Rico and the Methodist church of Puerto Rico have lived “the dark night of the soul,” but in this dark moment, you have been light that enlightened our lives.*

In this season, may the star that lit the manger and accompanies peace hymns illuminate your life as you enlightened ours.”

*With appreciation and esteem always,
Bishop Hector F. Ortiz Vidal
Iglesia Metodista de Puerto Rico*



Quakertown United Methodist Church 2018 Approved Budget Summary

Operating Receipts

Pledges and Contributions	306,715.74
Other Receipts	25,695.00
	332,410.74

Budgeted Expenditures

Care of God's House	
Trustees	31,531.00
Utilities	25,610.00
	57,141.00

Current Operating Expenses

Administrative Expenses	1,600.00
Finance Committee	1,726.00
Office Expenses	7,000.00
Pastoral Support	148,922.00
Personnel Expenses	69,211.74
	228,459.74

Program Expenses

Stewardship	1,100.00
Intentional Faith Development	5,000.00
Missions	36,892.00
Passionate Worship	2,043.00
Radical Hospitality	1,775.00
	46,810.00

Total Budgeted Expenditures **332,410.74**

A detailed Budget Report is available from the church office upon request.

Questions regarding the church budget should be directed to Bruce Bovard, Finance Chair.
He can be reached by email at bebovard@verizon.net or by telephone at 215.538.2222.



Elected Officers & Members for 2018 Quakertown United Methodist Church

Church Council

Function: Administrative agency of the annual Charge/Church Conference.
 Provides: Planning and implementing a program of nurture, outreach, witness, and resource.
 Composition: Chairperson, Recording Secretary, Pastor, Lay Leader, Lay Member to Annual Conference, the Treasurer, Stewardship Chair, Sunday School Superintendent, the chairperson or a representative from the following: the Board of Trustees, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, the Committee on Finance, the UM Women, and the Leadership Team leaders from Missions, Intentional Faith Development, Radical Hospitality and Worship, as well as, a Youth and a Young Adult representative.

(Note: The Church Council voted and approved a revision to the 2013 strategic plan to include in the QUMC Officiary not only the Sunday School Superintendent as a voting member, but also a representative from each of the five strategic teams as voting members, and a representative from the Lay Leadership Team.)

Chair	_____
Recording Secretary	Debbie Reynolds
Lay Leader	Dennis Pfeiger and Jeremy Wolf
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Steve Finch
Treasurer (General Fund)	Patricia Wensel
Finance Chair	Bruce Bovard
SPRC Chairperson	Pam McGovern
Board of Trustees President	Jerry Umstead
Lay Leadership (Nominations)	Pastor Tom Robinson
Sunday School Superintendent	Christine Rush
Assistant S.S. Superintendent	Mark Hudson
Youth	Amanda Tascarella
Young Adult	Graham Wilson
Youth Ministries	To be hired in January 2018
United Methodist Women	Janet Finch

Leadership Team Representatives:

Passionate Worship	_____
Missions	Carol Pertuit
Intentional Faith Development	Babs Kerns
Stewardship	Bonnie Cornelius
Radical Hospitality.....	Steve Finch & Liz Cole



Staff-Parish Relations Committee

- Function: Building strong relationships between Pastor, Staff, Congregation and the District Superintendent through encouragement, support, nurturing and respect.
- Provides: Annual staff evaluations, communication among pastor, staff, congregation, and District Superintendent.
- Composition: At least 5 members, no more than 9; must be a member, may succeed one's self one time before one must go off for at least one year before one can serve again.

2018: Pamela McGovern (Chair), William Scott,
2019: Dave Reynolds (Vice Chair), Bill Tascarella, Adele Winkler
2020: Gale Hewitt, Jen Bubser, Jeff James

Additionally, **Lay Leader** and **Lay Member** are on the **SPRC**

Lay Leadership (Nominations)

- Function: Responsible for recruiting, training and deploying leaders among the laity.
- Provides: Staffing of lay Servant-Disciples to Teams and Committees
- Composition: No more than 9; all must be a full members, and must go off after 3-year term for at least one year before one can serve again. The pastor is chairperson by *Book of Discipline*.

2018: Allison Ghorm, Gail Schadler
2019: Doug Wilson, Donna Ames, Jane Korpics
2020: Maggie Chambers, Betsy Steen, Jim Purcell

Additionally, **Lay Leader** and **Lay Member** are on the on this committee

Board of Trustees

- Function: To be responsible for all physical property of the local church
- Provides: Building maintenance, service contracts.
- Composition: At least 3 members, no more than 9; 2/3 of committee must be members, at least 1/3 must be women, and members may succeed themselves without limitations.

2018: Nathan Kreischer, Dianne Scott, Jerry Umstead (President)
2019: Chris Aber, Laura Lillie (Treasurer), Nancy Tirjan
2020: Diana Regan (Secretary), Frank Savage, _____

“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”
Colossians 3:17



January 2018

Church Activity Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 	2 7:00 p.m. Trustees, Missions	3 6:30 a.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	4 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band, Hospitality Team	5	6
7 ** 6:00 p.m. Life Group	8 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes	9 7:00 p.m. Finance	10 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	11 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band, Faith Preschool Registration, Hospitality Team	12	13
14 ** 6:00 p.m. Life Group, Youth Group	15 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes Barbara Hafler Vacation →	16 7:00 p.m. Leadership Team	17 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	18 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band	19	20 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Plain & Fancy 9:00 a.m. UMW Mission U
21 ** 6:00 p.m. Life Group, Youth Group	22 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes	23	24 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	25 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Praise Band	26	27
28 ** 6:00 p.m. Life Group	29 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes	30	31 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	** 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		