

DECEMBER 2024

THE QUAKER QUILL

THE NEWSLETTER OF QUAKER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Grace & Peace to You my Friends,

The year is drawing to a close...we have entered the season of light and anticipation as we await again the coming of the Christ Child. This is the time of year when we dust off old traditions and embrace them with a sense of new and holy. Our Advent theme of Wonder is a reminder that even for the most cynical amongst us candles, carols, presents and holiday greetings have a way of bringing joy and wonder to our hearts. I want to thank everyone for our remarkable response to the Angel Tree this year...all of the angels flew out of here in record time and we ask that they all return by December 17. If you were unable to select an angel this year, consider increasing your Joy Gift offering that will be collected on December 15th at the Candlelight service or giving directly to one of our mission partners in the Greater Lynchburg area. If you need a list of our mission partners, please contact the office.

As this is the final newsletter of the year, I was reflecting on all that Quaker did this past year...it is remarkable all the ways this congregation continues to love one another and to serve our neighbors. We packed over 10,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger. We welcomed one another to the Welcome Table each month singing old familiar songs and eating good food. We filled soup pots for Souper Bowl of Caring. We added The Summit Assisted Living to our monthly communion services. We hosted Interfaith Outreach's Krispy Kreme Fundraiser sale and our building smelt like hot fresh donuts for a week! We welcomed children to our annual Easter Egg Hunt, We "Paused" during the Lenten season to prepare our hearts for the Holy Season. We hosted our first South River Meeting House partner event with a lecture on the Final Words of Sarah Lynch Terrell and a new brochure box was erected by the Meeting House. Our Earth Day Celebration was a little soggy as we planted a new Oak Tree in the cemetery. We doubled our numbers at Music and Arts Camp. Youth and Adults traveled to conferences at Montreat and Massanetta Springs. We hosted our 3rd Block Party. Even with drought conditions our garden still produced crops that fed our hungry neighbors. We installed a new AED device and trained our members how to use it. We had a fabulous group pack bags at Parkview Mission. We generously raised funds for Montreat and others who suffered in the path of Hurricane Helene. We packed over 25 clean up buckets to go to hurricane relief. A wonderful group of QMPC members and new friends toured Scotland together. We collected snack foods for Food for Thought by the ton. We welcomed new members. We baptized babies. We cared for families who experienced loss and grief. We worshipped, we studied, we shared communion, we ate wonderful meals, had lovely conversations over a variety of libations and we served our neighbors. My friends, the Spirit is alive and well at Quaker and we have much to give thanks for!

Finally, please hold one another gently in this season of light and longing...I hope that many will join us for our Longest Night Service on December 17 at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary.

Love & Light
Anghaarad

SINGERS & LISTENERS OF ALL AGES – EVERYONE IS INVITED!



CHRISTMAS
WELCOME TABLE
at
QUAKER MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

POTLUCK DINNER
& CAROL SINGING

FRIDAY EVENING
DECEMBER 13th at 6:00

BRING A FRIEND OR TWO & A DISH TO SHARE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 434.239.2548

this is a community event.
people of all faiths & people of no faith are welcome.

atheists are particularly welcome,
especially if they can sing bass.

NO HUMBUGGERY PERMITTED!



Coffee with the Pastor



Join Anghaarad for coffee at The Bagel & I at 20584 Timberlake Road on Monday, December 16 from 10 am-Noon. Come for a Cup of Joe, tea or even breakfast and great conversation...this is a wonderfully relaxing time for all members of Quaker and friends.



This month **Lunch Bunch** will head to Isabella's Italian Trattoria at 4925 Boonsboro Road. Join us on Wednesday, December 18 at 12 noon. **Please notice the change in meeting time for this month.** We will need to give a final head count to the restaurant by Monday, December 16 so please RSVP to Sara by text, call 434-941-3349 or email her at buzzandsara@gmail.com.

Communion at The Summit Assisted Living, Bentley Commons & Willow Ridge

Each month Quaker delivers communion to our neighbors at The Summit (2nd Tuesday at 10am), Bentley Commons (2nd Tuesday at 6pm) and Willow Ridge formally Valley View (3rd Thursday at 3:00pm). The residents at these homes truly enjoy having folks visit with them during these short worship services. If you would like to join us, please let one of the pastors or the office know that you are coming.



Anghaarad will be leading a study on prayer for Women using the book **Help, Thanks, Wow** by Anne LaMott. Women of all ages are invited to participate in this study group that will meet in the library. We have purchased a handful of copies of the book & are available for \$10 in the church office. If you are interested in being a part of the group but can't attend the next gathering, please let Anghaarad know your availability.

Stewardship Pledges

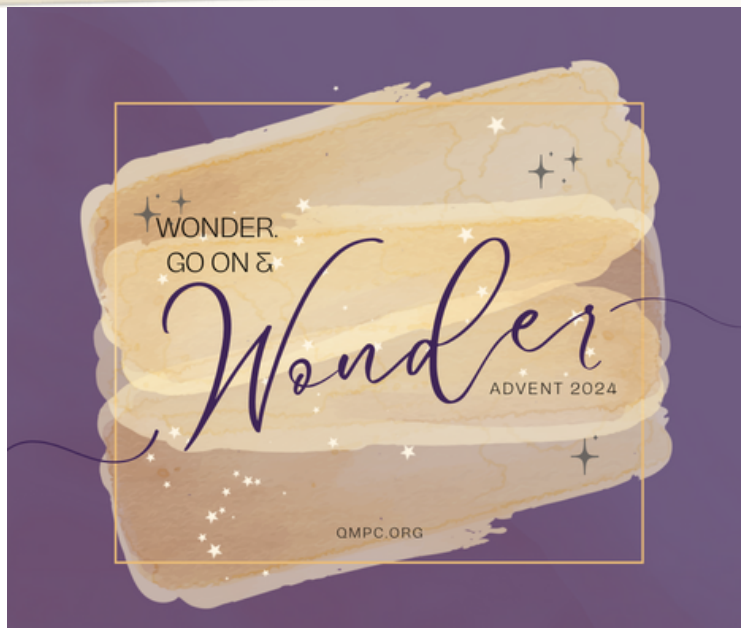
We still have a few outstanding pledge cards...please return your pledge card to the church office as soon as possible to help the Finance Team budget for next year.

Youth Summer Conferences

We hope that all of our youth will take advantage of Youth Summer Conferences at Massanetta Springs and Montreat...for youth who are planning to attend in 2025 we are asking that a \$100 deposit or deposit IOU be turned in ASAP, we will register for these trips in December!

Office Closed for Christmas December 25 and 26





Join us this season of Advent as we Wonder at the miracle of the Christmas story once again...the songs, the story, the rituals are familiar but every year it is still a wonder to our hearts.

Worship at 10:00am each Sunday

Welcome Table, December 13 at 6:30pm

Candlelight on December 15th at 5pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion on December 24 at 5pm





Longest Night

December 17 at 6:00pm

For many this is a sad, complicated and difficult season. Our Longest Night service acknowledges this difficulty and holds space for all who seek hope and healing. The brief but meaningful service will focus on Christ, who is the Light of the world overcoming the darkness of loss, suffering, and loneliness.





News From the Comfort Group

In October, the Comfort Support Group took two day trips. The first one was to Yogaville in Buckingham County. We joined another small group and went on a tour. We saw the farm where they grow all the food that they eat their and it's all organic. We saw a gorgeous view of the James River from a high spot of Yogaville's 800 acres. So many trees and the peace and quiet was inspiring to the soul. We toured the Ashram where all religions were honored.

Artifacts and Prayers we on display. It was amazing how familiar the prayers from the various traditions sounded. For example, a prayer of Native Americans goes something like this: We do not walk alone. Great Spirit walks beside us. Know this and be grateful.

The second day trip was an Abbott Bus Company tour to ride the train the Blue Ridge Flyer from Staunton to Ivy, VA. While riding the rails we had dinner and lots of great conversation. The three of us in the Comfort Group who were on this trip sat at a table for four. The other traveler at our table was a resident of Appomattox County. We learned that we all had people we knew in common with each other. At the end of the trip we had a new friend.

The Comfort Group has the purpose of having a safe place to talk and support each other. We will also probably go on other day trips. We welcome others to join the group if there's a need for safe place to talk and feel supported. Contact Peggy Deyerle if you would like to know more. (434-258-1256 or mrsdeyerle@gmail.com)

ews from the Confort Group

Property Committee News

The Property Committee has been busy with the following projects:

- Contracted with Dean Dykeman of Arboristry to complete Phase 1 of the tree work
- Voted to clean carpet and replace light fixtures in the Youth Room.
- Received quote from Stanley Steemer to clean the library & Youth Room carpets.
- No Worker Bee projects for November & December

Did you know that we have medical equipment available to borrow? Down in the H/VAC room, you'll find:

- 2 bedside potty chairs
- 1 shower chair
- 1 shower bench
- 3 rollator walkers
- 3 regular walkers

When you borrow any of these items, please be sure to return them to the H/VAC room so that they are easily located for others to use. The H/VAC room is located in the old wing downstairs, past the Children's Choir room, turn right at the EXIT sign, walk down the hallway to the last door on the left.



EARTH CARE
Matters



Earth Care News

The Earth Care Committee is seeking new members! As an Earth Care Congregation, we complete projects and activities in the fields of worship, education, facilities, and outreach. If you are interested in becoming more involved in being stewards of God's earth, join us on Sunday, December 8, at 5:00pm in the library. If you have any questions, contact Julia Bryan or Jill Wood.



EARTH CARE SPOTLIGHT:

The white, porous styrofoam used in food containers, coffee cups, and package cushioning is technically expanded polystyrene foam. Churches often throw away a lot of these containers, especially coffee cups.

What's the problem?

- Styrofoam is not biodegradable and takes up to 500 years to decompose.
- Styrofoam products break into small fragments that pollute our land and waterways. Fish and land animals mistakenly eat them and fall ill or die as a result.
- Heated containers can release toxic chemicals into food, and sunlight can heat them enough to leach chemicals into the environment.

What are some alternatives?

- Bring your own reusable cups, containers, and utensils from home.
- At church events, use "real" cups, dishes, and utensils that can be put in the dishwasher. Take home leftovers in other types of containers.
- Use disposable paper products, especially coated ones that resist moisture. Paper is eco-friendly and will biodegrade when placed in landfills. If clean, it can also be recycled.
- Look for biodegradable products made from corn or derived from sugar cane processing. Many recycling centers will not accept styrofoam products.



EARTH CARE Matters



More Ways to Recycle

Need to find some room for the new electronics you're planning on getting for Christmas? Take all of your old computers/electronics to Staples for recycling. Check out the list of items you can recycle and you get store credit, too!

RECYCLE EVERY DAY



TECH

- Adapters & hubs
- Apple® AirTag® trackers
- Battery backup devices
- Cable/satellite receivers
- Calculators
- Car & wall chargers
- CD/DVD/Blu-ray discs & players
- Coffee brewers (less than 40 lb.)
- Computers & Mac®
- Computer speakers
- Connected home devices
- Digital & video cameras
- Digital projectors
- Earbuds & AirPods®
- Fax machines
- Flash drives
- Gaming consoles & controllers
- GPS devices
- Hard drives
- Headphones & headsets
- Keyboards & mice
- Label makers
- Laminators
- Laptops & MacBook®
- Mobile phones & iPhone®
- MP3 players & iPod®
- Printers & multifunction devices
- Routers & modems

TECH (CONT.)

- Scanners
- Shredders
- Small servers
- Smart speakers & HomePod®
- Smart watches & Apple Watch®
- Stereo receivers
- Streaming devices & Apple TV®
- Stylus pens & Apple Pencil®
- Tablets, iPad® & eReaders
- USB & Lightning® cables
- Webcams

PRINTER CARTRIDGES

- Ink cartridges
- Toner cartridges & drum units

BATTERIES

- Rechargeable batteries
- Single-use batteries **NEW**

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Backpacks & lunch bags **NEW**
- Crayons & colored pencils **NEW**
- Glue sticks & bottles (empty) **NEW**
- Pencils & pencil pouches **NEW**
- Pens, markers & highlighters **NEW**
- Poly folders & binders (empty) **NEW**
- Rulers & drafting tools **NEW**

EVEN MORE

- Bags & luggage **NEW**
- Phone & iPhone cases
- Tablet, iPad & eReader cases
- Smart watch & Apple Watch bands
- SodaStream® CO₂ cylinders

FOR A FEE

- Monitors up to 49" (\$19.99 each)*
- Shredding (cost per lb.)

*Fee not applicable in CA, CT, NC, NY, PA and RI.



WHAT CAN'T BE RECYCLED IN STORE

Air conditioners, floor-model printers & copiers, home & kitchen appliances, lamps & bulbs, large servers, large speakers, medical devices, records & record players, scissors & other blades, smoke detectors, televisions or vaporizers.

Download the Staples® app to track your recycling, earn points with Easy Rewards™ and more.

Store management has the right to refuse to accept items that may pose a health or safety risk. When you recycle your eligible electronic device at Staples, you relinquish all ownership rights in the device when you give it to Staples to be recycled. Additionally, Staples is not responsible for any data left on the device turned in for recycling. You are solely responsible for removing data from your device, and you acknowledge that submission of a device for recycling is at your sole risk. When you give your device to Staples for recycling, you further represent that you either: (1) are the sole owner of the electronic device and of any data that was on the electronic device before you deleted all such data prior to recycling; or (2) have permission to proceed with recycling from all other owners of the electronic device or of any data that was on the electronic device before you deleted all such data prior to recycling.





**INTERFAITH OUTREACH
ASSOCIATION'S**



“Walter M. Fore, Jr.”
Downtown Lynchburg

Historic Church Open House

Saturday, December 14, 2024

This year's event is FREE and open to the public with donations to Interfaith Outreach encouraged as a holiday gift.

Each participating church will open 15 minutes before their concert and will remain open for 1 hour.



Jackson Street
United Methodist Church



Holy Cross
Catholic Church



First Unitarian
Church



Court Street United
Methodist Church

Concert Schedule

Each church will host a 15 minute concert with the schedule as follows:

- 09:30 am Diamond Hill Baptist Church
- 10:45 am Jackson Street United Methodist Church
- 11:00 am Holy Cross Catholic Church
- 11:30 am St. Paul's Episcopal Church
- 12 noon Court Street Baptist Church
- 12:30 pm Court Street United Methodist Church
- 1:00 pm Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Special Guest Temple Agudath Shalom

Donations benefit Interfaith Outreach Association. IOA is a non profit located in Lynchburg, Virginia that has been helping families in need in Central Virginia since 1982.

IOA offers assistance through seven programs: Emergency Assistance, Emergency Heating Assistance for the Elderly, Furniture and Furnishings, Homeless Prevention, Progressive Release, Programs for People with Visual Impairments, and Interfaith Rebuilds.

For more information, call the office at **434.846.6098**
www.interfaithoutreach.org
or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



Diamond Hill
Baptist Church



St. Paul's
Episcopal Church



Court Street Baptist Church

Interfaith Outreach Thanks Our Program Sponsors!

Academy of Fine Arts
The Al Stroobants Foundation
Bank of the James
Banker Steel
BWXT
Centra
Community Mountain
Dodson Pest Control
Findings Art Store

Flint Property Group
Foster Foundation
Freedom First Credit Union
Genworth Foundation
The Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation
Home Depot
LG Flint Inc.
Lynchburg Association of Realtors
Lynchburg Morning Rotary

Lynchburg Ready Mix Company
Master Engineers and Design
Moore's County Store
Moore's Electrical and Mechanical
Mustaches for Kids Lynchburg
N B Handy
Schewel Home
Select Bank
Sonny Merryman

NOVEMBER MEMORIALS & GIFTS

In Memory of Ginny Kerr

Carolyn & Bob Eubank
Fran & Kent Ford
Evelyn Glass
Maureen & Bob Lockridge, Jr.
Nancy Mize
Terri Nguyen
Mrs. Jessie M. Reach
Randy Sayre
Gail & David Stokes
Phyllis Webb
Nancy Wellons
Carolyn & Reuben Womack

In Memory of Colin Mize (to benefit the Youth Scholarship Fund)

Nancy Mize

In Honor of Hunter Evans

The Foster Foundation

Church Financial Report

	Oct-24	Monthly	Year to Date
Revenue		\$19,154.44	\$302,538.11
Expenses		\$33,874.57	\$298,344.52
Difference		(\$14,720.13)	\$4,193.59

Online Giving Available

Just a reminder that we now offer electronic giving. You can give simply by scanning the QR code to the side or go to our website www.qmpc.org and click the GIVE NOW button at the top of the page to be taken to our secure site. There is a small fee involved and you will have the option to cover that fee when you give.



DECEMBER

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	2	3	4 11am Centering Prayer 6pm Confirmation Dinner 6pm Prayer for others at home	5	6	7 9am to 1pm  Christmas Bazaar
8 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 5pm Earth Care Committee	9 4:30pm QMPC-UL-LMS Task Force	10 10am Zoom Bible Study 10am Communion at The Summit 6pm Communion at Bentley Commons	11 11am Centering Prayer 5:30pm Endowment Committee 6pm Prayer for others at home 6:30pm Property Committee 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	12 10am Comfort Table Support Group	13 Lynchburg Retired Teachers 9am Board Meeting 10am General meeting 6pm Welcome Table	14
15 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 5 pm Candlelight Service & Buffet	16 9am Cemetery Committee 10am to noon Coffee with Pastor	17 10am Zoom Bible Study 6pm Longest Night Service	18 11am Centering Prayer 11:30 am Lunch Bunch 6pm Prayer for others at home 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	19 3pm Communion at Willow Ridge	20	21
22 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	23	24  Christmas Eve 5pm Service	25  CHRISTMAS DAY	26	27	28
29 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	30	31  New Year's Eve	 Happy New Year!			