



# Quakerphernalia

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

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Deadline for Quakerphernalia by the 10th day of the preceding month's publication

Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BucksQuarterlyMeeting/>

## JULY 2020

Jun 28-Jul 4		<a href="#">FGC Gathering: Sink Down to the Seed Sown in the Heart</a>	A Virtual Gathering
July 11	1:00 - 3:00 PM	<a href="#">Middle School Friends Hangout</a>	Movie Time!
Thru Jul 17		<a href="#">The Runway to Annual Sessions - The Workshop Series</a>	Zoom links available
Jul 28-29		<a href="#">Spiritual Formation Retreat</a>	A Virtual Gathering
Jul 29-Aug 2		<a href="#">PYM Annual Sessions: Letting Ourselves be Known</a>	A Virtual Gathering

## Bucks Quarter Worship Schedule

Bristol		None available at this time	
Buckingham	Sunday 10:30 am	Email <a href="mailto:buckinghamfriends@gmail.com">buckinghamfriends@gmail.com</a>	Zoom link available
Doylestown	Sunday 10:00 am	Email <a href="mailto:doylestownfriends@gmail.com">doylestownfriends@gmail.com</a>	Zoom link sent out Saturday evening
Fallsington	Sunday 11:00 am	Go to <a href="http://fallsingtonmeeting.org">fallsingtonmeeting.org</a>	Zoom link available
Lehigh Valley	Sunday 10:00 am Wed 8:00 pm	Go to <a href="http://lehighvalleyquakers.org">lehighvalleyquakers.org</a>	Summer hours - Zoom link available
Makefield	Sunday 10:00 am	Email <a href="mailto:jerry.taylor35@verizon.net">jerry.taylor35@verizon.net</a>	Zoom link available
Middletown	Sunday 11:00 am	Email Robin Hipple at <a href="mailto:robin.hipple@gmail.com">robin.hipple@gmail.com</a>	Zoom link available
Newtown	Sunday 10:00 am	Go to <a href="http://newtownfriendsmeeting.org">newtownfriendsmeeting.org</a>	Summer hours - Zoom link available
Plumstead	Sunday 9:30 am Wed 8:30 am	Held outside on the meetinghouse grounds; bring your own chair and mask	<a href="#">Plumstead Friends Meeting</a>
Quakertown	Sunday 10:30 am	Resuming in-person meeting for worship	Inside meetinghouse, socially distant
Solebury	Sunday 10:00 am	Go to <a href="http://soleburyfriendsmeeting.org">soleburyfriendsmeeting.org</a>	Zoom link available
Southampton	Sunday 10:00 am Tuesday 7:30 pm	Email John Magee <a href="mailto:jmm9724@gmail.com">jmm9724@gmail.com</a>	Zoom link available
Wrightstown	Sunday 10:00 am	Call Betsy Bayardi at 215-598-0248	Zoom link available
Yardley	Sunday 10:00 am Thurs. 7:00 pm	Email <a href="mailto:info@yardleyfriendsmeeting.org">info@yardleyfriendsmeeting.org</a>	Zoom link available
Pendle Hill	8:30-9:10 am	<a href="#">Worship in the Barn</a>	Zoom link available



### Worshipping with Plumstead Friends

Last First Day I attended my first in-person Meeting for Worship since March. About a dozen Friends gathered on the grounds of Plumstead Meeting to worship in the large, grassy area behind the meetinghouse and in front of the burial grounds. Friends brought their own chairs and found their places in either the sun or shade. They settled about 10 feet apart and taking extra precautions, most were also wearing masks.

As I centered down into worship, I opened my eyes and let my Spirit join with nature. I looked up at the trees and noticed how their branches made patterns against the intensely-blue sky. As the worship continued, the birds began to fly closer, because they saw that we were not a threat to their safety. Hawks were riding the air currents, not fighting against them, and I pondered how this was a metaphor for life. I looked down at the ground, and saw different types of grass and plants living together in harmony, and compared this to our world. Looking around, I saw Friends sitting quietly, eyes open or closed, sitting in different positions, wearing different expressions. Experiencing the Spirit in their own way, but gathered together as one. The hour flew by; the clerk broke meeting. No handshakes, only smiles and stretches.

During this pandemic Friends have moved seamlessly to a virtual platform for our Meetings for Worship, and have been able to experience deeply spiritual gatherings. But I must admit, getting back to worshipping with Friends in person, was very satisfying. May we all be able to gather again safely, soon. Peace Friends.

## Friends Home & Village

### Moving to Yellow Phase of Re-Opening Plan

Executive Director, Chiyo Moriuchi, reports good news as FHV eases out of lockdown and moves into the yellow phase of Governor Wolf's re-opening plan. Friends and family of independent living residents can now visit on campus, outside, wearing masks and maintaining social distance (no hugs!). Residents are also able to leave campus on a limited basis. She also reminds us that Covid-19 is particularly lethal to older adults (the average age of a FHV resident is 85), and she urges caution as "we may be at risk for a second wave of cases. We need to take care of each other still." [Watch her full statement on YouTube.](#)

## FGC Gathering

### Sink Down to the Seed Sown in the Heart



This summer, Friends General Conference invites you to enter into community in a new way with the 2020 Virtual Gathering! This virtual gathering will take place from June 28th to July 4th at a computer or mobile device near you. This year provides a unique opportunity to experiment with Pay as Led. It is their hope that it will remove barriers to attendance while strengthening the community. [Click here to register for the Gathering.](#)

While virtual formats cannot replace in-person gatherings, FGC has tried to mimic the Gathering experience. Workshops will offer Gathering adults and high school participants the opportunity to be immersed in a topic with other interested Friends. Friends stay in the same workshop through multiple sessions, forming a small community within the Gathering. Most workshops include daily worship or worship sharing.

There will be [a variety of evening programs](#) that Friends can attend, a chance to [participate in anti-racism events](#), And of course, [plenty of worship opportunities](#).

## Peace Fair 2020 CANCELLED

It is with sadness and regret that the Peace Fair Committee has announced their decision to cancel the 2020 Peace Fair. The decision was based on the current restrictions put in place by Governor Wolf regarding large public gatherings, and the uncertainty about when these restrictions will be lifted. The committee is hopeful that they will be able to hold the 2021 Peace Fair next September at Buckingham Friends Meeting.



## Seeking Our Journey in the Light Yardley Meeting

First Day School will continue online this summer! Led by Mark Eastburn, a professional educator and writer who teaches First Day School at Yardley Friends Meeting, Mark will guide students through lessons from Quaker, Biblical, and modern-day sources—along with other religious traditions—to explore how students might lead a life that keeps with our Inner Light. Through this journey, students will also create their own stories to share, either in written format or multimedia presentations that may include basic computer coding (based on student interest). To learn more, please contact Mark Eastburn at [memarkeastburn@gmail.com](mailto:memarkeastburn@gmail.com) or (215) 715-1266.

## Mercer Street Friends

Nourishing Minds & Bodies; Empowering Families and Communities

Mercer Street Friends has received support from over 2300 donors since March 16. It was on Friday March 20 that they began the first of 14 weeks of distributing Community Food Bags to those experiencing food insecurity in Trenton and Mercer County. Last Friday, due to the generosity of a Friend from Newtown Meeting, 5400 eggs were procured from local farmers, so they were able to include 1-2 dozen eggs in each of the 1,935 food bags that distributed that day.

Mercer Street Friends' work to distribute Community Food Bags to our neighbors cannot and must not stop. There is much more to be done to make sure that for the weekend, those who are in need will have food to put on the table. If you would like to volunteer or donate, please visit their website [mercerstreefriends.org](http://mercerstreefriends.org).

## PYM Annual Sessions Letting Ourselves Be Known

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting will be holding Annual Session virtually from Tuesday, July 28 through Sunday, August 2nd.

To accommodate the new virtual format, PYM has thought outside the box and is offering a Runway to Annual Sessions Series. This includes a series of virtual Workshops, Mindfulness Meditation classes, Plenary Sessions, and a Spiritual Formation retreat.

[The Worship Series](#), which runs from now until July 15 has a wide variety of zoom offerings, from dealing with climate change to connecting with Friends across the world. [The Mindfulness Meditation Series](#), a Thursday afternoon series of five classes sponsored by the PYM Friends Counseling Service, will include time for meditation, a short talk and time for dialogue. [Plenary Sessions](#) will be held throughout July on a variety of topics.



Youth and Family Programs will be held virtually throughout the week of Annual Sessions.

[You can register here for Annual Sessions.](#)

## Thursday With Friends Friends Council on National Legislation

Thursdays with Friends is a new online conversation series brought to you during this period of great difficulty when we are isolated from our loved ones. It is a brief 30-minute community chat on issues that Quakers and people of faith are compelled to continue to work on, whatever the circumstances we find ourselves in. The program is hosted by FCNL General Secretary, Diane Randall. [Register here to get the link for the day's community conversation.](#)

## In Memoriam

**Lehigh Valley Friends** suffered the loss of Annette Benert and Dee Kruschwitz

*Please let your Coordinator know if there are other Friends whom we have lost that we should acknowledge.*



## Spotlight On: Social Justice

As a Quaker organization, Friends Home & Village (“FHV”) is committed to equality and justice. We join the call for radical transformation to end systemic racism. We commit ourselves to act to break down the structures of white privilege in our society. As a largely white organization, we acknowledge the need to confront our own assumptions and complicity. We stand with protesters around the country and the globe calling for the end of racism and white supremacy. We support fundamental change in our systems of policing and criminal justice which have for too long perpetrated violence on black Americans and peoples of color. We affirm that Black Lives Matter. Now is the time to ACT so that, in the words of Langston Hughes, America is “the dream the dreamers dreamed” where “opportunity is real, and life is free” and “Equality is in the air we breathe”.

–The Board of Directors of Friends Home & Village

### We Hear The Voices Crying

The faith community of Newtown and its surrounding communities have come together as one body of leaders to address the systemic practices of racism and inequality among the marginalized and disenfranchised of this country and across the world.

After the recent death of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and most recently Rayshard Brooks in Atlanta, Georgia, we have heard the voices from the dead and the living cry aloud in a way that we have never heard before. These voices have been bloodcurdling and have spilled over into nonstop protest, night after night and now week after week. Their voices for justice cannot go unanswered. The witnesses of unfair practices are in our streets, and yes they have found their voices on behalf of the deprived and the less fortunate. The plagues in many of our communities is the injustices found in the judicial system, unfair housing practices, unequal education and more. There are unwritten practices implemented in Black and Brown communities to insure that they will not become economically empowered and rise above their loathed circumstances.

It does not matter if it is in the Constitution or not, we almost know inherently that all men are created equal and the rights of justice for all should be practiced by all. If not in men and women’s hearts naturally, it should be done through laws that will assure equality, or if not, negative repercussions will follow.

Our faith community does realize that the laws are made and implemented for the lawless and while that is true, we must be active in encouraging justice were there is little or no justice. We want you to know We Hear The Voices Crying:

1. We hear your voices rising and we hear your call for justice.
2. We hear your voices rising and we hear your pain.
3. We hear your voices rising and see your blood running in the streets.
4. We hear your voices rising and saying, I cannot breathe.
5. We hear your voices rising and saying, you are killing me.
6. We hear your voices rising and saying, black lives matter.
7. We hear your voices rising and saying, we are being disproportionately killed by the hands of the police

We stand with you, and we stand with the coalition of Black Lives Matter. We welcome the reforms that have already taken place and we will welcome the reforms to come which will assure justice for all.

– Reverend Lillian Gail Moore Macedonia Baptist Church, Newtown, PA

### Around the Quarter

**Newtown Meeting** is conducting a 4-part book discussion series based on Beverly Daniel Tatum’s book “*Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?*” [You can watch the author’s TEDx Stanford talk on YouTube.](#)

**Southampton Meeting** has been holding Sunday evening vigils from 4 to 6 PM outside their meetinghouse on the corner of Gravel Hill and Street Road in support of racial justice. They have erected a sign that says: *Injustice Anywhere Threatens Justice Everywhere*. Friends are welcome to join them. Contact Carolyn Peters-Eckel at [caeckel@gmail.com](mailto:caeckel@gmail.com).

**Lehigh Valley Meeting** held a Virtual Frugal Feast to support the PA Avenue Interfaith Food Pantry and raised \$455! Friends were encouraged to serve themselves a lovely bowl of soup and then send a check in support of the Pantry. Friends were asked to “Make it a celebration—sending uplifting thoughts to those in need as we acknowledge our ability to give.”

A Friend from **Yardley Meeting** recommended the book *The Half Has Never Been Told*, which is about the

expansion of slavery in the first eight decades after American independence drove the evolution and modernization of the United States. It’s a groundbreaking, must-read history demonstrating that America’s economic supremacy was built on the backs of slaves.

**Quakertown Meeting** was exploring having their first ever virtual Meeting for Business, but was saved by Governor Murphy who moved NJ to the yellow phase of re-opening the state, allowing the gathering of groups up to 25. As a group under that size they decided that after three months of physical distancing they could open up the meetinghouse and conduct their business meeting in person.

**Doylestown Meeting** has crafted a Minute on Racism which concludes with: “*We stand in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement and embrace the diversity of all peoples and will act to break down institutional racism. Those of us with European heritage must exchange guilt, paralysis and silence for knowledge, thoughtful action and right relationship with those who have been crushed by our lack of understanding. It is incumbent on us to act now.*” The full minute will be presented at the next Bucks Quarterly Meeting in August.

# 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](http://www.timespub.com) - (updated daily)

## **William B. Parry & Son, LTD Insurance**

We are a 5<sup>th</sup> generation Quaker owned and operated insurance agency. We will work with you to identify your insurance needs and develop a custom program to protect your personal and/or business assets. We offer personal and commercial insurance coverages, along with life insurance and long-term care products. 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.

**Tel:** 215-579-7310

**Email:** [info@parry-insurance.com](mailto:info@parry-insurance.com)

**Web Site:** [www.parry-insurance.com](http://www.parry-insurance.com)

Office Location: Langhorne, PA

## **Tinsman Bros., Inc.**

### **Lumberyard & Building Supplies**

Birthingright Quakers and 5<sup>th</sup> generation owners, William E. and Thomas F. Tinsman, invite you in for a visit to the oldest lumberyard in the country, located in Lumberville, PA. Established in 1785, we pride ourselves on the quality lumber and services we offer. Our hardware store has many hard to find treasures.

**Store hours:** Monday thru Friday 7:30 thru 5:00

Saturday 7:30 -12:00

**Tel:** 215-297-5100

## **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.

## **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@mrplansinc.com](mailto:ed@mrplansinc.com)

## **Superior Benefit Plans, LLC**

### **Employee Benefits Insurance Broker**

Marybeth Snyder is a Wharton School Certified Employee Benefits Specialist with 30 years experience and member of Newtown Meeting. Individuals, small and large employers rely on Superior to afford and manage benefits plans including health insurance. Offices in Lahaska and Malvern, PA.

**TOLL Free:** 888-656-1339

**Email:** [msnyder@superiorbenefitplans.com](mailto:msnyder@superiorbenefitplans.com)

Marybeth Snyder, CEBS, CLU

**Tel:** 610-722-9900/215-693-6303

## **Do you Have Questions about Hospice?**

Lisa Wildman, a member of Doylestown Meeting, is a licensed Social Worker with **Brookdale Hospice**. The Gift of Hospice benefits the patient, and loved ones by providing symptom management, emotional support, and spiritual support. The Brookdale Hospice team includes the loving service of Nurses, Social Workers, Chaplain, Aides, Music Therapist, Massage Therapist and Volunteers. If you or a friend wants to learn more about hospice care, call **Brookdale Hospice at 610-337-1101**.

## **Carol Richardson, Associate Broker with Coldwell Banker Hearthside Realtors**

A member of Newtown Meeting, Carol hears your wishes and needs clearly and is very resourceful. Carol enjoys finding the perfect match of home to home owner.

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**Email:** [c.richardson@cbhearthside.com](mailto:c.richardson@cbhearthside.com)

“Caring for all your real estate needs.”

## **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](http://www.pym.org/yourinfo) and update your contact information. And while you're at it, send it to [quakersbucks@gmail.com](mailto:quakersbucks@gmail.com) so the Coordinator will have the update as well.