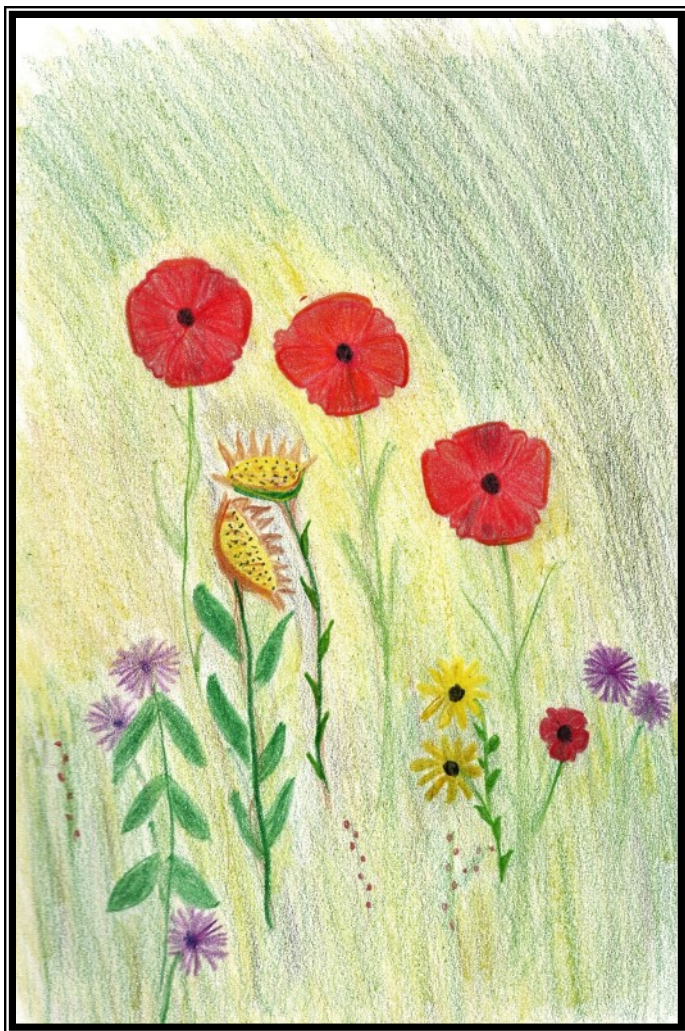


Salem Quarter News

Fall 2020



*Absent in body, but present
in Spirit.*

A Minute of Silence

I will come to a time in my backwards trip when November eleventh was a sacred day called Armistice Day. When I was a boy, all the people of all the nations which had fought in the First World War were silent during the eleventh minute of the eleventh hour of Armistice Day, which was the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

It was during that minute in nineteen hundred and eighteen, that millions upon millions of human beings stopped butchering each other. I have talked to old men who were on battlefields during that minute. They have told me in one way or another that the sudden silence was the Voice of God. So we still have among us some men who can remember when God spoke clearly to mankind.

-Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., in Breakfast of Champions

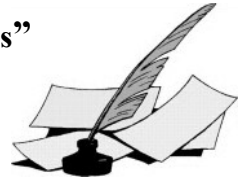
Front Cover

Poppies: "Remembering" — s. b. murphy

1 Corinthians 5:3 (KJV)

“Family Traditions During Changing Times”

by *Dietrich Preston,*
Clerk of Quarter



Wow! What a year it's been and we're only three quarters of the way through it. Fall has always been a time of year that my family starts engaging in a number of different family traditions. Starting with Halloween, through Thanksgiving and leading up to Christmas. We always decorate our house (inside and out) for each of these holidays, which we will again this year, so that tradition we get to keep. Unfortunately, there is a family tradition that's still up in the air – getting together with friends and family. Every year we have a Halloween Party, Thanksgiving with our parents, and go to various houses for Christmas. I'm hoping to do all these things this year, but we will have to wait and see.

The Covid-19 pandemic has sure changed things, but we had to learn to adapt. Zoom has sure helped out keeping our Monthly Meetings going and I'm sure people had uplifting experiences with it. I started to feel a little down about how things were going to turn out this holiday season, but after further thought I felt no matter what, we were going to make it happen. If we need to play things safe, that's what we'll do. My wife and I are going to have to forego the Halloween Party, but hopefully if things get better, we can still get together with family on Thanksgiving and Christmas. Either way I am staying positive and believe whatever life deals us we will be able to handle it.

I keep reminding myself that safe is better than sorry and that there may still be more years of this to come. Having to make changes with your routines and traditions is part of life and adapting to the world around you is as well. If we can remain resilient I'm sure we can make it through the rest of the year.

-Dietrich

***Salem Quarterly Meeting
Meeting for Worship for Business
September 13, 2020***

Following morning worship on Zoom, Kate Monahan from Friends Fiduciary Corporation (FFC) presented a program on shareholder advocacy. FFC requested the session not be recorded, but the PowerPoint slides would be made available.

Meeting for business was opened with worship by Clerk Dietrich Preston at 1:00 p.m. using the Salem Quarter Zoom account.

Sixteen friends participated, representing five meetings in the Quarter.

Minutes of June Quarterly Meeting for Business were approved.

Standing Committee Reports:

Finance – Jack Mahon presented a budget proposal for fiscal year 2021. It was approved and can be found on page 6. The year-to-date financial report was reviewed as well.

Mullica Hill Friends School – John Bond reported the school has opened fully in person this fall, carefully following all safety guidelines for COVID-19. The Salem building, erected 48 years ago as a temporary structure, is in the process of being demolished. Cori McMahon is the new clerk of the board. John will continue as liaison with Salem Quarter. The school is repaying loans from Friends Fiduciary.

Nominating – No report.

Worship and Ministry – Tom Etherington reported the committee met by Zoom on September 10. The committee asked if Salem Quarter was interested in participating in Quarter-wide First Day School Zoom activities for children. One family in the Quarter has been participating with virtual First Day School and will work on putting together information for the newsletter. See the full committee report on page 8.

Tri-Quarter – The conference is taking place in two weeks' time. Participants need to register on the website www.southjerseyquakers.org/tri-quarter-reg/. There is no fee this year since it is being held virtually.

Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts – The annual exhibit held at Tri-Quarter will be online this year. It can be found at this link: www.mizzentop.net/newbeginnings/.

Marketing Communications – Carleton reported that the monthly eBulletin is going smoothly. The South Jersey Quaker Coalition is helping meetings to increase membership with digital outreach. Comment was raised about audio taped interviews of prominent Quakers in the Quarter made in the 1980's. Carleton Crispin will get them from Paul Somers to transcribe so that part of our history will not be lost.

Lower Alloways Creek Meetinghouse Committee – Mike Ayars reported that painting is complete and looks very nice. Quarterly Meeting in June 2021 is expected to meet at the LAC Meetinghouse.

Indian Affairs Committee – Report on page 9. The committee will meet next on December 3rd.

Cemeteries – Paul Somers reported the grass at Port Elizabeth is continuing to be cut, but it has been difficult with all the rain we have had.

Salem Quarter Newsletter – Friends are reminded submissions are due September 15.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting – Bob Horvay reported that the councils (Administrative, Nominating and Quaker Life) are having their reorganization meetings next week. Salem Quarter is well represented with Jim Waddington of Salem as clerk of Administrative Council and Chuck Devers joining as well. Members of the councils are answering the query, “Why do you continue serving?” They are also reviewing documents of strategic directions for PYM.

Old Business:

Incorporation status – By-laws are nearly complete. Another meeting is needed.

Upcoming Quarterly Meeting programs:

December Quarterly meeting is expected to be hosted by Friends School Mullica Hill with a presentation about the school's Global Learning program. More information to follow.

New Business:

A current job description has been prepared for Carleton.

Meeting closed with worship at 2:18 p.m.

Gloria Horvay, Recording Clerk

Salem Quarter Finance
2021 Budget & Year-to-Date Financial Report
Jack Mahon

2021 Budget

Income	Schedule A	2019-20 Bgt	2019-20 Act	12 Mos.	2021 Bgt
Total Covenant Income		\$ 16,615	\$ 16,950	\$ 18,337	\$ 16,890
Net Donations to Education		\$ 3,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,500	\$ 3,000
Total Other Income		\$ 100	\$ 1,000	\$ 4,200	\$ 50
Total Income [non-FidCor]		\$ 20,215	\$ 20,950	\$ 27,037	\$ 19,940
Expenses	Schedule B]	2019-20 Bgt	2019-20 Act	12 Mos.	2021 Bgt
Net Administrative Expenses		\$ 3,668	\$ 9,652	\$ 6,333	\$ 4,109
Total Newsletter Expenses		\$ 3,495	\$ 3,297	\$ 3,204	\$ 3,430
Total Program Expenses		\$ 5,100	\$ 3,053	\$ 1,853	\$ 5,100
Net Property Expenses		\$ 2,955	\$ 8,233	\$ 8,583	\$ 3,375
Total Schedule B Expenses		\$ 15,218	\$ 24,235	\$ 19,973	\$ 16,014
Fund Deficit (Surplus)	[Sched. C]	2019-20 Bgt	2019-20 Act	12 Mos.	2021 Bgt
Net Alloway Creek Expenses		\$ 1,248	\$ (21)	\$ (313)	\$ 1,698
Alloway Creek Preserv. Exp.		\$ 1,440	\$ (4,000)	\$ (4,000)	\$ 1,694
Net Education Expenses		\$ (3,411)	\$ (2,760)	\$ (2,239)	\$ (3,215)
Fel'ship Q's in the Arts Exp.		\$ 116	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150
Marketing & Comm. Exp.		\$ 4,200	\$ 8,898	\$ 5,548	\$ 3,600
Total Schedule C Expenses		\$ 3,593	\$ 2,117	\$ (1,004)	\$ 3,926
TOTAL Expense		\$ 18,811	\$ 26,352	\$ 18,969	\$ 19,940
	Surplus / (Deficit)	\$ 1,404	\$ (5,402)	\$ 8,068	\$ (0)

The 2021 budget will be in effect for the twelve months beginning 01 December 2020 and is essentially an overall statement of covenants and miscellaneous donations from seven monthly meetings and the expenses to which they are applied. Investment incomes are included as offsets and do not show on this summary page.

Parentheses indicate a surplus, except for the bottom line: Surplus / (Deficit). For comparison purposes, the "2019-20 Act" column shows actual income and expenses from the previous fiscal year, 01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020. The "12 Mos." column shows similar data from the most recent twelve month period. In short, there is not much total difference from last year.

To explain some specifics:

Net Donations to Education in "2021 Bgt" is an estimate.

Net Administrative Expenses in "2019-20 Act" is high, primarily because, due to late invoicing by the previous person, we made payments to two different Marketing and Communications people for a time. Similarly, a higher figure in the "12 Mos." column is because of some prepayment for next year. This is reflected in the same columns in the Marketing and Communications Exp. line.

The actual amounts in the Net Property Expense line are mostly because of re-investment to Friends Fiduciary Corporation that was possible in the previous year. Because of that, landscaping at the Port Elizabeth cemetery should now be covered by investment income. Small surpluses in Net Alloways Creek Expenses indicates that (a) there is better investment support, and (b) not all possible expenses were encountered in 2020. The Net Property Expenses in "2021 Bgt" indicates more re-investment when possible.

Alloways Creek Preservation Expense surpluses (\$4000) reflect donations to the Alloways Creek 1756 Meetinghouse.

Surpluses in Net Education Expenses are an attempt to maintain some cushion each year so that scholarship amounts can continue to increase, regardless of income fluctuations.

Year-to-Date Summary

Year-to-Date Financial Report

Cemetery: Port Elizabeth	\$655.00
Donations: Tri-Q; FSMH	\$1,400.00
Insurance	\$2,516.00
Alloway Crk Grounds	\$1,725.00
Allo Crk Maint & Preserv	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$879.00
Marketing Consultant	\$4,848.00
Newsletter: print	\$1,315.00
Newsletter: list; mail; PD	\$1,056.00
Postage & Fees	\$98.00
T&C, W&M, etc.	\$200.00
Program & Child Care	\$250.00
Reinvest	\$5,100.00
Scholarships	\$0.00
Webpage	\$322.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$20,364.00

After ten months of the fiscal year, the Quarterly Meeting's finances are just about where one might expect with a positive cash flow. Covenants from monthly meetings are on schedule and there have been some miscellaneous donations to the education fund, the marketing and communications program, and the 1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse. We are still awaiting an expected dividend from our insurance carrier.

We have made budgeted donations to Friends School Mullica Hill but not to Tri-Quarter Conference, because its format this year was changed to a virtual one and it did not need additional funding in 2020. Likewise, we have spent less this year on Quarterly Meeting Sunday programs and children's programming because of the pandemic, although that has necessitated some small, additional expenses in technology.

Budgeted investments into both the Property and Lower Alloways Creek funds are current and we have disbursed \$9600 in tuition assistance to students attending four different Friends Schools and seven colleges or universities.

Covenants	\$14,617.00
Fiduciary Corporation	6,929.00
Insurance Dividend	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00
Education Fund	10,099.00
Other restricted	1,200.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$32,845.00
Covenants YTD	\$14,617.00



*Salem Quarter Worship & Ministry Committee Meeting
September 10, 2020*

Six Friends from four Meetings were grateful to gather virtually in September. Clerk, Jim Murphy encouraged a check-in sharing where we connected in the knowing of one another's life realities. Worship followed.

Friends received a request from Sandra Boone Murphy for consideration of re-endorsement of her existing minute of service. Sandra highlighted items from a document summarizing her work and activities. Committee decided to read and reflect on her emailed summary and share thoughts in a special called zoom meeting to be announced.

Communication from Phil Anthony encouraged contact with Melinda Bradley for virtual First Day School experiences for children. Such virtual programs are known to be underway at West Chester and Chestnut Hill Meetings.

Friends discussed further likely needs for spiritual nurture due to pandemic life pattern-changes, particularly for those without technology equipment and skills. We thought of the elderly in particular. Phone calls are essential. Additionally, security for personal technology systems is concerning.

Friends reflected on Marcel Martin's plenary presentation at PYM Summer Sessions, finding inspiration, insight and clarity; for example a *leading* takes place over time while a *calling* is for specific action. Content was similar to Marcel's work in her book, *Our Life is Love*. Marcel is simply asking, "What canst thou say?" in another Friend's view.

Members decided to commit to reading Marcel's Study Guide with an eye for an inspirational topic that could become a useful virtual session in the Quarter this Fall.

Jan Wood's "Spiritual Gifts and the Organization" was underlined again as a helpful and hopeful tool to enhance the needed work of Monthly and Quarterly Nominating Committees. Gifts work has been prominent in the Quarter for many years.

Friends closed in worship to meet again at 3:00 p.m., December 10, 2020. Please contact Christine Cameron at 856-935-2641 for meeting details.

Peggy Warner, acting recording clerk



*Salem Quarter Indian Affairs Committee
Quarterly Report, Third Quarter, 2020
sandra boone murphy*

From fellowship grounding of “How is Spirit with you?” we find themes of increased inspiration, challenges, and affiliation with animals and non-human kin. Expectantly lifted is an acknowledgement of the land where Salem Quarter F/friends worship being the ancient homeland of Lenape People, perhaps more than 10,000 years, where Lenape Tribal Nations remain on their homeland, today self-ascribing as Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape; Powhattan Renape; Ramapough Lunaape; and Lenape Indian Tribe of DE.

Our collective witness includes the following business: Harmful “racist” mascots/imagery that dismiss Native American Cultures/Peoples, with consultation requests supported by the pooled resources posted on the PYM First Contact Reconciliation Collaborative’s *Call To Action* webpage, which includes a statement by the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal leadership.

Work of this committee supported the planning and implementation of the (virtual) 2020 Biennial Pendle Hill Conference with inclusion of three east coast Lenape Tribal Nation speakers. Full webinar series descriptions, approved speaker bios, and registration information is posted on Pendle Hill’s website, with additional postings in the Salem Quarter eBulletin. Webinar topics include Sovereignty and Tribal Government Relations in the U.S. & Canada; Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; Cultural Appreciation vs. Appropriation/ Misappropriation; Solidarity, Guidance for Engagement; Healing from Inter-generational Trauma; and Truth and Healing.

We have been called into collaboration by Quaker Religious Education (QRE) toward revision of Friends curricula content and materials; we are thankful for guidance by “teachers” of the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation. In addition, through the National Museum of American Indians we read the following areas of “Essential Understandings”: American Indian Cultures; Time, Continuity, and Change; People, Places, and Environments; Individual Development and Identity; Individuals, Groups, and Institutions; Power, Authority, and Governance; Production, Distribution and Consumption; Science, Technology, and Society; Global Connections; Civic Ideals and Practices.

Fluid/ ongoing, the IAC web home page hosts We Are Still Here, Peacemaking Literacy, Call To Action, and Celebration Gallery; all posts are currently under reflection for maintenance.

Friends are clear toward continuing our leadings and work given the acknowledgement by Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape citizens. This committee’s next set meeting will be Thursday December 3, 2020. Closing expectant worship guides us toward Jesus’ messaging – small groups are important.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Indian Affairs Committee, sbm

WEAVING THE BLESSED TAPESTRY

By Mary Waddington

It had taken us seven hours to drive to the week-long 2005 Friends General Conference Gathering in Virginia. Richard and I were senior newlyweds only days removed from our spiritual union and still under its spell. The drive had allowed us to gradually decelerate and to ponder the conference theme "Weaving the Blessed Tapestry." We decided to make it our theme as well.

The week progressed with one rich experience after the next. Friday was the final day of my workshop on past life regression and I had intuited this class would prepare me for the unknown. It did. My regression not only took me back in time, it stripped me of defenses and expectations. It validated my past and opened me to new possibilities. I was ripe for what would come next. I left that workshop having been infused with something akin to bliss.

I followed the crowd toward the campus green where the Junior Gathering had invited us to join their "Worship and Weave" experience. Tender and vulnerable, having cast aside every vestige of armor, I moved as though in a protective bubble that kept me safe and complete. Yet I was remembering the physical world back home of responsibility, hard decisions, unfinished work. This dichotomy held me in limbo.

The green was filled with Quakers of every ilk milling silently around and through a large 3-D installation of yarn and sticks that were loosely woven to low-hanging branches. I edged my way into this. A small child handed me a ball of fuzzy red yarn that I felt should be used to attach myself to the ground. Instead I followed the lead of others by tying its loose end to a branch and then, with yarn ball unwinding, wove myself into all that moved and didn't move. Together we grew the work, replicating the web that connects us all.

Next scheduled on the green was intergenerational worship. My eyes began combing the crowd for Richard. They found him quickly because he was searching for me. Stepping over swags of yarn and families now seated on the grass, we lowered ourselves into an opening and settled into the silence. Soft mist began to fall. It moistened my face and freshened my senses. I spotted a strand of orange yarn resting on my knee and began to trace it with my eyes. It seemed to have no beginning and no end. I held this strand between my fingers until it became for me an artery pulsing with the life force of everyone it was touching. I couldn't let go and so it became an integral part of my worship.

The silence embraced us the way the mist had, unobtrusively, all inclusively, gathering us into itself with its wide reach. And then came another embrace. It came at first as one soft voice singing a familiar song of peace. Gradually and ever so gently it became layered with other voices. Richard knew this song and his baritone, rich and true, slipped in like silt in a riverbed. The beauty of the moment overcame me, and my joy released itself in tears. Some overflowed and camouflaged themselves by mingling with the drizzle on my cheeks. Others remained in my eyes, softening and then blurring everyone's edges, causing us to run together.

I slid my arm around Richard's back and could feel there the vibrations of his singing, which trembled their way up my arm. They then traveled through my body and flowed out my fingertips into that single strand of orange yarn I still held between my fingers.

Such a strand, captured during an intense experience of belonging, can carry the kind of power it takes to weave humanity into one vibrant tapestry. Such a strand as this has no beginning and no end.

For Our Children
Abigaile Brace-Higgins

On March 16th, 2020, I laid down in the cool, muddy-grass at the foot of a tree in my backyard and looked up at the bare branches crackling like brittle-veins across the clear sky in the stark morning light. My two-and-a-half-year-old son, Keegan, played quietly in his sandbox next to me. The heavy news of Covid-19 was thrashing like a storm all around us, but in that moment we were still. Nowhere to go, anytime soon. The impossible sadness of tragedy befalling thousands of people around the world pounded deep inside me. As a parent of a young child, my mind swelled with questions: How should my child understand this? How should I help him adapt? To cope? To stay safe? How long is this going to be? How are we going to move forward and stay connected to all those in our lives we hold dear?

Melinda Wenner Bradley was wondering, too. Melinda is PYM's *Youth Religious Life Coordinator*. She is a Godly Play trainer and co-author of *Faith & Play Stories* and serves as the *Youth Religious Education* committee clerk for West Chester Meeting. At the onset of our physical isolation in the spring, Melinda had her finger on the pulse of the problems facing our children. She understood immediately that a creative, long-range vision to give children access to their religious education, community of Friends, and spiritual hub was imperative.

Recognizing that we were all standing at a doorway opening to an uncertain journey, Melinda sought clearness and focus by asking WHAT? What could be discovered? What has become most important in the present? What have we taken for granted? What do we have to work with? What can we do to strengthen our connections to each other and grow stronger? What can we change to create a more vibrant and inclusive space to meet each other in? In her abundant attentiveness, Melinda asked of our Meetings' families, "What do you need?" (www.pym.org/first-day-programs-what-do-you-need/)

In answer, Melinda has helped organize numerous free programs for youth and families accessible online with Zoom that may be registered for on the PYM website. Through the rest of the year, 'Children and Families (K-5th Grade) Community Playdate' series with Kimani Keaton and Crystal Hershey will include games, journaling, and art projects. 'Giant Children's Meeting' will be held monthly on 4th Sundays at 9 a.m. Friends and families of all ages from across the Yearly Meeting will join for multigenerational First Day School. The focus of the Meetings are to nurture the spiritual lives of Quaker youth. Each 30-40 minute program will have a theme, and leaders who guide the group through exercises in grounding, creating, exploring, and WONDERING.

Wondering is a special talent of Melinda's. It is an important part of the way she reaches young people and invites them to explore stories, issues, and themselves. Keegan and I have been fortunate enough to sit in circles with her and listen to her stories. Although my son is not in pre-school yet, he still connects with Melinda through whatever space she leads him through. Some of the open ended questions she asks remind me of Quakerly query. When Keegan was last asked to wonder about a question, his answer was to lean into me and whisper, "She's wondering, Mommy." The essence of querying was understood, if not the question. It seems that to teach a child to wonder is to bring them closer to that of God in themselves. What finer gift could be given?

I spoke with Melinda recently and asked what she was thinking about at this point in our collective journey. She has been exploring the power of asking: WHY? Why do we do what we do? How different and more meaningful can you make your experiences by asking yourself why it's important to you?

"Affirm the WHY. If you can't, get rid of it!" Perhaps it will clear a path to where you really want to go.

Let us all delight in the possibilities Melinda has opened for us. Let us 'meet at the virtual feast' as family and give each other strength. Let us give our children the space they need to show us all the way. See you there!

An Expressionless Retired Man

An expressionless retired man,
his Veterans of Foreign Wars cap
snugged neatly over his brow,
trudged up as we sat at a red light.
“Poppy?” he asked through the drivers’ side window.
Our money slipped easily through the plastic slot.
He thrust an artificial poppy toward us.
We declined,
seeing one more thing to clutter a cluttered house.
One more thing for the dresser-top:
a red flower amid the pencils, stray receipts,
a coin or two, rubber bands, and unmatched socks
I’ll deal with some day.

We passed the expressionless retired man
down the line to the next car
like a token in a childrens’ game.

Yet still the poppies grow in Flanders Field,
nourished by the fallen, laid in rows
reaching farther than old pains and deaths.
Nourished by the living memories
of aged relatives and friends who lived
within the shallow excavated scars
which crossed the northern European soil.
Nourishing the future through their bloody
red example, their fields of wasted dreams,
their stories left untold.

The poppies’ petals flare out red,
like muted bugles calling out,
not for the fallen boys themselves,
but so their tones of Taps
may be the last to mourn blind arrogance,
its blood-greased path,
its residue of long considered hate.

-Paul Somers

First Day School Experience of Hannah Freeman (Lenape; b.~1730 d.1802) Chester County, PA



From a Quaker Religious Education meeting and recommendation by Melinda Wenner Bradley, Birmingham Friends Meeting First Day co-facilitators - Sallie and Gwynne - reached out for a consultation with boone of Salem Quarter. With permission, we share their brief recap of their program for children and youth at Longwood Gardens about Hannah Freeman (Lenape)

It was the opening event of Birmingham's children and youth program, and we had a good turnout — 8 children and youth and 9 adults, 6 of whom were parents. Yay!

I [Sallie] opened our gathering with a brief acknowledgement of the land and some information about contemporary Lenni Lenape peoples; thanks to all you shared with me, boone, in email and especially in our phone conversation.



Everyone was so glad to see each other, and all enjoyed learning from Gwynne about native plants that grow at Longwood. Gwynne led a walk in the woods around the memorial to Hannah Freeman [where she was born in a log cabin], showing us plants that would have been staple food and medicine for indigenous peoples in this area at the time of first contact with Europeans and during Hannah's lifetime. A highlight was sampling ripe persimmons that had fallen to the ground. That spurred a conversation about growing plants from seed.

With Gwynne's help and direction, we are presently collecting seeds from native trees and shrubs and plan to plant them in pots of soil later this fall. We will overwinter them outdoors in our meeting's Peace Garden and hope to transplant the ones that germinate next year.

I think/hope we have taken a small step toward planting seeds of truth and right relationship with Lenape people.

Grateful to you both for your encouragement and support.

Sallie



Friends Village Grateful for Community Support During Pandemic

Friends Village at Woodstown has been a part of the South Jersey community for more than 100 years. We are proud to have shared time with thousands of families over the years and we look forward to being a place of comfort and healing for many more in the years to come. The year 2020 has been a tremendous challenge for everyone. Our residents, family members, friends and staff have endured changes in their daily lives that could not have been predicted, and may not have been welcomed, but were necessary in keeping everyone as safe as possible during our nation's public health crisis.

At this time, we would like to thank everyone who has showed us support. Many of you have dropped off homemade face masks and cards for our residents and staff, while others have contributed financially to our COVID-19 efforts. We are eternally grateful for every effort, as these acts of kindness have inspired us to continue our work, despite the difficulties that arise on a daily basis.



We simply cannot do what we do for seniors and their families without the support of our friends from all over the South Jersey community and beyond. Our community has grown larger and closer because of this experience and we will not forget the generosity that has kept us going for the last six months.

From the bottom of our hearts, Friends Village at Woodstown thanks you for your support. For more information on Friends Village at Woodstown call, 856-769-1500 or email Arianne Hegeman, Director of Mission Support at ahegeman@friendsvillage.org.



Love Rising: 79° - 95°
by **sandra boone**

PYM Annual Sessions 2020 hosted a pre-sessions Spiritual Formation Retreat with Marcelle Martin, sponsored by the PYM Spiritual Formation Collaborative. On

July 29th, after an invited land acknowledgement prayer out of worship, the Opening Session commenced with Marcelle, who offered wisdom baked in faithful experience and research, in a talk titled, “*Friends Then and Now: Connecting to the Source of Spirit.*” SQ Worship & Ministry Friends continue examination of Marcelle’s book *Our Life is Love: The Quaker Spiritual Journey* / study guide and were drawn to this session. We, like others, are now left seasoning the following spiritual **refreshment for healing & transformation:**

Testimonies of early Friends: Mary Pennington; Isaac Pennington; George Fox; Hester Biddle; Francis Howgill.

Being open to the Divine presence already within; being vulnerable to joy & suffering; sensing the Divine Power in others; Love & Compassion; Truth; Radiance; Unity; Synchronicity; Miracles; Spiritual Dispensation of Time; God’s teaching by knowings of senses, beyond words.

Wondering, while encouraged to pause, breath...having a sense that we may or may not know what it is, what that is in one’s heart; helping each other explore; noticing subtle humble visions, dreams, “How have ‘I’ experienced the Light, Spirit, Truth; when do ‘I’ experience the Power of the Spirit?”

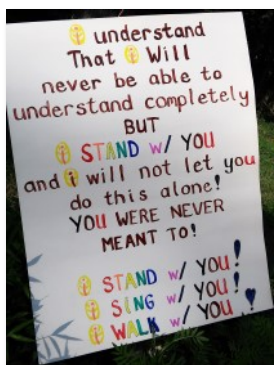
Experiencing Divine Presence & Power, that which is eminent, transcendent, God; Power of the Light; Power of Oneness; able to heal all ills; being true & working together, both “Knowing ‘God’ and your life will change” & “Change your life and you will know God.”

Pondering potential **callings of New Spiritual Dispensation** – as Douglass Gwynn calls “Covenant X” – **where communities have a specific role to play?** By believing, with grace, we already hold all the gifts community needs toward enabling Truth *from* Power (Spirit), how might we move into acts addressing corporate witness, to flow as God meant us to be, having a human & a Divine nature, currently calling acts to right human racism, environmental racism, and propagation of membership in The Religious Society of Friends?

Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV) You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

2 Peter 1:4 (CSB) By these [Spiritual gifts] he has given us very great and precious promises, so that through them [all gifts needed] you may share in the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desire.

Romans 8:14 (NIV) For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.



Black Lives Matter Vigil at Mickleton

Veterans of the Peace Vigils at Woodstown and Woodbury remember the satisfying feeling of standing for a cause. This summer members of Mickleton Meeting's Peace and Social Concerns Committee have joined peaceful protests around the country to stand in Vigil for Black Lives Matter. We are lucky our meetinghouse is on a busy corner of Kings Highway and Democrat Road in Mickleton. We gather every Friday from 4 to 6 p.m. Members of the community have joined us. We welcome you to join us as well.

Matthew 5: Reflections of a Lakeside Picnic
by sandra boone murphy



Last Fall during Tri-Quarter Gathering and again while Salem Quarter Worship & Ministry visited with Seaville Friends, Diane Metz mentioned stirrings toward hosting a Salem Quarter picnic, lakeside at her son's home. With Diane heading to Florida for the winter, we understood that details would be held over until a return... Returning home, she did, and brought us to the lake for sharing our hearts and a simple bite of nourishment.

On First Day, 13th of Nineth month 2020, in the presence of family, f/Friends, Osprey, butterflies, geese and guppies, vocal ministry showered all in a storied *Celebration of Life* for Diane.



Messages consistently pointed to a faithful life of a joy filled nurturer. Diane created genuine relationships, welcoming spaces with abundant hospitality, and beauty that flourished from the garden and kitchen. Whether attending an opera, singing John Denver, sailing on a yacht, or navigating the golf course; making jam or soup; baking pies and cookies, we all know we have been loved deeply as our lives entwine. Now is our time to serve Diane, remember, and live life as a peacemaker: seek solutions; reach out to others, ask Creator for help to illuminate the way; be generous with time spent toward worthy endeavors.

With deep appreciation for all that is and will be in receiving gifts from an ever-present Friend, for community, our calling is to remember our yesterdays by telling our stories.

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.

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Next Quarterly Meeting
Sunday, December 13, 2020
Hosted by Mullica Hill Friends School
(via Zoom)

All times approximate:

9:30 Worship

10:30 Head of School Matt Bradley will bring us up to date with Friends School, and highlight some of the curricula that make Friends School successful.

Noon Meeting for Business