The Freier Flyer

Quakertown United Methodist Church

1875 Freier Road, Quakertown, PA 18951

May 2021

www.qumc.com



Dear Me...You Matter

Sometimes it just happens; we get stuck in a rut. We may lose ourselves in the stresses of everyday life or get stuck in a mundane routine – making meals, cleaning house, taking care of everyone else... and doing it all over again tomorrow. Even picking up the phone when a friend calls can feel like hard work when we're burned out. Feeling drained these days? Let's allow the light of God's Word to chase those feelings away.

Remember who you are:

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them <u>Genesis 1:27 NIV</u> You may have read it a thousand times, but it's still as true today as it was when you first realized: You are made in the image of God. The Creator of this universe had the idea of you. There was a time when you did not exist, and then suddenly, you were given a part in this glorious story that's unfolding on Earth. And even when it feels like an ordinary day, just remember it is anything but. Every day matters infinitely -- every word, every choice, every breath, every connection we make. When you catch your reflection somewhere, let it be a reminder of who you are and why you're here.

Remember whose you are:

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! $\underline{1 \; John \; 3:1} \\ \underline{NIV}$

You're not just His creation; you're His child! Every morning when you wake up, you're being lavished with your Father's love. In fact, there are countless ways God loves us through the day, and whether we realize it or not, we're choosing our response. It's so easy to take things for granted when we're used to having them -- the colors of the sunrise, the food and water we're blessed with, the smile of a stranger, the voice of someone we love, the sparkle of the snow or sound of the rain. It doesn't always take something big to pull us out of a funk; sometimes it's as simple as slowing down long enough to notice all the little details of His love, and responding with grateful hearts.

Remember how you shine:

He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. <u>Philippians 1:6 NIV</u>

When we said "yes" to Christ, a beautiful work began in us, and every day after (whether we're aware of it or not) that good work has continued. No matter the circumstances, how we feel, or what we can understand

today, we carry His purpose within us like a brilliant diamond. The question is, will we let that purpose shine through our daily lives to bring meaning into all we do? Or will we allow it to remain buried and continue on with business as usual, wondering why we feel like we're just going through the motions? The choice is ours today, and every day.

So let's lean into God's presence and receive the joy, peace and purpose that is only found in Christ Jesus. As His Word refreshes our souls and His love fills our hearts, we'll be reminded once again of how infinitely precious each of us are to him in our own unique way.

> Article by Paige Dayspring Living Your Faith

Update on Worship Services

Sunday April 18 marked an exciting time for all of us at Quakertown United Methodist Church! Church Council made some important decisions impacting our church as we move forward and (hopefully) through this time of COVID-19. At the center of conversations was finding a way to get us back together into our beautiful church building for worship.

Over the past year, we have worked to balance the safety and welfare of our church family with our united desire to return to a more normal worship setting. After reviewing the protocols initially established to navigate the threat of COVID-19, Church Council determined it was time for our church to officially return to in-person worship beginning on Sunday, April 18th. Beginning that day, we are happy to offer 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. in-person worship in the sanctuary for up to 100 people, as well as 9:00 a.m. outdoor parking lot worship. 11:00 a.m. worship continues to be livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube.

Those attending in-person worship are asked to practice social distancing and to wear a mask.

We thank the members, friends, and guests of QUMC for your prayers and support during this difficult time of the pandemic. We all look forward to being together again and to seeing each other in person. Please join us when you feel ready to return to church!

Church Council of Quakertown United Methodist Church Pat King, Chair

As we return to in-person worship, please help to keep everyone safe by adhering to the following guidelines:

- While indoors, wear a mask at all times
- Maintain social distancing by:
 - Sitting on one side of the pew where a banded book is located
 - Sitting with no one directly in front of you
 - Sitting with only family members in the same pew
- Feel free to hum along with hymns (do not sing)
- Responsive readings should be silent; you may reflect on the words or simply repeat them in silence
- Socialize outside of the church, not in the sanctuary or narthex. This is not only due to social distancing, but also because the 11 AM service is recorded in its entirety (including the postlude).



The Pastor's Palette "On God's Vineyard"

The metaphor of the vineyard is prominent in scripture. We hear a lot about the vine and branches, about sweet and sour grapes. But seldom do we talk about the "vineyard we did not plant." But that's exactly the metaphor Joshua uses before having people agree to the covenant with God at Shechem. He wants to make sure they understand what that covenant truly means in terms of God's expectations and mission.

At Shechem, we see God bringing His people into a place inhabited by idol worshipers, people who are not people of YHWH. God brings Israel repeatedly throughout scripture in fact into new places in which to put down roots and make new homes. The "Promised Land" is not the land of promise only for its fertility, but because it will become the "land of people who worship YHWH!"

But part of that depends upon them (and us) keeping their (our) end of the contract – or the covenant. The covenant is probably the most prominent metaphor in all of scripture and one that ties many other metaphors to it.

When we agree to contract with God, we take on responsibilities for working on God's Vineyard, on God's terms, and for God's benefit. Read the small print!

Our job is caring for God's vineyard. It's not ours! We are the caretakers. We "till and keep" the covenant there! We live out the covenant there! We image the covenant there for others!

The issue of ownership in our culture and in our churches has in some sense warped our understanding of what it means to "go to God's mission fields" wherever God determines on God's Vineyard to a field that needs restoring! A mission field is seldom "our field" at the outset. It's a foreign one. It's a pagan one. It may be an atheist one. It is a field we did not plant!

Of course, it is easier to "plant" a new church in our own way or enter into a new and unoccupied field rather than to nurture back to life an unfamiliar vineyard we did not plant or to reimagine a field that is already built to someone else's design! Of course, it is easier to care for the little vineyard we have invested in, the vineyard we know, rather than to go out into the larger vineyards we are not familiar with and to create something from them. But God calls us most often to those very vineyards!

Caring for God's vineyard means caring for the ones that are overgrown, dying, or strangled with weeds. And it may mean too caring for vineyards that have roots in other places, systems, gods, or agendas –and growing love of God amidst it, so that our long roots begin to yield a different kind of fruit.

In the scripture in Joshua, Joshua challenges God's people: "Choose whom you will serve!" The issue of serving is a given! If we are not serving God's mission, then we are serving our own, or someone else's. Being in mission in God's Vineyard means we are not in control. It also means that we work beside some who have been in the Church many years, and others who are new disciples of Jesus. Some are seasoned. Some are newbies. Some are just learning about Him. Together, we make a team of builders, carpenters, dreamers, lovers of God's people.

In a sense, we are story-builders and identity remodelers for God. Re-telling God's Story of the Vineyard means we remember that we do not earn, do not deserve, do not control, do not negotiate for God's extravagant grace and favor. This is God's gift for being part of a covenant with God. And that covenant reminds us of our place in God's world.

It's easy to turn from God toward idols. They may not be the ones from the pagan traditions of old. But when we put our greatest value on a rug, or a building, or traditions, or even on ourselves, then even the church can become an idol instead of the saving vehicle of God's mercy.

Gratitude steers us to our rightful position as "servant" to God's position of owner and master. When it comes to the vineyard or its renewal, it's not about what we build, it's about what God gives. God is always the Master Designer.

What is your church's true mission? True mission statement? It is where you put your time, money, and thoughts, the purpose of your heart.

At Shechem, the valley between the mountains of Ebal and Gerizim, a stone was set up as an altar under the oak of Moreh to witness to the agreement between God and God's people. Our altar too must be placed not just in our "own" church, but we must build an altar in the world with our ministry and our mission to witness to our commitment to God's covenant and mission.

To be a follower of Jesus, to pledge to that relationship, that covenant, that binding contract, is to accept God's mission to serve in the Vineyard, to reimagine the world in God's image, and to live Jesus' Way, Truth, and Life in the midst of a foreign people, so that they too may be drawn to the Light of the Savior of All.

Dr. Lori Wagner

Please note that Pastor Lori Wagner will continue to serve our church until July 1. Pastor Lori's last Sunday with us is Pentecost Sunday, May 23. The pastor will be on vacation time May 30, June 6, June 13, and June 20. June 27 is Transition Sunday (all transitioning pastors do not preach that week.)

Come out to hear the meaningful messages of our wonderful line-up of guest speakers and help to make them feel welcome. All safety precautions will be in place.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Message</u>
May 30	Rev. Dr. Thomas Robinson	"Peace is Within Your Grasp"
June 6	Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm,	"Welcome to the Family"
	Director of Connectional Ministries,	
	Former DS of the South District	
June 13	Ms. Lela Hartranft	"Run the Race and Win the Prize"
	Retired North District Lay Speaker	
*June 20	Rev. Evelyn Kent Clark	To Be Announced
	DS of the South District	
June 27	Rev. Steve Morton	To Be Announced
	DS of the North District	

*9:00 a.m. Parking Lot Worship and 11:00 a.m. Livestream Worship only. There will be no in-sanctuary worship



COVID~19 Update

Check your email or USPS mail to keep updated about COVID-19 updates in regard to the church.

The Church Secretary will continue her daily check-in for mail and will continue to utilize the church office as needed. Otherwise, she will be working remotely from home. The Financial Secretaries will continue to count weekly offerings, the Pastor will occasionally stop in, and the Sexton will continue to clean the building.

All meetings and groups must meet online. If you need a ZOOM link for such purposes, contact the Church Secretary (<u>barb@qumc.com</u> or 215.538.7817).



QUMC Spring Breakfast Postponed

The tentative QUMC Spring Breakfast was discussed and it was decided it would be more appropriate to postpone the event until the summer. Rescheduling this event will allow church committees time to plan and prepare. In addition, the weather should be warmer and more predictable for outdoor socializing by summer and we can use this event as an opportunity to welcome Pastor Rick and his family.

The breakfast will afford members an opportunity to reunite with familiar faces, meet new people, and return to an atmosphere of fellowship. After a summer date is established, we will share information via emails, the monthly newsletter, and weekly bulletins.

Tools for Ministry Challenge

The Youth Mental Health Check-In Challenge is going on now, May 3 through May 23. The Challenge is designed to provide the space for you to choose a variety of individual healthy practices coupled with team support and encouragement. This Challenge is designed for those in grade six and up.

To begin the journey and build your personal mental health toolbox, click on this link **toolsforhealthyminds.com**

North District Night with the Iron Pigs

Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs vs. Rochester Red Wings, Friday, June 11, 7:05 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 (\$11 plus \$1 for District Mission Project (Camperships for Pocono Plateau). Each ticket includes a \$2 voucher for food at the stadium. Purchase tickets for a night of baseball, fun and fellowship at <u>https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Fvi797mIp_s9q1uEkQxvuCIOWAHU3Ig1/view?usp=sharing</u>

May Children's Message: Crazy Quilt



Maybe you have heard of a crazy quilt or maybe someone in your family has one. Crazy quilts are blankets made from leftover scraps. Often the scrap pieces in the quilt are different sizes; often they don't match; and usually they are sewn together with no special pattern or design in mind. I own some crazy quilt *covers* that were never finished – they were never given a bottom sheet, and so I can't really use them as blankets. They are old and some are falling apart. If I want to keep them and finish them, I have to give them a little tender loving care. I hold onto them – they are beautiful to me in their own way because the material and patterns tell stories. My great grandmother sewed together pieces of colorful feed sacks she got from the local mill where she bought her flour. My grandmother worked in a shirt factory and brought home scraps of material left over from the shirts she was working on at the time; she would cut the scraps into squares and make a shirt quilt.

Our lives are kind of like these quilts – they are made from our different experiences, our many friendships, and all the places we visited. Some pieces don't always make sense to us at first – like this past year when we wore masks and had to school at home - or if we moved to a new neighborhood or if we lost someone or something very dear to us. But God somehow helps us fit all the different pieces of our lives together to make something beautiful with them. You are just beginning to collect the pieces of your life quilt.

Our church quilt has a special story to tell, too. QUMC's members, pastors and helpers, past and present; its Sunday School, Mission projects, special events, barbecues and picnics, and Christmas pageants; its recipe books and records – each one is a piece of Quakertown United Methodist Church's quilt. And every one of us, from young to old, has a special responsibility to keep our church quilt stitched together and in good shape.

Enjoy the warm May weather,

Mrs. Molly Minarik



Come out and join our youth for some fun, fellowship, and exploring our faith!

If you have any questions about Confirmation or Youth Group, contact Pastor Kathryn (kathrynswan19@gmail.com or 610-348-2632).

It's hard to believe spring is finally here to stay! While the youth have been busy with school and sports this season, confirmation is still going strong. The Confirmation Class meets Thursdays on ZOOM. We decided the kids will get confirmed sometime this summer or fall and are trying to plan a Confirmation Retreat for May or June. Ultimately, we would like to hold off confirmation until we are able to do a few more activities and field trips. I encourage everyone to keep the confirmation kids and mentors in prayer and to send notes of encouragement. Ken, Cristin, Jeff and Sharon have been wonderful mentors to our kids! I want to give a huge shout-out and thanks to everyone who has been involved with the youth so far in our journey.

<u>Youth Car Wash</u> - May (date to be announced). Youth will host a car wash at QUMC and will collect items for Lily's Hope, which provides supplies for families of premature babies. Items we will be collecting include baby laundry detergent, Chapstick, wipes, preemie diapers, cleaning wipes and blankets (for babies or adults). Watch your email for more information.

Trip to the Iron Pigs – Sunday, June 13. The youth will be going to the Iron Pigs game!

<u>Library Project</u> - The youth will start collecting books for our little library project once school winds down. The plan is for youth to build a "Take-a-Book, Leave-a-Book" library. The youth got Trustee approval to put this little library somewhere on the church property and the youth will maintain it! We are looking for ANY books, "appropriate" for all ages. Children's books, Biblical books, fiction and non-fiction...all are welcome! Books can get dropped off at Pastor Kathryn's office or you can contact her with questions. See the link below to see an example of what the youth will be doing. The youth voted for this little library to be in the shape of a church. Any donations of books, supplies, or cash (to help build this project) would be greatly welcomed. Here is the link: <u>https://littlefreelibrary.org/</u>



Are you a middle school or high school girl? Well, Pastor Kathryn hopes you like Panera because once a month the youth girls meet at Panera in Quakertown! This is a time for fellowship and fun. Growing up can be hard, but this is a safe zone! We chit-chat, laugh, tell stories, and just enjoy each other's company while building friendships.

Our next gathering is Friday, May 28, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Summer dates coming soon.



March 2021 Youth Group Snow Tubing Trip



Middle School & High School Monthly Panera Get-Together

In the Spotlight

Confirmand Matthew McMichael & Mentor Ken Ghorm

Matthew is an almost 13-year-old, video-game-loving, baseball-playing kid who lives with his parents and two cats in Quakertown. He has been attending QUMC since he was three years old and graduated from the Faith Preschool program. His favorite thing about confirmation is seeing his friends and learning about the Bible. When he was four, Matthew heard Mr. Ghorm sing for the first time. He turned and said "Mommy, is that Jesus?" Since then, they've always had a great bond. Matthew loves how long he and Mr. Ghorm have known each other and treasures all the memories they share of long days prepping for VBS!

Ken says it has been a great pleasure to be a member of QUMC since the late 90's. He and his wife, Allison, live in Allentown and have raised three children who were all confirmed at QUMC. Ken enjoys singing in the choir and was once a long-standing member of the contemporary music group that performed at the 9:00 a.m. service. Ken would often see the McMichael family attend the contemporary service and young Matthew seemed to enjoy the music and informal atmosphere of the service. His connection to Matt stems

more from VBS, where the Ghorm and McMichael families spent many hours together (along with the Hudsons and others!) to prepare the church for the many families who would visit QUMC for the summer program.

Ken remembers one time he and Matt were throwing VBS decorations at each other. Ken missed a catch and it hit him under the eye. The look of concern on Matt's face because he might have hurt Ken was truly authentic care. As Ken feigned he was hurt, he broke out laughing so Matt would know he was fine. Ken told Matt he had done nothing wrong. He said he didn't get to play catch often having three daughters so his hands were in need of practice. They both laughed and have been friends for as long as either can remember. When Matt was younger, Ken would hide Pokémon card packs throughout the church and give Matt clues as where to find them.

Throughout this pandemic, Ken says it has been difficult to find opportunities to do things together and share any real mentoring skills. The saving grace is that Ken looks forward to seeing Matt play baseball or to go to an Iron Pigs game together once we are free of COVID restrictions. Ken says Matt is a fine young man and is, and will continue to be, a blessing to his parents.





Confirmand Madison Kreischer & Mentor Cristin Pizzi

Madison Kreischer is 13-years-old and plays the piano and soccer. She loves the outdoors. Even though she loves outdoor activities, Madison loves to read and make all forms of art. In confirmation, she likes how confirmands aren't alone on their journey and are with people of their own age, along with mentors who guide them. Madison is learning new ways to look at life and the Bible because confirmation goes much more in depth with stories she thought she already knew. Madison loves having Mrs. Pizzi as her mentor. She says Mrs. Pizzi is flexible with her schedule and really understands her. Madison feels at ease talking to her and knows she can ask her anything.

Cristin Pizzi is a wife, mother of twins, dog owner, kindergarten teacher, and huge Disney fan. She has taught Sunday School for both kindergarten and preschool ages. She also serves on the Faith Preschool Board. Educating children has always been a passion of Cristin. Being asked to be Madison's confirmation mentor came in the midst of the pandemic. She was excited to be asked and to grow through this new role of mentor. One of the things Cristin had to learn was "mentor does not mean teacher." She says being a mentor is more about building a relationship. It means listening, sharing experiences, making connections

and offering support. Madison and Cristin enjoy their weekly talks and texts. They share how their week went and what they are looking forward to in the coming weeks. Cristin and Madison talk about siblings, dogs, school, soccer, confirmation class, etc. Cristin feels blessed to continue growing spiritually along with Madison during the confirmation journey.





Faith Preschool News



Faith Preschool still has some openings for the upcoming 2021-2022 School Year! There are limited openings for the two-year-old, three-year-old, and Pre-K classes. The four-year-old class is currently full.

Our two-year-old class runs **once a week** on either Tuesday or Friday, our three-year-old class runs Tuesday and Thursday, and our Pre-K class runs Monday through Thursday. All classes run 9:15 to 11:30 a.m.

For more information, please reach out to Megan McGinty (registrarfps@gmail.com). For your convenience, the registration form for Faith Preschool can be found here https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vq2wupgX4r24OWo3gcokTFNWLuHaTlFH/view?usp=sharing

Thank you! The Staff of Faith Preschool

"You are a child of God, you are wonderfully made, and dearly loved and precious in his sight." - Psalm 139

From Missions Commission

Our Missions Team is officially out of their self-imposed COVID, winter hibernation. Members are leaping back into action!



Community Loaves and Fishes Take-Out Meals, Thursday, May 6

Our first official off-campus event will be on Thursday, May 6 when we provide take-out meals for the Community Loaves and Fishes dinner. This is a monthly event in which various community churches provide a meal to anyone in the area.

Clothing Drive, Saturday, May 22

We will be collecting clothes on Saturday, May 22, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the front entrance/parking lot. Yes, we will continue to wear masks and social distance. As you clean out your closets, we ask that you donate gently worn and clean clothing to this effort. Clothing will be given to the Quakertown Community Outreach Closet, a free-to-people thrift shop.

It's good to be back.

For more information on Missions outreach programs of the church, contact Carol Pertuit (610-346-6713 or carolpertuit@verizon.net).

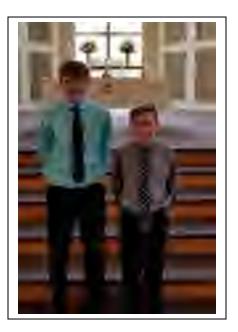


Baptisms:

Family Matters

Happy Birthday to: June Roth, May 2

On May 2, Benjamin Rush and Mason Rush. Parents are David & Christian Rush, Godparents are James & Tammy Swearingen.



Mason & Benjamin Rush



Ongoing Christian Education Opportunities

Children and Youth Sunday School, as well as the Adult Friday Morning Bible Study and Devotional, are being held online. Sunday School resources are distributed by email weekly. The Women's and Men's Sunday School classes are presently not meeting in-person due to COVID-19 restrictions. Youth Group continues virtually for middle and high school students, while Kid's Club is offered for grades one through five. For more information on any Christian Education opportunities, please contact the respective contact person listed below:

Children's Sunday School: Christine Rush (rushcm@npenn.org or 215.264.4815)

Youth Sunday School and Youth Group: Pastor Kathryn Swan (kathrynswan19@gmail.com or 610.348.2632)

Women's Sunday School: Laura Lillie (lalillie@verizon.net or 215.529.1059)

Men's Sunday School: Ed Wilson (edwinwilson@comcast.net or 215.799.4086)

Friday Morning Online Bible Study and Devotional: Janet Finch (jmfumw@aol.com or 215.538.0835) or Gail Schadler (glschadler@gmail.com or 267.733.3328)

Kid's Club (grades one through five) Babs Kerns (babs.kerns@gmail.com or 267.825.5693)

Online Bible Study and Devotional

A Bible study and devotional, led by Janet Finch and Gail Schadler, is offered weekly. Those who are able can attend a ZOOM meeting on Friday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. to discuss the study. If you would like to join this online study and prayer group, just email Gail (glschadler@gmail.com) or Janet (jmfumw@aol.com).

In-Person Bible Study

Led by Gale Hewitt, this weekly Bible Study meets in the Library/Parlor on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. Presently, this small group is focusing on "Character Matters," a Bible study created by Steve Morton, our District Superintendent. The study looks at the seven things the Lord hates. For more information on this small group, contact Gale (gwhewitt4@gmail.com or 267.218.2479).



The church is in need of a Finance Chair for the Finance Committee. If anyone has a background in finance and would volunteer for a three-year term as Chair of Finance (leading meetings and the team), please contact Pastor Lori (<u>loribethwagner@gmail.com</u> or 360.298.8327). A Stewardship Chair is needed as well. Both of these positions are very important to the financial health of the church.

Thank you in advance for your continued commitment, financial support and faithfulness to QUMC.

Continued Appeal Regarding Bequest Opportunities: Bequests from individuals are an important part of the funding of our church's missions. If or when you plan a charitable bequest to help support the mission of the Quakertown United Methodist Church, you can direct your bequest it the following ways:

- 1. Unrestricted bequest: This is a gift for our general purposes, to be used at the discretion of our Trustees and Finance Committees. A gift like this without conditions attached is frequently the most useful, as it allows us to determine the wisest and most pressing need for the funds at the time of receipt.
- 2. Restricted bequest: This type of gift allows you to specify how the funds are to be used. Perhaps you have a special purpose or project in mind. If so, it's best to consult us when you make your will to be certain that your intent can be carried out.
- 3. Honorary or Memorial bequest: This is a gift given "in honor of" or "in memory of" someone. We are pleased to honor your request and have many ways to grant appropriate recognition.
- 4. Endowed bequest: This bequest allows you to restrict the principal of your gift, requiring us to hold the funds permanently and use only the investment income they generate. Creating an endowment in manner means that your gift can continue giving indefinitely.

You Are Needed! There are many opportunities for members of our congregation to serve not only our God, but the QUMC church as well. Please contact Pastor Lori to learn how you may fit into the plans of our church.

Please Note: Although Pastor Lori will only be conducting worship at QUMC for a few more weeks, please remember that she remains our pastor until July 1. Should you require pastoral assistance at any time prior to July 1, please contact Pastor Lori (<u>loribethwagner@gmail.com</u> or 360.298.8327).



Safe Sanctuary

Safe Sanctuary clearances are due for volunteers. Those of you who have recently renewed your clearances, we ask for a current copy to be kept on file per Safe Sanctuary guidelines. Please mail copies of clearances to QUMC, 1875 Freier Road, Quakertown, PA 18951. If you do not have a copy available, you may send the original as the church will make a copy and return the original to you. Clearances may also be dropped at the church by placing them in a sealed envelope in the outdoor mailbox. Mail is picked up and processed daily.

Upper Room

Copies of the May/June edition of The Upper Room are now available! If you would like a copy of The Upper Room, please contact the Church Secretary (215.538.7817 or barb@qumc.com) and she will send a copy out to you via the USPS.

Acts IV Fund

We would like to remind our church family if anyone is experiencing financial difficulty during these unprecedented times, please contact the Pastor (loribethwagner@gmail.com or 360.298.8327). The church has an Acts IV Fund specifically designed to help members during a time of financial struggle. Inquiries are completely confidential. Now more than ever, we realize many are struggling to make ends meet. QUMC is here to help.

Those with sufficient resources who have it in their heart to contribute to the Acts IV Fund can send donations, indicating that preference, to QUMC, 1875 Freier Road, Quakertown, PA 18951.

Prayer Shawls

Handmade prayer shawls are available for those who are ill, grieving, or just lonely. To request a shawl, contact the Church Secretary (215.538.7817 or <u>barb@qumc.com</u>) or Janet Finch (215.538.0835).

Worship Bulletins

Anyone wishing to have a copy of the bulletin and hymns each week, please contact barb@qumc.com or 215.538.7817 to get on the email or USPS mail list.

Church Membership

Contact Pastor Lori at loribethwagner@gmail.com for more information. Please note membership transfers do not require classes. We hope you'll join us!

Paper Recycling

Receptacles can be found in the southwest corner of the church parking lot. Acceptable materials to recycle include newspapers, magazines, catalogs, books, office paper, school paper, wrapping paper, and junk mail. Missions will receive a check to be used for missions programs of the church.

Aluminum Can Recycling

Bag and bring your cans to the two white trash cans at the church pavilion. They do not need to be crushed but they are easier to handle if they are. All brands of aluminum cans are welcome. Proceeds from can recycling helps to defray costs of the annual Chicken Barbeque.

Monthly Newsletter Submissions

If you have items for the monthly newsletter you can email them to Teddi Miller at QUMCNewsletter@gmail.com or you can put them in the newsletter mailbox in the church office. To assure your items are published in the next monthly newsletter, please email Teddi or drop off the information in the church newsletter mailbox by the 15th of the month prior to the publishing month. Thank you!



Looking for Ways to Help

<u>Finance Chair Committee Member Needed:</u> Quakertown United Methodist Church is in need of a Chair for the Finance Committee. If you have a background in finance and are willing to volunteer for a three-year term as Chair of Finance, please contact Pastor Lori (<u>loribethwagner@gmail.com</u> or 360.298.8327). This position is very important to the financial health of the church.

<u>Stewardship Chair Committee Member Needed:</u> Contact Pastor Lori (<u>loribethwagner@gmail.com</u> or 360. 298.8327) to volunteer for this position.

<u>Seeking Volunteers for Quakertown's Arts Alive, Saturday, May 15:</u> Two volunteers are needed for each shift at the Potted Plants Kid's stand, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. Volunteers at this stand will be helping children decorate flower pots and plant them with plants. Plastic gloves will be provided. Also needed is one volunteer for each shift at the QUMC Information table, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. Volunteers at the Information table will be greeting people and offering them literature about the church. We ask that all volunteers wear masks.

Additionally, someone with an SUV or truck is needed to transport the church tent to the venue at 8:30 a.m. and pick it up at 4:00 p.m. for transport back to the church.

The donation of a jar of candy for the QUMC Information table is also needed.

We hope to see our young and middle-aged parents, preschool teachers and parents, and Vacation Bible School participants volunteer. This is a great outreach for the church and an opportunity for us to greet other parents and kids, as our stands will be in the Kid's Zone.

If you are able to volunteer at Arts Alive, please contact Pastor Kathryn (kathrynswan29@gmail.com or 610-348-2632) as soon as possible.

Thank you and we hope to see you on Saturday, May 15 at Arts Alive!

<u>Volunteers Wanted at Outreach Care</u>: Outreach Care provides resources to the homeless in Upper Bucks County to help them get back on their feet. Mentors and drivers are needed, as well as volunteers to help with fundraising, taking phone calls and organizing special events. Give as little or as much time as you can. If you like helping your own community, contact Joanne Cramer (610-442-6465).

"See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land. The fig tree forms its early fruit; the blossoming vines spread their fragrance." Song of Songs 2:11-13

