

London Grove Monthly Meeting



~ Begun 1714 ~
~ Established 1792 ~

December 2015 Bulletin

Twelfth Month Queries on Integrity and Simplicity

What does our Meeting understand to be the meaning and implication of our testimonies on simplicity and integrity?

How do our Meeting's actions demonstrate this understanding?

As a Meeting, what are we doing to encourage members to embody integrity and simplicity in their everyday lives?

How do I strive to maintain the integrity of my inner and outer lives—in my spiritual journey, my work, and my family responsibilities? How do I manage my commitments so that overcommitment, worry, and stress do not diminish my integrity?

Am I temperate in all things? Am I open to counsel and advice on overindulgence and addictive behavior, such as gambling? Do I take seriously the hazards associated with addictive and mood-altering substances?

Am I careful to speak truth as I know it and am I open to truth spoken to me? Am I mindful that judicial oaths imply a double standard of truth?

Do I refrain from membership in organizations whose purposes and methods compromise our testimonies?



December 2015 Calendar

Thursday 12/3	7.30 pm	Property Committee
Sunday 12/6	9.30 am	Meeting for Worship; Childrens First Day School
	10.30 am	1st Christmas Choir Rehearsal (Kindergarten wing, please see page 5)
	10.45 am	Meeting for Worship for Business
Thursday 12/10	7 pm	Care & Membership Committee
Sunday 12/13	8:30 am	Peace & Social Justice Committee
	9.30 am	Meeting for Worship; Childrens First Day School
	10.45 am	Holiday Ornament Making (Please see page 4)
	11 AM	2nd Christmas Choir Rehearsal (Meeting room, please see page 5)
	5 pm	Adult Supper (Please see page 4)
Thursday 12/17	9:30 am	Library Committee
	7 pm	Kindergarten Committee
Saturday 12/19	10 am	Young Adults Decorate Social Room for Christmas
Sunday 12/20	9.30 am	Meeting for Worship; Childrens First Day School
	10:45 am	Morning Christmas Program (Please see page 4)
	7 pm	Christmas Pageant (Please see page 4)
Monday 12/21	7 pm	Carols at New West Grove Meeting (Please see page 4)
Thursday 12/24	10 pm	Christmas Eve Meeting for Worship (Please see page 4)
Sunday 12/27	9.30 am	Meeting for Worship; Childrens First Day School
	10.45 am	Adult Religious Education -Quaker Studies

Childcare and Flowers Volunteers

Date	First Hour	Second Hour	Flowers
12/6	TBA*	Tammy Brosius, Baz Powell	Susanna Davison
12/13	TBA*	Karen-Lee Brofee, Susanna Davison	Baz Powell
12/20	Margaret Walton	Sam Cypressi, Lisa Cypressi	Grace Pfeifer
12/27	Pat Horrocks	Matos Family	Betsy Walker

***InReach Committee seeks 2015-16 childcare Volunteers. Please let Carolyn Muller know of your interest! (muller01@zoominternet.net)**

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 11th MONTH MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR BUSINESS

DOUG MYERS offered an update of London Grove's finances through October. We had total income of \$4,130, including \$1,300 in memory of Patrick Chase. Our expenses for the month were \$3,246, and we closed the month with a cash balance of approximately \$84,150. London Grove Monthly Meeting is 83% through the year and we have received 64% of contributions towards our budget.

Speaking on behalf of the Kindergarten Committee, Clerk KAREN CONLAN offered its Annual Report. The kindergarten is operating in 2015 at a 56% enrollment level with 8 students in the Full Day program and 11 in the Half Day program. This represents a decline from 79% enrollment in 2014. Karen also reported that the Afternoon Enrichment program is near full capacity. The committee is weighing plans for increased marketing and impactful advertising. Overall, the committee members experience great joy watching the children develop, and express satisfaction carrying on this London Grove tradition.

REBECCA MITCHELL from the Outreach Committee provided an update on the pending Dukes of Destiny concert. Rebecca reported that the event planning is developing smoothly and we are on track for a successful event.

A Simple Meal follow up was given by GEORGIA DELANEY, clerk of the Quakers Care Committee. This was a very meaningful event with presentations on the Helen Corson Biography project, UNICEF, and a new Southern Chester County charity for homeless families – Family Promise. Georgia's presentation evolved into a discussion on potential opportunities to support Family Promise, with an announcement by BARBARA WALKER of the Peace & Social Justice Committee of an upcoming meeting with Kennett MM. The purpose of that meeting will be to explore opportunities for support by London Grove to Kennett, who have already made a formal commitment to Family Promise. Our membership voiced support to Barbara in her exploration.

BRENDA MACALUSO gave two reports on the recent WQM meeting on racism – reading SUSANNA DAVISON'S report on the adult program and offering her own review of the children's program (in which she participated). Both programs were considered thought provoking and positive experiences. A report from MARGARET WALTON on WQM'S business meeting and on upcoming WQM programs was added.

Bob Frye, Clerk

FROM LONDON GROVE CARES COMMITTEE

Friends, we are collecting one-pound bags of dried pinto beans to be added to food baskets that are being distributed by Kennett Food Cupboard to needy families in the middle of December. You can bring them in and put them in the large blue bin in the Library that we use to collect food for the Kennett Food Cupboard. If you just pick them up when you are doing your own shopping and think of those you are helping and how they are not so fortunate as to be able to go to the market and afford the same food you are buying...It is a small thing to us but a very large and wonderful gift when we put them all together with the other churches and Meetings who are working on this. Each family will get a complete meal and some families are receiving bicycles and helmets for

their children. See me if you would like to donate cash. They also need volunteers for giveaways on Dec. 17, 18, 19 from 9 to 3, at the New Garden Municipal Bldg. Rt. 41. See me for the number to call, if you wish to volunteer. Georgia Delaney 610-444-0650



A LONDON GROVE CHRISTMAS 2016

Following long-established meeting tradition, December at London Grove will be filled with preparations for the Christmas pageant, held the evening of Sunday, 12/20.

On 12/13, Adult First Day School gives way to intergenerational ornament-making. At 6 pm, at Georgia Delaney's home, Georgia's personal tradition of hosting the holiday Adult Supper continues:

"I am happy to open my home to Friends again this year. It would not be Christmas without my Friends filling my home with life, love and joy. Please bring a dish to share. Side dishes and light on the desserts if possible. I will be making my usual ham. The fire will be lit, and the candles glowing in anticipation of your special selves. Please RSVP 610-444-0650."

On Saturday morning 12/19, Young Adults will gather to decorate the Christmas tree and to prepare treat bags for distribution, should Santa make an appearance.

On 12/20, excited preparations will continue during Children's First Day School, followed by intergenerational Opening Exercises, with Christmas music, a Bible reading and a story. Families are invited to return to the meetinghouse at 6:30 pm, in time to help costume some angels and the other characters surrounding the Baby Jesus.

As always, Adult volunteers will be needed to help set up (and take down) the pageant platform and to prepare costumes and arrange the angels' wings. To participate in the festivities, please contact Mariah Matos or another member of the Religious Education Committee.

Silent worship will be held Christmas Eve, 12/24, beginning at 10 pm.

A NEW WEST GROVE SOLSTICE/CHRISTMAS CAROL SING 12/21

Meeting and Carol-Sing Around the Woodstove: Join Friends and neighbors at 7 p.m. for worship followed by singing, hot cocoa and cookies at little, historic New West Grove Meeting. There's fire in the woodstove for warmth; bring a blanket or warm clothes as needed. This is a seasonal favorite among some of us, timed at the Winter Solstice this year. Remember your flashlight for parking-time, bring a friend, and bring a few cookies – or just eat cookies at cocoa-time! No amenities at the meetinghouse. Questions to Wick Williams wickwill@aol.com or Gail Newbold gailnewbold@verizon.net 610-869-3455

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED...

Can you help a Friend who needs a ride, such as to a medical appointment, meeting for worship, the store, or a visit with a friend? Care and Membership Committee is re-instituting the Volunteer Driver List, which will be posted in the Meeting.. To sign up, please contact clerk Denis Newbold (denisnewbold@verizon.net 610-869-3455) and let us know times you can/cannot be of assistance.

SINGERS WANTED FOR 2016 CHRISTMAS CHOIR!

We will perform at the morning program on Sunday 12/20—The more singers, the merrier! Music is available in advance from Eileen Hickman.

Sunday rehearsals are scheduled:

Dec. 6, 10:30 AM in Kindergarden wing

Dec. 13, 11:00 AM in Meeting room

Performance: Sunday morning program at rise of worship.

Contact Wyatt Thompson or Eileen Hickman with questions.



London Grove Monthly Meeting Contact Information

Clerk of Meeting - Bob Frye - bobfryehome@aol.com - 484.432.6718

Assistant Clerk - Susanna Davison - shrdavison@me.com - 610.388.2894

Care & Membership - Denis Newbold - denisnewbold@verizon.net - 610.869.3455

Worship & Ministry - Ginny Green - gabbyblackie@aol.com - 302.245.8203

London Grove Meeting House - londongrovementing.org - 610.268.8466

Burial Grounds - Charles Brosius - cbromush@aol.com - 610.869.9235

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting - www.pym.org

Western Quarterly Meeting - westernquarterquakers.org

Newsletter Editor/Photographer - Susanna Davison - shrdavison@me.com

Associate Editor/Apple Expert - Jesse Davison - jessedavison@me.com

Bulletin deadline is usually the third Monday of each month. We make exceptions, though.