

YARDLEY FRIENDS MEETING

NEWSLETTER

October 2021

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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 (currently suspended)

Linda Jacobs Snyder, Clerk

Ed Snyder, Newsletter Editor

This month at YFM

First Day Worship

Due to concerns about Covid and the Delta variant, we are meeting outside, weather permitting, with a zoom link available for those who prefer to stay at home. If there is inclement weather, we are meeting inside, with masks, windows open and social distancing (and a zoom link). ***Please check the google group emails Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning for the zoom link.*** Worship is back to one full hour, 10 -11.

Regular activities

Women's group Wednesdays at 2:30 PM (zoom)

Committee Meetings on the first First Day, following Meeting for Worship (in-person and/or zoom at clerk's discretion)

Business Meeting on the second First Day, following Meeting for Worship.

Quarterly Meeting in November is hosted by Yardley. Stay tuned for related events and times.

New flooring is being installed the week of October 3. Please stay out of the building that week.

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 quarter website:

<https://www.quakersbucks.org/>
for other news and events.

Inspiration for the month

To do evil that good may come of it is contrary to the doctrine of Christianity; that when times are so cloudy that we cannot go forward in the way of clearness and purity, it behooves us in the depth of humility to wait on the Lord to know his mind concerning us and our children.

~ John Woolman, 1720-1772

Do you have an article or item for the newsletter? The cut-off is the 25th of each month (or a few days later!). Contact me with articles.

Ed Snyder ed@mrppplansinc.com

Flea Market

For over 60 years Yardley Meeting has hosted a Flea Market. When I moved to Yardley back in the 90s it was the talk of the town! The sunny crisp day when I walked a few blocks from where I lived and walked around the Flea Market is clear in my mind. It was an uplifting event in a peaceful setting.

At the time, I never expected that I would one day be a Quaker and member of Yardley Friends Meeting. Since 1998, I've been there helping when time allowed. For me that wasn't always. On the very first day, I arrived at 5 or 6 and was instructed to slice and bag bagels while big coffee pots perked. Before the sun rose, I was out greeting vendors who were ready for a hot cup of coffee. The people I worked with that day I had only brief encounters with in the past. Working together made me feel more a part of Meeting.

This year due to Covid, the decision to hold the flea market was touch and go. Like so many things, we had to skip it last year. As we got vaccines, it seemed safe to start back doing the things we usually do. Then a variant made us wonder if that was true. After a lot of questioning we decided it was a go. This year was a totally outside event. For a few reasons we did not do the White Elephant and the Silent Auction. These have been the biggest money makers in the past.

So why do we have the Flea Market? It is a fund raiser. Is making money the primary reason? It is a lot of work! I'm not alone in thinking the money is only part of the reason. The fellowship of working together is something hard to duplicate. Some great benefits are working with new people and seeing people we haven't seen for almost 2 years including the children. There was joy and closeness as we spent the day together.

We all have our take on the Flea Market. Those of us that have been here might take it for granted. Some aren't fans. It's interesting to hear how others see it. Rosa's son said he could see why Rosa liked the Meeting so much. Maria exclaimed "It's more than a Flea Market!" She discovered artists and craftspeople and even a chiropractor giving adjustments. Many raved about the band. A Google review said "Friendly people. Beautiful grounds. I think this year the grounds were the prettiest I've seen." People stopped at the food table to say thanks for the work we do to bring this day to the community. The comments of others reminded me how special it is.

As people come to the Flea Market they may not get to know much about Quakerism. They do experience the serenity of visiting the grounds of a Quaker Meeting. It's peaceful and the people are nice. As I write this I think of times I've visited Quaker meetings in other areas. As I walk onto the property peace surrounds me. I think we share that.

The next day we sat worshipping among the trees. It was quiet and peaceful. I thought of the transformation from the busy grounds the day before. And I thought. Yes, but that was peaceful too!

Important Message to Parents of Young Friends

The Religious Ed Committee would like to know who is going to have their children attend First Day School, so we can accommodate their age and needs.

Also, Please let us know if there is anything you would like addressed in FDS. Our plan is to have Young Friends in Meeting for Worship for the first 20 - 25 minutes.

Please e mail one of us to let us know: carolseuffert@gmail.com or miRachel@aol.com or marna.matthews@verizon.net

Query 8. Grounding for Transformed Lives: Integrity and Simplicity

What is the interplay between simplicity and integrity in the life of our meeting?

How does our meeting embody simplicity and integrity in its structures and practices?

How has our meeting considered humanity's impact on the earth's ecological integrity and the ways in which violence and injustice exacerbate this impact?

How do I strive to achieve harmony between my inner and outer commitments in my spiritual journey, my work, my family and my other responsibilities?

Am I temperate in all things?

Am I open to counsel regarding addictive behavior?

Am I involved only with those organizations and activities whose purposes and methods complement my integrity?

Am I careful to speak truth as I know it and am I open to truth spoken to me?

Am I mindful that judicial oaths imply a double standard of truth?

Labyrinth update



Mark Shimp of Shimp Mechanical cleaned up and graded the labyrinth area (October 1 – breaking news!).

His services were donated in memory of Ann Bishop, and Jeff Bishop has lined up other contractors to donate time and equipment. Jeff is donating the stone and other materials.

Next step is bringing in sand as a base for the stone, then laying the stone, then topsoil and seeding. If all goes well, it will look something like the beautiful design to the right.

