

Quakertown United Methodist Church

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Visit our website at www.qumc.com

Share Christ Grow in Christ Serve Christ

Summer 2018



Passing the Baton

What do you think of when you see relay runners passing the baton in the race? Do you consider the one runner that crosses the finish line to be the winner of the race? Or is it the relay team that works together to achieve this common goal?

The moment that the baton is passed between two runners on a team - that split second when they both have a hand on the baton - is the most likely time when the baton can be dropped. It does not matter whether one of the runners is faster than the other. In order to successfully pass the baton they have to be in perfect sync, running together in perfect time at the moment of the handoff, no matter how fast or slow they run during the rest of their leg of the race. This is no easy task. It's the relationship between the two that matters more than their speed or running ability.

Paul understood the importance of passing his message for the people to whom he ministered, in running alongside them, no matter what their background or belief. In 1 Corinthians 9:19, Paul states "For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all." Paul is not preaching down to people, but walking alongside them, offering his life and his faith as examples of the gospel. There was no hierarchy of leadership among Christ's disciples. There was only Christ and those who followed Christ. The baton is the message of life and hope that we have in Christ that we are actually commissioned by Christ to pass along.

Let us walk alongside our fellow Christians and "feed each other" – to pass on everything that we can about our faith and to give others the opportunity to do the same. We all are given different gifts but no one gift is more valuable than any other. We are all to use our gifts as followers of Christ to build up the body of the church. There's a place for all of us in the race to make disciples.

Let's celebrate what God has done and continues to do for us, and then use all our diverse God-given talents and abilities, our gifts, to make sure that the baton we've been given to make disciples of Jesus Christ - gets passed safely from our hands to the others who will keep running the race until the day of Jesus' return. Let our success be judged by how well we all keep pace with and support each other in Christian love during every moment of our personal "race."

Excerpts taken from a 2018 Laity Academy planning team devotion presented by Brenda Binns

"Summertime... and the livin' is easy"

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



Summertime...and the livin is easy...at least that is how the old Gershwin tune starts out. I am not sure that the livin' is ever easy for all of us, but at least in the summertime some of it is different. Kids are home from school, vacations are scheduled, the sun is hot and the ocean waters are warmer. Church is a little different with many families coming and going with summer activities. Vacation Bible School has come and gone, each evening with QUMC hosting a church full of kids and adult and youth leaders. God is good!

During the warm, and often downright hot, days of summer, make sure that spiritual activities are part of your plans.

- 1. Along with your other summer reading, include a book with spiritual emphasis. Our church library is a great resource for such reading material!
- 2. While at the beach or other vacation spot, take a "prayer walk." As you walk, pray for people that you pass on your way, families in the homes you pass, or for others back at home in need of prayer.
- 3. Going on a long car trip? Play a game of reviewing the order of the books of the Bible. Make up a song to help you remember them.
- 4. When out of town, plan your own worship time for Sunday morning including a time of singing, prayer, Bible reading, and reflection. Better yet, visit a church at your vacation destination for worship!
- 5. Try a new artistic medium with a spiritual theme. Experiment with paint and a canvas or write a poem or devotional. String your own prayer beads or knit or crochet a prayer shawl or lap robe for a shut-in.
- 6. Write a letter to a friend you have not seen in a long time. Seek to encourage them in their faith journey.
- 7. Use the months of July and August to establish a new spiritual discipline. Extend your prayer time, memorize a verse of scripture, try a new form of prayer, or carry out a new act of service.

Enjoy all that summer has to offer as a time of rest and rejuvenation. If you are in town and not away on a Sunday, don't miss out on air-conditioned worship here at QUMC! I look forward to seeing you.

Pestar Tongi





This summer we are journeying through Galatians 5:16-24. We have been promised a life renewed by the Spirit! If we are living in the Spirit, then we can reap a lot of fruit in one harvest! Whereas the deeds of the flesh are the daily sins and temptation that we need to say "No" to. Which we can BECAUSE of the Spirit!

The Spirit is from God Himself! Every Sunday we will be encountering a new piece of the Fruit of the Spirit. So far we have covered Love and Joy! Ask your student if they remember what Ahava and Agape are!

Student Ministries had over 20 students assist in our Vacation Bible School Outreach week! We were in the classroom teaching Bible stories, assisting with the "crew" as leaders for the kids, and even helping out in game time. Each night some of our students were able to come before VBS to spend time in prayer and do a devotional that taught us missions is in every part of our life, not just poverty ridden areas. Missions can be in the activities we like to do and the family and friends we interact with.

"The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions.

The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become."

-Henry Martyn, Missionary to India

Our outreach effort was to two local camps, Camp Men-O-Lan and Camp Innabah. We raised \$1,267.57 in five days to assist with camper scholarships throughout the summer! If your student is interested in attending a camp this summer Men-O-Lan and Innabah are super local and a lot of fun!

VBS Outreach Week





Student Ministries is launching a shoe collection drive beginning July 1 to benefit youth programs! We are partnering with Funds2Orgs, an organization that collects shoes through these drives and then teaches those in poverty-ridden countries to open up small businesses to rise them out of poverty as micro-entrepreneurs. We are taking any type of shoe, for any age and gender but can only accept gently-used or new shoes. If you are not sure if your shoe is "gently used"... are there tears in the material? Would you lend them to a friend? Remember, these shoes are going to be resold by these small businesses. Our goal is get 100 bags filled by July 31 with 25 pairs per bag! Shoes can be dropped up at the church. Please note the number of pairs you are donating on the bag. We have already filled our first bag, so only 99 bags to go! You can also help by spreading the word to your friends and neighbors.

Redner's Receipts Help Our Student Ministries



Keep saving those Redner's receipts!

During the month of June, the church submitted \$36,973.53 worth of Redner's receipts on behalf of Student Ministries. What does that mean? This means a check for \$369.73 will come back to Student Ministries for use towards programming and activities for our young people. Remember to use your Redner's card when you purchase groceries in order for our church to be eligible for the Save-A-Tape program. As you can see, it really adds up!

Thank you for your continued support of this fundraising effort of Student Ministries and QUMC.





From Missions Commission

<u>FEAST Food Pantry</u> items for the month of:

July - juice and juice boxes August - peanut butter, jam, or jelly

Volunteer in Mission Team Leader Training

Saturday, July 14, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., West Lawn UMC, Reading

School Supplies Drive

During the month of August, we will again be collecting school supplies to share with the Quakertown area, Kensington area, and Jerusalem House in Allentown. There will be an insert in the bulletin during the month of August with a list of what is needed.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Give the Gift of Life! QUMC will be hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive in Miller Hall, Friday, August 10, 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex in the upcoming weeks.

Annual Chicken Barbecue

Saturday, September 8, 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$4 for children ages four to ten. There will be many opportunities to help. Look for sign-ups in the bulletin during the month of August.

For information on any of these events, contact Carol Pertuit (610.346.6713 or carolpertuit@verizon.net).

Vacation Bible School



A BIG THANK YOU to all those who donated their time, talent and funds to make this week possible This is such an important ministry for our church and would not be possible without our volunteers!

Watch for a full recap of this AMAZING week in the September newsletter!

Looking for ways you can help?



New Coordinator Needed

A coordinator is needed for the pictorial directory. The photographer, recorder, and copier are already in place. The coordinator is responsible to set up photos of new members, occasionally update photos, and submit changes, such as removals and data changes, to the recorder.

If interested, contact Liz Cole (215-536-2046.)

Worship Greeting Coordinator and Greeters Still Needed

The 9:00 service is still in need of a Worship Greeting Coordinator and Greeters. There are a couple of ways you can help.

- 1. We need volunteers who are willing to contact members to fill in the weekly greeters schedule.
- 2. We need volunteers to sign up and greet people for a couple of dates during the year.

If you are interested in participating in the church in some way, but have limited time and availability, this is a great opportunity.

Please contact the church office to provide your contact information to the Hospitality Committee. Thank you.

Volunteers Needed

The September 8th Chicken Barbecue is in need of volunteers. Look for sign-ups during month of August.

The 35th Laity Academy

QUMC will be hosting this year's Eastern Conference Laity Academy from August 3-5. The theme is 'Pass It On – Spreading God's Word Through Action!" Volunteers will be needed to act as hosts to our guests in providing information and serving refreshments. Contact Pastor Tom if you can be of assistance for this event.



For Your Information

RightNow MEDIA is here!

Our church now has free access to a Bible Study Library with over 18,000 discipleship videos for kids, youth and adults. There are resources for all ages and all family members are invited to set up their own accounts to access content on parenting, marriage, discipleship and more.

It is as easy as 1,2,3!

- Receive your invitation email to register for RightNow MEDIA
- Click the "get started" button in the email
- Create your profile, then explore!

Get started today!

Adult Christian Education Class

The Women's Class will be joining the Faithbuilders Class for the study of the Apocrypha.

On Rally Day in September 2018, join Gail Schadler in Room 109/111 as she begins the class "The Apocrypha: Witness in the Period Between the Testaments." Find out what's in the Apocrypha, why we should read it, and the contribution these Jewish writings have had to the formulation of central Christian doctrines, to the perseverance of our forebears in the faith who endured torture and death, and to the ethical formation of the people of God. This class will run from September through November.

Pictorial Directories

Updated directories are available in hard copy for a cost of \$5 to cover the cost of printing. Contact Liz Cole (215-536-2046) if you are interested in a copy.

If you have items for the monthly newsletter you can email them to Editor Teddi Miller (teddimiller@gmail.com) or you can put them in the Newsletter Editor mailbox in the church office. To assure your items are published in the next newsletter, please see that information is submitted to Teddi by the 15th of the month prior to the publishing month. Thank you!

Family Matters



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July Birthdays Dorothy Williams - July 10

August Birthdays Mary Stahr - August 15, Harry Stotsenburg - August 15, Wesley Dietz - August 15

Happy Birthday x 3!

If you are 80 years old (or over) and would like your birthday included in the newsletter, please let the church office know. Many thanks!

Special Awards and Scholarships going out to our 2018 graduates

Nicholas Stout American Chemical Society Certificate; Quakertown Band Instrumental Music Award;

The BSA Troop 55 Citizenship Award

Grey Mitchell Pennridge-Quakertown Hall of Fame "Most Courageous Athlete Award"

Elizabeth Aber Quakertown Music Promoters Organization Spirit Award;

Peggy Kilpatrick Theatrical Arts Club

Congratulations to all!

College and University Graduates Class of 2018

Oops...we missed this one in last month's newsletter. Congratulations Adam!

Adam Whittaker, Kutztown Unviersity, Computer Science/Information Technology

Notes of Thanks

We felt the love and blessings of your support and prayers. Words aren't adequate to express our gratitude to help us anchor our hearts in God. A prayer that was copied that we would like to share:

Let the living Christ go with you.

Let him go before you,

To show you the way;

Behind you, to encourage you;

Beside you, to befriend you;

Above you, to watch over you; and

Within you to give you peace.

Margie Stotsenburg & Family

Many thanks to my church family for the cards, phone calls, visits and especially the prayers during my recent hospitalization. A special thanks to Janet Finch for all the transportation needs and the beautiful prayer shawl. I am truly blessed!

In Jesus' name, Liz Cole



Faith Preschool Registration Still Open for 2018-2019 School Year

Don't miss the opportunity this summer to register your preschooler for Faith Preschool for the 2018-2019 school year. Faith Preschool offers a variety of classes for 2's, 3's, and 4's, which include numerous enrichment activities such as "Stretch-n-Grow," Lunch Bunch, music classes, and summer camp.

For additional information and/or to schedule a tour, please contact Registrar, Erin Haslett at 215-536-8172 or by email at <u>faithpreschoolofficemanager@gmail.com</u>. Registration forms and detailed program information may be found in the church narthex or at <u>www.qumc.com</u>.

Importantly, Faith Preschool offers a number of special discounts to make the cost of its quality preschool programming more affordable:

- 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 fees
- *NEW* Generous recruitment incentive for current Faith Preschool families

Revenues Expenditures
May 2018 \$22,284.71 \$21,297.77
Year to Date 2018 \$122,893.88 \$123,853.66

Notes:

- 1. Please remember to send in your offerings/envelopes during the summer while you are on vacation.
- 2. Keep the church and the various ministries that we support in your prayers.



The Conference Reporter

by Steve Finch



Members of the 2018 Eastern PA Annual Conference, met June 14-16 in Oaks, PA. We passed a number of resolutions in the case for justice. Other topics discussed were unpaid apportionments, exploiting protected Native American sacred sites on National monuments (2 million acres). Domestic and gun violence, and the #metoo movement as it pertains to our UMC churches also had resolutions passed. There was a last minute resolution on the latest separation of parents and children in "zero tolerance".

This was my first time representing QUMC as the Lay Delegate and I was fascinated by the process.

There are also standard resolutions that must pass each year concerning pastoral salary minimums, housing allowances and other administrative matters.

I ran into pastors who have served us previously. David Ryan, Nancy and Jack Ross, Russell Atkinson. Ron Waite's back issues did not allow him to attend. I even saw Andy Rozek (he and Beth were past members in the 1990's). I also made some new friends from close to home.

It was a treat to see Brad and Jen Leight and Gavin and Darcy. Brad was ordained as an Elder at the service on Friday night. Our missionary Becky Parsons was "commissioned" in the same service to go forth in her new mission position in the North East Jurisdiction. She moved from Roanoke to Philadelphia and has visited us on 3 Sunday services.

In other conference action, members approved unanimously a resolution (#26) calling for a special offering to aid the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico in its long, painstaking recovery from 2017's devastating Hurricane Maria. The Rev. Nicholas Camacho, who heads the conference's *Helping Puerto Rico Rise Again* campaign, proposed that churches receive a special love offering on Sunday, Sept. 16, 2018, the first Sunday of the annual National Hispanic/Latino Heritage Month (Sept. 15 to Oct. 15).

I have a more detailed report and will make it available at the table by the front door later in July. Also, a <u>full video recording</u> of the livestreamed event will be posted on the website in July. https://www.epaumc.org/annual-conference/. Text copies are available there too.



July 2018 Church Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ** 6:00 p.m. Student Ministries	Pastor Tom Vacation	3 7:00 p.m. Missions	happy Ath	5	6	7 Miller Hall Reserved
8 ** 6:00 p.m. Student Ministries Pool Drop-In at the Scott's House	9	10 7:00 p.m. Finance	11	12 Pastor Jordan Vacation	13	14 Miller Hall Reserved 8:30 a.m. VIM Team Leader Training in Reading
15 ** 6:00 p.m. Student Ministries Pool Drop-In at the Mitchell's House	16 7:30 p.m. Milford- Trumbauersville Democrats	17 7:00 p.m. Leadership	18 10:00 a.m. Quakertown Area Youth Pastor Meeting	19	20	21 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast Miller Hall Reserved
22 ** 6:00 p.m. Student Ministries	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 ** Miller Hall Reserved 6:00 p.m. Student Ministries Pool Drop-In at the DeSimone's	30 7:00 p.m. Worship	31		** 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		

August 2018 Church Activity Calendar



Sund	ay	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 Laity Academy Event	2	3	4	
5 ** 6:00 p.m. Student Ministries	•	6	7 7:00 p.m. Missions	8	9	10 2:00 p.m. Blood Drive	11
12 ** 6:00 p.m. Student Ministries		13	14 7:00 p.m. Finance	15	16	17 Pastor Jordan Vacation	18 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast 9:00 a.m. North District UMW
19 **	•	20 10:00 a.m. Kitchen Reserved 7:30 p.m. Milford- Trumbauersville Democrats	21 UMW Picnic at Highland Park 10:00 a.m. Miller Hall Reserved 7:00 p.m. Leadership	22	23	24	25
26 ** 6:00 p.m. Student Ministries Summer Wrap-Up		27	28	29 5:00 p.m. Faith Preschool Ice Cream Social	30	31	