



Quakertown United Methodist Church

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Quakertown, PA 18951
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Visit our website at www.qumc.com

Share Christ Grow in Christ Serve Christ

February 2019

Confirmation



Confirmation classes begin Sunday, February 3 at 10:00 a.m. The class will meet weekly on Sunday mornings in the Conference Room outside Pastor Lori's office.

With seven young people currently enrolled, the Confirmation Class is looking forward to some new and exciting experiences! Some of the field trips planned include visiting the Beit Simcha Messianic Fellowship, attending "Time Travelers" at Old St. George's United Methodist Church, experiencing Sight & Sound's production of "Jesus," touring the Moravian Chapel and Cemetery, and attending a Greek festival at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church.

Culminating with an outdoor tent service on Pentecost Sunday, June 9, members of the confirmation class will be received into full membership of the United Methodist Church on that day.

Please pray for the Confirmation Class as they begin their spiritual journey.



	Revenues	Expenditures
December	\$ 34,571.81	\$ 34,955.46
Year to date:	\$289,173.16	\$295,900.25

Balance: For the end of the 2018 fiscal year, Quakertown United Methodist Church was able to pay all conference commitments and all other obligations with the exception of the money owed to ourselves in the area of the Care of God's House fund. Please continue to pray for our church as the programs and missions of the various committees are directly supported by the offerings and gifts from our congregation.

Audit: The annual audit will begin soon. If you are a fund manager of one or more of the church funds, please get your paperwork to Barbara Hafler in the church office as soon as possible.

Commitment Cards: It is not too late to make your 2019 financial commitment to your church. Commitment cards are available in the church office or from Pastor Lori.

2019 Budget: A copy of the 2019 adopted budget is available in the church office.



From the Pastor's Palette

The Wallaby is an interesting animal. When a Wallaby births its young, the newborn must crawl out from the womb on its own and into the pocket of its mother, where it will finish its final development phase and growth. The young Wallaby must take a first step, and then it is assisted into life.

Our ancestors did something similar at the parting of the Red Sea.

Scripture tells us that when Moses, at the Lord's bidding, led the people of God to the shores of the Red Sea, it was becoming nightfall, pitch dark. Suddenly, the cloud that was in front of them moved to the rear of them, and a light shone forth from the rear toward the edge of the sea, illuminating their way.

The Lord told Moses to have the people step forward into the sea, and the Lord would make a way. And so, they did. Lo and behold, as they took their first steps, the walls of the sea rose, and they proceeded on dry ground.

Our Exodus story tells us that when we step forward in faith, then the Lord will make a way. You first walk forward in trust and in faith, and then you find that God has provided a path for you to take.

Often in life, we want to be sure of the outcome before we venture forth into new territory or bound for new missions and places. We want to know our destination before we set out in our boat.

But God instead asks us first to step forward. When we do, we will be amazed at the places that God may lead us.

Following Jesus is a grand adventure. And all we need to do is follow the Light. The Lord will take care of the rest.

We don't need to worry about our destination, whether we will succeed or fail, how long it will take us, or how we will measure our results. We can leave the details up to Him. The more we are willing to follow, the more miracles we will be prepared to see and experience in our lives and in our world.

How has God blessed your life at times when you were willing to close your eyes and follow?

Are you willing today to let go of your expectations, your strategies, and your plans, and let the Holy Spirit make a new way?

Lord, make our journeys rich. Help our hearts to trust. Propel our feet to follow. Amen.

Facing a life issue and having trouble moving forward? The pastor is always available.

loribethwagner@gmail.com / 360.298.8327



Christian Education Opportunities

“Methodist Identity: Our Beliefs”

Running through the end of April, join Gail Schadler and the Faithbuilders in Room 109/111 for a Wesley Ministry Network video series. This study covers distinctive elements of Christian faith in the Wesleyan/Methodist tradition. Eight sessions will be broken into 16 to allow for prayer, video presentation and discussion in our classroom. The topics covered include: The Nature of Methodist Doctrine, Trinity & Christology, Prevenient Grace & Repentance, Justifying Faith & Assurance, Sanctification, Baptism & Christian Initiation, Eucharist, and Eschatology (death, judgment and destination of the soul.) Pastor Lori will facilitate this class March 24, 31 and April 7 while Gail is on vacation.

"Shalom" Bible Study Hour: Stories of the Hidden Matriarchs

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. with Pastor Lori Wagner
Room 109/111

We all know the wives of the patriarchs, like Sarah, Rachel, Leah, Rebecca. But who are the true Matriarchs of the Messiah? In a culture in which all reputable genealogies were designated through the fathers of the tribes, Matthew's genealogy mentions five revolutionary women, whose stories helped define Jesus' ministry. Who are they? What secrets do they reveal? Come and join us on Wednesdays!

Upcoming Lenten Programming

The Wednesday night Lenten program begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6 and continues through April 10.

- 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Dinner
- 6:15 p.m. Lenten Worship
- 7:00 p.m. “Around the Table with Jesus” Bible Study with Pastor Lori

On the day of Ash Wednesday, Pastor Lori, along with church members, will go out in the community to offer the imposition of ashes.



For Your Information

Welcome to our New Director of Music Ministries:

Bethany Neely begins her ministry with QUMC on Monday, February 18. A native of Pittsburgh, Bethan holds a bachelors degree in Organ Performance and Sacred Music from Westminster Choir College of Rider University. She has worked with church ensembles across a wide range of styles, including traditional, children's and gospel choirs, praise bands, chamber ensembles and handbells. Prior to joining our staff, Bethan served as the Music Director at Faith Presbyterian Church in Medford, NJ where she worked with vocal and handbell ensembles and played the organ and piano in worship.

By day, Bethan works for Schulmerich Bells in Hatfield, America's oldest manufacturer of handbells. She is committed to using music in worship to glorify God and is excited to bring her passion and enthusiasm to the music program here at QUMC.



The Board of Trustees now has an email address: trustees@qumc.com. Contact the Trustees directly at this email address with any building-related questions or concerns.

Prayer Chains of QUMC are just one of the ways we care for each other. There is both an email chain and a phone chain. To put someone on the prayer chain, contact Janet Finch (jmfumw@aol.com or 215-538-0835). If you need something on the prayer chain immediately, be sure to call the Finch's home number to leave a message.

Inclement Weather is Upon Us! In the event of winter weather, please keep in mind that the church follows the lead of the Quakertown School District; if school is dismissed early for inclement weather, church activities for that evening are cancelled. If school is closed, all church activities are also cancelled for that day. Church staff may or may not be present at the church, depending on road conditions.

In regard to Worship and Sunday School, church schedule changes and cancellations can be found on the Facebook page (QuakertownUMChurch), the website (qumc.com), or on the WFMZ Channel 69 Stormcenter.

"Did You Know" article of the month is an opportunity for those with a knack for writing. If you have an interest in participating in this Intentional Faith Development project by writing an article, contact Babs Kerns at babs.kerns@gmail.com.

..."For Your Information" continued on page 6



Faith Preschool Registration is now open for the 2019-2020 school year!

Faith Preschool provides classes for 2's, 3's, and 4's, offering high-quality, affordable, early childhood education in a Christian setting by caring and experienced staff.

Classes for 4's meet in AM or PM on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays

Classes for 3's meet in AM or PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Classes for 2's meet in the AM on Mondays or Wednesdays

Enrichment activities include Lunch Bunch and mini-camp electives.

Detailed program information can be found online at www.qumc.com or in the brochures available in the lobby. General registration to the public opened on January 24. For further information, contact Jessica Albright (faithpreschoolofficemanager@gmail.com or 215-536-8172).

From Missions Commission...

FEAST Food Pantry items for the month of February include hot and cold cereal and cereal bars.

American Red Cross Blood Drive, Friday, February 15, 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Miller Hall. You may register at the display in the Narthex or go directly to the Red Cross website.

Souper Bowl Sale: Pick up your homemade soup orders on Super Bowl Sunday, February 3. Soups include chicken noodle, chicken rice, and vegetable beef. Cost, \$6 per quart.

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

Mark your calendar for upcoming Kid's Club events:

February: Saturday, February 16, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., Random Acts of Kindness crafts and baking in Miller Hall

March: To be announced

April: Friday, April (date to be announced), 7:00 p.m. through 9:00 a.m. on Saturday
We're going to have an overnight Lock-In at the church with light breakfast in the morning.

May: Sunday, May 19, 12 noon to 2:00 p.m.. Join us for an End of the Year Celebration!

For more information on Kid's Club, contact Christine Rush at rushcm@npenn.org.

Life Group Schedule Change

The Sunday evening Life Group will now be meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings, during the Sunday School hour. We will be continuing the study of Ruth (via Right Now Media). If you are interested in joining this Life Group, please come to the Parlor on Sunday morning. We hope to see you!

Newsletter Submissions

Submissions for the monthly newsletter can be emailed to Teddi Miller at QUMCNewsletter@gmail.com or placed in the newsletter mailbox in the church office. To assure items are published in the next monthly newsletter, be sure they are submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publishing. Thank you!



Upcoming & Ongoing Events



North District Tools for Ministry Training Workshop, Saturday, March 2, 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Asbury UMC, 1533 Springhouse Road, Allentown.

Cost: \$8 until February 23; \$10 for walk-ins (includes continental breakfast, snacks and training materials)

Contact Sheri Kentner (skentner@epaumc.org or 800-828-9093 x1025) or more information. Scholarships are available upon request.

Coffee Hour with the Pastor, Wednesdays, 3:00 p.m. in the Library

Come and hang out with Pastor Lori, while sharing coffee or tea. Talk, have a biscuit or two, and bring your creative ideas for ministry and mission!

Grief and Life Issues Group, Monday nights, 7:30 p.m. in the Library

Are you grieving a loss of a loved one? An identity? A divorce? A life change? Come and join us Monday nights, 7:30 p.m. in the Library.

Bible in a Year Time! There's still time to join others in the congregation for Bible in a Year Time.

This year, we are offering four plans, each with a different approach to scripture. Three of them can be found in the YouVersion Bible app. Each also has an electronic or paper copy we can supply that you can use independently. There are some great benefits to using the YouVersion app to read the Bible. Not only does it track your progress, it can be configured to remind you to read your plan entry each day. You can invite others to do plans with you and see each other's progress. **And the app can read the day's scriptures out loud to you on your phone.** This feature alone makes it ideal for listening during the morning commute, at the bus stop, at lunch, or during any other waiting time in your day.

Front to Back Version - This plan marches straight through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. This plan can be found in YouVersion under the name Canonical.

Blended Version - This plan walks through the Bible with four parts to each day. Each day includes the Old Testament, the New Testament, part of Psalms, and a few Proverbs. This plan can be found in YouVersion under the name The One Year Bible.

Interleaved Version - This plan (used here at QUMC over 10 years ago) splits the Bible into seven categories - epistles, the law, history, psalms, poetry, prophesy, and gospels - one assigned for each day of the week. This plan is not available in the YouVersion app.

New Testament Version - This plan walks through the New Testament only, with a great schedule - only one chapter a day, five days a week, making it simple to avoid your busiest days while keeping on track. This plan can be found in YouVersion under the name Discipleship Journal's 5x5x5 Reading Plan.

The schedule for each of these versions is available by request from the church office (barb@qumc.com) or from Babs Kerns (babs.kerns@gmail.com). You may also contact Babs with any questions.



Looking for ways you can help?



Nursery Attendants Needed! Nursery help is needed to staff the nursery during the 9:00 a.m. service. If you are able to assist in this way, please contact Bill Scott (215.620.7413 or bill.scott@remmey.com).

Hospitality Committee is still seeking volunteers. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month. Contact Mary Ellen (Molly) Minarik (610.282.3708).

Sunday Hospitality Table (once per month)

Serving as Membership Secretary

Assisting with Membership and Attendance Records

Checking the pews each week to make sure Bibles, hymnals, pencils and other information are in tact

Faith Preschool is seeking volunteers to read Bible stories once-a-week to preschool children in the three- and four-year-old classes. See Pastor Lori if you are willing to share your faith with the children of Faith Preschool in this way.

The Children's Moment: Children's Time During Worship

The 11:00 a.m. Sunday morning worship service offers A Children's Moment each Sunday. This is a nice opportunity to reach out to our congregation's youngest with a message of love and inclusion in our church family. Please sign up for a Sunday to share a moment in time with God's little children. It is as easy as smiling at a new born baby.

Sign up on the sheet on the Children's Ministries bulletin board, place a note in the offering plate, or contact Marj Lofland (215-257-7389 or imaginativekhan@hotmail.com).

Arts Alive!

Quakertown United Methodist Church will be actively participating in Quakertown's "Arts Alive" this spring, Saturday, May 18, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Held in the streets of downtown Quakertown, the church will be sponsoring two stands. Needed are volunteers to staff the "planting and potting" stand, where we will assist children in planting seeds in their own terra cotta pot. Three volunteers are needed for each two-hour shift.

If you are willing to help out, please contact Pastor Lori (loribethwagner@gmail.com or 360.298.8327).



Family Matters



Happy Birthday to: Ruth Barto - February 4, Donald Barto - February 6,
Marie Frankenfield - February 11, Lorraine Hillegass - February 11,
Thelma Bagg - February 13, Norma Lillie - February 19,
Walter Bagg - February 22 and Kathryn Landis - February 22.

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

Notes of Thanks:

“Thank you to everyone who helped with the Family Festival Sunday by providing some yummy treats and assisting with the events of the day. Special thanks to Molly Minarik for her hard work in the planning and coordination of this event.”

“Jammies for Jesus was a fun event with crafts, music, snacks and stories. Thank you to everyone who brought in pajamas and books to support the KidsPeace organization. Donations will benefit children aged three to 14.”

Notes of thanks to the Church and Educational Endowment Committee:

Thank you for awarding me with the educational endowment fund grant. I am very lucky to have the opportunity to participate in higher education and it means a lot to have the church community support me through the process.

Sincerely , Haley Van den Burg

Thank you for your continuing support to help college students such as myself with the endowment fund donations. These funds have helped me to pay towards the cost of books and my bills. It is really generous and it is very much appreciated. Thank you very much.

Sincerely, Blake Miller

Thank you so much for this year’s endowment grant. I have a lot to be thankful for. I know a lot of others do not have this opportunity. I am fortunate to belong to a church that really cares about its youth and supports us in continuing with higher education. I appreciate everything you have done for me over the years.

Thank You, Charlie Miller


Thank you for picking me to receive this educational grant. This will be extremely helpful in helping me to pay for expenses next semester. Thank you for the kind words in the letter that came with the grant. It truly does make me feel a part of the QUMC family even when I am away at college. I will take these words of encouragement with me and help pass them along to others. I hope to continue growing in my faith as I continue in school. Thank you again for supporting me during this time in my life.

Thank you, Abbie Miller



February 2019

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 8:30 a.m. Life Group 9:00 a.m. Missions Soup Making	2
3 ** 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class Missions Soup Sale	4 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes 7:30 p.m. Grief Group	5 7:00 p.m. Trustees	6 6:30 a.m. Life Group 10:00 a.m. Shalom Bible Study 3:00 p.m. Coffee Hour with Pastor Lori 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Choir, Shalom Bible Study	7 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group	8 8:30 a.m. Life Group	9
10 ** 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class	11 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes, Hospitality 7:30 p.m. Grief Group	12 7:00 p.m. Finance	13 6:30 a.m. Life Group 10:00 a.m. Shalom Bible Study 3:00 p.m. Coffee Hour with Pastor Lori 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Choir, Shalom Bible Study	14 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group 	15 8:30 a.m. Life Group 2:00 p.m. Blood Drive	16 8:30 a.m. Ladies' Breakfast 6:00 p.m. Kid's Club Random Acts of Kindness
17 ** 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class	18 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes 7:30 p.m. Grief Group, Milford Trumbauersville Democrats	19	20 6:30 a.m. Life Group 10:00 a.m. Shalom Bible Study 3:00 p.m. Coffee Hour with Pastor Lori 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Choir, Shalom Bible Study	21 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group	22 8:30 a.m. Life Group 6:00 p.m. Miller Hall Reserved (Pinewood Derby Set-Up)	23 Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby
24 ** 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class	25 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes 7:30 p.m. Grief Group	26 7:00 p.m. Missions	27 6:30 a.m. Life Group 10:00 a.m. Shalom Bible Study 3:00 p.m. Coffee Hour with Pastor Lori 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Choir, Shalom Bible Study	28 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group		