

Quakerphernalia

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

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Deadline for Quakerphernalia : By the 11th day of the preceding months publication

NOVEMBER 2016

Nov 4 5:30 Simple Supper - Newtown Meetinghouse

Nov 5 8:30am-6pm PYM Fall Continuing Sessions - Westtown School

Nov 5 6pm Games Night - Makefield Meetinghouse

Nov 8 9am Open House - Newtown Friends School

Nov 8 Called Worship at Various Meetings to Hold our Nation in the Light (see article at bottom of this page)

Nov 10 7pm BQ Oversight Meeting - Jackson House

Nov 12 2pm Jonathan Sprout in Concert - Fallsington Meetinghouse

Nov 12 5:30pm **Quarter-Wide Feast-Fun-Song! Pot Luck Dinner, Singing and All 'Round Fun Together**

Nov 19 1pm Open House - Friends Home - 215-968-3346 for more information

Nov 21 6pm Bucks Food For Friends

Nov 22 7pm BQ Outreach - Pennswood Village

Nov 27 12:15pm Speakers Series -Middletown Meetinghouse

Nov 28 9am Information Session - Newtown Friends School

Looking Ahead

Dec 7 Chandler Hall Auxiliary Holiday Sale

February 19 Quarterly Meeting - Middletown Meetinghouse

Chandler Hall Worship Services will be organized by:

November ~ Newtown December ~ Solebury January ~ Wrightstown

Worship 11:00**Arrive 10:45**

Quarterly Meeting for Worship, Fellowship, and Business ~ November 20

Lehigh Valley Friends Meetinghouse - 4116 Bath Pike, Bethlehem

Don't Forget your Donations to Friendly Crafters and Your Money!

Schedule of Events:

9-9:30 Registration, coffee, tea, and breakfast treats

9:30-10:30 Meeting for Worship (children included for first 20 minutes).

9:50-12:00 Children's program: **9:50** the children will go to first day school. At **10:30** they will rejoin the adults for announcements and introductions. At **11:00** there will be a special program, **Seeking Our Stillness** - Investigating experiences of stillness. Listening to the small quiet voice within. How may this guide us in life's journeys?

11:00 to Noon - Adult Program: In November hundreds of Quakers and friends from around the country will gather in Washington, DC for four days of advocacy, conversation, and worship at FCNL's, Friends Committee on National Legislation, Annual Meeting. In a critical moment of transition for our federal government, time together in community and discernment opens us to the "fresh incursion of the Spirit."

The program for Quarterly Meeting will focus on highlights from FCNL's Annual Meeting and ways we might all lean in to the possibilities for persistent, prophetic, and powerful advocacy during the next Legislative Session of our country's political life. Quakers in the Boarding School era. Everyone deserves to know what we weren't taught in school.

Noon to 1:00 Soups, breads and desserts provided by our Lehigh Valley Friends.

1-3:00 Meeting for Business (childcare provided) - We will hear from our Friends at Newtown and Plumstead meetings, Camp Onas, The Peace Fair, Budget and Nominating, our Treasurer and Coordinator.

Note: All agenda items for Quarterly Meeting must be to the clerk,

Boris Simkovich, one week prior to Quarterly Meeting. boris@simkovich.com



BUCKINGHAM FRIENDS GIVE A DONATION TO TABBY'S PLACE

At the 2016 Bucks Quarter Peace Fair, Viviana Helbick-Eyre and Julia Blackmon of Buckingham Meeting raised over one hundred dollars for Tabby's Place. Julia and Vivi, known for their positivity, generosity of spirit and Beautiful Bracelets, donated their proceeds to the New

Jersey cat sanctuary to help keep cats and kittens living in peace.

NEWTOWN FRIENDS MEETING FIRST DAY SCHOOL SIMPLE SUPPER

November 4, 5:30pm, Simple Supper of soups and breads. Proceeds will benefit Shelterbox, which provides emergency shelter and vital supplies to Syrian refugees.

All are welcome.

ELECTION NIGHT MEETING FOR WORSHIP

The following meetings will hold a special meeting for worship on election night. The purpose is to hold our nation in the Light as we transition into what the future holds for us.

Doylestown at 7pm, Solebury at 7pm, Southampton at 7:30pm, Wrightstown at 6pm and Yardley at 7pm.

FEAST, FUN AND SONG

Join Friends on **November 12** for a Quarter-wide family social event of feasting, funning and singing. We will begin at **5:30pm with a pot luck meal followed by singing from 7 to 8:00**. Friends of all ages are welcome.

The possibilities are endless...

Bring your own instrument (or not), recorder, mouth harp, guitar, fiddle, harmonica...your voice is a beautiful instrument too.

Sing (or not).

Socialize

Play with the kids

There are no rules or hefty structure. Just fun.

You are welcome to share in some or all of the fun. Bring your friends, neighbors and a dish to share. The more of everything the merrier we will be!

If you have a copy of "Rise Up Singing" bring it along. The meeting has hymnals.

If we have enough fun to do it again, we will choose when and where on November 12th.

We will gather at the Middletown meetinghouse.

453 W. Maple Ave, Langhorne

Chandler Hall Worship Schedule

November - Newtown

December - Solebury

2017

January - Wrightstown

February - Yardley

March - Buckingham

April - Doylestown

May - Fallsington

June - Middletown

July - Newtown

August - Solebury

September - Wrightstown

October - Yardley

THANKSGIVING MEETING FOR WORSHIP AT PLUMSTEAD MEETING

Plumstead Friends invite you to Worship on **Thanksgiving morning 9:30**. Friends are also invited to bring food or beverage to share for pot luck brunch at the rise of Meeting.

Plumstead is our "greenest" of Meetinghouses (no electricity or fossil fuel dependency form of heat), but a great wood stove they do have! As the Meetinghouse grows warmer, so does the Spirit within. Come enjoy this very special time.

4914 Pt. Pleasant Pike, Doylestown, PA 18902

YARDLEY FRIENDS MEETING TO HOST FREE CONCERT

Yardley Friends Meeting invites you, your friends and family to join them on **Saturday, November 19** for a **free** concert and workshop by Simple Gifts. Enough can't be said about how wonderful an opportunity this is. Learn more and make reservations at yardleyfriendsmeeting.com or simplegiftsmusic.com. Watch and listen to this sampler video <http://www.simplegiftsmusic.com/videos.html>.

Two women plus ten instruments equals one good time when Simple Gifts takes the stage. Drawing on an impressive variety of ethnic folk styles, this award-winning duo plays everything from lively Irish jigs and down-home

American reels to hard-driving Klezmer frailachs and haunting Gypsy melodies, spicing the mix with the distinctive rhythms of Balkan dance music, the lush sounds of Scandinavian twin fiddling, and original compositions written in a traditional style.

The workshop will be at 4:00 to 5:30. Simple Gifts invites you to bring your own instrument if you have one. The concert starts at 7:00 with a reception to follow. All are welcome. Donations will benefit Friends of Lake Afton.

65 N. Main Street Yardley

PYM FALL CONTINUING SESSIONS Saturday November 5 - Westtown School

Continuing Sessions is an extension of the best parts of our residential Annual Sessions packed into a day-long event. We'll begin and end in worship, we'll engage the mission and priorities of our yearly meeting, and we'll have fun as we seek spiritual deepening. Programs for children and youth. Free! (small lunch fee)

8:30 - 9:30 a.m. Check-In, 5 - 6 p.m. Closing Worship

CHANDLER HALL AUXILIARY HOLIDAY SALE

The Chandler Hall Auxiliary will be holding a holiday sale on December 7, 10:30am-4pm in the main building entrance. The Auxiliary is looking for donations for the sale.

Donation drop offs:

Wednesday, November 16th 11:00am - 2:00pm and Thursday, November 17th 2:00pm - 5:00pm.

Drop off location: Lobby Wright Meeting Hall

Needed are New* items to be sold for holiday gift giving, quality handcrafts also for gift giving and also holiday ornaments.

SAY THE WRONG THING: Racial Justice and Authentic Community Using the Strategies of the H.E.A.R.T.

Bucks Quarterly Meeting is pleased to sponsor this very important workshop lead by Dr. Amanda Kemp. We will gather on Saturday Jan 14, 2017, from 10AM to 3:30PM. The location is yet to be determined. **Amanda has recommended that Friends read her short book** (also available as an e-book), Say The Wrong Thing: Stories and Strategies for Racial Justice and Authentic Community available at <http://dramandakemp.com/say-wrong-thing/>

The goals for the day are many; to provide a space for Friends to process the feelings, ideas and openings that have emerged since the PYM Summer Sessions, to build up capacity to stay curious and open and grounded during conversations that promote authentic connection and disagreement, to introduce the 5 strategies as spiritual principles that we get better at with conscious practice, to identify strategies and concrete next steps that each person will take to promote racial justice and authentic community in some area of their lives. **This could include the Pendle Hill Weekend workshop on the Five Strategies on Feb. 24-26, 2017** and to deepen the connection between Friends in a space that STRETCHES and SUPPORTS us.

Say the Wrong Thing

In our increasingly polarized and violent national context, this workshop is a sacred space to practice leaning into self-compassion and stretching beyond our comfort zone. Recognizing that we are all in this together, Amanda offers five spiritual practices that emerged in the course of her work as an artist, mother, educator and racial justice advocate.

The Five Strategies of the H.E.A.R.T. are:

- Hold space for transformation
- Express yourself
- Act with Intention
- Reflect on yourself
- Trust the Process

*This version of the August Quarterly Meeting minutes contains the edited highlights.
The minutes in full detail will be brought to Quarterly Meeting in November at Lehigh Valley Meeting for consideration.*

**Bucks Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes - August 21, 2016 - Held at Doylestown Meetinghouse**

Clerk: Boris Simkovich (Makefield) **Recording Clerk:** David Rose (Lehigh Valley)

Friends gathered at the appointed hour of 1: 00 p.m. and settled into a period of worship.

Roll Call of Meeting: Bristol: 0, Buckingham: 1, Doylestown: 10, Fallsington: 3, Lehigh Valley: 1, Makefield: 2, Middletown: 8, Newtown: 2, Plumstead: 0, Quakertown: 0, Solebury: 1, Southampton: 1, Wrightstown: 3, Yardley: 1

Minutes for May 15, 2016 approved as presented.

Stories of Vitality and Growth.

- **Newtown:** On July 12th and August 4th BLM vigils were held in Newtown to express support for both the police and for black lives.
- **Middletown:** Benches have been moved and rug removed. Car wash fundraiser raised over \$600 for a safe haven parochial elementary school in Camden.
- **Yardley:** A memorial Black Gum Tree was planted honoring Chris Gage.
- **Fallsington:** The Outreach Committee has planned one public event per month. Looking forward to celebrating 333rd anniversary and publicizing the event.
- **Doylestown:** Ongoing peace vigil in downtown Doylestown with a number of other meetings and organizations participating.
- **Buckingham:** An interim head of Buckingham Friends School has been hired.

Annual Report United Friends School: Nancy Donnelly (HOS) shared a story of an event where she was able to teach the skill of peacemaking to fifth grade boys.

Budget and Nomination: There are no nominations to report.

Treasurers Report The 2015-2016 year closed with a positive balance.. Bucks Quarter is the only Quarter which processes the commitments to PYM and while this may create some confusion, it did not appear necessary to take any action.

Annual Report Yardley MM: The Meeting is described as close knit, caring, and robust. Current number of members is 93 adult members and 18 under the age of 18. The annual fall flea market is being transitioned to an arts and crafts and family friendly event called the "Autumn Market".

Policy Regarding Public Statements by Quarter Representatives: Clerk, Boris Simkovich introduced the topic with handout and background. The questions that he posed were:

1. Should representatives of the Quarter issue public statements on certain current events? 2. If such statements were permitted: Who should make them, who should create them, and what type of events should a Quaker response be created for? Timeliness is an issue and keeping it at a lower level, such as a Meeting, could provide a quicker response. We need to remember that people may be looking for a group that responds such as we would and that may be the only way they would become aware of us. The Clerk concluded the discussion by stating it is his sense that the issue requires more seasoning and asked Friends to come to the next Quarterly Meeting with some responses from their Monthly Meetings.

Coordinators Report: Holly Olson reported on her involvement with planning for events and her attendance at events around the Quarter and PYM and on the current positive energy of the Quarter Outreach Committee. In response to her account of her attendance at Annual Sessions and her experience with the way the issue of "Undoing Racism" was brought before the session there was some discussion on whether there should be response from the Quarter or if the Quarter should become involved in finding a way forward. Members of Quarter are encouraged to attend PYM Continuing sessions.

Annual Report Middletown MM given by Clerk Kris Michael. There are 99 members. The car wash fund raiser, raised \$1165. The report included accounts on committees and social events such as the Quaker Women's Social Hour.

Annual Report Solebury MM given by David Smith. Current membership is 109 adult members and 42 minor members. Account of activities included Family Day, annual Pancake Breakfast, the uses of the Educational Fund, and the involvement of a Boy Scout Troop creating signs for the graveyard.

Ad Hoc Working Group on Smaller Meetings in the Quarter: Bethann Morgan reported that the group met with Southampton and Bristol meetings and will continue to meet with Bristol.

Annual Report Southampton MM given by Hans Peters. The meeting is small, usually five of the nine members attending monthly meeting. During the year, members helped with the Peace Fair and participated in the Northampton-Southampton-Wrightstown Ministerium, held a Gun Violence Awareness prayer meeting, and endorsed the Citizens Climate Lobby Carbon Tax proposal. Meeting is sound financially with a variety of income sources, but does not feel it has the energy to look beyond its current concerns.

Bucks Food For Friends (BFFF) presentation introduced by Rich Richardson. A video presentation of the work being done by this group included interviews with volunteers and guests.

Annual Report for Wrightstown MM given by Betsy Bayardi. Current number of members is 212. Betsy highlighted the issue of investment of assets between two types of funds offered by Friends Fidicary. Discussion in meeting broadened and lead to the creation of an Environmental Stewardship working group which is addressing a number of issues at the meeting related to the environment. The written report also included the Spiritual Exploration Group (SEG), nurturing Children and Youth, upgrades to building and ground, and community outreach.

Following announcements, **Meeting closed** with a period of silence worship at 3:20 PM.

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