



QUAKERPHERNALIA

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

JANUARY 2023

Monthly Meeting News

Bristol

Bristol's tenant, Redemption Church, is helping renovate the meetinghouse with refinished floors and improvements to the second floor.

Buckingham

Friends held their annual Waffle Breakfast in December, following a lovely Christmas program by the meeting's children.

Doylestown

Friends have taken on the challenge of addressing book banning in the Central Bucks School District. Friends read books that are regularly banned and report back to the meeting. Future meetings TBD.

Fallsington

Fallsington Friends attended Holly Nights at Pennsbury Manor and they signed up to buy gifts for children at the Mercer Street Friends preschool.

Lehigh Valley

The meeting is experiencing the challenges and expense of replacing their HVAC system.

Makefield

The meeting has a new website: www.makefieldquakermeeting.org and has increased their outreach with a new road sign which says *there is that of GOD in YOU and all living things*.

Middletown

The young Friends hosted a double donation drive-through food and toy collection for the Pennndel Food Pantry. The annual auction raised over \$3,750, which will be used to meet requests for donations and support of worthy causes throughout the year.

Newtown

The youth of the meeting raised over \$2,000 for the AARK Foundation with their Simple Supper in November.

Plumstead

The wood stove is burning and worship is strong. They will be having their Christmas Eve Carol Sing indoors for the first time since the pandemic.

Quakertown

The meeting has had an increase in visitors this fall. They are tending to some needed repairs at their historic meetinghouse.

Solebury

The meeting held their annual Mitten Tree Program, with an indoor tree this year, music and readings by the children, and a potluck lunch that was enjoyed by over 60 people!

Southampton

Friends continue to hold their vigil for social justice every Sunday at 3:00 pm. They have also started a discussion of the Pendle Hill pamphlet *Race, Systemic Violent, and Retrospective Justice*.

Wrightstown

The Annual Carol Sing was held indoors for the first time since the pandemic. About 30 Friends gathered for this tradition that was started in the 1940s.

Yardley

The Peace & Social Action Committee collected cash donations for Guatemalan students as well as school supplies for students at Morrisville Elementary. Their labyrinth is complete and available to visitors.

Dear Friends,

The New Year is upon us and *Quakerphernalia* has undergone a facelift!

First and foremost is a change to the paper size. For the last year it has been increasingly difficult to find legal-sized paper which this newsletter has been printed on for as long as I can remember. I have had requests from Friends to change to letter-size paper so that they could print their own copies at home. Now you can!

And, rather than trying to translate the design from the old size to the new size, I decided to try a new design as well. This will be an ongoing project, as I find what works and what doesn't – your comments and input are welcome. Email me at quakersbucks@gmail.com and let me know what you think.

Your Coordinator,
Wendy



*"For things to reveal
themselves to us,
we need to be ready
to abandon our
views about them.*

~ Thich Nhat Hanh



CALENDAR

Jan 1		Camp Onas Registration	<i>Open to all</i>
Jan 3–31	6:30–8:30 pm	Speaking With Spirit	<i>Pendle Hill</i>
Jan 5–Feb 16	7:30–9:00 pm	Why Palestine Matters	<i>PYM Middle East Collaborative</i>
Jan 5	7:30–8:30 pm	Let's Talk About One White Man's Witness	<i>Moorestown Friends</i>
Jan 7	9:30 am–3:00 pm	PYM Extended Worship	<i>Virtual Only</i>
Jan 7	2:00–6:00 pm	Religious Education and Outreach as Partners	<i>A PYM Thread Gathering</i>
Jan 9		Against the Grain: Talking to White People about Racism in a Time of Polarization	<i>A Pendle Hill First Monday Lecture</i>
Jan 9	11:00 am–12:15 pm	Senior Planet: Computer Essentials	<i>Friends Village Styer Campus</i>
Jan 13-16		Young Adult Friends Winter Retreat	<i>Virtual and In Person</i>
Jan 15	4:00–7:00 pm	MLK Peace & Social Justice Summit	<i>William Tennent High School</i>
Jan 18	6:30–8:30 pm	Pendle Hill's Reading Group	<i>A PYM Virtual Event</i>
Jan 18	6:30–7:30 pm	Quaker Conscientious Objection From Vietnam to Now	<i>An FCNL Online discussion</i>
Jan 22–26		Beyond Diversity 101	<i>In person at Pendle Hill</i>
Jan 23–Feb 13	2:30–3:30 pm	Mindful Mondays	<i>Virtual on Thursdays</i>
Jan 26	4:00-5:00 pm	FCNL Advocacy Teams	Email emcrofts@gmail.com for link
Jan 28–29		Exploring a Quaker Commitment to Reparative Justice	<i>Pendle Hill</i>
Jan 28	11:00 am–2:00 pm	Eco-Justice Thread Gathering	<i>A PYM Virtual Event</i>
Jan 29	9:45–10:45 am	Wendy Sanford & Mary Norton: These Walls Between Us	<i>Newtown Friends Adult First Day</i>
Feb 4–5		Winter Family Overnight	<i>At Camp Onas</i>
Feb 4	9:30 am–4:00 pm	Making Our Activism More Effective through Nonviolent Direct Action	Registration Open
ONGOING EVENTS			
Every Sunday	3:00–4:00 pm	Southampton Meeting Vigil for Justice	<i>Southampton Friends Meeting</i>
LOOKING AHEAD			
Feb 15		National Friends Education Fund deadline	<i>Applications being accepted</i>
Feb 18	9:30 am–1:00 pm	Quaker Eldership: Integral and Controversial	<i>A PYM Thread Gathering</i>
Feb 19	9:45 am–3:00 pm	Bucks Quarter February Quarterly Meeting	<i>Middletown Friends Meeting</i>
Mar 11		PYM Continuing Sessions	<i>Mark Your Calendars</i>
Mar 18	10:00 am–3:00 pm	Anti-Racism Thread Gathering	Registration Open
July 26-30		PYM Annual Sessions	<i>Mark Your Calendars</i>



BUCKS QUARTER

Camp Onas



Registration Open

General registration for new campers began December 21, 2022 and runs through January 16, 2023. They prioritize the placement of individual campers ahead campers' requests to attend more than one session. Requests for additional sessions will be confirmed starting January 17.

Peace Center



Writing Contest

The Peace Center and CeaseFirePA are co-sponsoring a writing contest for Bucks County youth, ages 13–18. Essays of 800 words or less on the topic “How Gun Violence Affects My Life,” are due January 6, 2023. First prize is \$200 and publication in the *Bucks County Courier Times* and *The Intelligencer*. Second prize is \$100 and third prize is \$50. [Submit your essay here.](#)

MLK Peace and Social Justice Summit

January 15th: The 11th Annual Bucks and Montgomery Counties MLK Peace and Social Justice Summit is open to 9th to 12th grade students. There will be inspirational speakers and student led stories of their own experiences. Registration is required; [click here to register.](#)

Chandler Hall



Winter Farmer's Market

The [Wrightstown Farmers Market](#) will be open from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on the second and fourth Saturdays at Chandler Hall, located at 99 Barclay Street in Newtown. Over 35 vendors offer their local crafts, baked goods and seasonal produce for sale. The Market will be at Chandler Hall through April; it will return to its spring and summer location in May.

Friends Village



Senior Planet: Computer Essentials

Beginning January 9th: This 5-week course covers the essentials of how to use the basic functions of a personal computer, how to navigate the internet, and how to send and receive email. By the end of the course, you'll have a foundation for using a computer and the internet to enrich your life. Prerequisites: A Gmail address. [Register here.](#)

Newtown Meeting

Adult First Day School

January 29th: Join Newtown Friends at 9:45 am when they will welcome the author of *These Walls Between Us*, Wendy Sanford, and her life-long friend, Mary Norton. This book was the focus of the One Book One Bucks Quarter discussion that

was held back in October, and this is a great opportunity for those who read the book to deepen the discussion. Go to the [meeting website](#) to see other adult classes for the month, as well as to get the zoom link for the presentation. Better yet - visit in person - 219 Court Street, Newtown.

Bucks Quarter Meeting for Worship Schedule

Bristol	4th Sunday 11:00 am	Indoor 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	Indoor hybrid; for zoom link go to doylestownquakers.org
Fallsington	Sunday 11:00 am	Indoor hybrid; go to fallsingtonmeeting.org
Lehigh Valley	Sunday 9:30 am Wed 8:00 pm	Indoor hybrid; zoom link at lehighvalleyquakers.org
Makefield	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor worship
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; for zoom link go to newtownfriendsmeeting.org
Plumstead	Sunday 9:30 am	Indoor worship
Quakertown	Sunday 10:30 am	Indoor worship
Solebury	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor worship
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 peterpearson47@gmail.com
Yardley	Sunday 10:00 am	Indoor hybrid; email for zoom link: info@yardleyfriendsmeeting.org

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

Apartment Available

Yardley Friend Jeff Bishop has a small efficiency apartment available for rent immediately. Located in the heart of Yardley Borough, it is walking distance to the meetinghouse, shops, restaurants and the canal path. Size is 14 x 26 with a separate driveway, entrance and a three-season porch for entertaining. A space saving hand crafted Murphy bed is built in. Utilities, including water, sewer, trash, phone and cable are included. There are no laundry facilities in the apartment. Rent is \$700/month. Prospective tenants must be comfortable around dogs.

If interested, contact Jeff at [267-249-6462](tel:267-249-6462) or email him at jeffjb@comcast.net.

Bucks Quarter Website

Stay up to date with all that is happening around Bucks Quarter. Discover opportunities to visit other meetings and hear about what Friends around the Quarter are involved with. There's always something new.

[Stories of Vitality](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[Visit a Quaker Meeting](#)

[Quaker Organizations & Resources](#)

[Your First Meeting](#)

www.quakersbucks.org

AROUND PYM

PYM Sponsored Events



RE/Outreach Thread Gathering

January 7th: This Thread Gathering brings together two areas of focus to explore the connection between religious education programs and how a meeting welcomes and includes newcomers. How do meetings prepare to receive newcomers and speak to their needs? Are we open to new ways to offer religious education that might speak to the needs of seekers? This is an in person event being held at West Chester Friends Meeting, 425 North High Street, West Chester, PA 19380. [Register here.](#)

Extended Worship

January 7th: This month the group will have a virtual meeting on Zoom. The day will follow the usual format of worship from roughly 9:30 to 12:30, and worship sharing from 1:00 until around 2:30 to 3:00, with a lunch break in between. The best way to stay informed is to be placed on an e-mail list to receive Zoom links for this and future Extended Worship meetings; contact Jim Strong at jmmstrong@gmail.com.

Young Adult Friends Winter Retreat 2023

January 13-15th: In connection to the 2023 PYM theme "*living with our neighbors, growing into beloved community*," the theme of this retreat is a continuation of the call for us to come together in the joyful work of reweaving our connections after two plus years of the pandemic. The retreat will begin on Friday evening online at 8 pm. Saturday, will be in person at Arch Street Meetinghouse at 9 am. Attenders at the the in-person retreat must show COVID vaccination records and mask indoors. [Register here.](#)

Mindful Mondays

January 23-February 13th: The Friends Counseling Service of PYM is sponsoring an online, 4-session series on mindfulness meditation led by Deborah Cooper of Germantown Monthly Meeting. Each session will include a brief talk, a guided meditation, and a time for questions and comments. Come for one class or the entire series, as your schedule permits. These are free events; at registration you will be asked if you would like to make an optional, as-led donation. [Register here.](#)

Eco-Justice Thread Gathering

January 28th: Come gather with Friends to discern together how to move forward in addressing the climate crisis. Eco-Justice Collaborative and PYM are hosting a Thread Gathering to explore unprecedented opportunities to mitigate climate disruption. Let's work together to make the most of the Inflation Reduction Act and other opportunities. This will be a virtual gathering; registration info soon.

Winter Family Overnight

February 4-5th: Friends, fun, food and a fire! Hot chocolate, stories and games! Join Friends for the Winter Family Overnight at Camp Onas. Registration is open now; this year the event is open to all families with children in 6th grade and younger. [Register here.](#)

A Care Package for Bible Study

The **Worship & Care Package** for PYM, a recently announced endeavor to support worship and pastoral care in our yearly meeting, includes two worship paths for Friends to walk together as we seek to deepen our experiences in

faith community. One path is support for intergenerational worship, and the other is Bible study in the manner of Friends. Both practices are present in the roots of Quakerism and would have been familiar to early Friends. Resources like the “[Illuminate](#)” series from Barclay Press, the only Bible study curriculum written by Friends and for Friends, will be shared as part of the Worship & Care package. [Click here for more information.](#)

Employment Opportunities

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting is looking to fill two positions:

- [Director of Individual Giving](#)
- [Executive Administrator](#)

These are both full time positions and applications are currently being accepted.

Continuing Sessions Recap

Friends of all ages from across Philadelphia Yearly Meeting came together on Saturday, November 5, for our first fully hybrid (online & in-person) Sessions! There were 250+ registrations with Friends attending from 67 monthly meetings and visitors from six other yearly meetings. Many thanks to the yearly meeting clerks and leadership, elders and pastoral care support, presenters and panelists, the amazing tech team, and staff from both Arch Street and Cherry Street for their service and care for community. Our Sessions theme “*Living with our neighbors, growing into beloved community,*” was lived out among us as we worshipped, played, discerned, and listened to one another and for Spirit moving among us.

[Click here to access the minutes from the session’s meeting for worship with attention to business.](#)

Arch Street Meetinghouse



Arch Street Meetinghouse will be closed from December 19th to March 2nd for the winter season. Tours are available by appointment only. Group tours are available. [Click here to request a tour.](#)

Did you know ... the property that the meetinghouse was built on is the site of the first official burial ground in Philadelphia? Although the plot of land was officially deeded to the Society of Friends by William Penn in 1701, burials had been taking place here informally since 1683. There are as many as 20,000 bodies buried on the Arch Street Meeting House property.

Tuition Aid for Children in Friends’ Schools

The Yearly Meeting’s Quaker Education Granting Group reminds meetings and families that local meeting members’ children who are applying to or attending Friends schools are eligible to apply for educational support for the 2023-24 school year.

Interested families can apply for Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and National Friends Education Fund tuition aid with [NFEF application](#) on the Friends Council on Education website.

The NFEF deadline for forms to be submitted to schools is February 15, 2023.

Moorestown Meeting

In 2020, traditional country music artist Tyler Childers released an album of Appalachian fiddle tunes and one original song supporting those protesting the deaths of George Floyd and others. Join Moorestown Friends Meeting’s Anti-Racism Committee, watch a couple of short videos together, and discuss what they suggest about whether and how “white” equals “normal” in America today. you can review the videos [here](#) and [here](#).

[Click here to learn more about Moorestown Friends.](#)

Updating Your Contact & Meeting Information

Help the yearly meeting keep their records current and up to date. The information that you submit will be used to update their database, which helps the community stay connected and informed.

- [Update Meeting Information](#)
- [Update Monthly Meeting Roles](#)
- [Update Membership Statistics](#)
- [Update Quarterly Meeting Roles](#)
- [Update Personal Information](#)



Support for the Worship & Care Package

A generous gift from a PYM family will help other PYM donors fund this initiative by matching every new and increased gift to PYM, up to \$30,000. To ensure that we can offer the full suite of opportunities, they need to raise \$15,000 in new and increased gifts by December 31st and another \$15,000 by January 31st.

More detailed information can be found [here](#).

If you have questions contact Richard Quinn, Interim Director of Development at (610) 334-1893 or development@pym.org

Rather mail a check? The mailing address is:
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
PO Box 536767
Pittsburgh, PA 15253-5909



Pendle Hill



Speaking With Spirit

January 3-31st: This is an online poetry immersive with Jesse White, a narrative expressionist artist and writer whose vocational background is in teaching and expressive arts therapy. This month long workshop will give participants a chance to connect with Spirit through reading and writing poetry, and will conclude with a two-hour poetry reading. [Register here.](#)

Against the Grain: Talking to White People about Racism in a Time of Polarization

January 9th: An Online First Monday Lecture with Drick Boyd, author of the book *Disrupting Whiteness: Talking to White People About Racism*. In the book, Drick proposes a particular dialogical approach to talking with white people in their personal, familial, and professional networks about issues of race and racism. In this Zoom presentation, Drick will build on his discussion of dialogue about race and pose possible ways we can and must continue to engage white people on the important issues of race and racism, despite the growing polarities. [Register here.](#)

January Reading Group

January 18th: Pendle Hill's Reading Group returns! The Reading Group focuses on Pendle Hill pamphlets and other Quaker readings, gathering to consider queries about the reading in a spirit of worship sharing. This month the group will be reading the recently published pamphlet [Radical Transformation: Long Overdue for the Religious Society of Friends](#), (PHP #476) by Vanessa Julye. [Register here.](#)

Beyond Diversity 101

January 22-26th: This workshop intends healing transformation by providing frameworks, practices, and space for growing skills to de-structure systems of oppression and raise up liberation. Participants are offered pathways to move beyond the guilt-blame cycle toward radical truth-telling, co-responsibility, and activating joy & justice! This workshop is nearing capacity; if you wish to register, please email registration@pendlehill.org.

Pendle Hill's Podcast: The Seed

On October 2, in celebration of World Quaker Day, Pendle Hill released the first episode of their podcast. Season One will feature host Dwight Dunston in conversation with Pendle Hill community members, teachers, artists, activists, changemakers, and visionaries, including Rev. Rhetta Morgan, Cai Quirk, Eileen Flanagan, and Ricardo Levins Morales. In each episode, guests share the experiences, learnings, and seeds that have transformed and shaped their

work, their spiritual journeys, and themselves. Listen [here](#) or find it on [multiple podcast platforms](#).

Employment Opportunities

- [Program Assistant Fellowship](#), Friends Committee on National Legislation
- [Podcast Producer](#), TheeQuakerProject
- [Spiritual Deepening Program Assistant](#), Friends General Conference
- [Multiple Positions](#), Right Sharing of World Resources
- [Children's Meeting Program Teachers](#), Westtown Monthly Meeting
- [Facilitator](#), Stony Run Friends Meeting (Baltimore)
- [Facilities Assistant](#), Friends Center
- [Haddonfield Quarter Coordinator](#), Haddonfield Quarter
- [Children's Religious Education Coordinator](#), Abington Monthly Meeting
- [Multiple Positions](#), Pendle Hill

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Quaker Conscientious Objection from Vietnam to Now

January 18th: Fifty years since the Vietnam War's end, Quakers continue to be on the forefront of opposing conscription and supporting conscientious objection to war. Speakers for this event are Lenore Yarger, who works with the GI Rights Hotline and Quaker House in Fayetteville, NC to counsel service members considering their options including conscientious objection, and FCNL Executive Secretary Emeritus Joe Volk, who was a conscientious objector after being drafted in the Vietnam War. They'll be in dialogue with Sr. Director of Quaker Leadership Alicia McBride. [Register here.](#)

American Friends Service Committee

Take Action - Tell Congress

AFSC is urging Friends to take action to restore migrants' rights to asylum. For the past two years, the U.S. has turned away hundreds of thousands of migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border under Title 42. This anti-immigrant policy has deported many people back to dangerous conditions—and forced others to take treacherous routes, facing extreme heat, violence, and even death. Title 42 was set to expire on Dec. 21; however, the Supreme Court has temporarily paused lifting border restrictions. You can let Congress know that you would like migrants welcomed with the dignity and compassion by [clicking here](#).

Looking for other ways to get involved and take action? The [AFSC website](#) has lots of ways for Friends to get involved with many other areas related to social justice.

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Blake Parry is a member of Middletown Meeting and **Lisa Parry Becker** is a member of Solebury Meeting. Please contact us to arrange a meeting to review your insurance coverages and discuss how we could assist you to protect your assets.

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