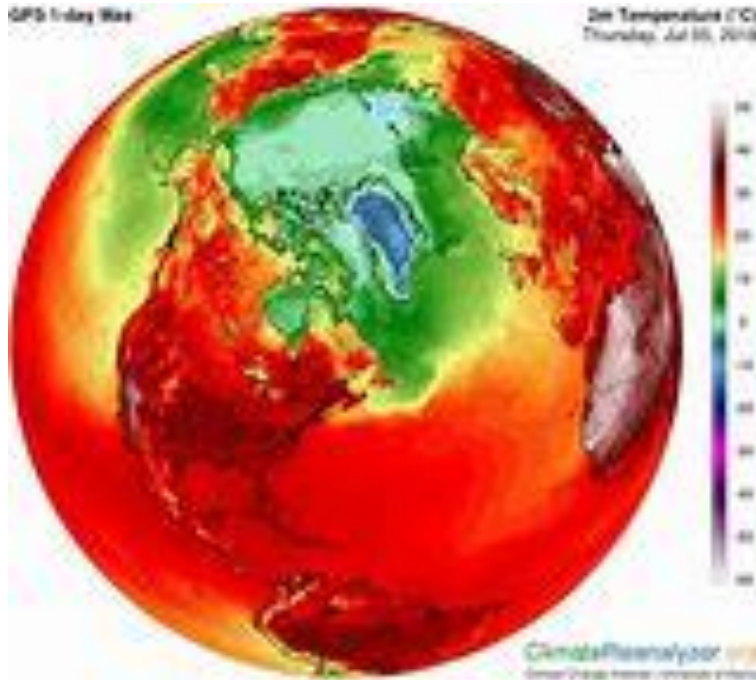


Climate Witness Stewards

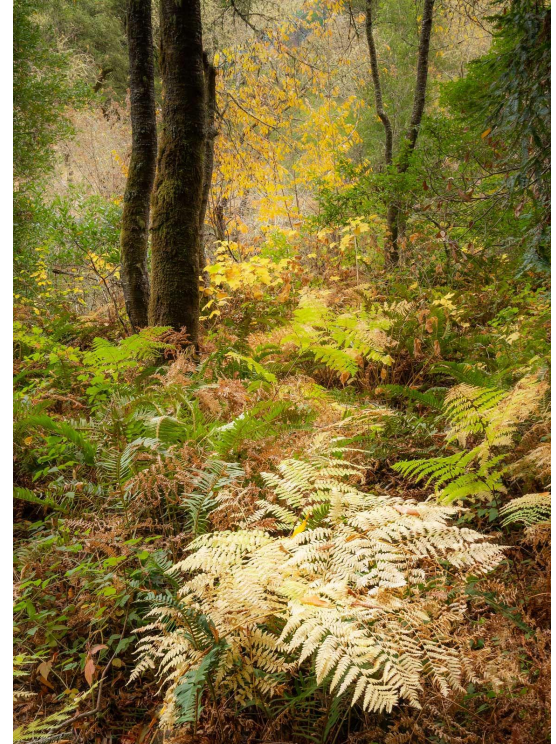
2023 Annual Sessions Report



[Heat Maps Reveal Record-Breaking Temperatures Across the Globe \(inverse.com\)](https://www.inverse.com)

Reasons for the Climate Stewards' Charge

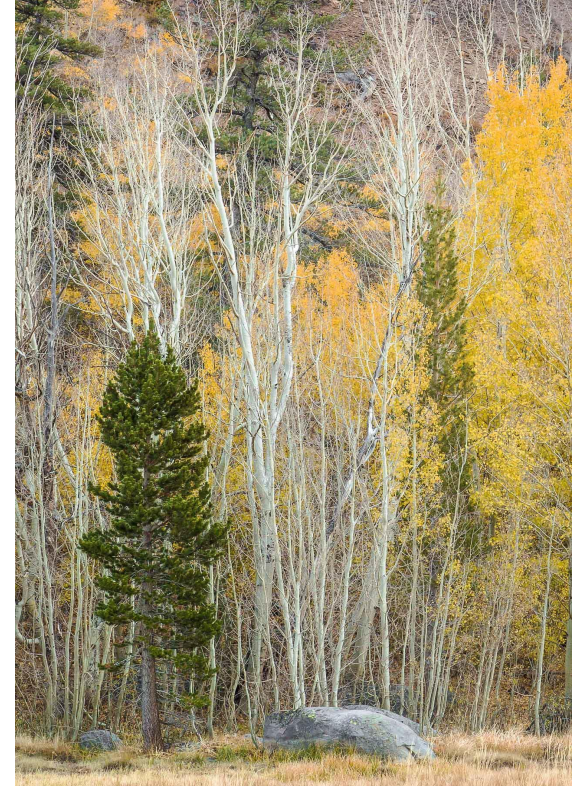
- “Friends’ testimonies of stewardship and equality require us to address climate change.”
- If, knowing that many of our choices up to now have harmed creation and fall hardest on people of color or those already disadvantaged, we still choose **not** to act differently, what happens to our integrity?
- Climate Witness Stewards were appointed “In order to hold Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) accountable to its commitment to a yearly meeting-wide witness on climate change and climate justice”



Photography by Kathy Barnhardt

Reasons for the Climate Stewards' Charge cont.

- “Every Friend, household, meeting and yearly meeting structure is asked to be under the weight of the concern”
- The Climate Witness Stewards are charged with fostering “an environment that enables and promotes the witness in a Spirit-led, trustworthy, and transparent manner.”
- We are charged with assessing “priorities, gaps, strengths, challenges and opportunities in PYM’s collective work.”
- We will listen, reflect and report on “how well, to what extent, and in what ways yearly, quarterly and monthly meetings are living into their commitments.”



Photography by Kathy Barnhardt

Climate Witness Stewards - Climatesteward@pym.org

- Central Philadelphia - Andrew Anderson
- Medford - Ruth Darlington
- Old Haverford - Patricia Finley
- Princeton - Robert Greene
- State College - Jackie Bonomo

[respect-nature-1.jpg \(1600×1520\)](#)
[\(jooinn.com\)](#)



Mourning Loss & Instilling Hope - Upcoming Events

CWS is offering 2 Zoom workshops this fall. Registration is through PYM.

- Sept. 21st from 7 to 8:30 pm - **Building Communities of Hope in the Face of Climate Grief** - led by Jennifer Elam
- Oct. 12th at 6:30 pm **Nourishing Spirit Led Action on Climate: an Online Potluck**



Photography by Kathy Barnhardt

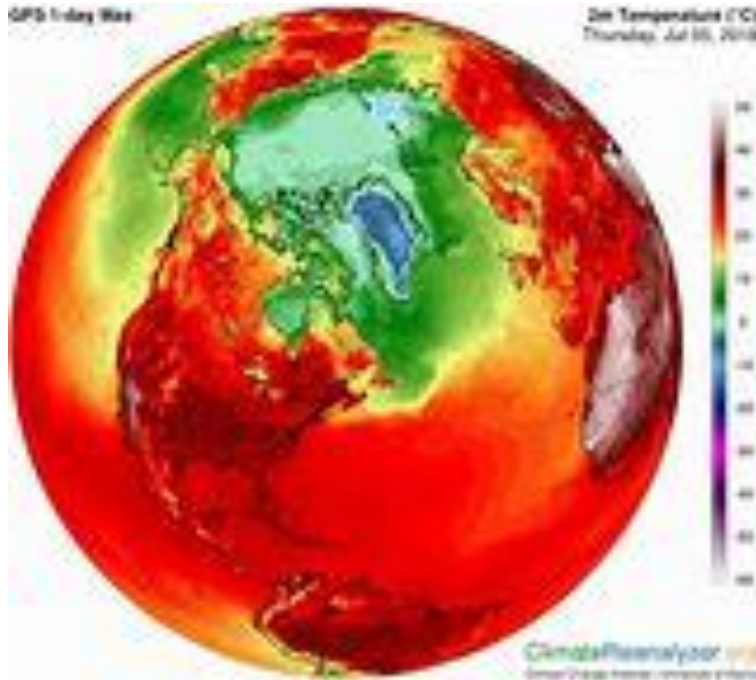
PYM is Looking at Carbon Neutral Operations

PYM offices are already “off the grid” in a Leed Platinum building.

- Formation of a Carbon Neutral Ad Hoc Planning Group of 3-5 knowledgeable Friends
- Identify and hire a technical consultant to provide expertise to the ad hoc planning committee.
- The carbon footprint and environmental impact will be calculated using information from records, grounds and facilities and data from gatherings and operations with suggestions for how operations might change to reduce emissions.
- Develop a staged implementation report with suggestions for carbon offsets for carbon emissions that are unavoidable.

Climate Witness Stewards Part 2

2023 Annual Sessions Report



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Climate Witness Stewards Introduction

The information in this presentation was drawn from the 2023 Spiritual State of the Meeting Reports and sources provided by the Eco Justice Collaborative. Our information is incomplete since not every meeting submitted a report nor answer the question concerning their climate work. We welcome updates from meetings and quarters not represented here.

Contact Patricia Finley
finleyp2932@gmail.com



Mourning Loss & Instilling Hope *Reverence and Whimsy*

We are the Ones We've Been Waiting For

You have been telling people that this is the Eleventh Hour, now you must go back and tell the people that this is the Hour. And there are things to be considered...

Where are you living?
What are you doing?
What are your relationships?
Are you in right relation?
Where is your water?

Know your garden.
It is time to speak your truth.
Create your community.
Be good to each other.
And do not look outside yourself for your leader.



Continued

Then he clasped his hands together, smiled, and said, "This could be a good time! There is a river flowing now very fast. It is so great and swift that there are those who will be afraid. They will try to hold on to the shore. They will feel they are being torn apart and will suffer greatly. Know the river has its destination. The elders say we must let go of the shore, push off into the middle of the river, keep our eyes open, and our heads above the water.

And I say, see who is in there with you and celebrate. At this time in history, we are to take nothing personally, least of all ourselves. For the moment that we do, our spiritual growth and journey come to a halt.

The time of the lone wolf is over. Gather yourselves! Banish the word 'struggle' from your attitude and your vocabulary. All that we do now must be done in a sacred manner and in celebration.

We are the ones we've been waiting for.

--Hopi Elders' Prophecy, June 8, 2000



Action Areas

- Activism
- Education
- Reducing our Carbon Footprint
- Finance
- Mourning Loss and Instilling Hope

These Action areas are diverse and cross categories. I did my best at categorizing the many climate activities in our Yearly Meeting.

Activism

Legislative & Regulatory Advocacy

Old Haverford
Millville
Westtown
Millville
Chestnut Hill
Germantown
Trenton

Vigils, Protests, & International Climate Justice/Racism

Old Haverford
Medford
Haddonfield
Moorestown
Greenwich
Exeter
Providence
State College
Germantown
Chestnut Hill
Sadbury

Environmental Programs, Multi-Gen., Working Groups, Workshops, External Alliances

Old Haverford
Medford
Downingtown
Germantown
State College
Radnor

Supporting CWS, EJC, & Sprint Climate Report

Downingtown
Old Haverford
Germantown
Falsington
State College

Extreme Weather/ Disaster Preparation

Old Haverford
Millville
Westtown

Education

Monthly Meeting Liaison to Climate Witness Stewards (CWS)	Would Like Connections with CWS & Climate Action Resources	Website/Adult Ed/Public Outreach, Research Green Solutions for Meetinghouses	Supports Eco Justice & Climate Action Plan	Energy, Public Education & Volunteering
Richland	Harrisburg	Radnor	Germantown	London Grove
Westtown	OHFM	Abington	Westtown	Greenwich
Wrightstown	Medford	State College	Princeton MM	Middletown
Atlantic City Area	Princeton	Medford	CPMM	Downingtown
Medford MM	Friends of Phil.	Woodstown	Radnor	
Moorestown	London Grove	Barnegut	OHFM	
Plans to Appt. a Liaison		Harrisburg	Harrisburg	
Exeter		Downingtown		
North Branch		London Grove		
Middletown		Exeter		

Reducing our Carbon Footprint

Larger projects Building a Carbon Forest & Community Gardens Open to the Public	RRR* Zero Waste & Sustainable Practices, Transportation & Food	Weatherization, Energy Audits, & Carbon Offsets	Rain, Pollinator, & Permaculture Gardens, Storm Water Mgmt., Composting/Zero Waste, Greening Sacred Spaces, & Green Burials	Solar Energy, Heat Pumps, 100% Renewable Electric, & Goal of Carbon Neutral
Unami	Old Haverford	State College	Old Haverford	Radnor
Leed-Certified Building	Abington	Exeter	Abington	Kennet
Camden DE	North Branch	Harrisburg	Gwynedd	Media
Central Philadelphia	Third Haven	Old Haverford	Harrisburg	Old Haverford
	North Branch	Millville	London Grove	Fallsington
	Radnor		Chester	State College
	Atlantic City Area MM		Middletown	Medford
				Millville
	* RRR; Reuse, Recycle, & Rot (Compost)			Germantown
				Wrightstown
				Middletown

Finances

**Support of EQAT
Campaign against
Vanguard**

Radnor MM
Millville
Medford

**Divestment from Fossil
Fuels & Investment in
Environmental Social &
Governance (ESG)**

Old Haverford
Trenton
Gwynedd
Medford
Greenwich
Millville

**Third Act Campaign
against BIG Banks
Investing in Fossil Fuels**

State College
Old Haverford

**Established
Carbon
Reduction
Donation Fund**

State College

Mourning Loss and Instilling Hope

Spiritual Practices, Meditation on Nature, & Individual Ministry on Climate

Middletown

Fallsington

Medford

Chestnut Hill

Epistle on Greening Sacred Places

Concord Qtr.

EMERGE: Empathy, Mindfulness', Ecological Integrity, Growth. & Endurance

Radnor

Clearness Committees to Mourn Loss

State College



Pictures courtesy of:

Kathy Barnhardt

Hubble Telescope

Weather Service

Open Source

