



Haddonfield Monthly Meeting Religious Society of Friends

Newsletter

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

Volume 51 No. 2
October 2004

From Worship and Ministry

Worship and the Meeting for Worship

The meeting for worship is the heart of the Religious Society of Friends. It draws us together in the enlightening and empowering presence of God, sending us forth with renewed vision and commitment.

Worship

Our word “worship” has its roots in the concept of “worth-ship.” Worship is our response to what we feel to be of ultimate importance. Our expression of that feeling of ultimate worthship may take many forms. Worship is always possible, alone or in company, in silence, in music or speech, in stillness or in dance. It is never confined to place or time or form.

When Friends worship, we reach out from the depths of our being to God, the giver of life and of the world around us. Our worship is the search for communion with God and the offering of ourselves — body and soul — for the doing of God’s will. The sense of worship can be experienced in the awe we feel in the silence of a meeting for worship or in the awareness of our profound connectedness to nature and its power. In worship we know repentance and forgiveness in the acknowledgement of God as the ultimate source of our being, and the serenity of accepting God’s will.

In worship we discover direction for our lives and the uses of our resources. Leadings are often made clearer by reference to the life and teachings of Jesus and by the transforming power of the Inner Light. From worship there comes a fresh understanding of the two great commandments: to love “your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your

strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” (*Luke 10:27*)

Careful listening to the Inward Teacher can lead to fresh openings: an inpouring of love, insight, and interdependence. True listening can also bring the worshiper to new and sometimes troubling perceptions, including clear leadings that may be a source of pain and anxiety; yet it can also bring such wholeness of heart that hard tasks can become a source of joy. Even when we worship torn with our own pain or that of another, it is in worship that we discover new strength for what faces us in our everyday lives.

Each experience of worship is different. There is no right way to prepare for spiritual communion, no set practice to follow when worship grows from expectant waiting in the Spirit. Vital worship depends far more on a deeply felt longing for God than upon any particular practice. “Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.” (*Matthew 7:7*)

Coffee and Covered Dish for October

Care Committee. *Please note that due to our hosting of Quarterly Meeting, covered dish will be on October 24. Please bring extra food to serve our guests.*

Upcoming Events

October 2 — Peace Fair. 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Buckingham Friends Meeting, Lahaska, PA. Fun and activities for everyone. Proceeds benefit A Woman’s Place, a domestic violence shelter in Bucks County. For more information and directions, visit www.quakerpeacefair.org.

October 15-17 — Tri-Quarter Gathering. Camp Ockanickon near Medford, New Jersey.

October 23 — Quaker College Fair. 1–5 p.m. at the Arch Street Meeting House. See article on page 3.

October 24 — Quarterly Meeting. Haddonfield is hosting this time. Business will begin at rise of Meeting with a covered dish lunch following. Among the items for Business is the proposal of a Traveling Minute for Deborah Saunders, who has been released from Cropwell Meeting to “travel among Friends and others to spread her Quaker ministry of faith and reconciliation to the rest of the world.” Deborah is a seasoned traveler on behalf of Friends. Her current work is a logical continuation of her Fihankra project in Ghana. Deborah is led to end social injustice by means of educating, inspiring, and motivating men and women who are serving prison sentences.

October 24 — Arch Street Meeting House 200th birthday. 2 p.m.–5 p.m. 320 Arch Street. See details on page 3.

October 24 — Crop Walk. See details on page 3.

Looking Ahead

November 6 — Retirement and Estate Planning Seminar. 10 a.m.–12 noon, Arch Street Meeting House. See the article on page 6.

November 6 — The American Friends Service Committee’s Annual Public Gathering. 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.

November 13 — Singing City Choir Concert. Come to Philadelphia Cathedral for a glorious healing concert. As usual Singing City pulls together many musical traditions. A beautiful poem by Rumi, an Islamic poet, has been set to music. Then there is the quick music of a Balkan dance and “Vielle Priere Bouddhique” by Lili Boulanger. It goes on and on. Come and let your being float.

November 14 — Fall Clean-Up Around the Meetinghouse. Help Property Committee clean up the Meetinghouse and the graveyard at rise of Meeting. Please bring rakes and gloves, if you can. Rain date: November 21.

September Monthly Meeting for Business — September 12, 2004

The meeting opened with a period of worship. The Clerk read from Query Number 9 from *Faith & Practice* on Ministry of Outreach.

Deedy Roberts reported on the completion of her and husband Chris’ traveling ministry which began in February to Meetings in Wales, Sri Lanka, Japan, Hawaii, France, Germany and Denmark, and to three other Meetings in Philadelphia, Burlington and Haddonfield Quarters. Chris and Deedy carried with them a Traveling Minute from Haddonfield and Newton Meetings.

Jake McGlaughlin brought a concern on behalf of the Religious Education Committee. The Committee is requesting guidance from Meeting on the scheduling of First Day School on days when Philadelphia Yearly Meeting or Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting is in session. It has been the practice to encourage participation in these meetings, but, at the same time, the Religious Education Committee offers a First Day School program for children and adults.

Friends decided that Yearly and Quarterly Meetings should be considered as a part of our Religious Education program. We should encourage attendance at these programs. In addition, Religious Education Committee should educate Members about Yearly and Quarterly Meetings.

Diane also asked the Meeting’s approval for Care Committee to be charged with overseeing the new requirements initiated by our insurance company for protection of children from sexual molestation. Draft policies and procedures are being developed and Diane Snyder and Bob Brookes will attend the PYM meeting about this topic on October 9. School Committee is overseeing a similar process for the school. Friends approved.

Priscilla Adams reported that the activities of Friends Transitional Support Services (FTSS) are being revived with the return of Tom Trantino. Tommy spoke of his recent experiences and his gratitude for Friends’ support in his “Peace Room” in the jail and of the positive effect it had on other prisoners and on the staff. He is happily settled in his new home and is delighted to be back to work.

Ann Miller read a Minute of Appreciation from the School Committee to Cindy Kolaski for her six years of hard work on behalf of the School, particularly for

her work on the Religious Education subcommittee.

For School Committee, Ann Miller introduced our new Head of School, Deborah Kost. Deborah spoke about the School Audit Committee as proposed by the School Committee. Its task would be to audit the school budget report with the help of an independent auditor. The Audit Committee would be composed of 2-3 members to be appointed by Nominating Committee. It would need to meet two or three times a year and would report directly to the School Committee. John Donch, Connie Brookes and Lisa Boyell volunteered for the committee.

School Committee does not have a recommendation yet for the disposition of the cottage on Lake Street.

Howard McKinney asked for volunteers to help him with planning the Open House to celebrate the renovation of the Meetinghouse.

Friends approved a Minute of Appreciation to Property Committee and to the many other Friends who helped with the renovations in the Meetinghouse.

Religious Education

The Children's First Day School is shaping up with teachers in place for classes. Curriculum is still being developed but will focus on scripture and historical Quaker figures. More details will be available within the month. Parents of school-age children are urged to encourage their children to participate in FDS.

First Day School for Adults

Oct. 3 — Scripture Study with Tony Prete

Oct. 10 — Meeting for Business (no First Day School for adults)

Oct. 17 — Scripture Study with Tony Prete

Oct. 24 — Quarterly Meeting and Covered Dish (no First Day School for adults)

Oct. 31 — Scripture Study with Tony Prete

Crop Walk

The Haddonfield "Crop Walk" will take place the afternoon of Sunday, October 24. The purpose of this walk, which is intergenerational and non-competitive, is to raise money to alleviate hunger. The walk is sponsored by the Haddonfield Council of Churches.

Quaker College Fair

The Quaker College Fair will take place October 23, at the Arch Street Meeting House from 1 to 5 p.m. Representatives from each of the 15 Quaker-affiliated colleges in the United States will be in attendance. This is a great opportunity for high school students and their parents to gather information from a wide range of colleges.

John McKinstry of Swarthmore Meeting (PA), an alumnus of Westtown School, Swarthmore College and Penn Law School, and a history teacher at Westtown School, will deliver the keynote address. In addition, Tom Hoopes of PYM will speak about the college financial aid process.

PYM sponsors this event with the Friends Association for Higher Education. For more information, contact Kori Heavner at fahe@quaker.org or 215-241-7116.

Arch Street Meeting House Celebration

On Sunday, October 24, from 2–5 p.m., Arch Street Meeting House will celebrate its 200th birthday. Worship, tours, Friends in historical costume, Quaker Q&A, an historical exhibit, games, singing, videos, a labyrinth, refreshments, a visit from William Penn, and a birthday cake will be among the day's highlights.

Children's Religious Education Conference

Parents, Religious Educators and all Friends are invited to the PYM-sponsored Children's Religious Education Conference on October 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Yardley Meeting (PA). Workshops will include:

- Quaker Parenting
- Adult Religious Education and how it affects children's RE
- Child safety in the Meeting community
- Strategies for long-range planning of sustainable First Day Schools
- Introduction to "Godly Play," a Montessori-type program for teaching parables, Bible stories and Quaker stories in the manner of Friends
- Intergenerational community-building approaches to spiritual formation
- "Coming of Age" in a Friends community

The cost of the conference is expected to be \$25. If you need a registration form, contact Helen Fields at 215-241-7008 or helenfields@pym.org.

Staying Sane in an Insane World

Do you find it hard to hang on to your Quaker calm in these troubled times? Do Friendly peace and simplicity seem far away on a harried Monday morning? Do you find your neck in knots trying to keep up with the frenzy all around you?

If this is you, come to Gwynedd Meeting (PA) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 23, for a day of “staying sane in an insane world.” Open to PYM members, this fourth annual fall workshop is sponsored by PYM’s Care and Counsel for Meetings and Members (CCMM), with members of the Friends Counseling Service. F/friendly mental health professionals will help us explore our spiritual resources through the arts, movement, and other ways to open our inner world.

The general registration deadline is October 15. The fee is \$20 per person or \$30 per couple. American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation and childcare are available ONLY with advance registration by October 8.

Please address inquiries to Steve Gulick, PYM staff for CCMM, at steveg@pym.org or 215-241-7068.

Meetinghouses Exhibit and Lectures

Drexel University will be the venue for the exhibition “Silent Witness: Quaker Meetinghouses in the Delaware Valley, 1695–the Present” from September 27 to December 31. The exhibit will be in the Rincliffe Gallery on the third floor of Drexel’s Main Building at 32nd and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia.

Two lectures will be given in association with this exhibit. Christopher Densmore, Curator, Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College, will speak on “The plainer the dress, the more distinctly their beauty shines: Reflections on Quaker Aesthetics,” at 4 p.m. Wednesday, October 6. Catherine Lavoie, Senior Historian, Historical American Buildings Survey, National Park Service, will speak on “Evolution of Quaker Meetinghouse Design within the Philadelphia Region,” at 4 p.m. Wednesday, October 27. The presentations will be given in the Antoinette and Ray Westphal Picture Gallery on the third floor of Drexel’s Main Building. The exhibition and lectures are free and open to the public. Exhibit hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

New Websites of Interest

The PYM peacemaking webpage has been redesigned as a weblog. It includes an easy link for e-mailing possible entries. See <http://www.pym.org/peace-and-concerns/events.php>.

The statewide Emergency Food and Anti-Hunger Network (SEFAN) has launched a website to address the growing problem of hunger in New Jersey. By logging on to www.sefan.org and clicking on “Pantry Link” you can find out about local food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters that serve meals in your community. The website also lists volunteer opportunities as well as items that you can donate.

Weekend Workshop on Conscience and War

“Conscience and War: Helping each other explore our leadings” is a weekend course at Pendle Hill led by Rosa Packard and Jim Hamilton on October 22–24.

As people of conscience, how do we respond to issues of participation in war through service or taxation? In this experiential workshop we will explore and test our leadings. Through worship sharing, a clearness process, peer support for personal statements, role plays to practice counseling and other interactive methods, we will examine, develop and practice ways to be faithful to our convictions and to support the convictions of others. For information or registration, call 610-566-4507 or 800-842-3150, ext. 142. E-mail: registrar@pendlehill.org.

Speaker from Center on Conscience & War

As the war against Iraq drags on, the call for a draft intensifies. Hear what is happening around this important issue on Capitol Hill and in Selective Service from J.E. McNeil, the executive director of the Center on Conscience & War and a member of Friends Meeting of Washington, DC. Ms. McNeil will discuss the draft, the process of declaring conscientious objection, and the militarization of our youth. In particular, she will suggest concerns and actions that Friends Meetings may wish to follow.

Ms. McNeil will speak on Saturday, October 30 from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Bond Hall at Swarthmore College. (Sponsored by Pendle Hill Peace Network and Swarthmore College Program in Peace and Conflict Studies.)

She will also speak on Sunday, October 31, at Media Meeting, 125 W 3rd St, Media, PA. (Sponsored by Chester Quarterly Meeting. Meeting for worship is at 11 a.m., followed by lunch and the program beginning at 1:30 p.m.)

From Memorial and Graveyard Committee

Preplanning is in keeping with Friends' testimony of simplicity. This is true for matters of death, as well as of life. Memorial and Graveyard Committee encourages our members to complete the newly revised "Statement for Guidance in the Event of My Death." Copies will be kept by both the Meeting and the member. If burial in the Meeting graveyard is of interest to Friends, now is a good time to reserve a plot. Each Meeting family will be contacted this year about these two issues.

Middle East Update

Submitted by Leila Barclay

A positive development this summer with regard to the Middle East comes from the Presbyterian Church USA. The General Assembly of PCUSA voted 431-62 to look into the church's investments in companies that do business in Israel and "profit from the harming of people, Palestinian or Israeli." One such company is Caterpillar Inc, which produces armored, specialized tractors and bulldozers used in demolishing Palestinian homes. Below is part of the text from PCUSA's online publication, *News*.

Assembly endorses Israel divestment

RICHMOND JULY 2 — The 216th General Assembly approved several measures opposing the Israeli occupation of Palestine Friday, including a call for the corporate witness office of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to begin gathering data to support a selective divestment of holdings in multinational corporations doing business in Israel/Palestine.

Divestment is one of the strategies that U.S. churches used in the 1970s and '80s in a successful campaign to end apartheid in South Africa.

The vote was 431 to 62 to have the church's Mission Responsibility Through Investment Committee (MRTI) study the matter and make recommendations to the General Assembly Council (GAC).

When a handful of commissioners expressed reservations about the action, the Rev. Mitri Raheb, a Lutheran pastor from Bethlehem, an ecumenical guest at the Assembly, said divestment is important because it is a way for the churches to take direct action. For too long, he said, the churches have simply issued statements — and that is not enough.

The divestment action also calls for the United States to be an "honest, even-handed broker for peace" and calls for "more meaningful participation" in peace negotiations by Russia, German, France and others. It also encourages the U.S., Israeli and Palestinian governments to "lay aside arrogant political posturing and get on with forging negotiated compromises that open a path to peace."

In other actions related to Israel, the Assembly voted by large margins to condemn Israel's construction of a "security wall" across the West Bank; disavow Christian Zionism as a legitimate theological stance and direct the denomination's Middle East and Interfaith Relations offices to develop resources on differences between fundamental Zionism and Reformed theology; and study the feasibility of sponsoring economic-development projects in Palestine and putting an action plan in place by 2005.

The actions on Israel were forwarded to the Assembly by the Peacemaking Committee.

Retirement and Estate Planning Seminar

Friends who have retirement or estate planning concerns are invited to attend a free PYM-sponsored seminar where Sam Swansen and Russell Bishop, two professionals in this field and members of Gwynedd Meeting (PA), will guide Friends through a two-hour discussion on the many ways in which Friends can ensure their futures and the futures of their loved ones.

The Retirement and Estate Planning Seminar will be Saturday morning, November 6, at the Fourth and Arch Street Meeting House in Philadelphia. The program is 10:00 a.m. till 12 noon. Come for coffee at 9:30 a.m.

Please RSVP before November 2 by calling Kaye Henley at 215-241-7271 or e-mail kayeh@pym.org

October 2004



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 10 am Meeting for Worship 11:20 FDS	4	5	6 9:15 am All-school Meeting for Worship 7 pm School Committee	7	8	9
10 9 am Peace & Social Concerns 10 am Meeting for Worship 11 am Monthly Meeting for Business	11	12 7:30 pm Care Committee	13 9:15 am Meeting for Worship	14	15	16
17 Newsletter deadline 8:30 am Library Committee 10 am Meeting for Worship 11:20 FDS	18	19	20 9:15 am Meeting for Worship 7:30 pm Property Committee	21 7:30 pm Worship & Ministry	22	23
24 10 am Mtg for Worship 11 am Quarterly Mtg Covered Dish	25	26	27 9:15 am Meeting for Worship	28	29	30
31 10 am Meeting for Worship 11:20 FDS						