



London Grove Monthly Meeting Bulletin

~ Begun 1714 ~

~ Established 1792 ~

September 2013

Query for September: Ministry of Outreach

Outreach

What are we doing as a Meeting to communicate our presence and our principles to the community around us? Does our Meeting's ministry of outreach lead Friends to share their spiritual experiences with others?

What are we doing to invite persons not in membership to attend our meetings for worship and to encourage their continued attendance? How does the Meeting welcome visitors? Are we sensitive to the needs and hesitations of each visitor?

Are we tender to the needs of isolated Friends and Meetings, and to nearby Meetings seeking support?

How do I ground myself in the understandings of my faith? Am I clear about my beliefs?

How do I prepare myself to share my faith and beliefs with others?

Does my manner of life as a Friend attract others to our religious society?

Do I seize opportunities to tell others about the Religious Society of Friends and invite them to worship with us?

Is my manner with visitors and attenders to our Meeting one of welcome?

Collaboration

In what ways does our Meeting respond to opportunities to join with other faiths in worship, in social action, and in spiritual dialogue?

How does our Meeting encourage its members to seek opportunities to meet and work with Friends world wide?

What opportunities have I taken to know people from different religious and cultural backgrounds, to worship with them, and to work with them on common concerns?

What opportunities have I taken to know, to work, and to worship with Friends outside of my own Meeting?

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Outreach Forum, Friday, October 11, 2013
John Scardina will present a program on parenting, open to the community.



September 2013 Calendar

Sunday 9/1 9:30 am Meeting for Worship
 10:30 am Meeting for Worship for Business

Thursday 9/5 7:30 pm Property Committee

Sunday 9/8 9:30 am Meeting for Worship
 Children's First Day School
 10:30 am Religious Education: Introducing this year's Teachers for
 Adult and Children's Programs (Games and Refreshments!)
 7 pm Worship & Ministry Committee

Monday 9/9 7 pm Religious Education Committee

Wednesday 9/11 7 pm Book Club (Please see page 5 for details!)

Thursday 9/12 7 pm Care & Membership Committee

Saturday 9/14 10 am 300th Anniversary Committee

Sunday 9/15 8:30 am Peace & Social Justice Committee
 9:30 am Meeting for Worship
 Children's First Day School
 10:30 am Adult First Day School: Bible Study and Friends' Testimonies

Wednesday 9/18 7 pm Community Outreach Committee

Thursday 9/19 9:30 am Library Committee

Sunday 9/22 9:30 am Meeting for Worship
 Children's First Day School
 10:30 am Adult First Day School: "Deep Speaks to Deep"

Sunday 9/29 9:30 am Meeting for Worship
 Children's First Day School
 10:30 am Adult First Day School with attention to Quaker Studies

Child Care for September

Date	First Hour	Second Hour
September 1	Doug Myers	Kim Brosnan Myers, Carolyn Muller
September 8	Elizabeth Powell	Jim Brofee, Karen-Lee Brofee
September 15	Anna Myers	June Yeatman, Peggy Sue Fernandes
September 22	Jane Brosius	Chris Manning, Sarah Manning
September 29	Barb Pusey	Karen Conlan, Dawn Thompson

Clerk's Report - August 2013

Dear Friends,

About 25 people attended Meeting for Business on August 4, 2013.

Meeting approved the Minutes of our July 7, 2013 Meeting for Business with minor corrections.

Karen Conlan told us that, since last month, three more children have enrolled in the **Kindergarten** and there is a possibility of at least one more for the upcoming school year. This brings our total enrollment to 29 students (four more than last year).

We received and accepted the **Treasurer's report**, given by **Doug Myers**. The beginning balance was \$86,233.48. Contributions to the budget were \$1,661.25 for the month of July and gratitude was expressed to all who have made contributions so far this year. We are 58% through the year and have received 42% of budgeted contributions. Even though it is summertime, we are slightly behind budget and everyone is reminded that our income needs to balance against our expenses throughout the entire year. The total income for the month was \$3,530.86 including a designated contribution and a small education loan repayment. Total expenses were \$18,134.62 including our quarterly payments to Western Quarterly Meeting and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Net Income for the month was \$-14,603.76. The ending balance was \$72,181.72.

Ruth Thompson, Patrick Chase and **Margaret Walton** provided a report on **Western Quarterly Meeting**, held July 21. About 57 people attended, of whom 10 were from London Grove. The morning program was about the Beatitudes. The afternoon program, led by Richard Barnard of Hockessin Meeting, was a series of questions about Quarterly Meeting including 1) how do we maintain properties in the future, 2) how might we increase attendance and involvement, and 3) how might we expand youth programming. There was lively, extended discussion about Quarterly Meeting and encouragement for more people from London Grove to attend and become involved. Meeting accepted the report.

Sam Cypressi gave us a detailed report on the work of the **Nominating Committee** and nominations for the coming year. This is the first presentation of nominations, with the second presentation (and approval) to occur during our September meeting for business. Sam highlighted proposed changes to the title and definitions of PYM Interim Meeting Representatives (to become PYM Liaisons) and Western Quarter Nominating Committee Representative (to become Western Quarter Liaisons). Approval of these two changes will also be requested during the September meeting for business. Sam indicated that we are still working to fill one position on the Kindergarten Committee and asked everyone to consider helping with this important work. Meeting accepted the report.

David Watkins provided an update on this year's **Helen Corson Award** recipients. We have received 3 thank-you letters from recipients, so far. David read **Jacqueline Xu's** thoughtful and appreciative thank-you letter to Meeting. She is this year's recipient from Unionville High School. Meeting requested that it be published in the upcoming Bulletin for

all to read. Meeting accepted David's report. (**Letter from this student is transcribed below.)

The Clerk, **Martin Reber**, provided a report on **Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions**. About 350 people attended as residents and an additional 100+ attended as day participants. Worship was held throughout each day including extended worship beginning each business session. The Treasurer reported that PYM has a small surplus for the second year in a row. The Long Range Planning Group presented their report on visioning and priorities for PYM. The children held their second Children's Summit and discerned their Priority for the next two years –

“The Children of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting are called to make the world a better place by finding fun ways to care for specific environments so that creatures living there can be healthy.”

Martin showed us a short slide show set to music and a short video about the work of the Children through **Junior Interim Meeting** so we could see what we missed at Annual Sessions.

The Clerk expressed his appreciation to Meeting for supporting his spiritual growth through his term as Clerk. Martin noted that he had provided us with several parables and stories over the past two years and he had one more story to share – *“Is It Quakerly To Go Slow?”* calling us to move forward on our leadings in faith and not let our fires go out by enshrining slowness as “Quaker process.” (The story was written by Kevin Roberts, a Friend in Ohio, in his online blog called “Quakerthink.”)

With all business concluded, we closed with a period of silent worship together.

***Dear Mr. Watkins and the entire LGM Peace and Social Justice Committee:*

I thank you sincerely for your kind and generous award. I am honored to have received the Helen Corson Award in honor of Helen Corson herself. It is the attitude that Ms. Corson had—to never hesitate in acting on behalf of one's values—that I strive to uphold. My mother was one who acted boldly and valiantly as Ms. Corson, rearing a family, leading her own research lab for pediatric SMA, and fighting breast cancer. When she passed, all too soon in her life and in my own, her fighting spirit became an internal part of me.

I am humbled that although we have never met before, you have still been so benevolent as to grant this award to UH&S students whom you find deserving of this honor. I hope that in whatever I pursue in my life, whatever causes I take on as my own, I can bring honor to people like Helen Corson and the goodness they spread in the world. Thank you for this honor.

*Best wishes,
Jacqueline Xu
(Student at Unionville High School)*

Fall Previews: Coming Attractions at London Grove Meeting...

Preliminary Agenda – Meeting for Business – September 1, 2013

- Minutes of August 4, 2013 Meeting for Business
- Response to the Ninth Query -- Ministry of Outreach (Community Outreach Committee)
- Treasurer's Report
- Nominating Committee -- second presentation of nominees for 2013-2014
- Kindergarten Committee -- Annual Report

From Religious Education (RE) Committee:

Invitations are in the mail to 20 households with children whom we hope to see in First Day School this fall! On Sunday, September 8 we will resume weekly 9:30 am classes for children. At the rise of meeting for worship that morning, we will introduce the teachers who are planning fall and winter First Day School/ Religious Education.

An opportunity for Friends of all ages to socialize will follow, with games and refreshments.

How would you answer the question, "*How are Quakers different from other religions?*" Please speak with either Susanna Davison or Leona Provinski if you feel led to share your previous religious experiences with the children!

We welcome Donald LaBranche back for monthly Bible Study and Peggy Jones will coordinate a monthly Quaker studies class. Peggy asks that Friends willing to share their perspectives on Quaker history join her in this effort.

As always, suggestions for future Adult RE programs are welcome! Beginning in September, the RE Committee will meet on second Monday evenings to plan First Day School programs and holiday-themed special events.

Book Club returns from Summer Hiatus:

The London Grove Book Club will resume meeting on Wednesday September 11 at 7:00 PM in the library. All are welcome! The book to be discussed this time is *The Trial of Fallen Angels* by James Kimmel, Jr., who spoke to us in First Day School earlier this year.

A suggestion has been made that the book we read for October be *Listening Spirituality Vol. 2* by Patricia Loring. We can discuss that and also preferred meeting times at the meeting on 9/11.

From Worship & Ministry Committee and Western Quarterly Meeting:

The Worship & Ministry Committee is hosting a workshop on Saturday, October 26, 2013 from 9 to 4 at London Grove Meeting. Connie Lezenby and Ruth Kinsey, both from Gwynedd Meeting, will be facilitating the workshop on "Learning and Practicing Spiritual Skills, Deepening Our Worship Experience". Lunch will be provided.

We are asking people to sign up ahead of time. A registration form is available, along with more information, on the Western Quarter website. The event is being publicized throughout the Quarter.

We will be having two Adult First Day School sessions in preparation - on September 22 and October 20. Readings from *A Hidden Wholeness* by Parker Palmer and *Listening Spirituality* by Patricia Loring will be discussed.

We hope many of you will be able to participate in this event. As Zac Dutton, Western Quarter coordinator, describes it on the website, it will be a "Fun, No Pressure Workshop With The Food Included!"

PYM September Events:

Growth Dilemma Project Open Discussion & Support Group: September 3, 2013, 6:30 pm for worship, 7:00 pm for sharing in the PYM Conference Room at Friends Center, 1515 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA. Join members of the Growth Dilemma Project of the PYM Ecojustice Working Group as we to continue to learn about the intersection of economy and ecology, and consider how we can respond in our individual lives, our meetings, and the wider community.

Discussions will be held the first Tuesday of each month. Each evening starts with 30 minutes of worship, followed by a brief presentation/discussion of new information, and progress updates from participants on the development of their individual or small group projects. For more information see www.pym.org/calendar/events/growth-dilemma-project-open-discussion or contact Pamela Haines at pamelahaines1@gmail.com or 215-349-9428.

Arch Street Lunch and Lecture Series: The Meetinghouse Grounds.

September 11, 2013 from 11:45 - 1:00, Arch Street Meeting House, 4th & Arch Streets, Philadelphia. The guides of Arch Street Meeting House are hosting lectures throughout the year. The September talk with Tom Unkefer, Clerk of the Property and Use Committee at Arch Street, will include a tour of the grounds of Arch Street Meeting House and a talk on their historic significance. Bring a brown bag lunch, drinks provided. For more information, see www.pym.org/calendar/events/arch-street-lunch-lecture-series or contact volunteers@pym.org or 215-241-7238.

Supporting Friends with Emotional Issues (PYM Lunchtime Webinar), September 12, 12:15 to 1:00 p.m online (internet access required). Learn about pastoral care support to Friends facing emotional or behavioral challenges as part of an online seminar. We will explore ways to recognize and respond to behavioral differences among Friends in ways which are inclusive and affirming and which maintain meeting unity. To participate you only need a computer with internet access. Webinar technical assistance will be provided upon request. For more information, see www.pym.org/calendar/events/pym-lunchtime-webinar-supporting-friends-with-emotional-issues or contact George Schaefer at gschaefer@pym.org or 215-241-7068.

Young Friends Peace Fair Gathering: September 20th at 4pm - September 22nd at 12pm at Buckingham Friends Meeting and School, Lahaska, PA. Come join Young Friends for a weekend of fun community and service! On Saturday Young Friends will provide the people-power for setting up, running and taking down the Bucks Quarter Peace Fair, taking staggered breaks to explore the Fair or visit Peddler's Village. A pizza dinner to celebrate our efforts follows on Saturday night. The gathering closes Sunday after worship. For more information see www.pym.org/calendar/events/young-friends-peace-fair-gathering or contact Hannah Mayer at hmayer@pym.org or 215-241-7222.

The School of the Spirit Ministry: A Silent Retreat in the Manner of Friends, September 27-30, St. Raphaela Retreat Center, Haverford, PA. Come and simply be with God and attend to the divine stirrings of the soul. \$395 single/\$350 double; significant assistance available. For more information, see schoolofthespirit.org/retreats.

Outreach Thread Gathering, September 28, 9:30 a.m. -3:00 p.m., Providence Meeting, Media, PA. An opportunity for grounding and skills development for Friends who let the Light of our meetings shine far and wide and welcome new seekers to our community. Thread Gatherings offer wisdom, experience sharing, workshops and community around a thread of concern that runs through our meetings. For more information, see www.pym.org/calendar/events/outreach-thread-gathering or contact Programs@pym.org or call 215-241-7008.

2014 Quaker Pilgrimage to England: Registration opens Sept. 30, 2013. The Pilgrimage is a trip to "Fox and Fell 1652 Country," from July 14-20, 2014. Join trip leaders, Irene McHenry (Chestnut Hill Meeting, PA) and Deborra Sines Pancoe (Abington, PA, Meeting), of the Friends Council on Education, to experience the roots of the Religious Society of Friends. Plans

are underway for our 2014 Quaker Pilgrimage, exploring

Pictured at right: Jordans Meetinghouse, Buckinghamshire, England. William Penn and others from his family are buried here.



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England's "1652 Country" with a guide from Britain Yearly Meeting. The expected cost for the 7-day pilgrimage trip will be in the range of \$1,500 - \$1,800 per person. This fee includes all room and board, local bus travel to historic sites, guides, site entry fees, etc. It does not include airfare. Some financial aid is available. Space is limited to just 27 "pilgrims" so reserve early. Registration opens on September 30, 2013, at which time participants may reserve a space by mailing in a paper registration form with a non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person. For more information, see www.pym.org/calendar/events/2014-pilgrimage-to-england or contact deborra@friendscouncil.org or call 215-241-7291.

PYM Annual Sessions Update:

Epistles from this year's Annual Sessions are now available on the [PYM Website](#). We encourage everyone to read this year's Epistles!

- Children & Youth Epistles
- Middle School Friends Epistle
- Young Friends Epistle
- Young Adult Friends Epistle
- PYM Outgoing Epistle

Minutes, Advance Documents and Additional Reports from this year's Annual Sessions are also being posted to the PYM Website as we receive them. Many minutes and documents are already available at: www.pym.org/annual-sessions/previous-years/2013-2.