



Yardley Friends Meeting

65 N. Main Street
Yardley, PA 19067

November 2023

Queries for November

Witnessing in the World: Education

What does our meeting do to support and improve public education?

What help do we provide for the children and adults in our meeting to pursue their educational goals?

What is our meeting's role in support for Friends' education? If our meeting is connected to a Friends school or schools, does this relationship nurture spiritual life and the manifestation of Friends principles?

Do we enable children in our meeting to attend a Friends school? Does our meeting work with the family to consider all available means of support?

How do I show my concern for the improvement of public education in my community?

Do I demonstrate my encouragement and support for Friends education through awareness and service?

Ongoing Events at Yardley Friends

Meeting for Worship - Every Sunday at 10:00 am. Light snacks served following worship, called 11s, except on the 2nd Sunday. Please join us.

Meeting for Business – Meeting for Business is held the second Sunday of each month. Worship time is shortened to 45 minutes on this Sunday.

Game Night - Game night is held on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 7 pm to 9 pm. Feel free to bring a game that you would like to play.

Ponderings – Conversations where we explore our thoughts and get to know each other make our community stronger. This is the aim of Ponderings. Each month we will explore a thought, a statement or a question. We will let this lead us where it may. We hope to hold Ponderings the third Sunday of each month. This will follow 11s (snacks after Meeting for Worship). Everyone is encouraged to pick something on their mind to lead our Ponderings. Let Linda (linda6stn@gmail.com) or Betty (AlphaBetty123@earthlink.net) know your thoughts.

Religious Education - Religious Education is available on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

Reminder:

There is a bin in the lobby for our ongoing food supply drive.

"I'd been taught tenderly, and that's how a lesson stays."

- Elizabeth Berg
Durable Goods

Adult Discussion: Freedom Of Religion

The concept of religious freedom—and religious persecution—go back so far in this country that they pre-date the country itself. The Puritans came here in search of religious freedom for themselves, but not for anyone else. Less well-known is the Dutch persecution of the Quakers in the colony of New Netherlands, now New York. In protest, some brave Dutch settlers drafted a document known as the Flushing Remonstrance in 1657, which defied Peter Stuyvesant and his proscription of all Quakers. It was not accepted and they suffered punishment for their stand.

With this background, Tyler Hoff opened the discussion. The US was the first country ever to embrace the idea of separation of church and state. But in recent years we've seen an erosion of that principle. George W. Bush allowed religious organizations to contract with government to provide certain social services—foster care and education among them. A legal wall was erected preventing them from discriminating or imposing their particular doctrines; but it didn't last.

Since the 1960s religious institutions and supporters have gradually undermined the legal protections that separated church and state in this country. Freedom of religion is under increasing threat, with more Christian Nationalists and similar groups finding success at the polls. Judgeships and school boards are now often tipped toward religious intolerance; colleges and universities are being challenged daily for promoting free speech and thoughtful discussion. The cudgel of “discrimination” is being turned against those who support the free exchange of ideas and the freedom of/from religious belief.

The pendulum is swinging toward intolerance and religious bigotry. We have to do whatever we can to push back. There are resources: an organization called Americans United (AU.org) publishes a journal called Church and State, which explores the threats to our freedom. The League of Women Voters has an online information site called Vote 411.org, which publishes candidates' stands on critical issues. It is our duty to be educated and informed, and to vote accordingly.

Game Night



Now that the fall chill has settled in, game night has resumed on the second Saturday of the month from 7 to 9 pm. Family friendly games are enjoyed in the social room.

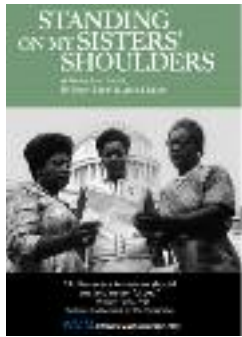
October's games included Scatagories, Uno, and Apples to Apples. Please join us and bring your favorites. Snacks and drinks are provided.

October Ponderings

October's Ponderings discussion focused on how we maintain our sense of inner peace during turbulent times. Friends discussed finding breathing, mindfulness, and nature to be of comfort. Some Friends have also found limiting exposure to news sources help to limit stress, focusing on the issues where we can act. The next discussion will be November 19th. Please join us.



Community News



Location: Gather Place Museum at the Old A.M.E. Church of Yardley
Dates: November 4, 2023
Address: 188 South Canal Street, Yardley, PA 19067
Time: 2:00 PM
Price: \$10

**Fallsington Friends Meeting
 November 4th @ 7pm**



Birdseed Sale
 Silver Lake Nature Center
silverlakenaturecenter.org

Meditative Inquiry Series for Healing and Health



George Schaefer of the PYM Friends Counseling Service will be leading a series of five hour-long meditative inquiry Zoom sessions for healing and health beginning on Wednesday, October 4. Meditative Inquiry is the practice of listening deeply in stillness to what arises in present moment awareness with curiosity. After a brief opening talk and introduction to the practice, participants will enter into meditative silence for twenty-five minutes. After the break, there will be an opportunity for participants to engage in dialogue about their experience.



Five sessions will be offered beginning Wednesday, October 4 and continuing every other Wednesday through November 29. The group will meet from 7:30 to 8:30 pm. Register below to receive the Zoom link for the series.

RevolutionaryCrawlsAndEvents.com
Historical Thursday Nights
 Sept - Nov 6pm-8pm
 Great Barn Taproom New Hope PA

History was NEVER this interesting or fun

\$40 Ticket includes
 Admission and Historical Presentations
 1 Pint or Glass of Wine
 BONUS
 Patronized For A Lifetime

Tickets/info Scan QR visit website

RevolutionaryCrawlsAndEvents.com

AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM OF BUCKS COUNTY
COMMUNITY BRUNCH & LEARN
 VIRTUAL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD TOUR

BRUNCH AND LEARN - UNDERGROUND RR
 Sponsor: African American Museum of Bucks County
 Location: First Baptist Church-Langhorne
 Dates: November 4, 2023
 Address: 215 East Richardson Avenue, Langhorne
 Time: 11:00 AM
 Price: \$20