



London Grove Monthly Meeting

~ Begun 1714 ~
~ Established 1792 ~

December Bulletin

12th 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?

Editor's Note:

The Queries offered above comprise the twelfth in the set of twelve which London Grove Meeting has addressed monthly during 2017. However, it differs from the one now appearing as Number 12 in the newly-approved Faith and Practice.*

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's Faith and Practice is the source of Queries used by our Monthly Meeting. During last summer's PYM Annual

Sessions, a revised version of Faith and Practice was approved.

Queries have been regrouped under broad headings (Deepening Our Faith; Nurturing Our Community; Grounding for Transformed Lives; Witnessing in the World). In some (but not all) cases, Queries have been renumbered. Each Query now has sub-letters.

The London Grove Bulletin Production Team plans to finish out 2017 with the set of Queries we have been running since First Month. In 2018 we will use those from the new Faith and Practice. Some will be essentially the same; others will differ.

*Both sets are currently on line at the PYM website, if anyone wants to compare them!

December 2017 Calendar

12/3	8:15 AM	Religious Education Committee
	9:30 AM	Meeting For Worship; Children's First Day School--David Watkins
	10:30AM	Meeting For Worship For Business; child care available
	10:30 AM	Christmas Choir Practice in kindergarten wing (see Other Announcements on page 7)
12/7		No Property Committee Meeting
12/10	8:30 AM	Peace and Social Justice Committee
	9:30 AM	Meeting for Worship; Children's First Day School--Karen Conlan
	10:30 AM	Making Ornaments for Our Tree by adults and children--refreshments available
	11:00 AM	Christmas Choir Practice in Meeting room (see Other Announcements on page 7)
	6:00 PM	Adult Dinner--Georgia Delaney (see Other Announcements on page 7)
12/14	7:00 PM	Care and Membership Committee
12/17	9:30 AM	Meeting for Worship; Children's First Day School--Mariah Mcintosh
	10:30 AM	Special Intergenerational Christmas Celebration with Choir and Children's Story
	6:15 PM	Children arrive in classroom wing to dress in their Nativity Pageant costumes
	7:00 PM	Christmas Nativity Pageant followed by refreshments and visit from Santa
12/21		No Library Committee Meeting
12/24	9:30 AM	Family Meeting for Worship; child care will be available if need arises. No Adult First Day School; no child care
	10:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Meeting for Worship; Visitors are always welcome
12/31	9:30 AM	Family Meeting for Worship; Child care available
	10:30 AM	Social Hour with everyone helping to remove decorations from the tree and Meeting House

Childcare and Flowers Volunteers

Date	Volunteer bringing Flowers	Childcare Volunteers FIRST HOUR	Childcare Volunteers SECOND HOUR
12/3	Jill Benjamin	Doug Myers	Kim Brosnan-Myers
12/10	Lexi Vaughan	Dawn Thompson	Dawn Thompson
12/17		Gail and Denis Newbold	Gail and Denis Newbold
12/24	Baz Powell	All attend Meeting for Worship-- Volunteer may be needed for child care at this time	No Adult First Day School/ no child care volunteer needed
12/31	???	Karen-Lee Brofee	Karen-Lee Brofee

11th Month Meeting for Worship for Business Summary

Recorder Betsy Walker reported the death of our member William Marsden.

Treasurer Doug Myers reported that, with a bequest from the Ruth Vaurio estate and other contributions, we have received 60% of the annual budget. Doug reminded Friends that we are now 83% through the year. The past month's expenses exceeded income by \$7,965.61. Most committees have turned in their 2018 budget requests to Finance Committee.

Carolyn Muller presented the Meeting InReach Committee's Annual Report. Many Friends have obtained clearances so they can support the meeting's programs for children. Involvement in production of the monthly Bulletin and the Christmas newsletter has increased this year. Emails sent by committee member Karen-Lee Brofee continue to get important news out to the meeting community in a timely manner.

Grace Pfeifer gave the Outreach Committee's Annual Report. The Dukes of Destiny concert, held at West Grove Meeting, was attended by a smaller number than last year's event. A good time was had by those who came to share a potluck meal and enjoy the music and dancing, some of which was spectacular!

Our representative to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, Mina Johnson, spoke of the Fall Continuing Session she had attended, just the day before, at Arch Street Meetinghouse. The separation of an African-American Friend from Upper Dublin Monthly Meeting continues to concern Friends in Abington Quarter and across the Yearly Meeting. PYM's Quaker Life Council is attempting to engage both sides. Western Quarter's own Tanya Thames Taylor will clerk an on-going Assessment of Institutional Racism within PYM. Institutional racism is defined as "laws and practices that institutions create in order to benefit White people at the expense of People of Color." Twenty-one Friends across PYM have agreed to facilitate the assessment. Two PYM Friends of African Descent, Sarah Willie- LeBreton and Inspira Williams, led a discussion and distributed a useful handout. After lunch, participants paired up to share their experiences of the handout, which listed "Racial Microaggressions in Everyday Life." Mina and Susanna Davison will share copies with the Peace & Social Concerns Committee and other interested London Grove Friends.

Summarized by
Susanna Davison, Clerk London Grove Monthly Meeting

Maintaining Love and Unity Among Us

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

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.

Friends Association

for Care & Protection of Children

October 18, 2017

Barbara Walker
London Grove Friends Meeting
500 W Street Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348-1112

Dear Barbara and Our Friends at London Grove Friends Meeting,

The story of Ella is one of our success stories made possible with your donation of \$200.00. Ella and her baby Nicholas were living in her car in a public park when she applied to a dental school for one of two openings to become a dental hygienist. There weren't any shelter openings available or funds for a motel stay so our Outreach to Homeless Families helped her with support and child care so she could go to school during the day. Ella studied at night in her car while Nicholas slept and she graduated at the top of her class and now has a job earning more than \$17.00 an hour. Today she and Nicholas are living in their own apartment.

Our goal is to keep kids with their families and help them move forward toward independent, stable housing together; none of this could be done without your help. Your generosity helped us pave the way for another child to stay with their family.

Friends Association strives to help homeless families find solace and warmth when they come to us and as they work to achieve strength and independence by the time they leave. You are the reason we can help homeless families in need.

To learn even more about our programs, or you would like additional information, please call me at (610) 431-3598 ext. 222.

Sincerely,



Catherine Friedman
Executive Director

*We are so thankful for
your support!*

P.S. Follow us on twitter @friendsassocorg or add us on Facebook @FriendsAssoc to stay up to date with the latest Friends Association news and events.

Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your financial support. The official registration and financial information of the Friends Association for Care and Protection of Children may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-731-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. The organization's federal tax ID number is 23-1381006.

113 W. Chestnut Street, West Chester, PA 19380
www.friendsassoc.org ♦ 610-431-3598



Linked 



LIBRARY NEWS

London Grove Library acquired the following books in 2017. Look for them in the new books rack.

The Gift. Poems by Hafiz, the great Sufi master, translated by Daniel Ladinsky. 1999. Cat: 891.5 Ha

Living in the light: some Quaker pioneers of the 20th Century in the U.S.A., Vol. I, by Leonard S. Kenworthy. 1985. Cat: 920 Kenw v. 1

Together. A book by twelve men (Rufus Jones and others). 1946. Cat: 260 Tog

Peace is every step. The path of mindfulness in everyday life, by Thich Nhat Hanah. Cat: 172.4 H

Old churches and meeting houses in and around Philadelphia, by John T. Faris. 1926. Cat: 298.67 Fa

The quiet eye. A way of looking at pictures, by Sylvia Shaw Judson. 1954. Cat: 701.J

The library also acquired the following Pendle Hill Pamphlets in 2017. These are shelved in the Pendle Hill Pamphlet collection which is located to the right of the biographies:

Invitation to a deeper communion, by Marcelle Martin. 2003. PHP 366

Living the peace testimony: The legacy of Howard and Anna Brinton, by Anthony Manousos. 2004. PHP 372

Group spiritual nature: The wisdom of spiritual listening, by Daphne Clement. 2004. PHP 373

Quaker views on mysticism, by Margery Post Abbot. 2005. PHP 375

Henry J. Cadbury, scholar, activist, disciple, by Margaret Hope Bacon. 2005. PHP 376

Holding one another in the light, by Marcelle Martin. 2006. PHP 382

The mystery of Quaker light, by Peter A. Bien. 2006. PHP 384

Expectant listening. Finding God's thread of guidance, by Michael Wajda. 2007. PHP 388

Christianity and the inner life. Twenty-first Century reflection on the words of early friends, by Margery Post Abbott. 2009. PHP 402

Confident Quakerism by Ben Pink Dandelion. 2010. PHP 410

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Singers Wanted For 2017 Christmas Choir!

We will perform at the morning program on Sunday 12/17. The more singers the merrier! Music is available in advance.

Rehearsals are scheduled:

Sunday December 3 10:30 AM in Kindergarten wing

Sunday December 10 11:00 AM in Meeting room

Performance:

Sunday December 17--Sunday morning program at rise of worship.

Please contact Wyatt Thompson or Eileen Hickman with questions

Dear Friends:

It is my great pleasure to open my home up for the ADULT DINNER on Sunday, December 10th at 6:00 PM. Please RSVP, and please bring a side dish if coming. I will be making a ham, as usual. Bring your laughter, joy, and beautiful selves to warm my home and heart. Hope to see you.

Georgia Delaney
610-444-0650

London Grove Monthly Meeting Contact Information

Clerk of Meeting - Susanna Davison - shrdavison@me.com - 610.388.2894
Assistant Clerk - Peter Weygandt - maria@weygandtmetzler.com - 610.486.0165
Care & Membership - Denis Newbold - denisnewbold@verizon.net - 610.869.3455
Worship & Ministry - Heather Hayes - heather763@hotmail.com - 610.869.5732
London Grove Meeting House - londongrovemeeting.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
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Bulletin deadline is the third Monday of each month.

