

YARDLEY FRIENDS MEETING

NEWSLETTER

December 2020

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

Meeting for Worship 10:00–11:00 (til 10:45
currently for Zoom/COVID)

First Day School 10:15–11:00 (currently
suspended)

Peg Smedley and Ted Taylor, Co-Clerks
Ed Snyder, Newsletter Editor

This month at YFM

Zoom Meetings for Worship continue at the normal 10 AM Sunday time. Onsite outdoor worship by the outside fireplace is held concurrently, with a Zoom feed – depending on the weather. ***Please check the google group emails Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning to confirm onsite worship.***

Women's group Wednesdays at 2:30 PM.

Dec. 12. Virtual Holiday Remembrance Party.
Details in article in this issue "Notes From Pastoral Care."

Around the Quarter/PYM

Quakerphernalia, the Bucks Quarter newsletter, is being sent almost entirely electronically. If you are not on the list, or if you have articles or announcements for Quakerphernalia, please contact Wendy Kane, the coordinator, at quakersbucks@gmail.com.

Check out the (*new and improved*) quarter website: <https://www.quakersbucks.org/> for other news and events.

Your Francis and Betty Irwin calendar inspiration for the month

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you may discern what is the will of God.

Romans 12:2



Thank this crew when you see tulips and daffodils in the spring!

Any questions about access to the google group or anything else, please write to info@yardleyfriendsmeeting.org.

Query 11. Witnessing in the World: Witness and Civic Responsibility

What is our meeting doing:

To become aware of systemic legal, economic and political injustices in our local community?

To build relationships with other faith communities around common concerns?

To reduce polarization within the larger community?

To work together with others to address injustice?

How does our meeting assist in restoring public recognition that government fulfills legitimate functions?

Am I mindful of how my lifestyle, work-life and investments affect others?

Am I open to seeking clearness on matters of conscience? Am I open to assisting others in doing so?

Do I fulfill my civic responsibilities when they do not conflict with divine leading?

Notes from Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is sponsoring a couple of events. December 12 at 7:00 will be our Holiday Remembrance, held virtually. Over the years we've had many fun parties. We get to socialize and celebrate being together. This year isn't so simple. Yet, we are here. We will be sharing memories of these past years. After about a half hour, we will have Light and remembrance of those we want to remember. During Covid it's been hard to have memorials or say good bye in traditional ways. This is a time to share your deep feelings.

The second event is on Sunday, January 17 following the rise of Meeting. George Schaefer of PYM will lead a session on conflict resolution. This is something you've asked for. Many of you have told me you plan to be there. Come with an open heart.

We would also like to remind you that Pastoral Care is here! We aren't getting to see each other and share handshakes and hugs. Yet we want you to remember we are still a community and you are not alone. These times affect everyone in different ways. If we can be of help or just someone to talk to, we are here. Let us know!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Socially Distant Christmas

Rosa David

Christmas has always been very important to my mother-in-law. Her stress about potentially missing it this year climbed in early November and I scrambled to find a way to make it uniquely special for her while keeping everyone safe. I thought I would pass along some of my ideas for other families facing the same challenge.

Tree Decorating – We will be decorating outside this year with solar lanterns, wooden snowflakes, and lights. I was planning on painting the snowflakes with outdoor paint to make them last but my daughter suggested we just let them weather and degrade naturally since hopefully we will never need them again.

Caroling – We are going to sing Christmas carols out on the lawn. I am thinking about Christmas Eve but it depends on the weather. A thermos of hot chocolate as necessary.

Movie – We usually all gather around the television to watch The Polar Express. This year we will be doing it via Zoom.

Christmas Lights – The traditional walk around the neighborhood to look at the beautiful decorations is still on the itinerary this year.

Food – A food swap. Everyone makes a few dishes and exchange Tupperware the day before. Eat together that day over Zoom. Any food that is heated will kill the virus. Another idea is to exchange recipes and make the same food separately in each house.

Jólabókaflóð – Christmas Eve tradition of reading books and eating chocolate. Consider listening to an audio book simultaneously or have everyone read the same book and discuss it Christmas Eve, while eating chocolate – of course!

Gift opening – Exchange early and open over Zoom Christmas morning.

Games – A big part of our family Christmas tradition is playing board games. I thought of some games that can be played or adapted to play over Zoom. One source of inspiration are car games for long road trips.

Bingo – Can print cards off the internet. One person will need a number selector.

20 Questions

Scattagories – Board game

Say Anything – Board game

Scavenger Hunt - (Thank you Carol for this idea) – We did it by using categories that were not hard to find but things that were fun to share. Instead of a mad dash Fred's family did one category at a time, picked the one thing spoke about it and then moved on to the next. It is sort of a scavenger hunt / show-and-tell crossover. Categories we used: Something at least 10 years old, an item received as a gift, something beautiful, something that can be used to create art, something loved, an item that is yellow, something that needs to be replaced, a useful item, an item that creates a strong memory, an item you still hope to have 10 years from now)

Alphabet Challenge - Choose a category like celebrities or fiction books and try to name something for each letter in a certain amount of time.

Say Anything

Questions Only – Have a conversation only in questions.

The Singing Game -

The Game: Connect song lyrics for a fun sing-along game

The Rules:

- One person starts singing a song
- Using a lyric from the song, the next person has to connect it with another song
- It continues on until somebody messes up the lyrics or is stumped

Example:

- "I kissed a girl and I..."
- "...Really, really, really like you..."
- "...Doing that thing you do, breaking my heart into a million..."

1. The Game of 5 Things

It's a popular warm-up game called 5 Things, and it's fun for all ages and simple enough for anyone to play. The way it works is the first person will call out a category of their choosing, which can range from simple things like "5 types of breakfast cereals" or "5 brands of cars" to more creative ideas, such as "5 superpowers you wish you had" or "5 things you'd never want to take a bath in." The person whose turn it is then has to name 5 things in that category as quickly as possible, preferably without stopping to think about it. As they name off each one, the rest of the group counts them in unison– "1... 2... 3..." After they name the fifth and final thing, everyone says, "5... 5 THINGS!" And then that person is the next to suggest a category. It's a great game for engagement, not to mention creative stimulation during long drives.

I found this while going through some old correspondence and thought those of you who knew Sid would get a kick out of it - enjoy!

LAW OFFICES

T. SIDNEY CADWALLADER

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April 28, 1994

COPY FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Mr. Michael Feit
31 North Main Street
Yardley, Pennsylvania 19067

Dear Mr. Feit:

On Friday afternoon, April 22, I came to the Meeting House to pick up some supplies and found the front lawn about one quarter under water. It appeared that you were cleaning your swimming pool and had decided the way to drain the pool was to run it down your lawn in large hoses to a low corner of your lot and then let it flow on to our land. I suppose the idea was that it might drain toward and into Brock Creek or, as your agent thought - into the sanitary "sewer" which would have been improper but, there being no entrance into either, it backed up on our lawn as stated above.

I am quite sure, at the very least, that you would have had to get some environmental agency to permit dumping your chemically treated water into Brock Creek, but, from talking to your pool-cleaning agent, this was not done, and obviously he had not gotten permission from the Meeting to even drain through the Meeting property. Roger Stocovaz, former owner of your property, had a swimming pool for years and never trespassed the Meeting with whatever means he used to accomplish cleaning. I noted that the water coming on to our property had a milky appearance and, on inquiry, I was told it was coming from cleaning the sidewalls. Your agent said he still had one third of the pool to empty.

We shall have to wait and see what damage, if any, was done to the lawn, but we feel this was a pretty high-handed way of dealing with property of a neighbor who has cooperated with you especially when you needed parking, even though you raised obstacles when we tried to increase our parking space, and now, without asking our permission you have used our property for a dumping site because most of the water has ultimately dissipated on our land.

I suppose that if no damage is done to the lawn, we may not report this to DER-EPA or whatever enforcing authority. The incident will probably be blamed on the pool-cleaning agent anyway. Friends would much rather work together to solve problems than go to law, but there has been little evidence of mutuality to date.

We will expect that you will find other and better ways to drain your pool in the future and also look forward to more neighborly relations.

Very truly yours,



T. Sidney Cadwallader