

The Quaker Quill



July 2020

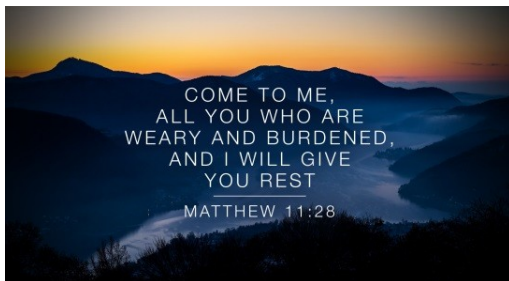
www.qmpc.org

COME ALL AND REST

One of the scripture passages in our lectionary for July 5 is Matthew 11:28-30: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

"Discipleship is hard work. In the best of times, holding the demands and the gifts of being a follower of Christ can be wearying. Trying to respond to the demands of the day while also being open to God's gracious care is a difficult course. "Doing" and "being" are tricky to balance - all the more so when a pandemic has us shutting down and staying in, while the call for racial justice urges us to get up, get out and march. Jesus knew how we would struggle with these things." (Looking into the lectionary, The Presbyterian Outlook, John Wurster).

The first word in this passage is key as all the rest depend upon it. **Come**. It is the relentless invitation of God, who is always reaching out, always welcoming with open arms. Come. It is the word spoken by God throughout Scripture. God hungers for us to come to him and rely on him for guidance, support and grace. It has been said, when God feels distant, it is no God who has moved but us. This time of pandemic, stay at home orders, social distancing, masks, arduous hygiene measures demand that we come to God to lean on him and trust that he is at work in our lives.



The second key word in this passage is **All**. "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens". Not just some. Not just a few. Not just the qualified or the capable or the knowledgeable. But all. Those who do not do the good they want to do (Romans 7:2); those with scars; those with baggage. Those with questions; those with doubts; those with fears. Everyone is invited. Everyone is welcome. All. We don't have to earn the right to come or be worthy of God's relationship with us. God provides the grace that invites **ALL** to come.

The third key word is **Rest**. Rest from the relentless decisions, the new behaviors, the care of friends and loved ones. Rest from the financial worries, the health concerns, the relationships stretched to the max. Jesus seeks our good, comforts our weariness and bears our burdens, We are not given an exemption from pain, challenges and sorrow. But we are given a companion to walk with us. We are not alone. Jesus knows the challenges of life and is with us in them every minute of every day. As the Brief Statement of Faith for the PC (USA) says, "In life and in death we belong to God and nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

To be yoked to Jesus is to be attached as two oxen are connected by a wooden harness or yoke. They must walk in tandem and together they share the load. Jesus promises that "my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

COME, ALL AND REST!

Nancy Dawson, Interim Pastor

SESSION MEETING

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

At their June meeting, the Session approved:

- Request by Gabe Colvin to film his Senior thesis at QMPC
- Promoting the Chronic Pain Self-Management classes being offered by CVACL via Zoom. These will be on Wednesdays, July 1-August 12.
- Use of Memorial Funds to fix the leaks in the roof.
- Moving into Phase 3 of our reopening parameters.
- Allowing the Fellowship & Moseley Chapel Sunday school classes to resume meeting whenever they feel comfortable doing so. The Fellowship class will meet in the Fellowship Hall to comply with social distancing guidelines.
- Allowing the book club, art class, writing class, and prayer shawl ministry to resume whenever they feel comfortable doing so. They must meet in the Fellowship Hall to comply with social distancing guidelines.

memorials & gifts

Received in June

IN MEMORY OF:	GIVEN BY
Buzz Curtis	Nancy Cress
Lily Hutchison	Doris Daniel
Bill Cress Lily Hutchison Phyllis Barnes	Nancy Mize
Jackie Metcalf Peggy Harris Glenn Clingempeel	Nancy Mize
Bill Cress Glenn Clingempeel	Samantha Spence
Lily Hutchison	Tim & Ann Daniel
Glenn Clingempeel Lily Hutchison	David & Andrea Webb
Lily Hutchison	Phyllis Webb
Lily Hutchison Buzz Curtis Bill Cress	Kathy & Bob Kaplan



We welcome you back whenever you are ready!

The reopening task force has done an incredible job creating a safe environment for worship.

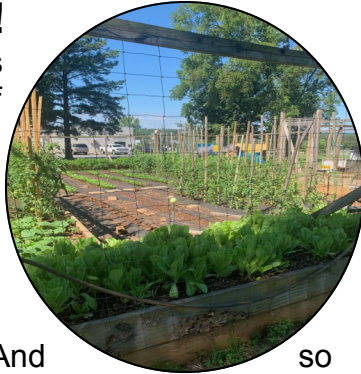
There is no need to RSVP, just come when you are ready.

Ushers will direct you to a socially distanced seat. After worship you will be dismissed by rows and can fellowship outside if you desire.



Garden News!

Wow! The garden is growing! Due lots of rain and a cooler spring, the garden is really growing strong. Many people help plant, weed and water to make this happen. And so far this year over 455 pounds of produce had been donated to organizations who give to those in need.



WHAT A MINISTRY!

It is a great way to serve our community and anyone can be a part of it. Contact Bob Lockridge, boblockridge@gmail.com or Amy McCarty, abebko@gmail.com to join the garden team.



Wednesday Evening Church-wide Prayer Time

We continue to invite QMPC family, near and far, to make every Wednesday 6pm to 7pm an intentional church-wide hour of prayer. The point is to get us all praying for needs that are near to us as well as all other situations we or others are facing. Each week the concern list is sent via email. As you pray, read each name on each list and the concern out loud or quietly, in giving thanks or petitioning on their behalf. Do it individually or with family and/or with friends. Be a prayer warrior for those in need and even those we think are not in need.



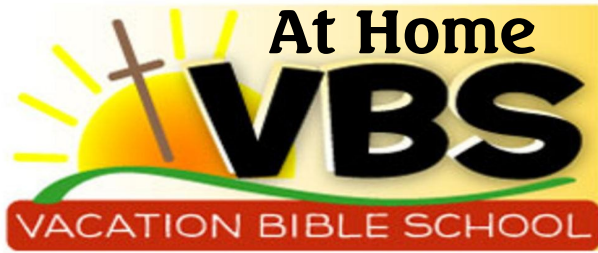
Book Club and Lunch Bunch will not meet in July.



Now to him who is able to do

Exceedingly
ABUNDANTLY
ABOVE all that we
ask or think
 according to the **POWER**
 That Works in Us
 EPHESIANS 3:20

Christian Education



At Home VBS Kits have been prepared & distributed to families that pre-registered. There are a few VBS Kits still available. Contact the office if interested in picking up one.



Parents of BIG, Junior and Senior High

Please take the time to fill out the Youth Survey that was sent out to you last week. The Youth Leaders are now meeting to work on plans for the fall and we would like to hear from you.



Thank you to all of the Sunday School Teachers for 2019-2020. We appreciate you giving of your time each Sunday morning for our families to grow in their faith. We do not know what Sunday School will look like this fall, but we hope to have you all back for another year. We are always looking for more Sunday School teachers. Please call or text Julie at 434.420.0851 if interested in volunteering a Sunday or two each month.

JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Office Closed July 4th Holiday	4 
5 	6 PNC on Zoom 7 pm	7 10 am Bible study on Zoom	8 6-7 pm Church Wide Prayer (at home)	9 11 am Glenn Clingempeel Memorial Service	10	11
12	13 PNC on Zoom 7 pm	14 10 am Bible study on Zoom 1 pm Cemetery Meeting	15 5:30 pm Haiti Meeting 6-7 pm Prayer (at home)	16	17	18
19 11 am Session (Fellowship Hall or Zoom)	20 PNC on Zoom 7 pm	21	22 6-7 pm Church Wide Prayer (at home)	23	24	25
26	27 PNC on Zoom 7 pm	28	29 6-7 pm Church Wide Prayer (at home)	30	31	

Weekly Sunday Schedule:

10:00 a.m. Worship Service In Sanctuary or
Online at [twitch.tv/QMPC](https://www.twitch.tv/QMPC) or Facebook Live