

# YARDLEY FRIENDS MEETING NEWSLETTER

February 2017

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65 North Main Street, Yardley PA 19067  
<http://yardleyfriendsmeeting.org/>

Meeting for Worship 10:00–11:00  
First Day School 10:15–11:00

Linda Jacobs, Clerk  
Ed Snyder, Newsletter Editor

## This month at YFM

### February 5

Committee meetings following  
Meeting for Worship

### February 12

Meeting for Business in the Spirit of  
Worship

### February 19

Adult education following Meeting  
for Worship - TBD

### February 26

Committee meetings following  
Meeting for Worship (moved up  
from March)

## Looking ahead

### March 5

Meeting for Business in the Spirit of  
Worship (moved up 1 week)

### March 12

Dr. Dan Gottlieb, sponsored by  
YFM at the meetinghouse. 11:30 AM  
followed by light lunch. **See  
flyer/spread the word!**

## *Around the Quarter*

### MIDWEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Tuesdays at Southampton 7:30 PM  
Wednesdays at Lehigh Valley 5:00 PM  
Wednesdays at Makefield 7:00 AM  
Thursdays at Middletown 7:00 PM

Feb 19: Quarterly Meeting - Middletown Meetinghouse

*See this month's Quakerphenalia for details and all events and activities!*

### Simple Gifts Concert and Workshop - review

This event cost us...wait for it...\$44 net of grants. We collected \$369 in donations which were turned over to Friends of Lake Afton. A nice gift to our community!

### Your Francis and Betty Irwin calendar inspiration for the month

One of the most calming and powerful actions you can do to intervene in a stormy world is to stand up and show your soul. Struggling souls catch light from other souls who are fully lit and willing to show it.

Clarissa Pinkola Estes

### A note from your newsletter editor

If you have info for the next newsletter, please e-mail me at [ed@mrppplansinc.com](mailto:ed@mrppplansinc.com). Cut-off is the 25th of each month. Feel free to write with suggestions for improvements. **If you are reading a hard copy and don't mind having it e-mailed, please let me know and we can save some paper and postage.**

**The Still Small Voice and Grass Roots**

It would be wonderful if we could write the whole reality of the world as we think it should be. Yet it's a power we don't have. Not even the most powerful people can do that. The world is made up of everybody and everything. As imperfect as it all seems, this fact can be a check and balance of the universe.

I was somewhere a few weeks ago and we were talking of how upset many are about the election and this country. They stated grass roots work is most important right now. How true that is! Can we turn fear and unhappiness into the spark that ignites us? Does it make more people active about saying what they think and working alone or together to stand up for what they believe? Nothing is set in stone. Everyone's little helping hand can do a lot to make the world a better place. What we do may block unwanted changes. It may bring about positive changes that wouldn't happen in a time where we feel secure.

In Quakerism, we believe in a still small voice. There is something inside all of us that tells us what is important. There are times that we get a special calling through this voice. Following our leadings is a start to each person's grass roots work. It may be on your own, with the help of the Meeting, or a grass roots organization.

Grassroots movements encourage people to contribute by taking responsibility and action. Grass roots organizations are ordinary people who use collective action to effect change. They are more natural and spontaneous than traditional power structures. The goals vary but they all focus on bottom up participation.

What is going to happen in this country now? Do we know for sure? Is life right now terrible for you? Whatever we do in working towards a better tomorrow; let's not forget today. Count your blessings. Don't just save the trees. Stop to enjoy them. Don't just help your neighbor. Stop and get to know who they are and what they feel.

Thich Nhat Hanh said "For things to reveal themselves to us, we need to be ready to abandon our views about them". It's a time to be open and aware. Our still small voice is something that we should pay attention to. Doing so now may have a significant impact.

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**Second Query, Meeting for Business**

Is our meeting for business held in the spirit of a meeting for worship in which we seek divine guidance?

Are we careful to keep in the spirit of worship each of the concerns that emerge, whether of nurture, of Spirit, of social concerns, of property, or of finance?

Are Meeting decisions directed by prayerful consideration of all aspects of an issue and are difficult problems considered carefully with patient search for truth, unhurried by the pressures of time?

How do we respond if we notice the meeting has lost an understanding of the presence of God?

Do we recognize that we speak through our inaction as well as our action?

*Do I regularly attend meeting for business and in a spirit of love and unity? If unable to attend, how do I attend to my responsibility?*

*Do I consider prayerfully the many concerns that are lifted up on any issue, acknowledging that the search for truth in unity involves what God requires, being open to personal transformation as the community arrives at the sense of the meeting?*

JOIN YARDLEY FRIENDS MEETING AND DR. DAN  
GOTTLIEB



CULTIVATING COMPASSION

IN A WORLD THAT SEEMS INHUMANE

MARCH 12 at 11:30 AM

65 N. MAIN STREET

YARDLEY, PA.

**See [Yardleyfriendsmeeting.org](http://Yardleyfriendsmeeting.org)  
For information and reservations**

*All most welcome to join us*

*at 10:00 for Meeting for Worship*