



Quakertown United Methodist Church

1875 Freier Road
Quakertown, PA 18951
215.536.4992

Visit our website at www.qumc.com

Share Christ Grow in Christ Serve Christ

September 2017

Labels



We seem to be putting people into boxes these days and then sticking labels on the boxes. Some of the labels are: Black, White, Conservative, Liberal, Left, Right, Citizen, Immigrant, Independent, Republican, Democrat, and the list goes on.

Of course, labels are sometimes helpful or even necessary. But far too often we use labels as weapons, or simply operate as if a label equals the sum total of who a person is. This leads to further labeling; Friend or Enemy, Smart or Dumb, Right or Wrong.

Anyone who has been paying even the least bit of attention to what is going on would agree that labeling fosters divisiveness. And divisiveness is crippling.

The antidote: looking at every person as one for whom Jesus died. That understanding rips off the labels and has the power to turn foes into friends.

Labels belong on soup cans, not people.

M.B.S.



*“...Be agreeable, be sympathetic, be loving,
be compassionate, be humble...
bless — that’s your job, to bless.”*

1 Peter 3:8,9 (The Message)



"Why do you go to church?"

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

Has anyone ever asked you this question: "Why do you go to church?" If so, how did you answer it? How would you answer it today?

Some might answer it by saying "I go to worship God." Others may say they go to get spiritually fed to help them maneuver through the coming week. Some may just mention they go to church to be part of a community of friends who believe as they do. All of these are good answers.

Why did Jesus go to synagogue every Sabbath? Let's look at a couple of examples of Jesus at the house of God.

- While in the synagogue one Sabbath, a man with a withered hand is also there. Jesus sees him and calls him up and heals him (see Matthew 12).
- Another time he is accosted by a man with an unclean spirit. Jesus calms the man and heals him (see Mark 1).
- Still another time Jesus sees a woman crippled over with what may be arthritis. He heals her (see Luke 13)
- "Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people." (Matthew 4:23)

Jesus went into the synagogues to share the good news of God's kingdom, to heal the sick, and restore the broken. And when Jesus left the synagogue, he continued to do the same thing on the roads, in the homes, and out in the country.

So, here's my thought about going to church that I want you to consider –

WHAT IF we took our going to church as seriously as Jesus took going to the synagogue?

WHAT IF we went to church like Jesus looking to see who God would introduce him to for a healing message?

WHAT IF we went each week with an **EXPECTATION** in our spirit that God would have us encounter one person specifically that day to show them God's loving grace?

- Jesus is walking along the shore, sees two brothers- Simon & Andrew. Jesus invites them to follow him. (Matt. 4:15)
- Jesus enters Capernaum when he encounters a Roman centurion asking for healing for his servant. (Matt 8:5)
- Jesus enters Peter's home where Peter's mother-in-law is very sick. Jesus heals her. (Matt 8:14)
- Jesus is walking in the country when two men come at him possessed by demons. He heals them. (Matt 8:28)

Do you see the picture that the Gospels paint of Jesus? Wherever he goes, he encounters people in need of God's touch. Jesus provides a living encounter with God for these people.



That's what God has called us to do. So, this Sunday, come to church expecting God to give you an encounter in which YOU get to be God's living presence for someone in need.

In God's loving embrace of grace,

Pastor Tom ☺



Sermon Plans

Date	Main Scripture	Title	Summary
Sunday, September 3 Communion	John 21:1-19	SIGNS: Look Beneath the Surface	When we fail to look beyond the surface, we fail to discover the greater rewards. Jesus teaches his disciples to look below the surface.
Sunday, September 10	Luke 18:18-30	SIGNS: Change Starts Here	The creation of the Church was Jesus' plan to begin a revolution of change. It starts in the heart.
Sunday, September 17	Mark 3:19b-35	SIGNS: Explore Here	The Church Jesus creates opens a space for you and me to explore our relationship with God, and to learn how to live together as siblings.
Sunday, September 24	Matthew 5:38-42	SIGNS: Stretch Here	Jesus' Church is also a place to stretch ourselves and attempt new things, important things, great things, and ... safely fail, but even then, grow.



The New Sunday School Year



1 Peter 4:10

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:

The new Sunday School year will kick off on Rally Day, Sunday, September 10, at 10:00 in the sanctuary. We have some new class configurations and some new faces on our staff. The Rally Day ceremony will help you find your way. If you can't attend on Rally Day, ask the greeters for information about class offerings.

We would like to thank the teachers who are taking a well-deserved sabbatical from teaching Sunday School this year. We are blessed to have had their service. Many thanks to Susan Lennon, Becky Besch, Melissa Tomlinson, Madison Bucior, Jen Stover, Martina Gray, Deb Carroll, and Pam McGovern.

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|--------------------------|---|
| Two Year Olds: | Erin Hudson, Jane Robinson, Tammy Swearingen |
| Preschool: | Brenda Murray, Cristin Pizzi, Nicole Pringle, Sara Stout |
| Kindergarten to Grade 2: | Gale Hewitt, Megan McMichael, Christine Rush, Sharon Vietmeier |
| Grade 3 to Grade 5: | Lisa Corbin, Megan Fuscellaro, Jane Germani, Paula Kent, Jane Korpics, MJ Siuta |
| Middle School: | Janet Finch, Steve Finch, Dave Rush (substitute), Patty Wensel (substitute) |
| High School: | Ken McKinley, Tom Robinson, Bill Tascarella, Jeff Vietmeier |
| Women's Class: | Laura Lillie |
| Faithbuilders: | Gail Schadler |
| Men's Class: | Doug Wilson, Ed Wilson |



Opportunities To Be In Mission



- FEAST Food Pantry items for the month of September: paper products, including paper towels, bath tissue, napkins, etc.
- Chicken BBQ: Saturday, September 9, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Adults: \$10, Children ages 4 to 10: \$4. Eat-in or take-out. Proceeds benefit Mission Outreach.
- QUMC CARES Fourth Sunday Offering - September 24. This program, in coordination with the Quakertown Community School District, benefits families experiencing difficulties.
- Women's Retreat - Friday, October 6 through Sunday, October 8 at Pocono Plateau. Cost will be approximately \$135 which includes lodging and meals. More information to follow.
- Volunteers are needed to travel to Jerusalem House in Allentown to assist Pastor Dan and Peaches in their ministry on Saturday, October 14. There are various opportunities to serve. See Carol Pertuit for more information on this opportunity to put your faith into action!

The Missions Commission thanks you for the overwhelming response to the school supply drive. We delivered 50 backpacks with supplies to FEAST Food Pantry to be distributed to local families. The remaining supplies were shared with those served by Jerusalem House in Allentown and Kensington Area Ministries of Philadelphia.



New Member Class

A new member class will be offered this fall. The class will be held on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. (during Sunday School). Dates to be announced. For more information, contact the Pastor (pastor@qumc.com) or Liz Cole (215.536.2046).

Mark Your Calendar!



Friendship Circle's annual Fall Rummage Sale is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, October 27 and 28. Donations of not needed, but still in good condition, items can be brought to Miller Hall Monday, October 23 through Thursday, October 26. More details in October newsletter.



An Invitation from Music Director Jeff Shuman

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. We welcome singers in all sections of the choir. You will enjoy the fellowship. Musicians who can read music are needed, but you need not read music at present to join the “song throng.” Please see Jeff or any choir member. Singing in the choir is a real outreach for your faith. Remember Saint Augustine’s observation...”He who sings prays twice.” God bless us as we help to present the Gospel at QUMC.

QUMC Educational Endowment Fund Grants



The Educational Endowment Committee is pleased to report that on Sunday, November 26 the church will distribute grants to eligible students receiving post-high school education.

Eligibility requirements are as follows:

- ✓ Student must be a member in good standing of QUMC.
- ✓ Student must be enrolled in and attending the 2017-2018 academic year in an institution of higher education (including technical schools).

Applications will be available beginning on October 1 and must be requested, completed, and returned to the church office by the student by November 1.

Contact any committee member (Steve Finch, Nancy Parry, David Rush, John DeSimone, Julie James) with questions.



Didn't Sign Up for Preschool?

No worries! Faith Preschool has a few remaining spots for children age three in its afternoon classes for the 2017-2018 school year. Wait lists have been established for the two- and four-year old children’s classes. Detailed program information and registration materials are available in the church narthex or online at www.qumc.com. For further questions or to schedule a tour, please contact Erin Haslett, Faith Preschool Registrar at 215.536.8172.



Attention Kids!



Kid's Club

Hey, all children from 1st to 5th grade! It's almost time for the QUMC Kid's Club to start up again and we have a whole new list of events planned for you this year. We've got everything from painting to a corn maze, from bowling to visiting the local branch of the SPCA, and it's going to be great!

Check future newsletters for further details about our schedule for this year. Our first meeting will be Sunday, September 17 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. and we can't wait to see you there! If you have any questions, or would like to help support this ministry in any capacity, please contact Babs Kerns at babs.kerns@gmail.com. Thank you and see you soon!

Joyful Noise

Children age 4 to 5th grade who like to sing are invited to join Joyful Noise, the children's choir of QUMC! Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, September 13, 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. Contact Sara Gray at sgray78@verizon.net or Babs Kerns (see above) for more information.

*“Train children in
the right way,
and when old,
they will not stray.”*

Proverbs 22:6





Thankfulness...

“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Colossians 3:17

From Missions:

Appreciation to everyone who contributed school supplies distributed to children in need. This is an annual project of Missions Commission.

Five people participated in a mission trip to Western Pennsylvania to help repair a home damaged by a devastating flood. Thank you to them for representing us in this labor of love.

From the Milford-Trumbauersville Democrats:

“Enclosed is a donation of \$50 for use of a monthly meeting room at your church. We appreciate very much your kindness in letting us use this room. Thank you and God bless!”

From FEAST Food Pantry, an outreach ministry of Christ’s Lutheran Church, Trumbauersville:

“On behalf of FEAST Pantry, we would like to thank you for your contribution of grocery items collected by your congregation. Your support helps us continue in our mission and assist those in our community.

The generous support of organizations like yours makes it possible for our pantry to exist and to make the community a great place to live.

Thank you again for your support.”

From Vacation Bible School:

Much appreciation to our 70 wonderful volunteers who made Vacation Bible School a meaningful experience for the 100 plus children who participated. An offering for missions of nearly \$1,500 was collected.

From Lily’s Hope, providing resources, aid and hope to premature babies and their families:

“Thank you for selecting Lily’s Hope to be part of your incredible Vacation Bible School week. We loved the opportunity to have Lily speak in front of the participants! Thank you for your monetary donation of \$62.67, as well as the supply donations of baby care items, diapers, wipes, blankets, and clothing. Donations like yours allow us to assist our families directly and help the families focus on their needs. We have already assisted over 300 families this year!

On behalf of the Lily’s Hope Foundation, and all the future babies and families that will benefit from this, we say thank you!”

From Quakertown Community Outreach, supporting the homeless and at-risk of our community:

“Thank you for your generous donation of \$200. Your support makes it possible for our organization to assist many homeless individuals, children and disadvantaged families within our community on a path to self-sufficiency. Your support is greatly appreciated!”

Super Hero Central VBS was a huge success!



We spread the word of God's love to over 100 children with the help of over 70 youth and adult helpers! If you donated time, money, supplies, and even prayers, we are beyond thankful for your support. The children brought in over \$1,500 between money, school supplies, food and baby items. We were heroes in our own hometown and supported five different local charities: FEAST Food Pantry, Quakertown Community Outreach, Lily's Hope, Jerusalem House and our own Missions Committee's school supply drive. VBS cannot be done without the help of everyone here at QUMC and we are so blessed. Thank you for another successful year and for being a superhero at QUMC!

Annual Chicken Barbecue and Bake Sale



Saturday, September 9, 2017
4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
(Eat-In or Take-Out)

<u>Tickets:</u>	Adults	\$10.00
	Children (Ages 4-10)	\$ 4.00

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT MISSIONS

Donations of baked goods and grocery bags are needed.
Bring these items to the church on Friday, 9/8 and Saturday, 9/9.

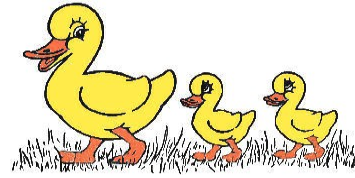
Volunteers to help with the barbecue are also needed!

- Kitchen Prep Work (9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 9/5; Thursday, 9/7; Friday, 9/8)
- Set-Up (4:00 p.m. on Friday, 9/8)
- Wait Staff (3:30 p.m. on Saturday, 9/9)

Better yet, help out by spreading the word of the barbecue to family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers!



Family Matters



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to: Carol Wackerman - September 3, and Stephen Rhoades - September 17.

BEST WISHES: Natalie Finch and Matthew Howard were married at QUMC on Saturday, August 12

BAPTISM: On August 6, Kolton Thomas Tamburino, son of Jason and Lauren. Kolton was born on December 29, 2016.

NOTES OF THANKS:

“Our family wishes to convey our sincerest appreciation to our church family for your prayers and support during this difficult time. We are blessed to have friends like you and are thankful for all you have done.”

Paula Kent & Family

“During a time like this we realize how much our friends really mean to us. Your expressions of sympathy will always be remembered. Our thanks for all of the cards, kindness, and prayers from the congregation of QUMC.”

The Family of George Lightkep

Eric Tascarella is currently training for the Marines in Parris Island, South Carolina. He would appreciate cards and letters from his church family:



RCT Tascarella Eric D.
PLT 2065, 2nd BN F Co.
P.O. Box 16245
Parris Island, SC 29905-6245

Note: Only cards and letters can be sent to Eric at this time.



A LOOK at the BUDGET

Revenues through the end of July 2017: \$175,642.70

Expenditures through the end of July 2017: \$161,180.27

Important Notes:

1. Thanks to all of the QUMC congregation for their tithes, pledges and offerings during the summer!
2. September is the beginning of the QUMC 2018 budget-building process.



September 2017

Church Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p>**SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship</p> </div>						
<p>3</p> <p>8:00 & 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>LABOR DAY</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Chicken Barbecue Prep</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Trustees</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Chicken Barbecue Prep</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Praise Band</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Chicken Barbecue Prep</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Chicken Barbecue Set-Up</p>	<p>9</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Chicken Barbecue</p> 
<p>10 **</p> <p>Rally Day</p> <p>Miller Hall Reserved (11 to 5)</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Finance</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Praise Band</p>	<p>15</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Miller Hall Reserved (4 to 9)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Miller Hall Reserved (10 to 7)</p>
<p>17 **</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Kid's Club</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Grace Notes</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Leadership</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Praise Band</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 **</p> <p>QUMC Cares Sunday</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Grace Notes</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Praise Band</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Parking Lot Reserved</p>