

Salem Quarter News

Spring 2020



*Love one another. As I have
loved you, so must you love
one another.*

A Renewed World

I pray that we will sense more keenly the transformation that God wants to bring about in our time and learn how we can fully and joyfully dedicate ourselves to participating in the creation of an evolved humanity and a renewed world. Then, as fully realized children of God, we can let go of the past and enter something entirely new.

—Marcelle Martin, Our Life is Love

Front Cover

Elsinboro. “Best place to watch sunsets that I’ve seen around here.” —
Christine Cameron

John 13:34

“I get by with a little help from my Friends”
by Dietrich Preston,
Clerk of Quarter



At Meeting for Worship on Sunday, I was too reluctant to share what I’m about to say because I thought it would bring too much negative energy. But, I feel that we should all hold in the Light those who have suffered and who are suffering throughout the world from the devastation of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). To my knowledge, there has not been this kind of rampant spread of a deadly disease worldwide in over a century. It is difficult to listen to the news only to find how close to home this virus has come. I ask for everyone to please avoid large public events or long-distance travel until this crisis has abated. Be sure to wash your hands as frequently as possible, especially after being in public. I’m trying my best to not touch my face, even though it is very habitual for me. I apologize that I’m not giving a more “spiritually enlightening” message, but as Clerk of Salem Quarter, I feel obligated to reach out to all of you to please be safe and please take this outbreak seriously. Many of our Friends are over the age of 60 and are most at risk.

Love, sharing and community are important in times of woe, and just calling in and checking on a loved one is always a nice gesture. Even in these times of darkness that I see in the news, I believe that this dilemma will pass, and we shall persevere, but we just need to be careful and play it safe. I would hope that our Monthly Meetings can safely conduct First Day School and Meeting for Worship as that time together provides people inspiration, hope and faith. Being there for each other will help us get by, but please be mindful of your health and if you feel you should stay home, then please do so.

Let us hold each and every one of us in the Light, in our communities, in our country and across the world.

Love and Peace,

Dietrich

Salem Quarterly Meeting Minutes *March 8, 2020*

Meeting was opened with worship by Clerk Dietrich Preston at 12:30 PM at Woodstown's meetinghouse.

Twelve people attended, representing six meetings in the Quarter.

Minutes of last Quarterly Meeting for Business in December were approved.

Reports from the Quarter:

Finance – Jack Mahon sent a report which was distributed. Meeting approved changing our fiscal year to 1 December through 30 November to better match our distribution income from Friends Fiduciary. Previously our fiscal year was 1 July through 30 June. (See full report on p 8.)

Incorporation – The certificate and articles of incorporation are being corrected by the attorney and the final version will be available soon. Steering Committee will work on the by-laws.

Nominating – Gloria Horvay will continue as recording clerk until an obvious replacement comes forward.

Worship and Ministry – Jim Murphy reported the committee met Thursday. Their next inter-visitation will be with Woodbury. They hope to also visit a Seaville beach meeting in the summer. They noted shared practices and worship styles of the meetings they have visited. (See full report on p 6.)

Committee members would like to see representation from all meetings in the Quarter. They encourage all meetings to send PYM their Spiritual State of the Meeting Reports. They discussed best practices to use during this time of the coronavirus spread.

The committee continues to support Sandra Boone Murphy's Minute of Religious Service, of which she will create a report on the last two years working with the Native American community. Marcel Martin's book continues to provide spiritual guidance for the committee.

Friends School Mullica Hill – John Bond reported the school has sold the Cope Building to a developer who will restore it for use as office space. The school will host Quarterly Meeting in December. Payments are being made to Friends Fiduciary on the loan to repair the gym floor. John distributed a list of activities planned for May 15 – 17 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the school. See page 18 for the full list. Videos of memories are posted on the school's website.

Indian Affairs Committee – Sandra Boone Murphy spoke a Land Acknowledgement indicating that we are on ancestral Lenape land. She thanked the American Vegan Society for hosting their last meeting. She commented that the book chat invited relationships and recommends *Strong Medicine Speaks: A Native American Elder Has Her Say*, by Amy Hill Hearth. The guidelines document for the First Contact Reconciliation Collaborative has moved through peer review and

will be printed by PYM. Salem Quarter has agreed to contribute funds to the Native American Awareness Club at Bridgeton High School for a mini pow-wow on May 2nd. Other relevant events are listed on page 9.

Port Elizabeth Cemetery – The landscaper has been contacted to mow the grass this season.

Tri-Quarter – Co-clerks for this year are Kandy Lippincott of Moorestown/Mount Laurel Meeting (Haddonfield Quarter) and Josh Ponter of Haddonfield Meeting (Haddonfield Quarter). The gathering will be September 25 – 27. The planning committee is seeking workshop proposals on the theme: *New Beginnings*.

PYM Communications – Bob Horvay reported the next Continuing Sessions will be held on March 28 at Westtown School.

In partnership with Friends Fiduciary, PYM has made a \$1 million investment in the Impact Accelerator Bridge Loan Fund I, sponsored by the Reinvestment Fund. Friends Fiduciary added \$500,000 and a private equity firm added \$4.5 million. As a result of PYM getting this \$6 million, Philadelphia banks put up \$24 million for a total of \$30 million. More at www.reinvestment.com.

Peter Murchison of the Wilton Quaker Meeting visited Haddonfield MM on March 1st to speak on the topic: *A Quaker Response to Gun Violence in America: Turning Loss into Legislation*. He spoke of a gun buyback and melt down that his meeting did in Connecticut. More information can be found in his article in the February 2020 issue of Friends Journal.

It is recommended that Friends check the PYM website calendar at www.pym.org for interesting thread gatherings and discussions.

Christie Duncan Tesmer, General Secretary of PYM, is meeting with Quarter clerks to discern if the 13 Quarters in the Yearly Meeting could schedule their Quarterly Meetings on the same day in order to avoid scheduling conflicts with PYM events. Meeting agreed.

Lower Alloways Creek Meetinghouse Committee – Mike Ayars distributed a newsletter for the 1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse, which can be found on page 10.

Marketing Communications – Carlton Crispin is issuing the eBulletin monthly. He distributed a report about the new South Jersey Quakers website, which can be found on page 15. Salem minutes its support of the new website.

Salem Quarter News – Jim Murphy reminded Friends the deadline is always the Tuesday after Quarterly Meeting, which is March 10 for the current issue.

Upcoming Quarterly Meeting programs – June Quarterly Meeting will be held at Greenwich and will focus on local Quakers during the Revolutionary War. In September we will meet at Mickleton with a program by Jeff Perkins of Friends Fiduciary about shareholder advocacy. Friends School of Mullica Hill will host us in December.

Additional announcements around the Quarter:

Greenwich is happy to report its attendance at meeting for worship is up noticeably.

Mickleton displayed its gun violence signs at Haddonfield Meeting on March 1st during Peter Murchison's talk. The Little Red Schoolhouse is having its annual spring yard sale on April 25th.

Salem will have its annual Pot Pie Dinner on April 25th.

Seaville is holding Diane Metz in the light with her recent cancer diagnosis.

Woodbury has adopted a baby elephant. They have done some investigations of paranormal activity in the meetinghouse.

Woodstown Meeting will host on Sunday a concert to open this season's Music at Friends program.

Gratitude was extended to Woodstown for hosting today's event. The morning program featured Martin Kelley talking on the Quaker Speak project at Friends Journal. Homemade bread and soups were well received for lunch.

Meeting approved a \$150 honorarium for Martin Kelley for the morning program.

Meeting closed with worship at 1:50 PM.

Gloria Horvay, Recording Clerk

Salem Quarter Worship & Ministry Committee Meeting March 5, 2020

The Salem Quarter Worship & Ministry Committee met on Thursday, March 5, at Mullica Hill Meeting Annex, with eight Friends from four meetings in attendance and Jim Murphy clerking.

We began with silent worship.

Our next scheduled inter-visitation will be with Friends at Woodbury Meeting on March 29; their Adult First Day Class is at 10:00 a.m. and Worship is at 11:15. We will plan carpooling via email.

We discussed further our plans to visit each of the meetings in Salem Quarter; we are all looking forward to experiencing worship with our varied meetings, including attending one of Seaville Meeting's "beach meetings" when the weather gets warmer. We are taking note of the small differences in worship styles in our meetings, and want to share some of them, as there is always the possibility of deepening our own meeting's worship by learning about each other's shared practices.

So far we have learned what some meetings do:

- When silent worship is broken, everyone attending worship introduces themselves, with some sharing a bit about themselves
- Everyone attending worship signs a guest book that is passed around the meetinghouse
- Silent worship that does not really end, but leads sometimes to worship sharing that continues as a deeply spiritual part of worship
- At the beginning of worship time, a Friend on the facing bench asks if "there are those who need to be held in the Light"
- A Friend on the facing bench asking at the end of silent worship "are there any joys or concerns to be shared?" (very helpful for everyone present to possibly be of help or learn of good news). This is done before announcements are made.
- Offer simple refreshments after every meeting for worship, extending time of being together in community

We discussed our concern that our quarter's Worship & Ministry Committee does not have full representation and participation by all of our meetings at our Salem Quarter Worship & Ministry Committee Meetings, which are held only once each quarter. We sensed the need to know if meeting times or dates are affecting attendance, or if there are other dynamics involved. A Friend wondered if perhaps those meetings which have not been participating in our committee meetings, don't know that their participation is not only welcomed, but is "needed" to help make our gatherings more complete. We will work to get the message out to everyone in the quarter, not just those on their meeting's worship and ministry committees.

A Friend shared thoughts on Quaker eldering; no matter what it is in regard to, love must be the basis, lifting up the person being elderd.

We discussed the threat of the current coronavirus to our communities and the need for all of our meetings to carefully consider altering our normal practices of shaking hands and sharing hugs, etc. Dana and Christine will work on crafting an email message about recommended best practices to avoid contracting the illness.

Christine shared her recent experience of attending First Day class and worship with Miami Friends Meeting in Miami Florida.

Sandra spoke regarding the Minute of Religious Service with the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape, which had been written for her by this committee. Prior to our next meeting, she will share, by email, a written report about her last two years of work with the Native American community.

We talked of PYM's request for reports on the spiritual state of each of our meetings, and the importance of completing and submitting them.

Friends are still reading *Our Life Is Love* by Marcelle Martin.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 11 at 3:00 p.m. in Mullica Hill Meeting's annex.

Friends closed in worship.

Respectfully Submitted, Christine Cameron

Salem Quarter Finance & Budget Summary
Jack Mahon

At December’s Quarterly Meeting the treasurer recognized a continuing issue with the appearance of our financial reports. We have been using a fiscal year beginning 1 July and ending 30 June. That is mostly because it had been designed to coincide with the fiscal year used by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. However, the Yearly Meeting had changed to a different fiscal year some time ago and Salem Quarter does not make payments to PYM anyway.

So, because Friends Fiduciary Corporation disburses its interest payments in December and June, we’ve been operating under a system where sizable portions of our income arrive in the sixth and twelfth months. This means that, while our fiscal year always finishes [June] in the black, it almost always appears as if we are operating in a deficit situation.

Thus, with Steering Committee’s approval, the treasurer has closed the 2019-20 fiscal year early, on 30 November. It became a five-month “year,” called “2019,” and a new fiscal year, now named “2020,” began 1 December. We will use the already approved budget for 2019-20 as a template for 2020. Except for extending the Marketing and Communications item for an additional two months, there should be almost no significant changes to the already approved budget.

1 December - 29 February

Cemetery: Port Elizabeth	\$0.00
Donations: Tri-Q; FSMH	\$300.00
Insurance	\$2,516.00
Alloway Crk Grounds	\$275.00
Alloway Crk Maint & Preserv	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$864.00
Marketing Consultant	\$667.00
Newsletter: List; mail;	\$352.00
Newsletter: Postage	\$445.00
Postage & Fees	\$76.00
T&C, W&M, etc.	\$200.00
Program & Child Care	\$50.00
Reinvest	\$600.00
Scholarships	\$0.00
Webpage	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$6,345.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$10,414.00

Misc = Total initial Inc. costs
T&C = Indian Affairs Committee
Reinv = \$400-LAC; \$200-Prop.

Practically, what will this mean?

As already described, we will now receive income in the first and seventh months of each fiscal year. Our bottom line, as examined every month, should be in the black, rather than always appearing to be the opposite.

All Education income and scholarships will be accounted for in the same fiscal year and will be both easier to track and forecast. Previously we received almost all education income near the end of one fiscal year and then disbursed it in the following fiscal year.

Since mowing and landscaping at Alloways Creek and Maurice River occurs in the spring, summer, and fall, in almost every case, we will account for all property income and expense within the same fiscal year.

Although our own fiscal year 2020 may commence in December 2019, eleven months of it will be in the same calendar year as its name.

The Finance Committee will probably meet sometime in summer and a budget can be presented at September’s Quarterly Meeting.

Finally, if the question arises -- as it should -- the five months ending November 2019 showed income of \$16,539 and expenses of \$24,947.

Salem Quarter Indian Affairs Committee
Quarterly Report, 8th day Third mo, 2020



“... As long as the sun shines and the rivers run, we shall bind our hearts to yours”
- Lenape Chief



Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape
fellowship symbol

“With humility, we acknowledge the ancestral and contemporary homeland of Lenape People, Lenapehoking, land where Salem Quarter’s seven Meetinghouses are located.” -s

With gratitude, IAC Friends gathered at the American Vegan Society (Malaga, NJ) for our set meeting 27th day, Second month, 2020; of spirit, our work moves forward -

The IAC winter 2020 One Book, One Community book chat series was met with examination of words by both the author, Amy Hill Hearth, and interviewee, Marion Gould. The text flowed easily, inviting “relationship” and personal reflections of beliefs. We recommend *Strong Medicine Speaks: A Native American Elder Has Her Say*.

IAC initiated and shared for “peer review,” with east coast Friends & fellow indigenous allies, "Guidelines for those Seeking Right Relations with Indigenous Peoples: Lessons of Lenapehoking." This work is posted on the PYM FCRC (collaborative) website and further supported by PYM with “branding” and color copies being printed.

Responding to a request from friends who are members of the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation, the IAC reached out to Salem Quarter Steering Committee for financial discernment. SQ has financially gifted the coming mini powwow, hosted by the Native American Awareness Club, Bridgeton High School; the event is set for May 2, 2020.

Named committee members participated in the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape evening spring social at the Cohanzick Tribal Grounds. Traditional social and ceremonial dances were danced with accompaniment by drummers and singers. “Cousins” gathered from interrelated tribes from across the water, “Lenape Wihittuck!” We find it joyful to participate with the “keepers of the land” as they contemporarily lift-up Lenape culture.

IAC’s next meeting is **11 AM, June 4th**, at the American Vegan Society; other relevant events are: [*Editor’s note: Events subject to change*]

- 2/27 Talk, History of the Lenape in the Lower Delaware Valley, Historical Society of PA;
- 3/18 Finale, Indigenous Voices: One Book, One Philadelphia;
- 3/28 Open House, PYM Collaborative (FCRC), Continuing Sessions, Westtown School;
- 4/30 - 5/3 Conference, Right Relations with Indigenous Peoples, Pendle Hill;
- 5/2 Mini-powwow, Native American Awareness Club, Bridgeton High School;
- 5/16 & 17 Spring Gathering, Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation, Cohanzick;
- 5/31 Worship, St John Methodist Church (state registered Native American church);
- 6/13 & 14 Annual Powwow, Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribe, Salem County Fairgrounds.



1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse

Mike Ayers

Friends Fiduciary Report

The year-end report of the LAC fund shows a fund balance of \$109,563, and a semi-annual distribution of \$1,878. Income is distributed in June and December, so our annual income is about \$3,700. The income flows into Salem Quarterly Meeting to offset some costs of repairs and mowing of the meeting-house property, and the Harmersville and “Crick” graveyards.

We received a \$3,000 contribution from Salem Meeting’s Pot Pie Dinner fund in 2019.

Painting Contract

We have signed a contract with Joe Elk to paint the exterior of the meetinghouse next summer. He will remove all loose and peeling paint, re-glaze the exterior windows, and paint soffits, fascia, windows, doors, and entryways with 2 coats of gloss white paint.

The agreed price is \$4,991. Thanks to Ron Magill for making this happen.

Events of 2019

1. The Salem County Cultural and Heritage Commission funded a video interview and drone tour of the 1756 Alloways Creek meetinghouse. The video is on the Salem Quarter web page under the LAC Committee page.
2. The Friends of the Hancock House hosted a 2-day Cornelia Hancock tour, including a tour of the 1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse on both days.
3. We hosted the University of Pennsylvania Anthropology class for their annual visit and interpretation of Quakers and the 1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse. Pete Michel, the State Historian who oversees the Hancock House, hosted.
4. We hosted the Salem Meeting annual LAC Meeting for Worship and summer picnic in August.

Looking ahead to 2020

1. Salem Meeting’s Chicken Pot Pie Dinner will be on April 25. Committee members from other meetings are encouraged to volunteer to help, since the Pot Pie Dinner committee has been very generous in their support of our 1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse.
2. The Salem County Historical Society will hold their bi-annual Open House Tour on May 2, 2020. Our 1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse may be on the tour.

Friend-Raising

A key piece of our future fundraising is to expand the number of people who visit our 1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse, building connections with Quakers and Quaker Meetings and others throughout the Quarter and beyond.

1. May we host your Meeting for a summer Meeting for Worship and picnic?
2. Should we plan to host a June Quarterly Meeting? Perhaps after the painting is complete.
3. Should we form a “Friends of the 1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse” group, reaching out beyond the Quaker Community? How could we involve the Salem County Historical Society? Other historical societies? Can we build a list of them, along with contact information including email? How could we build a relationship with Friends School and Friends Village?
4. What interpretive materials should we have at the 1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse for when we have visitors? Should we invest in some poster-type materials that could be placed at various features (for example, the saddle door, partition, clerk’s bench, etc.)? We’ve also discussed an interpretive kiosk outside for folks who visit when no one’s there.

Fundraising

A look at the tasks outlined in our Preservation Plan clearly shows that we need to raise some substantial dollars over the next few years. There are a number of tasks we need to accomplish in order to have a successful fundraising campaign. Fortunately, some of our members have experience we will find helpful.

1. Build a “case statement” of why preserving the 1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse is so critical.
2. Set a realistic goal for a 3-year (or more) pledge period.
3. Name the chair of the Capital Campaign (this does not necessarily have to be a member of the committee).
4. Set a budget for Capital campaign expenses.
5. Build a list of potential donors.
6. Train committee members on outreach to potential donors.

The key to a successful Capital Campaign is a concerted effort at “Friend-Raising” at every opportunity to expand our base of support before we start fundraising.



Friends Village at Woodstown *Arianne Hegeman*

For those of us who are fortunate to live, rehab, or work at Friends Village, we know what a unique place it is. At any given moment you could hear or see something special like: a physical therapist singing “Take Me out to the Ballgame” with a rehab patient as they walk together in the hallway, a group of Assisted Living residents talking with an artist who is displaying their work in our Fenwick hallway, our health care staff members celebrating a deficiency-free state inspection, Rotary Club members enjoying lunch as they hold their weekly meetings in our Fenwick Dining Room, four Independent Living residents playing bocce ball on our new court, or an AARP instructor providing defensive driving lessons in our Fenwick Auditorium to seniors from all over South Jersey. There is always something going on at Friends Village.



There is always something going on at Friends Village.

We are proud to be more than just a place for seniors to live and recuperate. We are a place where the community gathers to learn, share talents, and have a positive impact on each other. Our Quaker roots have gifted us with a foundation that supports every member of the community, making us a popular place for other nonprofits to gather, social clubs to meet and businesses to educate.

Friends Village at Woodstown wants to be a part of your community. We are here for seniors and those who love them. We are always looking for new ways to partner and grow. Contact us with any suggestions on ways that we can deepen our impact within the South Jersey region.

For more information, contact Arianne Hegeman, Director of Mission Support, 856-823-0786 or ahegeman@friendsvillage.org

Worship Sharing
by Patricia Matias-Cruz, Third Grade Teacher
Photos by Patti Sanderson, Fourth Grade Teacher

This year we have introduced our students at Friends School Mullica Hill to the practice of Worship Sharing. So far it has proven to be both engaging and thought-provoking to our student body. Students have shared that it provides them with a safe space where they are free to express their thoughts. It also provides them with the opportunity to meet in a smaller group, which increases their comfort and willingness to share their thinking with others. Worship Sharing is done once a month, often on the second



Friday of each month. We hope that in engaging in this type of worship practice, students are more comfortable sharing messages when we all gather together during our usual meeting for worship days.

Student Testimonials:

“I like that I have a safe space to share my thoughts without being judged.”

- Burke, 3rd grade

“I like that it’s less people and it’s also easier to share. I’m not as scared to share since it’s only 3rd and 4th graders and not the whole school.”

- Nora, 4th grade



“I like it better than Meeting for Worship because you always get to share what you have to say. I think it’s fun and the bell at the beginning is calming.”

- Lily, 4th grade

“I think Worship Sharing is good because you get to share in front of a smaller group. I like that there’s also always a query that we can answer.”

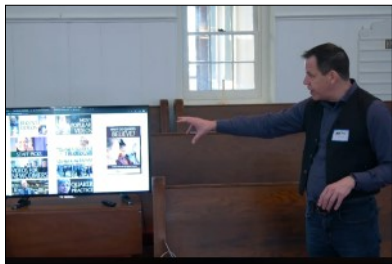
- Harper, 3rd grade

In Case You Missed It...
One Person's View of the Quarterly Meeting Program
by Gloria Horvay

Quaker Speak was the focus of the March Quarterly Meeting program hosted by Woodstown Meeting. My reaction to this program is that Quaker Speak is the best outreach tool for Quakerism since George Fox. I say this because the internet has the power to reach millions of people around the world with many short informative videos about topics of interest to and about Quakers.

We all have Jon Watts to thank for this expanded reach of Quakerism. Jon did six seasons of Quaker Speak, starting in 2014. There are about 200 videos, and they have had nearly three million views. Most of them are 5 to 8 minutes long and have an ensemble of people talking on a topic.

Many monthly meetings use these Quaker Speak videos for their adult First Day School programs. As part of this Quarterly Meeting program we viewed *How Quaker Meetings Support Ministry*, then settled into small groups to discuss the questions which conveniently come at the end of each video. A transcript of what people said in the video is also provided.



Access to these videos is quite simple from the Friends Journal website. They can be viewed at your meeting directly from the website, or you can download onto your device and play from there. Groups of videos have been compiled

into DVD's which are available at the Friends Journal website for a reasonable cost. The August 2019 issue of Friends Journal was dedicated to Quaker Speak on its 5th anniversary and is full of good information about the expansive variety of videos available.

Rebecca Hamilton has taken over making the Quaker Speak videos and Season 7 has launched. I encourage you to go to the Friends Journal website, www.friendsjournal.org, and subscribe. You will get an email every Thursday with a link to the latest video.

Many thanks to Martin Kelley, senior editor of Friends Journal, for traveling to Woodstown to share this great story with us. We are grateful to Friends Journal for making so much information about Quakerism free of charge. Donations support this good work.

In closing, I would like to give a shout out to Jared Valdez who saw the outreach value of good websites. Jared made videos of our Quarterly Meeting programs and posted them on our Salem Quarterly Meeting website. This latest program on Quaker Speak can be viewed in its entirety on our Salem Quarter Facebook page. We are grateful to Carleton Crispin for following in Jared's footsteps with our electronic outreach.



South Jersey Quakers Website

Southjerseyquakers.org

southjerseyquakers@gmail.com

About the new "South Jersey Quakers" website:

Later this spring, a new website will be launched on behalf of Friends in Burlington, Haddonfield and Salem Quarters. The goals for this effort are to:

- 1) Reach out to potential Seekers, providing information about Friends' beliefs, traditions, and current activities, and provide links to monthly meetings and Quaker-related schools, historical sites, and retirement communities. Digital advertising and other forms of outreach will be used to attract people to the site.
- 2) Strengthen the Quaker community by promoting inter-visitation and creating opportunities to work and learn together. Currently, there are 26 monthly meetings and over 1,400 Friends in Burlington, Haddonfield and Salem Quarters.

NEXT STEPS

- 1) Monthly meetings are encouraged to review your internal processes for welcoming visitors and make sure content on your websites and social media platforms is current. Suggestions follow this cover sheet; each meeting should determine which ideas are appropriate given its size and volunteer capacity.
- 2) Meetings are also encouraged to post upcoming events at pym.org making sure to use the Salem Quarter tag. Information will be drawn from there for the website's calendar. Please send additional information and contact information for someone who could serve as a liaison from your meeting to: southjerseyquakers@gmail.com
- 3) Support for the following proposed minute would be appreciated:

Recognizing the importance of increasing the visibility of Friends' and our values, as well as strengthening connections between Friends in South Jersey, Salem Quarter affirms its support for the new South Jersey Quakers website. Further, we support fundraising efforts to: (a) compensate several Friends who will be a resource for monthly meetings wishing to review and enhance their outreach and membership development efforts; (b) create podcasts and video recordings to post on the website including Meetings' educational programs and interviews on topics such as local Quaker history and parenting based on Quaker values; and (c) offer training so more Friends are able to generate quality digital recordings.

Our New South Jersey Quakers Website is Coming Soon!

Ideas for Monthly Meetings

While Friends associated with Friends General Conference (FGC) do not engage directly in evangelism, we want others to know we are present and very much engaged!

The new South Jersey Quakers Website (SJQ) is a collaborative outreach project undertaken by Friends from Burlington, Haddonfield and Salem Quarters. It will include an interactive map so people can find and learn more about monthly meetings, Friends Schools, Friends retirement communities, and historic sites with links to Quakers. It will also include links to information about what Quakers believe, Quaker-based organizations, and other resources. In time, we want to develop a series of podcasts and videos about a variety of topics including Quaker beliefs and practices, as well as local Quaker history.

Once the new SJQ Website goes live, the Steering Committee will begin using social media advertising to reach out to potential Seekers. This outreach will be done in careful coordination with monthly meetings to assure you are prepared for such outreach. It would be wonderful to work with several meetings in each Quarter to start this outreach effort.

Monthly Meetings are encouraged to review your outreach and internal processes for welcoming new people, and make any updates or changes you feel are warranted. Following are some ideas to consider, taking into consideration your size and volunteer capacity:

Meeting Outreach:

- 1) **Meeting website** - If your meeting has a website, is the information current? Are the times for worship, children and adult religious education programs, and other regular activities correct? Do you have information about upcoming activities? Does your meetinghouse meet ADA standards, including accessibility for those not able to negotiate stairs or a small bathroom? Does the website feature photographs of recent activities that convey a sense of your meeting?
- 2) **Meeting Facebook or Instagram account** - If your meeting has a social media account, does it have photos and details about current and upcoming activities? If you don't have a website or it is out of date, consider creating a Facebook or Instagram account - they provide the platform, all you need to do is add periodic updates.
- 3) **Publicity** - If your meeting is planning an event or activity appropriate for new Seekers, send out a press announcement or release to traditional and digital media up to a month in advance. Even if no one comes, these local announcements will raise the visibility of your meeting and reinforce the digital advertising. Also, make sure your meeting is included in free church faith lists offered by newspaper websites for your area (such as the Sun and Patch online papers).

- 4) **Signage** - If your meeting has a sign to announce upcoming events, make sure it includes a warm welcome to worship, religious education times, upcoming events, etc.
- 5) **Interfaith Groups** - Does your meeting belong to the Council of Churches or multi-faith organizations? Participation in a local group is a great way to become more integrated into the larger faith community.

Welcoming new Seekers

- 1) **Greeters** - Does your meeting have people who welcome visitors - people who are warm, engaging, and good networkers? Are they able to quickly summarize Quaker beliefs for new Seekers? Do they know which questions are off-putting to newcomers?
- 2) **Guest book** - Does your meeting invite visitors to sign a guest book or have other ways of recording visitors' names and contact information? Do you contact them to see if they have any questions or would like to become more involved? It's important to get negative feedback as well, so unfortunate comments or incidents don't occur again.
- 3) **First steps** - What are the first steps a new Seeker should follow to become part of your community? How and when are these steps conveyed to visitors?
- 4) **Fun** - What fun events does your meeting hold, especially inter-generational activities - that provide a good opportunity for newcomers to meet others? Other possible options could be to hold a weeknight supper with a program or worship at the meetinghouse, or invite several recent visitors to a member's home for a meal or dessert and informal conversation.
- 5) **Children's programming**- Does your meeting offer religious education for children? Fun activities? Intergenerational activities? Many young parents are seeking a place to worship that will ground their children's education in good values and beliefs. If your meeting doesn't have a group of children or consistent religious education activities, what might be done to welcome young families?
- 6) **Quakerism 101**- Does your meeting offer a substantial introduction to Friends' beliefs and practices, or something to help new Seekers move towards membership? Videos and podcasts, available on QuakerSpeak and the Salem Quarter website, provide helpful background, especially if your meeting doesn't have someone to lead a study group.
- 7) **Committee Service and Membership** - Does someone track attenders' integration into the community and connect them with your Nominating Committee? Who informs attenders about what some call the three pillars of membership: worship, committee service, and financial support? Does a committee discern when an attender may be ready to become a member and arrange for someone to talk with them?

From the Steering Committee for the South Jersey Quakers Website
Southjerseyquakers.org call or text: 856-979-4560



**Salem Friends' Annual Fundraiser
CHICKEN POT PIE DINNER**
(see www.salemmeeting.org for updates)

NOTICE: *The annual fundraiser dinner normally scheduled around this time of year has been cancelled or postponed*

The Salem Friends' Pot Pie Dinner has been providing funding for a variety of Quaker projects and community contributions. Previous beneficiaries have included the Olive Street Community Garden, Lighthouse Soccer Camp, the City Lights Leadership & Mission Trip to the Appalachian Mountains, Friends Village, Friends School Mullica Hill, Arts in Bloom, and Woodstown Friends Meeting's Humanitarian De-mining Project.

See www.salemmeeting.org for updates



**Friends School Mullica Hill 50th Anniversary
Weekend Events May 15-17, 2020**

NOTICE: *Subject to Change or Cancellation*
(see www.friendsmh.org for updates)

<p>15 MAY</p>	<p>Grandparents, Trustee, & Special Friends Day Fri, 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM It's Grandparents and Special Friends Day! Visitors will participate in school activities with the students. Registration will be under the big tent on the playground.</p> <p>50th Anniversary Family Event Fri, 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Friends School Mullica Hill is kicking off the 50th Anniversary Weekend. All families, alumni and their families, and past and present faculty and staff are welcomed.</p>
<p>16 MAY</p>	<p>50th Honoree Luncheon Sat, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Past faculty, staff, and friends of Friends School Mullica Hill will be honored at a luncheon.</p> <p>50th Anniv. Gala Celebration @ Hill Creek Farms Sat, 6:30 PM - 10:30 PM Past and present faculty, staff, friends, and parents, as well as alumni of the school, are welcomed to this adult-only evening event. Location: Hill Creek Farms, 1631 NJ-45, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062, USA</p>
<p>17 MAY</p>	<p>50th Meeting for Worship & Breakfast Sun, 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Meeting for worship will be the concluding event of the 50th Anniversary Celebration. Breakfast will follow.</p>

Information for Visiting Subject to Change

(see also www.salemquarter.net)

Greenwich: First Day (Sunday) Meeting for Worship: 9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
October – May at **Upper Meeting House**, 720 Ye Greate Streete, Greenwich, NJ and June – September at the **Lower Meeting House**, 1064 Ye Greate Streete, Greenwich, NJ

Mickleton: 413 Kings Highway, P.O. Box 231, Mickleton, N.J. 08056;
856-423-3782; mickletonmeeting.org; Worship 10:00 a.m., children's
First-day School 10:15 a.m.

Mullica Hill: 2 Woodstown Road (Route 45 just south of Route 77), P.O. Box
67, Mullica Hill, N.J. 08062; 856-478-2184; mullicahillfriends.org;
Worship 9:45 a.m. After-words and general fellowship 10:45 a.m.,
Meeting for Learning 11:15 a.m.

Salem: East Broadway at Walnut Street, P.O. Box 7, Salem, N.J. 08079;
856-935-3381; Adult First Day School 9:30 a.m. and Children's First Day
School 10:45 a.m. Sept.-May (gathering from Meeting for Worship at
10:30 a.m.)

Seaville: 3088 Shore Road (Rte. 9, 1 mile S. of Rte. 50), Ocean View, N.J.
08230; seavillequaker.tripod.com; Worship 10:00 a.m.;
Beach meetings: Sundays from Memorial Day to Labor Day weather
permitting, **in Cape May** Grant St near the life guard building 9:00 a.m.,
in Ocean City, 23rd St and the beach 8:30 a.m.

Southern State Worship Group: Call Bill Geary 609-898-8892

Woodbury: 124 North Broad Street, Woodbury, N.J. 08096; 856-845-5080;
www.pym.org/meetings/meeting/woodbury-monthly-meeting; First-day
School 10:00 a.m., Worship 11:15 a.m.

Woodstown, 104 North Main St., P.O. Box 13, Woodstown, N.J. 08098;
856-478-4618; www.woodstownfriends.org; First-day School 9:15 a.m.,
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Salem Quarter News is the official publication of **Salem Quarterly Meeting** of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) and appears four times a year. Send your submissions, comments, requests to Jim Murphy, editor, at jsmurphy3958@yahoo.com

Acknowledgements, Credits: Cover *Elsinboro Sunset*: Christine Cameron; p 9 *Salem Oak & Daughter*: Sandra Boone Murphy; p 9 *Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape fellowship symbol*: Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation; p 13 *Worship Sharing*: Patti Sanderson.

Proofreading: Gloria Horvay, Mickleton; Christine Cameron, Salem; Lois Dinshah, Mullica Hill, and other Friends of which we are grateful.

All art is copyright by the artist. Except as otherwise noted, all other content is copyright © 2020, Salem Quarterly Meeting.

Non Profit Org
US Postage

PAID

Philadelphia, PA
Permit #5634

Salem Quarterly Meeting
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the
Religious Society of Friends
PO Box 55
Woodstown, NJ 08098-0055
Change Service Requested

****New* Virtual Quarterly Meeting
Sunday, June 14, 2020***

Original program at Greenwich has been cancelled. Worship as you choose.

*9:30 Greenwich: Meeting for Worship using Quarter
Zoom Account*

*10:30 Woodstown & Salem: Joint Meeting for
Worship using Quarter Zoom Account*

Noon Meeting for Business on Quarter Zoom Account

Editor's note: Due to ever-evolving circumstances (Coronavirus pandemic), all dates/times/events/venues presented in this issue are subject to change. As we move forward, look for your meeting to use Video Conferencing methods to hold virtual worship and gatherings.

See you online!