



*"Building Tomorrow's Christian Community"*

50 East Paletown Road, Quakertown, PA 18951 • (215) 536-6970



Summer 2008

Volume 3, Issue 2

# PARTNERS

*"Make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose."*

Phillipians 2:26

## From the Principal's Desk

During our last week of school, I have come to appreciate that both students and teachers alike anticipate the summer break. My thoughts are full of thanksgiving for the many wonderful ways that God has blessed Quakertown Christian School this year. The halls echo with the many strains of praise that we have to offer this year to our King of Kings. We praise Him for the countless opportunities to speak into student's lives and share in the journey with families as they guide their children into a life of Christian discipleship by embracing Christ's heart personally, developing God's gifts within them and encouraging them to serve each other. What a wonderful privilege we have!

I am already looking forward to my second year as Principal at QCS. In the fall of 2008, in partnership with PA Cyber Charter School, we will open a high school learning community at Quakertown Christian School. Our goal is to provide an affordable and viable Christian high school alternative for our existing and future eighth grade students and the surrounding communities. This unique high school opportunity helps to create a school structure that allows every family who wants to be a part of QCS the opportunity to do so regardless of personal wealth or intellectual giftedness. Our future goals include, within the next three years, building a high school pod attached to the existing building. This wing would have six fully functioning classrooms and serve the more than 100 high school students that we believe God will bring us in the next years. We are grateful for the broad and deep community support in beginning this exciting expansion.

Our appreciation goes out to each of you for the tremendously generous support of our 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Country Auction & Fair. Over \$94,000 was raised to help continue the ministry here at QCS of building tomorrow's Christian community. We have a great opportunity to share in the development of future leaders and prepare our students to serve with enthusiasm in the kingdom of God by serving their neighbor, their community or their world. We thank each of you for your renewed interest in and passion for Quakertown Christian School!

Blessings,  
Phil Swartley

*"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." ~ Ephesians 3:20 & 21*



## Music in Our School



Quakertown Christian School, a Mennonite school, is in partnership with home and church in the process of developing physical, intellectual, spiritual and social life skills for each child using Biblical values and a challenging academic environment to instill a sense of Christian community and service.

## Select Credible Charities—Finding Trustworthy Causes

With so many charities asking for contributions, prudent donors need to exercise increased wisdom and good judgment before releasing gifts to those who seek their support.

A few guidelines may be helpful in determining the worthiness of a charity. Consider these tips when selecting charities for your contributions:

1. Be certain the charity is a 501 (c) (3) corporation with IRS documentation.
2. Confirm that the purposes of the charity are to fulfill God's redemptive work in the world.
3. Verify that financial statements along with the budget comply with sound accounting standards.
4. Find out what percentage of the contributed dollars actually goes for the purported ministry.
5. Study the organizational structure to learn where the charity's decision-making authority lies.
6. Inquire about the composition and function of its board. Does it govern or micro-manage?
7. Get to know the leadership in the charity. Visit the ministry to see how it functions.
8. Explore its history regarding racial, gender, and nationality equality. Is there a political agenda?
9. Look at actual outcomes of the ministry. Whose lives are enriched and how?
10. Talk to staff to see how satisfied they are working in the ministry and if they are loyal to its cause.
11. Review the charity's policies regarding ethical practices, moral conduct, and spiritual views.
12. Observe the general image and appearance of the facility to determine how well it is managed.
13. Assess the integrity of the requests. Sensational appeals are designed to evoke emotional responses.
14. Define the importance of your support. Charities within your faith family need your participation.
15. Consider what difference your contribution can make in the lives of those served by the charity.

Quakertown Christian School, like many other worthy charities, seeks to be transparent in its financial and charitable transactions. Requests for disclosure of the details mentioned above are warmly welcomed so that the educational and character building objectives can be understood by the community, the families, and sponsors who so generously engage with the school.

David D. Yoder, Director of Development

### 100th DAY OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION



### KINDERGARTEN SERVICE PROJECT



*And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices, God is pleased. Hebrews 13:16* This year during the Valentine's Day and Easter parties, the 5-day Kindergarten class was given opportunity "to do good and to share with others." With the help of the Kindergarten Dads and Moms, the students chose a design to paint onto baby clothes and burp cloths. The items were donated to Crossroads Pregnancy Center, a local organization that supports mothers and their children. It is often easy to become self focused during the holidays, but the Kindergarten students embraced the idea and were excited to know that their efforts were going to help others.

**QCS students collecting school materials for children in Honduras and older students are sorting pills as part of our ongoing support for the MAMA Project.**

*We welcome your inquiries and would be happy to send you an information packet. Please call us at 215-536-6970 or visit us on the web at [www.quakertownchristian.org](http://www.quakertownchristian.org).*

## ANNUAL PRE-SCHOOL MISSIONS FEST

"This is your pilot speaking," says 8<sup>th</sup> grade student Jonas Murphy, "QCS Airlines Flight #7 is now ready for take off...please fasten your seat belts." Each year preschool students at Quakertown Christian School take a trip around the world during the annual Missions Fest celebration. Carrying flight bags, passports and airline tickets, preschool students visited the countries of Honduras, Afghanistan and Venezuela this past spring. These young learners were able to explore the differences in language, customs, music, art and games of each culture through hands on experiences. Local missionaries joined us to help our students learn about the culture of these particular countries and to understand the importance of sharing God's love with people in other different parts of the world.



Both children and parents enjoyed the international food court with the smells and flavors



of foods from around the world. After a full morning of learning and excitement, the travelers took the return flight home to Quakertown Christian School. "Our annual Missions Fest is just one of the many creative ways in which our staff, help children develop a love for learning," states Gail Crooke, Preschool Director. "Our preschool program provides a variety of ways to make the learning environment both challenging and fun for our students." "We are also thrilled for the eighth grade students to interact with our students by staffing our airport. It is a unique way in which these two age groups of our student body can interact and learn from one another."



### Grandparents' Day at QCS



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## Upcoming Events

- End of QCS Fiscal Year on July 31st

### *"A Look Ahead" for the 2008-09 School Year*

- First Day of School on August 25<sup>th</sup> (Main Campus)
- Preschool Orientation Days on September 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> (Preschool Campus)
- Back to School Night on September 8<sup>th</sup> (Main Campus)
- Fall Homecoming on September 27<sup>th</sup> (Main Campus)
- Race for Education & Mission Festival on October 8<sup>th</sup> (Main Campus)
- Preschool Race for Education on October 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> (Preschool Campus)

For a complete listing of our athletic schedules and additional upcoming events, please go to our website [www.quakertownchristian.org](http://www.quakertownchristian.org).



*A number of former students and teachers gathered for a wonderful Sunday afternoon to celebrate the history of QCS. A draft of the proposed history wall panels, depicting the early eras at QCS, were available for preview. Thank you to those who attended for your interest and the additional historical information you provided to us.*