

The Freier Flyer

Quakertown United Methodist Church

June 2022

1875 Freier Road, Quakertown, PA 18951

www.qumc.com

VBS is Back at QUMC!



**Vacation Bible School (VBS) is back,
Monday, June 20 through Friday June 24, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

All children ages three-years-old to fifth grade are welcome. Registration is open. You can sign up today at www.QUMC.mycokesburyvbs.com or at the display in the narthex.

How can you help with VBS?

We are looking for:

- Adult Crew Leaders (each group of campers has an adult that guides them through their schedule)
- Games Coordinators
- Youth Volunteers (must be in sixth grade or older)
- Adult Snack Helpers
- One Assistant Teacher

VBS is a vital ministry for our church and the children of our community. Please prayerfully consider helping us in one or more of the above ways. Reach out to Megan McMichael megan@mcmichaelfamily.com or Allison Ghorm agghorm@gmail.com with any questions.



Going the Distance

The Rev. Richard K. Brown II, Pastor

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

Summer is upon us and it brings with it hot days, long-expected vacations and fresh opportunities to see God's movement in our midst.

While I too will be enjoying some vacation time with my family this summer, I see these precious months as a time to dream and seek God's vision for the future. This is in part because come the fall we will have an exciting Rally Day and restart to several of our Sunday School classes, the Chicken BBQ dinner, and then even more seasonal ministries for October and November. Then, we are at Advent's door and so on. Now is the time to decompress, relax, and reflect on where God is leading us, personally and as a church family.

Recently we hosted a Church Brainstorming session and received many wonderful ideas to explore. This, however, was not a one-off exercise; rather, the first in an ongoing effort to work together towards greater missional efforts, more effective engagement of our congregation, better communications, and outreach to our community. Stay on the lookout, good church, for new events where I will both do some teaching as well as discussion sessions.

QUMC, I look forward to a full Summer with you. May we all be refreshed by God's Spirit, prepare for what God has in store for us, and lay aside any and all obstacles that we may follow where the Lord's leads in this new season. Amen?

Pastor Rick Brown

Confirmation & Membership Class Call

As the summer draws ever near, if you are considering making QUMC your church home please speak to me. We will be having meetings over the summer to form the confirmation and membership classes, respectively, before a fall start-up.

Office Hours & Sabbath

My regular office hours, Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., will resume on Tuesday, June 14th. You are welcome to call, text, or email me to make an appointment and/or so we can work out a time that best fits your schedule. Please note that I observe my Sabbath on Fridays, so all non-emergency matters will be contacted the following day.

For contact purposes, I am available by phone (484.358.1138) or by email (pastorrick@qumc.com).

Church Secretary Summer Schedule

Just a reminder that during the summer months of June, July, and August, our Church Secretary, Barbara Hafler, is off on Fridays. This provides an opportunity for her to reserve some extra work hours for the upcoming fall season, a busy time of the year for the church office.

Celebrating the Class of 2022!

It is that time of year where our students celebrate the completion of their studies and we join them in recognizing this accomplishment. Please join me in praising God for the achievements of our youth and young adults:

High School Graduation:

Lucas Albright
Elizabeth Callan
Stephen Hattala
Ryan Patrick
Joseph Pizzi
Julie Pizzi
Elizabeth Susavage
Kimberly Wilson



College Degree:

Morgan Smakulski, Associates in Criminal Justice from Northhampton Community College

Master's Degree:

Blake Miller, Master's Degree from Penn State University
Anisha Wilson, Master's Degree from Purdue University

If we have missed anyone, please let us know by contacting the Church Office (215.536.4992 or barb@qumc.com). Thank you!

Your Dollars At Work

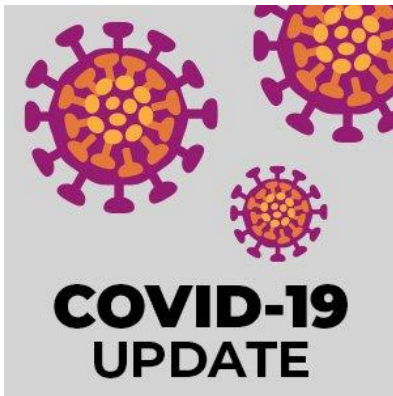


Thank you for your continued commitment, financial support, and faithfulness to QUMC.

This month's "Your Dollars at Work" section features our Vacation Bible School program. VBS is an effort of Intention Faith Building, Youth Ministry, community outreach, and lots of creativity and volunteering. VBS is a wonderful offering for faith engagement and development of our children and youth.

The budgeted funds allow for the purchase of a program. This program is carefully selected by our co-directors to engage our youth in the most effective and exciting ways. With the main kit and additions therein, our VBS volunteers are equipped to teach, host games that express the themes and lessons, offer crafts that give tactile reminders of what we learned, and introduce songs that teach us about God's love and grace.

We are very excited to have our VBS return after two years of closure due to COVID-19. Thank you for your giving that makes programs like our VBS possible, and for the donations of time and items for this effort.



On Tuesday, May 24, Church Council met to review and amend COVID protocol, in regard to masking, for the church. The following statement comes directly from the Church Council minutes reported:

Gail Schadler, as Chair of the Worship Team, made a motion that the current COVID protocol be amended to remove the sentence about the mask mandate and replace it with “when the positivity rate in Bucks County spikes to 15% or greater, weekly updates of the positivity rate and hospitalizations will be provided in the bulletin and at the Welcome Desk so that people can be informed in their decision- making process.”

The motion was seconded and passed.

Church Council and Worship continue to be cognizant of COVID, working to keep the congregation safe and abreast of any concerns. To check COVID Positivity Updates for Bucks (and surrounding) counties, information is updated weekly at:

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Monitoring-Dashboard.aspx>

Please keep in mind that masks and hand sanitizer are available at the Welcome Center for your comfort and convenience. Thank you!

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 (Men’s & Women’s Classes only during the summer months)
- 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) or Gail Schadler (glschadler@gmail.com).

THE WORSHIP TEAM WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Do you have questions on who the Worship Team is and what they are responsible for in our church? We would love to hear from you and welcome any questions or concerns you may have. We are looking for suggestions on ways to contribute to our church services and are looking for members to join our team!

For questions or more information, contact Gail Schadler (glschadler@gmail.com or 267.733.3328).

QUMC Generously Supports United Methodist Special Sundays



Native American Ministries Sunday

May 15th was Native American Sunday with \$310 generously given to this effort. What is Native American Ministries Sunday?

This Sunday serves to remind United Methodists of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society and in our communities. With more than 20,000 Native Americans within the denomination, this Special Sunday helps to ensure that Native American United Methodist leaders are recognized and to celebrate their special voice in the United Methodist Church.

This Special Sunday was officially recognized in 1988 and has been celebrated on the Third Sunday of Easter since 1989. An offering is taken on this day and is used to develop and strengthen Native American ministries in the annual conferences, and Native American rural, urban, reservation ministries and communities. It also provides scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist schools of theology.

Donations support vital ministries and churches in the Native American communities and allow The UMC to partner with existing native ministries to develop new programs on behalf of Native Americans. Half of the donations collected remain within the Annual Conference to provide hope to children and youth, hope for a brighter future in impoverished communities and a voice to those who have felt voiceless for years. This fund is distributed by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

When you give generously on Native American Ministries Sunday, you equip seminary students who honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. You empower congregations to find fresh and culturally appropriate ways to minister to their communities with Christ's love.

Peace with Justice Sunday is June 12th

United Methodists respond to this special Sunday by seeking peaceful solutions, creating and supporting peace-related ministries in their conference and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world. Our Social Principles call us to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as reconcilers of conflict. We insist that this first moral duty of all nations is to work together to resolve by peaceful means every dispute that arises between or among them.

We recognize and renew our call for social transformation, for the quest to open the doors of opportunity for all, to distribute resources more equitably, and to provide better care for persons in need. Donations for this special Sunday support programs and ministries to educate, equip, and mobilize actions in support of identified Economic, Health, and Gender Justice Priorities. Please plan to give generously to this effort of the United Methodist Church.



From Missions Commission

Missionary Update

After many years of Missionary service, Dustin and Emily (Jamison) Miller have left the ministry field and are moving on to other endeavors. Our Missions team has decided to give their previously designated funds to Dr. Belinda Forbes, a Missionary in Nicaragua. If Dr. Forbes' name seems familiar, that is because Missions sponsored her for a sixth month period as reported in a previous issue of the church newsletter.

First Food Drive of the Year

Missions just wrapped up the first food drive of the year. Many of you stopped by and dropped off food, which was given to the FEAST Food Pantry in Trumbauersville. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Blood Drive

QUMC recently hosted a blood drive. The Red Cross appreciated those who took the time to donate both their time and blood.

Loaves and Fishes

On Thursday, May 5, Missions traveled to Trinity Lutheran Church and served 100 meals to members of our Quakertown Community. QUMC did this in conjunction with the monthly Loaves and Fishes dinners, which are sponsored by churches of the Quakertown Ministerium.

QUMC Cares

Newcomer recently sent this note to QUMC on behalf of Quakertown Cares:

“Within the past week, we have been able to put your April special collection to good use. The mother of three of our students died unexpectedly of a heart attack, leaving the husband and children in shock. One of the children is elementary age, one middle school, and I'm not sure about the age of the third. Father has been out of work. Needless to say, the family is reeling emotionally and financially, as the mother's work supported them. Cares added a Giant gift card to the check representing the QUMC special offering. Other agencies are also helping. Thanks to QUMC for this important local mission.”

Planting Partners

Sponsored by the Missions Team

“Planting Partners” is the community garden of QUMC, located behind the playground. At least 10% of the harvest is contributed to local food banks. To reserve a plot, contact Steve Finch (215.538.0835 or finchsc1@verizon.net).

The church provides the tilled ground and water under the God-given sun. You take care of the rest; plant your own choice of plants, pull weeds, harvest, and clean-up afterwards. We have a lawn mower available if you

want to help mow. A limited number of tomato cages are available. "Planting Partners" can plant and tend to their own 3' x 20' garden spot. The garden is open 24/7.

Gardening Conditions:

- No herbicides/insecticides permitted.
- Rainwater is collected in barrels and piped into the field. Supplemental public water is available if there is inadequate rain.
- Beware of ticks; please use topical bug repellent.
- Sets of garden tools are available for use and hang outside the shed on hooks.
- Garden is fenced in an open field to limit damage by wildlife.

Contact Steve for a guided tour of the garden area.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Thank you for your years of service in the area of church hospitality!

Phyllis McKinley

An ever-ready battery, Phyllis finds ways to serve the Lord in the numerous activities she is involved within the church. Whether it is helping out with an event, ushering on a Sunday morning, rebooting the Hospitality Table, visiting shut-ins and calling those with health concerns, cooking dinners for church friends, preparing communion – the list goes on and on. And her devoted husband, Ken, is usually right alongside her, helping out as well.

Steve Finch

Never ever one to flaunt his many contributions to our church in so many areas, over so many years, Steve served as our Hospitality Committee Chair until 2017. Whether Steve offers advice, operates a hot dog roller or barbecue pit, performs odd jobs such as repairs, painting, and plumbing, serves as chauffeur for more senior members, or does one of a hundred other things, he is a busy and valuable disciple in the church, while still remaining a devoted and involved patriarch of his own family.

Janet Finch

Our appreciation also to Janet Finch for her many years of dedication and participation in the church, currently coordinating the Prayer Chain and helping lead the Friday morning Bible Study group.

Thank you from Hospitality. Members of the church family are also encouraged to thank Phyllis & Ken and Steve & Janet for their contributions to the life of our church.

Upcoming Events



Remembering Doris Willauer, Sunday June 12

On Sunday, June 12 at 2:00 p.m. there will be a graveside service for the interment of Doris Willauer at Union Cemetery in Quakertown. The family asked that an invitation to attend be extended to the church family and friends of QUMC. Sunday, June 12 would have been Doris' 100th birthday.

Honoring Bill Dietz, Friday, June 17

On Friday, June 17, there will be a graveside interment followed by a memorial service at the church for Bill Dietz. An invitation to attend is extended to the church family and friends of QUMC. Interment at Union Cemetery at 10:00 a.m., with the memorial service at the church following at 11:00 a.m.

Chicken Barbeque

Save-the-date of Saturday, September 10. Volunteers will be needed.

Fall Rummage Sale

Save-the-date of Friday, October 28 and Saturday, October 29. Donated items and volunteers will be needed .

Family Matters



Happy Birthday to: Edward Moore – June 13

Baptisms: Benjamin Eugene Scott, Jr., born February 14, 2022,
son of Benjamin & Andrea Scott

Noelle Rose Germani, born July 16, 2019,
and Anthony Patrick Germani, born August 29, 2021,
children of Anthony & Jane Germani

In Memoriam: Don Barto - June 5



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

**If you have any questions about Youth Group,
contact Pastor Rick (484.358.1138 or pastorrick@qumc.com).**

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

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

Youth Group is primarily for fourth- to twelfth-graders; however, if you have a younger child who would like to attend please contact 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.

The Worship Committee needs help each month with Communion! Youth that have gone through the confirmation process, or plan on going into confirmation within the year, are asked to help out the Worship Committee by passing out gluten free elements for the sacrament of Holy Communion. Please contact Pastor Rick if you are interested. Youth are needed at both the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. services.





Looking For Ways To Help?

- Vacation Bible School is June 20 through June 24. Volunteers are needed for all areas. Contact Megan McMichael (megan@mcmichaelfamily.com) or Allison Ghorm (agghorm@gmail.com) for more information or to help out.
- 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.
- Stewardship Chair is needed. Contact Pastor Rick if you can volunteer for this position.
- Wawa Food Donation Connection is an effort of the Missions Team, making it possible for local organizations to go to Wawa in the late morning to gather hot food express items not sold that day. QUMC goes once a week and we typically gather 30-40 pounds of food! Food items are taken to the Quakertown Food Pantry, who distributes it to the community. If you are interested in helping us gather food from Wawa on Wednesdays, please see any member of the Missions Team. We would be happy to accept your help!
- 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).

Snacks are also needed for the Sunday morning Hospitality Cart. Donations of pre-packaged breakfast snacks are welcomed and can be placed in the kitchen, clearly marked "Hospitality." Many thanks!



Faith Preschool

Do you have a preschool-age child? Faith Preschool offers classes for children ages two through five and is accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year. Spaces are filling quickly! For more information, please reach out to Megan McGinty (registrarfps@gmail.com or 215.536.8172).

Safe Sanctuary Volunteer Clearances and Training: **Updates required if you are volunteering for VBS!**

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) if you have questions or have information to submit. There is a Safe Sanctuary training offered periodically that must be taken. If you would like hands-on First Aid and CPR training, it can be arranged by Marj as well.

Reminder from the Trustees & the Church Office

All staff, church groups, and church members are reminded to promptly inform the church office of any upcoming events. Building use forms are readily available in the church office. To schedule an event, contact the church office (215.536.4992, 215.538.7817 or barb@qumc.com).

What's Happening at QUMC?

If you wish to receive updates on all that is happening at the church, subscribe to our church-wide email list or USPS mailing list. For more information on these resources, contact the Church Secretary, Barbara Hafler at 215.538.7817, 215.536.4992, or barb@qumc.com.

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 or 215.538.0835).

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).

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).

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.

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 15th of the month prior to the publishing month. Thank you!