

# Haddonfield Quarter

This Month's Theme: Worship and Ministry

April 2013

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## *Newsletter News*

Upcoming newsletter themes are:  
May- following our leadings  
Jun.- nuts & bolts of a Meeting (clerking, recording, etc.)

Please write on the month's theme or other topics & send articles to [peacepc@aol.com](mailto:peacepc@aol.com) by

- April 15<sup>th</sup> for the May issue &
- May 15<sup>th</sup> for the June issue.

The newsletter is being sent out electronically by each Monthly Meeting. Printed copies are at each Meeting.

## *Spiritual Formation*

Early in February I joined a group of fourteen Friends from the Haddonfield Quarter for the opening retreat of a nine month long Spiritual Formation Program. I had cautiously anticipated this weekend for awhile without being sure what it was going to bring. What brought me to Westfield Friends School was the desire to deepen my connection with the spirit of God within my world and myself. The people that I met there seemed like-minded. So, we gathered on Friday evening for a meal and mapped the journey we were beginning. I am a new Friend but am quickly coming to understand that the Quaker way of doing things often involves food and work or work and food.

We returned to the meeting house bright and early Saturday morning, purchased the books we would need over the next several months and began the process. Our leaders modeled situations for us and with us to help deepen our understanding of how we should proceed on our own after the retreat was over. We practiced sharing in small groups. We read and shared our responses to the reading. We practiced listening to each other. We rehearsed the roles we would play when we were on our own. We each chose a spiritual discipline, something we would do every day

to connect to God. And of course throughout the day we stopped and worshiped together in silence.

On Sunday morning our facilitators put the practice into action. We were each put into two groups. The smaller group is our Friendship Accountability group. This is made up of people from our own meeting. We came together and organized our calendars and planned our monthly meetings. We will discuss our spiritual practice and support each other in the program. The larger group, the Devotional Reading Group, is made up of people from several meetings. We will come together once a month at different meeting houses and discuss the readings that are assigned. I look forward to getting to know Friends from other meetings.

At the end of the day we went to Meeting for Worship together at Westfield. What I have read and my spiritual discipline has already had an impact, making me feel closer to the Spirit. I am looking forward to reconnecting with both of my groups this month and I am anticipating what the months ahead will bring.

The facilitators for our group are from PYM's Spiritual Formation Working Group and they are John Brady, Amelia Diamond, Mary Noland, and Susan Thompson. We are grateful to them for the care and skill with which they are guiding us.

*Nancy Wolgamot, Medford Meeting*

## *The Ministry of Worship*

Sometimes a message during worship touches us in a special way and lives on in us. This happened to me when Quaker teacher and writer Helen Hole spoke at a retreat I attended in 1981. Her message has resonated with me ever since. She said that every Meeting needs at least a few Friends who come to worship prepared by intense prayer and deep study of Quaker mystical practice. Such Friends might often be moved to vocal ministry, but might just as easily be called to a ministry of stillness in which they silently uphold the meeting for worship.

Yet who among us is called to devote substantial time to religious study, meditation, and prayer? It isn't possible for most of those who are responsible for earning a living or raising a family. And many of us are not called to a mystical life. But Helen Hole said it takes only a few. And, she continued, this work need not be a lifelong or even a long term commitment from any individual. Recent efforts to ask a few Friends to arrive for worship early to "kindle" the spiritual fire could lead some to a concern for how to nurture the meeting for worship. One Friend might give just a year or two to the practice while another continues for much longer.

Another message that stays with me is a memory shared by another Quaker teacher and writer, Bill Tabor, who spoke of growing up in the Midwest in a Conservative Yearly Meeting. He was invited as a young man into a gathering of elders who had been in worship before his arrival. When he entered the room, he felt enveloped and welcomed by a solemn power uniting the elders. Bill Tabor attributed the depth of the meeting to the joining of souls seasoned in a long discipline of worship together. Their readiness for profound worship let him slip into their communion, and gave him the understanding that such an experience was possible.

Friends engaged in the ministry of worship may prefer to keep their practice private, and it is not necessary to know who is engaged in sustained prayer for the well-being of our worship together. But we are all ministers and there are many ways to encourage the development of spiritual practices.

We can share the rich heritage of Quaker spirituality with newcomers and longtime Friends alike.

We can hold out the ideal of profound spiritual commitment to the life of the meeting as a cherished gift. We can reflect on the testimony of Friends like Helen Hole and Bill Tabor to inspire or support those who are led to hold the meeting in the Light as a regular discipline. We can invite those who may feel called to spiritual study or deep prayer to seek a mentor or a supportive group, perhaps outside their home meeting. We can explain what "kindlers" are doing and invite Friends to join the effort. We can remind Friends of the many powerful books and other resources available through Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, Friends General Conference and Pendle Hill. We can be grateful for the spiritual infrastructure that supports our journey together.

*Rose Ketterer, Newton Monthly Meeting*

## *Haiku*

Calm and steadying  
a flame against the darkness  
the Inward Light speaks

We sit in wonder  
dazzled by the Presence of  
the Indwelling Light

Here in this moment  
presently I wait for you  
O Spirit Divine

Above the rooftop  
the full moon gently gathers  
all prayers for peace

*Melanie Monk, Haddonfield Meeting*

## *Ministering to One Another*

Though I am not particularly gifted in vocal ministry, I am drawn to the work of Ministry and Counsel, because strengthening the spiritual life of the Meeting is at the heart of Quakerism. As we support members and attenders on their spiritual journey, we prepare one another to minister to the Meeting and the world. But what is the ministry we prepare each other for? I believe ministry happens whenever we speak or act in response to that of God in another person or in creation. Perhaps our words reveal to someone the Divine Spirit within that person. Or maybe our actions work to mend a part of Creation damaged by human waste and greed.

Just as ministry occurs in many places and in many forms, so does the work of Ministry and Counsel. For example, the Ministry and Counsel Committee of Medford Meeting has for the past few years been concerned with pastoral care, enriching meeting for worship, exploring the role of membership, improving the health of the Quarter and supporting the peace and social leadings of Friends in Meeting. Through attention to individual needs and circumstances, through speakers and book club, through meetings with clerks of other Ministry and Counsel committees, we have worked to nurture and care for one another.

While supporting social leadings may not fit the traditional concept of ministry and counsel, it recognizes that for many Friends, their spiritual journey cannot be separated from their social concerns; each informs the other. In fact, ministry cannot be confined to a committee or a Meeting. It is the work each of us does as we go about our lives-how we engage with others at home and in the community, and the choices we make about using our time and other resources. Whenever we answer to that of God in another, we relate to that person in all his or her humanity. We support her leadings and sit with her in her uncertainty. We share his joys and sorrows. Ministry happens when we meet others where they are standing with respect and caring. It is the essence of living in the Light.

*Ruth Darlington, Medford Meeting*

## *Peace Prayers*

We gather four times a year. We pick a theme. We share our individual vision of what "peace on earth" looks like within the framework of that theme. We hold our particular vision and sit silently calling on Spirit to act in the world. We break after 40 minutes and do some faith sharing on what happened within us during the quiet time. Enlivened by that sharing we move into another 20 minutes of quiet. Afterwards, those who wish to socialize share light refreshments before heading home. That's it.

What's interesting is that we have differing beliefs about WHAT EXACTLY happens because we gather in this manner, yet when we come together, there's a harmonious, faith-charged outpouring of love for this planet. We tend not to be bogged down by present reality, but rather, filled with joyful anticipation. It's quite an experience. I believe the corporate nature of Quaker worship gives this gathering a unique power in summoning Spirit.

As to WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENS: My path has led me to the belief that: 1) my imagination plays a huge role in empowering Spirit to act in the world, thus the visioning; 2) my experience of joy/gratitude while holding this vision gives force and power to Spirit to act in the world; 3) the power of this process increases exponentially as the group increases in size.

That's a brief explanation of how I, personally, feel prayer works. If there is interest in hearing from other of the Peace Prayers, I'm sure it can be arranged. A discussion on how this process supports traditional Quaker activism would also be fun. Activism and Prayer working in tandem, not new... but awesome!

Peace Prayers Gatherings in 2013  
 Haddonfield Monthly Meeting, 7 - 8:30 PM  
 Wednesday, March 20th - Spring Equinox  
 Friday, June 21st - Summer Solstice  
 Sunday, September 22nd - Fall Equinox  
 Saturday, December 21st - 10:00 - 11:30 AM - Winter Solstice (note time change)

*Judy Barnes, Haddonfield Meeting*

## Empty Bowl Dinner

The Friends Enrichment Program Empty Bowl Dinner Fundraiser, is on Sunday, April 7. For a freewill donation, guests will buy a bowl and will be treated to a soup and bread dinner, a Greater South Jersey Chorus performance, and a Moorestown Friends School robotics demonstration. The bowls that will be included in the sale are of the one-of-a-kind variety, some produced by amateurs, others bearing the signature of ceramic artists. Included will be many bowls produced by FEP children and young friends of FEP at the FEP Pottery Workshop. Proceeds will be split 50/50 between the South Jersey Food Bank and the FEP scholarship fund for financially disadvantaged, underserved Moorestown children. For FEP children, the workshop is an opportunity to help relieve hunger in our region and to raise funds for a group that provides scholarships that broaden their horizons and gives them other opportunities that they would not otherwise have available to them [in art, music, sports, and summer camp].

The schedule for the Empty Bowl Dinner is:

- ➔ 4:00-5:00 robotics demo
- ➔ 5:00-6:00 1<sup>st</sup> dinner sitting
- ➔ 6:00-6:30 Greater South Jersey Chorus performance
- ➔ 6:30-7:30 2<sup>nd</sup> dinner sitting

For planning purposes, reservations are encouraged (Moorestown Mtg. 856-235-1561).

*Monique Begg, Moorestown Meeting*



## Scholarships and a Message of Love and Inclusion

The Friends Enrichment Program (FEP), created under the aegis of the Peace & Social Concerns Committee of Moorestown Meeting, reaches out to financially disadvantaged, underserved Moorestown children with enrichment scholarships and a message of love and inclusion.

To the extent that its budget allows, the FEP Committee issues scholarships for qualifying children to attend day or residential summer camps, enroll in art classes or sports programs, or take private music lessons at no cost to the parent. Over the past 16 years, the FEP Committee has issued scholarships to more than 285 children and spent \$169,356 on scholarships, with many children receiving scholarships year after year. There is currently a total of \$4,956 in the FEP scholarship fund - about half the amount needed to enroll approximately 30 or more FEP children in 2013 summer camps & set aside money for fall scholarships.

As Monique Begg reminds us, "The money we spend on scholarships is never wasted. It is an investment in the future of our children."

Aside from administering the need-based FEP fund, the FEP Committee elects suitable candidates for the merit-based Monique Begg Scholarship, which was created in 2011 and is awarded annually to a FEP child. To be selected for that honor, a child must be an active participant in the program. He or she must treat others with respect and kindness, be a model of appropriate behavior, and show eagerness to learn and to develop his or her talents and skills. Recipients are rewarded certificates of recognition, their names are engraved on a plaque that hangs in the Meetinghouse, and the scholarship money is used to pay for summer camp or some other enrichment opportunity.

For more information about the Friends Enrichment Program, please contact the Peace and Social Concerns Committee, Moorestown Meeting, 118 E. Main St., Moorestown, NJ 08057.

*Connie Beetle, Moorestown P&SC Committee*

## *Study Group on Corporate Subsidies in NJ*

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee of Haddonfield Monthly Meeting is sponsoring a study group on corporate subsidies on three alternating Tuesdays in April from 7-9 PM. Please join us!

The goal is to better understand the use of subsidies nationally, with specific interest in New Jersey subsidy programs, and tools used by state and local governments to assure tax dollars are used wisely. (See details and reading materials at: [www.haddonfieldfriendsmeeting.org/wordpress/?page\\_id=1825](http://www.haddonfieldfriendsmeeting.org/wordpress/?page_id=1825))

Tuesday, 4/2: Subsidies Overview

What are economic subsidies? What are the most effective ways of promoting job creation and job retention? What problems are arising nationally?

4/16: Subsidies in New Jersey

What companies in New Jersey have received subsidies? What returns have NJ taxpayers seen from these subsidies?

4/30: Tools for Accountability

Our special guest, Gordon MacInnes, President of NJ Policy Perspectives and former member of the NJ Senate and Assembly, will provide an overview of subsidies and describe ways to assure our tax dollars will be used for effective job training and job creation programs.

The study group will be held at the Haddonfield Meetinghouse, which is handicap accessible. For information or to register call: 856-979-4560 or email: [LLOTZ25@hotmail.com](mailto:LLOTZ25@hotmail.com).



## *Gun Control*

Since the massacre at Sandy Hook, U.S. Friends at all levels are organizing their thoughts about gun violence and gun control. Several Monthly and Quarterly Meetings in PYM have approved minutes of concern. Medford Monthly Meeting's minute asks "that Friends of the Haddonfield Quarter support these concerns with a Quarter-led plan of joint action in a timely manner."

What is your meeting thinking about gun control? What actions have you taken or are you considering? What might be done by or in Haddonfield Quarter?

Please share your thoughts in the next newsletter. Deadline 4/15.

## *Come Fast With EQAT*

Earth Quaker Action Team will fast between March 14 and April 22, 2013 - the 40 days leading up to the PNC shareholder meeting on April 23.

It takes millions of choices to create climate change. Like PNC Bank's choice to loan millions to the largest mountaintop removal companies in the world.

Those companies blow up mountains. Devastate communities. They dump waste from the destroyed mountains into the rivers, polluting thousands of miles of streams. Then they sell that dirty coal, which burns and releases filthy pollutants into our air.

PNC can choose to stop its support of climate change. As a Quaker founded bank, we're calling it back to its roots. As a first step, we've asked PNC to stop financing mountaintop removal.

But they need our help. Our pressure. Our voices. Our light shining on them. Join EQAT for a day or more of fasting. Contact [eqateam@gmail.com](mailto:eqateam@gmail.com) or <http://eqat.wordpress.com/> Earth Quaker Action Team

## *From the Clerk:*

### *Preliminary Report on New Volunteer Committees*

There is very good news to report. As our year of transition from having full time paid staff assistance is coming to a close, new energy is giving rise to ideas for projects and programs that will strengthen our community and deepen our witness. Four new committees have already formed and at least two working groups are emerging, all without any paid coordination.

Two new committees formed this year have been functioning very well: Worship and Ministry Committee sparked spiritual renewal by inviting the PYM Spiritual Formation program to lead a chapter of their program for the quarter. Fourteen Friends from four of our monthly meetings are participating enthusiastically. Personnel Committee has shepherded the process of becoming independent of financial support from the Yearly Meeting. Functioning as a microcosm of the quarter with eight Friends drawn from six monthly meetings, Personnel Committee prioritized tasks, set realistic timetables for the projects entrusted to their oversight, and functions as supervisors to our independent contractor.

Nominating Committee was asked to name two more committees: a Planning Committee to develop a vision and long range goals for the Quarter and a Finance Committee, which partially replaces the former Audit and Budget Committee. Names for each of these committees will be presented to the Quarterly Meeting at its next session. We've made remarkable progress in slating these committees because just a few years ago it was nearly impossible to find even a few Friends willing to serve as the officers of the Quarter.

Working groups are also emerging to study and report on particular concerns and make recommendations for action. The Property working group wishes to share information, skills and referrals related to the maintenance and improvement of historic and other buildings belonging to our monthly meetings. Our newest effort, the Newsletter working group, intends to call together Friends with a concern for stronger and deeper communication within the Quarter to take over publication of the newsletter in

the near future.

As the transitional year continues, there is widespread understanding that the Quarter needs a Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Perhaps by our June meeting there will be news of developments in this area of concern.

The future of paid services for the quarter is not yet clear. The Garden Project and Friends Prisoner Support Fund are widely well-regarded and will continue under the care of Haddonfield and Westfield Meetings respectively. These projects may request some funding from the Quarterly Meeting as well as seeking funds elsewhere. Other future projects such as outreach, pastoral care or youth programs may require paid support from a consultant or coordinator. A plan for funding such projects through a Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting reserves fund will be presented at the next regular session on June 23, 2013.

It gives me great joy to present such an encouraging report.

*Rose Ketterer, Clerk*

*Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting*

### *Meetings for Worship for Healings*

All are welcome to join Haddonfield Meeting as we gather for Meeting for Worship for Healing, at 7 PM on May 20, July 15, and September 16.

During our time together, we sit in silent prayer and ask for healing of body, mind, and spirit - for our friends and family, and for ourselves.

Whether you are able to join us or not, we recommend Marcelle Martin's Pendle Hill Pamphlet 382, *Holding One Another In The Light* and a presentation on *George Fox's Book of Miracles* by Michele Tarter, a member of our meeting. (Link: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbCs9sMwNiU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbCs9sMwNiU))

*Linda Lotz, Haddonfield Meeting*

## Quarterly Property Committee

The idea of a property committee at the Quarterly level was introduced at the last Quarterly Meeting. We would like to proceed with the exploration of this idea; so, in the interest of further clarification please consider the following.

A property committee at the Quarterly level is envisioned as primarily an advisory committee. Its role will be to aid and advise meetings with property maintenance, rehabilitation, and new constructions. The committee will be available to all meetings throughout the Quarter.

Recognizing that there is a pool of talent throughout the Quarter, we can share that talent in such a way that all meetings can turn to the Quarter for help with their maintenance needs. In keeping with our testimony on stewardship, a property committee at the Quarterly level can help us deal with maintenance tasks and expense more efficiently and economically.

Should meetings respond favorably to the idea of a Quarterly level property committee, the next step will be to program the structure and scope of the work of the committee which would then be submitted for discussion at Quarterly meeting. We would like individual meetings to consider the idea of a property committee at Quarterly level at their business meetings and let Rose know whether each is in favor of including the idea on the agenda for the next Quarterly Meetings.

For further discussion or just to kick this idea around a bit more, call Mike Lane at 856-499-4143.

*Mike Lane, Westfield Meeting*

## PYM Website

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's website has information about PYM, Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, and the wider Quaker world. Recently it has been redesigned. Try looking at it to see what is useful to you. The website is [pym.org](http://pym.org)

## Volunteers Wanted!

Starting in July, this newsletter will become an all-volunteer activity.

We need your help!

Meeting Representatives: We would like to identify one person from each meeting who will encourage Friends to submit notices of upcoming activities and submit articles or artwork for publication. It will also entail periodically talking with other meeting representatives to plan newsletter themes, promote distribution, and continue to develop the newsletter.

We also need people who will write articles, share artwork, edit copy, layout the newsletter, and post the newsletter on the web. Please send in your peace and social concerns news, what's happening at your meeting, and activities at the Quarterly level.

Please contact Rose Ketterer at [roseket@aol.com](mailto:roseket@aol.com).

## Upcoming Events

4/2 & 16 & 30 - Study Group on Corporate Subsidies, 7pm, Haddonfield Mtg., Linda Lotz 856-979-4560, [LLOTZ25@hotmail.com](mailto:LLOTZ25@hotmail.com)

4/7 - Friends Enrichment Program Empty Bowl Dinner, 4-7:30, Moorestown Mtg., 856-235-1561

4/13-14 - Young Friends gathering, [pym.org](http://pym.org)

4/20 - Finance Thread Gathering, 9:30-3:30, Moorestown Meeting, [pym.org](http://pym.org)

4/27 - Peace and Social Concerns Thread Gathering, 9:30-3:30, Woodstown Meeting, [pym.org](http://pym.org)

4/28 - 10th Annual Interfaith Walk for Peace & Reconciliation; A "Walking Dialogue" with stops for prayer, song, & reflection, [www.InterfaithPeaceWalk.org](http://www.InterfaithPeaceWalk.org)

4/30 - Gordon MacInnes, President of NJ Policy Perspectives, speaks about corporate subsidies at Haddonfield Mtg. 7 PM, Linda Lotz 856-979-4560, [LLOTZ25@hotmail.com](mailto:LLOTZ25@hotmail.com)