Quakerphernalia

The newsletter of Bucks Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends



August 2021

George School • Box 4477 • Newtown PA 18940

AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS				
Jul 27-Aug 1	All day	PYM 341st VIRTUAL Annual Sessions	Uproot Justice and Root Justice	
Aug 1	9:30 am-3:00 pm	Virtual Extended Worship	Find zoom link on page 3	
Aug 3	4:00–4:30 pm	Learn to Lobby in 30 minutes	Sponsored by FCNL	
Aug 5	7:00–8:00 pm	Bridges to Peace Tour	Zoom link emailed upon registration	
Aug 5	7:00–8:30 pm	Resources for Children & Youth Religious Education	Sponsored by PYM	
Aug 6	5:00–6:30 pm	Annual Hiroshima Vigil	Doylestown Friends Meeting	
Aug 7	2:00-3:00 pm	Annette Benert Memorial Service	Hybrid under the care of Lehigh Valley	
Aug 9-23	12:00-12:15 pm	Commit to Sit!	Way Opens Wellness	
Aug 11	6:30–8:00 pm	Pendle Hill Reading Group	Mysticism and the Experience of Love	
Aug 15	9:45 am-3:30 pm	Bucks Quarter August Quarterly Meeting	Under the care of Wrightstown Meeting	
Aug 17	4:00–4:30 pm	Learn to Lobby in 30 minutes	Sponsored by FCNL	
LOOKING AHEAD				
Sept 11	10:00 am-4:00 pm	Yardley Friends Meeting Flea Market	Yardley Friends Meeting	
Sept 18	10:00 am-4:00 pm	Peace Fair of Bucks Quarterly Meeting	On the grounds of Buckingham Friends School and Meeting	
Oct 3	All day	World Quaker Day	2021 Theme: Resilience & Hope	
Oct 9	10:00 am-4:30 pm	Historic Fallsington Day	Fallsington, PA	
Oct 15-17		Spiritual Formation Annual Retreat	In person at Pendle Hill	

VIRTUAL Quarterly Meeting for Worship, Fellowship & Business Under the Care of Wrightstown Friends Meeting Sunday, August 15, 2021 • 9:45 AM – 3:30 PM

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88105751201?pwd=RnJpeUdncEYwYmRyRUN1ZWp4NWE4QT09

Meeting ID: 881 0575 1201

Passcode: 756612

9:45–10:00 am Co

Coffee & Conversation

10:00–11:00 am Program: Compassionate Listening and the Art of Understanding: How can we listen to understand, instead of just listening to hear? How can we more empathetically see a person on "the other side" as a whole human being with emotions, values and a story – not necessarily as being just like us, but as being

worthy of compassion? Join us on Sunday, August 15 as we explore and practice the art of

Compassionate Listening, a listening technique that can help us lean into difference and conflict instead of leaning away from it. This session will include background on Compassionate Listening, an explanation of how it can help us connect with one another, and an interactive practice session in

breakout rooms.

The program will be facilitated by Kate Whitman Kamara, Director of Educational Programming at The Peace Center. In her role, Kate designs peace education programs for children, teens and adults. She holds an MA in International Peace and Conflict Resolution from Arcadia University, where she teaches mediation, conflict transformation and restorative practices as an adjunct professor.

11:00–12:00 pm Meeting for Worship

12:00–12:45 pm Lunch break - with optional breakout rooms 12:45–3:00 pm Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Annual Reports from Middletown, Solebury, Southampton, Wrightstown and Yardley Meetings

Regular Quarterly Reports from the Treasurer and Coordinator

Annual Reports from Bucks Food for Friends



This version of the May 2021 Quarterly Meeting minutes contains the edited highlights. The minutes in full detail will be available for consideration on our website and at our virtual Quarterly Meeting in August under the care of Wrightstown Meeting.

Friends Gathered at 12:53 PM and settled into a period of silent worship.

Welcome - Clerk Leo Fitzpatrick welcomed Friends at 12:55 PM

Agenda – The agenda was reviewed and approved

Roll Call of Meetings – Wendy Kane asked Friends to identify themselves when their meeting was called. The Roll is as follows:

Bristol – 0; Buckingham – 2; Doylestown – 0; Fallsingtion – 2; Lehigh Valley – 2; Makefield – 2; Middletown – 2; Newtown – 2; Plumstead – 0; Quakertown – 3; Solebury – 2: Southampton – 6; Wrightstown – 6; Yardley – 2.

Correction and clarification of previous minutes – Wendy Kane announced that we had discovered discrepancies and errors in the minutes of the BQM meetings in both May and August of 2020. Wendy read the corrections. The corrected minutes for May 2020 and August 2020 were approved.

Minutes of Previous Meeting – Terry Christensen read the minutes from the February 2021 BQM. Minutes Approved.

Stories of Vitality and Strength were shared from Newtown, Quakertown, Makefield, Bristol and Southampton meetings.

Quarter Coordinator Report – BQM Coordinator Wendy Kane provided her report. Highlights include: Falling infection rates and increasing vaccinations are prompting many meeting to consider reopening for in person meetings. Some meetings are moving forward with a hybrid model that incorporates both virtual and in-person attendance while other meetings have discerned that they will only meet for worship in person. Recorders of Membership met recently and discussed topics related to tracking meeting membership; PYM has requested current membership statistics. BQ Outreach has a new Clerk (Doug Meaker – Quakertown) and they are proactive in increasing membership and events as COVID subsides.

Annual Report – Bristol Meeting - Paul Shaffer – Bristol attendance continues to be low; COVID a significant factor; in warmer months Friends gathered outside under a large tree. BMM will participate in Historic Bristol Day which takes place in October. BMM committee meetings were held online and that kept the membership involved.BMM has maintained its contributions to BQM and PYM.

Annual Report – Fallsington Meeting – J. David Brimmer – Pre-COVID, Fallsington enjoyed many activities. After COVID FMM had to adapt. They conducted meeting for worship and other activities via Zoom. Much of FMM spiritual energy is directed at Undoing Racism; they have adopted an anti-racism minute and are conducting classes in collaboration with the Peace Center on undoing racism. Several FMM members regularly take part in BLM vigils. FMM First Day School has weathered the COVID storm.

Annual Report – Buckingham Meeting – Christine Godshall – Buckingham membership has remained at the same level. Last March, BMM immediately suspended in-person meetings and began using Zoom for Meeting for Worship. Additionally, when weather permits, BMM has held a concurrent MFW outside. BMM has begun a "not just meeting for worship Wednesday" meeting. BMM is noticing more member involvement in BQM and PYM activities. BMM has noticed that some members are not attending via Zoom. Also COVID halted what had been strong growth in the First Day School program.

Break

Treasurer's Report – Ed Snyder– We are ¾ of the way through our fiscal year and seem to be on track; between FNB and Friends Fiduciary Fund we have \$111 K in assets. Meeting contributions are behind schedule but we expect to meet budget.

2021-2022 Budget – Ed Snyder – We are projecting \$279,850 in revenue; our contribution to PYM will be \$198,785. Friends requested that the \$7,000 allocated for monthly meeting outreach grants be included as a line item in the budget; the budget will show a \$7000 deficit. Our total expenses will be \$286,850. **2021-2022 Budget Approved**

Proposal BQ Outreach Fund to support MM Outreach – Ed Snyder – BQ Outreach is proposing to offer support the outreach efforts of BQ Monthly Meetings. Grants would be up to \$500 per cycle per meeting and could be used to fund any product or activity that supports Quakerism. Meetings would apply to BQ Outreach, who would review application and, provided the application meets minimum criteria, will approve the application. It is anticipated that BQ could renew this program for up to three years. **Proposal for BQ Outreach Grants is Approved for FY 2021-2022**

BQ Budget and Nominating Committee – Betsy Bayardi – BQM Budget and Nominating Committee are seeking nominations for the positions of Alternate Clerk and Assistant Treasurer.

Annual Report – Chandler Hall – Betsy Bayardi – This has been a very difficult year for Chandler Hall. In addition to the logistics of having to deal with protecting residents and staff from COVID, state and local health departments prohibited long-term care facilities from accepting new admissions. On site marketing efforts were also constrained. There have also been changes in CH leadership; they have a new CEO. CH is pleased to report that as of May 3rd, CH is open to visitors without the requirement of social distancing.

Annual Report – Lehigh Valley – Louise Young– LVMM closed its doors in March 2020 but the meeting remains active. LVMM has noted advantages of Zoom. LVMM has held outdoor MFW when weather permitted. Attendance at mid-week worship increased during quarantine. LVMM member continue to be active in social justice issues. Over the course of the past year, LVMM have a net loss of 2 members. Moving forward LVMM is planning to adopt a hybrid MFW model with both in-person and virtual platforms.

BQ Oversight Committee – Rick Dow – BQ Oversight meets regularly with the BQ Coordinator. These meeting include an annual performance review. Oversight feels that WK has done very well. Oversight notes that WK has taken advantage of technical expertise among our members to enhance the connections between meetings. In the past year WK has rebuilt the BQ website.

Annual Report – Bucks Quarterly Meeting - Leo Fitzpatrick– BQM has remained active in the face of COVID; BLM vigils at Lehigh Valley, Newtown, and Southampton meetings stand out as proactive efforts in raising awareness of social injustice. BQM has a new website that has helped us remain connected throughout the COVID ordeal. BQM's Facebook page has also been an important communication tool. On Jan 30th, George Schaefer of PYM held an Eldership Workshop for BQM. There was a follow-up discussion at the February 2021 Quarterly meeting. While both positive and negative aspects of the training were raised, most felt that they came away with fresh insights. As monthly meetings plan for reopening, several are looking to hold hybrid meetings in order to retain the involvement of distant and infirm Friends and attenders. WK has formed a committee that is prepared to assist MM's make the discernment. Grants are available from both BQM and PYM to help defray the cost of equipment for those meetings who choose to offer hybrid MFW.

Guilford College Announcement – Marie Branson Knapp – Guilford College has been particularly hard hit by COVID. While it's true that there were problems in Liberal Arts Education, COVID has exacerbated the situation – particularly at Guilford. An alumni group has formed to re-envision how GC can continue to operate while maintaining a Quaker governance structure. Ms. Knapp wonders if BQM would draft a minute in support of GC; are there Friends who would be willing to help with recruitment and or fundraising? **Silent Worship** – There being no further business, Friends settled into Silent Worship

Adjournment - Clerk Leo Fitzpatrick adjourned the Meeting for Business at 3:32 PM.

Bucks Quarter Outreach Grants Outreach Grants of up to \$500 are now available! Bucks Quarter Meetings may apply for these grants any time during the 2021-22 fiscal year; go to www.quakersbucks.org/members to access the online application form.

Applications will be reviewed in a timely manner by the Outreach Committee.

Bucks Quarter Peace Fair

Mark Your Calendars!

The 2021 Peace Fair is on! Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 18th for a fun-filled day of family activities, live music and yummy food.

The Fair will be held from 10:30 am to 4:00 pm, rain or shine, on the grounds of Buckingham Friends Meetinghouse & School at 5684 York Road (Routes 202 & 263) in Lahaska.



Now in its 21st year, the Fair promotes harmony in the Home, Community, Environment and the World. There will be crafts for the kids, live animals, the Peace Train, and so much more! Volunteers are always needed. Please contact your monthly meeting representative, or Peter Ray at peacefair.org@gmail.com. Stay up to date by visiting The Peace Fair's website www.peacefair.org, or follow them on facebook.

Virtual Extended Worship

August Extended Worship:

PYM's informal Extended Worship group meets via Zoom on the first Saturday of the month. The group convenes at 9:30 am, worships for about 3 hours, takes a

30 minute lunch break, then reconvenes for worship sharing, generally concluding around 3 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August 1st. To join the Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83761339634? pwd=aEpQZGgwaVhhZ3hOd2IyN0dDWU51Zz09

Meeting ID: 837 6133 9634. Passcode: 077432

Way Opens Wellness 15 Minutes, 15 Days: Ever wondered about the difference between Quaker worship and meditation? Here's a good way to find out. Commit to Sit! Make a commitment to meditate for 15 minutes every day from August 9 through 23, with

online guidance provided by Amy Ward Brimmer, Fallsington Meeting.

Designed for people who have doubts about their ability to meditate every day, this is an opportunity to give yourself 15 minutes over a couple of weeks to "test drive" the vehicle of awakening and ease. For experienced meditators, it's a way to deepen and strengthen your practice.

This free online program includes a daily live guided meditation, a recording for those who cannot attend live, a



daily inspirational message, and one Open Forum group session for Q&A and discussion about how practice is going. Details and registration can be found here. This program is offered free of charge; donations to the teacher are gratefully accepted.

Spiritual Formation Collaborative

Spiritual Refreshment: Reaching for the Divine

The Spiritual Formation Collaborative is holding its annual weekend retreat at Pendle Hill–in person–on Friday

October 15 through Sunday October 17, 2021.

Nurture your spirit with a weekend retreat designed to create sanctuary for our souls, to renew and deepen our lives in spiritual community. We will meet at Pendle Hill in Wallingford, Pennsylvania, a beautiful Quaker Retreat Center on 24 acres. Enjoy comfortable accommodations and delicious homemade meals, made with local organic ingredients. We will have the opportunity for loving conversations and activities with fellow travelers on the Spiritual Journey. There is a fee for this program. Click here for more information.

Friends Home & Village

STILL SMALL VOICE

Volunteers Needed: As we age, remaining active and filled with purpose improves health, memory and emotional wellbeing. Thanks to Friends Home & Village's new Community Wellness and Engagement Coordinator, Ashley Opitz,

their residents are enjoying new, healthy and meaningful activities each week.

But they could also use the help of volunteers to conduct activities to keep this momentum going. Every little bit helps and if you can just give an hour here or there, you

> can make a big difference. Please consider giving the gift of your time and talent so FHV can offer even more of these important activities that promote positive aging with their residents.

For more information and to discuss your area of special interest, email Ashley at aopitz@fhvpa.org.

Writing Group: have you every wanted to write a book or start journalling but didn't know to get started? We can help you get clearness about what you would like to write about and help you get started. Contact Judith Solt at 215-968-2897 or email judysolt2@gmail.com.

Doylestown Meeting Hiroshima Vigil On Friday, August 6th, at 5 pm, Bucks Quarter Quakers will be gathering at **Doylestown Friends Meeting** to prepare for their annual Hiroshima Vigil. After a moment of worship those assembled will proceed to Doylestown

Square where there will be an hour long Vigil from 5:30 to 6:30 pm.

The Vigil commemorates the 1945
August 6th nuclear bombing of
Hiroshima, sending a message of peace
and sustaining the hope that we abolish
the use of such weapons that now have the potential to
annihilate all human life if used again in warfare.

Origami Peace Cranes made by Friends will be handed out to passersby.

If you haven't heard it before, go to this link for the compelling story of how the Peace Crane became a symbol around which the Vigil has been shaped. https://mxyoutube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=tcsKcgEtlNc

Some Peace Cranes will be provided by the meeting, however, they encourage you to make some and bring them with you; instructions can be found here. You can order online precut Peace Crane Origami Paper or purchase it at your local art supply store.

Friends Committee on Nattional Legislation Learn to Lobby in 30 Minutes: Are you excited to take action, but not sure where to start? Do you want to organize a virtual meeting with your Member of Congress, but still have more questions? FCNL is providing the training you need

to have an effective lobby visit. Join a 30 minute interactive call where they will share inspiring stories from their grassroots network, conduct a short skills training and answer questions about how to schedule and plan your visit. Please contact SarahFW@fcnl.org with any questions. Next available sessions are August 3 and August 17; register here.



Bridges to Peace Tours: these sessions are an opportunity for the Peace Center to share their work with the community. Friends can learn out their programs and impact through personal stories that debunk the myths and demonstrate the "bridges to Peace" created by bullying prevention, conflict resolution and social justice programming. The next Bridges

to Peace session is Thursday, August 5, being held virtually from 7:00–8:00 pm. Register for the event here. The zoom link will be emailed to you upon registration.

Resources available: The Peace Center website has many resources available at the click of a mouse:

- Anti-Racism Resources
- Anti-Semitism Resources
- Black Lives Matter Lawn Signs
- Community & School Programs

PYM Religious Education Melinda Wenner Bradley, PYM's Youth Religious Life Coordinator, is already hard at work, gathering resources for First Day School teachers to use this fall.

Her focus is the importance of staying connected with families and one another in our overlapping "circles of spiritual community." Friends supporting RE in their meetings are vital to these connections.

There are tools for planning on the PYM website. The "What's Next Planning Guide" is a practical tool for meetings to use as they think about where they've been in the last year and what's next.

On August 5 from 7-8:30 pm PYM is holding a Zoom workshop to explore the many resources and experiential learning tools available on the PYM website in the revised RE Resources section. Register for the workshop here.

PYM is also holding open office hours for the RE Community of Practice, a time when Friends can drop in on Zoom or phone and check in with PYM staff and other Friends to share questions, ideas and tips. August dates are Tuesday, August 3 from 10-11 am and Thursday, August 26 from 1-2 pm and 7-8 pm. You can join the zoom meeting here.

In Memoriam

Middletown Meeting suffered the loss of Jo Ann Cassidy. **Yardley Meeting** suffered the los of Ed Sites.



Please hold family and Friends in the Light

Bucks Quarter Worship Schedule				
Bristol	4th Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor worship; outdoor weather permitting	Email pws@seas.upenn.edu for information	
Buckingham	Sunday 10:30 am	Outdoor worship; indoor worship if weather does not permit; virtual option available	Bring a chair; for zoom link email buckinghamfriends@gmail.com	
Doylestown	Sunday 10:00 am	Virtual worship only	Email doylestownfriends@gmail.com	
Fallsington	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor worship with virtual option	Go to fallsingtonmeeting.org	
Lehigh Valley	Sunday 10.00 am Wed 8:00 pm	Indoor worship with virtual option. Wednesday virtual only	Go to lehighvalleyquakers.org	
Makefield	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor worship with virtual option	Email jerry.taylor35@verizon.net	
Middletown	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor worship with virtual option	Email robin.hipple@gmail.com	
Newtown	Sunday 10:00 am	Outdoor worship weather permitting 9:00–9:45 am Virtual worship at 10:00 am	Go to newtownfriendsmeeting.org	
Plumstead	Sunday 9:30 am	Outdoor worship; indoor worship if weather does not permit; bring a chair.	www.plumsteadfriendsmeeting.org	
Quakertown	Sunday 10:30 am	Indoor worship	Mask required if unvaccinated	
Solebury	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor worship with virtual option	Go to soleburyfriendsmeeting.org	
Southampton	Sunday 10:00 am Tuesday 7:30 pm	Indoor worship with virtual option Tuesday virtual only	Email John Magee jmm9724@gmail.com Masks required	
Wrightstown	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor worship with virtual option; mask required if unvaccinated	Email Olivia Brangan @ obrangan@gmail.com	
Yardley	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor worship with virtual option	Email info@yardleyfriendsmeeting.org	
Pendle Hill	8:30-9:10 am	Worship in the Barn	Daily virtual worship	

This monthly worship scheduled has proved valuable throughout the pandemic; however, as more meetings are opening for indoor and hybrid worship, subsequent issues of Quakerphernalia will have only an abbreviated schedule for Friends to refer to. More information is available at https://www.quakersbucks.org/local-meetings.

Friendly Services Offered and Friendly Services Needed

"Simply Real" News is Growing! Published monthly with Quaker Values

Times Publishing Newspapers, Inc. has rolled out with our ninth newspaper in Bucks County - the Fairless FOCUS. Covering the Fairless Hills area our new total mailed (via US Postal Service) circulation is 115,716 households and businesses. We cover "all the 'good news' that's fit to print." Over the past 18 years we've started and continue to publish these additional 8 monthly publications: Yardley VOICE, Morrisville TIMES, Newtown GAZETTE, Northampton HERALD, Lower Southampton SPIRIT, Langhorne LEDGER, New Hope NEWS, and the Doylestown OBSERVER.

Donna Allen, Publisher: 215-702-3405 www.timespub.com - (updated daily)

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Store hours: Monday thru Friday 7:30 thru 5:00 Saturday 7:30 -12:00 **Tel:** 215-297-5100

MRP Plans, Inc. Retirement Plan Services

Ed Snyder, a member of Yardley Meeting, is a Certified Pension Consultant/Qualified Pension Administrator and offers retirement plan services to small businesses - plan design and installation, and annual third party administration. If you're thinking about a 401(K) or similar retirement plan for your small business or have a plan but don't understand it, Ed is the one to call.

Tel: 609-689-9400 Email: ed@mrpplansinc.com

Update Your Contact information!

Have you moved recently? Changed your email address? Started using you cell phone as your primary number? The yearly meeting wants to know! Go to www.pym.org/yourinfo and update your contact information. And while you're at it, send it to quakersbucks@gmail.com so the Coordinator will have the update as well.

Ad Space Available!

Do you have a Friendly business you want Friends to know about? Are you in need of a Friendly service? Let Friends know by advertising in this newsletter. You do not need to be a member of Bucks Quarter, but you do need to be a member or attender of a meeting. The rate is \$260 for 12 months or \$40 monthly.

For more information contact Wendy Kane: quakersbucks@gmail.com or 215-867-9557