



# Quakertown United Methodist Church

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Visit our website at [www.qumc.com](http://www.qumc.com)

Share Christ Grow in Christ Serve Christ

May 2010

## It's A Marathon !!!



First, a bit of history.

We've recently passed the 11-year anniversary of the consecration of QUMC's Christian Education Wing, held on April 11, 1999.

Before the wing was added, most Sunday School classes met in Miller Hall. Also, there was no music room for storing choir music and gowns and for practice. The parlor was small, located where the small conference room and the pastor's study are now. There was only one nursery.

As the Christian Education program began to grow, classes were added and additional ones were needed. It became apparent that an addition to the church building was absolutely necessary. (At that point, three adult classes were meeting at the same time in the sanctuary.)

The financial campaign for the addition kicked off on First Fruits Sunday, June 7, 1998, with groundbreaking the following Sunday.

With the theme Building Together in Faith With Love and Sacrifice, the campaign resulted in commitments of more than \$600,000 — exceeding the initial target goal!

Consecration Sunday, April 11, 1999, was an exciting day. Soon the attractive new classrooms were buzzing with activity. Children were learning to love and trust Jesus. Adults were studying the Bible, discussing current issues in light of their Christian journey, learning how to be faithful disciples of Christ in a world all too often hostile to the will of God and the teachings of Jesus.

The second campaign, beginning in June 2001, built on the first theme: Growing Together in Faith With Love and Sacrifice.

Support the "Teem" followed in 2004.

2007, at the start of what it was hoped would be the final three-year campaign, the theme used the metaphor of a race: Mortgage-Free in Three — Pressing On to the Finish Line.

That fourth campaign officially ends at the end of May. We haven't crossed the finish line quite yet, but it's in sight. Don Barto, treasurer of the Christian Ed Fund, believes that we can retire the mortgage by the end of 2010. Let's all pray and work to that end.

It's been — and is — a marathon. To those faithful runners — don't stop now! To all others — lace up and join us for the last lap. (It's as simple as placing — along with your offering to the General Fund — an additional gift in your church envelope, marking it on the line Christian Education Wing.)

It's a marathon. Some dropped out of the race since it began; some joined it while in progress. To all the runners we express heartfelt thanks.

See you at the finish line!



# Nancy's Nook



Families come in many forms — singles, single parents, two parents, and child/children. On Sunday, May 9, we will celebrate The Festival of the Christian Home. The General Board of Christian Discipleship of the United Methodist Church has developed themes for Christian Home Month (May). An earlier theme was “Families Called to Love.” Last year, “Families Called to Peace.” This year, “Families Called to Justice.”

In the book of Amos (5:24) we read, “...let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever flowing stream.” Those words have both thrilled and terrified me. What is the justice we seek? How do we experience God’s justice? What do we see in the world around us that calls for God’s justice? As families, what does it mean to be called to justice? For Christians, probably the simplest way to look at God’s justice is God’s desire for all to be treated as God would treat them.

Think for a minute of what you know about the injustices of the world. Some of the questions you might consider:

- Where is justice in the school yard when children who are smaller or different in some way are bullied by those older or larger?
- Where is justice for those who have been abused and who can’t face their abuser?
- Where is justice in a nation where a person can work hard day after day and still not have enough income to support a family?
- Where is justice when those who need to speak out have no voice?
- Where is justice for older adults who can no longer care for themselves and suffer at the hands of caregivers?
- Where is justice when loved ones are randomly shot and killed by a sniper?

These questions and many more are not easy. They call upon all of us who claim the name Christian to examine our ways of living. They call us to a diligent study of the Scriptures. They call us to talk about and practice justice in our homes, and to take those beliefs outside the walls of our dwelling places, extending them into our communities and the world.

It is my hope and prayer that for the remainder of this year we can have activities, dialogue, prayer, and ministries that will inspire, encourage, and affirm us in the work we do on behalf of families — ALL families — large or small. All of us are God’s children, so we are all family!

Blessings always,



# More From The Pastor . . .

A justice issue is one in which God's creation (people, animals, or the earth) is not being treated with love and care, equal value is not placed on all persons, or there is not harmony among people or creation. Examples are hunger, homelessness, people being treated unfairly because they are of a different race or religion, or not using natural resources wisely.

## *Kindness is:*

- Helping someone you know
- Helping someone you don't know
- Helping before you are asked
- Making someone feel better
- Giving up something you want to make someone else happy
- Giving up something of yours for someone else
- Sharing

## *Acts of Kindness:*

- "Giving a hungry person a fish"
- Giving used clothing to a homeless person
- Giving money to Heifer Project International
- Being nice to a schoolmate who is different
- Taking a "Say No to Drugs" pledge
- Collecting plastic rings from soda cans to recycle
- Picking up litter

## *Justice is:*

- Changing your behavior towards others
- Encouraging someone else to change behavior to help a situation
- Making a friend out of an enemy
- Working to make a bad situation better
- Finding ways to change an unjust system
- Making the world a better place
- Educating yourself and others about a justice issue

## *Acts of Justice:*

- "Teaching a hungry person to fish"
- Opening a clothes closet at your church for people who are homeless
- Making a poster, bulletin insert, or announcement in church about Heifer Project International, encouraging others to help raise funds
- Defending a schoolmate who is different
- Implementing a plastic ring recycling project
- Writing letters to Congress asking for a bottle return law

*(from the General Board of Discipleship)*



## *Confirmation Class of 2010*

Welcome to members of the 2010 Confirmation Class, who will be formally joining the church on Pentecost Sunday, May 23: Andrea Aber, Matthew Cornelius, Isabella Fuscellaro, Amanda Hafler, Joshua Korpics, Hayley Metzger, Emily Odle, Jennifer Sterner, Emily Sullivan, William Tascarella, Nicole Umstead.



# Help For Families

Traditionally May is Christian Home Month in the United Methodist Church. Here are some suggestions for resources that could be helpful in your family or the family of someone you know:

## *Marriage Ministries*

(available from Discipleship Resources, 1.800.685.4370 or [www.discipleshipresources.org](http://www.discipleshipresources.org))

*Couples Who Care*, Jane Ives - ways couples can support others in marriage

*Couples Who Cope*, Jane Ives - ways couples have survived such issues as infidelity, chronic illness, and separation

## *Parenting Ministries*

(available from Discipleship Resources, 1.800.685.4370 or [www.discipleshipresources.org](http://www.discipleshipresources.org))

*Capture the Moment: Building Faith Traditions for Families*, Rick and Sue Isbell - connecting life and faith

*Hand in Hand: Growing Spiritually with Our Children*, Sue Downing - suggestions and hands-on activities for parents and grandparents to use with children

(available from Cokesbury, 1.800.672.1789 or [www.cokesbury.com](http://www.cokesbury.com))

*365 Meditations for Families*, Sally Sharpe - daily meditations

*Talking with Your Teen: Conversations for Life*, Leader's Guide and Handbook

## *Divorce Ministries*

(available from Discipleship Resources, 1.800.685.4370 or [www.discipleshipresources.org](http://www.discipleshipresources.org))

*Starting Again: A Divorce Recovery Program*, Sandra Scott

*Helping Children Cope with Divorce*, Jenni Douglas Duncan

*Preparing to Marry Again*, Dick Dunn

These are just a few of the many resources available. Help is always available 24/7. You never get an answering machine or a busy signal or no answer from God.

## Traveling Teddy



Are you a child/youth between the ages of 5 and 18? Are you going on vacation this year? Would you like to join the "Traveling Teddy Bear Club?"

Here's what you do:

1. Let Pastor Nancy know where and when you are going on vacation.
2. Pastor Nancy will give you a small teddy bear and some postcards.
3. When you go to church at your vacation spot, you will find another child/youth about your age and give the teddy bear and postcards to him/her.
4. That child/youth will fill out the postcard with their name, address, church, and age and mail it back to QUMC.
5. That child will then take the teddy bear on vacation with them and do the same thing.
6. We will display the postcards in the church to see where our teddy bears have been.



## Just For Kicks !!!

The book of Proverbs is classified as *wisdom literature*, and in its pages we find a wellspring of wisdom. Simply defined, wisdom is the ability to make good decisions. Throughout the book of Proverbs, we find a robust picture of wisdom and the person who possesses it. We're in the midst of the process of fleshing out a picture of **The Wise Person According to Proverbs** in the form of an outline. For me, the logical flow and ordering of outlines help me process and connect with information. I hope this format is helpful for some of you as well.

The Bible often uses the word "man" to mean human rather than male. This outline will follow that pattern, so while we'll use the words *he* and *his*, these principle and characteristics are intended to apply to each of us. Last month we looked at the character of the wise man; this month we'll look at the relationships of the wise man; next month we'll look at the words of the wise man (their power, their character, their source).

### The Wise Person According to Proverbs, continued.

## II. HIS RELATIONSHIPS

### A. To the Lord

1. He fears the Lord (14:16; 15:33)
2. He trusts in the Lord (3:5; 16:3; 16:20)
3. He is ever mindful of the Lord (3:6)
4. He chooses the Lord's way (8:10-11)
5. He submits to the Lord's discipline (3:11)
6. He confesses his sin to the Lord (28:13)

- c. He trusts her (31:11)
- d. He is faithful to her (5:15-20)

3. To his children
  - a. He loves them (3:12)
  - b. He trains them (22:6)
  - c. He provides for them
    - i. Physical needs (27:23-27)
    - ii. Spiritual heritage (20:7)

### B. To his family

1. To his parents
  - a. He respects them (30:17)
  - b. He listens to them (1:8; 4:1; 23:22)
  - c. He brings them honor and joy
    - i. By being wise (10:1; 15:20)
    - ii. By being righteous (23:24)
    - iii. By being diligent (10:5)
2. To his spouse
  - a. He appreciates her (18:22; 19:14)
  - b. He praises her (31:28)

### C. To his friends/neighbors

1. To his friends
  - a. He values them (27:10)
  - b. He is constant to them (17:17a)
  - c. He gives them counsel (27:17)
2. To his neighbors
  - a. He fulfills his obligations (3:27-28)
  - b. He strives for peace (3:29-30)
  - c. He does not deceive them (26:18-19)

The goal here isn't to make us feel guilty for who we're not, but to challenge each of us to do what Scripture teaches: "to attain wisdom, discipline, and understanding; to acquire a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right and just and fair" (Proverbs 1:2-3). May we read these outlines not merely for information, but for transformation. As we ask hard questions about our character, our relationships, and our words, may we be convicted of our sin and convinced of His grace, His mercy, and His desire and power to transform us into the people we were created to be.



## Girl Talk - A Workshop for Teen Girls and Their Moms Presented by Crossroads Pregnancy Care

A lot of information is available on planning for college, planning for retirement, planning a vacation, but how do you plan a *life*? While there are no guarantees, what steps can you take today to ensure that some of your dreams, some of your daughter's dreams, for the future will come true?

This highly interactive workshop will focus on planning for life by discussing:

- Living Life on Purpose - *considering your future.*
- Standing Strong - *resisting pressures.*
- Thinking Ahead - *choosing to be free.*

Spend time learning and sharing together while enjoying coffee, tea, or hot chocolate and delicious pastries and snacks. We hope you will join us as we help you aspire to a wonderful future.

Date: Saturday, May 15

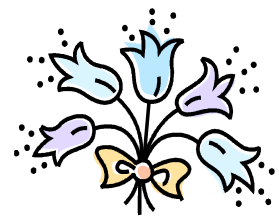
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

Place: Providence Presbyterian Church, 2200 Krammes Road, Quakertown

Cost: \$12 per couple, additional daughters/participants \$5 each

To register, call Crossroads Pregnancy Care at 215.538.3180 or email at [crossroadspc@verizon.net](mailto:crossroadspc@verizon.net).

## *Thanks, Thanks, and More Thanks!*



Thank you to all who gave up time on Saturday, April 17, to participate in the Spring Clean-Up inside and outside the church. Great job!

Much appreciation to all the diligent workers who made Friendship Circle's spring rummage sale a success: workers that set up before the sale, those who served during the sale, cooks and bakers, those who cleaned up after the sale, those who donated baked goods and items to be sold, those who supported the sale with their purchases and financial donations. A profit of approximately \$2,200 was realized. Friendship Circle purchases many items not provided for in the church budget, donates to mission and ministry, and sets aside a tithing (10%) of all fund-raiser proceeds for specific mission causes.



# Vacation Bible School



“Gadget’s Garage” will be the theme of Vacation Bible School this summer, Sunday, June 27, through Thursday, July 1, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Many helpers are needed for this popular event open to children from the church and community.

“Job openings” include construction crew, set-up, games, music, preschool tour guides, registration, school age tour guides, snack helpers, and theme room/craft guides. Contact Sharon Vietmeier at 215.262.0432 or vp@golfsweetwater.com if you can help out.



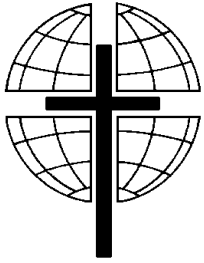
## Our Church is a Subscriber to the Parish Resource Center

The Parish Resource Center in Lancaster is a unique resource for our congregation. Every day, pastors and laity arrive at the PRC with questions, challenges, and church work to do. The Center provides trained consultants to guide and support along with a comprehensive library of resource materials. These include DVDs, books, banners, and puppets for borrowing. Call the Center at 717.299.1113 for a consultation by phone or email the Center at [infolancaster@PRCtr.org](mailto:infolancaster@PRCtr.org) with your questions. Anyone from our congregation may go there for help. Summer hours beginning June 2: Monday & Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. - 12 noon.

As a subscriber to the Parish Resource Center, members of our congregation may also schedule retreats, Bible study groups, or leadership training - large or small groups - at the Center. Special contracts are available for customized training of teachers or leadership teams. Members looking for meeting space may call the Center at 717.299.1113 to make a reservation.

Tickets are now on sale for an evening with William Paul Young, author of *The Shack*. This Parish Resource Center fund-raising event will be held November 9 at 7 p.m. at Lancaster Bible College. General admission tickets are \$25. A limited number of reserved seats are available for \$50. Call the Center at 717.299.9932 for more details and to reserve your tickets now!

Parish Resource Center  
633 Community Way  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
[infolancaster@PRCtr.org](mailto:infolancaster@PRCtr.org)  
[www.parishresourcecenter.org/lancaster](http://www.parishresourcecenter.org/lancaster)



# Faith In Action

## Emily

Dear QUMC Family,

Happy spring! Here in the Dominican Republic, we skipped straight to summer, with hot days already! I'm settled into my jobs as reading tutor, 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade English teacher, and sponsorship coordinator. My students and my teaching are improving, which is encouraging. To celebrate my English students' good behavior, we had a movie party complete with popcorn and soda just before Holy Week, which is a spring break-type beach week here. Lauren, Holly, and I celebrated by buying a washing machine and "spring cleaning" for a few days... and by visiting a gorgeous beach! We have been blessed by visits from friends and family in the past few months. I especially enjoyed an 11 day visit from my parents! We toured the colonial zone of Santo Domingo (the capital), spent time in Jarabacoa, where Molly lives, and relaxed on the beach for a few days. We went to Easter mass in the oldest cathedral in the Americas and heard their choir, a big treat since I don't hear any live classical music here. It was wonderful to spend time with my parents, to show them where I live and work, and for them to meet my roommates, coworkers, and students.

A lot happens in the next few months. School ends mid-May, so I'm trying to fit in as much teaching as I can! Katy will visit in May, and my best friend Erica in June. Four interns are coming to teach summer school, and work teams will build new classrooms and a playground. (I'm also excited for baseball season – go Phillies!!)

Here are some prayer requests:

- For the transition into summer as my summer school role is still unclear (teaching, sponsorship work, maybe finally a choir, and who knows what else!).
- Praise that we are close to settling at a new church; prayer that God will clearly direct us.
- For Lauren, Holly, and me when Holly leaves May 22 to return to the US, that we all would transition and adjust well.
- For wisdom and guidance as I research grad school options.

For perseverance and joy through difficult days, and for encouragement and rest when Katy and Erica visit. Thank you so much for your faithful prayers and support. I am blessed to have such a large support base back home.

As always, you can get more frequent updates by reading my blog: <http://emilysislandjourney.blogspot.com>. I pray that God blesses you this spring!

Love,  
Emily



## Molly

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

I am excited to share with you another piece of my life as I spend the year serving with Youth With a Mission in the Dominican Republic!

The crazy journey I'm on has continued to take its twists and turns over the past two months. As most of you know, I spent part of January and all of February working in Santo Domingo, coordinating travel arrangements for volunteers serving in Haiti. Because the airport in Haiti was closed, most people flew into Santo Domingo and we then got them from the airport to our base in Santo Domingo and then to their location in Haiti. At the end of February, just as the Port au Prince airport reopened and my work in Santo Domingo dwindled away, I planned on returning back to my home in YWAM Jarabacoa. However, as usual, God had other plans for me.

Thursday morning, just like any other day, I sat working at my computer. As I responded to emails and checked in with the office in St. Marc, I felt God pulling on my heart. However, I tried to ignore Him. I had no intentions of traveling into Haiti at that time. I'd been away from Jarabacoa for over a month by then and I wanted to return to the life I thought I'd be living when I decided to return in January. Though I tried, I could not ignore the burden God placed on my heart. So, four days later, I was on the bus at 4:00 a.m. traveling to St. Marc, Haiti (where the larger YWAM base is located).

I arrived at the base after a long bus ride and jumped right into work. Since I had been working with St. Marc and their volunteers while I was in Santo Domingo I already knew the basics of what was happening at the base. I took over the email account, corresponding with the majority of the teams and volunteers coming to work with YWAM Haiti.

Although St. Marc is almost two hours north of Port au Prince, they are still head-deep in earthquake relief, specifically working with refugees. There are thousands of refugees in the St. Marc area who fled from Port au Prince after the crisis. YWAM St. Marc works directly with these refugees through a special registration program they created. First, people must be registered into the system; to do this they must prove their residency in Port au Prince to make sure people are not "cheating the system." Once they are registered YWAM has several opportunities for them to receive help. There are several tent communities in the St. Marc area where YWAM houses displaced persons. The communities consist of 15 to 20 big white tents called "Hoop Homes" and each community is under the care of several local churches. All registered refugees have the option of moving into a tent community with their family. St. Marc also does huge amounts of food distribution. Each refugee community receives enough food for every person living in the community, and the base also distributes food to those who are registered but living somewhere other than the hoop home communities. Rice and beans, the staple food, flows steadily from the base to the refugees. Finally, YWAM offers medical care, both in the St. Marc clinic and through mobile clinics. There is a permanent clinic that is run by YWAM directly in St. Marc. It is specifically for refugees, though they open to the public a few times each week. Volunteers and staff also do mobile clinics for the tent communities and other areas in need of medical assistance. There is such a great need amongst all earthquake victims, and YWAM St. Marc is trying to reach out specifically to the displaced persons in the area.



I stayed in St. Marc for almost a month. Though I spent most of my time in the office, I loved going out to the clinic and to the tent communities. One day a few of us went to a community about 40 minutes from St. Marc and brought each family two mattresses. The joy on people's faces was indescribable. It is so neat to be the hands that bring blessing to someone with such great physical need. I had so many beautiful experiences; check out my blog to read more stories from my time in St. Marc.

At the end of March I finally returned home to Jarabacoa. It was wonderful to sleep in my bed! When I returned there was a medical team at my base. They did mobile clinics in different communities around Jarabacoa each day. So I joined them for their last four days as a translator, which was an adventure! I learned lots of new medical words in Spanish! After the team left we had "Camp 123." This was our first step to our King's Kids program, which we plan to officially start in June. We structured the camp like KK, but it was shorter and our kids were ages 7-13. My small group was five little 9-year-olds. It was so great to work with them in discussions and devotional times and to see them grow and learn even in the short time we had together. I also helped teach the 7-10 year olds the dance they learned and performed at our presentations. That was a blast!

Easter morning we went to a nursing home and two different churches to celebrate through words, songs, and dances that Christ is alive. I am very excited for our next camp!

Finally, I was blessed to have my parents come visit for 10 days at the beginning of April. I got to spend an entire week with my mom, dad, and sister Emily. I was able to share a bit of my life here in the DR with them, and we had lots of time to relax and enjoy being together. It was a greatly-needed time of rest after the past two months of craziness! Having them here was a great blessing!

So lots has happened in my life over the past two months, and I'm happy to be able to share some of that! You are so important to me; I could not do any of this without your support, both financially and through your prayers. Your prayers are truly what sustained me over the past few months. Thank you!

Please continue to lift me and my community up to the Lord. Here are some specific prayer requests:

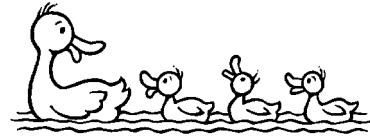
- Pray for patience and wisdom as I process all the things that I've experienced over the past few months;
- Pray for Haiti. Here are some specific needs for YWAM and its ministries in Haiti;
  - ~unity among leaders, staff, and volunteers;
  - ~renewed strength (many staff in St. Marc and Port au Prince are burnt-out);
  - ~the thousands of volunteers coming between now and the end of the summer;
  - ~the new prayer room on the St. Marc base (that it would be a place where God is glorified and that spiritual battles would be fought and that the enemy would be defeated);
- Pray that I would find my place back in Jarabacoa, as I've been gone for such a long time and now need to adjust and figure out my daily responsibilities here on the base;
- Pray for King's Kids, specifically for the two-weeks long camp we are planning for June

Thank you again for your support and encouragement. Please check out my blog when you get a chance. The address is <http://lovemorelivemoredr.blogspot.com>. Or, feel free to email me at [molly.r.jamison@gmail.com](mailto:molly.r.jamison@gmail.com). I'd love to hear from you!!!

Blessings & Love,  
Molly Jamison



# Family Matters



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to: George Lightkep - May 16 and Dorothy Dorney - May 22.

**NEW ARRIVAL:** Kasey Marie Mushrush, born April 4, to Brad and Kendra Mushrush.

## NOTES OF APPRECIATION:

*“A Special Thank You - to all our brothers and sisters at Quakertown UMC congregation for your generosity and support during this difficult time. On behalf of the Burden and Ghorm family we want to thank each one of you for your prayers, cards, gifts and words of encouragement. Also, to all of you that traveled all the way to Hamburg to attend Henry’s funeral, especially the Slemmers for all the delicious baked goods they brought with them. And a special thank you to Dave Jamison and Pat McGovern for bringing their musical talent, which helped us give Henry the most wonderful memorial service. It was a Celebration of Life. We know that’s just what Henry would have wanted.*

*Thanks again, from the bottom of our hearts. May God bless all of you!”*

*The Burden and Ghorm Families*

Note: The cluster of United Methodist churches in the Hamburg area is holding a benefit dinner and movie night for Henry Burden at Shoemakersville UMC on Saturday, May 15, at 5:30 p.m.

*“Please accept our donation of two cases of Girl Scout cookies for the church to use for one of the community outreach programs that the church provides.*

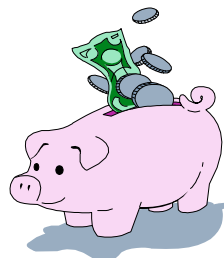
*Our troop is blessed to have a wonderful meeting place and would like to thank the congregation for their support. Thank you.”*

*Sincerely, Gerrie Ely, Becky Connelly  
and all the girls from Brownie Troop 21682*

*“Ruth and I want to thank all of you for the outpouring of cards, calls, flowers, and prayers during my recent hospitalization and surgery. Your caring, kindness, and thoughtfulness is much appreciated. We are truly blessed to be part of such a wonderful church family. Again, many thanks.”*

*Don Barto*

## Church Financial Report



2010 Actual Income - \$87,003.61

2010 Budgeted Income - \$98,164.07

**2010 Amount Under Budget - \$11,160.46**