



Quakertown United Methodist Church

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Visit our website at www.qumc.com

Share Christ Grow in Christ Serve Christ

October 2017

If You're Too Busy...



...to pray, someone has stated; you're too busy!

If this opinion rubs you the wrong way, you may be thinking whoever said that just doesn't know your hectic schedule.

Pastor Tom preached recently on this issue of time. Instead of saying we can't take the time, we need to make the time.

In the first place, God isn't concerned with the length of our prayers. For example, the Lord's Prayer is pretty short. What is important is that we simply come to our Father God and just talk to him. He wants us to tell him, in plain ordinary words, what is on our hearts.

We don't need to be in a particular place to pray. We can shoot brief prayers to God, for instance, while waiting at a red light. (Just remember to keep your eyes open!)

Someone has devised a so-called "Five Fingers Prayer" guide: Your thumb is closest to you - pray for loved ones. The index finger is the pointer - pray for others. The third finger is the longest - pray for those in positions of leadership. The fourth finger is the weakest - pray for those who are hurting. The little finger reminds us how small we are - praise God for his greatness.

No matter how, when, or where you do it, make time to pray.

M.B.S.



"An Effortless Way to Improve the Future"

By the Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Robinson, III

I have had the following story in my newsletter folder for quite some time now. It was shared by a man named David. It's a letter to all of us.

Dear Fellow Human Beings,

This morning, at her request, I took my 9-year-old daughter to a coffee shop. She brought with her a little crocheting activity. I brought the newspaper, a notebook & pen, and my phone. This was going to be an outing not unlike others we've had before: while sitting at the same table, we'd do our own things – she'd keep herself occupied with something, and I'd catch-up on e-mails, organize my week, get work done, etc. Sound familiar?

Today, she made one additional request: "Daddy, can you not read the paper or doodle or check your email today? Can we just be together?"

I'm not trying to be melodramatic; that was her question.

So today, we were together. She showed me her yarn project. I recalled the day she was born. We compared notes about whether or not couples at other tables were on "dates" (she likes to impersonate people on dates – resting her smiling face on her hand and practicing a starry-eyed stare). She told me about her friends and their hamsters. I watched her chew her breakfast sandwich and melted a little bit as I thought about how much I love her.

I wished it hadn't taken her past experience and her courageous reaching out for me to give her the attention she so wanted and needed.

Before we left, I went up to the counter to order a take-out snack for her brother. When I returned to our table, there was a note, left face-down, in front of my seat. My daughter told me that a woman, before leaving the coffee shop, had asked

her if I was her father and said that the message was for me. I looked around (nobody was there) and flipped over the paper to find the words below:

I work at a school where many daughters don't have fathers & those who do have never in their lives had him watch & listen & devote 100% of his attention to her for as long as you did on one Sunday morning. You have no idea what a gift you are giving to all the teachers who are responsible for educating her from now until she graduates.

This anonymous message was enough of a reinforcement for me, that I hope more people will be guided by its power and by its author's thoughtfulness.

Please don't wait for your child (or grandchild) or loved one to plead for your attention like mine did – he or she might not. Expect that no one will leave a note for you – such beauty in this world is far too rare. Choose to be truly present today – even for just a little while – for someone you love. If you see it happen somewhere, consider leaving a note – it sure does leave an impression.

-Dave

One final thought from me; Pastor Tom. This is how God attentively listens to us when we pray. Pretty cool, isn't it?

In God's loving embrace of grace,

Pastor Tom ☺

October 2017



Sermon Plans

Date	Main Scripture	Title	Summary
Sunday, October 1 World Communion	Acts 10:37-43		Testimony by Jerry Elder
Sunday, October 8			Pastor Tom on Vacation
Sunday, October 15	Mark 4:26-32	SIGNS: Little Steps	God achieves remarkable things with small beginnings. Small steps eventually result in large accomplishments.
Sunday, October 22	Acts 11:1-18	SIGNS: You Me Them Everybody	Peter is admonished by God to stop being exclusive about Jesus. How exclusive are we about Jesus?
Sunday, October 29	John 10:22-30	SIGNS: Paternity Questions?	People questioned Jesus' paternity. Joseph? Someone else? Jesus knows who his Father truly is. He also knows that his Father is also our Father. How well do we understand that relationship for ourselves and all it implies?



World Communion Sunday Sunday, October 1

**One Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.**

Worship will be followed by a congregational lunch and forum. Lunch will be provided. Please bring a dessert to share.

Committees reporting to Church Council will present a short summary of their work in 2017, as well as their plans for 2018. This will provide the congregation an opportunity to learn what is going on in the church and what is ahead. There will be time for questions and open discussion. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Come On Out!



Wednesday Fellowship Dinners will resume for six weeks, October 11 through November 15. Dinner begins at 5:00 p.m. with a short program from 6:00 to 6:25 p.m. Dinner will be provided. Please bring a dessert to share.



New Member Class

New member classes will be held Sundays, October 22 and 29 at 10:00 a.m. (during the Sunday School hour). Members will be received on Sunday, November 5.



Opportunities To Be In Mission

- FEAST Food Pantry items for October: lunch box snacks and juice boxes.
- October 14 trip to Jerusalem House in Allentown to assist Pastor Dan and Peaches in setting up for a ministry event and to help in the food pantry. We will meet at the church at 8:15 a.m. and carpool. Please bring your lunch.
- Ham Dinner, November 4, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Adults - \$10; children ages 4 to 10 - \$4.

Thank you...

...to everyone who supported the Chicken Barbecue, as well as those who helped in so many ways to make this event so successful! We served 513 people and realized a profit of \$3,676, which was distributed to the following: UMCOR, UMW, Habitat for Humanity, Discovery Service Projects, Quakertown Community Outreach, AHUB (Code Blue Shelter), FEAST Food Pantry, Loaves and Fishes Community Dinners, and BCAT (Bucks Coalition Against Trafficking).

...for the overwhelming response to the school supply drive. We delivered 50 backpacks with supplies to FEAST Food Pantry, which they distributed to local families. The remaining supplies went to Jerusalem House in Allentown and Kensington Area Ministries of Philadelphia. The following was received from the FEAST Pantry:

An overdue thank you to your congregation for the surprise of FILLED backpacks for FEAST pantry clients. Some cried, most were overwhelmed - all were very thankful for the school items. We appreciate your food drives and all that your congregation does for us.

*Gary Nace, Coordinator
Christ's Lutheran Church, FEAST Pantry*

Children's Classes



An outreach project of the children's Sunday School classes is raising money for school children's lunches in cases when parents are unable to pay. We received the following:

To the wonderful congregation at Quakertown United Methodist Church,

What a wonderful surprise to hear that you would generously cover lunch for three of our Pfaff students. Your kindness will have a lasting impact on the receiving families. The parents I spoke with were so surprised by and grateful for your gift. Thank you for your kindness!

Kristi Carlson, School Counselor



Life Groups



QUMC presently has five groups of adults who meet weekly for fellowship, Christian growth, and mutual support. Each group chooses its own focus and methods, such as videos, books, Bible study, and the like. The present life groups are:

1. Faith and Family life group, led by Rachelle Sawadski, meets on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the church parlor. We are a group of parents who gather to pray for each other and study God's word, to learn how we can apply it to our lives, especially in the areas of marriage and parenting. All are welcome to join us.
2. Sunday night group, led by Tammy Swearingen, meets in the parlor at 6:30 p.m. They use a variety of materials. All are welcome.
3. Panera group meets at that restaurant Wednesday at 6:30 a.m. for fellowship and discussion. You are invited to join them.
4. Bread for the Journey meets on Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in the church library. This fall we are exploring Joan Chittister's "Between the Dark and the Daylight." At night our daytime distractions are quiet and "questions emerge from the damp murkiness of our inner underworld." Join us as we contemplate these issues. This small group is open to all women. Come out any Thursday afternoon to see what we're all about! Questions? Contact Gale Hewitt (gwhewitt4@gmail.com or 267.218.2479).
5. Thursday afternoon at 2:15 at the home of Mary Schwer (215.536.4596), led by Donna Harvey. Presently this group is studying a variety of books of the Bible.



Fall Rummage Sale

Collect your unwanted but still in good condition and usable items and bring them to Miller Hall for Friendship Circle's Fall Rummage Sale, coming up Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to noon, October 27 and 28. A light lunch will be available Friday, as well as a baked goods table.

Bring your donations to Miller Hall at the following times: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, October 24, 25, 26, from 9:00 a.m. until noon. You may also bring them Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8:00.

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.

Contact Becky Petko (215.536.4741) with questions or to find out how you can help.



Adult Christian Ed Classes for Adults

Women's Class: Led by Laura Lillie meets in Room 114 for their Cokesbury Adult Bible Study lessons. Each quarter (Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer) contains 13 lessons which present stimulating sessions that explore the biblical message and how to apply it to daily life by focusing on personal, family, church, and community concerns. The Fall sessions will follow the theme, "Covenants With God." The lessons point to a number of people in the Bible God called into covenant, the signs of God's covenants as seen in Genesis, Exodus, and Ezekiel, and the challenge to us to live as the covenant people we are.

Men's Class: Join the Men's Adult Sunday School Class in Room 112 as they follow "Our Daily Bread," daily devotionals with related scripture passages and Bible study. Men will grow in their relationship with Jesus through this personal and small group study and discussion. They will learn how to apply scripture to their daily lives.

Faithbuilders: Join Gail Schadler in Room 109 for her updated class in Angels, now titled "Angels and Demons." Hear what the Bible says about the creation, characteristics, functions and powers of angels. Discover the difference between fallen angels and demons. And learn the relationship Jesus had with angels. This class will run through October 29.

January 7 through February 25, 2018, Gail will lead a class on "The Other Twelve." These partners of the Apostle Paul are almost as well known as the Twelve Apostles of Jesus. They helped spread the Gospel throughout the Roman Empire as contemporaries of the Twelve and the Apostle Paul. How well do you know them?

March 4 through April 15, 2018, Faithbuilders class will study "The Apocrypha: Witness in the Period Between the Testaments" explaining what is in the Apocrypha, why we should read it, and the contribution these Jewish writings have had to the formulation of central Christian doctrines, to the perseverance of our forebears in the faith who endured torture and death, and to the ethical formation of the people of God.

Weekly Prayer Breakfast



All women are invited to come for breakfast (or just coffee) on Friday mornings from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at Quakertown Family Restaurant. Sponsored by United Methodist Women, this weekly breakfast includes devotions and a time of prayer.



A Song in Your Heart? Join a Choir!



Senior Choir
Wednesday evenings, 7:00 p.m.

Now is the time to join the Senior Choir at QUMC! We sing to the Glory of God, have a lot of fun, and have the privilege of helping to lead in worship. Singers in all sections of the choir are welcome and will enjoy the fellowship of others. Those who read music are needed, as well as those with a desire to learn and join the song through! Singing in the choir is a real outreach of your faith. Remember Saint Augustine's observation... "He who sings prays twice." God bless us as we share in presenting the Gospel at QUMC.

Joyful Noise
Wednesday evenings, 6:30 p.m.

Children age 4 to 5th grade who like to sing are invited to join Joyful Noise, the children's choir of QUMC. Contact Sara Gray (sgray78@verizon.net) or Babs Kerns (babs.kerns@gmail.com) for more information.

Grace Notes
Monday evenings, 7:00 p.m.

Make beautiful music unto the Lord by joining Grace Notes, the bell choir of QUMC. Can't read music? No worries; we will teach you! Led by Becky Witt, the bell choir is open to anyone in grade eight and above. Contact Becky (rjwitt@verizon.net) with questions.



**A LOOK
at the
BUDGET**

Revenues through the end of August 2017 - \$197,817.71

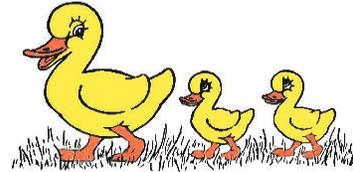
Expenditures through the end of August 2017 - \$189,311.74

Important Notes:

1. The Committees of QUMC are beginning to prepare their budget needs for the 2018 church year.
2. If you have input that would help in this process, please contact the appropriate chairperson.



Family Matters



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to: Joan Bailey - October 15, Laura Clymer - October 24,
Anna Wolfinger - October 27.

BAPTIZED: On September 17, Eleanor Marie, daughter of Ricky & Danielle Mayer.
Eleanor was born on April 2, 2017.

IN SERVICE: Justin Donahue is currently at Air Force Basic Military Training in Texas. Cards and letters can be sent to Justin at the following:
AB Donahue, Justin J.
321 TRS/FLT 742 (Dorm 2B2)
1320 Truemper St. Unit 364058
Lackland, AFB TX 78236-6431



QUMC Educational Endowment Fund Grants

The Endowment Committee is happy to be able to distribute grants to our eligible students this year on November 26.

Eligibility:

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

How it works:

1. Beginning October 1, the student must request an application by phone, mail, email, or in person directly from the Endowment Chair Steve Finch (Finchsc1@verizon.net or 215.538.0835).
2. Fill out the application and return it to Steve Finch by email in Word or pdf format, preferably from a college email account or printed and postmarked snail-mail to the church by midnight November 1.
3. Following their review the committee will send a written (email) confirmation that the student has met the eligibility requirements to receive the grant.
4. Grants will be distributed during services on United Methodist Student Sunday, November 26.
5. There are no financial aid requirements. The grants' formula is:

$$\text{available funds/number of eligible students} = \text{grant per student}$$

If you have any questions, please contact one of the committee members: Steve Finch, Nancy Parry, David Rush, John DeSimone, Julie James.



A Reminder to be Kinder

Many of you remember Jerry Frankenfield, the late husband of Marie Frankenfield. As they regularly attended church at QUMC, Jerry observed that something was missing as everyone hurriedly made their way in and out of church. Jerry noticed a lack of us greeting each other. This has inspired his wife Marie to encourage each of us with "A Reminder to be Kinder."

I notice that sometimes, coming to church or leaving church or church functions, we walk by some of our church family, and we don't say, "good morning," wave a "hi" or even "smile."

No one does this on purpose, we're all just caught up in our busy world, with kids' schedules, work, etc. Also, some may simply be shy.

People naturally gravitate to people they know, but maybe you could step out of your group, and welcome others in... Make others feel included. We're all the same church family.

Sometimes one "good morning," one "hi," one "smile" means more than you could ever know to another person.

Lets try to make everyone feel included and welcome.

It starts with one person at a time. This is just "A Reminder to be Kinder."

In support of this ministry, special bookmarks are available. See Marie Frankenfield or Laura Lillie.

Marie would like to thank Pastor Tom for his encouragement and support of this effort, as well as Laura Lillie for her creativity and helpfulness in accomplishing this meaningful and inspirational project.

"Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

Hebrews 13:1-2



October 2017

Church Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 a.m. World Communion Sunday Worship & Luncheon 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Life Group	2 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes	3 7:00 p.m. Trustees, Missions	4 6:30 a.m. Life Group 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	5 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group 7:00 p.m. Radical Hospitality	6 8:30 a.m. UMW Prayer Breakfast	7 3:00 p.m. Annual Charge Conference
8 ** 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Life Group	9 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes, Willow Stream Homeowner's	10 7:00 p.m. Finance	11 6:30 a.m. Life Group 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Dinner & Program 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	12 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group	13 8:30 a.m. UMW Prayer Breakfast	14 8:15 a.m. Missions Jerusalem House Day
15 ** 6:30 p.m. Life Group	16 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes	17 7:00 p.m. Leadership, UMW Moving Prayers Program	18 6:30 a.m. Life Group 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Dinner & Program 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	19 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group	20 8:30 a.m. UMW Prayer Breakfast	21
22 ** 10:00 a.m. New Member Class 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Life Group	23 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes	24	25 6:30 a.m. Life Group 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Dinner & Program 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	26 2:00 p.m. Life Group 2:15 p.m. Life Group	27 8:30 a.m. UMW Prayer Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Fall Rummage Sale	28 9:00 a.m. Fall Rummage Sale
← Miller Hall & Kitchen Reserved for Rummage Sale Preparations →						
29 ** 10:00 a.m. New Member Class 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Life Group	30 7:00 p.m. Grace Notes	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> ** SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship </div>			