FEBRUARY 2024 THE NEWSLETTER OF QUAKER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN

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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Grace & Peace to You my Friends,

I would like to invite you to pause this Lenten season...let us all take up the very needed spiritual practice of encountering, sinking into, slowing down, and deeply engaging with God and with one another these forty days. You could join my study of Elizabeth Caldwell's book, *Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms* or you could find another way to slow down this Lenten Season. I hear it from everyone how busy we all are...how overwhelmed we are...how overextended we keep finding our calendars and lives...we could all use a pause in our lives. So let us take this season of Lent to step back and reflect on the deeper movements of the spirit in our lives and in our world. As has been our practice during Lent, there will be some guided prayer centers available in the Narthex each week, so come to worship early or during the week to spend some time pausing and listening for the spirit at work deep within us.

Thank you for all of your love and care during this season in my family's life. I am so glad that we were able to travel to Mississippi to be with my family for my cousin, Rick's funeral. I am also very grateful that we were able to travel to Atlanta for Zane's father's funeral as well. For both of those trips, we felt covered with love and prayer...thank you. I also want to thank Richard and Steve for stepping into the pulpit and allowing me this opportunity to not only be with family but also cover my presbytery duties. As Presbyterians we are connectional, which means that our pastors and presbytery leaders work together to care for all congregations in our presbytery boundaries. I was able to moderate Bedford Presbyterian's congregational meeting and session while they search for a new pastor. I have stepped into the roll of moderator of the Commission on Ministry which will take more of my time in the year ahead, but it is good and necessary work and I look forward to learning more about our sister congregations as well as the people serving these congregations.

I hope and pray as we enter the season of Lent, that you will find a way to make this season more meaningful for you as we approach the joy of Easter. I hope to see you at Coffee with Pastor on February 26th and of course I love when I see you in worship! Don't forget to order your Krispy Kreme doughnuts by February 8th!

Love & Light Anghaarad Singers & Listeners of All Ages – Everyone is Invited!

The Welcome Table at Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church 5810 Fort Ave, Lynchburg, VA 24502

POTLUCK DINNER & COMMUNITY SING

^{featuring a} Warm Welcome, Fíne Food & Sweet Harmony

Americana & Roots Music, Spirituals, Gospel Songs, Country Blues, Mountain Hymns & Civil Rights Anthems

FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 9TH 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.





We will have an Ash Wednesday Service, February 14 at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. We begin our Lenten season with this invitation to pause with a mark of ashes reminding us that in spite of our failures, we still belong to God. Join us for this solemn beginning of the Lenten season. The service will include the imposition of ashes, litany of confession, music and silence.



Pause...our theme for Lent this year. We will work our way through a collection of Psalms using Elizabeth Caldwell's book *Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms*. In worship and during a couple of study opportunities we will reflect on our need to pause...to let go of the busyness around us and just rest even if it is merely moments with God. How do we hear God speaking over all the noise around us? How do we let go of our burdens if we are afraid to let them go? How do we find the time we need to rest body, mind and spirit? Join us in worship as find discover different was to pause beginning February 18. Join a weekly Bible Study or the Adult Sunday School Class as we work our way through Elizabeth Caldwell's book or purchase a copy of her book for your own personal devotion time. Anghaarad will lead a study on Thursdays from noon to 1:30pm in the library beginning February 15th...sign up today and let the office know if you would like us to purchase a copy of the book for you. The book costs \$17 if you want a hard copy and it is \$11 if you wish to purchase the kindle version.



There will be a Called Congregational meeting for approving the Pastor's Terms of Call following worship on February 25.



Souper Bowl of Caring is next Sunday, February 11. Our youth will be collecting dollars after worship in soup pots to help tackle hunger!! Half of the money will support Rise Against Hunger and the half will support the local Food Bank. We hope to see you there and our soup pots overflowing with your generosity!



This month **Lunch Bunch** will head to County Line Cafe at 20677 East Salem Turnpike (Hwy 460 toward Bedford). Join us on Wednesday, February 21 at 11:30 am. We will need to give a final head count to the restaurant by Monday, February 19 so please RSVP to Sara by text, call 434–941–3349 or email her at buzzandsara@gmail.com.



COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR

Join Anghaarad for coffee at The Bagel & I at 20584 Timberlake Road on Monday, February 26 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.

COMMUNION AT BENTLEY COMMONS, THE SUMMIT & VALLEY VIEW

Each month Quaker delivers communion to our neighbors at Bentley Commons (2nd Tuesday at 6pm) and Valley View (3rd Thursday at 3:00pm). We will also begin serving communion at the Summit Assisted Living this month on Tuesday, February 13 at 10am. We hope for this to become a regular event. The residents at these places 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.



GOT CONFIRMANDS?

We will be putting together the next confirmation class for all Quaker youth grades 7 and above who have not been through confirmation. If you have a youth that would like to take part this year, please let Pastor Anghaarad know as she begins planning this year's class. We are hoping to partner with a couple of our neighboring churches.

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 2024 we are asking that a \$100 deposit be turned in ASAP.



SCOTLAND TOUR 2024

Join Anghaarad for a trip to Scotland (October 7-October 15, 2024). The trip will cost \$3895 per person and includes coach travel, hotels, some meals, tipping, and fees. It is not too late to sign up for this trip. You can still get a registration slip from the office and pay a deposit of \$2000 to QMPC by February 25 to hold your spot. All balances on the trip will need to be paid by July 10, 2024. The trip will include Edinburgh, Iona, St. Andrews, Loch Ness, Stirling, Culloden and an opportunity to explore Scotland's sacred heritage. A full brochure with all the details is in the office. This trip is also open to friends, family and other members of Peaks Presbytery.



The pickup for this is the QMPC parking lot. If you would like to order some donuts and help Interfaith Outreach, use the QR Code below by this Thursday, February 8th.





GARDEN NEWS

A group worked in the garden this past Saturday to begin the preparation for this year's successful bounty! Below are the plans for this Spring. Watch the Friday Companion emails and bulletins for announcements of upcoming work dates if you would like to join us getting the garden cleaned up and planted.

- 1. Pick up and grind up all leaves within the garden area.
- 2. Stack the 27 tomato stakes in the corner and wire them up so the wind does not blow them over. All of those stakes look good! We plan on purchasing another 33 stakes so that we have 60 stakes to stake tomato this year.
- 3. We will cut down the dried wild flower plants and put them in the compost bins.
- 4. We will move 5 gallon buckets of Lewis Garbee's sawdust/manure to put into the raised beds.
- 5. We will Rototiller the garden proper and all raised beds that we put sawdust/manure in.
- 6. We are trying to prepare for another Saturday workday in February when we replace the rotten boards and posts that are in the raised beds in preparation for planting.
- 7. The goal is to have everything ready for planting by the middle of March which will include 60 cabbage plants, lettuce (romaine and leaf) and carrots. We will soak the carrots seeds, plant them in rows and thin the rows out when they come up to make our carrot bed more productive.
- 8. We have put composting on hold from members of the congregation and the Daily Bread until it gets a bit warmer. We presently have two 50 gallon tumbling compost bins that need some more decomposing time once it gets warmer. They are both full at this time.
- Sam will continue to bring his chicken manure/sawdust composting material. We will put some of Lewis Garbee's sawdust/horse manure and all of Sam's chicken manure/sawdust composting material into the four bands.
- 10. The memorial garden looked beautiful this past year. Jane and Jim are planning on expanding the memorial garden in February/March and will be needing support from the QMPC congregation. Will let you know when we need plants and help for this expansion. The QMPC Garden Team has purchased a St. Francis Statue that has been next to the fireplace in the church that will be located in the Memorial Garden in the future.



HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE WORSHIPAND MUSIC COMMITTEE

by Peggy Deyerle, chairperson

For me, the Christmas Season begins at Thanksgiving, continues through Advent and Christmas and goes throughto Epiphany, lasting about 7 weeks. The Christmas Season, all 7 weeks of it, are so wonderful and inspirational. What a wonderful way to end one year and begin another. I pray that our faith family continues to grow spiritually in 2024.

As we begin the year, I would like to offer you some ways you can serve our faith family in the new year, ways that don't take much time, yet are important and meaningful. For the most part they happen during worship services. A lot of us are already planning to be at worship so you'd be here for that anyway. Here are some ways you can serve our congregation:

Ushering: if interested contact Sara Curtis or me, Peggy Deyerle (434.258.1256).

- Communion server: You must be an ordained elder (active or inactive) to do this one.
- Communion preparer: also see Sara Curtis for this.
- Liturgist: this involves leading certain parts of the worship service as you've seen others do. Again, there will be a sign up sheet in the narthex or contact me.
- Acolyte (this is usually done by the youth but adults who wish to serve are welcome.) See Skip Wodke.
- Helping to set up for special worship services.
- Helping decorate the church for Advent and Christmas.
- Helping prepare for the Easter season.
- Other ways may pop up from time to time.

There is training for most of these items so you will know what to do. They don't involve a lot of time and are essential parts of our worship services. We need each other and serve each other in love. Please consider serving in on or more capacities.

Faithfully, Peggy Deyerle, W&M Chair 434.258.1256 (text or call. If I am unavailable, please leave a message)



COMFORT SUPPORT GROUP MEETING DATES, 2024

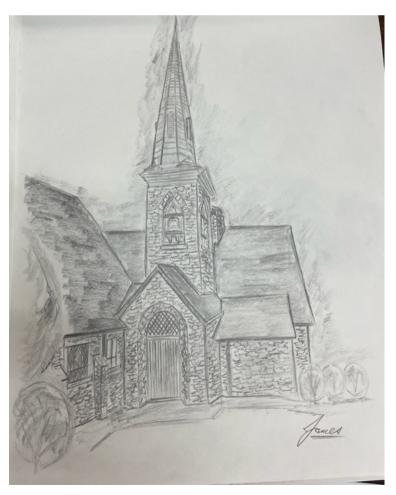
The Comfort Support Group will meet on the following Thursdays in the Church library at 10 am in 2024:

January 11 and 25 February 8 and 22 March 14 and 28 April 11 and 25 May 9 and 23 June 13 and 27 July 11 and 25 August 8 and 22 September 12 and 26 October 10 and 24 November 14 and 28 December 12 and 26

This support group is open to anyone in our church and community who needs support in the form of people who will listen without judgment. We support each other as caregivers and when going through other difficult times.We share joys and concerns. We keep things confidential unless you specify otherwise. We can help if you need to find other resources in the community. We welcome new people to join the group. Come to the meetings as you are able.Occasionally, we go out to breakfast as a group. We also welcome ideas for guest speakers and we might even take a field trip or two.

These are pictures drawn by James Holznecht of the church and meeting house. We wanted to share these examples of his extraordinary talent!





DECEMBER & JANUARY MEMORIALS & GIFTS

In Memory of Mid Armstrong

Anonymous Phyllis & Bob Beilfus Doris Daniel Shirley Morris Melvin & Brenda Scott Kevin, Tricia & Kaitlyn Trent David & Andrea Webb Phyllis Webb Linda Burford Williams

In Memory of Scott Robert Kathy & Steve Shield

In Memory of Edna Midkiff Phyllis & Bob Beilfus

In Honor of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Eubank Irene & Dennis Sterne

In Honor of Nancy Perry Cynthia Perry Fisher

In Memory of James Dees, Sr. & Rick Hawkins

Carolyn & Reuben Womack

In Memory of Joanne Vagi

Stonegate Villas

THANK YOU

Carolyn and Bob Eubank and Laura Eubank Harman deeply appreciate the many exressions of sympathy from our Quaker family following the death of Laura's husband Gregory in December.

2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

Dec-	Dec-23 Monthly		Year to Date	
Revenue		\$48,137.41		\$370,958.45
Expenses		\$36,732.35	\$	349,692.94
Difference	\$	11,405.06	\$	21,265.51

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE

Just a reminder that we now offer electronic giving. You can give simply by scaning 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.



FEBRUCRY

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	2 2pm Cemetery/ Columbarium Committee	3
4 9am Sunday School 10am Worship: Elder Ordination & Installation 11:15am Session 11:15 am Children's Choir 4 pm Youth Choir 5:15pm Youth Fellowship	5 5:45 pm STAR Debate Club	6 10am Zoom Bible Study 3:30 pm QMPC- LMS-UL Task Force	7 STAR Homeschool in building 11am Centering Prayer 6pm Prayer at home 6:30pm Property Committee	8 10am Comfort Table Support Group 7pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	9 10am Lynchburg Retired Teach- ers Board meeting 6pm Welcome Table	10
11 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15 am Children's Choir	12 5:45 pm STAR Debate Club	 13 10am Communion at The Summit Assisted Living 6pm Communion at Bentley Commons 	14 <i>Happy</i> <i>Happy</i> <i>Valentine's</i> <i>Day</i> <i>Spm Ash</i> Wednesday Service	15 Noon-Lenten Book Study in library 3pm Communion at Valley View 7pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	16	17
18 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15am Session 11:15 am Children's Choir 4 pm Youth Choir 5:15pm Youth Fellowship	19 5:45 pm STAR Debate Club 6:30pm Usher training	20	21	22 10am Comfort Table Support Group Noon-Lenten Book Study in library 6pm Usher training 7pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	23 5pm STAR Banquet	24
25 9am Sunday School 10am Worship: Congregational Meeting 11:15am Usher training 11:15 am Children's Choir 4 pm Youth Choir 5:15pm Youth Fellowship	26 10am to noon Coffee with the Pastor (The Bagel & I, 20584 Timberlake Road) 5:45 pm STAR Debate Club	27	28	29 DNE EXTRA DAY Noon-Lenten Book Study in library 7pm Chancel Choir rehearsal		