



# Western Quarterly News

*of the Religious Society Of Friends*

Western Quarterly Meeting Newsletter

Summer 2020

## MESSAGE FROM THE MEETING CLERK

As the rising clerk of Western Quarterly Meeting, I look forward to finding ways to support every Monthly Meeting in our body. It was my hope to have started by now, but it has been an unfortunate reality that my stated goal of worshipping with every Monthly Meeting as soon as possible has been thwarted by our mandate to shelter in place. I have had the opportunity to worship virtually with a number of our meetings in the past month, and it has been uplifting. As Way opens, maybe we can come together in person in the not-too-distant future...

As discussed back in April, I hope to start a conversation with everyone soon about our shared testimony of Community – both within the Religious Society of Friends as well as the community “on the other side of the hedge”. To start this conversation it is important to learn how our Monthly Meetings define Community, in what ways do members currently bring this testimony to life, and explore how our Quarterly Meeting might provide support to enhance our collective experience as Quakers? A favorite statement by George Fox is his exhortation “...to walk cheerfully over the world answering that of God in every one; whereby in them ye may be a blessing”. Perhaps we can look for ways to make this walk collectively. It is a journey I look forward to. Please feel free to share your thoughts anytime as we begin the conversation.

Bob Frye  
7<sup>th</sup> Month, 2020  
bobfryehome@aol.com

### In this Issue:

From the Clerk  
Quarterly Meeting  
Fifth Query  
Braver Angels  
Events & Articles  
Minutes

### **Western Quarterly Meeting**

will gather virtually on 19 July 2020.

10:00-10:25 Joint Children's Program; including sharing of the [Scavenger](#) Hunt—check out the WQ website event page

10:30-11:15 Meeting for Worship

11:20-11:45 Small Group Fellowship using Breakout rooms

11:50-12:50 link open for fellowship

1:00—Western Quarter Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

[Link to Register](#)

Braver Angels Program will be Wednesday 22 July 7-9 pm

## July Quarterly Meeting will be a virtual gathering.

### Fifth Query - Nurturing Our Community: Religious Education in the Home and Meeting

#### For the Meeting:

How does our meeting prepare its members, attenders and children for worship, for the conduct of its business and for a way of life consistent with the principles of the Religious Society of Friends?

What opportunities do we provide for all in the meeting to learn about Friends' history, practices and testimonies, the Judeo-Christian tradition, the life and teachings of Jesus, and other religious traditions?

How does our meeting's religious education program provide experiential learning that enhances the sense of belonging to our worshipping community?

*General Queries* are taken from the newest version of PYM's *Faith and Practice*, available online.

#### For the Individual:

*How do I help create a home where all members of the family receive affection and understanding and where visitors are welcome?*

*How does my manner of living enrich body, mind and spirit; enable all to learn what it means to live a life of Spirit-led commitment; and demonstrate a high regard for family, community and the integrity of creation?*

*How do I engage with my family and others who are dear to me regarding such sensitive topics as death, faith, money, sex and drugs?*



340th Annual Sessions of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting  
See the schedule and full descriptions at [PYM's website](https://www.pym.org)

**Keynote Presentations— 7:00 pm Wednesday-Saturday July 29-August 1**

**Marcelle Martin—In the Fountain of Life and Love**

**Zenaida Peterson—Spoken Word Poet**

**Naomi Madaras—The Fire of the Light: Abolition, Conflict, and Being Known in Quaker Community**

**City Love—West Philly Social Justice Music**

**Workshops—**[https://www.pym.org/calendar/action~posterboard/request\\_format~html/cat\\_ids~887/](https://www.pym.org/calendar/action~posterboard/request_format~html/cat_ids~887/)

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings on Zoom; workshops include Anti-Racist Practice for Social change; PYM Peace Advocacy in the Middle East – Lobby with FCNL; State of the Meeting Reports; Faithfulness Groups; Sharing Our Faith; Ready or Not – An Invitation to Anger, Conflict, and Anxiousness aka Angry Friends?

**Mindfulness Meditation classes – 2:00-3:00pm on July 2, July 9, July 16 and July 23**

[https://www.pym.org/calendar/action~posterboard/request\\_format~html/cat\\_ids~912/](https://www.pym.org/calendar/action~posterboard/request_format~html/cat_ids~912/)

**Plenary Sessions** [https://www.pym.org/calendar/action~posterboard/request\\_format~html/cat\\_ids~900/](https://www.pym.org/calendar/action~posterboard/request_format~html/cat_ids~900/)

June 27 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Racial Injustice and the Ongoing Pandemic

July 11 on Climate change

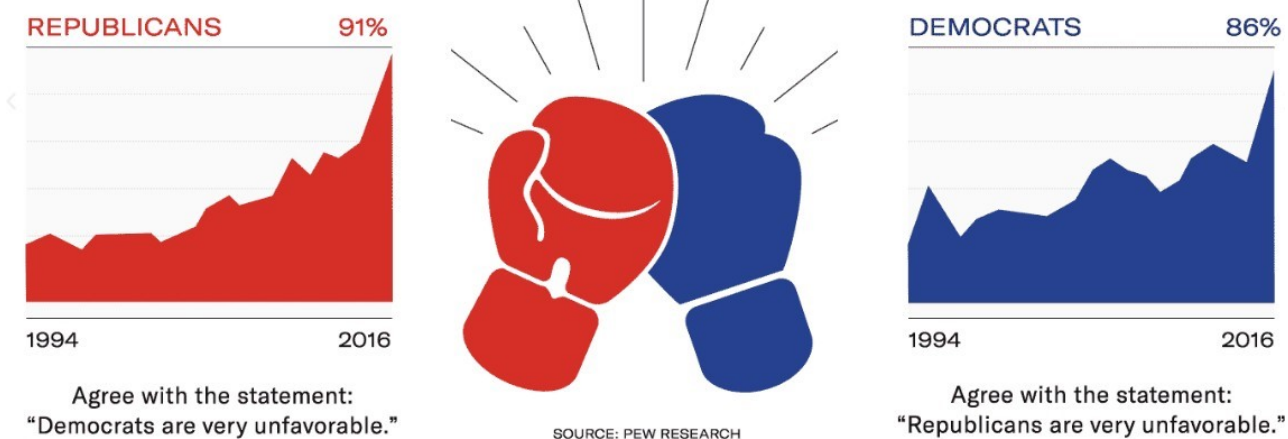
July 19 on Membership

July 25 on Racism

# Skills for Bridging the Divide

## Workshop by Braver Angels

July 22, 2020 on Zoom 7-9 PM Sponsored  
by Concord & Western Quarters



### Conversation Training for a Polarized Society

*In December of 2016 ... With passions still high following the election we assembled 10 Trump supporters and 11 Clinton supporters in South Lebanon, Ohio. This would become our first Red/Blue Workshop. The goal was simple. We needed to see if Americans could still disagree respectfully – and just maybe, find common ground. Some thought it wasn't likely. We proved our skeptics wrong.*  
<https://braverangels.org/our-story/>



**Madelena Rizzo and Jennifer Elam** are experienced moderators for the Braver Angels organization. Braver Angels was organized in 2016 to help participants with opposing political views learn to speak with one another with respect and understanding while still holding onto their core beliefs. Madelena and Jennifer will conduct an official Braver Angels workshop designed to teach us these skills in this 2-hour online experience. *Madelena Rizzo is currently in her fifth year in a dual law/clinical psychology graduate program at Drexel University. She attended Friends' Central School in Wynnewood, PA, from 1st grade to 12th grade and credits the school with instilling in her a lifelong pursuit of the common good.*

*Jennifer Elam is a member of Berea Friends Meeting in Berea, Kentucky, with a PhD in school psychology from the University of North Carolina. She is a licensed psychologist who has studied Quaker spirituality and the lives of the Christian contemplatives and mystics.*

This is a special event that requires registration by July 21. You will be sent the Zoom in an email confirmation. Register by July 21 at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUofuqopzIvHtZA8pGbVpMB3fe3G8qBbNwp> Participants are asked to take an online module that takes about 40 minutes within a week of the workshop. That link is here: <https://braverangels.org/online/online-skills-training/> You are welcome to complete the online module even if you cannot attend the workshop.

For more info: email Lynne Piersol, CQM Coordinator, at [concordquarter@pym.org](mailto:concordquarter@pym.org) or  
Deb Wood [coordinator@westernquarterquakers.org](mailto:coordinator@westernquarterquakers.org)

## Meet our Braver Angels Moderators—

### Madelena Rizzo

Better Angels came to me on a zephyr, amidst the tornado of the 2016 election, carried by my favorite podcast host Krista Tippett. In her program [“On Being,”](#) Tippett interviews a diversity of people representing countless professions and lifestyles, all with the goal of gaining insight about what it means to be human. Tippett’s soothing voice and boundless wonder at each new discovery gave me hope when it felt as if hatred and anger dominated in most spheres. Tippett made mention of Better Angels on the podcast, and I was immediately intrigued.

With Better Angels, I found the community I pined for but feared did not exist outside of my own idealism. I deeply value community. I went to a Friends school in the suburbs of Philadelphia for 12 years, and it was the best decision my parents could have made. The academics were rigorous and the atmosphere was infused with community service and open-mindedness. I felt at home, and I carried the lessons with me to college at a small, liberal arts school in New England.

The more I learned about Better Angels, the more familiar it felt. It was the manifestation of what I had been striving to do thus far in my life; bring people together, foster respect and curiosity, and celebrate the beautiful complexity in the world. Better Angels brings people together not to distill their essences, but rather to accentuate the beauty of their differences.

Rainbows are no longer stunning if the colors are mixed together; this is evident to me whenever I am tie-dyeing a shirt. Sometimes, with my perfectionist personality and extra dye to use up, I saturate the fabric so much that I severely damage what I have already created. It becomes a muddy brown blotch. This realization has been formative in my experience: that forcing uniformity—of thinking, of language, of worldview—stifles the breathtaking mosaic that naturally emerges.

I will end with a quote from one of my favorite guests on Krista Tippett’s podcast, particle physicist and MIT professor [Frank Wilczek](#). He describes the scientific understanding of complementarity and the implications for our lives:

*[T]hat’s the essence of complementarity, that you have to view the world in different ways to do it justice, and the different ways can each be very rich, can each be internally consistent, can each have its own language and rules, but they may be mutually incompatible. And to do full justice to reality, you have to take both of them into account.*

May we all seek to live our lives in the spirit of complementarity.

### Jennifer Elam - Goshen Monthly Meeting

The short answer is that I was introduced to Better Angels by a friend who had joined. He is from Haverford Meeting and I was invited when they had Better Angels come to give an Informational Session then a Skills Workshop. I loved what they were doing. Then about a year ago, the Dialogue Institute at Temple University (where I have worked very part-time for the past six years) invited Better Angels to do a Red/Blue workshop. Once a year, international scholars are invited to spend several weeks in the US so there were 16 scholars from 16 different countries as observers. I also came to observe. I was in the back of the room and fairly preoccupied with rather judgmental thoughts – feeling quite sure I could develop a better curriculum and it would certainly have more depth and other features that would be “better” since I have developed lots of curriculum. (Maybe you can chuckle as you recognize times when you might have done such things.)

When the Reds and Blues came in, there was a bit of tension in the room. As I sat observing/critiquing, I suddenly became aware of a palpable shift in the energy throughout the room; that got my undivided attention. The groups were realizing that under all the rhetoric, they all wanted the same things and they were articulating that shift. I found that I had tears streaming down my cheeks. I was truly moved. I think that is the moment of calling for me to get more involved in Better Angels.

Some prior events led me to be attracted to the goals of Better Angels. From 2012 until 2018, I went back and forth on a regular basis from PA to KY to care for aging parents. Both died in January of 2018, six days apart. During their care, the horrific polarization that has divided our country entered my parents’ home when a family member got involved with a caregiver with very different views from most of my family. I was declared “evil” and my life was made quite miserable til by 2018, I was dealing with major trauma. I survived. That horrific experience led me to be attracted to whoever might be successful in decreasing this deadly polarization in our country.

In addition, I had worked for the Dialogue Institute and was often filled with hope when I witnessed the international students from Southeast Asia and the Middle East become friends with each other and learn about and come to appreciate many parts of the US.

I am often discouraged by the breadth and depth of the polarization that severely threatens our country and democracy today. I feel a deep need to do all I can to provide hope in this time of despair. Both the Dialogue Institute and Better Angels do that for me at this time of limited sources of hope for the depolarization to move toward unity in our world, our nation and our families.

## Creating Cultures of Peace, cont'd

### *Outreach—the Work We Do Inside and Outside the Meetinghouse*

*Report on Caln Quarter's Membership Development Gathering—another virtual installment will be 18 July 10 am via Zoom register at PYM calendar [event](#)—All Together Now. Welcoming Families and Youth.*

"Growing Our Meetings" was the focus of Caln Quarter's Swatara Gathering on May 2. The gathering was virtual this year due to coronavirus-related restrictions. Over 80 people attended the three hour session with some joining from other Yearly Meetings. The program was divided into four topics. The summary message I took away is that outreach is work we need to do inside and outside the Meeting House. Some seekers find us on their own, perhaps from passing our Meeting House or finding our website. **One of the most effective ways to get people into the Meeting House is to invite them personally. A personal invitation in conversation works for 80% of people who don't attend a spiritual group regularly.**

**The Welcome-** Our first impressions, first conversations, and first messages need to be warm and authentic, and aligned with the message the Meeting has in its publications, both web and print based. First impressions may come from the publications out on the benches or available upon entering the meeting room that explain what to expect in meeting for worship. First impressions may come through the first person to greet newcomers. The first conversations need to be warm and focused on seeking information and connection. Phrase questions so that they do not convey an assumption, for example "What brings you this morning?" versus "You must be new?" Make sure what you share about your Meeting is clear and strong, and leaves a palpable sense of the Meeting.

**Growth in Congregation Attendance-** The second part of the program included facts about which congregations saw a growth in attendance from a Hartford Seminary study of 800-900 congregations from 2000-2005. So who are the newcomers showing up at congregations: young adults, and often men. The features of growing congregations include a clear mission, a joyful and inspirational message, youth involvement in worship, a growth plan for congregation with members involved in the plan. There are also follow up practices with visitors and new members provided and a variety of support groups for members. Many of the growing congregations have maintained websites. It was also pointed out that not everyone wants to stay, and that's ok.

**Approaches used by MMs –** Have everyone use name tags all the time and have day-of name tags available. Similarly, always do introductions of everyone at the close of meeting for worship. Think about the language used: when it is full of Quaker-speak, newcomers may quickly feel like an outsider. Invite newcomers to join a Friendly 8 or discussion group. Make sure there is follow up by phone and e-mail by a few designated members. Have display tables at Pride marches, local festivals, community races or participate in local food pantries.

**Outreach Panel-** Joel Barker of Multnomah MM, Portland, OR noted that website and social media pages have to be authentic representations of your Meeting. What seekers aka switchers find online needs to match what they find in the Meetinghouse. Joel finds Parker Palmer's works useful for explaining Quakerism. He also noted that growth happens when there is something on offer, so lift up WHAT YOUR MM HAS TO OFFER?

Mark Myers of London Grove MM noted that there has been an increase in the "unaffiliated" and that this group is often open and actively looking for a spiritual community. Those seeking a spiritual community, and not necessarily a particular denomination are the ones more likely to find Quakers. Mark has an "elevator speech" ready.

Alex Miller of Downingtown MM made the point that Quakerism is not learned through osmosis, and that outreach doesn't need to be left to the veterans. Outreach is the sharing of what brings you to Meeting. ALWAYS share and walk cheerfully upon the Earth,

Susan Vorwerk of Upper Dublin/Byberry MM shared about their use of Every Door Direct Mail for special events. The postcards often correspond to banners on the website and at the Meetinghouse featuring special programs.

#### Resources

*The Unchurched Next Door*, Thom Rainer; *Building a Storybrand*, Donald Miller; Quaker Excitement – Alex Miller Downingtown MM pamphlet; Seth Godin *Tribes* also a TED ; "Quaker Faith & Podcast" Mackenzie Morgan; *Simple Church*, Eric Geier;

Website models: Central Philadelphia, Lancaster, and Swarthmore MMs

PYM Membership Development Granting Group - <https://www.pym.org/grants/membership-development/>



## Minutes of the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business of the Western Quarterly Meeting held on 26 April 2020 by ZOOM 1-2:55 PM

**DRAFT - Note that the Addendums are available online at the Western Quarterly Meeting website**

**This Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business is the first virtual meeting of the Western Quarterly Meeting.** Twenty-nine (29) Friends attended the Quarterly from Centre, Crosslands Worship Group, Fallowfield, Hockessin, Kendal, Kennett, London Grove, Mill Creek, New Garden, Newark, and West Grove Monthly Meetings (MMs).

**22.73: Un-programmed Worship** convened at 1:05 PM: From the silence, we heard responses for the Second and Fourth Queries from Hockessin, Mill Creek, and Newark.

The following is from Hockessin, submitted by Richard N. Bernard Jr, "In preparing for today's business meeting I was looking over old files and discovered notes from a clerking workshop I helped facilitate a number of years ago. It was helpful to read over that material. What I took away was the sense that we always need to keep in mind that Meeting for Business is sometimes described as Meeting for Worship for Business. We should allow time for the spirit to inform us and be consulted even when we're dealing with matters such as repairing the roof. Also, sense of the meeting is the more favored term to be used when a decision is being made by the meeting. You can watch for that and that'll mean we're in agreement. I also was reminded of a spectrum of dissent we used to share with students at Wilmington Friends School. It was helpful to give them a range of possible methods or ways not to unite with a decision. Some years ago, I started using 'Meeting for Worship for Business' to emphasize that Meeting for Business includes Worship."

Therese "Terry" Cannon (Mill Creek) shared the following: "Mill Creek Monthly Meeting of Friends considered the 2nd query on Deepening Our Faith: Meeting for Business, from Faith and Practice at our MFWFB held March 1, 2020, and members gave the following responses: ***Is our meeting for business held in worship in which we seek divine guidance?*** We hold a worshipful attitude, open to and seeking divine guidance. ***How do we sustain prayerful consideration of all aspects of an issue and address difficult problems with a search for truth that is unhurried by the pressures of time?*** We try to remain open to the spirit. We listen to each other and wait until the spirit leads to unity. We are a small group, and rarely experience a lack of agreement, but when we do, we hold issues over to a future meeting until we can reach unity. ***Do we recognize that we speak through our inaction as well as our action?*** Though busy individually, we try to notice problems at the meeting and resolve them. We do worry if we do enough in the world and recognize that we could do more.

Shelly Hastings (Newark) read the response. [To read the detailed response/reflection, please read Addendum #1.](#)

**22.74: Friends Approved Treasurer's Report** –Stan Glowiak (Centre) presented an [Action Item](#) to Friends regarding COVID-19-impacted reimbursement and payment of Youth Activities Coordinator Claire Taylor. Friends agreed to allow the Personnel Committee to work out specifics for the Action Item. [To read Treasurer's Report and suggested Action Item, please read Addendum #2.](#)

**22.75: Pennsgrove Property Committee Report**– Bob Frye (London Grove) presented the report for committee members Pat Mooberry (Clerk), Mary Sproat (West Grove), and Robert Frye (Treasurer). *For details, please read Addendum #3.*

**22.76: How are Monthly Meetings responding to the spiritual and pastoral needs of members during Covid-19 as of April 26, 2020?:** **Centre** has organized a sprint group of medical professionals and meets via ZOOM. Members discussed how much they miss one another and were eager for a chance to meet. Queries are posted each week through a Google document, but members have yet to comment. Centre's Oversight Committee, which doubles as the Care and Counsel Committee, has reached out to members. **Fallowfield** uses texts and calls. Fallowfield plans to meet via ZOOM. **Hockessin** meets via ZOOM meetings, but acknowledges it is not the same energy, thus far, as in-person meetings. Members have discussed a central question, *What binds us together?* First Day Coordinator works remotely. Business is continuing, including the work of the Investment Committee. **Kennett** holds ZOOM meetings for worship and committee work. Care and Counsel Committee called every member in the directory for a one-on-one phone call. Kennett is also leveraging social media. Currently, Kennett is in discussion regarding July's Concord-WQM Joint Quarterly Meeting. **London Grove** started off using the Uber conference platform, but members are now mainly using ZOOM. Some of the committee meetings are still using Uber. There is also a hosting of "Coffee" and Conversation to continue community. To date, NO business meeting. And, while the annual plant sale has been cancelled this year, a few supporters are still sending in donations. **New Garden:** No in-person or videoconferencing. **West Grove** does not meet using ZOOM, but members are keeping in touch via email. **Crosslands Worship Group** host meetings via Zoom. Also, reports that spatial distancing has helped in NO cases being reported at Crosslands. There was a special shout out to WQM Coordinator Deb Wood for helping them set up initially. **Newark** meets via ZOOM. **Mill Creek** worships in spirit and stays in contact via email, text, and phone. **Kendal** uses ZOOM for Meeting for Worship. Individual members use individual accounts for committee meetings. Like Crosslands, Kendal is

free of COVID-19 and have made cash disbursement to the Kennett Food Cupboard, a subset of Kennett Area Community Services.

#### 22.77: **Next Support Committee Agenda:**

How will returning to meeting post-COVID-19 look like?

Discussion regarding Joint Concord-Western Quarterly Meeting at Kennett with Braver Angels;

Job Descriptions as described by WQM Handbook; and,

Minute of Appreciation for Mark Myers.

Submitted Faithfully on May 24, 2020,

*Peace and Progress, Be Kinder to Yourself,*

tonya thames taylor, Recording Clerk, Fallowfield MM

### **First Virtual Meeting of the Support Committee of the Western Quarterly Meeting**

Minutes of the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business of the Support Committee of the Western Quarterly Meeting held on 24 May 2020 via ZOOM. 1-3:40 PM

Seventeen (17) Friends attended the Quarterly from Centre, Fallowfield, Hockessin, Kendal, Kennett, London Grove, Mill Creek, New Garden, Newark, and West Grove Monthly Meetings (MMs).

After brief worship, Friends approved of the agenda.

22.78: **2020-2021 Budget Committee** consists of Ariana Langford (Newark) and Wayne Thompson (Newark). The Support Committee may gather to vet the 2020-2021 Budget before the next scheduled WQM and Support Committee meetings. [Action Consideration](#): WQM Clerk Bob Frye expressed the need for a Financial Clerk. WQM is now considering names for that position.

22.79: **Treasurer's Report** given by WQM Treasurer Stan Glowiak. Treasurer reports that as of April 30, per our last bookkeeper's report, we are 83.3% through the Fiscal Year 2020. Total Covenant received was just under 70%. Total Payroll, Office & Program Expense is about 78%. As of May 12, five Monthly Meetings have met 100% of their Covenant giving. Three Monthly Meetings have given 75% of Covenant. One Monthly Meeting is at 50% with one payment still due. One Monthly Meeting still has to make its usual annual payment. Ideally, we can receive all outstanding payments by June 24 so that we can end the fiscal year with all giving complete and deposited. I will be sending reminders in June. Treasurer Glowiak thanked all Monthly Meeting treasurers for their hard work.

#### 22.80: **Planning for Re-opening Meetings**

Conversation prompts included: *How are MMs planning for re-opening? What plans are underway, if any? What support is needed to re-open?* To get a gist of the ongoing processes, several meetings shared what they were doing. **Mill Creek**: Teal Rickerman shared that while Mill Creek MM is opened, only one family meets on Sunday. Other members are comfortable with tele- and videoconferencing. **London Grove**: Former WQM clerk Mark Myers explained that members of London Grove said, very early on, they would take serious consideration the mandates of the state and have done so. So, while London Grove is open, most members worship via ZOOM. WQ Clerk Bob Frye added that various committees at London Grove have threshed the idea of holding outdoors committee meetings, while still adhering to state mandates. **Fallowfield**: tonya thames taylor shared that Fallowfield threshed in-person v. virtual meetings. The central part of their threshing was that the meetinghouse is a place to gather for fellowship, but God is within. Fallowfield questions the state's and federal timing to re-open places of worship. Fallowfield members also have concerns about liability if a person makes the claim of contracting the virus on their premises. Consequently, Fallowfield will continue to hold online ZOOM Sunday worship. **Newark**: Wayne Thompson expressed that many of the members at Newark are in high-risk categories, so those members will be encouraged to stay home, even if the meetinghouse is open. A consideration for opening is the sanitization. Therefore, for now, ZOOM is the main way the Meeting worships, but conversations of outdoor gathering, following spatial-distancing mandates, are underway. **Kennett**: Sarah Kastriner shared that Kennett has spent the last two Sundays discussing virtual v. in-person meetings. While there is no pressing need to make an immediate decision, there are some who want in-person worship. For Kennett, it is understood that gathering unquestionably matters, but how to have access varies. So, Kennett has had some conversations about spatial-distancing outdoor worship, when weather appropriate. Also, there have been conversations about hybrid meetings (combination of Zoom and in-person), but responses vary. Currently, Kennett is discussing a retooled singing children's camp that desires to host an in-person meeting. Kennett MM has decided to open Old Kennett Meeting the last Sunday of summer months because the attendance is usually so few and opened windows make complying to governmental mandates easy. **West Grove**: Mary Sproat explained that West Grove is not open, nor using a virtual format for worship. Yet, when they

do decide to meet, outside worship is very possible as it has been successfully done in the past. **Centre:** David Wakely shared that Centre meets via ZOOM and has a COVID-19 Sprint Group that is discerning Centre's ongoing re-opening process. Like Kennett Meeting, Centre believes that gathering matters, but how to access varies. Currently, Centre is contemplating a hybrid of in-person and ZOOM for June 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

**22.81: Report from Kennett MM on hosting July QM** - Sarah Kastriner explained that Kennett is open to hosting an outside meeting limited to the state-mandated of 25 congregants.

**22.82: Summary of Research on Re-opening:** WQM Coordinator Deb Wood informed us that the Unitarian Universalist (UU) Church has suspended all in-person worship to May 2021. Braver Angels—the group we have been in conversations with regarding July Quarterly-- has online worship/programming. Wood suggests that because research has shown that longer ZOOM meetings are less effective, WQM should consider not having business meeting and the Braver Angels program on the same day. Braver Angels has said it can accommodate a virtual meeting with the WQM and/or WQM and Concord Quarterly on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, or 26<sup>th</sup>.

**22.83: Recommendation for July QM to share with Concord Quarter**

**Action Item Completed:** While Kennett MM is willing to host an in-person gathering with limitations, the Support Committee of the Western Quarter supports a joint virtual July WQM-Concord Quarterly. The decision was made after taking various realities into consideration: sanitization, high-risk populations, arbitrariness and number restrictions of who can attend, policing of behavior regarding masks and spatial distancing, health liabilities, etc., The Support Committee supports having separate days for business meeting and the Braver Angel programming. The Support Committee still supports providing Braver Angels with a donation of \$100-\$200. Coordinator Deb Wood shared that the Youth Activities Coordinator Claire Taylor is considering a Youth Scavenger Hunt with or without a joint quarterly meeting. There was some discussion regarding the importance of including the youth and suggestions on how to do so included asynchronous and pre-programmed education. Contacts at Hockessin and Kennett MMs can provide insights on how to implement possible plans.

Concord Quarterly Meeting meets on Sunday, May 31, 2020 to discuss the Joint Quarterly Meeting. Coordinator Deb Wood will inform the Support Committee of Concord's discernment.

**22.84: Worship at Historical Meetinghouses** – Mary Sproat (West Grove) affirmed that the historic Parkersville, Pennsgrove, Homeville, and Colora will not open for summer 2020. Since the other two historic meetings are under the care of Monthly Meetings (MM), the opening of them is different. For example, since Old Kennett is under Kennett MM, it will open. Also, plans for London Britain, under Newark MM, are unknown at this time.

**22.85: WQM Updates: (a) Virtual Quarter fellowship event:** Coordinator Deb Wood explained that plans are still underway, but there is a Save-A-Date for the intergenerational Talent share scheduled for June 27, 7-9 PM happening on Facebook (FB) and via ZOOM and (b) Discussion of Quarterly Handbook resumes in September 2020.

**22.86: ZOOM Chat Shares:** David Wakely (Centre) shared two articles by ZOOM's Chat feature: (1) New York Times' May 22, 2020 article, "[Can You Gather With God Over Zoom? Quakerism goes virtual, offering an intimate window into silent worship](#)" and (2) the Delaware Health and Social Services' Guidance for Communities of Worship."

**22.87: WQM July 19<sup>th</sup> Tentative Agenda for Virtual Quarterly:**

Presentation of 2020-2021 Budget (Ariana Langford and Wayne Thompson)

Reports from the WQM Property Working Group (Mark Myers and Sarah Kastriner) and WQM Auditors (Doug Myers and Nancy Pratt)

Updates regarding the WQM's William Jackson Education Fund and John Woolman Travel Fund

Reading of Mark Myers' Minute of Appreciation (Sprint Committee consists of Bob Frye, Sarah Kastriner, Teal Rickerman, and Margaret Walton)

**Next Western Quarterly:** Sunday, July 19, 2020 (virtually)

**Next Support Committee:** Sunday, September 13, 2020, 3 PM (may meet earlier to discuss budget).

Submitted Faithfully on May 24, 2020,

*Peace and Progress, Be Kinder to Yourself,*

tonya thames taylor, Recording Clerk, Fallowfield MM

**To read the complete Minutes, and the Minutes from the WQM Support Committee Meetings, please visit our Business Resources page online: <http://westernquarterquakers.org/business-meeting-info/>**