

OUAKERPHERNALIA

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

MAY 2023

Dear Friends,

At our quarterly meeting of Bucks Quarter monthly meeting clerks, I heard a definite note of optimism with the warming weather of spring and the waning of the pandemic.

Not that we are totally out of the woods – I know people who have avoided infection for three years and even with being fully vaccinated are just now getting sick – but all signs point toward being out of the woods.

Mask requirements are being lifted, and meetings have noticed an uptick in both visitors and new members. Gardens are being planted and the flowers are blooming.

May you stop and smell the roses during our lovely Spring weather.

Your Coordinator, Wendy

"The price of inaction is far greater than the cost of making a mistake."

~ Meister Eickhart



Monthly Meeting News

Bristol

Join Friends for their monthly worship on the 4th Sunday of the month at 11:00 am. Say hello to the folks from Redemption Church when you arrive!

Buckingham

Buckingham Friends School, which shares grounds with the Meeting, is well underway with new construction and much needed updates to their campus facilities.

Doylestown

The meeting's Peace and Social Concerns Committee facilitated a Quaker Conversation entitled: Homophobia: how it affects ourselves, our families, our friendships, our communities and our governance.

Fallsington

Friends held an Easter Breakfast followed by an Easter Program, worship and an egg hunt for the meeting youth.

Lehigh Valley

After careful discernment, Lehigh Valley Friends will no longer require masks be worn in their meetinghouse. They will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and make adjustments to this policy as needed.

Makefield

Makefield Friends have spruced up and updated their caretaker's house and are looking for a new tenant (see article later in this newsletter for more details).

Middletown

Middletown Friends participated in the annual Cross Walk held in Langhorne on Good Friday. Light refreshments and a short worship service were held prior to the walk.

Newtown

After a finger-food shared breakfast, Newtown Friends held an Easter program titled "The Women of Easter." This was followed by worship and an egg hunt for the kids.

Plumstead

Jeff Marshall, historic preservationist and past president of the Heritage Conservancy, visited the Plumstead Meetinghouse to assess its construction and to answer questions.

Quakertown

The meeting is now totally electric! And Friends welcomed two new members this month! Welcome!

Solebury

Solebury Friends responded generously by contributing \$1200 towards the cost of a Young Friend's George School trip to Vietnam in June. Story of Vitality coming soon!

Southampton

Friends are coming up on three years of holding their Vigil for Social Justice, which was prompted by the death of George Floyd in the summer of 2020.

Wrightstown

Wrightstown Friends Nursery School will be establishing a new 30' x 36' garden on the grounds of the meetinghouse, which will help build bonds within the Nursery School Community and between the school families and the Meeting.

Yardley

Friends have set the schedule for their summer Movies Under the Stars series, cosponsored by Yardley Borough Parks & Rec. Check the website calendar for details.

CALENDAR

Apr 29	11:00 am-3:00 pm	Picnic in the Garden	Friends Village Styer Campus	
Apr 29	10:00 am-3:00 pm	Addressing Racism Thread Gathering	Sponsored by PYM	
Apr 29-30		Spring Family Overnight	Camp Dark Waters	
Apr 30	12:00–1:30 pm	Presentation and Lunch with Bridget Moix	Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting	
May 1	7:30–9:00 pm	Integrous Testifying: Body, Mind & Spirit	Pendle Hill First Monday Lecture	
May 1	6:30–8:00 pm	Building Bridges: Talking Across Divides	The Peace Center Langhorne	
May 3	3:30–6:30 pm	The Power of Goodness	Arch Street Meetinghouse	
May 5-7		YAF Spring Retreat: Vocational Discernment	Haverford Friends Meeting	
May 5-7		Caln Quarter Gathering at Camp Swatara	Sponsored by Caln Quarter	
May 6	1:00-3:00 pm	FWCC Southwest Regional Gathering	Listening to God Online	
May 7	10:00 am-1:00 pm	The Underground Railroad and Free Black Towns in the Marlton NJ Area	Cropwell Friends Meeting	
May 7	10:30 am-5:00 pm	Friends Historical Association tour of Museum of the American Revolution	Sponsored by Arch Street Meetinghouse	
May 7	11:00 am-12:30 pm	The Golden Rule and Resistance to Atomic Bomb Testing	Haddonfield Friends Meeting	
May 7	1:30–3:00 pm	Pendle Hill Nature Walk	Pendle Hill, Wallingford, PA	
May 10	11:00 am-12:15 pm	Senior Planet: Computer Essentials	Friends Village Styer Campus	
May 12-14		The Work That Reconnects	A Pendle Hill Workshop	
May 12	5:30–7:00 pm	The Vegetarian Legacy of Benjamin Lay	Arch Street Meetinghouse	
May 13	6:00–9:00 pm	Labyrinth Debut and Movie Night	Yardley Friends Meeting	
May 16 & 18	1:30-2:30 pm	See a Flower, Draw a Flower	Friends Village Styer Campus	
May 17	1:00-2:00 pm	To Stay or Go?	Friends Village Styer Campus	
May 21	9:30 am-3:00 pm	May Quarterly Meeting	Newtown Friends Meeting	
May 21	9:00–9:30 pm	Quaker Parent Postlude	Sponsored by PYM	
May 27	10:30 am-1:00 pm	The Quaker City: A Walking Tour of Old City	Sponsored by Arch Street Meetinghouse	
	ONGOING EVENTS			
May 6	9:30 am-3:00 pm	PYM Extended Worship	Virtual Only	
Every Sunday	4:00-5:00 pm	Southampton Meeting Vigil for Justice	Southampton Friends Meeting	
		LOOKING AHEAD		
June 9	7:00–9:00 pm	Rise Up Singing with Annie Patterson	Fallsington Friends Meeting	
June 17	11:00 am-5:00 pm	Bucks Quarter Friends are Fun Picnic	Tohickon Valley Park	
Jul 2-8		2023 FGC Gathering	Listen So That We May Live	
Jul 26-30		PYM Annual Sessions	Virtual and in person at TCNJ	
Aug 20		August Quarterly Meeting	Plumstead Friends Meeting	

QUARTERLY MEETING @ NEWTOWN

Quarterly Meeting for Worship, Fellowship & Business Under the Care of Newtown Friends Meeting Sunday, May 21, 2023 • 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM Hybrid!

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87493133469?pwd=djhJMTJYOUR5REZJaHZ2RXQyVExndz09

Meeting ID: 874 9313 3469

Passcode: 736088

9:30–10:00 am Coffee & Conversation: Zoom room opens at 9:45 am 10:00–11:00 am Program: One Meeting's Approach to Advocacy

When it comes to engaging with the world, Quakers have a saying: "Let your life speak." As Quakers, we believe there is that of God within everyone, and this defines our unique approach to advocacy. Our role as Quaker advocates is to speak to that of God within those we are seeking to influence, to reach into their hearts and to encourage them to do what they know in their heart is the right thing to do. We are blessed with being part of a Quaker community in which many members are led to serve in various causes and organizations. Friends will speak to their work with organizations, including Power Bucks (fair funding for education) BCICRR (refugee resettlement) and Right Sharing of World Resources.

Children's Program: The children will be engaged in a spring project so we need each child to register, so we have sufficient supplies and materials for all participants. <u>Click here to access the registration form on our website</u>.

Parking: On site parking is limited and is reserved for handicapped only. Parking is available at the nearby Stocking Works lot; <u>click here to access a map</u>. There will be signage and people to guide drivers as well.

11:00-12:00 pm Meeting for Worship

12:00–1:00 pm Lunch break with a simple lunch provided by Newtown Friends.

1:00–3:30 pm Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Annual reports from Bristol, Buckingham, Fallsington and Lehigh Valley Meetings, Budget & Nominating 2023-24 Budget proposal, nominations for the Audit Committee, and annual reports from the Quarter Clerk and the Oversight Committee. Advance documents will be available soon on the website at

www.quakersbucks.org/members.

This version of the February 2023 Quarterly Meeting minutes contains the edited highlights.

The minutes in full detail will be available for consideration on our website.

Clerk: Bill Daly (Middletown)

BQM Coordinator: Wendy Kane (Newtown)

Recording Clerk: Terry M. Christensen (Newtown)

Friends gathered at 1:05 pm and settled into a period of worship.

Welcome - Bill Daly

Changes to Agenda – Bill Daly asks meeting if it would be permissible to add a letter from Middletown Meeting to the agenda. Review and Approval of Agenda – Approved as modified.

Roll Call of Meetings: Bristol – 0; Buckingham – 2; Doylestown – 0; Fallsington – 4; Lehigh Valley – 0; Makefield – 1; Middletown – 14; Newtown – 5; Plumstead – 2; Quakertown – 4; Solebury – 1; Southampton – 4; Wrightstown – 4; Yardley – 3. Guest: Berkeley Friends Church – 1.

Announcements

- Bucks Quarter Peace Fair will be on September 30th on the campus of Buckingham Friends School.
- Southampton Friends reports PYM Addressing Racism Collaborative will hold Thread Gathering, April 29th, 2023.
- Fallsington Friends reports that "Quakerism in a Nutshell" will be held at Fallsington Meeting on Saturday Feb 25th.

Stories of Vitality & Strength

- Southampton Friend reports their Social Justice vigil at the corner of Street Road and Gravel Hill Road continues (2 ½ years to date) and is getting much attention from the community; also, they are continuing to discuss Harold Weaver's Pendle Hill Pamphlet on Race. Zoom link available for those who wish to join.
- Yardley Friend reports that they are seeing grandchildren of current and former members; newly formed education committee has created a corner in their meeting room that is welcoming to these young Friends.
- Makefield Friend describes visit to Global Engagement Summit at United Nations, notes remarks by Faith Hill regarding her mother's life voyage from poor farming community to Stanford University feeling that Appalachian poor were "not important enough" for social investment Friends should be sensitive to this issue.
- Middletown Friend announces June 24th celebration of Juneteenth this will be a full day event with many activities.

Quarter Coordinator Report – Wendy Kane (full report attached).

Annual Report - Friends Camp Association (Camp Onas) - Jess Walcott, clerk (full report attached).

Announcement – Mercer Street Friends Clothing Drive.

Annual Report – Quakertown Meeting – Gerry Kirwan (full report attached).

Treasurers Report – Lisa Parry-Becker, BQ Treasurer Reports attached. We are halfway through fiscal year and to date income and revenue are tracking with the budget; for example, Friends Fiduciary payout to date is at half budgeted amount and monthly meeting contributions are tracking as expected; BQM operating expenses also tracking with budget.

Preliminary 2023-2024 Budget – Lisa Parry-Becker, BQ Treasurer. Report attached. Specific items to highlight:

- · Budget projects 4% increase in monthly meeting contributions; will communicate with monthly meeting treasurers.
- · Increase PYM contribution by 2%.
- · Increase outreach budget slightly; other items kept flat for next year.
- · Oversight working on the Coordinator's salary for next year.
- · Coming in with negative forecast (loss of \$671).

BREAK

Committee Report – Budget & Nominating – Bill Daly reporting for Leo Fitzpatrick. Budget and Nominating has not identified a rising Clerk of the Quarter; also, currently Bucks Quarter has no members on PYM Nominating Council, and we are looking for a member; also, the Quarter is seeking a Friend to serve on the Quarter Audit committee. Wendy reports that Terry Christensen has agreed to serve another term as Recording Clerk.

Letter of Support – Middletown MM – Lance Mervine Letter attached. On behalf of Middletown Meeting, clerk Lance Mervine presented a letter in support of the Rainbow Room, a center for LGBTQ+ youth and its director, Marlene Pray. Friends in attendance were in unity with the contents of the letter. It will be distributed to monthly meetings in the quarter for their review.

Annual Report – Outreach Committee – Doug Meaker (full report attached).

Annual Report - Doylestown Monthly Meeting - Liz Fritsch (full report attached).

Annual Report – Makefield Monthly Meeting – Jerry Taylor (full report attached).

Approval of Eleventh Month 2022 Minutes – Terry Christensen

Full minutes attached. Approved.

Closing Worship - After a period of silent worship, the Clerk adjourned the meeting at 2:55 PM.



BUCKS OUARTER



Friends Village

Picnic in the Garden

April 29th (rain date April 30th): Come for a fun-filled day of presenters, music, shopping, and more to benefit the residents and programs of Friends Village.

Snipes Farm will bring the spirit of the farm along with barn yard critters and bedding plants for sale.

Goose Creek Pioneers will provide the musical background.

Crafters will bring their wares for purchase, including including Heart of the Moon Herbs, Bright Candle Company and Soap A GoGo.

Presentations from local experts, including Native Plants for Birds, Attracting Pollinators and the History of Botanical Art.

Tickets are \$20 in advance (by April 28), \$30 at the door. A complimentary lunch is included in the ticket price. Click here to purchase tickets.

Senior Planet: Computer Essentials

May 10th: 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. <u>Click here to register.</u>

See a Flower, Draw a Flower

May 16 & 18th: In this workshop, students will be exposed to the botanical terms used to describe a plant; learn to how to look closely at a flower and be able to describe it in their own terminology; and translate that knowledge into a simple drawing of a flower. Presented by Carol Ashton-Hergenhan, who holds a Bachelor's degree from the Philadelphia College of Art and attended Temple University's Tyler School of Art, earning a Masters' degree in media. Cost is \$25 for materials, register here.

To Stay or Go?

May 17th: an educational seminar that is designed to help older adults and their caregivers examine living choices as they age. This session will explore downsizing, outfitting your home for aging in place, or moving to a community for older adults. Complimentary lunch provided; click here to register.



Building Bridges: Talking Across Divides

Market; Join Danny Thomas Axecuting Directory for thise ting ic of discussion. Preregistration is required and is 20 people. This is a free ten, pin and ion arve Click here to register.

MARCH THROUGH MAY 2023

Clothing Drive for Mercer Street Friends

Monthly meetings continue to collect clothings for children NDS served by the Community Schools Initiative through Mercer Street Friends. Collections will continue through mid-June with our first delivery of eleven bags of clothes (thank you Fallsington Friends!) made on Thursday, April 20th.

	Elementary Grade K-3	Middle School Grade 7-8	
Male	Pants Shirts Hoodies Socks Sizes Child 7-18 and Youth S-XL	Sweatpants Hoodies Socks T-shirts short sleeves T-shirts long sleeves	S/M/L M/L/XL M/L M/L/XL M/L/XL
Female	Pants Shirts Hoodies Socks Sizes Child 7-18 and Youth S-XL	Sweatpants Jeans Hoodies Socks T-shirts short sleeves T shirts long sleeves	size 4-16 size 4-16 S/M/L/XL S/M/L S/M/LXL S/M/L/XL

As more donations are accepted we can hopefully zero in on what type of clothing will still be needed. See the chark above com for for the current anticipated needs. Thank you to all Friends who have enthusiastically participated in this effort!



Caretaker's House for Lease

Recently restored 18th century stone caretaker house for REF lease just eas lease just ease of the S Village of Dolington on the Meeting House property. House includes two bedrooms, one bath, dining room, living room and small office/walk in closet.



Full kitchen and laundry. Oil/hot air system and 2 through wall air conditioners. Verizon internet available. Small yard surrounded by open space. Lease includes outside maintenance around the Meeting and Caretaker House. Lessee to pay all utilities. Small pet permitted. Asking rent -\$1,400/month, with a \$200 discount for outside work. Contact (215) 450-6965 to inspect house.

Yardley Friends Meeting



Labyrinth Debut & Movie Night

May 13th: With summer right around the corner, Yardley Friends Meeting wants to extend a special invitation to the local community and invite you to help celebrate the completion of their new labyrinth and attend the first Movie Night of 2023 at the meetinghouse at 65 North Main Street, Yardley, Pennsylvania.

The evening will begin with an introduction to the labyrinth, and a chance to walk the path and relax. The large yard will be available for children to run and play. Meeting members will provide picnic fare, or you can bring your own.

As the sun goes down, it's movie time! Partnering with Yardley Borough Parks and Recreation, the feature will be Pixar's film, Soul. Bring chairs or a blanket to set on the lawn to watch the movie. Questions? Contact Linda Jacobs Snyder at linda6stn@gmail.com.

Fallsington Friends Meeting



Rise Up Singing with Annie Patterson

June 9th: Mark your calendars for an uplifting evening of song and story. Annie Patterson, singer, activist, performer, and co-creator of Rise Up Singing and Rise Again songbooks, will perform songs of hope and courage telling personal stories about music's connection to her spiritual beliefs and life-long work for justice. This is an in person event at Fallsington Friends meetinghouse located at 9300 New Falls Road, Fallsington, PA. There is a \$15 suggested donation at the door.

AROUND PYM

PYM Sponsored Events



Addressing Racism Thread Gathering

April 29th: Learn ways to continue to address racism, hear from Eppchez Yes of Green Street Monthly Meeting on Noticing, and learn how to make a meaningful difference in your meeting. Click here to register.

Extended Worship

May 6th: 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 Spring Retreat

May 5-7th: All are welcome to join us for our annual spring retreat where we will gather at Haverford Friends Meeting centering the theme "vocational discernment." Special guest facilitators Jen Higgins-Newman and Greg Woods are bringing the Beacon Hill Friends House program to us: Living into your call: Vocational Discernment Workshop. Come to this retreat for Friendship, clearness, and witness of ourselves and each other in our spiritual journeys. This is an overnight event. We will be staying at the meetinghouse. Cost is \$40 and registration closes May 5th. Click here to register.

855 Buck Lane • Haverford, PA 19041

Youth and Family



Spring Family Overnight

April 29th: Enjoy multigenerational activities for the whole family, dinner together, free time to play, bedtime stories, multigenerational worship on Sunday morning, and a chance for adults to spend time with other parents. *And everyone will be home on Sunday in time to prepare for the rest of the week!* This year, the overnight is open to all families with children in 8th grade and younger. Registration opens soon; click here to register.

Quaker Parent Postlude

May 21st: Quaker Parent Postlude is a space for people who are currently engaged in bringing up children, to come together for worship, reflection, and connection. The focus



of this 30-minute program is to have some quiet time together at the end of Sunday before a new week begins; it will be held in Quaker waiting worship. Register here.

The Tote Bag

Sign up for the PYM Religious Education news list and you will receive timely information about programs, activities and resources for Quaker youth and families. Click here to subscribe.

Arch Street Meeting House



Reaching Out To Each Other

May 3rd: a Wednesday afternoon workshop and reception celebrating the opening of their new art exhibition entitled: *Allah is Merciful: Perhaps Allah Needs Me.* It is is an interactive, intergenerational Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) mini-workshop. The story is by Patricia Cockrell set in Chechnya with facilitators from Ukraine, Britain, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

From 5:00 to 6:30 pm visit with peace and justice workers from around the world – Asia, Africa, Ukraine, and the Americas. An informal discussion with light refreshments will follow the workshop.

<u>The Power of Goodness</u> is a collection of true stories from around the world of how people have reacted peacefully and nonviolently in the face of prejudice and violence. They depict instructional moments in how to rely on the power of goodness in difficult situations and the amazing results of doing so.

Friends Historical Association Tour

May 7th: Join Friends Historical Association at the Museum of the American Revolution for any or all all of the day's program for their Spring Outing. Cost is \$26 and registration is required; register here.

The Museum of the American Revolution's special exhibition Black Founders: The Forten Family of Philadelphia, introduces visitors to Forten and his descendants as they navigated the American Revolution and cross-racial relationships in Philadelphia to become leaders in the abolition movement in the lead-up to the Civil War and the women's suffrage movement.

The Vegetarian Legacy of Benjamin Lay

May 12th: Benjamin Lay was scorned and laughed at during his life for his stubborn, relentless advocacy for the abolition of slavery, and he spent nearly two centuries as a nearly-forgotten footnote to history. But his vegetarianism, which for Lay was cut from the same cloth as his abolitionism, also impacted American history. Come learn how his influence was borne out in the lives of US vegetarians such as John Woolman, Bronson Alcott, and Dr. William Alcott, the first president of the American Vegetarian Society. Register here.

The Quaker City: A Walking Tour of Old City

May 27th: Participate in our brand new walking tour of Quaker sites in Old City, Philadelphia! The tour begins with a brief exploration of the historic burial grounds at ASMH before continuing on a walking tour of important Quaker sites throughout the neighborhood. Visitors will start their walking tour at Arch Street Meeting House, then continue to the Betsy Ross House and on to Welcome Park, the site of William Penn's first residence in Philadelphia. After snaking their way through Independence National Historical Park, the group will stop at various other sites with a Quaker twist. Tours will also be held in June & July. Register here.

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting



Presentation and Lunch with New FCNL Head

April 30th: Over its 80 years, FCNL has changed leadership only five times. In 2022, Dr. Bridget Moix became its newest General Secretary. Join Friends for worship at 10:30 am followed by a FREE lunchtime presentation by Bridget at 12:00 noon, who spent 25 years working on international peace and conflict issues, with a focus on US foreign policy. An RSVP to helene.hilger@gmail.com would be appreciated.

20 E Mermaid Lane • Philadelphia, PA 19118

Cropwell Friends Meeting



The Underground Railroad and Free Black Towns in the Marlton NJ Area

May 7th: Paul W. Schopp is a historian who researches historic Black South Jersey towns. He will speak on the history of free Black communities and African Americans of living in the Marlton/Evesham area, including their involvement in the Underground Railroad.

810 S Cropwell Road • Marlton, NJ 08055

Haddonfield Friends Meeting



The Golden Rule & Resistance to Atomic Bomb Testing

May 7th: Sallie Willoughby, daughter of the late George and Lillian Willoughby, will speak about her father's participation as a member of the historic Golden Rule crew as it attempted to prevent the US from testing an atomic bomb in the Marshall Islands. All are welcome for worship at 10:00 am with the program beginning at 11:20 am.

47 Friends Ave • Haddonfield, NJ 08033



THE GREATER OLIAKER WORLD

Pendle Hill



First Monday Lecture

May 1st: *Integrous Testifying: Body, Mind & Spirit*: A First Monday Lecture with Niyonu Spann, who looks forward to sharing what she has come to know about accessing the whole of who we are, testing the integrous flow and sharing (testifying) from our knowingness. Register here.

Nature Walk

May 7th: Neighbors and F/friends of all ages are invited to walk the grounds of Pendle Hill with John Gruber, a science teacher and researcher at Friends' Central School, and Lloyd Guindon, the tender of Pendle Hill's campus and trees for over 30 years. Please pay as you are led and able. Register here.

The Work That Reconnects

May 12-14th: The Work That Reconnects, inspired by environmental author, activist, Buddhist scholar, and systems theorist Joanna Macy, develops the emotional, intellectual, and spiritual skills for us to transform our despair and overwhelm into inspired collaborative action. It is a process that has been offered thousands of times building motivation, connection, solidarity, and vision – renewing our courage to act for the healing of our world. Cost ranges from \$375-495. Register here.

Friends World Committee for Consultation



Southwest Regional Gathering: Listening to God Online

May 6th: Traveling minister Emily Provance will help us explore the challenges of meeting via computer. Can we sense the "Presence of the Room" when the room has no walls? How do we maintain unity? The meeting will be conducted both in English and Spanish. All Friends are welcome. Register here.

Friends General Conference



The Gathering 2023

July 2nd-8th: Now is the time to register for the 2023 Gathering being held in person at Western Oregon University in Monmouth, OR. There will be a wide variety of workshop and lectures to choose from, plus unprogrammed time for fellowship and relaxing. Early registration has ended; registration will re-open on April 26th. Click here to register.





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