

The Quaker Quill



September 2020

www.qmpc.org

FAITH FOR THE LONG HAUL

Paul writes in the letter to the Romans 5:1 – 5 *“Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.”*

About the middle of June this pandemic began to feel like a marathon and now it feels more like a never ending endurance contest. “Surely by summer things will begin to get back to normal.” And while businesses opened and some churches began having in-person worship, normal became a tug of war over wearing masks, social distancing and only gathering in small groups. If COVID-19 did not keep one indoors, the heat and humidity did.

“Surely by fall schools will reopen and people will be taking vacations in September.” Well, the debate about schools being in person and/or online continues and regularly changes and the requirements for masks & social distancing seem to be permanent. The numbers of positive virus cases fluctuates greatly and many of us continue to wait for a vaccine to feel safe again.

Lots of us are becoming pretty savvy Zoom experts and others are increasingly more comfortable at home reading, doing projects around the house, engaging in painting or other art endeavors, playing computer games or watching movies or TV.

While we may miss our friends, we are also less likely to reach out to them.

Is this the new normal?

“How long do you want us to be patient Lord?” To which Paul replies that God’s promise of the forgiveness of sins and life eternal is realized by faith. And because of our faith we have peace with the Lord and can boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And we can also boast in our sufferings, knowing that they produce endurance, and endurance produces character and character produces hope and hope lives in us because the Holy Spirit and God’s love has been poured into our hearts.

God knows that our practice of faith during tough times produces strength and Godly character, and also hope because we are not alone nor forsaken. God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit walks with us and gives us what we need to be at peace even when we are bored, lonely, frightened or discouraged. For many others this time is one of God’s blessings that come with less cluttered days, time for quiet reflection and family gatherings and a new ways of understanding God’s presence.

Paul is essentially saying that Faith is not an event, it is a lifestyle which we get to practice in good times and hard times under the leadership of God. May we all find ways to endure and to celebrate during this very unique time in our lives. Praise be to God!

NANCY DAWSON
QMPC INTERIM PASTOR

SESSION MEETING

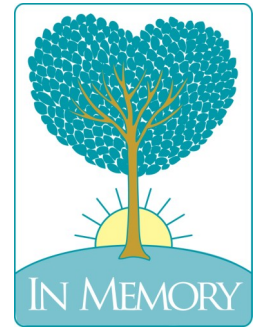
SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

At the August 16 meeting the Session...

APPROVED:

- The contract from Bethel Welders to install two handrails at the front entrance of the church.
- The contract from Perimeter Roofing for repair of the slate roof.
- An Apostle's Build in partnership with 10 other churches on Sept 30, Oct 1 and Oct 3.
- Jane Reynolds as a new member of the Endowment Committee.
- Holding a Congregation Meeting on Sat, Sept. 19 from 10:00-10:30am, via Zoom and Conference Call, to elect the members of the Nominating Committee.
- Accepted Julie Dyke's resignation as Director of Christian Education & Youth.

Gifts received in August



IN MEMORY OF	GIVEN BY
Brit LeCompte	Alice Sullivan
Angela Geer	Tracy Tall
Angela Geer	Estate of Angela Geer
Marcia Delicate	Reuben & Carolyn Womack
Marcia Delicate	Monday Art Group
Bill Cress	Matthew Sayre
Marcia Delicate	Nan Canfield
Herman D. Morris	Brenda & Melvin Scott



NOW HIRING

Presbytery of the Peaks is Hiring

Positions open are:
Full Time Communications Director and a Part Time Stated Clerk. For more information on these positions go to peakspresbytery.org

Wednesday Evening Church-wide Prayer Time

We invite QMPC family, near and far, to make every Wednesday 6pm to 7pm an intentional church-wide hour of prayer. 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. Watch for the weekly email with prayer concerns.





Congregational Meeting

Saturday, September 19 at 10 am

We will have a Congregation meeting on Zoom and freeconferencecalls.com to elect new members of the nominating team. The slate is Howard Jennings, Fran Ford, Larry Epperson, Phyllis Webb and Olivia Webb.

Those without access to Zoom will be able to call in for the meeting. We are working on the details and will send information out prior to the meeting.

Who would have thought a year ago that we would be doing a congregational meeting on Zoom this year. It is a learning curve!



Tuesday Bible study through 1 Thessalonians on Zoom.

Join Nancy and others as they look at the book of 1 Thessalonians at 10 am each Tuesday. Email office@qmpc.org to get the Zoom link.

Hello readers,

I hope you continue to enjoy reading and that it can provide a little bit of respite from the craziness of this world. We will not be meeting this month.

No



To quote Dr. Seuss, *“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”* Keep reading, friends!

QMPC Garden

The garden is growing and producing beautiful vegetables for those in need. They just planted some fall plants: 60 cabbage and 48 collard plants. The team typically tends the garden on Saturdays and Tuesdays at 8:30 am. You are welcome to join them (with masks on) to help anytime. So far this year we have donated over 750 pounds of produce!



Lunch Bunch will not meet in September. Who knows what October will bring?

Missions



Apostles Build
2020

The Mission Committee is thrilled to announce that QMPC will be part of Habitat for Humanity's Apostle's Build starting this September. This is an incredible way to serve mankind, be the feet and hands of Jesus in our community, and help provide a home for a local family. We will be building a house for Adrienne Toler, single mother of 2 children, age 12 & 7. She works full time for Centra Health and is very excited to have a home for her children. They have been living in 110 year old house with foundation issues, leaking roof and constant plumbing problems which have exasperated allergies. She feels a sense of ownership when putting in her "sweat equity". She is so thankful to have been chosen for this new, clean, affordable home.

WHAT IS AN APOSTLES BUILD?

- Churches work together to build a Habitat house.
- They raise funds and provide volunteers.

BENEFITS

- Gives people a concrete way to put their faith into action
- Allows people of faith to be the body of Christ outside of their church walls
- Congregation can experience revitalization
- Creates potential to build community among churches
- Volunteers meet new people and develop relationships with individuals from their own church

QMPC HISTORY

- QMPC has been involved with Habitat for Humanity in the greater Lynchburg area since 1991. We were a part of the 9th Apostle's Build and this year is the 309th build! During this time, we have participated in 10 builds and donated \$68,715.76 to them. Our goal has always been to help the community through this organization.

COMMUNITY

- QMPC is joining with 12 local churches* to help build this home. Work begins September 1 and the goal is to complete the home by December 12.
- The cost of the build is \$72,000 and so far \$55,000 has been raised by these 12 churches.
Our work days are September 30, October 1 and October 3 from 8 AM to 3 PM.
- Our crew will help install siding and build a porch. We will also provide lunches for the work crew on our days.

*Churches involved include: St. Thomas Moore Catholic Church, Quaker Memorial Presbyterian, Peakland UMC, Heritage UMC, Bethany UMC, Mountain View UMC, First Unitarian Church, Boonsboro Presbyterian, St. Andrew's Presbyterian, Grace Memorial Episcopal, Timberlake Christian Church, Temple of Deliverance

Habitat for Humanity will provide:

- Project management by a trained and compassionate staff
- Selection of the qualified, hard-working family who will purchase the home
- Support and coordination of Volunteers – ensuring that everyone has a GREAT experience in mission and fellowship
- Ongoing relationship with each church

Apostle's Build, continued

Apostle Church Provides:

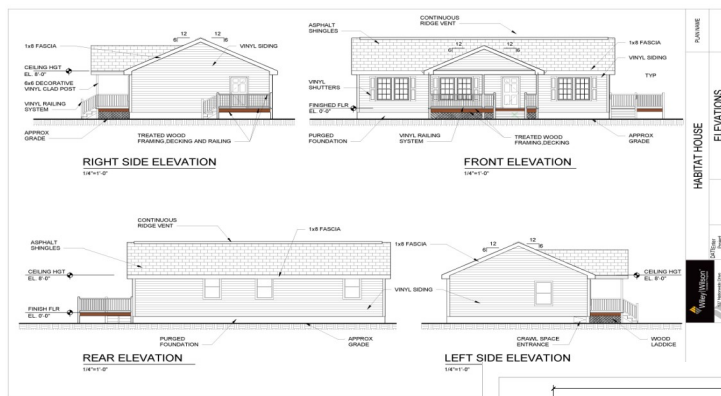
- PRAYER for the process and family.
- Cash donations: QMPC has donated \$5600 (\$3600 came from Covenant Presbyterian to be used on this build, \$1000 was a grant from the Presbytery, \$1000 from QMPC)
- Volunteer labor: Our dates are September 30, October 3, and October 5
- Lunch for all workers on scheduled days

COVID

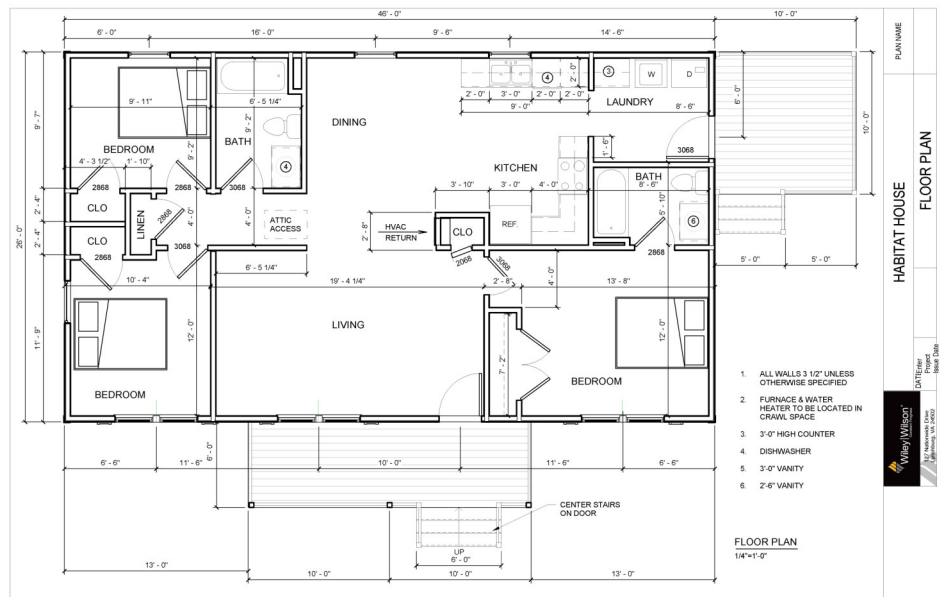
We clearly understand the concerns of COVID19 as does greater Lynchburg Habitat for Humanity. Workers will wear masks, social distance and follow handwashing procedures. Tools provided by GLHFH will be given to one individual person each day and be sanitized before and after each work day. Each crew member can also provide their own tools.

Construction Site Info:

- Site Information
 - Address: 1644 Callaham St.
 - Volunteers are required to wear closed toe shoes
 - Snacks and water will be provided. Each volunteer brings their own water bottle
 - PPE (safety glasses, gloves, hard hats) will be provided by GLHFH; volunteers are welcomed to bring their own.
 - Work week is Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday. 8am-3pm.
 - When providing lunches, please serve in a safe manner due to COVID-19. This is best done through individual packaging.



TOGETHER we can work together and make this home a reality for a deserving single mother. Email Christine at office@qmpc.org to sign up to help!





September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 5:30 pm Haiti Meeting	3 1-3 pm Cemetery Meeting	4	5
6 Communion 	7  OFFICE CLOSED PNC on Zoom 7 pm	8 10 am Bible study on Zoom	9 11 am Centering Prayer 6-7 pm Church Wide Prayer	10	11	12
13	14 PNC on Zoom 7 pm	15 10 am Bible study on Zoom 6:30 pm Property	16 11 am Centering Prayer 6-7 pm Church Wide Prayer	17	18	19 10 am Congregational Meeting via Zoom and Free Conference call
20 11 am Session (Fellowship Hall or Zoom)	21 PNC on Zoom 7 pm	22 10 am Bible study on Zoom	23 11 am Centering Prayer 6-7 pm Church Wide Prayer	24	25	26
27	28 PNC on Zoom 7 pm	29 10 am Bible study on Zoom	30 8am-3pm Apostle's Build 11 am Centering Prayer 6-7 pm Church Wide Prayer	OCT. 1 8am-3pm Apostle's Build	2	3 8am-3pm Apostle's Build
30	31	Weekly Sunday Schedule: 10:00 a.m. Worship Service In Sanctuary (socially distant seating) Or Online at twitch.tv/QMPC or Facebook Live				