

The Freier Flyer

Quakertown United Methodist Church

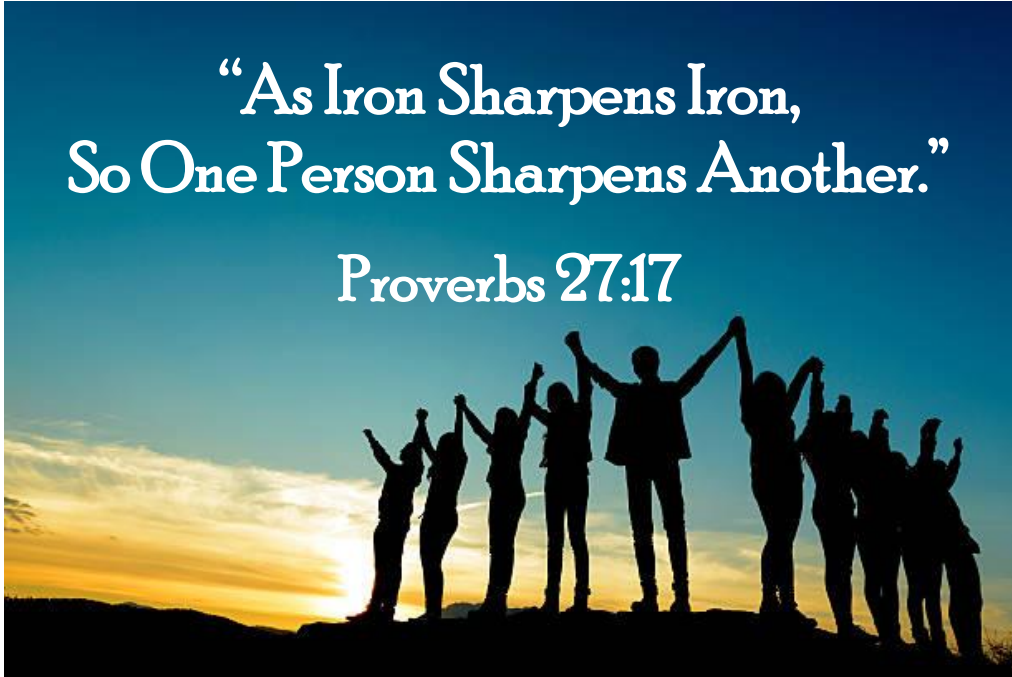
September 2022

1875 Freier Road, Quakertown, PA 18951

www.qumc.com

**“As Iron Sharpens Iron,
So One Person Sharpens Another.”**

Proverbs 27:17



JOIN US FOR RALLY DAY 2022!

**Meet in the sanctuary at 9:45 a.m.
on Sunday, September 11
to kick-off the 2022-2023 Sunday School Year!**

We are seeking ANYONE interested in teaching/assisting Sunday School in our Youth, Middle/High School, and Women's Classes. Please contact Christine Rush (215.264.4815 or rushcm@npenn.org) to learn more!

September 12th is National Day of Encouragement, a day dedicated to lifting up others and making a positive impact. In a world of quick text messages and the instant gratification of technology, let's be a light of inspiration and encouragement to those around us. It's simple and easy to send love and encouragement to your people! Send a postcard or greeting card with a personal note. It's simple, it's thoughtful, and it takes no time at all, but the sentiment goes far with friends and loved ones.



Going the Distance

The Rev. Richard K. Brown II, Pastor

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

The summer has come and gone. We have so much coming up this Fall and Winter that we are excited about, from the Chicken BBQ Dinner and Rally Day, to an Apple Fest and Rummage Sale, Special Sundays and Baptisms and so much more. You'll want to keep a close eye on future newsletters, bulletin announcements, and your email because we got a lot of work to do for the Lord, good people.

Here is a preview of some of the activities coming this month:

September 11, 2022: Rally Day

Rally Day will be celebrated in worship at both our 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. services. We will have prayers, hymns, and a message that speaks to renewing our commitment to God and the ministry of Jesus Christ. Furthermore, as several of our Sunday School classes come back from a Summer break, I will be leading a special five-week Bible Study entitled "Growing Together." This series will explore the main theme of the Sunday School year and the focus verse therein; "as iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17). This series will begin on September 11th and run until October 9th. The study will be held in Rooms 109/111. I invite you to join me in this study for, truly, we shall grow stronger together if we commit ourselves to this holy work.

Good people, as we get ready for an incredible Fall season, please join me in prayer that we might closely follow where the Lord is leading and take to heart what is being spoken to us. Let's grow together in new and exciting ways that we might bless one another, our community and world in Jesus' name. Amen?

-Pastor Rick Brown

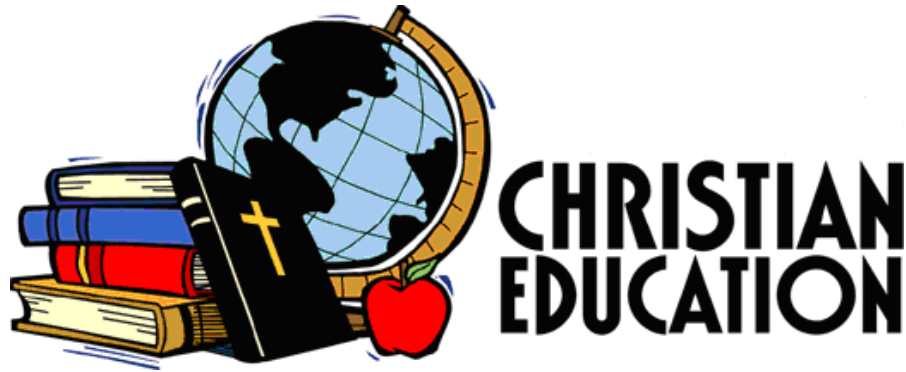
Pastor's Office Hours & Sabbath

My office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. so feel free to stop in to chat with me. If you wish to secure a meeting with me you are welcome to call, text, or email me 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's Schedule

In correspondence with Pastor Rick's office hours, Barbara will be in the office Monday, Wednesday, and Friday each week (215.536.4992). She will work remotely Tuesday and Thursday (215.538.7817). Barbara will be on vacation Friday, September 2 through Monday, September 12, returning to work on Tuesday, September 13.





Growing Together

Beginning on Rally Day, Sunday, September 11, Pastor Rick will lead a five-week study during the Sunday School hour. Meeting in Room 109/111, the class will center on "Growing Together," a study based on the theme of the new Sunday School year. Please join Pastor Rick for this time of learning and growth.

Presentation of Bibles to Incoming Third Graders

Plans are under way for our annual tradition of Bible Presentations to our incoming third-graders. If you have or your know of a child who will be entering third grade this fall, please contact Tammy Swearingen (trswearingen@verizon.net or at 215.538.7513) or the Church Office (barb@qumc.com or 215.536.4992). If you have or know an older child who has not received a Bible, please communicate this to Tammy or the Church Office using the above information. Thank you!

Small Group Bible Study

The Friday Morning Online Small Group resumes on Friday, September 16, 9:30 a.m. We will begin with a study of Colossians.

When someone asks where the Bible says Jesus is divine...it's Colossians! Apostle Paul wrote this Christ-centered letter to encourage and strengthen the Colossians in a new Christian community. He wrote to protect them from the seduction of false teachers and to teach them of one true wisdom that is in Jesus Christ. Join us for in-depth study and discussion of this short, but mighty, Pauline epistle.

Following our study of Colossians, we will focus on John Wesley's Three Simple Rules; do no harm, do good, and stay in love with God. During advent, we will take an in-depth look at the hymns we love to sing at Christmas.

To be a part of this small group, contact Janet Finch (jmfumw@aol.com) or Gail Schadler (glschadler@gmail.com).



SAVE THE DATE!

QUMC's Apple Fest - Sunday, October 16, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
More information coming soon!



Hospitality Update

Reboot of the Hospitality Table

On Sunday, September 11, the Hospitality Table will return! It will be located in the narthex, just outside the kitchen. We can continue this ministry only if we have donated snacks and/or cash donations to cover the costs. Prepackaged snacks can be placed in the conference room adjacent to the Pastor's office; a box will be located at the Hospitality Table for cash donations.

NOTE: Please place donations on the conference room outside Pastor Rick's office until after the Chicken Barbeque. Thank you!

If you wish to bake on a given Sunday, please consider "finger foods" (i.e., cookies, mini muffins, etc.) which don't create a set-up and clean-up challenge. Either Phyllis McKinley or Molly Minarik will clean-up by the start of the 11:00 a.m. service. If you attend the late service, please be our second set of eyes to make sure all coffee appliances are turned off in the unlikely event neither Phyllis or Molly are present.

Those interested in helping in some way can contact Phyllis (pcmckinley@gmail.com) or Molly (craftlover38@aol.com). Thank you for your help and enjoy!

Brainstorming Update: Focus on Technology (Who-When-How) **Thursday, September 22, 2022, 6:30 p.m.** **Room 109/111**

At the beginning of the summer, QUMC held an all-church "Brainstorming Breakfast" to solicit ideas on how to get more people involved in church worship, activities and events, and roles. The group reached a consensus at the meeting that QUMC should focus on technology, an area that interfaces with, and impacts, so many other areas of the church.



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QUMC already benefits from technology through use of its video and sound systems in worship services; computer software that supports the church's administrative and finance activities; email communications and online giving; an internet presence, etc. But, as technology advances, so does the challenge to: stay current with new equipment, find ways to work more efficiently, attract worshippers of all ages, and set to meet the spiritual needs of our community.

We plan to meet and discuss opportunities for QUMC to enhance its existing technology, resources available to the church, and the implementation of a technology plan. Those who would like to attend through ZOOM should contact Molly Minarik (craftlover38@aol.com or 610.282.3708). Thank you!



From Missions Commission

Chicken Barbeque and Bake Sale

The annual Chicken Barbeque and Bake Sale will be held **Saturday, September 10**. Our church needs help with food prep, bakers, servers, cleaner-uppers...you know the drill. So pretty please, consider how you can contribute to make this a smashing event.

We prep food on Tuesday, September 6, Thursday, September 8, and Friday, September 9 and would love you to volunteer to help us out. On Saturday, September 10, volunteers are also needed in the kitchen throughout the day to cook, organize, and serve. We also need help in Miller Hall too. Lastly, there is always clean-up in the early evening the day of the barbecue and, you guessed it, we need help! Add to all of that we also need bakers to bake for the bake sale table and for take-out meals (see details below). We are a fun and welcoming group so please contact Carol Pertuit (267.733.3378) or Melea Rupert (215.696.9804) to help. Thank you!

Date: Saturday, September 10, 2022
Time: 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. (Eat-In or Take-Out)
Tickets: Adults \$15.00
Children (ages 4-10) \$7.00
All proceeds benefit Missions

Baked goods are needed for the Chicken Barbecue. If you are able to bake for the event, we could use your help. The barbecue includes a choice of dessert with dinner and we have a bake sale as well. Items are needed for both so if you could bake and drop off your bakery item on Thursday, September 8, Friday, September 9, or Saturday, September 10, **in the morning at the church**, we would deeply appreciate it. Thank you!

You can also help out by spreading the word of the barbeque to family, friends, neighbors and co-workers.

Food Drives

On Saturday, July 9, Missions asked for donations for a local food pantry and the congregation came through with 406 pounds of food. Way to go!

Harvest Home Sunday will be celebrated on October 9. On this day, bring donations of non-perishable food items, health & beauty aids, paper products, and soaps & detergents to church to be brought forward for a blessing. Donations will also be accepted up to October 9 and can be placed in the box in the narthex.

Blood drive

Thank you to everyone who took the time to donate to the blood drive held at the church on August 5.

School Supplies

Well, the kids are back in school and the congregation of QUMC once again stepped in to help with donations of school supplies. Missions packed and distributed a ton of supplies which were given to our local food pantries for distribution. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

QUMC Cares

A special offering is taken the fourth Sunday each month for the mission of Quakertown Cares. Missions would like to take a moment to once again thank the congregation who, month in and month out, faithfully donate to this outreach effort of the church. Each and every month, Jim Newcomer finds community members who, most sincerely, need our support.

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
- 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).



Happy Birthday to: Len Hurley - August 4; Mary Stahr - August 15; Harry Stotsenburg - August 15; Carol Wackerman - September 3.

Notes of Thanks:

“A big thank you to Kathy Dressel for using her mighty elbow grease to scrub the church kitchen from top to bottom in preparation for fall food-related activities in Miller Hall. This is yet another good example of a ‘behind the scenes’ gesture that does not go unnoticed and benefits all of us in the church. Thank you, Kathy!”

“As our preschool year begins, we would like to thank all of you who helped us by purchasing items from our ‘wishlist.’ Your generosity is much appreciated. We are so thankful for you!”

Sincerely, The Staff of Faith Preschool



**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 TO MEET SUNDAY AFTERNOONS!

Beginning on Sunday, September 11, Youth Group will meet on Sunday afternoons! We will meet following 11:00 a.m. worship for lunch, fun, games, and fellowship. Come out and join us! Please note we will have one last Wednesday night gathering on Wednesday, September 7 before we switch to Sunday afternoons.

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.

YES! THE CHURCH IS STILL COLLECTING REDNER'S RECEIPTS!

In late-July, Redner's receipts were tallied up for a total of \$22,271.97. What does that mean? The Youth Group received a check for \$222.72 to help fund programs and events! Through their Save-A-Tape program, 1% of all sales made using the Redner's store card comes back to non-profit organizations such as our church and Youth Group.

While the Quakertown store has closed, we will still collect Redner's receipts from their other locations. In preparing the submission made this summer, it was noted that many of you shop at the Redner's in Red Hill. Please continue to save those receipts and drop them in the shopping bag when you come to church. Some of us will even continue to shop at Redner's, making the trek to the Red Hill store.

Thank you for your continued support of this effort on behalf of the Youth Group of the church!

COVID-19 Update

Church Council and Worship continue to be cognizant of COVID. Positivity updates for Bucks (and surrounding) counties are updated weekly.

When positivity rates spike to 15% or greater, an update will be available on the narthex television so you can make an informed decision on whether or not to mask. At all times, masks and hand sanitizer are available at the Welcome Center. Thank you!

Upcoming Events



Quadrants Handbell Concert

On Friday, September 30 at 7:30 p.m., QUMC will welcome Quadrants to the church.

Quadrants is a professional handbell quartet based in Princeton, NJ. The members of Quadrants (Robert James Lamb, Bethan Neely, Raymond Nugent, and Hyosang Park) are all professional musicians in their own right, who challenge each other's capabilities as they perform high level repertoire with musicality and precision. In addition to performing regularly throughout New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania, Quadrants has been honored as featured performers at the 2019 Handbell Musicians of America National Seminar in St Louis, MO, the 2022 HMA Area 5 Spring Festival in Mackinac Island, MI, and at the upcoming 2023 HMA Area 2 Festival Conference in Lancaster, PA. You can expect to be impressed by the agility and coordination of these four musicians as they work together to play a combined total of over 100 individual bells and chimes!

A freewill offering will be received.

QUMC Educational Endowment Fund Grants

We are happy to report that this year we will be able to distribute grants to our eligible post-high school students. Grants will be distributed on Sunday, November 27, 2022.

Eligibility:

1. Student must be a member in good standing of QUMC.
2. Student must be enrolled and attending that academic year in an institution of higher education (including technical schools).

An application can be requested **by the student** (using their school email) from grants@qumc.com.

Applications are due back no later than November 1.

Eligibility will be verified and an application returned to the student's email beginning on October 1. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Finch or a committee member.

Steve Finch, Chairperson (finchsc1@verizon.net)

David Rush, John DeSimone

Fall Rummage Sale

Cleaning out? Friendship Circle is ramping up for the Fall Rummage Sale, Friday, October 28 (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) and Saturday, October 29 (9:00 a.m. to 12 noon).

Collect your unwanted, but still-in-good condition, and usable items and bring them to Miller Hall for Friendship Circle's Fall Rummage Sale! Donations of all kinds of items are welcome.

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Needed for sale: baked goods, jewelry, kitchen utensils, dishes and glassware, tools, games, clean clothing in good condition, toys, other usable items. Absolutely NO televisions, computers, other heavy or large items, please! Also needed: paper and plastic grocery bags.

We also need your help! Anyone that can donate time to help prepare for the sale (Monday, October 24 through Thursday, October 27) is welcome.

Help is needed for:

- Set-up, sorting and preparation: 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon, October 24, 25, 26, & 27
6:00 to 8:00 p.m., October 26
- Assistance during the sale: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., October 28
9:00 a.m. to 12 noon, October 29
- Clean-up: 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., October 29

Drop-off times for donations are concurrent with set-up times. Baked goods may be delivered Thursday and Friday mornings, October 27 & 28, after 9:00 a.m.

Contact Becky Petko (215.896.7055 or bpetko@remax440.com) for more information or if you are able to help with this important ministry of QUMC.



Board of Trustees

In the past year, effort has been made to organize items in the church with the goal of “putting like things together” so they can be more easily found and used. Below is progress made thus far:

Crying Room: There are two new Pack & Plays (with mattresses & sheets), a new cover for the changing station, and two new rockers.

Toddler Nursery: Toys have been sorted and broken/unsafe toys discarded.

Room 102: This is now a (temporary) storage room. Tables, chairs, extra video equipment, electrical cords etc. are stored here, including in the tall cabinet. Anything in this room must be labeled.

Room 104: This provides storage for various children’s programs, even those not presently active. Anything in this room must be labeled.

Sheds: 1) The shed closest to Miller Hall has miscellaneous plywood, wood, signs, sports equipment, etc. It is in need of replacement, however a repair may be attempted this fall. Do not store anything in this shed until the shed is repaired or replaced.

2) The newer shed was purchased by Faith Preschool and Friendship Circle for their storage needs.

3) The pavilion shed is used for garden equipment and to store coolers from the chicken barbecue, tents, lawn mowing equipment, etc.

Historical Records: Documents have been compiled to be organized and digitized accordingly. Equipment will be provided. To assist with this project, contact Laura Lillie (llillie@verizon.net).

Looking Ahead: Future plans include cleaning the attic and reviewing books in the Library/Parlor and Choir Room. This effort may require the disposal of old and worn items. Please let us know if you have concerns about items in these areas.

Please contact Debbie Reynolds (dave49deb@gmail.com) or Nancy Tirjan (nancytirjan@gmail.com) with any questions, concerns or offers to help if any of these projects are of interest.

Our thanks to all those who have helped us thus far in this effort.

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).





FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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 Faith Preschool (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).

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

The next newsletter will be the October issue. The deadline to submit information to be included in the October issue is September 15. Submissions for the monthly newsletter can be emailed to Teddi Miller at QUMCNewsletter@gmail.com or you can put them in the newsletter mailbox in the church office. Thank you!

Wednesday fellowship dinners are coming back!



October 12

October 19

November 2

November 9

November 16 (Thanksgiving Dinner)

Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. Come when you can, leave when you must.

Hope to see you there!