



London Grove Monthly Meeting

~ Begun 1714 ~
~ Established 1792 ~

June 2016 Bulletin

6th Month Queries on Equality

How does our Meeting help to create and maintain a society whose institutions recognize and do away with the inequities rooted in patterns of prejudice and economic convenience?

Is our Meeting open to all regardless of race, ability, sexual orientation, or class?

What steps are we taking as a Meeting to assure that our Meeting and the committees and institutions under our care reflect our respect for all and are free from practices rooted in prejudice?

Do I examine myself for aspects of prejudice that may be buried, including beliefs that seem to justify biases based on race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, class, and feelings of inferiority or superiority?

What am I doing to help overcome the contemporary effects of past and present oppression?

Am I teaching my children, and do I show through my way of living, that love of God includes affirming the equality of people, treating others with dignity and respect, and seeking to recognize and address that of God within every person?



June 2016 Calendar

Thursday 6/2	7:30 PM	Property Committee meets
Sunday 6/5	8:15 AM	Religious Education Committee meets
	9:30 AM	Meeting for Worship; Children's First Day School
	10:45 AM	Meeting for Worship for Business
Thursday 6/9	7 PM	Care & Membership Committee meets
Sunday 6/12	8:30:AM	Peace & Social Justice Committee meets
	9:30 AM	Meeting for Worship; Children's First Day School ends for summer starting today; adult and children's classes will resume in September
	10:45 AM	Children's Day celebration (Please see page 4 for details) Refreshments will be offered outdoors, weather permitting!
	Noon	Worship & Ministry Committee meets (Also, please see note on p. 6)
Thursday 6/16	9:30 AM	Library Committee meets
	7 PM	Kindergarten Committee meets
Sunday 6/19	9:30 AM	Meeting for Worship
	10:45 AM	Outdoor Refreshments, weather permitting - Care & Membership
Sunday 6/26	9:30 AM	Meeting for Worship—Outdoors, weather permitting!
	6 PM	Adult Supper: Rsvp to Karen-Lee Brofee: 443-754-1051. (Please see page 6 for details and directions)



Childcare and Flowers Volunteers

Date	First Hour	Second Hour	Flowers
6/5	Keli Trice	Tammy Brosius, Carolyn Muller	Mary Jo Ciganek
6/12	Jill Benjamin	Sam & Lisa Cypressi	Sam Cypressi
6/19	Dawn Thompson		Bob Frye
6/26	Chris Hinks		Linda Sheesley

CLERK'S SUMMARY OF THE MAY 1 MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR BUSINESS

TREASURER'S REPORT – According to Doug Myers, our rate of contributions towards Budget has improved – we are 33% through the year and have given 27% towards the annual budget need. Also, contributions for the month exceeded expenses in 4th Month, resulting in a favorable end of month cash balance.

PASTORAL CARE & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION THREAD GATHERING REVIEW – Brenda Macaluso participated in this PYM-sponsored program, held in Lancaster. She offered a thorough report on learnings from the daylong event. There were a number of ideas with potential to enrich the life of our faith community.

EMPTY BOWLS EVENT SUMMARY – Clerk of Quakers Care Committee Georgia Delaney read a heartfelt letter of thanks for the work done by members of the committee (and 1st Day School bowl-makers) in support of this annual event to raise money for the Kennett Food Cupboard. Georgia reported that London Grove's presence in the community is definitely being noticed.

CARE & MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT – Denis Newbold, C&M Committee Clerk, gave their Annual Report. It highlighted the committee's purpose: To assure that we are a community in which each of us feels loved and cared for. Central to this is recognition that, "Our committee is not the pastor, our committee is here to assure that our entire meeting is engaged in pastoral care, and that everyone is cared for." Much was accomplished this past year, and work continues on finding ways to better meet the needs of Friends in conflict and Friends who are suffering grief and loss.

AUDITORS' REPORT – Our Audit Committee has completed its 2015 review of the financial reports of the Burial Grounds, Kindergarten, Board of Trustees, and Treasurer. They certified that all is in order. The report was submitted by Harold Brosius on behalf of the Audit team.

WESTERN QUARTER NEWS – Margaret Walton, our Western Quarter liaison, updated the meeting on recent activities and upcoming events. Margaret reported on the recent Quarterly Meeting held on 4/17 at Centre Meeting. It included a well-received program on African-American abolitionists and their overlooked story. Also of note: Approval was given to hire a new Youth Coordinator; a search for a new bookkeeping service that can commit more time to WQM has begun (suggestions welcomed); and the financial struggles of two meetings may impact WQM finances going forward.

Some key dates on the horizon:

May 22 (3 PM / Kennett Meeting) – Quarterly Meeting Support Committee

July 17 (Time to be announced / Newark Meeting) – Western Quarterly Meeting

Submitted by
Bob Frye
Monthly Meeting Clerk



With help from other Friends, the **Religious Education Committee** will celebrate Children's Day on 6/12/2016. Freshly-churned ice cream and other treats will be served, following the presentation of Bibles to children aged ten, and other books to high school graduates, at the rise of worship. This is also the time to hear from proud families, about new babies and the accomplishments of our post-secondary graduates.

The pleasant summer custom of "**Refreshments on the Porch**" (or the lawn) will continue through June, July and August. Committees can sign up for the dates that remain available (at this writing): 6/26, 7/24, 7/31 or 8/28. There will be a clipboard available in the meetinghouse vestibule for your convenience in signing up.

Also available on the vestibule table, Baz Powell is making up the **Flower List** for the next six months. Baz knows flower-bringers like to plan ahead—and your doing so also saves her from having to make more frequent pleas during announcement time after worship. Thanks in advance, from Baz and your Bulletin co-editors!

Another important reminder! **As of July 1, 2016 adults over age 18 who volunteer to be with with children at the meetinghouse will be required to show evidence that they have no criminal record nor record of child abuse allegations.** Friends who volunteer in First Day School and/or provide childcare during worship and Second Hour from September through June of the coming year should give copies of those "clearances" to Susanna Davison. They will be sent to the volunteer coordinator at Philadelphia Yearly Meeting who helps us to be in compliance with the Child Abuse Protection Act.

Maintaining Love and Unity Among Us

Approved August, 2015 by Care & Membership Committee, London Grove Monthly Meeting

Our Meeting strives to be a safe and loving place for each of its members and attenders. There are nonetheless occasions when an individual member experiences a challenge, setback, or offense to which the community fails to respond with safe and loving support. Of particular concern are slights, hurt feelings, or conflicts that may arise between meeting members. The Care and Membership Committee offers its support to every meeting member or attender. Initial contact may be made through the clerk of the committee or any other committee member. All information will be kept in complete confidence. Even within the committee, information will travel only as far as approved by the requesting member. Once contact has been made, various ways open. Possibilities include:

(1) Listening Session. It may be helpful to start simply by having one's concerns heard in confidence by two trusted and supportive Friends or "Listeners." Listeners offer love, understanding, and support in a spiritually guided manner without judgment. There is no attempt to "solve" the problem; this is a listening session. If requested, listeners may offer helpful thoughts and provide perspective. Listeners may also suggest further steps, such as formation of a clearness committee or counseling. Listeners may be named by the requesting member (or attender) in consultation with the Clerk (or other contacted member) of the Care & Membership Committee. Full confidentiality will be maintained.

(2) Clearness Committee. *Faith and Practice* recognizes committees for clearness as a powerful means for guiding and supporting "members facing a crisis in their lives, sensing a leading towards a personal witness or considering a change in life's direction." As in a Listening Session, a clearness committee will hear the member's concerns in a loving and non-judgmental way, but it will then move on to work with the member, providing support in finding a path forward.

(3) Mediation. Friends may find themselves in conflict, unable to individually discern "way opening" and wish to pursue help. Care and Membership Committee offers support to Friends and attenders seeking clarity, agreement, resolution, and reconciliation. One or more trusted Friends will serve as mediators providing neutrality, confidentiality, and the stillness of worship in the Light. Mediators will impartially guide communication, focus listening, and help Friends to understand one another's perspectives. Care and Membership mediators are not professional counselors but listeners who assist in the problem solving process. Such listeners stand in testimony to a faith in people's own capacities to determine the source of their conflict and to reach an agreed resolution.

(4) Professional counseling. Some issues, for whatever reason, may call for skilled professional assistance. Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) sponsors Friends Counseling Service, which offers psychological support to members and regular attenders of PYM's monthly meetings and their families. Therapists in the Counseling Service are licensed mental health practitioners. All are active members of PYM. Fees are affordable, based on a sliding scale of income. LGMM financially supports this service. Friends Counseling Service can be contacted directly and confidentially through its coordinator Kenneth Brick (215-241-7019) or by visiting www.pym.org/friends-counseling-service.

Care and Membership offers the above suggestions as those that are currently available and can be immediately implemented. The Care and Membership Committee continues to seek ways to supportively nurture love and unity among all London Grove Monthly Meeting members and attenders.

Speaking of Care & Membership, adult suppers are always a good time with opportunities to visit and catch up. The next **Adult Covered Dish** gathering is scheduled for:

June 26th at 6:00 PM

- At Karen-Lee Brofee's Pennsylvania home, **1924 Hillendale Road, Chadds Ford.**
- Directions: Turn off Route 1 onto Route 52 South; at the first red light, turn left on to Hillendale Road. It is the 7th house on the right--a brick ranch home.
- Bring a main dish, a salad, a side or dessert—and a smile! Karen-Lee will supply the main dishes and beverages.
- It would be helpful if you would email or call Karen-Lee if you plan to come.

Worship & Ministry Committee member Richard Hearne would be glad to hear from people willing to coordinate worship in June. As mentioned in last month's *London Grove Bulletin*, the W&M Committee hopes Friends will volunteer to take the role of Worship Coordinator during the summer months, when Opening Exercises are not held. This simpler coordination involves sitting with others on the facing bench during worship, and sensing when to invite "holding in the Light" and to end worship. After a brief pause for hand-shaking and greeting neighbors, the Worship Coordinator invites visitors and Friends who have been away to introduce themselves and asks for brief announcements. On second, third, fourth (and fifth, in July) First Days, Friends will adjourn after worship to enjoy outdoor refreshments provided by the meeting's various committees. Please let Richard Hearne know if you are available to coordinate worship this month. If you're shy about sitting up front, the Committee plans to hold worship out of doors on the fourth First Days of June, July and August.

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 - Heather Hayes - heather763@hotmail.com - 610.869.5732
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
Bulletin 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. Just ask.