Our lives are rooted in the Peace That Surpasses All Understanding, in Love and in the Light. We rely on one another to re-mind us of that truth. This is what the Quaker faith path is about. In this world that can shatter us with joy and pain every day, it is a gift to have more than a hundred meetings and 10,000 people with whom to be deeply rooted.

This newsletter illustrates a new way in which our yearly meeting has been called—and our faithful response to it. In the past we have minuted the yearly meeting’s support for a witness, we’ve encouraged groups of people who carry a witness, and we’ve cared for individuals who travel in their ministry within and beyond our geography.

We continue to do these things, and we are also now have experienced being called to witness as an entire body. Engaging in PYM-wide corporate (meaning of the body) witness is one of the strategic directions we approved in 2014. Six months after accepting those directions, we committed to a witness to address racism. The minute we approved expressly declares that the ministry is not one to be given to a group of people to carry on behalf of PYM but that we are all to find our way in it. All Friends, all households, and all meetings are asked to consider what their own response to the call is.

Many of the stories in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting reflect our journey to eradicate racism, create spaces of belonging, and transform our inner lives. This newsletter is filled with a selection of those stories from local monthly and quarterly meetings and PYM groups. Read, be inspired, and share your meeting’s stories on the PYM website so we may continue to know one another.

Christie Duncan-Tessmer
General Secretary
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

Trenton Friends Meeting would like to highlight a few elements of our work on the scourge of racism. Because we are blessed with a location that allows us to be in community with our neighbors in a predominantly Black and Latino area, we are afforded many opportunities. Trenton Meeting has resources from past generations that we have the privilege to draw on to make impactful grants and investments in local minority-led groups, businesses, and organizations that can put these dollars to immediate use towards direct needs known to the community.

Our work within our meeting to gain understanding of “racism within,” has involved discussions and readings. We hosted Vanessa Julye to discuss her research on racism within the Religious Society of Friends. We helped create a Quarter-wide book discussion on a book by Ibram X. Kendi. This work has involved self-education on how we interact with black-led organizations to avoid asserting privilege and control that undermines others. It has blessed us with close and respectful relationships with Black Lives Matter, NJ, Chosen Generation Learning Center, (to name a few) and a growing number of Trenton’s black-led groups that we invest in or who we host for their work and service to the community.

Highlighting a couple examples, we would mention

the Meeting established to seek out and evaluate requests from groups providing services in our neighborhood or in Trenton. Seeded with $100,000 from our endowment, the committee has invested almost all of this over the past five years, for the most part in physical needs that have allowed groups to continue or enhance their work with Trentonians in need.

A second example is the welcome we extend to use our space by similar organizations for meetings, health events, food preparation, distribution, and more. For example, Black Lives Matter-NJ has a monthly spaghetti dinner distribution at the Meetinghouse and an annual back-to-school block party/book bag distribution held here. Eastern Service Workers organized food box distributions and free health screenings from our building during the height of the pandemic.

The transformation of Trenton Meeting from a position of isolation and detachment from our neighbors to a vital and connected institution known and respected by the community continues. It is also reflected in the personal efforts of the individuals in the Meeting to combat racism. We are humbled and grateful for the wisdom and vision that is revealed as we move forward, learning and growing in knowledge and understanding guided by Spirit.
The Anti-racism Collaborative (ARC) continues to live into its possibilities. A part of each meeting we hold monthly is devoted to visioning, during which members brainstorm ideas of where to head next on our journey to help meetings walk the antiracism path. Some admittedly are a little wild and crazy and get put on the shelf for future discernment, but sometimes a vision resonates with others, and we work on it to birth it into existence.

That’s what happened with a vision last month. We had some realizations while we were looking at the following two collaborative goals:

- **Visit meetings** to invite others to join us in learning and doing anti-racism work.
- **Provide or assist meetings** with classes, programs, and workshops on anti-racism.

We realized meetings aren’t all back to in-person meetings yet, so while discussing these goals we felt many wouldn’t be ready for visits from us just yet. In the meantime, each member of the collaborative is meeting with the Quarterly Meetings that have been assigned to us. As we meet with the Quarterly Meetings, we share progress on our goals and keep one another updated on our efforts.

The collaborative regularly collects ideas and resources and in our survey that we sent out, we learned that Meetings are doing important things. As part of offering resources to get people thinking, we are working on a resource list about reparations. We are also gathering stories about what Meetings are doing and sharing them on the website for others to take what they want or need.

So, as we announced at Quarterly Meetings, send us your stories about your Monthly Meeting’s antiracism path so other Meetings can learn from you. We’re on this path together and sharing is caring.

Send your story to Wanda at wwyffels@gmail.com or call her at (267) 918-3671 to tell her about your experience and she can interview you and write your story.
of systemic racism in the U.S. and took on practices to counter the racial bias of our white-centered culture.

In Phase 2, we looked at how racism has shown up in the Society of Friends, past and present, and how we could be a more racially sensitive and inclusive monthly meeting. We listened especially to Friends of Color who have been wounded, marginalized and dismissed among contemporary Quakers, and examined ways to learn from these situations and “do better.” We yearn to be a community where a broader range of people will feel welcome and nurtured. Throughout Phase 2, we asked for suggestions of concrete actions that Lancaster Meeting could take to be more racially sensitive, welcoming, and inclusive. On July 17 we held a threshing session via Zoom to discern which ideas were led to implement and to begin imagining how that could happen.

The suggestions were grouped into five categories, and participants chose which ones they wanted to work on in a breakout group. Group 1 looked at how to make our physical space as welcoming as possible. This group was in unity on forming an ad-hoc committee to look intentionally at our physical space and make proposals about how it could be more inclusive while also communicating our core values.

Group 2 discussed how to be a community with a visible witness for racial and social justice. So many people wanted to work on this goal that there we broke into two small groups. While we didn’t come up with one proposal, there was energy for ideas like forming a partnership with a Black church, getting more involved in POWER Interfaith’s racial justice work or forming a coalition with other progressive churches, and upping our involvement with BIPOC-led organizations in Lancaster.

Group 3 discussed “Inreach” to continue educating the larger meeting and ourselves about racism. The group discussed some of the ideas previously suggested such as inviting guests to speak at forums (e.g. Jondhi Harrell from Ujima), recommendations of things individuals can do to “de-segregate their lives.”

Group 4 discussed nonphysical aspects of making our community welcoming to BIPOC, such as:

- racially-sensitive welcome for newcomers, lowering barriers
- grievance process: addressing impact/racial harm (e.g. micro-aggressions, conflicts where race or racism is an issue)
- eliciting feedback about incidents and educating white folks to “do better”
- training on “calling in” with love and compassion rather than “calling out.”

Group 5 discussed financial commitment. Like other groups, this group came to no single conclusion, but was united in affirming that our witness should include a significant financial commitment, whether as individuals, as a Meeting, or both.

In Phase 3, we studied and sought to address racism in Lancaster County. The Journey started at the end of September 2021. Each of us chose an issue or engagement that addresses systemic racism in our community and joined a new small group with others working on that topic. The groups explored: how does this issue show up in our local community? Who is involved in addressing it? (Do the people most impacted have leadership roles and decision-making power?) What progress and developments have occurred? What opportunities are there for individuals or our meeting to support work on the issue?

These new groups met to share what they learned, to reflect, and to support each other. A facilitator helped to guide the process, to make connections between what participants observed and the bigger picture of systemic racism, and created a container for spiritual reflection: what does it mean to engage these issues as Quakers and people of faith? The ultimate goal was to develop proposals for individuals or the meeting to work on these issues by intentionally listening to BIPOC voices and leadership.

We held a Meeting wide workshop on April 2nd, 2022 in which the facilitators of eight separate small groups reported on their progress and plans for the future:

- Desegregating Our Lives
- Interchurch Visitation/Faith Community Partnerships
- Reparations/Restorative Justice
- Education Equity
- Criminal Justice/Policing
- Poverty/Wealth Disparity
- Environmental Justice
- Building Beloved Community at Lancaster Friends Meeting

The work continues!

Green Street Friends Meeting
Reparative Justice for the Germantown Black Community

In June 2021, at the urging of the Reparations Committee, Green Street Friends Meeting committed $50,000 a year for ten years towards reparations toward Black Germantown neighbors with Black members of the meeting determining the use and disbursement of these funds. The legal clinic is the first project and expected use of the funds. Over time the meeting expects to grow the reparations funds and expand into projects that transfer wealth into the hands of Black Germantown residents including other projects proposed by the Black members of the meeting and the Black community of Germantown. Reparations is economic and spiritual repair for the intergenerational harms of slavery, Jim Crow, and their afterlives. It is spiritual work intended to address the theft and pillaging of Black wealth for 400 years.

Green Street Friends Meeting in Philadelphia has had a reparations committee for two years, which emerged after several years of anti-racist education within the meeting and a growing number of Black members joining the congregation. The meeting embarked on a spirituality of money course, which laid the ground for considering how the meeting related to its unrestricted reserves and how those resources could be used to best reflect the religious commitments of the community. As Green Street Friends Meeting moved forward, 12 members of the meeting took the Grassroots Reparations Campaign Reparations e-course, which also assisted in shifting the meeting community and deepening commitment and awareness among members.

The reparations committee brought an explanation of the UN definition of reparations to the community in April 2021, and proposed a way to think about how to budget for reparations, including sharing a video by Miss Kimberley Jones which made a vivid case for reparations. The reparations committee then proposed that the meeting budget $50,000 per year for 10 years toward reparations or reparative justice for the Germantown Black community. The meeting approved this action in June as consistent with its commitments to grow into its anti-racism work in tangible ways.
hosting things like concerts, the majority of our events in 2022 explore Quaker testimonies: simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality, and stewardship.

In March we explored race, racism and social justice. Two representatives of the non-profit **Our Stories: Brave Conversations on Race** (www.ourstoriesonrace.org) facilitated a sample session of their program in which participants of different races share the stories that shaped their lives. Karen Reiner and Tamara Johns led participants in discussing our personal experiences of race and racism. They invited all to share answers to questions such as, “What did you learn from your parents about race?” and “When was your first encounter with racism as a target or an observer?” A key aspect of the discussion questions is their emphasis on life experiences rather than current beliefs.

By being led to explore the life events that shaped us, we came to understand better the basis of our current beliefs. Our facilitators Karen and Tamara created a setting in which participants felt comfortable sharing, and their attention to each speaker encouraged all to listen deeply. It is this sharing and listening that leads us to see each other as fellow travelers in life, as ‘same’, not as ‘other’. Through such understanding we can come together and build peace, which is a goal of the Our Stories program.

**Haddonfield Quarter**

**Anti-racism activities**

Over the past year or so, Haddonfield Quarter and its seven meetings have offered speakers and book-based discussions exploring African American history as well as broader issues of racism and prejudice. Most of these have been held virtually. Some other activities have taken place as well.

**Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting** offered two programs on African history. The first featured Dr. Teresa Nance, who offered a presentation, “A Brief Introduction to Black History.” This was followed by a program with Linda Shockley on “The Families of Lawside.”

**Atlantic City Area Friends Meeting** members gathering online each Monday at 5 PM for conversations on a wide range of spiritual and current issues. On May 1, for example, conversation about two queries—What have you learned through suffering? Why does humankind seem unable to “learn” to avoid the suffering of war?—was grounded in Robert F. Kennedy’s speech in Indianapolis following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King.

**Cropwell Quaker Meeting** was the backdrop for an episode on NBC Root’s Less Traveled: Finding Freedom in South Jersey, in which members of the Truitt family learned their African American ancestors were farmers and landowners pre-emancipation with help from a Quaker family.

**Haddonfield Meeting’s** online series addressing racism and prejudice featured Dave Austin and Charles Middleberg, co-authors of Small Miracles; Kareem Salam facilitated a discussion about Caste; Shamele Jordan addressed the Lawside-Haddonfield Connection; and Rocky Wilson read from his book, “Last Bus to Camden.”

**Medford Meeting’s** anti-racism activities in 2021 highlighted work with a national group, Braver Angels; after some brainstorming, a workshop was held on depolarizing difficult conversations about race. Members of the local police and town leaders have been invited to a follow-up workshop in May. The meeting’s sign supporting Black Lives Matter movement generated some negative feedback; two members responded to local residents’ concerns. Medford members continued efforts to connect with nearby Jacob’s Chapel AME Church, assisted a local woman to take an agricultural course at the Free Haven Farms in Lawnside, and received updates from the PYM Anti-Racism Collaborative. Groundwork has been laid for additional activities, including four members’ attendance at a rigorous course on reparations; connecting Racial Justice and Environmental Justice issues with the Meeting’s Climate Change Group; and reviewing books, websites and videos on racial justice for possible sharing with the meeting.

**Moorestown Meeting** holds “Let’s Talk About Race” discussions, sponsored by the meeting’s Anti-Racism Committee, are held on the first and third Thursdays at 7:30 PM, often featuring people with knowledge of local issues. Recent topics included overcoming prejudice, personal biases, and Juneteenth, as well as the book, Deep Delta Justice, featuring author Matthew van Meter. Also,

**Resource Friends**

**Social Justice Resource Friends** support meetings in their work toward equity and justice at both personal and institutional levels. They provide consultation in organizing towards a cause or raising consciousness within the community on an issue. Request a resource friend or learn more www.pym.org/resourcefriends.

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**Abington Quarterly Meeting Endorses Minute of Reconciliation**

Those gathered for the Discernment for Unity session on May 4, 2021 carefully considered the wording of our minute and came to unity on the wording below.

After considerable reflection and discernment, Abington Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) believes that if we are to truly uphold our Testimony of Equality, Equity and Justice and honor the legacy of Quaker abolitionists and equal-rights activists such as Benjamin Lay and Lucretia Mott, we must also acknowledge and take active steps to redress the evils they fought against. We wish to engage in racial reconciliation and healing through acknowledging, apologizing, and atoning for wrongs our Meeting has committed in the past that influence the present. We acknowledge that the land our meetinghouse and school currently occupy was once home for the Lenni-Lenape. We also acknowledge that early members of our Meeting were members of the white settler population which benefited from the takeover of land and from the violence committed against Indigenous Peoples as a result of such actions as the Doctrine of Discovery, the Walking Purchase and Quaker Indian Boarding Schools. We acknowledge that some early members of our Meeting were enslavers and that the enslavement of Africans contributed to the accumulated wealth we have today. We apologize for these truths not being fully acknowledged by us sooner and because these actions have contributed to the physical and emotional trauma still being experienced today. We wish to atone for these past oppressions and injustices in the hope of bringing healing through retrospective justice to African Americans and Indigenous Peoples. To this end, we have set up the Bothwell Reparations Fund to which members and attenders may contribute. Also, we will continue with our deeper education to better understand and seek a renewed and ongoing right relationship.

**Barnegat Friends Meeting**

**March Presentation of “Our Stories: Brave Conversations on Race”**

In 2022 we adopted a goal of choosing outreach topics that focus on feeding ourselves spiritually. While we continue to enjoy
Haddonfield Meeting is a Target of Hate Symbols. On the morning of Friday, April 1, members of our meeting discovered two swastikas spray painted on trees located on either side of the entrance to our graveyard which faces the meetinghouse. We believe this crime happened sometime between Monday and Thursday morning. The Haddonfield police had already been contacted and are now investigating. We will be following up with them. After speaking with the leadership of the school, the decision was made to cover these disgusting symbols of hate with paint so that the students and staff of the school wouldn’t have to deal with seeing them. That has been taken care of. With the advice and assistance of our communications team, we have been in touch with local media outlets in the hope that they will report on this. I believe that silence in the face of hate is at best a sign of surrender, and at worst amounts to complicity. Even though we are Quakers, there are times when we cannot and should not be silent.

It is a sad fact that hate crimes of all kinds, especially incidents involving antisemitic hate, have been on the rise in recent years across our state and our country, including locally. No matter what the possible motivation for this incident might have been, we must as a community come together to stand against it. Intolerance fester and metastasizes in darkness and silence: it depends and feeds upon apathy and indifference. Each of us can play a part in preventing that from happening.

We will keep you updated on any further news regarding this incident. In the meantime, let us all hold our entire community in the Light, in the hope that healing can happen and that love and justice can prevail.

If you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In friendship,
Dave Austin, Meeting Clerk
Haddonfield Friends Meeting

Follow-up from Haddonfield Friends Meeting
On Sunday morning, April 3rd, members of Haddonfield Friends Meeting gathered for a celebration focused on peace and healing. This came about with the confluence of two events at the end of last week: finding several trees at the entry to our graveyard had been spray-painted with graffiti including two swastikas and receiving a sapling from the historic Salem oak tree. The sapling was planted just inside the graveyard, between the two injured trees.

From 1916 to 1966, the Young Friends Movement of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting hosted a lecture series, which they called The William Penn Lectures (later renamed the Seeking Faithfulness Lectures). The Young Friends Movement began the lecture series “for the purpose of closer fellowship; for the strengthening by such association and the interchange of experience, of loyalty to the ideals of the Society of Friends; and for the preparation by such common ideals for more effective work through the Society of Friends for the growth of the Kingdom of God on Earth.” These lectures were published by the Book Committee of PYM, and PYM has granted Pendle Hill Publications permission to digitize them for the public.

This partnership grew out of a leading. Jim Rose of Quaker Heron Press describes how he came to the idea: Pendle Hill had a practice of asking week-long students to take on a job on Wednesday afternoon. One week my task was to clean/dust and arrange the books in the Upmeads library and in the process I found, high on an upper shelf, a whole series of dusty pamphlets called the William Penn Lectures. Inaccessible? You bet. A few months later I sojourned at Pendle Hill while my late wife was taking a week-long course. During that week I sat with my computer and scanned the text of those pamphlets. My intent was to make that body of literature more accessible to Quakers and others throughout the world on the internet. And recently that goal has been achieved.

To read these lectures, visit www.pendlehill.org/learn/live-recorded-lectures/william-penn-lectures/

JoEllyn Jones is a defense attorney and Trustee of the JoEllyn Jones View the presentation: www.youtube.com/watch?v=3XGPCz_ebJE&tl=281s

Salem Quarterly Meeting
Salem Quarter Friends offered a presentation organized by Greenwich Friends Meeting, “Forgiveness, A Conversation with JoEllyn Jones, Esq. and invited guest Ryan Young”. Friends will explore: What is justice? What does it really look like? What does the phrase “restorative justice” mean and how is it practiced? What does it mean to begin to heal the world through small steps? How do we slow down, cast away fear of the other, and truly see the real person? How do we forgive ourselves and each other? How do we break out of the same old conversation? How do we forgive ourselves and each other?

JoEllyn Jones is a defense attorney and Trustee of the Cumberland County Bar Association where she serves as Co-Chair of the Diversity Committee.

View the presentation: www.youtube.com/watch?v=3XGPCz_ebJE&tl=281s

“Seeking Faithfulness” Lectures

1948 Bayard Rustin
“In Apprechension How Like A God!”
2014 Christina Repoley
“Prophetic Service as Formation and Transformation”
Philadelphia Yearly Meetings’ 342nd Annual Sessions will have artist and performer Eppchez Yes as well as scholars Kelsey Borrowman and Jonathan Lazar delivering keynotes. Eppchez Yes will be delivering their keynote in two parts, first in an interactive performance from 5-7 pm on July 22nd after Quaker Fun Day at Arch Street. Then they will open Annual Sessions with their keynote at 7 pm on July 27th in front of the YAF community. Both the performance and the keynote will be live-streamed via Zoom from Arch Street with opportunity for folks to gather in-person for either or both.

On Saturday July 30th 2022, Kelsey Borrowman and Dr. Jonathan Lazar will be delivering their keynotes on accessibility and what that looks like for our beloved Quaker community and how we can be better at connecting across all abilities. Their respective keynotes will be followed by a Q & A and Discussion facilitated by Afroza Hossain, the PYM Inclusion and Belonging Coordinator. Saturday’s keynotes will be exclusively on Zoom.

Young Adult Friends at Sessions
At Annual Sessions this year, Young Adult Friends (YAF) are excited to return to some in-person events. They will gather on July 27th at Arch Street at 5 pm to be in fellowship, then they will attend Eppchez Yes’ keynote at 7 pm, also at Arch Street.

YAF Beach Fun Day
Sunday July 31 (11 am-5 pm)
YAFs will gather outside Friends Center to carpool to Brigantine Beach, NJ.

The other evenings of Annual Sessions, 9-10 pm, YAFs will gather on Zoom to be in virtual fellowship with each other and collaborate on the YAF epistle to the Yearly Meeting.

Questions? Tara Rubinstein, trubinstein@pym.org
www.pym.org/sessions
RUNWAY TO ANNUAL SESSIONS WEEK

June 25

Workshop Saturday
- Co-Regulating & Building Relationships Toward Equity & Justice
  10 am–4 pm, O. and Dana Reinhold, (Central Philadelphia Meeting)
- Climate Change: Hope Through Action
  11 am–2:30 pm, Eco Justice Collaborative
- Experiment With Light – A Gift from Early Quakers
  1–4 pm, Amy Duckett Wagner (Fallsgiving Meeting)
- The Power of Enough – Kinship with all Life
  10 am–4 pm, Jacqueline Stillwell, Right Sharing of World Resources
- Growing Our Meetings: 2 Models & The Resources We Need
  10 am–3 pm, Irene Oleksiw (Downingtown Meeting) & Linda Lotz
  (South Jersey Quakers)

Registration www.pym.org/workshop-saturday

Friday, July 22

Affinity Groups
- BIPOC
- Aging
- Mixed Racial Heritage
- White Friends Working on Our Racism
- Transgender & Gender Non-Conforming
- Survivors of Sexual Assault
- Young Adults
- Friends “second-thirds” (generational group ages 36-59ish)
- LGBTQIA+
- BIPOC

Registration www.pym.org/affinity-group-saturday

July 26-27

Spiritual Formation Retreat
The Spiritual Formation Retreat will begin to ground and center participants in a deeper communion with Spirit while preparing individuals to participate, listen, and learn for the Annual Sessions week together. The Retreat’s theme is

‘Getting There from Here’ (based on the Across Generations’ theme). The facilitator is Clinton Pettus, he is a member of Baltimore Monthly Meeting, Stony Run (Baltimore Yearly Meeting).

Clinton Pettus Ph.D., Personality Psychology
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Registration www.pym.org/spiritual-formation-retreat

ANNUAL SESSIONS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, July 27
7–7:15 pm 342nd Annual Sessions
Jean-Marie Prestwidge-Barch & Frank Barch, Co-Clerks
We are eager to share worship and business with you during Annual Sessions! During our consideration of business we will hear reports from some of our Quarterly Meetings and Administrative, Quaker Life and Nominating Councils as well as our General Secretary. We will listen to epistles from other Yearly Meetings and write our own to share, and we will learn about how Abington Monthly Meeting is engaged in reparations work. We will consider an updated report from the Membership and Belonging Sprint. Please join us and find out what else will be on the agenda for our seasoning and discernment!

Keynote: Preparing Broken Foundations for Repair
7:15–8:30 pm Eppchez Yes
Join performance artist Eppchez Yes for a dynamic opening of Annual Sessions! We’ll have music, invitation to movement, and an opportunity for a collective release of energetic “stuckness” around repair.

Thursday July 28

Morning
9–9:30 am Intergenerational Bible Study
9:45–10:15 am Worship
10:30–Noon Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Afternoon
Noon–1 pm Fellowship

Evening
6:45–7:15 pm Worship
7:30–9 pm Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
9–9:30 pm Fellowship

Friday July 29

9–9:30 am Intergenerational Bible Study

Morning
9:45–10:15 am Worship
10:30–Noon Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Afternoon
Noon–1 pm Fellowship
3–4:30 pm Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Evening
6:45–7:15 pm Worship
7:30–9 pm Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
9–9:30 pm Fellowship

Saturday July 30

Morning
9–9:30 am Intergenerational Bible Study
9:45–10:15 am Worship
10:30–Noon Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Afternoon
Noon–1 pm Fellowship
3–4:30 pm Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Sunday July 31

Keynote: Building a More Inclusive Community: Accessibility and Tech in the Yearly Meeting
With Kelsey Borrowman & Dr. Jonathan Lazar
By using principles of accessibility and accommodation that we normally reserve for disabled folks, we can create a more accessible and compassionate education for everyone.

Sunday Evening 7pm

Keynote: All Together Worship
Our PYM community will gather for worship across our meetinghouses and homes, in person or online, in a Giant Meeting for Worship!
10:45–Noon Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
Legacy Fund Donor: Amy Kawabe Kirkjian (1923 – 2020)

Last summer Philadelphia Yearly Meeting received a significant bequest to PYM as well as a Legacy Fund gift. When the bequest arrived, accompanied by a letter from Pat McBee, the executor, we knew that Amy Kirkjian had an interesting life story. There was a second story, too. Amy’s executor and care advocate, Pat McBee, was challenged to figure out how to support Amy’s goal of living independently. Pat found a way forward and the causes near and dear to Amy’s heart, including PYM, benefited. So did Amy!

Read more

Newtown Quaker Kids Raise $3,300 with a Lasagna Dinner for a Trenton Pre-School

The Quaker Kids of Newtown Quaker Meeting have done it again! At the first in-person dinner at the historic Quaker Meetinghouse since the start of the COVID pandemic two years ago, the Quaker Kids attracted an enthusiastic crowd who contributed over $3,300 to their designated charity!

For the ninth time, the annual designated charity for the young Quakers was the Mercer Street Friends Summer Pre-School Program in Trenton, NJ, “a Quaker-affiliated, nonsectarian organization focused on hunger, poverty and access to educational opportunities.”

Photo l-r: row 1 Sarah Armour, Jack Cicimaro, Lydia Cicimaro, Meredith McDonald, row 2: Nicholas Vandenberg, Devin Vandenberg.

Read more
www.pym.org/newtown-quaker-kids-raise-3300-with-a-lasagna-dinner-for-a-trenton-pre-school

Performance Arts at Friends Home in Kennett

Friends Home in Kennett has made a commitment to serving Friends with care and enabling relationships to grow. Through a creative program of Performing Arts, their staff has created an enriching opportunity for their residents to reach others’ hearts through music.

Last year, the PYM Aging Assistance Granting Group (AAGG) awarded Friends Home in Kennett a grant to be used by their activities staff for their needs. In our article, Wright Horne reports on the activities, thoughts behind their programming, and the residents’ responses.

Read more
www.pym.org/performance-arts-at-friends-home-in-kennett

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www.pym.org/news

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InTheLight Summer 2022