

DECEMBER 2022

# THE QUAKER QUILL

THE NEWSLETTER OF QUAKER MEMORIAL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Tell Us of the Night...the Story That Changed the World

That is our theme for Advent and Christmas this season. It was in the night when all the world was sleeping that the Divine and mortal knitted together was born. We love this story...we show up each Advent to light candles, sing the beloved carols and hear the story of Emmanuel...the Christ child born to us and how the world was never the same. My prayer that each time we hear the story we are never the same... may we hear a new promise of hope and light in our lives.

This is a season when there is so much joy and generosity all around us...Quaker has truly stepped up and shown their gracious hearts by how quickly all of our Christmas angels were adopted, the thousands of pounds of snacks for the Food for Thought ministry donated throughout November and how full our noisy offering buckets are each month. With these small gestures of Christmas presents, loose change and snack food we change the world. We are lights that shine in the darkness.

How else might you continue to change the world this Advent and Christmas season? Our Advent Calendar of activities have lots of ideas of ways you can shine a little brighter this Advent season and we would love for you to include us on your social media feeds with #QMPCAdvent. We will be collecting gloves and socks for the homeless and you can bring those to help fill our manger in the sanctuary. We will go Christmas caroling to some of our members who are homebound or have had a difficult year on December 14th...come be a part of our band of carolers. We will shower love and joy on our Children's choir director, Savannah as she and Thomas welcome a new baby on December 11th after worship. We will have a Christmas-themed Welcome Table on December 9th...this is a great opportunity to invite a friend. The buffet following the Christmas Candlelight service is back...be sure to sign up in the Narthex for this Quaker tradition on December 18th. You can drop a folded bill or two into the noisy buckets along with your loose change on December 4th when we collect our 2¢ a Meal offering. You can invite a friend or a neighbor to join us in worship. May we all continue to tell the story of Christmas and the story of Quaker to all we encounter in these Holy days.

In the midst of all the hubbub and merriment, I know that many folks find this a very difficult season, filled with grief and anxiety. I hold you in my heart and I hope that if you find this a hard time that you will join us for our Longest Night service on December 21st in the Sanctuary.

May we rejoice today, for Emmanuel has come!

Merry Christmas and Happy Advent!

Anghaarad







## **THE WELCOME TABLE**

Grace and Peace to you all, and Joy to the World!

The Welcome Table will be held Friday, December 9, at 6:00. We'll sing our favorite carols, as well as a few old songs that may become new favorites...

I first began leading monthly gatherings to eat and sing in Ahoskie, North Carolina in 2015. This grew into the Ahoskie Community Choir, an enterprise so satisfying and gratifying that I wanted to capture the sweet spirit and fine singing of the group on tape. One thing led to another, and we recorded and released a Christmas CD in 2016. I'm pretty confident it's the only Christmas recording in the world with a picture of a tobacco barn on the cover. We didn't know what we were doing, but we did it anyway, and I'm pretty proud of the result.

I'm sad that the First Presbyterian Church of Ahoskie and the community choir it founded and hosted is no more, but glad that I have enough copies of the Christmas CD we made to share one with every household at Quaker Memorial.

You'll find them under the TV in the Narthex; help yourself!

I hope and pray you'll find a little true Christmas joy inside. We loved the songs, we loved singing them together, and we loved how much people enjoyed hearing them — and learning them, and singing along.

Merry Christmas!

Richard

**There is a sign-up sheet for the Welcome Table in the Narthex. If you would like to join us for the Welcome Table, please sign up or call the church office at 434-239-2548 and let us know you are coming.**





### **UNIVERSITY OF LYNCHBURG CHRISTMAS CHORAL CONCERT**

On December 3 and 4 at 7:30pm the university will host its winter concert in Snidow Chapel featuring the Musical Union. Many Quaker members participate in the Musical Union and this year Anghaarad will be the featured soprano in Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols. The concert is free and we hope lots of Quaker folks will come out to support.

### **SOCKS & MITTENS**

This Christmas Season we will be collecting new socks, mittens and gloves for our homeless neighbors. Please begin bringing your socks and mittens and placing them on the Angel Tree in the Narthex or in the manger in the sanctuary.



### **LONGEST NIGHT**

For many the holidays are a difficult season tinged with grief and loss. Anghaarad and Richard will lead a brief service on Wednesday, December 21 at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary for all who wish to find a bit of solace in the midst of the frivolity and to honor the sorrow some of us are feeling this time of year.

### **ANGEL TREE**

The angels have arrived and are all adopted! Please be sure have all gifts back to the church by Wednesday, December 14th.

### **HERE WE GO A CAROLING**

Please join in the fun as we go caroling to some of Quaker family members who are shut in or live alone. We will gather at the church on Wednesday, December 14th at 6:00pm and go caroling to a few homes and then return for a cup of hot chocolate. Please dress weather appropriate and festively.

### **WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS DAY**

This year, Christmas falls on a Sunday morning and we will still gather on this Lord's Day as we do every Lord's Day to worship as a church family. This year we are inviting folks to join us for an "Instant Christmas Pageant." We will assign parts to all who wish to participate, have costumes on the ready and we will hear the Christmas story once more. We will also sing lots and lots of your favorite carols. We hope to see you Christmas morning and we celebrate together!



### **ALTERNATIVE GIFT GIVING... IS BACK THIS CHRISTMAS!**

Give a gift that keeps on giving this Christmas. Alternative Gift Giving is an opportunity to bless those in need this Christmas with a donation to one of the missions that our church supports. Look over your Christmas list and see who's on it and then find a mission that would be a fitting one to make a donation to in their name. Choose to give to those in need this Christmas by making a donation in your loved one's name for Jesus! Alternative Gift Giving is a gift that keeps on giving. You can make a donation in any dollar amount to one or several of missions listed below. You will receive a beautiful card and a description of the ministry to give someone as a gift this Christmas! Beginning December 4th and running through Dec. 18th, you can contact the church office to purchase your Alternative Gifts.

Missions supported by QMPC:

Backpacks for Kids Sake  
Churches for Urban Ministry  
Free Clinic  
Interfaith Outreach  
Miriam's House  
QMPC Community Garden  
Salvation Army

Blue Ridge Food Pantry  
Daily Bread  
Habitat for Humanity  
Meals on Wheels  
Parkview Community Mission  
Red Cross  
Wheels on the James

Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40





### **COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR**

This month join Anghaarad for coffee back at Starbucks on Forest Road (19399 Forest Rd) on Wednesday, November 14th from 10am-Noon. Come for a Cup of Joe or tea and great conversation...this is a wonderfully relaxing time for all members of Quaker and friends.



### **AFTER HOURS WITH THE PASTOR**

Anghaarad will not have an After Hours in the month of December but will schedule an evening in January...so watch the newsletter for those dates!

### **SHOWER FOR SAVANNAH & THOMAS SORRELS**



Our Children's Music Director is expecting her first baby this January and the Session is inviting everyone to a reception after worship on December 11th. We are asking folks to bring diapers, wipes and their favorite children's book to shower this young family. As we all know babies use lots of diapers and it is never too early to build a wonderful library. We will have a large box in the Narthex ready to receive your gifts of love.



Each Wednesday night at 6:00pm Anghaarad will lead a weekly opportunity for creative folks to gather for reflection, conversation and fellowship. Everyone who comes is encouraged to bring whatever their creative activity might be (knitting, drawing, watercolors, jewelry making, journaling, writing, needlepoint, etc.). Each night will open with a meditative reading for reflection and then the group will work for an hour on whatever project they have brought with them. No need to sign up and as always, guests are welcome!



### **LUNCH BUNCHERS...**

In December, Lunch Bunch will head to Neighbor's Place, 104 Paulette Circle. Join us on Wednesday, December 21st at 11:30 am. Please bring a Dollar tree or \$1.25 gift for swapping. We will need to give a final head count to them by Monday, December 19th so RSVP to Sara by text, call 434-941-3349 or buzzandsara@gmail.com.





### **OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS**

Gifts were given in honor of  
By Joyce Steele: Richard Goodman  
Care and Nurture Committee  
Sharon & Eric Barringer  
Molly & Lewis Garbee  
The Armstrong Family  
By Robert & Carolyn Eubank:  
Doris Daniel  
By Sara Curtis:  
Doris Daniel  
By: Watt Foster Family Foundation:  
Hunter Evans & family

Gifts were given in memory of:  
By Nancy Mize:  
Norris Deyerle  
William Lea  
By Nancy Mize, Janice & Doug Mize,  
Julia, Emma, Elizabeth & Richard  
Mize:  
A gift for the Sound System in  
memory of Colin Mize  
By Randy Sayre:  
Norris Deyerle  
By Garland Harper:  
Norris Deyerle  
By Peggy Deyerle:  
A gift for the Sound System in  
memory of Norris Deyerle

### **THANK YOU FROM ENKE SHANER**

Thank you so much for all of your generous thoughts these past few years. Just wanted to say a sincere thank you from this 91 1/2 year old adolescent.

### **2¢ A MEAL OFFERING**

Don't forget that we will collect this offering on December 4th during worship.

### **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](http://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.



## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session is calling a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 18th after worship for the purpose of voting on the Terms of Call for our Pastor, Anghaarad Teague Dees. This is our annual meeting as required by the Book of Order.



- Seeking Sunday school volunteers for our Children's Sunday school, please see Julia Bryan or Liz Huband if you are willing assist with this program. We are going to be using our Godly Play program during Sunday school this year and need some of our folks who have already been trained to step up and become part of the rotation. Youth are welcome to volunteer as well.
- Fellowship Committee is seeking volunteers to help open and close the Coffee Closet each Sunday...if you are willing to serve please speak to Jane Reynolds or Skip Wodke.

### New address for Fay Willis:

6150 Salem Place Drive  
Clemmons, NC 27012  
Home phone #: 336-546-7378

Fay has moved to North Carolina to be closer to her children. We wish her well in her new home but she will be missed!



### SEPTEMBER

|            | Month     | Year To Date |
|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Revenue    | \$16,652  | \$245,024.44 |
| Expenses   | \$29,208  | \$251,240.07 |
| Difference | -\$12,556 | (\$6,215.63) |

### OCTOBER

|            | Month       | Year to Date |
|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Revenue    | \$26,951.64 | \$271,976.08 |
| Expenses   | \$24,150.46 | \$275,426.53 |
| Difference | \$2,801.18  | (\$3,450.45) |

Last day for gifts to be received to count for 2022 is Wednesday, December 28.

**Stewardship Update:** We have had 72 pledges made for a total of \$220,354.50.



## ADVENT WORKSHOP

We had lots of worker bees making ornaments, decorating trees, and preparing the building for the Advent and Christmas Season...a big thank you to our Fellowship Team who provided lunch and to everyone who helped Deck the Halls.



## BISCUIT BUDDIES WORK DAY

Our Property Committee hosted our first Saturday Work Day and we had a great group of folks who worked hard to deep clean our sanctuary. Pews were wiped down, windows washed, crevices vacuumed and all of the wood treated to protect from the sun and heat. Thanks to everyone who came and fellowshiped over biscuits and some cleaning. Our next Work Day is scheduled for December 17 and there will be a myriad of projects for folks to help us complete.

## STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION SUNDAY & TIME AND TALENT FAIR

Our congregation truly "Poured Out" our gifts and blessings this Stewardship Season. To date we have received \$220,354.50 in pledges. Our committees hosted a wonderful Time and Talent Fair and a big thank you to Steve Hubbard who prepared delicious appetizers. Folks learned more about the work and ministry of Quaker and ways they can be a part. Our Time & Talent Fair displays and sign ups will return in January if you missed the opportunity to sign up, so be on the look out for them. If you have not returned your Pledge Card this year, we ask that you do before year's end so that we can adequately set the 2023 Budget.

Stewardship is truly the season in which we dream dreams for the future and craft our vision for ministry in the here and now. Please be in prayer that we will have a bold vision and future at Quaker.



# DECEMBER



| Sun  | Mon | Tue  | Wed   | Thu   | Fri  | Sat   |
|--|-----|--|---|---|--|---|
|  |     |  |   | 1   | 2  | 3<br>10-3 Craft Fair  |
| 4 2 cents a meal offering<br>Communion<br>11:15 am Children's Choir<br>5:45 pm Youth                       | 5   | 6<br>10 am Zoom Bible Study  | 7<br>6 pm Creative Spirit Night   | 8 9:30 am to 1 pm Committee on Ministry meeting and lunch in FH | 9<br>10 am LRTA General Meeting<br>6pm The Welcome Table | 10  |
| 11<br>11:15 am Children's Choir<br><br>5:45 pm Youth Christmas   | 12  | 13<br>10 am Zoom Bible Study   | 14<br>6 pm Church-wide Christmas Caroling<br>6:30 pm Property Committee meeting                           | 15<br>3 pm Valley View Communion                                | 16   | 17<br>9 am to 1 pm Biscuit Buddies  |
| 18<br>11:15 am Children's Choir<br><br>5 pm Candlelight Service  | 19  | 20<br>10 am Zoom Bible Study<br>3:30 pm Missions Committee (Moseley Chapel)<br>7pm Bells of the Blue Ridge | 21<br>11:30 am Lunch Bunch at Neighbor's Place<br>6 pm Creative Spirit Night<br>7pm Longest Night Service | 22  | 23   | 24<br><br>CHRISTMAS EVE<br>5pm Candlelight Service |
| 25<br><br>CHRISTMAS DAY | 26  | 27<br>10 am Zoom Bible Study   | 28  | 29  | 30   | 31<br><br>New Year's Eve                           |
| Anghaarad on vacation this week  |     |  |   |   |  |   |
|  |     |  |   |   |  |   |