

## Haddonfield Monthly Meeting Religious Society of Friends

# Newsletter



Meeting for Worship  
10:00 am Sunday  
9:15 am Wednesday

Volume 49 No. 9  
May 2003

### From Worship and Ministry

#### Breaking the Chain of Violence

An old story for children may open up the level of meaning in the cross: An employer gets up one morning and bawls out an employee. The employee is resentful and hurt. When he goes home, he is angry with his wife. The wife, feeling misused, slaps their child who, in turn, kicks the family dog, who chases the cat down the street ... and so the story goes on forever. Anger and violence reach out to ensnare the next one until the whole world is caught in their grip.

This little tale gives an insightful look into the nature of our world. One nation is angry, afraid, or abusive toward its neighbor. In turn the aggrieved nation strikes out at the country next to it. On a personal level, we all know the experience of passing along our hurts, wounds and unsatisfied demands to our children, friends, or even acquaintances, only to have them do the same to us. We are all enmeshed in this chain of hurt and violence. The familial, social, political, and economic structures of our world have all been shaped in some degree by hatred, distrust, bitterness, and self-centeredness. Those fallen structures impinge on our lives, wounding us.

How can this chain reaction be broken? If one person were to accept all the anger and hurt of the chain but not pass it along ... If one person could take upon himself the hurt and anger and still show forth love, the force of the chain would be broken forever. Not only would the domino effect of the hatred be stopped before it could grip others, but those who were already enmeshed might have a chance to be released by the power of such love.

This is exactly what Christ has done. By taking the hate of the world upon himself and responding with love and forgiveness, he has broken the chain of hatred and violence which gripped the world.

If Jesus had responded with coercive economic, political, or religious power to combat the force of evil, he might have been able to contain some of the expressions of hatred and violence temporarily. But in the long run he would only have been increasing the power of the chain to grip new lives. He would have done nothing to release those already caught in its power. Instead he would have found himself caught in its grip as well.

Through Christ's death on the cross, the chain was broken. The kingdom of peace was ushered in. This does not mean that all people are yet released from bondage to their own woundedness or their propensity to inflict wounds. Each one must still respond to Christ's healing love. But the love is given and continues to be poured out. The ultimate power to overwhelm has been taken from the forces of evil.

The chain of hatred and violence does not exert its power only through the fallen structures of the world around us. Insofar as our lives continue to be ruled by our hurts and selfishness, we remain links in this chain. When we accept Christ's healing love and respond to his transforming power, our link in the chain is broken open. We then become reflectors of his love for people whose lives are still bound by their fears, hatreds, and hurts. We become part of Christ's redemptive process.

The peaceable kingdom is the kingdom of God. On a fundamental level this means that we enter the kingdom through God's love (grace) and not through our

own struggling. The kingdom of peace is a gift. We do not build it with our hands, although we are called to be faithful citizens of this kingdom with all our hearts, minds, and strength.

The early Friends discovered this truth about the peaceable kingdom. It was from this insight that their peace witness drew its enormous power.

George Fox enunciated this truth early in his ministry. In 1651, a group of Commonwealth commissioners asked Fox to accept a position as an officer in the militia. In that day many Puritan reformers believed that England could become a holy commonwealth if only the righteous followers of God could maintain control of the armed forces and hence the government. Fox's response was one of the earliest Quaker testimonies about peace:

"I told them I lived in the virtue of that life and power that took away the occasion of all wars and I knew from whence all wars did rise, from the lust according to James' doctrine . . . I told them I was come into the covenant of peace which was before wars and strifes were."

*Sandra Cronk*

**Facing Bench for May**  
Louise and Harold Heritage

**Hospitality for May**  
Peace & Social Concerns Committee

## Upcoming Events

**May 1 — National Day of Prayer.** 12 noon at Kings Court, Haddonfield. In case of rain, the service will be held at the Presbyterian Church on Kings Highway.

**May 2–4 — The Costs of Racial Justice.** Arch Street Meetinghouse. The culmination of Pendle Hill's lecture series. Speakers include Cornell West and Jerry Leaphart (NYYM). Please contact Pendle Hill for more information: 800-742-3150, ext. 142.

**May 3 — Pedals for Progress bicycle collection.** 11 a.m.–2 p.m. in the school parking lot.

**May 3 — Spring Fling.** 12 noon–4 p.m. on the Meetinghouse grounds. Raindate: May 10.

**May 14 & 15 — HFS Book Fair.**

**May 16 — PYM Library used book sale.** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in front of Friends Center, 15th and Cherry Sts.

**May 16 — Friends Transition Support Services Open House.** 4 p.m.–7 p.m. at 417 Cooper St., Camden. RSVP 856-963-7000.

**May 18 — Spring Clean Up.** Bring your rakes and shovels and help the Property Committee spruce up the Meetinghouse grounds. After closing exercises of FDS (11:30 a.m.).

**May 20 — Open Meeting of the Environmental Working Group of PYM.** *Growth Economy and its Future: What is the Moral Assignment for Friends?* 6–9 p.m. Arch Street Meetinghouse. Offering light supper for those who RSVP to Ed at drebymans@igc.org.

**May 22 — Called Session of PYM** to review and act on the 2003–2004 budget. Arch Street Meetinghouse, 6 p.m.

**May 31 — Bruce Adams' Love Concert III** is back on track. It will be at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Everyone is invited for a vocal concert of love songs.

## April Monthly Meeting for Business — April 11, 2003

The Meeting opened with a period of silence; the Clerk read from the 1st Query in *Faith & Practice*, on Meeting for Worship.

Are our meetings for worship held in stilled, expectant waiting upon God?

As we worship is there a living silence in which we are drawn together by the power of God in our midst?

Is the spirit of our worship together one that nurtures all worshippers?

How does our Meeting respond when the vocal ministry seems inappropriate, or when the meeting for worship is consistently not gathered?

*Do I faithfully attend meeting with heart and mind prepared for worship, clear of any predetermination to speak or not to speak, and expecting that worship will be a source of strength and guidance?*

*Does worship deepen my relationship with God, increase my faithfulness, and refresh and renew my daily life, both inwardly and in my relationship with others?*

*Have I experienced in worship that direct leading to listen or to speak, and have I been faithful to my own experience?*

Connie Brookes spoke about the PYM budget crisis. All Monthly Meetings have been asked to increase their contributions. Finance committee will take up the matter and report to the Meeting in May.

Ceil McFadden presented the recommended nominations to committees for next year (see list inserted in newsletter). The list will be held over for approval at May's business meeting.

The meeting approved the school's use of the auditorium on an as-needed basis for classes while the school is undergoing repairs.

Diane Snyder spoke on the name change for Overseers. One name, the Committee for Care of Members and Attenders, was suggested. The meeting approved.

The meeting discussed the need for better communications between Memorial & Graveyard Committee and the Meeting when a death has occurred. The Committee for Care of Members and Attenders will set up a telephone tree for members and attenders.

The peace banner that was approved at March's business meeting has not yet been installed. The matter has been referred to Peace & Social Concerns, who will decide on wording for the banner and arrange for its installation.

Bonnie Smith, caretaker of Mt. Laurel Meeting, has inquired about purchasing sections of iron fencing from the Meeting. It was referred to Property Committee.

Friends Fiduciary Corporation will be presenting a planned-giving seminar. The meeting approved the use of the Meetinghouse for this purpose.

The meeting ended with a brief period of silence.

### **Urgent Request from Peace Tax Fund**

The National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund needs donations to maintain its effort on Capital Hill to achieve accommodation for pacifist taxpayers. Support in prayers and Meeting minutes is broad, but dollars are necessary, too! Send to NCPTF (for tax deduction to Peace Tax Foundation), 2121 Decatur Place NW, Washington, DC 20008.

## **FIRST DAY SCHOOL**

*"It Takes a Meeting to Raise a Friend."  
"Ye have no time but this present time." G. Fox*

### **Renewing the Covenant of Peace**

*"I told them I lived in the virtue of that life and power that took away the occasion of wars... I was come into the covenant of peace which was before wars and strife were." G. Fox*

These words of Fox surrounded and filled me throughout the FWCC special called conference on Friends Peace Witness, held at Guilford College, January 17-20 2003. And these words continue to nourish as I've returned to the work of lobbying, organizing and witnessing with Friends in the midst of the sometimes deafening war drums....

In my mind the conference achieved much greater works. It brought Friends together across our diverse traditions in a spirit of kinship, worship and collective seeking. It created a space where experiences, queries, concerns and insights could be shared across generations on the challenge of living our peace testimony. It helped melt some of the false barriers between peace activist and spiritual seekers that we have created in many of our minds and Meetings. And it prodded Friends to gather as a Society and examine together who we are as a religious people and what God's call is for us in this moment of history.

A central message I discovered in the FWCC conference is that none of us individually hold the answers. Rather, we must seek them with God as a gathered community. Many of us at Guilford found ourselves engaged in what we sensed to be a sacred effort... of renewing our commitment to the covenant of peace.

Our covenant of peace with God, not to any epistle or historic document proclaiming the Quaker peace testimony, will be our source of strength and truth in living the peace testimony in a time of crisis. For it is this covenant which binds Friends in the struggle to live in the Kingdom of God on earth, no matter how violent, how unjust, or fear-filled the world around us may be. The FWCC conference was a beginning not a culmination. In this historic moment dominated by war and fear, Friends are feeling ourselves called back to a community into "that life and power that took away the occasion of all wars." And we are beginning to heed that call.

*Bridget Moix —New York YM*

## Adult Classes for May

**May 4** — A discussion of “The Quaker Discovery”, an essay from *The Eternal Promise* by Thomas Kelly.

**May 11** — Bible study. Part three of a three-part study of Abraham and the “Binding of Isaac” will be led by Keith Wallace. Keith will present historical and theological perspectives from Judaism as well as early Christian thought. Please bring your Bibles. Participants will be encouraged to read portions of the text and share their ideas.

**May 18** — Closing ceremonies for First Day School. Each year we honor the children and teachers who have taken part in FDS through the year. Children who are completing sixth grade receive a Bible, and those completing eighth grade receive a copy of *Faith & Practice*. Teachers receive a certificate and flowers. Please remain in the Meetinghouse at the rise of Meeting.

## Minute of Concern

*The following minute was approved March 29, 2003, at the 323rd Annual Sessions of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends*

As members of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, we are appalled and deeply saddened by the United States government’s implementation of a doctrine of pre-emptive war with its attack on Iraq. William Penn reminds us that: “a good end cannot sanctify evil means; nor must we do evil, that good may come of it.” At the same time, we have been heartened by the formation of a global peace movement that opposes this war and supports the United Nations as the keystone of an international system of law and diplomacy.

The Quaker peace testimony is an expression of our religious experience, which grounds our belief that war is contrary to the Spirit of God and the teachings of Jesus, and which encourages us to live “in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all wars.”

Accordingly, we recommit ourselves today to work with people of faith and good will to end the war against Iraq, to help alleviate the suffering it is causing, and to do whatever can be done to build a culture of peace. More specifically, we shall seek, through our Monthly Meetings as well as individually, to do actions including the following:

1. Strengthen the faith communities to which we belong and which nurture our peace work.
2. Support the humanitarian assistance to Iraq being undertaken by the American Friends Service Committee. (AFSC, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia PA 19102, [afscinfo@afsc.org](mailto:afscinfo@afsc.org))
3. Support the efforts of the Friends Committee on National Legislation to persuade the Administration and Congress to respect the rule of international law and to abandon the policy of pre-emptive war. (FCNL, 245 Second Street SE, Washington DC 20002, [fcnl@fcnl.org](mailto:fcnl@fcnl.org))
4. Support the Quaker United Nations Office in its quiet diplomacy. (QUNO, 777 United Nations Plaza, New York NY 10017, [qunony@afsc.org](mailto:qunony@afsc.org))
5. Address conditions — such as poverty, injustice, environmental degradation, ignorance, powerlessness, and oppression — that lead to war, including our own actions and attitudes that contribute to those conditions. (For example, implement the Minute of Concern for Energy Stewardship in Meeting Facilities and Households, which was approved by Interim Meeting in January 2003.)
6. Pray, vigil and witness for peace and reconciliation in concert with people of faith and good will, and engage in appropriate forms of political action laboring with our elected officials.
7. Seek our own leadings on how each of us can live into the spirit of this minute.

*Arlene Kelly, Clerk*

## Discussing Christianity in Quakerism

*Submitted by Gary Smith*

Some Friends at Haddonfield Meeting have pondered what role, if any, traditional Christianity should have in Quakerism, a topic which has been a cause of controversy in the RSoF since the time of Elias Hicks.

In response to a question on this subject by a new attender to Friends Meeting, Marshall Massey, a Colorado Friend, recently wrote the following:

To begin with, I think (one) should be careful about not confusing Jesus Christ with Christianity. Christianity is something that grew up after Christ died, and much of what Christianity has been, down through the centuries, has been very different from the way Christ himself lived and taught and practiced.

Quakerism began in large part as an effort to strip away the layers of belief and practice that had grown up in the Christian church after Christ's death, and get back to what Christ himself was saying and doing and teaching.

Thus, (if you are) trying to understand Quakerism for the first time, I'd leave Christianity alone for the time being, and concentrate more on grappling with the message and practice of Christ, and to a lesser extent, of the apostles and prophets whose lives are recorded in the Bible. The Gospels — Matthew, Mark, Luke and John — are the very best place to start, and if I were you I'd take my time with them, bearing in mind that I was reading about a world and a way of thinking that is separated by two thousand years from my own, and that therefore is easy for a stranger like me to misconstrue.

I'd be careful of believing what any single person in my own world might tell me about what such-and-such passage in the Gospels means, bearing in mind that they might be misunderstanding, too.

To get the Quaker perspective on what the Gospels mean, it helps to be reading one or more of the classic Quaker texts at the same time — the *Journal* of George Fox, the works of Isaac Pennington, Robert Barclay's *Apology*, the *Journal* of John Woolman, etc.

For Friends, historically speaking, God is encountered in the place of conscience, as the voice or urge inside us that teaches us what is good and right and loving and constructive, and that pushes us to do such good things — and that makes us feel the wrongness of doing the opposite. This approach to God is not incompatible with other ways of approaching God, by any means, but it has its own unique value. For one thing, you're already doing it — you already listen to that indicator of what's right and what's wrong, what's good and what's bad; and moreover, you already intuitively trust it — even if you've never given it much thought. So you don't have to worry about committing to this way of finding God; you're actually already embarked on it, and quite happily embarked — virtually everybody is.

Quakerism simply means recognizing what you are doing when you obey this urge or instinct — you're not just doing what's right, you're listening to God and being guided by God — and so, doing it consciously and clear-headedly and reverently, and moreover, doing it with the support of a whole loving community engaged in this

same practice. And for a further thing, learning to focus on that inward Guide and listen to it more carefully does not mess up your consciousness, as I know from personal experience that some other forms of mystical practice can do; it simply helps you live your life in a way you can feel good about deep down inside yourself.

*With all good wishes,  
Marshall Massey*

## **For Young People 18-35 — Attend the FWCC World Conference in New Zealand, January 2004**

A major result of the FWCC (Friends World Committee for Consultation), Section of Americas Peace Conference at Guilford College in January was to demonstrate dramatically the value of our youth! Friends of older generations were impressed with your commitment, energy, enthusiasm, deep sense of religious-based involvement in the issues of peace, and development of community around the world.

The FWCC is opening places for young Friends to attend the world conference to be held in New Zealand in January, 2004.

Don't let the cost of such a trip be the first consideration. If you are willing, and able to get away during the middle of January, and you are open to whatever leading might develop during that conference, let your Monthly Meeting know, and ask them to forward your name (and supporting statement(s)) to Phil Gilbert, and (if possible) to a representative of the YM Nominating Committee.

Note the other opportunities which present themselves these days: Quaker Pilgrimage to England in the Summer, YouthQuake, China Summer Workcamp, Pendle Hill Internships.

There are programs to help you prepare for these leadings. We need you, so let us know that you are hearing the call. Do not be shy. Decisions about selections will have to be made by the end of May.

For more information, contact Phil Gilbert, clerk of the Phila. Yearly Meeting representatives to Friends World Committee for Consultation, PLGilbert@aol.com.

## **Tool Donations Needed**

Friends Transition Support Services is looking for donations of new or gently used tools. Some of their clients have trade skills, but no tools with which to work. If you can help, please contact Priscilla Adams.

## **FGC Gathering**

There is still time to register for the Friends General Conference 2003 Gathering of Friends, to be held June 28 –July 5 at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown (PA). This year's theme is *Coming to Peace*. There will be worship, fellowship, workshops and activities for all ages. For more information, contact FGC at 215-561-1700 or [www.fgcquaker.org](http://www.fgcquaker.org).

## **Peace and Justice Think Tank for Young Quaker Activists — August 8-16, 2003**

The Peace and Justice Think Tank is for young Quakers (high school and college age) who are already involved in peace and justice activities and would like to learn more about changing the world. Participants will be encouraged to ask questions, raise issues and share ideas. The Think Tank will be held in Philadelphia and is limited to 12 participants. Think Tank Cost: \$175  
Applications due: May 15th

For more information on these events or for application forms, please contact the Friends Workcamp program, 1515 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102, 215-241-7236, [workcamps@pym.org](mailto:workcamps@pym.org), or visit us on the web at [www.pym.org/workcamps](http://www.pym.org/workcamps).

## **A Letter to the Editor**

The primary reason to not resolve tensions by war is of course devastating human and environmental carnage. But there exist many compelling secondary reasons. Fear in children's eyes. Drinking to numb ourselves. Domestic violence. Inattentive and hostile driving. Drowning by ingestion of sugar and fat. Flashbacks of other wars suffered by veterans and refugees. Good judgement impaired by despair. Close relationships strained by our sense of helplessness. We become parsimonious; we feel we have nothing extra to share. The absence of laughter. Glorious Spring evolves unnoticed. We lose our greatest gift besides life itself, our love of life.

*Judy Kruger*

# May 2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> noon-4 pm HFS Spring Fling 11 am-2 pm Pedals for Progress Bicycle Collection
<b>4</b> 10 am Meeting for Worship 11:20 FDS	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9:15 am All-school Meeting for Worship 7 pm School Committee	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting for Business	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 9 am P&SC Com 10 am Mtg for Worship 11:20 FDS MOTHER'S DAY	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:30 pm Committee for Care of Members and Attenders	<b>14</b> 9:15 am School Meeting for Worship	<b>15</b> HFS Book Fair 7:30 pm Worship & Ministry	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 11 am Ward Hinds Memorial Service
<b>18</b> 10-10:45 am Mtg for Worship 11:00 Closing exercises for FDS Meeting cleanup 12:15 covered dish	<b>19</b> ← <b>Newsletter deadline</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:15 am School Meeting for Worship 7:30 pm Property Com.	<b>22</b> 6 pm Called Session on PYM budget. Arch Street Meetinghouse	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 10 am Meeting for Worship	<b>26</b> MEMORIAL DAY	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9:15 am School Meeting for Worship	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

## Haddonfield Monthly Meeting Committee List— New Terms Begin 5/03

Clerk — Bob Brookes  
Recording Clerk — Peter Ivory  
Correspondence Clerk — Connie Brookes  
Treasurer — Karin Sannwald  
Assistant Treasurer — Lisa Boyell  
Recorder — Johanna DeRose  
Newsletter Editor — Jayne Stokes

Alternate Clerk — Bill Morad  
Alternate Recording Clerk — Joanne Heizer  
Council of Churches — Scott Buchheit  
Meeting Calendar — Scott Buchheit  
Public Relations — Ty Drago  
Rep. to Interim Meeting — George Harrison  
Alt. Rep. to Interim Meeting — Flora McKinney

### Children's Inclusion Committee

2004	2005	2006
Joanne Heizer	Louise Senopoulos*(2)	John Donch
June Hodges	Diane Werner	Pam Moench(2)
		Lisa Whittington

### Finance Committee — Ex Officio: Karin Sannwald, Lisa Boyell

2004	2005	2006
George Fisher	Gary Shivers	Connie Brookes
Wayne Smoot(2)	Anna Mae Sutterly	Stuart Hodges
		Pam Perry*

### Friendship Committee

2004	2005	2006
Harold Katz(2)	June Hodges	Therese Barringer
Pam Moench(2)	Maria Shivers	Mary Berger
Fran O'Neill	Debbie Whiting	Anna Mae Sutterly
	Lisa Whittington	Diane Werner

### Insurance Committee — Created in December, 2002; No set terms

Bob Brookes (Ex-Officio)	Stuart Harris	Steve Senopoulos
Gary Shivers	Bob Turrin	

### Library Committee

2004	2005	2006
Irene Bassow	Leila Barclay	Kathy Donch
Hiltrud Dodge	Mary Berger	Sal Scafidi(2)
		Jayne Stokes
		S. E. Watson(2)

### Memorial Service & Graveyard Committee

2004	2005	2006
Art Dodge	Ruth Podolin	Flora McKinney
Dan Kurtzman	Ann Pugh	Howard McKinney
Lyle Tatum	Carolyn Smith	Deedy Roberts
		S. E. Watson

\*Denotes Clerk. If no \*, such committee itself chooses own Clerk and informs Meeting thereof.

(2) after name indicates second term.

**Committee for Care of Members and Attenders (formerly Overseers)**

2004	2005	2006
Judy Owens(2)	Bob DeRose	Mary Noland
Diane Snyder*	Bonnie Drago	Marion Rannels
	Ruth Podolin	Hiltrud Dodge
	Lyle Tatum(2)	Marietta Donovan

**Peace and Social Concerns**

2004	2005	2006
Julianne Baird	Flo Tatum	Priscilla Adams
Therese Barringer	Takashi Mizuno	Tracy Carpenter
Justin Loughry*	Gary Smith	Colleen Gangemi
Ann Miller*	Linda Wharton	David Smith
Kitty Mizuno		Jayne Stokes

**Property Committee** — Ex Officio: Joe Dempsey

2004	2005	2006
Stuart Harris	Janet Pilvalis	Pam Anderson(2)*
Kevin Heizer	John Sheffield(2)	Harold Heritage(2)
	Wayne Smoot	Stuart Hodges
	Bob Turrin(2)*	Lou Tomasetti(2)

**Religious Education**

2004	2005	2006
Helene Drago	Leila Barclay(2)	Marietta Donovan
Ty Drago	Jake McLaughlin	Ann Pugh
George Harrison		

**School Committee**

2004	2005	2006
Ranan Banerji	Ann Miller	Therese Barringer
Cynthia Kolaski(2)	Louise Senopoulos	Steve Berryhill
Sal Scafidi	Lyle Tatum	Francie Pagell
Steve Senopoulos	Harley Williams(2)	Dan Tompkins
		Chris Werner
		Pat Williams*

**Worship & Ministry**

2004	2005	2006
David Marshall	Blake Angus-Anderson	Bob DeRose(2)
Deedy Roberts(2)*	John Heizer(2)	Johanna DeRose(2)
Keith Wallace	Harold Heritage(2)	Louise Heritage(2)
		Shayna Riddle

**Selected by Committee for Care of Members and Attenders:****Newsletter staff**

Jayne Stokes (Editor)	Harold Heritage
Louise Heritage	Lynda Yamamoto

**Nominating Committee**

2004	2005	2006
Bill Patterson	Louise Heritage	Lisa Boyell
Susan Tucker(2)	Ruth Podolin	Ceil McFadden*

\*Denotes Clerk. If no \*, such committee itself chooses own Clerk and informs Meeting thereof.

(2) after name indicates second term.