Yardley Friends Meeting

65 N. Main Street
Yardley, PA 19067

February 2024

Queries for February

Deepening Our Faith: Meeting for Business

Is our meeting for business held in worship in which we seek divine guidance?

How do we sustain prayerful consideration of all aspects of an issue and address difficult problems with a search for truth that is unhurried by the pressures of time?

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

Do I regularly attend meeting for business? If unable to attend, how do I fulfill the responsibility to understand and embrace the decisions made?

How do I affirm and support God's presence in the process of discernment and reaching a decision?

Do I remain open to personal transformation as the community arrives at the sense of the meeting?

"The quality of human life on this planet is nothing more then the sum total of our daily interactions with one another. Each time we help, and each time we harm, we have a dramatic impact on our world."

- Desmond Tutu - The Book of Forgiveness

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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.

A Minute of Gratitude

First Day, 14th of First Month 2024

In response to her loving leadership of our meeting community, Yardley Friends Meeting offers its deepest gratitude to our outgoing clerk of meeting, Marna Matthews.

Beginning her service in in the First Month of 2022, Marna has faithfully led our meeting over the past two years - in post-pandemic recovery - with a spirit of grace and peace. During her tenure the life of our community has flourished in many ways…

New members have been accepted into our meeting; with Marna's leadership each has found a space to be nurtured and to grow in faith.

Our new labyrinth's construction and dedication service was expertly facilitated by Marna.

Marna's consistent leadership supported us as we built community and raised funds through our renewed annual Flea Market event.

Marna's leadership also supported the ongoing rehabilitation of our meeting property, including restoration of our meetinghouse flooring.

We thank her for all of her loving care of our meeting for these two years and with gratitude continue to hold her in the Light.

As approved today at Meeting for Business in the Spirit of Worship,

Ted Taylor
Clerk

Tips for Beating The Winter Blues

1) Keep active
2) Get outside
3) Keep warm
4) Eat healthy
5) See the light
6) Take up a new hobby
7) See family and friends
8) Talk it out

We arrived safely in St. Petersburg to cool, cloud, breezy weather but at least it is in the 50s. The weather should start to warm up next week to 70....we can only hope! Here are a few pictures of the St. Petersburg meetinghouse you might want to include in the newsletter. I don't know much about it as I only went once a couple of years ago. It is by Tampa Bay. Up the street is an Indian temple!

Christina Breidenbach

New Year – New Clerk

I join with Friends in thanking Marna for leading our community as our clerk for the last two years. The minute we approved at our last Meeting for Business only begins to describe my personal gratitude and appreciation. She is passing the baton to me after running an amazing race! I only hope to honor her commitment and service in my own time as your clerk.

In the meeting for worship that preceded January's business meeting an image came to me that I shared as vocal ministry. As most of us who are able to enjoy the quiet space of our meeting room do, I was focused on the fire blazing in the fireplace. The fire is set to burn for the entire worship hour, and to do so without the need for disruptive tending. And if built properly, it does – it burns hot and bright once it catches, and then settles into a steady blaze until the last quarter of the hour when it settles into a slower, more diffused fire. The initial stack of logs dissolve into a low pile of glowing embers – an hour long journey of energy transformation.

In the past several years other Friends have passed the baton of "fire-builder" to me, most recently Jeff Bishop. Jeff wisely instructed me on the art of setting a flammable base, with newspaper and wood scraps for kindling, adding layers of well-placed logs in a pattern that allows good ventilation. There needs to be at least three layers of logs placed in a crosswise pattern, enough for the pile to burn through the entire hour.

The ministry I shared that First Day morning was the insight that our work as a spiritual community – in our worship, our witness, and our business – aligns with the life of our weekly fire. Both as individuals and as a meeting we have the opportunity to establish ourselves in a way that allows for a healthy, warming, sustaining fire. Spiritually and relationally we can set a proper foundation for igniting the flame of Spirit, and ensure that that energy is sustained by a structure that allows Spirit to move easily among the gathered, and as the flames diminish at the end of the experience, we gather the scattered embers together to make sure that the heat we need is concentrated and preserved for as long as possible.

May Yardley's life together in community, and our own individual spiritual lives model a well-built fire in 2024. I look forward to enjoying the flames!

Ted Taylor
Clerk

Community News

Maple Syrup Time!
February 3 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm $8
Participants will get to learn the basic steps (firsthand!) of how trees are tapped for their sap so that it can be turned into delicious syrup. Find out what you can do in your own backyard! (AND ~ look out for a Part 2 to this awesome program coming up in March! Date TBA soon!)

Fee: $5/person for Friends of SLNC Members or
$8/person for non-members.

Village of Chocolate

Location: Peddler's Village
Dates: February 14, 2024 - February 18, 2024
Recurrence: Recurring daily
Address: Rt 202 & 263, Lahaska

February at Peddler's Village is filled with rich surprises from chocolate-covered workshops for families, sweet-savory menus for adults, and a Village Chocolate Trail.

February 1, 2024
Kate Spade Designer Bag Bingo
for mental health and suicide awareness.
7:00 pm
Saint Cyril of Jerusalem Church
1410 Almshouse Rd,
Jamison, PA 18929

Free Concert With Loretta Allen Montgomery

St. Andrews United Methodist Church
999 York Rd, Warminster, PA 18974
Date: 2/10/24 Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Sponsored by: St. Andrew's United Methodist Church
Contact: (215) 675-3748

*Free event featuring local Country/Folk Artist Loretta Allen Montgomery *Fun for the entire family including free snacks and beverages *We will be accepting donations for The Grace Project

Knowing Native Plants Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve

1635 River Rd (PA Rte 32), NEW HOPE, PA 18938
Date: 2/3/24
https://bhwp.org/learn/talks-walks-lectures/knowing-native-plants/
CONTACT: 215-862-2924
The Knowing Native Plants series is an annual seasonal deep dive into the native plants of the region featuring 14 Saturday classes throughout the year.
Online and Virtual

The Underground Railroad Unveiled

Bucks County Free Library -Yardley-Makefield Branch,
1080 Edgewood Road, YARDLEY, PA 19067

Date: 2/10/24 Time: 2 pm to 3 pm