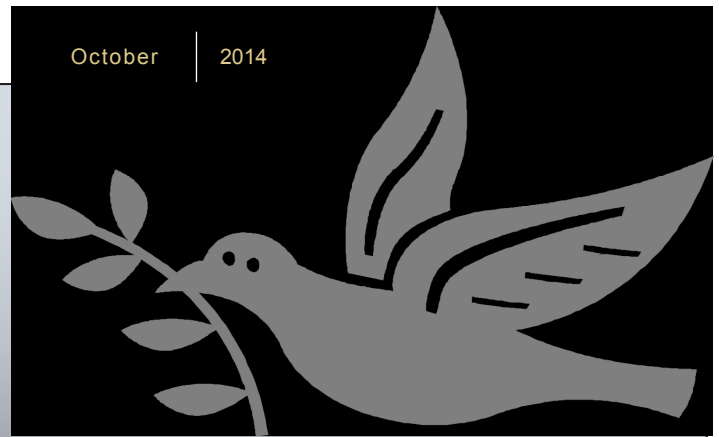


The Newsletter of *Western Quarterly Meeting*
Of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

P. O. Box 693
Kennett Square, PA 19348
WesternQuarterQuakers.org
@WesternQM (Twitter)

Kennett Friends Meeting
125 W. Sickie Street
610-444-1012
Facebook.com/WesternQM



Our Community of Meetings

Centre Meeting
Crosslands Worship Group
Fallowfield Meeting
Hockessin Meeting
Kendal Meeting
Kennett Meeting

London Grove Meeting
Marlborough Meeting
Mill Creek Meeting
New Garden Meeting
Newark Meeting
West Grove Meeting

*For more information go to:
westernquarterquakers.org
and then click on
“Our Community.”*

Contents

Quarterly Meeting
Adult Program
(Page Two)
Quarterly Meeting
Youth Program
(Page Three)
Events in Our
Community
(Pages Three to Four)
Stories in Our
Community (including
our annual report,
meditations, and
employment)
(Pages Five to Seven)
Contact Information
(Page Eight)

This is our Last Print Newsletter!

Starting in January, this Western Quarterly Meeting newsletter will *no longer* be automatically mailed to every household in the Quarter.

WQ has approved saving nearly \$2000 per year by switching our newsletter distribution to electronic copies.

We care about our resources, but we also care about our members. We recognize some in the Quarter may still wish to receive the newsletter in print, so hard copies will still be available. **If you would like to continue receiving a printed copy of the Western Quarterly Newsletter, please notify the coordinator via email (coordinator@WesternQuarterQuakers.org) or phone 610-444-1012 (press “2” to leave a message).**

Please send what you'd like to share in future Newsletters (prose, poems, pictures, announcements) to
coordinator@WesternQuarterQuakers.org

Tear this flyer out and post it in your Meeting and in public places!

A Ministry of Elder Care!

The Friends Boarding Home Movement and a Brief History of Senior Living!

The October 19, 2014 Session of Western Quarterly Meeting!

Kennett Monthly Meeting Hosts!

***Register yourself
and your youth at:***

125 W. Sickie Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348

WesternQuarterQuakers.org/RSVP

The Schedule

9:00 AM — Sign In
9:30 AM — Program
10:30 AM — Query # 8
10:45 AM — Break
11:00 AM — Worship
11:30 AM — Youth Join Us
11:45 AM — Lunch
1:00 to 3:00 PM — Business

**Featuring a
program
by our
very own
Wright
Horne!**

Youth Program at Quarterly Meeting Hosted by Kennett Friends Meeting

Plus Events

In Our Meeting Communities

October | 2014

October 19th - Quarterly Meeting *Calling all Children of Western Quarter!*

Come together for a Fall Fun program at Kennett Friends Meeting, starting at 9:30 am.

125 W Sickel Street, Kennett Square

All ages are welcome. If you register ahead of time, we can be better prepared for the fun: WesternQuarterQuakers.org/RSVP

Events in Our Community

For locations and further information regarding events go to: WesternQuarterQuakers.org/events.

November Movie Night Double Feature

Saturday, November 8. Join us at Hockessin Friends Meeting

5:00 pm for **Despicable Me** (PG- When a criminal mastermind uses a trio of orphan girls as pawns for a grand scheme, he finds their love is profoundly changing him for the better),
6:30 for dinner (pizza & salad)

7:15 pm for **Amazing Grace** (PG-The idealist William Wilberforce maneuvers his way through Parliament, endeavoring to end the British transatlantic slave trade).

Save the date! On January 3rd we will be showing **Gandhi**.



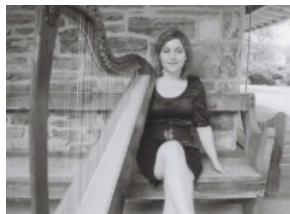
London Grove 300th Anniversary Celebration continues...

Saturday, October 18, 1pm to 7 pm All-Day Anniversary Celebration

Graveyard tours, presentations and exhibits on display; multi-generational activities throughout the day.

Advanced tickets required for the dinner only (seating starts at 4 pm).

Sunday, November 9, 7:30 pm *Quakers and the Early Development of Chester County* with Karen Marshall, Chester County Historic Preservation Office. Refreshments following the presentation.



Saturday, December 6, 7:30 pm Celtic Harp Performance

WQ's own Gillian Grassie returns to share her beautiful music.

All welcome to a covered dish supper at 5:30 before the performance; bring a dish to share.

For more details visit: www.pym.org/london-grove-friends-meeting/

Events in Our Community - continued

For locations and further information regarding events go to:
WesternQuarterQuakers.org/events.

Playing in the Light: Faith & Play Training for WQ Friends

November 7- 9 at *Center Meeting*

Melinda Wenner Bradley & Michael Gibson

Faith & Play is a powerful way of being with children. It can transform your FDS and nurture your own spiritual life. This training will teach you skills to help children explore the existential limits of their lives through wonder, play, and core stories from the Bible and Quaker faith and practice.

Please register by October 22. Cost is \$100 — scholarships are available for all who wish to attend. Contact the WQ coordinator for details.



Fall FDS Convergence!

153 E. Harmony Rd, West Grove, PA 19390 SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16 10 AM

We will be playing in the fall leaf piles at West Grove Meeting!

What if all the First Day Schools in the quarter converged a few times a year? It would be a

Quaker Play Date!

Sunday, November 16th 10 am

West Grove Meeting invites children of all ages to come and play in the leaf piles. Parents are welcome to play along, or attend worship.

Hadley Memorial Fund Performances:

The Merling Trio (violin, cello, piano)

Sunday, November 9, 3 pm at Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church, 101 Old Kennett Pike, DE

Dr. Elliot Engel presents,
Charles Dickens and Christmas

Sunday, December 14, 3 pm at Kennett Meeting

Hear how the publication of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* in 1843 changed forever the way we celebrate Christmas.

PYM First Day School Thread Gathering and *Children's Thread Gathering!* ← **NEW!**

October 18, 9:30 to 3:30

Uwchlan Meeting, Downingtown, PA

More information can be found online
<http://www.pym.org/thread-gatherings/>



Save the date!

January Quarterly

Meeting will be hosted by
Kendal Monthly Meeting on
Saturday, January 17, 2015

Gatherings for Younger Friends (PYM)

Middle School Friends

Programs w/overnight

Oct 24-26: Quakers, the early days
George School Campus

Dec 5-7: Quakers, rabble rousers
Valley Friends Meeting



High School Friends

Program w/overnight

Oct 31-Nov 2
Masks- Hiding & Revealing
Yardley Monthly Meeting



PYM Winter Family Overnight Saturday, January 17, 1:30 pm to noon on
Sunday, Jan 18.

Family overnight is a one-night sleepover for **families with kids K-5th grade.**

Check out PYM's website for more programs and information: www.pym.org

Farewell Message from Our Outgoing Coordinator

Dear Friends,

It has been a tremendous privilege to work with the Western Quarterly Meeting community. The relationships I have formed here will carry me well as I begin a new chapter. I am heartened that I will still be working for our wider yearly-meeting community. I won't be a stranger! In this regard, I will leave you with one parting thought.

Western Quarterly Meeting is not a separate entity from our monthly meetings, lurking in the wilderness of Quaker Land. Western Quarterly Meeting is just a phrase out of many possible

phrases meaning, "our community of monthly meetings and one worship group." We associate through Western Quarterly Meeting because we know we are better together. We need each other as we traverse spiritual landscapes, which are sometimes treacherous.

"Western Quarterly Meeting is not a separate entity from our monthly meetings, lurking in the wilderness of Quaker Land."

We need each other as we work to make the world a better place. We need each other as we endeavor to raise children who are capable of vulnerability, who seek to grow their minds and hearts, and who strive always to

do the right thing. Indeed, our spiritual community does *not* end at the parking lot of our meetinghouses.

It is the responsibility, therefore, of Western Quarterly Meeting and its Support Committee to focus their attention on our community of monthly meetings. The Quarterly Meeting's job is, merely, to support the leadings and ministry that

rise up from our monthly meetings in whatever way seems most helpful and enhancing. The Quarterly Meeting provides the ground upon which we, having realized that we need each other, can have each other.

Many blessings,
Zachary T. Dutton

Reflections on a Grant Experience

Blaise Glowiak is a member of Centre Friends Meeting, who received a grant from the Traveling Ministers Fund to attend the Global Solutions Design Science Lab. He wrote about his experience below.

The Global Solutions Design Science Lab was a wonderful opportunity for me to learn more about issues facing the world. Not only did I learn about these issues, I was given the chance to solve them. People from all over the world were present at the lab. Georgia, Nigeria, Azerbaijan, Jamaica, Thailand, Poland, Canada, and the

U.S.A. were represented in the lab. Not only did I get to learn from these people, I also had the chance to take trips to downtown Philadelphia with them. In my group I worked with, we worked on solving issues with refugees. We came up with a system of giving refugees skills and jobs so they could use them in a peace-making process and for rebuilding. We worked for a whole week, from video-conferences with U.N. officials, to working for hours on getting the information to work with our solution, we were kept very busy.

At the end of the week we all boarded a bus and set off for New York City. We then arrived at the U.N.

Stories in Our Community!

To read more stories go to our blog at
WesternQuarterQuakers.org/blog

October | 2014

Reflections, cont.

headquarters. We were given a small tour where we saw things like a section of the Berlin Wall. But the big event at the U.N. was our presentation of our solutions. We presented in front of ten U.N. officials and others. Our presentation on refugees went very well. We were

given very informative feedback from the officials. In all, the whole week was very interesting and fun. Our findings and that of other participants will be published as a book in the fall of this year.

Visit www.designsciencelab.com for more information.

From Signs to Waiting, I Endure

by tonya thames taylor

tonya thames taylor is a member of Fallowfield Monthly Meeting, and has recently accepted the nomination as Recording Clerk for Western Quarterly Meeting. Her reflections here were first published in Friends Journal. Republished with permission.

In the American South, where I came of age, language is regularly interspersed with phrases such as “God have mercy”; “Trust in God”; “Bless her heart, God”; “God don’t like ugly”; and “He is an on-time God.” The word “God,” which I came to know meant a higher, invisible, and omnipotent force, has been in my lexicon since I learned to communicate.

Stories of devotions to God, personified by biblical heroes such as Abel, who was obedient and gave his best to God, and Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who risked their lives by refusing to bow to an idol lower than God, created indelible imprints in my value system and spiritual development long before I learned the children’s stories of Cinderella and Jack and the Beanstalk. Yet, in this milieu of the American South, I, too, learned that God exacts punishment on those who disobey. Terror and guilt accompanied my ideas concerning God. I concentrated more on the wrath, not mercy, of God. “God sits high, but looks low” was a favorite saying of the elders around me. My translation: Avoid the brimstone by never upsetting God.

Without a true connection with faith, God served more as a mythical Santa Claus or magisterial judge and a ready excuse for unexplainable occurrences. As long as God delivered, blissful and blessed described my life. However, when my lofty wishes and fanciful desires failed to occur and humiliations abounded, I became quite dispirited and restless in thoughts that I had unwittingly disappointed God.

I came to rely on signs. Without the comfort of signs, I could not maintain the enthusiasm or hope that some associate with faith. These signs took place normally in what some call “blessings in disguise,” such as an unexpected, fortunate outcome.

The hallmark of my Quakerism is my willingness to endure, positively, whatever happens. The emphasis on endurance reduces my dependence on outward signs and increases my trust in God. This trust routinely creates a more profound peace and joy. It allows me to focus less on expectations. Also, it takes away any fear that might derive from worrying. Jesus admonishes me not to worry about even the most basic of needs, as it interferes with the ability to live presently and in joy. Taking advice from the Apostle Paul, I should run with endurance any present race set before me (Hebrews 12:1).

Revitalizing our Quarterly Meetings throughout PYM

Members from nine quarterly meetings gathered at Reading Monthly Meeting on June 7, 2014 to affirm the role and importance of our quarters. There was a sense of community and belonging to each other.

We converged upon the truth that regional gatherings can be a place where yearly meeting becomes relevant. The quarterly meeting experience is an inspirational intermediary between monthly meetings and our wider yearly meeting community. When we come together, we collectively fuel our excitement about being Quakers.

We also considered the life in our quarterly meetings as it relates to leadership, youth support, membership, roles and responsibilities, working across our communities, and spiritual formation.

As we adjourned, we affirmed the value of fellowship, worship, and sharing in love towards the development of new ideas and the seasoning of others. It is time that we further explore concrete ways to integrate the structure, energy, and community between monthly meetings, quarterly meetings, and the yearly meeting.

From Signs to Waiting..... continued

The humbling process of waiting encourages endurance. At unprogrammed Friends meetings, I wait for the Inner Light to speak, clarify, instruct, and transform me. No longer do I rely on outward prompts that, at the mere cue of a word or an action, elicit performing my religion to the delight of others who perhaps unknowingly associate and connect performance with a level of faith.

A different understanding of the Twenty-third Psalm embodies my convincing: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." My relationship with God is inviolable. I have a direct and unmediated experience with God. There is a dynamic, spiritual presence in the world that transforms the world, including me. The possibilities are limitless.

"Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over." Before I gained insight from the Inner Teacher, I read this passage as a royal, godly payback to

my enemies and a big-return lottery of worldly rewards for me. Now, I understand my leading may result in acceptance or rejection. I may not outwardly appear whole by worldly standards, but inwardly I am whole in spirit. My rewards may not possess any material aspects, but may take the form of attributes associated with spiritual discipline such as love, joy, peace, and faith.

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." I am inseparable from God. Even when I falter, I have the protection of a trusting Inner Teacher.

Endurance encompasses an independence that liberates me from religiosity. This freedom affords more opportunities to speak to power, honor justice, abolish inner fear, and trust that whatever happens is purposeful. Acts of endurance seed what I associate now with faith and spiritual activism.

The Friendly News
Western Quarterly Meeting
Religious Society of Friends
P O Box 693
Kennett Square, PA 19348



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
West Chester, PA
Permit No. 433
Address Service Requested

**Contact us with your
ideas, suggestions and
questions:**

Pamela Leland / Clerk
clerk@
WesternQuarterQuakers.org

Sarah Kastriner / Coordinator
coordinator@
WesternQuarterQuakers.org

Phone - 610.444.1012
Send content to use at any time.
We'll add it to our blog, and
publish it in our newsletters.

*Don't be surprised if we
reach out to you!*

**We have invested in our web-site!!
*Check it out !!***

You will find ... Contacts, a blog updated regularly
with vibrant news about all the communities that
make up our Quarterly Meeting ... our newsletters in
PDF format ... a list of meetings (with information
on Meeting activities) ... resources for Monthly
Meeting leaders ... various publications for your
enjoyment ... bumper stickers for purchase ...
an invitation to join our e-mail lists ... resources for
folks in search of grants ... a summary of events
happening in our region ... and an events page that
allows you to change the display so you can see
events by day, week, month, or as a list!

***Join us. Go to WesternQuarterQuakers.org
Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/WesternQM
Follow us on Twitter: @WesternQM***