

Quakerphernalia

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



December 2021

George School • Box 4477 • Newtown PA 18940

DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov 28–Dec 19	7:00–8:30 pm	Journey to Christmas: An Adult Religious Education Series for Advent	<i>A hybrid PYM sponsored event</i>
Nov 30	7:00–9:00 pm	Mindfulness for Anxious Times	<i>A Way Opens Wellness virtual event</i>
Dec 1 Dec 2 Dec 4	6:00–8:00 pm 6:00–8:00 pm 9:30 am–12:30 pm	The Way of Clearness: Cultivating Clarity, Insight, and Action in Challenging Times through the Quaker Clearness Committee	<i>A Pendle Hill virtual event</i>
Dec 2	4:00–4:30 pm	FCNL Thursday with Friends	<i>Leading With Hope</i>
Dec 2	6:00–9:00 pm	Building Our Dream Reception	<i>Sponsored by the African American Museum of Bucks County</i>
Dec 2	7:00–8:30 pm	Fall Youth Religious Education Conversations	<i>A virtual PYM sponsored event</i>
Dec 2 & 3	6:00–9:00 pm	Holly Nights 2021	<i>Pennsbury Manor</i>
Dec 3	5:00–8:00 pm	Arch Street Meeting House by Candlelight	<i>A First Friday Holiday Celebration</i>
Dec 4	9:30 am–3:00 pm	Virtual Extended Worship	<i>Find zoom link on page 3</i>
Dec 4	10:00 am–2:00 pm	Food and Toy Drive	<i>Middletown Friends Meeting</i>
Dec 5	3:00–4:00 pm	Joy and Grief During the Holiday	<i>Friends Home & Village</i>
Dec 6	7:30–9:00 pm	Pendle Hill First Monday Lecture	<i>Into the Night: Holiness of Darkness</i>
Dec 6 & 9	11:00 am–12:15 pm	Free Technology Courses	<i>Friends Village Styer Campus</i>
Dec 7	6:30–8:00 pm	One Book One Bucks	<i>Sponsored by The Peace Center</i>
Dec 8	7:00–8:00 pm	Friends Village Carol Sing	<i>At the Styer Campus</i>
Dec 9	7:00–9:00 pm	Climate Change Event	<i>Fallsington Friends Meeting</i>
Dec 11	10:45 am–3:00 pm	62nd Annual Christmas Peace Pilgrimage	<i>This year in person!</i>
Dec 12	2:00–4:00 pm	Middle School Friends Hangout	<i>A virtual PYM sponsored event</i>
Dec 14	7:00–8:00 pm	Friends Village Carol Sing	<i>At the Paxson Campus</i>
Dec 18–19		Young Friends Christmas Gathering	<i>Light to Illuminate Our Path</i>
Dec 19	9:00–9:45 am	Giant Children's Meeting	<i>Celebrating in the Light</i>
Dec 19	3:00–5:00 pm	Nurtured by Darkness: A Winter Solstice Celebration	<i>A Way Opens Wellness virtual event</i>
Dec 28	2:00–7:00 pm	Red Cross Blood Drive	<i>Yardley Friends Meeting</i>

ONGOING EVENTS

Every Sunday	3:00–4:00 pm	Southampton Meeting Vigil for Justice	<i>Southampton Friends Meeting</i>
Dec 4 & 18	11:00 am–12:00 pm	Newtown Meeting Black Lives Matter Silent Vigil	<i>State Street, Newtown PA</i>

LOOKING AHEAD

Feb 5	9:00 am–3:00 pm	PYM Thread Gathering: Healing the Wounds that Bind Us	<i>Sponsored by the Anti-Racism Collaborative</i>
Feb 20	9:45 am–3:30 pm	Bucks Quarterly Meeting	<i>Buckingham Friends Meeting</i>



I am grateful every day that I have the privilege of being your Coordinator. I am counting my blessings this holiday season, and the greatest one has been getting to know so many Friends around the Quarter. May 2022 bring you all health, joy and peace.

With much love, Wendy

Questions? Email Wendy Kane, Coordinator at quakersbucks@gmail.com or call (215) 867-9557.

Deadline for submissions is the 15th day of the preceding month's publication





Fallsington Friends Meeting

Climate Change Event

Join Fallsington Friends, Force For Good Music and Films, and Citizens Climate Lobby for an interactive screening and discussion on climate change on December 9th from 7:00–9:00 pm at the Fallsington Friends meetinghouse.

The program will feature screenings of the award winning, Force for Good short films, *Ice* and *Solar*. Discussions about climate change issues will be led by Tom Wells and Amy Duckett Wagner of Fallsington Meeting, Bill Mettler from Citizens' Climate Lobby, and Jonathan Sprout and Rodney Whittenberg from Force For Good Music.

Additionally, Katherine Hayhoe, an atmospheric scientist and professor of Political Science and Director of the Climate Science Center at Texas Tech University, will be speaking on finding hope in combatting climate change. A segment of a recent conference where she is featured will be premiered. Katherine Hayhoe is considered to be one of the top 100 most influential people by *Time* magazine. She has recently published a book titled *Saving Us*.

This free event will be offered both in-person and on Zoom; [use this link to both register for the in-person event or to obtain the zoom link.](#)

9300 New Falls Road • Fallsington, PA

Yardley Friends Meeting

Annual Blood Drive

What a better way to celebrate the season of Light and Love than to give something deeply personal to those in need...and it won't cost you a penny! Yardley Friends is holding a blood drive on Tuesday, December 28 from 2:00 to 7:00 pm at the meeting house. Call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter Yardley Friends to schedule an appointment.

65 N. Main Street, Yardley PA



Newtown Friends Meeting

Mary Kokesh, an attender at Newtown Meeting, is part of the Campaign to End the New Jim Crow (CENJC). She would like Friends to know about the 4th Annual Advancing Justice Contest sponsored by CENJC.

They are calling writers and artists from high school and beyond to advance the cause of justice using the powerful truth telling of the arts. Use your creativity with graphics or the written and spoken word, to engage with the racial inequities intrinsic to our nation. Address our collective responsibility to create a more just future.

Choose from the list of topics or create your own on the contest theme

“Advancing Justice.”

High School spoken/written awards: First, \$200; Second, \$150; Third, \$100. Adult

spoken/written award is \$250. Film/Graphic Art award is \$200; \$100 Second place. Awardees will be recognized at our CENJC Advancing Justice Contest Winners Reception in spring of 2022, with the opportunity to read, perform or show your work.

Submit all entries to contest@endnewjimcrownj.org. [Click here to access a flyer with more information.](#)



Friends Home & Village

Growth & Change in Later Life Series

Joy and Grief during the Holidays–

December 5th at 3:00 pm: we may feel pressure to be “merry and bright” during the holidays, rather than let ourselves feel and express the full range of our emotions. What can it look like to be compassionate toward ourselves while facing shifting family relationships, grief and loss, and the persisting COVID-19 pandemic? Presented by Kelly Roman, an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church; [Reserve your space by completing the registration form.](#) *For everyone's safety, COVID-19 vaccination and masks will be required. Inside air quality will be continuously monitored to provide safe levels of ventilation.*

FREE Technology Classes: Friends Village is partnering with Senior Planet from AARP to help older adults use technology to learn new skills, save money, get in shape, and make new friends. Classes are intended for adults 60 and over. Attend lectures on Mondays. Practice skills in hands-on workshops on Thursdays. Classes continue through December 9; [click here for more information and to register.](#)



Writing Group: have you every wanted to write a book or start journaling 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.

331 Lower Dolington Rd • Newtown PA

Way Opens Wellness

Mindfulness for Anxious Times –

Tuesday, November 30, 7:00–9:00 pm:

It's not easy being a human being. Usually what makes us anxious is not so much what happens, but how we relate to it.

Learn a different way to relate to the heart-mind, and discover your innate capacity for equanimity, to meet the ever-changing conditions of your life with less anxiety and more ease. [Details and Registration Here](#)



Nurtured by Darkness: A Winter Solstice Celebration:

Sunday, December 19, 3:00–5:00 pm: online with Amy Ward Brimmer. As we approach the longest night of the year, you are invited to enter into the experience of darkness, mindfully exploring the power of balance and transition. We will play with some balancing moves, enter into a guided contemplative investigation of the darkness within and without, share inspirational poems and other readings, and have some time to share, teaching one another what we know about the gifts of darkness. We will end with a simple ceremony that honors the night and ushers in the new day. [Details and Registration Here.](#)

In Memoriam

Doylestown Meeting suffered the loss of Mary Louise “Weezie” Wentzel

Please hold family and Friends in the Light



November Quarterly Meeting Recap

Program: Forty-five Friends gathered virtually on Zoom to listen to a fantastic presentation by Pamela Boyce Simms about the African Diaspora Coalition's Plant Medicine Project. The project prioritizes health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, gut health, and men's health conditions. This is accomplished by growing medicinal herbs that are then made into tinctures and teas. Pamela encouraged Friends to explore the possibility of growing meetings becoming grow centers. [Her PDF presentation can be found here.](#)

Business: Annual reports were presented by Newtown and Plumstead Meetings, as well as a semi-annual update from Friends Village. A decision was made to distribute a portion of the budget excess that has accumulated over the past seven years as one time additional donations to Friends Village, Chandler Hall, Camp Onas and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

Around the Yearly Meeting



PYM Youth Programs

Youth Religious Education Conversation Circles—Thursday, December 2 at 7:00 pm: This month's topic is *exploring prayer with children*. There are many ways to pray, and teach prayer. What are some we use or are curious about how to share with young people in our meetings?

Middle School Friends December Online Hangout—Sunday, December 12th, 2:00–4:00 pm. All Middle School Friends are invited to join Alix for an online cooking class to learn how to make *semifreddo* – an amazing dessert.

After cooking, we'll hang out and talk! Along the lines of *semifreddo* (which means "half-frozen"), we'll each share something that everybody knows about you and also something people tend to miss...and use that as a jumping off point for a discussion about our identities and what it feels like to be middle schoolers in this time ... All are welcome, and bring a friend!

Young Friends Christmas Gathering –

December 18th-19th: Young Friends will gather at Arch Street Meetinghouse to celebrate the holiday season and look forward to the paths ahead for us as individuals and a community. How can the Light within and around us illuminate our way? Program includes a climate justice workshop, team-building activities, worship sharing, and time for committees to meet!

Cost is \$40 but no Young Friend should let cost be in the way — there are specific scholarships set up for Young Friends! [Register for the event here.](#) Questions? Reach out to Melinda Wenner Bradley at mwennerbradley@pym.org.



Arch Street Meeting House

Celebrate the holiday season at Arch Street Meeting House with live student musical performances from local Quaker schools, a live historical impersonator, kid-friendly crafts, and refreshments spread across the museum and grounds.

By bringing together friends from across the region for a special holiday evening at Arch Street Meeting House, we encourage you to feel a sense of true community this winter and Meet Quaker History. As you enjoy our exhibits you can experience our historic West Room room in a whole new light! Constructed in 1811, the West Room will be lit by candlelight and visitors will be able to experience what worship would have felt like in the 19th Century.

After the event, Friends and visitors will be encouraged to explore other holiday sites throughout Old City, Philadelphia. [Register here.](#)

Virtual Extended Worship

December Extended Worship: PYM's informal Extended Worship group meets via Zoom on the first Saturday of the month (except this 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, December 4th. To join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83761339634?pwd=aEpQZGgwaVhhZ3hOd2lyN0dDWU51Zz09>

Meeting ID: 837 6133 9634 Passcode: 077432

PYM Adult Religious Education

Journey to Christmas

Looking to bring some Spirit to your holiday season? Beginning at 7:00 pm Sunday evening November 28 Melinda Wenner Bradley will be facilitating a four-week series that will explore the time of expectant waiting before Christmas with scripture, discussion, guided activities, prayers, and readings. Each week, elements of the Nativity story will be explored through the lens of liberation theology and our own hopes and leadings for peace and justice in the world.

- November 28: *Prophets Watch and Wait*
- December 5: *Mothering a New World Into Being*
- December 12: *Messengers and Visitors*
- December 19: *The Child Who Will Change Everything*

Participants will need a journal and copy of the book [Keep Watch with Me: An Advent Reader for Peacemakers](#). There will be limited copies available at no cost to registrants. While not required, participants will be encouraged to use the daily devotionals in the book in the days between our times together. This is a hybrid series being held both in person at West Chester Friends Meeting and online using Zoom. [Register here.](#)

425 High Street • West Chester, PA

PYM Tuition Aid

Who can apply? At least one parent or legal guardian needs to have been a member of a monthly meeting within PYM for at least one year prior to the start of the school year in which the funds will be applied to tuition.

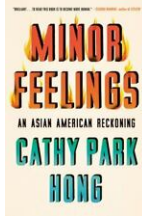
What is the deadline for applying? The tuition aid form is due to the clerk of the meeting by December or January; The tuition aid form is due to the school by February 15.



The Peace Center

Join The Peace Center virtually on Tuesday, December 7th at 6:30 pm as they continue to build bridges to peace with their One Book–One Bucks Series.

Their latest selection is *Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning*, by Cathy Park Hong. Poet and essayist Hong blends memoir, cultural criticism and history to expose fresh truths about radicalized consciousness in America. The event is free but pre-registration is required; the zoom link will be sent upon registration. [Click here to register.](#)



Pennsbury Manor

Holly Nights

Come and experience the enchantment of Pennsbury Manor by candlelight on Thursday December 2 or Friday December 3, from 6:00–9:00 pm for a memorable evening for all ages.

Enjoy crackling bonfires, the merry sound of carolers, candlelit tours of the Manor House, colonial craft demonstrations, and a visit from Father Christmas himself! Tickets are \$14/adults, \$12/seniors, & \$6/children age 4+ and must be purchased ahead of time. [You can purchase tickets here.](#)

400 Pennsbury Memorial Rd • Morrisville, PA

African American Museum of BC

Building Our Dream Reception

The African American Museum of Bucks County, headquartered at 215 E. Richardson Avenue in Langhorne PA, honors the legacy of the African American experience, inspiring pride in their heritage, educating about the diverse journey of their people, sharing stories that depict their shared ancestry, thus enriching the lives of Bucks County families. They tell these stories through special exhibitions, public events, and educational programs.

On Dec 2nd at 6:00 pm the AAMBC will be holding a cocktail reception at Parx Casino to raise funds to help them renovate and furnish the interior of their new museum at Boone Farm, which is located along Langhorne-Newtown Road (Route 413) near the intersection with Bridgetown Pike in Middletown Township abutting Core Creek Park.

The late Sam Snipes, Fallsington Meeting, is among the 2021 Bucks County Hidden Figures honorees, who will be honored that evening. Tickets are \$150; all contributions are tax deductible. [Click here to buy tickets.](#)

3001 Street Road • Bensalem, PA 19020

Pendle Hill Programs

The Way of Clearness: Cultivating Clarity, Insight, and Action in Challenging Times through the Quaker Clearness Committee:

Dec 1st, 2nd and 4th. The Quaker Clearness Committee is a process of individual and communal spiritual discernment. In this retreat, you will learn a radically energized version of the Clearness Committee based on the work of Parker J. Palmer and the Center for Courage & Renewal. This workshop is for Friends seeking clarity about life decisions, or are facing an ambiguous or complex concern and would like to engage in deep, soulful listening that supports deep connection with the Living Spirit. Led by Valerie Brown and John Baird. Cost is \$225 with financial aid available. [Register here.](#)

First Monday Lecture: Into the Night: Holiness of Darkness - Monday, December 6th, 7:30 pm. On the eve of the season of advent, solstice, and winter, examine some of the associations we have with the dark, and delve into a creative exploration of the dark as a home of awe and wonder. Led by Reverend Rhetta Morgan, a singing healer, spiritual activist, and interfaith minister, this First Monday program will not only utilize lecture, but also song and meditation. [Register here.](#)



Friends Committee on National Legislation

Thursday With Friends – December 2nd 4:00 pm: These virtual events began at the start of the pandemic shutdown, as a way for Friends to stay connected with one another; however, all good things must come to an end. Join FCNL for the last in their *Thursdays with Friends* series.

Stephen Donahoe, FCNL’s Director of Development, talks with outgoing FCNL General Secretary Diane Randall about the impact of her decade-long leadership of FCNL. [Register here.](#)

Bucks Quarter Meeting for Worship Schedule

Bristol	4th Sunday 10:00 am	Outdoor worship; Email for information: pws@seas.upenn.edu
Buckingham	Sunday 10:30 am	Indoor hybrid; email for zoom link: buckinghamfriends@gmail.com
Doylestown	Sunday 10:00 am	Virtual or labyrinth walk; email: doylestownfriends@gmail.com
Fallsington	Sunday 11:00 am	Indoor hybrid; go to fallsingtonmeeting.org
Lehigh Valley	Sunday 9:30 am Wed 8:00 pm	Indoor hybrid; go to lehighvalleyquakers.org
Makefield	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor worship only
Middletown	Sunday 11:00 am Wed 7:00 pm	Indoor hybrid; email for zoom link: robin.hipple@gmail.com Wednesday worship in person only
Newtown	Sunday 11:00 am	Indoor hybrid; go to newtownfriendsmeeting.org
Plumstead	Sunday 9:30 am	Indoor worship only
Quakertown	Sunday 10:30 am	Indoor worship only
Solebury	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor worship only
Southampton	Sunday 10:00 am Tuesday 7:30 pm	Indoor hybrid; email for zoom link: jmm9724@gmail.com
Wrightstown	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor hybrid; email for zoom link: obranagan@gmail.com
Yardley	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor hybrid; email for link: info@yardleyfriendsmeeting.org

More information can be found at quakersbucks.org/local-meetings



2021 Peace Pilgrimage

Mark your calendar for the 62nd Annual Christmas Peace Pilgrimage taking place on Saturday December 11th. Since 1960, people dedicated to peace have gathered in Pennsylvania on the second Saturday of December to walk 10 miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem along Route 191 (Bath Pike) together.

The walk starts with bus loading at 10:45 am at The Center (529 E. Broad St. Bethlehem). The busses will bring the walkers to Nazareth Moravian Church where the walking begins just after 12 noon. Stops along the way are at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Hecktown, and First Baptist Church and the First Church of the Nazarene on Linden. Folks are welcome to join or leave at any point. There will be some caroling at Central Moravian and then a light supper and short program at Christ Church at 75 E. Market St. to conclude.

Persons of all ages or any spiritual background are welcome to join the Pilgrimage, as we seek to reflect the non-violent life of Jesus Christ and his truth of forgiving love. During such a politically divided time, we invite participants to consider the role of the Peace Walk in the context of current events, and we seek to honor the fundamental intent of this historic witness for peace. It's a wonderful way to counter the messages of consumerism and the divisiveness during the holiday season.

We encourage signs with messages of peace, but not with partisan messages. Walk with your family and friends and make new friends with others who seek a more peaceful world. For more details, including a link to sign up for the bus, go to peacewalk.org.

Food & Toy Drive

Middletown Friends Meeting at Langhorne, 453 W. Maple Avenue, Langhorne PA 19047 will be hosting a Dual Food and Toy Donation Drive-Through for the Pennel Food Pantry, (unit of the Bucks County Housing Group) on Saturday, December 4th from 10 am to 2 pm.

What can you donate? Pennel Food Pantry families have children of all ages from 0-18.

Toys are sorted in following age brackets: 0-3; 4-6; 7-9; 10-12; 13-15; 16+. Toys for all ages are appreciated, including dolls of diverse skin tones, balls, board games, art supplies, cars, trucks, puzzles, blocks/Lego type building sets.

For older youth suggestions include wallets, belts, clothes (hoodies, sweatpants—adult M or L or XL), nicer water bottles such as the stainless-steel variety (not always silver), earbuds, soft throw fuzzy/fleece thrown blankets, make-up, bath and bodyworks type gift sets, etc. Gift cards are also always welcome—please no more than \$15-\$30 (examples: Target, Amazon, Marshalls).

Also, we will be accepting **nonperishable food items** including soups, canned meats, pasta, sauces, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, rice, beans, packaged individual snack items, canned vegetables & fruits, personal care items (toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo) & cleaning items.



Carol Sing at Friends Village

Fully vaccinated Friends from around Bucks Quarter are invited to join the residents of Friends Village—in person!—for some caroling and Christmas cheer.

We all missed singing Christmas carols together in 2020, so let's come together in 2021 and sing in the holiday season. There are two opportunities for Friends:

Wednesday, December 8th at 7 pm at the Styer Campus at 331 Lower Dolington Road in Newtown, and Tuesday, December 14th at 7 pm at the Paxon Campus at 50 Congress Street in Newtown.

Chris Kerr will be accompanying carolers on the piano and we will have Worship in Song hymnals available if you don't know the words to all the songs. Caroling will be followed by yummy treats courtesy of Friends Village. Hope to see many of you there to ring in the season!



'Tis the Season of Giving



Christmas is a time to reflect upon our blessings and to please remember the less fortunate this Christmas season and help out in any way that you are able.

- Blood Drives
- Food Pantries
- Blanket, Toy and Coat Drives
- Animal Shelters
- Homeless Shelters
- Local Quaker Organizations
- Meal Programs



Nineteenth Century Quaker Benediction Traditionally Spoken at Christmas

*When the song of the angel is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the Kings and Princes are home,
When the shepherds are back
with their flocks,
The real work of Christmas begins.*



*To find the lost
To heal the broken
To feed the hungry
To release the prisoners
To rebuild the nations
To bring peace among brothers
To make music in the heart.*

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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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@mrplansinc.com

Update Your Contact information!

Have you moved recently? Changed your email address? Started using your 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