

# The Freier Flyer

Quakertown United Methodist Church

Summer 2022

1875 Freier Road, Quakertown, PA 18951

www.qumc.com

## Six Verses to Help You Rest this Summer

Hammock? Check.

Lemonade? Check.

A good book? Check.

An afternoon all to yourself? Check.



Mix those four ingredients together and you have a recipe for a perfect summer afternoon. So why can't you relax? Why is your mind racing a mile a minute, as usual? What seems to be missing? There is one more secret ingredient needed for this dish and it is often overlooked - a spirit at peace.

For many of us, pushing the pause button is easier said than done, even during the summer months when life should slow down a little, giving us a chance to catch our breath and relax. But just as physical rest is necessary for a healthy body, spiritual rest is important for our spiritual well-being. And the best way to rest your spirit is to rest in the One who created you.

The notion of resting is a theme woven throughout Scripture beginning ...well, at the very beginning.

*"On the seventh day God had finished His work of creation, so He rested from all His work."*  
Genesis 2:2 NLT

Even God took a day to rest after creating the world and it's a lesson He intends for us to follow. Here are six verses you can focus on this summer – verses to remind you to rest in God and lean into Him so you can relax and fully enjoy the season.

*"The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need. He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength."*  
Psalms 23: 1-2 NLT

In God, we have all that we need. No matter what. He knows the "green meadows" and "peaceful streams" that will restore and renew each of us. And He promises to deliver. When we walk with Him, we can count on Him for complete rest and restoration.

*"It is useless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night, anxiously working for food to eat: for God gives rest to His loved ones."*  
Psalm 127: 2 NLT

Even with the best of intentions, we can easily slip back into the habit of counting on ourselves to meet our needs. We honor God with our work but not when it serves as a cover for our inability to trust in Him. Trusting in Him, while working and resting, is the key to renewal and refreshment.

*“Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life...your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”*

Matthew 6: 25-34 NKJV

In this passage, Jesus makes it clear that worrying about the future is a waste of time. Instead, He reminds us that our heavenly Father values us above all else and He will care for us just as He does the flowers of the fields and the birds of the air.

*“Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”*

Matthew 11: 28-29 NIV

Responsibilities can be overwhelming but Jesus promises to help carry the load. And His shoulders are much bigger than ours! While He doesn't promise a life without hard work and trials, He does promise to be our partner, participating with us and walking with us every step of the way.

*“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*

Phil. 4: 6-7 NASB

In this passage, Paul provides some great advice – he suggests we turn our worries into prayers. When we stop worrying and start praying we will be filled with the complete peace and rest that only God can provide.

*“I have told you these things so that, in Me, you may have peace. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”*

John 16:33 NIV

The next time a restless spirit threatens to ruin a perfect summer day, stop and remind yourself that, in Jesus, the victory has already been won! God is in control, our destiny as believers is set, and things won't fall apart when we pause to enjoy the beauty of the world around us.

*Article by Julie  
Dayspring, Living Your Faith*





# *Going the Distance*

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

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

We have hit the first milestone, good people. We have hit the one-year mark for our time together and what a year it has been! It has been a year of first experiences: first Chicken BBQ, Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, and now the return of Summer and the planning that comes with it for another exciting year of ministry. I feel very blessed to be with you all and I am so grateful we have been placed together at this time. There was much I learned in this first year with you all and I'll be putting that to good use as we walk together in this second year.

Now, one of the big changes from Year One to Year Two is the departure of our Associate Pastor, Rev. Kathryn Swan. Like all other transitioning pastors, she concluded her time in June and began her new appointment as of July 1st. Please continue to lift up Pastor Kathryn amid all the firsts she will be having at her new church, Mountainhome UMC. Furthermore, please keep her and her husband, Sam, in prayer as they eagerly await their daughter's birth in October.

In the near future, you'll be receiving the plan that the SPRC and I have developed to cover those areas affected by Pastor Kathryn's transition. Keep an eye on your inboxes, the Sunday bulletin, and listen for verbal announcements as well.

Good people, I wish you a fun, safe, and relaxing time this Summer. Please get outside and enjoy some of the beautiful sunny weather, relax in some cool water, and be open as the Holy Spirit lays new inspiration upon you. We have so much to be grateful for and God will lead us forward if we keep listening for that "still small voice." Amen?

Pastor Rick Brown

## **Vacation Time:**

I will be on vacation Saturday, July 23 through Saturday, August 6. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact Church Secretary Barbara Hafler at 215.538.7817, 215.536.4992, or [barb@qumc.com](mailto:barb@qumc.com).

## **Confirmation & Membership Class Call:**

As summer is upon us, if you are considering making QUMC your church home please contact 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 are Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. 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](mailto: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.

# Your Dollars At Work



First and foremost, thank you for your continued commitment, financial support, and faithfulness to QUMC.

This month's feature speaks about the newly renamed "Helping Hands Fund." Formerly this fund was known as the Pastor's Emergency Fund or the Discretionary Fund. Recently, the Finance Committee and I considered a rename after reflection on how the current name, Discretionary Fund, is understood in the modern vernacular. Generally, in budgetary terms, when we speak of discretionary funds we are talking about those funds set aside for non-essentials, like a fancy Starbucks drink, bigger TV, or our hobbies. We certainly don't want folks thinking they are contributing to the Pastor getting a TV in his office (which I'm not lest the joke not be evident). Instead, we want every child and adult to instantly connect to the idea that these funds are used to help people in crisis, especially non-members since the Acts IV Fund is for church member assistance.

An example of this occurred just recently. Between our 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services, a call was received from someone in crisis. They had a falling out with loved ones and were staying in one of our local motels until the new week began and they could get help from our local organizations. I met with the person, ascertained the need, and paid for the room for one more night. We ended with an understanding that all future help would require further meetings with me so I could assist with connecting the person to greater resources (such as those found within our Quakertown Ministerium and more).

With a new name, I encourage you to make gifts to this fund such that when the next time a need arrives, I will be in a position to meet with the person and provide assistance in the name of God and our beloved church.

## COVID-19 Update

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!





# Celebrating a Successful Vacation Bible School

What a great turnout we had for our first year back doing Vacation Bible School! We welcomed 50 children through our doors with the help of over 60 volunteers! Our children brought in \$897 to support our missions over the course of VBS week. A big thank you to the congregation who added to that for a grand total of \$1,404.33!!! Our collection is being split between Quakertown Community Outreach and the Pastor's "Helping Hands" Fund, which is used to help community members in need. Thank you for all of your help, prayers, donations and support of VBS!





# Hospitality Update

## Results of the Brainstorming Breakfast

The discussion was robust and we were able to hear from everyone who attended. We met our goal of generating, consolidating, and documenting ideas for church engagement. Group exercises focused on:

- ✓ Prioritizing various aspects of worship
- ✓ Viewing the church as a business
- ✓ Addressing responses for why individuals are not interested in participating in the church
- ✓ Suggestions on how to engage more people in worship and church activities

Visibility (through enhanced technology and community involvement) and communications (by providing information more effectively to the congregation) were identified as two important areas we plan to pursue.

If you would like to learn more detail about our brainstorming ideas, please help yourself to one of the envelopes marked, "Thank you for Participation and Interest," located in the narthex on the table to the left of the church office.

Again, thank you to all who attended the Brainstorming Breakfast.

## The Hospitality Table Will Reconvene

Hospitality plans to resume the Hospitality Table, more like we remember it pre-pandemic, in September. Phyllis McKinley graciously volunteered to manage the table and has assembled a crew to set up the table prior to the 8:30 a.m. service. The table will be located in the narthex outside the kitchen area and will offer a wider selection of snack foods for everyone. Phyllis and Molly Minarik will clean up after the start of the 11:00 a.m. service, but in the event that neither are present at the late service, we ask that everyone be vigilant about checking the coffee appliances to make sure they are turned off.

Coffee and snacks are a nice benefit for worshippers. We will continue the Hospitality Table as long as we continue to receive donations to supply food and drink items and have volunteers to help with the table. Thank you.

For more information on initiatives of Hospitality, contact Pastor Rick ([pastorrick@qumc.com](mailto:pastorrick@qumc.com) or 484.358.1138) or Molly Minarik ([craftlover38@aol.com](mailto:craftlover38@aol.com) or 610.282.3708)

# From Missions Commission



## Mark the Date

It's never too early to plan, so mark the date! QUMC's annual Chicken Barbeque will be held Saturday, September 10. Our church needs help with food prep, bakers, servers, cleaner-uppers, you know the drill. So pretty please...start considering how you can contribute to make this a smashing event.

## QUMC Cares

A special offering is taken the fourth Sunday of each month for the mission of Quakertown Cares. We received a thank you from Quakertown Cares recognizing donations from QUMC for the 2021-2022 Campaign (June 2021 through May 2022) in the amount of \$2,412.

Missions would like to take a minute and once again thank all congregational members who, month in and month out, faithfully donate to QUMC Cares. Each and every month Jim Newcomer, on behalf of Quakertown Cares, finds community members who most sincerely need our support.

Here is our latest message from Jim:

*"We just received the check for your May special collection. Thank you.*

*Within the last 10 days we received a referral from a guidance counselor for a family in which the single mother had died several years ago, leaving the children to be raised by the grandmother. In the recent storm, a tree fell on their trailer, causing significant damage, but, thankfully, no injuries. We are sending your funds in a check to this family.*

*Each of your special collections gets put to good use. Please thank the Missions Committee and church members."*

## Blood Drive

Give the gift of life! On Friday, August 5 from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m., we will host a blood in conjunction with the American Red Cross. Sign-up online at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org). Contact Patty Wensel ([wenselpatricia@yahoo.com](mailto:wenselpatricia@yahoo.com) or 215.284.5316) with questions or to learn more.

## School Supplies

Missions will host QUMC's annual School Supply Drive, Saturday, August 13. Drop-off time 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon at the pavilion. There will also be a box in the narthex to receive items. Following are the requested supply items:

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- ✓ Backpacks (all grades)
- ✓ Ear Buds (Kindergarten: headphones that go over the head, no ear buds. Other grades: ear buds or headphones.)
- ✓ Yellow Highlighters (all grades)
- ✓ Pencils (all grades)
- ✓ Cap Erasers (all grades)
- ✓ Regular Erasers (all grades)
- ✓ Pens (High school: blue and black ink)
- ✓ Dry Erase Markers (Expo markers in all colors for all grades)
- ✓ Crayons (elementary school)
- ✓ Colored Pencils (upper elementary & middle school)
- ✓ Colored Markers (upper elementary & middle school)
- ✓ Glue Sticks (elementary & middle school)
- ✓ Rulers (all grades)
- ✓ Pencil Cases (Kindergarten: hard-sided pencil boxes. Other grades: soft sided, 3-hole punched, zippered pencil cases)
- ✓ Loose Leaf Paper (Upper elementary & middle school: 3-hole punched, wide ruled. High school: 3-hole punched, wide or college ruled.)
- ✓ Single spiral, one subject notebooks, solid, assorted colors (Upper elementary & middle school: wide ruled. High school: wide or college ruled.)
- ✓ Marble Composition Notebooks
- ✓ Two-Pocket Plastic Folders (solid, assorted colors)
- ✓ Three-Ring Binders (one inch, solid, assorted colors)

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## **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](mailto:pastorrick@qumc.com)) or Gail Schadler ([glschadler@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:glschadler@gmail.com) or 267.733.3328).





Happy Birthday to: Eileen VanAuken - July 5.

Notes of Thanks:

*"I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for remembering me and my family at the passing our dear Don. He was a positive in our lives always but we know that our God has him in his care now and that he is free of pain. Don loved this church and congregation, and his Sunday School class he participated in for over 70 years. His strong faith will enable us to continue on."*

*Love to all of you,  
Ruth & Curt Barto and Melea, Lynn & Ryan Rupert*

*"I just wanted to say thank you to Megan McMichael and Allison Ghorm for organizing and coordinating VBS and to all the many people that jumped in to help and to be a part of VBS this year. There was a lot of hard work and love put into this week. We had a wonderful group of kids and it was truly a great week. I am still finding myself singing the songs. I feel blessed to have been a part of it!"*

*Teddi Miller*

*"As most of you are aware, our family suffered back-to-back tragedy last winter when Matt's mother passed away followed by his father less than two weeks later. The amount of support we received from our QUMC family was overwhelming and heartwarming. We cannot thank you enough for all the ways you reached out to hold us up during such a sad time. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts."*

*God bless you all. Matt, Megan & Matthew McMichael*

Change of Address:

Longtime member June Roth has relocated to Bloomsburg to be nearer to family. Her new address is:

1571 Seidel Avenue  
Bloomsburg, PA 17815



**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](mailto: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.

## **Upcoming Events**



### **Chicken Barbeque**

Save-the-date of Saturday, September 10. Volunteers will be needed. Contact Carol Peruit for additional information (267.733.3378 or [carolperuit@verizon.net](mailto:carolperuit@verizon.net)).

### **Fall Rummage Sale**

Save-the-date of Friday, October 28 and Saturday, October 29. Donated items and volunteers will be needed. For details, contact Becky Petko ([bpetko@remax440.com](mailto:bpetko@remax440.com) or 215.896.7055).



## Looking For Ways To Help?

- Looking for an opportunity to serve our community while sharing your faith? Independence Court has asked our church to offer a 30-minute worship service of prayer, scripture, and song at their facility the second Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. Several church groups have already signed on to participate! Contact Gail Schadler (267.733.3328) if you would like to be a part of this outreach ministry. If we get enough groups to participate, each group will need to serve only once or twice a year.
- 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!





### Want to “Tickle the Ivories?”

Free: Maple finish spinet piano in very good condition with bench. You are responsible for removing it from Miller Hall. This would be an excellent piano for a student learning to play or for someone who enjoys playing for their own enjoyment. Contact Debbie Reynolds (dave49deb@gmail.com or 216.266.1385).

### 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

Clearances are required for all volunteers working with children. If your clearances are updated, please make sure we have a copy for the church office files. Contact Pastor Rick (pastorrick@qumc.com or 484.358.1138) if you have questions.

### 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).

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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

**Please note there is no newsletter in the month of August. The next newsletter will be the September issue. The deadline to submit information to be included in the September issue is August 15.**

Submissions for the monthly newsletter can be emailed to Teddi Miller at [QUMCNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:QUMCNewsletter@gmail.com) or you can put them in the newsletter mailbox in the church office. Thank you!

