

# The Freier Flyer

Quakertown United Methodist Church

February 2022

1875 Freier Road, Quakertown, PA 18951

www.qumc.com



## *6 Ways to Show Love This Year*

**G**od loves everyone - and He calls us to do the same selflessly, without expectation of something in return. Love is given utmost importance in His Word. We are expected to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind - and to love our neighbor, too. What is love? The 'Love Verse' at 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 is an oft-quoted Scripture that reminds us love is patient and kind; not envious, boastful, or full of pride. How can we apply this in 2022?

*Jesus replied:*

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' (Matthew 22:37-39)*

### Loving God

The Lord has provided His Word as a means to grow in our faith. Praying regularly, going to church, and spending time with our church family will also encourage us in our love for Him, but there is more we need to do. We may love Him, but how can we truly serve Him if we ignore the most important thing we are commanded: to love? Loving God means loving others - an important detail we must never overlook. God IS love.

*...if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. (1 Corinthians 13:2)*

### Love is Bigger than Feelings

Love is more than just an emotion. Feeling can be a part of love - we have romantic relationships, share friendships, and develop a fondness for other people - but does not define it. Love is also action, service, courtesy, and forgiveness. Sending an encouraging card or words of sympathy when someone is going through a difficult time will remind them that they are loved - by God and the people in their life. You don't have to carry the feeling of love in order to share love with others.

Love is a choice. We can choose to respond thoughtfully in any situation when we allow our decisions to be guided by His love.

*Let all that you do be done in love. (1 Corinthians 16:14)*

## Love is Hospitality

Open your heart - and home - to others this year. Hospitality is not hosting a party to impress everyone on the block, but rather a way to show your love for your family, friends, and neighbors. An invitation to dinner or an evening relaxing by the fireplace with cups of cocoa can light up someone's day. When you provide a welcoming atmosphere and companionship, you share love.

You don't need to go beyond your means to show your loving care. Meet a need in someone's life - provide a ride to a doctor's appointment for an elderly person from your community or send a jacket and packaged meal to someone who may be less fortunate. Offering what you can in someone's time of need shows the love we are expected to have for our neighbor.

## When Love is Difficult

Love can be a sacrifice, as God Himself showed when he sent us His Son. Jesus showed us the same when He went to the cross to die for our sins. Loving somebody may be difficult as well, but Jesus calls for us to love our enemies. Is there an 'enemy' in your life who is difficult to love? Perhaps you have an overbearing relative, someone from work you don't get along with, or a neighbor who just seems impossible.

Loving our enemies doesn't mean we need to go to a movie together and chat about the work week. It simply means we treat them with respect - regardless of whether they show us respect in return. We must pray to the Lord for strength and guidance in order to fulfill His commandment, especially if we cannot seem to find it within ourselves. Rather than wondering how you can possibly show love to this person, look deeper. Loving our enemies may mean pledging not to cause harm - even to their reputation or feelings. We do not speak ill of those with whom we do not get along, nor do we wish them ill. Loving someone may mean offering forgiveness or withholding judgement.

*But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back.  
Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High,  
because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. (Luke 6:35)*

Three strategies to choose Love in 2022:

- 1) **Love through prayer.** He has commanded us to love, but He does not expect us to do it on our own. Pray for His guidance, and He will direct you. Ask God to help you see people through His eyes. Through God, you can gain the strength to love those who may be difficult to love. Humble yourself before the Lord - because sometimes you may be difficult to love as well.
- 2) **Love through action.** Love isn't all service, but it is a large part of it. We serve Him by loving each other, and we can serve others in love. Put love into action: volunteer, help a neighbor with yard work, or introduce someone to the love found in His Word.
- 3) **Love through attentiveness.** Family and friends love to *feel* loved. Offer recognition of the time and effort put into the dinner on the table, concern when they're unhappy, or words of affirmation when they need some encouragement. Simply being available can show your love in big ways.

We know how it feels to be on the receiving end of love, so how wonderful it is also to spread love to others. When we consider the gift of God's unconditional love, we realize how truly lucky we are to be loved by Him. Loving others is how we show Him we are listening and want to do as He does. Not only does sharing love make others feel good, it lifts you up as well. Go into the new year with a heart full of love.

Article by Amber  
*Dayspring - Living your Faith*



# *Going the Distance*

*The Rev. Richard K. Brown II, Pastor*

Greetings, good people, on this day the Lord has made.

A great many things have taken place since last I wrote to you all: Cora was born, Christmas was celebrated, a new year was greeted, and a paternity leave was taken. Truly, I thank you all for your prayers and support amid our growing family. Many have asked and I am happy to share that we are doing well. Cora is an incredible blessing, Ella is in love with her little sister, and Kim is doing well. You greeted me with great love upon my return and so, again, I extend my thanks.

We have a great many things coming this and next month. With Valentine's Day around the corner, this is a great time to focus on God's incredible love for us. Truly, there is no one who loves us more (Amen?). As such, this topic will be our focus on Sunday, February 13th. Then, believe it or not, Lent will be upon us after a few short weeks. The Worship Team and I are meeting to finalize our plans for an engaging Lenten season so please stay tuned! The preview I will give you is regarding our sermon series: with a focus upon healing, we will explore the ways God heals our minds, bodies, and spirits. I encourage you to join me in praying and preparing so that the Spirit can transform us as we journey to Holy Week, the Cross, and the Empty Tomb.

With that, happy reading across the rest of this month's newsletter. There is a great amount of information, praise reports, and plans contained therein. If you want to know more about any particular event or ministry please feel free to be in touch with myself or the respective leader.

God bless you all,  
Pastor Rick Brown

## Pastors' Office Hours

- My office hours are Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. I encourage you to stop in to chat with your pastor. As always, you are welcome to give me a call, shoot me a text, or pop me an email so we can work out a time to meet that best fits your schedule. I observe my Sabbath on Fridays, so all non-emergency matters will be contacted the following day.
- Pastor Kathryn has office hours Tuesdays, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Feel free to stop by the church at this time or schedule a specific time to meet with her using the contact information listed below.



Pastor Rick is available by phone (484.358.1138) or by email ([pastorrick@qumc.com](mailto:pastorrick@qumc.com)).

Pastor Kathryn can be reached at [kathrynswan19@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynswan19@gmail.com) or 610.348.2632.

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# AN UPDATE FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

A meeting of Church Council will be held on Thursday, February 17, 7:00 p.m. on ZOOM. One of the items on the agenda will be approval of the 2022 Budget, the summary of which can be found below. For a more detailed copy of the 2022 Proposed Budget, contact Laura Lillie (lalillie@verizon.net or 215.529.1059).

<b>Quakertown United Methodist Church</b>		
<b>2022 Proposed Budget Summary</b>		
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b><u>Operating Receipts</u></b>		
Pledges and Contributions	277,289.45	268,289.13
Other Receipts	28,700.00	40,500.00
	<b>305,989.45</b>	<b>308,789.13</b>
<b><u>Budgeted Expenditures</u></b>		
<b>Care of God's House</b>		
Trustees	39,492.00	40,167.00
Utilities	23,795.00	24,045.00
	<b>63,287.00</b>	<b>64,212.00</b>
<b>Current Operating Expenses</b>		
Administrative Expenses	2,300.00	2,300.00
Finance Committee	1,930.00	1,930.00
Office Expenses	7,200.00	7,400.00
Pastoral Support	97,097.00	111,397.78
Personnel Expenses	84,759.45	70,660.35
	<b>193,286.45</b>	<b>193,688.13</b>
<b>Program Expenses</b>		
Intentional Faith Development	4,000.00	3,250.00
Missions	38,546.00	39,864.00
Passionate Worship	4,020.00	4,800.00
Radical Hospitality	1,825.00	1,825.00
Stewardship	1,025.00	1,150.00
	<b>49,416.00</b>	<b>50,889.00</b>
<b>Total Budgeted Expenditures</b>	<b>305,989.45</b>	<b>308,789.13</b>

# SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Our worship and Sunday School schedule at QUMC is:

- 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. - Worship
- 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. - Sunday School for Children and Adults
- 11:00 a.m. to 12 noon – Worship

11:00 a.m. worship will continue to be livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube.

If you have any questions about the worship schedule, please feel free to contact Pastor Rick (484.358.1138 or [pastorrick@qumc.com](mailto:pastorrick@qumc.com)) or Gail Schadler ([glschadler@gmail.com](mailto:glschadler@gmail.com)).



JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL!  
Sunday Morning, 9:45 to 10:45 p.m.

2-Years-Old to Kindergarten	Room 107/108
Grades 1 to 5	Room 106
Middle and High School	Room 105
Women's Class	Room 114
Men's Class	Room 112
Faithbuilders	Room 109

Children's Sunday School classes, age two through grade 12, now meet in Miller Hall on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. for a brief period of fellowship, songs, and prayer. After opening exercises, teachers will escort the children to their individual classrooms. Parents can pick up their children from their respective classroom at 10:45 a.m.

The Faithbuilders Sunday School Class is now focusing on "Jerusalem, Holy City for Judaism, Christianity and Islam." With its tumultuous past and contentious present, Jerusalem is perhaps the most dramatic city in the world. The class is exploring how the past shaped the current tensions, ending with the question "Can peace in the Middle East ever be achieved?" This topic is also presently being offered by the Friday morning Online Bible Study.

Sunday School is in need of additional Middle School/High School teachers. We are also in need of assistants and substitutes for the program. Anyone interested in giving of their time and talent to this ministry of the church is asked to contact Christine Rush at (215.264.4815 or [rushcm@npenn.org](mailto:rushcm@npenn.org)).

To explore the Small Groups at QUMC, keep reading on page 6!



### “Maid” ZOOM Discussion Group

A note from Pastor Kathryn on this discussion:

*Hi Friends at QUMC,*

*As everyone knows, I am the Senior Pastor of another United Methodist church in Allentown. Together with the Hispanic United Methodist congregation that worships in our building, we have teamed up with Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley, an organization that deals with domestic violence. We are hosting a discussion group every other Sunday based on the Netflix show “Maid,” which deals with topics within relationships of domestic violence and abuse. I feel that no matter what church is involved, it is important to have this information out for everyone to access. Please see below the details on this discussion group.*

Together with Emmanuel UMC, Casa Del Ray UMC, and Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley, we are putting together a safe space for a biweekly ZOOM discussion on the ten-episode Netflix series, "Maid." Come join us for these group discussions.

This newly-released Netflix series takes a look at a mother’s struggle to provide for her child after fleeing an abusive relationship. The series was released October 1, 2021, and has been widely viewed and discussed since its release. It is currently among the top shows on the streaming service.

If you haven’t started the series already, we encourage you to do so before joining the group. Each episode is about an hour long. Every other Sunday, we have a discussion group to talk about some of the challenges of life portrayed here in this series. All are welcome to join from the comfort of your own home in a safe, shared space through ZOOM!

Click here to register for these discussions.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-maid-discussion-group-registration-244660715787>

If you have questions please contact Pastor Kathryn Swan at 610-348-2632 or [kathrynswan19@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynswan19@gmail.com),

### Bread for the Journey

This small group meets Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Library. Together we pray, explore Scripture, and read and discuss books as we journey together to grow in our relationship with God. Bread for the Journey is on hiatus for the month of February, returning on Tuesday, March 1. Contact Gale Hewitt at 267.218.2479 or [gwhewitt@gmail.com](mailto:gwhewitt@gmail.com) to learn more about this small group.

### Friday Online Bible Study

This online ZOOM Bible Study meets Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m. The group is currently studying “Jerusalem, Holy City for Judaism, Christianity and Islam.” To learn more, contact Gail Schadler ([glschadler@gmail.com](mailto:glschadler@gmail.com)) or Janet Finch ([jmfumw@aol.com](mailto:jmfumw@aol.com)).

# From Missions Commission



## QUMC Cares

Our December QUMC Cares offering went to a Faith Preschool family whose mother is struggling with illness.

“Thank you to the Mission’s team for the generous donation to our preschool family. We told the family donations were anonymous but the mother asked me to pass the following message along:

*As I read this email, my eyes filled with tears. Our family is humbled by the generosity and support by this news. As you know it’s been a difficult time for our family. We are so thankful and grateful for the help. Please forward our appreciation to the anonymous donors. Happy holidays and a healthy New Year to all!”*

## American Red Cross Blood Drive

QUMC will host a blood drive on Friday, February 11. Sign-up for the blood drive online ([RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org)) or in the narthex.

## Super Bowl Food Order Pick-Up

Those who ordered food for Super Bowl Sunday can pick-up their orders after worship services on Sunday, February 13. At that time, the Youth Group will be selling “creative cookies,” 4/\$1.00.

## New Missionary

The Missions Team is sponsoring a new missionary! Funds of support will be sent to Dr. Belinda Forbes in Nicaragua, Central America. Dr. Forbes’ areas of expertise are senior health, education, farming, nutrition, clean water and sanitation, women’s health, and youth leadership.

## COVID UPDATE

Thanks to the positivity rate falling below 15% in Bucks County, we removed our mask mandate effective Sunday, February 6, 2022. Masking in the church building is now optional. We request you follow the CDC's guidance regarding continued masking if you or close loved ones are especially vulnerable to COVID or you are not fully vaccinated.

Please note that specific missions and ministries of the church may continue to require masking for the time being, so please continue to follow the recommendations of the leaders of those respective groups.

Thank you all for your faithful endurance amid the Omicron variant surge. Please continue to pray for each other, our church, and our collective witness of Jesus Christ.





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

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

## YOUTH GROUP MEETS WEDNESDAY NIGHTS, 6:30 TO 8:00 PM

Youth group is back in full swing meeting on Wednesdays! Come out and join us for fun, games and fellowship!

The youth are currently doing a study on mental health and the Bible! They are also continuing their once-a-month outing the third Saturday of each month. January was an in-house game day in Miller Hall.

Look out for Snow Tubing in February! If you or someone you know would like to participate but finances are an issue, please contact Pastor Kathryn for sponsorship.

Below, you can check out a few of the youth showcasing why they are #Godsmasterpiece. For your submission to be featured (and hung on Pastor Kathryn's office door), illustrate why you are God's masterpiece and send it to kathrynswan19@gmail.com or put it in Pastor Kathryn's mailbox in the church office.







## #Godsmasterpiece



### **Wait! There's More!**

Youth (ages 12 to 18) interested in art, history, and museums are invited to join the Museum Youth Advisory Council at Historic St. George's UMC Museum & Archives, 326 New Street, Philadelphia. Experience the workings of a history museum, while learning skills including archival work, museum management, planning and assisting with teen events and programs at the museum, developing the museum's youth voice, and acting as a museum advocate! For more information, contact Kate Nolan ([kate@historicstgeorges.org](mailto:kate@historicstgeorges.org)).

Youth Group is primarily for fourth- to twelfth-graders; however, if you have a younger child who would like to attend please contact Pastor Kathryn and Pastor Rick so we can have a conversation. Likewise, if you are a high school graduate and would like to take part, please be in touch as we can share specifics of how you can become a Youth Group volunteer. A friendly reminder that all youth are welcome to attend - you need not be a member of QUMC. So please feel free to invite friends and family to attend.



# Family Matters

**Happy Birthday to:** Ruth Barto - February 4, Donald Barto - February 6,  
Marie Frankenfield & Lorraine Hillegass - February 11

## Note of Thanks:

*“A large bear hug and sincere 'thank you' to Pastor Kathryn for bringing me communion for the last two months. She is a delightful person and a large asset to my church. The last two months have been very cold, but regardless she always comes to see me. Thanks for caring.”*

*Sincerely, Anna Wolfinger*

## Looking For Ways To Help?



- Altar Flowers are \$40 for two vases and can be sponsored in honor or memory of someone (or if you just feel it upon your heart to provide flowers for a Sunday during the year). The florist will use flowers seasonal at the time. Special requests can be fulfilled at an additional cost. Flowers are yours to keep after worship services. To sponsor altar flowers, contact the church office (215.536.4992 or barb@qumc.com).
- Got Talent? If you play the piano, flute or another instrument, you can make a meaningful contribution to worship! Musicians are needed to play occasionally throughout the year, solos or with others. To share your musical gifts by making a joyful noise unto the Lord, see Bethan.
- The Hospitality Ministry is in need of volunteers in these areas: Greeters, Hospitality Table, Welcome Center. If you are interested in serving in any (or all) of these areas, contact Molly Minarik (craftlover38@aol.com or 610.282.3708).
- The Bountiful Basket of Morning Snacks at our Hospitality Table is a popular spot on Sunday mornings! Donations of pre-packaged breakfast snacks are welcomed and can be placed in the kitchen, clearly marked “Hospitality Table.” Many thanks!
- Finance Chair Committee Member is needed. Anyone with a background in finance who would volunteer for a three-year term as Chair of Finance (leading meetings and the team), is encouraged to contact Pastor Rick. This position is very important to the financial health of the church.
- Stewardship Chair is needed. Contact Pastor Rick if you can volunteer for this position.

- Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency is looking for caring individuals or families interested in providing a short- or long-term home for a child and/or children in foster care between birth and 17 years of age. You will receive financial assistance for room and board and medical assistance. You will receive 24/7 professional supportive services and preservice training. Contact Shantelle at 215.348.6922 or [sjgammon@buckscounty.org](mailto:sjgammon@buckscounty.org).
- Outreach Care is in need of volunteers to assist the homeless in Upper Bucks County by helping them to get back on their feet. Contact Joanne Cramer (610.442.6465) to learn more.



### Membership Care

The Prayer Chain is one of the ways we care for each other here at QUMC. To join the Prayer Chain, or to put a prayer concern on the chain, contact Janet Finch ([jmfumw@aol.com](mailto:jmfumw@aol.com) or 215.538.0835).

### 2022 Commitment Cards

A Stewardship Letter and 2022 Commitment Card were recently mailed out to members and friends of QUMC. If you missed Stewardship Sunday, cards can still be submitted in person at worship on Sundays or can be mailed in. Please prayerfully consider how you will share your presence, gifts, service, and witness to the church in the coming year.

### Interested in a 2022 Confirmation Class?

Do you have basic questions about what confirmation is and our process? If you are interested in confirmation for 2022, contact Pastor Kathryn for more information ([kathrynswan19@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynswan19@gmail.com) or 610.348.2632).

### Safe Sanctuary Clearances

Clearances are required for all volunteers working with children. If your clearances are updated, please make sure we have a copy for our files. Contact Marj Lofland (215.257.7389, 267.227.8990, or [yeamarj@gmail.com](mailto:yeamarj@gmail.com)) if you have questions or have documents to submit. There is also a required Safe Sanctuary training offered periodically. In addition, if you would like hands-on First Aid and CPR training, it can be arranged by contacting Marj.

### Youth Group Library Project

This project is underway. The youth are collecting books for our little library project. Contact Pastor Kathryn ([kathrynswan19@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynswan19@gmail.com) or 610.348.2632) if you have questions or are looking for more details.

## Faith Preschool

For more information, reach out to Megan McGinty (registrarfps@gmail.com or 215.536.8172). The registration form for Faith Preschool can be found at :

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vq2wupgX4r24OWo3gcokTFNWLuHaTIFH/view?usp=sharing>

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

## Acts IV Fund

We would like to remind the church family that members of the congregation experiencing financial difficulty should contact Pastor Rick (pastorrick@qumc.com or 484.358.1138).

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

Those who are ill, grieving or just lonely can request a shawl for comfort. Contact the church office (215.536.4992 or barb@qumc.com) or Janet Finch (215.538.0835).

## Worship Service Materials

Anyone desiring a copy of the bulletin each week is asked to contact the church office (barb@qumc.com or 215.536.4992) to get on the email and/or USPS list.

## Want To Become A Member or Schedule a Baptism?

The doors of QUMC are always open! Contact Pastor Rick for more information (pastorrick@qumc.com or 484.358.1138).

## Paper Recycling

We like to do our part to save the planet. Receptacles can be found in the southwest corner of the church parking lot to recycle paper. 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

This is yet another way we save the planet, while helping defray costs of the annual Chicken Barbecue. Bag and bring your cans to the 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.

## Monthly Newsletter

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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the publishing month. Thank you!



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

The audit of church financial records for 2021 has begun. Those responsible for maintaining financial records of church groups are asked to submit their books to the church for auditing by the Audit Team.

In this time of COVID-19, we ask that financial records be sealed in a Ziploc bag or other type of protective covering, clearly marked with the name of your group and "Audit 2021." Those with a key to the church can leave financial records in the box located on the table outside the church office. If you are unable to drop them at the church, contact the Church Secretary (215.538.7817 or barb@qumc.com) to make arrangements for a contactless drop-off or pick-up.

Additionally, one or two additional volunteers with a finance background are needed to assist with the audit. If you are able to help out in this way, please contact the Church Secretary (215.538.7817 or barb@qumc.com).

Thank you for your cooperation in submitting materials for the 2021 Audit. Following completion of audit of your books, you will be contacted with instructions on how to retrieve your records.

**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 in 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 this manner means that your gift can continue giving indefinitely.