

# AQ NEWSLETTER

ABINGTON

QUARTER



*End of year 2016*

*Religious Society of Friends*

[www.abingtonquarter.org](http://www.abingtonquarter.org)

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## **AQM Meeting for Business at Horsham**

### **10/2/2016 Summary**

After a season of worship, Amelia Diamond (clerk) opened the meeting for business at 9:00 AM; Friends present reviewed the agenda and approved minutes of the Quarterly Meeting session 8<sup>th</sup> month, 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016. 47 Friends and 19 youth attended. Friends approved the minutes of 8/7/2016 held at Abington, the agenda for the day, and the appointment of Joan Eyre (Richland) for a full term on Trustees.

#### **Trustees**

Tom Armstrong reported for Trustees, noting that with the volatility in the market the precluded moving funds into the green fund at Friends Fiduciary, as previously approved. Current officers are Bob Taylor (pres.), Tom Armstrong (vice pres.), Karen Russell (secr.) and Dan Hazelton (Treas.) who presented their budget

#### **AQM Treasurer's report**

Bob Reiff presented the AQM Treasurer's Annual Report, with the receipts distribution balances.

#### **Home and Care Committee**

Nancy Gold, presented Home and Care's semi-annual report. The committee continues to identify alternative sources of care for seniors. Awareness of end of life issues has included the reading of *Being Mortal*, by Atul Gawande. Foulkeways' board recently approved a staff coordinator to help residents handle aging, health and end of life. Assistance to members of our Quarter, those with a 3 yr membership and active service, continues by means of the General, Spruance and Enabling Funds and prompt responses from our Treasurer.

#### **Program**

We heard from three meetings concerning their work with refugees and others in need. Lowell Booth reported from Abington that members are assisting with food and education for broader support for a Congolese family who has arrived and is getting settled with assistance from three area churches and from Bethany Christian Alliance. Gail Moxey reported on Gwynedd's work with Lifeline, which financial supports those living in refugee camps. They will sponsor a Syrian meal to continue to raise funds for this purpose. Ann Marie Wolf-Schatz reported on her care over the past 38 years of offering foster care for 26 young people. Many of come to her traumatized, and the task of "hanging in." despite reversals that often occur when individuals are traumatized or disabled.

#### **JFC - MSFC Youth Conferences Annual Report**

Following meeting for worship with Horsham Friends, Karen Shanowski, Youth Conferences gave the 2016 Report with a video. The theme was "Open your Heart" - Is it kind? Is it safe? Does it build community? Twenty-seven JFC, twelve MSFC students and five Faith and Leadership students brought their gifts. The week began with a meeting for worship for business centered on living in community and then expanded into day classes and evening activities. Classes explored religion, art, SPICES, the great outdoors and sports/games. A camp fire, scavenger hunt, poetry workshop and talent show opened students to new awareness in personal growth and mutual care. Four students from the Faith and Leadership program shared their involvement in both campus support and off-site sharing and service: Pennswood Village and Cradles to Crayons. (The conferences included students from 6 of our monthly meetings, two students from Bucks Quarter and two from Merion MM in Haverford Quarter. Program evaluations were "joyful", "connected" in "safety and kindness". Students responded to "learning about Quakerism" and "making new f/Friends". The clerk thanked Karen for her work and leadership.

The meeting ended with worship. We joined Horsham Friends for a season of fellowship (and food!)

## Meetings in Abington Quarter Meeting

Addresses, web URLs

**Abington MM:** 520 Meetinghouse Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046;

<http://www.abingtonmeeting.org/>

**Byberry MM:** 3001 Byberry/Southampton Road, Philadelphia, PA 19154

**Gwynedd MM:** 1101 DeKalb Pike, Gwynedd, PA 19454. [www.gwyneddmeeting.org/](http://www.gwyneddmeeting.org/)

**Foulkeways WG:** Foulkeways at Gwynedd 1120 Meetinghouse Road, Gwynedd PA

**Pottstown WG:** Bethel Community Church, 575 Keim St, Pottstown PA 19464.

**Horsham MM:** 611 and Meetinghouse Road, Horsham PA 19044

**Norristown MM:** 20 E Jacoby Street (at Swede Street), Norristown PA 19401

**Upper Providence Meetinghouse** 807 Black Rock Rd Oaks PA 19426

[www.quakercloud.org/cloud/norristown-friends-meeting](http://www.quakercloud.org/cloud/norristown-friends-meeting)

**Plymouth MM:** E Germantown and Butler Pikes, Plymouth Meeting PA

**Richland MM:** S. Main St. & Mill Road (just off Rt. 309), Quakertown, PA 18951;

[www.richlandquakers.org](http://www.richlandquakers.org)

**Upper Dublin MM:** 1506 Fort Washington Avenue, Maple Glen PA 19002

**Unami MM:** 100 E Fifth Street, Pennsburg PA 18073

### Monthly Meetings for Business: days and times

**Abington and Unami:** 2d First Day, 9 a.m. (Abington meeting may not always be on 2d First Day and the time may vary; check calendar [www.abingtonmeeting.org](http://www.abingtonmeeting.org) )

**Richland:** 2nd First day, 12 noon.

**Plymouth:** 3rd First Day, 9 a.m.

**Gwynedd:** 3rd First day, 10:45 a.m.

**Byberry:** Last First day, 10 a.m. unless otherwise arranged.

**Horsham:** Last First day, 11 a.m. unless otherwise arranged; soup Sunday follows.

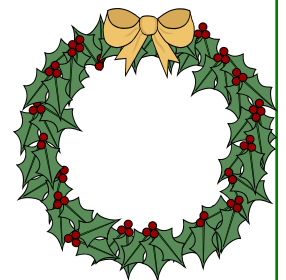
### Of Thee and Thine –

#### Passages:

**Abington:** Marian Buckman Ewing 10/6/2016 at age 90; Sue Makler's mother, Reva Mae Rarig 10/23/2106 at age 100.

**Gwynedd:** MaryAnn Greenway's son, Daniel Edward Morrison Greenway on 10/14/2015; Memorial at Gwynedd 10/26/2016, 2 p.m.

**Plymouth:** Paula Michal-Johnson, d. 10/14/2016; Bonnie Miller's mother d. 11/2016 in Arizona.



— *Weekly Events in Abington Quarter* —

**Gwynedd MM: Meditation 7:30-8:30 p.m.** Bart Sacks, [bartsacks@aol.com](mailto:bartsacks@aol.com) and Beth Roberts [luobaifeng3@yahoo.com](mailto:luobaifeng3@yahoo.com) for questions. for questions.

**Wednesdays:**

**Gwynedd: Yoga:** 12/7, 14, 21/2016; 1/11, 18, 25/2017; 6-7 PM in the Community Room;

**Plymouth MM: Mid-week worship 7:00 p.m.** Contact: Dave Miller [d.j.miller@verizon.net](mailto:d.j.miller@verizon.net) or Christine Greenland 215-322-4105 [christine.greenland@gmail.com](mailto:christine.greenland@gmail.com)

**Richland MM: Historical Conversations with Jack Schick. 6:00 p.m.**

**“Light Group” 7:00 p.m.** Explore a type of meditation used by early Quakers to “find the Truth in the Light”, centering. Contact: Susan Abbott, [naisma@aol.com](mailto:naisma@aol.com), 610-346-1937 OR Jack Schick, [sjckschc@aol.com](mailto:sjckschc@aol.com). Please be prompt!

**Food for Friends:** 6 p.m. 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesdays.

— *Coming Events in Abington Quarter* —

**Abington Meeting 12/4/2016 Sundays at 7. Members One of Another: The dynamics of Membership in a Quaker Meeting”** - The pamphlet explores the stages we typically go through as we grow into the life of the Meeting community.

**Gwynedd Meeting: 12/11/2016** Youth Program hosts an annual Intergenerational Gingerbread House Activity in the Community Room. All welcome! We need volunteers to make gingerbread houses and ask that everyone else bring decorating supplies and candies for the gingerbread houses. The finished houses will be donated to Foulkeways' residents.

**Gwynedd Meeting: Monday 12/12/2016 7 p.m. Meeting for worship for Healing**

**Richland Meeting: Sunday, 12/18/2016 Seasonal celebration. Bring**

**Sunday, 12/18/2016 5:30 p.m. Annual Peace and Light Gathering.** Potluck dinner and caroling in the school house. **7:00 p.m. Meeting for Worship in the Meeting House.**

**Unami Meeting: 12/18/2016, 5:00 p.m. Seasonal Celebration.** Please bring a gift of the spirit: a poem, song, reading or thought to share; and a dish for the potluck feast following candle light worship

**Horsham Meeting: Sunday 12/18/2016 Christmas Tea** (at the rise of meeting)

**Richland Meeting: Wednesday 12/21/2016. Food for Friends Holiday dinner.** Need Friends to assist with preparation of turkey and trimmings. Contact Donna at [deelee44@ptd.net](mailto:deelee44@ptd.net)

**Abington Meeting: Saturday, 12/24/2016. 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Caroling** in Abington Meeting's John Barnes Room, immediately followed by **Candlelight Meeting for Worship** in the Meeting House at approximately 7:30 p.m.

**Gwynedd Meeting: Saturday, 12/24/2016 7:30 p.m. Meeting for worship and hymn sing.**

**Horsham Meeting: Saturday, 12/24/2016, 7:00 p.m. Caroling and worship** in the meetinghouse, followed by refreshments.

**Plymouth Meeting: Saturday, 12/24/2016, 7:00 pm. Community caroling and worship**

**Upper Providence Meetinghouse: 12/24/2016 7:00 p.m. Christmas Carol sing,**

**Gwynedd Meeting: Sunday, 12/25/2016, 10:00 a.m. Christmas Meeting for Worship.** Library.

**Gwynedd Meeting 1/14/2017, 7:00 p.m. Poetry and Prose night.** Meeting Foyer.

Reflections and service from Friends around the Quarter.

Research has revealed that Friends, even those sympathetic to the abolition of slavery before the civil war, created obstacles to full membership for African Americans. For this reason, the story of Quakers historically united in working for racial justice must be revised.

Quaker Bible scholar, Henry Cadbury understood that this lost connection between European Friends and African Americans affected the social conscience of Friends. Almost eighty years ago, he advised us “to appreciate what we owe them” for having taught to us in their struggle for dignity and freedom, “the very tenets of our own religion.”

It is in remembering this connection that Friends can find renewed meaning and a renewed vision of racial justice for ourselves and our communities. Of course, it means opening ourselves to new insights, welcoming new light from wherever it arises. It also involves revising our memory of how and why things happened and making them meaningful to our future.

George Schaeffer, Abington MM, Clerk, 11/2016 Abington MM newsletter

On 11/13/2016, I attended a session on Quakers, Native Americans and the Indians held at Haverford College. The papers presented examined Friends’ interaction with the indigenous populations, including work at Quaker-run Indian schools. The intentions of Friends who taught in these schools were admirable, though all too often, the indigenous point of view is not considered. We remain both forgetful and isolated from those we intended to assist.

Ben Pink Dandelion, in a review of Doug Gwyn’s *The Covenant Crucified* remarks “This book ... is critical to our understanding of early Friends and how the movement changed in the first decades. Gwyn outlines the highly distinctive nature of the Quaker covenant of light, and how that was transformed within a generation into a more worldly contractual understanding. It is also a call to Quakers today to recover a sense of covenant for the journey ahead.”

Christine Greenland, Plymouth MM, Worship and Ministry

Gwynedd Friends Meeting supports Syrian refugees in Lebanon through the UN High Commission on Refugees’ Lifeline Program. In Aleppo, the number of civilian casualties continue to increase – over 172 in the past week, with 275,000 people trapped. For more information on the refugee situation, contact Carol Shearon, Convener of Gwynedd’s Refugee Support Subcommittee. She contacted Enten Eller, president of Wissahickon Faith Community Association, to explore ways we might work together. Enten Eller and his wife Mary co-pastor Ambler Church of the Brethren and are known to many of us throughout Abington Quarter. Carol will speak to the congregation on 1/11/2017

*This is a new section which I hope will allow excerpts from newsletters and Adult classes throughout Abington Quarter. We need to hear from each other’s experiences.*

### Opportunities for service in AQM!

**Newsletter:** Send in events at your meeting. Newsletters (e-format preferred). To join the fun, please contact: Christine Greenland 215-322-4105; [christine.greenland@gmail.com](mailto:christine.greenland@gmail.com) NEXT NEWSLETTER will be produced before Quarterly Meeting at Gwynedd Meeting. Please get information to me by 1/15/2016. I am looking for a replacement editor in a few months.

**AQ Website:** Help keep the AQ Website up to date! Contact: Dan Turner, Abington Quarter Webmaster, [m-turner@verizon.net](mailto:m-turner@verizon.net) or 215-884-5127, with coming events. He can also assist with getting your events onto the PYM community calendar.

**—Events beyond Abington Quarter —**

**Wednesdays: Friends Center. 12:30-1:00 p.m. Meeting for worship for Black Lives.**

**Saturday, 12/3/2016 Extended Meeting for Worship, 9:15 a.m.-3:15 p.m.** Middletown Friends Meeting at Langhorne (Bucks County) Info: Lola Georg, lolageorg@gmail.com or [www.pym.org/event/2016-extended-meeting-for-worship-middletown/?instance\\_id=311](http://www.pym.org/event/2016-extended-meeting-for-worship-middletown/?instance_id=311)

**Sunday, 12/4/2016. 1:00–7:30 p.m. Climate Disruption as a Moral Issue: Interfaith Climate Advocacy Training**, Pennswood Village. Dinner and snacks provided. Sponsored by Ecojustice Collaborative of PYM. Contact Paula Kline: 610-399-0925, [http://www.pym.org/event/climate-disruption-moral-issue-interfaith-climate-advocacy-training/?instance\\_id=640](http://www.pym.org/event/climate-disruption-moral-issue-interfaith-climate-advocacy-training/?instance_id=640).

**Tuesday, 12/6/2016: 7:30-9:00 Messiah Sing-In** – Lansdowne Friends School, Lansdowne, PA.

**Saturday, 12/10/2016 Social Justice and Spirituality Thread Gathering, 11 am - 5 pm**, Swarthmore Friends Meeting Details: [www.pym.org/event/social-spirituality-2016/?instance\\_id=432](http://www.pym.org/event/social-spirituality-2016/?instance_id=432) or Zachary Dutton, [zdutton@pym.org](mailto:zdutton@pym.org).

**Saturday, 12/10/2016, 10:45 a.m.– Annual Nazareth-Bethlehem Peace Pilgrimage.** Lehigh Valley Meeting.

**Monday, 12/19/2016 YAF Holiday Potluck, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**, Philadelphia location (tbd) All Young Adult Friends (age 18-35-ish) are welcome to join us - bring a dish, snack, dessert or beverage to share! Details: [www.pym.org/event/yaf-holiday-potluck/?instance\\_id=364](http://www.pym.org/event/yaf-holiday-potluck/?instance_id=364) or Elizabeth Piersol Schmidt, [epiersolschmidt@pym.org](mailto:epiersolschmidt@pym.org)

**Friday-Sunday 12/27/2016 Young Friends Christmas Gathering** Woodstown Monthly Meeting. Join high-school-aged Quaker-friendly and - affiliated friends for the 3-day-long Christmas gathering! Details: Hannah Mayer, [HMayer@pym.org](mailto:HMayer@pym.org) or [www.pym.org/event/young-friends-christmas-gathering-2016/?instance\\_id=384](http://www.pym.org/event/young-friends-christmas-gathering-2016/?instance_id=384)

**Saturday, 1/14/2017 Say the Wrong Thing: Strategies for Racial Justice and Building Authentic Community. 10:00AM to 3:30PM.** Buckingham Friends Meetinghouse 5684 Old York Rd Lahaska, PA .

### **Pendle Hill programs**

See <http://www.pendlehill.org/workshops-courses-events>  
for more details, costs and on-line registration

**12/1/2016-2/28 2017 In Beauty May You Walk** Contemplative Landscapes by Angela Manno

**Thursday-Sunday 12/1-4/2016 Visioning and Creating a Moral Economy Conference**

**Saturday 12/3/2016 Intuitive Painting as a Spiritual Practice** Damini Celebre

**Sunday 12/04/2016, 2-4 p.m S.T.O.R.Y. Poetry Coffeehouse** Jesse White

**Monday 12/5/2016 7:30 p.m. Viking Economics** George Lakey

**Friday-Sunday: 12/9-11/2016. The Great Turning: Becoming Vibrant Elders in Our Emerging World** A weekend with Lynne Iser and Rabbi Mordechai Liebling.

**New Years: Monday, 12/28/2016 through Friday, 1/1/2017**

**Open Heart, Peaceful Mind** Relax into a time of serene rest and renewal, and open to the new year's unfolding with a retreat that honors your heart, mind, and soul. Valerie Brown.

**Music and Cultural Politics of 20th Century Latin America** Karl Middleman. Experience the color and passion of Latin American music, art, and politics. Savor the rich cultural heritage and dramatic landscapes of Latin America, the pulsing rhythms and ecstatic melodies of its folk-music, and the cross-fertilizing influences of the Old and New Worlds.

**Creative Reflection: New Year's Arts and Spirituality** Melanie Weidner, you will give in to the sacred, creative rhythms of your inner life. And you will express that inspiration through fun, paper arts collage, and simple creative writing.

I'm bursting with God-news;  
 I'm dancing the song of my Savior God.  
 God took one good look at me, and look what happened—  
 I'm the most fortunate woman on earth!  
 What God has done for me will never be forgotten,  
 the God whose very name is holy, set apart from all others.  
 His mercy flows in wave after wave  
 on those who are in awe before him.  
 He bared his arm and showed his strength,  
 scattered the bluffing braggarts.  
 He knocked tyrants off their high horses,  
 pulled victims out of the mud.  
 The starving poor sat down to a banquet;  
 the callous rich were left out in the cold.  
 He embraced his chosen child, Israel;  
 he remembered and piled on the mercies, piled them high.  
 It's exactly what he promised,  
 beginning with Abraham and right up to now.

Luke 1: 46-55;

Eugene Peterson: *The Message Bible*

## Abington Quarter Sunday Worship

**9:30 -10:30 AM**

*Gwynedd MM*

**10:00-11:00 AM**

*Norristown MM*

*Upper Dublin MM*

**10:30-11:30 AM**

*Horsham MM*

*Richland MM*

**11AM-12 PM**

*Byberry MM*

*Foulkeways WG*

*Pottstown WG (2nd, 4th weeks only)*

*Unami MM*

**11:15 AM-12:15 PM**

*Abington MM*

*Plymouth MM*



TO:



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