



Haddonfield Monthly Meeting Religious Society of Friends

Newsletter

Meeting for Worship
10:00 a.m. Sunday
9:15 a.m. Wednesday

Volume 51 No. 3
November 2004

From Worship and Ministry

The Meeting for Worship

Friends find it useful to come to meeting with hearts and minds prepared for worship by daily prayer, meditation, and study, especially of the Bible and of the experience of others. We deepen thereby our awareness of the wonder of God and of God's love, and acquire the words with which to understand and to express that awareness. Many also find help through thoughtful reflection and listening to the Inward Teacher in the course of daily life and service.

As Friends arrive for meeting, such preparation helps us set aside our preoccupation with ourselves and our affairs and so settle into worship in a manner described by Alexander Parker in 1660:

The first that enters into the place of your meeting ... turn in thy mind to the light, and wait upon God singly, as if none were present but the Lord; and here thou art strong. Then the next that comes in, let them in simplicity of heart sit down and turn in to the same light, and wait in the spirit; and so all the rest coming in, in the fear of the Lord, sit down in pure stillness and silence of all flesh, and wait in the light. Those who are brought to a pure still waiting upon God in the Spirit are come nearer to the Lord than words are; for God is spirit and in the spirit he is worshiped.

Worship in meeting may thus begin with stilling the mind and body, letting go of tensions and everyday worries, feeling the encompassing presence of others, and opening oneself to the Spirit. It may include meditation, reflection on a remembered passage from the Bible or other devotional literature, silent prayer,

thanksgiving, praise of God, consideration of one's actions, remorse, request for forgiveness, or search for direction. Even in times of spiritual emptiness, Friends find it useful to be present in worship.

Worshiping together strengthens the members of the worshiping community and deepens the act of worship itself. Such communal worship is like a living organism whose individual but interdependent members are essential to one another and to the life of the greater whole. It is like the luminous unity and individual fulfillment that arise when musicians, responding to the music before them, offer up their separate gifts in concert. Friends sometimes use Paul's image and speak of the meeting for worship as a body whose head is Christ (I Cor. 12:27). The gifts and participation of each member are important in maintaining and enriching the spiritual life of the meeting for worship.

There is a renewal of spirit when we turn away from worldly matters to rediscover inward serenity. Friends know from experience the validity of Jesus' promise that "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). Often we realize our hopes for a heightened sense of the presence of God through the cumulative power of group worship, communicated in silent as well as vocal ministry.

When we experience such a profound and evident sense of oneness with God and with one another, we speak of a "gathered" or "covered" meeting for worship.

Faith & Practice, pp. 18-19

Coffee and Covered Dish for November
Finance Committee

Upcoming Events

November 6 — Annual Public Gathering of the American Friends Service Committee.
1:30–4:30 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Chris Hedges, veteran war correspondent for *The New York Times*. Friends Center, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia. Free and open to the public. See www.afsc.org for full program information.

November 6 — Retirement and Estate Planning Seminar. 10 a.m.–12 noon, Arch Street Meeting House. “Lifetime Planning for Retirement and Beyond” is the topic of this interactive workshop led by Gwynedd Meeting members Sam Swansen and Russell Bishop, Jr. RSVP by November 2 by calling 215-241-7271 or by e-mail elizabeth@pym.org.

November 12 — PYM Library Book Sale.
10 a.m.–4 p.m. at Friends Center.

November 13 and 14 — David Morse, a Quaker, writer, educator and activist will lead a workshop and speak at Medford Meeting. Among his publications are the novel, *Iron Bridge* and the pamphlet, “Testimony: John Woolman on Today’s Global Economy.”

Workshop: “Spiritual vs. Political Expression in Meeting & in Quakerism,” Saturday, November 13 from 7–9 p.m.
Talk: “A Quaker’s Response to Globalization,” Sunday, November 14, at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch.

November 13 — Speaker on George Fox’s Journal.
Friends Historical Association invites you to its Annual Meeting beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the Fourth and Arch Street Meeting House in Philadelphia. There will be a reception, lunch and speaker. Professor Nigel Smith of Princeton University will speak on “Border Crossing: George Fox’s Journal and the Domain of Travel.” All are welcome. Cost for lunch is \$12; reservations required by November 5.

November 14 — Singing City Choir Concert.
4 p.m. Trinity Presbyterian Church, 499 Rte. 70 East, Cherry Hill.

November 21 — Fall Clean-Up. Help Property Committee clean up around the Meetinghouse and graveyard at rise of Meeting. Please bring rakes and gloves, if you can. Rain date: Nov. 28.

October Monthly Meeting for Business — October 10, 2004

The Meeting for Business began with a period of worship. The clerk read Query Number 10 on Stewardship of the Environment from *Faith & Practice*.

For Finance Committee, Connie Brookes asked that the Monthly Meeting approve adding Stuart Hodges to the list of signers for our safety deposit box. Connie also took the opportunity to take inventory of the safety deposit box. Since there were several documents of historic value there, Friends suggested that we investigate preservation procedures. The Clerk asked Property committee to contact the Friends Library.

Hiltrud Dodge reported that she (and other Friends) have been pursuing Howard McKinney’s idea of celebrating the Meetinghouse renovation by planning a Haddonfield Monthly Meeting community dinner. She has found volunteers to prepare food. There was some discussion as to just how to proceed. Friends approved moving forward. A tentative date was set for sometime in February.

Diane and the Clerk reported on their attendance on October 9 at a workshop entitled “Ensuring Safe Meeting Communities” hosted by PYM and the Friends Insurance Group. The focus was prevention of sexual molestation of children. Our insurer has extended the time for compliance with its sexual molestation risk management requirements for one year, until December 31, 2005. These consist mainly of the adoption of a set of policies and procedures, which Care Committee has nearly completed and will present to Monthly Meeting in the near future. Children’s Inclusion, School and Religious Education Committees will also be involved.

The Clerk raised a concern about the Meeting’s general property insurance coverage. During the next month, Connie Brookes and June Hodges will independently read the policy and present their insights at the November Meeting for Business.

For the Education Fund Committee, Steve Berryhill reported that the committee ...

- will be asking for a grant from the Tyson Memorial Fund;
- will be asking individual members to contribute to the fund;
- is planning a fund-raising dinner to raise money to defray the cost to the Meeting of sending Meeting children to HFS;

- is working on plans for other activities to be held throughout the year.

The Clerk reported on the Called Meeting for Business, held on September 19, on the topic of financial stewardship in light of the financial stress being experienced by both Monthly Meeting and HFS. The Called Meeting was attended by approximately 50 Friends, who were in unity on many aspects of how Haddonfield Monthly Meeting should bear witness to its faith through financial stewardship. Friends shared many positive and creative ideas for renewal and rebuilding our capabilities to support community building, outreach, service projects, participation in the life of Quarterly and Yearly Meetings and stewardship of our school. Friends were in unity that we, as a community, should be more open in discussing money matters and our responsibility to financially support the Monthly Meeting. Friends approved that the clerk will reassemble the ad hoc support group that planned the meeting and contact various committees about their roles in moving the community toward discussing the ideas and implementing the sense of the Called Meeting.

The meeting closed with a period of worship.

Religious Education

The theme for the fall FDS program concerns listening for and learning to discern feminine voices in scripture and Quaker literature. To start the FDS program this fall, Tony Prete has offered a guided tour of selections from the Old Testament. This program helped us become acquainted with the Hebrew words rahum, hannun, hesed, emet and erek appayim, referring to concepts of compassion, graciousness, steadfast love, faithfulness and patience in time of trouble.

In November, Adult First Day School will feature two presentations on the writing and lives of early Quaker women. The presenter will be Michele Tarter, a Meeting member and professor at The College of New Jersey who has done research on the writings of early Quakers on both sides of the Atlantic. Michele gave a presentation in the spring of 2004 that was very favorably received; there were numerous requests for more from her. We are pleased that Michele can return to offer us two new sessions on topics of interest that are apt to the fall theme.

Nov. 7 — Quaker Women, Michele Tarter
 Nov. 14 — Meeting for Business
 Nov. 21 — Quaker Women, Michele Tarter
 Nov. 28 — On Gratitude

For the Children's First Day School, the students have been learning about scripture and exploring bible stories and themes. Our wonderful First Day School teachers have volunteered to conduct classes through the first of the new year.

There are a number of Meeting members and attenders who are training to become First Day School teachers. The Religious Education Committee will be accepting applications for teaching winter term First Day School beginning in November. Training will be offered to all volunteers. Please consider this as an excellent opportunity to be of service while working with our wonderful children.

We are pleased and excited to have Rob McDevitt as the lead person for our new program for recruiting and training high school-age First Day School teachers. Rob is in training and will be reporting his progress soon. Watch this space.

Quarterly Peace & Social Concerns Committee

Over the last year the Haddonfield Quarter Peace & Social Concerns Committee has been discussing and redefining its role. The committee sees its main role as oversight and support for staff and sharing information and support for Monthly Meeting projects, rather than a focus on initiating additional group projects. A positive outcome of this is that our committee complements rather than competes for energy with Meeting Peace & Social Concerns Committees.

At the suggestion of a Friend in the Quarter, the committee is looking at draft issues. If there is sufficient interest we will set up draft counselor training. A draft counselor helps an individual determine their beliefs toward the military and plan appropriate actions if they decide that they are a conscientious objector. The training may be several sessions and if the draft is re-instated this could be an ongoing commitment.

PYM Budget Meeting November 13

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's annual Meeting for Worship and Financial Stewardship will be held at the Fourth and Arch Street Meeting House on Saturday morning, November 13. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. Come for coffee, donuts, and fellowship at 8:30 a.m.

At this meeting, we will hear the reports of the Monthly Meeting Covenants with PYM for the 2005-2006 budget year. Do we have a balanced budget yet? What work is still to be done before the final draft of the budget can be sent to Monthly Meetings prior to presentation for adoption at Yearly Meeting in March 2005?

You don't have to be a "finance-minded" Friend to be an important part of this gathering. Stewardship is more than just a budget. Be part of a major opportunity to discuss stewardship issues.

Conference for Middle East Understanding

"Egypt: Window on the Middle East" is the title of the program being sponsored by the Haddonfield Council of Churches on Saturday, November 13th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Haddonfield Presbyterian Church. It offers participants an encounter with the Arab Christian perspective in Egypt. Presented by Hands Along the Nile, the program includes a keynote address and a choice of workshops, as well as lunch. While pre-registration is not required, it is helpful. Call Bill Gettman at the Presbyterian Church at 856-429-1960, or Ruth Podolin at 856-795-0375 to pre-register. More information on the program is posted on the Meeting Bulletin Board.

Special Meeting to Consider Planning Residential Yearly Meeting

All Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Friends are invited to join in the consideration and planning of residential yearly meeting. Remember business sessions under the big white tent? Remember the enriching presence of many children and families? Remember the sense of community from sharing rooms and meals, and wide open spaces? If you want PYM to create this experience again, please join us!

Everyone interested in encouraging the rejuvenation of Residential Yearly Meeting should try to attend a special meeting to be held in November on a date to be determined. Please let Connie Blood know you

are interested by calling 215-241-7211 or e-mailing connieb@pym.org.

CROPWALK Report

The Meeting raised a total of \$379.00 for the 2004 CROPWALK in Haddonfield on October 24th!!!

Thanks to all who supported the walk.

The Perry-Buchheits

The Willoughby's 90th Birthday Party

Lillian and George Willoughby of Central Philadelphia Meeting have personally touched the lives of thousands of activists. They've co-founded dozens of organizations and campaigns. They've led a cheerful and committed life of action.

Long before Greenpeace, before Vietnam-era draft resistance, before mass resistance to U.S. military domination of Latin America, the Willoughbys were out in front using nonviolent action to cast a light on injustice. And before training became a household word among activists, the Willoughbys were facilitating nonviolent training workshops in the United States and abroad.

As co-founders and ongoing advisers to Training for Change, the Willoughbys have agreed to a 90th birthday party/fundraiser in honor of their many years of committed social change work. Come celebrate with George and Lillian's many friends from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, November 21, at Friends Center, 15th and Cherry Streets, Philadelphia. Hear and share stories of their rich lives! For more information, contact Training for Change at 215-241-7035 or visit www.TrainingForChange.org.

**To support Haddonfield Friends School,
please consider purchasing gift wrap from
Innisbrook at**

**WWW.INNISBROOK.COM
Our school number is 115016.
HFS makes 50% profit!**

Middle East Update

Submitted by Leila Barclay

‘Operation Days of Penitence’

Gaza, September 28, 2004–present

Howard McKinney has talked in Meeting about his experience in Gaza in 1949. At that time humanitarian organizations such as AFSC, with whom Howard was working, were helping Palestinians cope with life as refugees in camps. The hope was for a short stay in those circumstances.

It has been 54 years since Palestinians were internally displaced in Gaza and living as a stateless people. There are 1.4 million Palestinians living in Gaza, an area about twice the size of Washington, DC. Today, a security fence surrounds all of Gaza and a naval blockade keeps all but a few fishing boats out of the Mediterranean waters to the west. There are two ways out: Erez Terminal for workers with permits to work in Israel, and Rafah Terminal into Egypt in the south.

Since the beginning of 2004, the Israeli military has tightened movement restrictions on the civilian population, greatly limiting work options. The more severe the restrictions, the more peoples’ coping mechanisms are stretched.

In early September, three residents of Sderot, a town in Israel close to the border with Gaza, were killed by a homemade Qassam rocket fired by militants from Gaza. In response, the Israeli military launched ‘Operation Days of Penitence’.

Demolitions and Homelessness

In September 2004 alone, 133 homes were demolished leaving 807 people homeless. Of this total, 49 homes were demolished in Khan Younis on 25 September. In Rafah, southern Gaza, the rate of home demolitions increased from 15 homes/month in 2002, to 77 homes/month in the first nine months of 2004.

Land Levelling

Over 50% of Beit Hanoun’s agricultural land, mainly comprising citrus fruits and olives, has been destroyed in the last four years. In July 2004, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) cleared 289 hectares of land in the Beit Hanoun area during a military operation called ‘Operation Forward Shield’.

Throughout Gaza, land leveling increased this year. IDF land leveling has increased food insecurity in Gaza.

Restriction on Movement

Since 17 April and to the present, Israel has severely restricted passage through Rafah Terminal for all Palestinian males aged 16 to 35, including students and those seeking hospital treatment abroad.

Between 18 July and 6 August, Rafah Terminal was closed in both directions to all Palestinians. More than 3,000 Palestinians were stranded on the Egyptian side of the terminal, without adequate food and sanitary facilities.

Movement within Gaza: Internal Closures

The IDF periodically cut Gaza into three segments. In exceptional cases, the IDF cut Gaza into four, as occurred in May 2004 during the IDF military incursion in Rafah, called ‘Operation Rainbow.’

The communities are then closed off. One example is the town of Siafa (pop est. 190): Since 22 April, the IDF have only allowed 3–4 residents with Siafa IDs and prior notification to enter and exit the community on foot. The official IDF opening hours are 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. and 2 to 4:30 p.m., however these are arbitrarily enforced. Between 15 and 20 September, Siafa’s 24 school pupils were allowed to leave at 6:45 a.m. but were not permitted to re-enter before 5 p.m. (from: United Nations OCHA report, October 1, 2004)

After three FDS sessions focusing on the Old Testament, I’m learning to find words of hope:

Mic 4:3 — And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Mic 4:4 — But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken.

Help Workcamps in a Focused Way

PYM’s Workcamp Working Group has come up with a brilliant new plan to involve people who love the program and to help nurture its work. The Workcamp sub-committee model allows you to volunteer for aspects of the program which you are most interested in. Each sub-committee has different tasks and time commitments. The sub-committees range from outreach to monthly meetings and alumni development to house maintenance and work project leadership.

In order to make the Friends Workcamp program even more successful, we need volunteers to help energize, inspire and deepen the program. Please contact Friends Workcamp Coordinator Arin Ahlum Hanson for more information on how to get involved. Call 215-241-7236 or email arinh@pym.org.

PYM Needs Social Workers for Elderly

Friends who are licensed social workers are, from time to time, contracted by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting to make home visits with elderly Friends. If you are such a social worker, and would be open to such work, please send your vita to Phil Mullen, PYM, 1515 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102 or email philm@pym.org.

Kennett Meeting Quaker Fair

Kennett Meeting will hold its Quaker Fair on Saturday, November 20, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Meetinghouse, West Sickle Street, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. Come and mingle, browse and buy. Secondhand books will be for sale in the library. Handmade gifts, knitted items and plants will be in the meeting room. Also, country kitchen baked goods, grandma's attic treasures, children's activities and pony rides. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Gift Sale at Woodstown Meeting

Invest in the world. Shop fair trade for your holiday gifts. Discover unique home decor, musical instruments and jewelry at Woodstown Meeting's gift sale at 104 North Main Street on Route 45 South in Woodstown, New Jersey.

Friends are partnering with Ten Thousand Villages, a nonprofit fair trade program of the Mennonite Central Committee, to help skilled artisans in 32 countries receive a fair price for their products. The proceeds from this sale provide artisans who would otherwise be underemployed or unemployed with income for food, shelter, health care and education.

Sale hours are Thursday, December 2 from 6-9 p.m.; Friday, December 3 from noon-10 p.m. (during the Woodstown by Candlelight Historical Tour); Saturday, December 4 from 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Sunday, December 5 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

November 2004



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 9:15 am All-school Meeting for Worship 7 pm School Committee	4	5	6
7 10 am Meeting for Worship 11:20 FDS	8	9 7:30 pm Care Committee	10 9:15 am Meeting for Worship	11	12	13
14 9 am Peace & Social Concerns 10 am Meeting for Worship 11 am Monthly Meeting for Business	15	16	17 9:15 am Meeting for Worship 7:30 pm Property Committee	18 7:30 pm Worship & Ministry	19	20
21 Newsletter deadline 10 am Mtg for Worship 11 am FDS, clean up Covered Dish	22	23	24 9:15 am Meeting for Worship	25 10 am Meeting for Worship THANKSGIVING	26	27
28 10 am Meeting for Worship 11:20 FDS	29	30				