

HADDONFIELD MONTHLY MEETING RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

NEWSLETTER

Volume 55, No. 7 ~ March, 2009

Meeting for worship

10 am Sunday ~ 9:15 am Wednesday



From Worship and Ministry

A Powerful Day

The Haddonfield Council of Churches, of which we are a part, hosts several interdenominational and interfaith events throughout the year. Through these events, they seek to foster a spirit of respect, understanding and appreciation of our various faith expressions. The annual World Day of Pray is an important part of the Council's calendar year. This year, several meeting members are working together with others to facilitate this worship service here at the meeting house on Friday, March 6 at 1 pm.

World Day of Prayer is a movement in 170 countries and regions whose prayers follow the sun across the globe on the day of the celebration. Each year, a different country serves as the writer of the worship service. For 2009, the women of Papua, New Guinea developed the theme, "In Christ, there are many members, yet one body." Papua is a land of many languages, cultures, traditions and beliefs. Though many of its communities experience isolation due to the rugged terrain, the women say, "By God's grace, we are able to be united." They invite us to join them in celebrating their unity in Christ, where diverse communities may be of one heart and soul.

World Day of Prayer's motto, informed prayer leads to powerful action, affirms that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence.

Let all in our meeting who are able to attend this

service come and pray with others in our community for peace in our world.

Facing Benches

The glossary in PYM's Faith and Practice defines facing benches: "In older Friends meetinghouses, rising tiers of benches facing the meeting, traditionally occupied by recognized ministers and elders. Metaphorically, the group of leaders occupying these benches." Our Worship and Ministry Committee wishes the Haddonfield community to understand that in keeping with the more modern, egalitarian Quaker mindset, anyone is welcome to sit on our facing benches. Worship and Ministry assigns members of their committee to sit on these benches and to officially "break" Meeting by shaking hands with their neighbor. Consider joining them by sitting on our facing bench.

Upcoming Events

March 7 - One Spirit-Led Community - Leadership Seminar on Friends Schools at Arch Street Meeting House. This seminar, from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm, is an opportunity to reflect together on the joys and challenges of the relationship of Friends schools with the Religious Society of Friends, and to develop ideas for strengthening these relationships. There is a \$10 per-person charge to cover lunch and morning refreshments. Free parking available. Please bring your copy of "The Care Relationship: Friends Schools and the Religious

Society of Friends." Additional copies can be ordered from the Friends Council on Education's website: www.friendscouncil.org. **Contact :** Elke Muller to register for the seminar. Elkem@pym.org, 215-241-7223.

March 14 - Earlham School of Religion Conference - This event returns for the fourth year to Arch Street Meetinghouse to present ideas on the theme of *Pastoral Care in the Monthly Meeting*. The conference will run from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. In the morning ESR graduates and counselor and professor Jim Higginbotham will share their experiences and expertise in Monthly Meetings and Friends organizations.

During afternoon sessions Friends will consider when to use their pastoral care skills and when to recommend that a Friend seek help from a trained counselor. Lunch will be provided. Contact : Donna Trankley at 1-800-432-1377 or trankdo@earlham.edu, to register.

March 20 - Peace Prayers' Gathering - Friends are invited to the Haddonfield Meetinghouse from 7 to 8:30 pm on this evening, the Spring Equinox, to join in a meditation for world peace. There will be a forty-minute meditation followed by some faith sharing and then a closing meditation. Light refreshments are available following the final meditation. For more information e-mail PeacePartners@verizon.net or call Judy Barnes at 856.287.9472.

March 21 - Memorial Service for Lillian Willoughby - Haddonfield Monthly Meeting will host a memorial service for longtime Friend and dedicated peace activist Lillian Willoughby, who died on Jan. 15 after a long illness. The service will be held at 2 p.m. Memorial donations may be made to:

Grannies for Peace
c/o Diane Cagun
241 South 6th Street--Apt 1308
Philadelphia PA 19106

Old Pine Farm Natural Lands Trust
c/o Susan Renton-Dice
35 San Diego Drive
Magnolia NJ 08049

March 27-29 - Living Up to the Light: PYM Yearly Sessions - This Year's March Sessions, to be held at the Arch Street Meetinghouse, will address the Future Life and Leadership of our Yearly Meeting: continued discernment and decision on the Interim Meeting Governance report and *Heeding God's Call to Action: Report from the 2009 Gathering on Peace* and consideration of follow-up actions. The sessions will also feature Amanda Kemp, founder of Theatre for Transformation; Mary Ellen McNish, general secretary of the American Friends Service Committee and Madi Diaz, musician. Come because you want to worship with Friends and because all members "should feel under the weight of duty to attend the annual sessions" and because we work hard to make sessions accessible and because our light is greater when we share it and because the Yearly Meeting is YOU! Register at www.pym.org/annualsessions prior to March 13, if possible.

April 19 - Meeting for Remembrance -- Haddonfield Monthly Meeting will gather in support of those in our meeting family who have recently suffered the loss of someone close to them. The 7 pm meeting will be followed by a simple reception in the auditorium. There will be a table provided for displaying photographs and/or memorabilia. Please join us.



Meeting for Worship for Business- Feb. 8

The 24 Friends in attendance began the meeting with a period of worship. There was no reading.

Deedy Roberts reported on correspondence received from PYM and on plans for Lillian Willoughby's memorial service to be held at Haddonfield Meeting on March 21st at 2:00 P.M. Members of Central Philadelphia Meeting will be sharing in the duties at this service. Deedy asked for help with ushering and hospitality noting that there will be many Friends from across the region in attendance and it will be an opportunity for Haddonfield to support a well loved family and former members of our Meeting. Several Friends volunteered.

The Clerk read a request from Priscilla Adams for a Minute of Support for her daughter Kira, who will be traveling to Japan this summer with an overseas program with Dartmouth College. Kira is requesting financial assistance from Haddonfield Quarter, the Friends Institute and the International Outreach Committee. The Minute from Haddonfield Meeting will help with her fund raising efforts and is required for some of the applications. The Meeting approved the following Minute:

Haddonfield Monthly Meeting minutes its support for Kira Adams' Dartmouth College trip to Japan during the summer of 2009. The Meeting feels that having Quakers travel abroad provides learning about faith and life and that this learning enhances our efforts to put our faith into action on Friends' Testimonies, especially in the areas of promoting peace, racial and cultural understanding, and concern for the environment. We hope that she will receive financial assistance from Friends Funds.

The Meeting also approved \$100.00 in financial assistance for Kira.

Connie Brookes suggested that Kira might apply to the Pemberton Fund for cost of travel assistance. The Recording Clerk will forward this on to Kira and Priscilla.

Henry Watson requested a Traveling Minute from the Meeting. He plans on doing a lot of travel in the months ahead for personal reasons. Friends approved. The Clerk will compose the Minute.

Henry also asked for support with his ongoing work as a Chaplain with the Boy Scouts. His intent and focus is to be a "Friendly Presence" and advisor with Quaker youth in scouting. Henry will write a suggested Minute and send it to Drew to sign. Mary Noland suggested that Henry have a support group/clarity committee to help him.

Maria Shivers read the Annual Report for Worship and Ministry (held from February), as attached. The meeting accepted the Report with gratitude for the work the committee has accomplished over the past year.

John Donch presented the Annual Report for the Children's Inclusion Committee as attached. The Report included an explanation of the new procedures relating to childcare for Meeting activities, including during Meeting for Worship. The meeting accepted the report with thanks for the work the committee has accomplished over the past year.

Last month, at Meeting for Business, Friends decided that because the second Sunday of April is Easter, we would have Meeting for Business on the first Sunday, instead. However, it has come to light that there is another event scheduled for that Sunday; the Youth Committee is giving a play. After several suggestions and much discussion, it was decided that;

- 1) The March Meeting for Business will go forward as usual on the 2nd Sunday (March 8);
- 2) There will be NO scheduled meeting in April. If something urgent/important comes up, we will have one or more "Called Meeting(s) for Business" at the rise of Meeting, as needed;
- 3) Because the second Sunday in May is Mothers' Day, the May Meeting for Business will be on the first Sunday (May 3) as was decided at last month's Meeting for Business.

The Annual Report on the Meeting's investments in Friends Fiduciary is postponed until March.

Connie Brookes informed us that she had received an email from the Treasurer for Haddonfield Quarter asking what Haddonfield Meeting's covenant contribution would be to both the Yearly and Quarterly Meetings for our next fiscal year. This information is being requested because the Yearly Meeting is preparing its budget for next year at this time. The Question is, "Does the Meeting want to increase our contributions to either one or both and, if so, by how much?"

Friends approved increasing our contribution to PYM for the fiscal year 2009-2010 by \$1000.00 (to a total contribution of \$18,000) and to Haddonfield Quarter by \$500 (to a total of \$8,000).

Lou Tomassetti brought us a Property Committee Concern: To begin with, the Meeting

House and the auditorium both need a thorough cleaning - now. In addition, both should have some maintenance cleaning on a regular basis that Rick is unable to do. Something more than a weekly vacuuming of the Meeting House and sweeping of the auditorium floor is needed, especially for the auditorium which is used regularly by the school for recess during bad weather. Property Committee needs advice on how to proceed.

Several suggestions were made and considered, including employing the service used by the School. There was no resolution at this time. Discussion will continue.

Lisa Boyell, for Nominating Committee, asked for approval of the Meeting for Bill Patterson to be Haddonfield's representative to Quarterly Nominating Committee. Bill has already attended the Committee's January meeting. We were also asked to approve Pam Anderson for Care Committee and Drew Beale for Recorder.

All were approved.

Nominating Committee also presented a request for a member to participate in the FCNL letter-writing campaign. Jake McGlaughlin presented a memo describing the duties of a Meeting/FCNL liaison (see related article).

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne R. Hoxie Heizer, Recording Clerk

Friends and regular Attenders may request copies of the complete minutes from the Recording Clerk at Joanne@synchcorp.com.

Deepening & Strengthening Retreat III

From Feb. 27 to March 1, Friends from Radnor and Green Street Meetings gathered at our Meeting House and joined Haddonfield Friends for a weekend retreat as part of the Deepening & Strengthening initiative. This was the third in the series of retreats in which "Traveling Friends" and one-time attendees from the three meetings worshipped and worked together, sharing their experiences and advices with the help of D&S staff and visiting speakers.

The goal at these gatherings has been to gain

new wisdom to take home and use as a foundation for making our meetings the vibrant religious communities we aspire to be. The first retreat ("The Gathered Meeting") focused on the quality of our worship, while the second ("The Covenant Community") addressed the quality of our care for one another. For the third, at Haddonfield, the subject was the quality of our attention to the business of the Meeting ("The Living Community"). In all, we labored to identify creative, practical and sustainable ways to address the challenges we face, with faithfulness to the Spirit as the guide in our search for the opening of new ways.

For the participants, these retreats have been intense, joyous, exhausting, rewarding and deeply spiritual. Most would agree that we are individually "deeper and stronger" for the experience, but that of course is not the mission. The most challenging part is just beginning. Now the task is to pass on our positive energy and creative ideas to the whole community.

Facilitators, coordinators and participants from the retreat introduced the following minute on March 1:

"Dear Haddonfield Friends,

We would like to minute our heartfelt appreciation for the Haddonfield hospitality during our Deepening and Strengthening Retreat this weekend. We felt welcome from the first minute we came in. The delicious food, the hosting, and the literal warmth (in spite of a reluctant boiler) was so appreciated. The many people who participated added to the Spirit-filled retreat.

Thank you for filling our hearts with gratitude and accept our appreciation. Fond memories will accompany us home.

Radnor, Green Street and Haddonfield Participants of the Deepening and Strengthening Retreat Feb. 27 to March 1, 2009."

After catching its collective breath for a few days, the Deepening & Strengthening Committee will gather and plan some essential next steps for consideration by the Monthly Meeting in April, May and beyond. Friends are encouraged to

come and see what it's all about and join us in the bold new initiatives we hope to raise up.

Watch the newsletter for ongoing updates.

Food Drive Update & Found Item

Thank you, Friends, for your generous support of the Valentine Food Bags. Every contribution of food and funds increased our gift to people in need. We raised more money than any other year. Thank you, Mary Spitzer, for organizing so much support from Haddonfield Meeting. Contributions are still coming in and I will have a more complete report in the Peace Piece.

A wristwatch was in the bags of food donations. If this was a mistake and you are looking for your watch, please call or e-mail me (609-835-4285 or peacepc@aol.com). If I don't hear from anyone, I will assume this was meant as a donation and donate it to New Visions.

~ Priscilla Adams

Library News

The Library Committee's book sale, held on February 15, raised over \$100 for the committee's budget. Half of the profits for this sale were dedicated toward the purchase of two additional copies of *Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship*, which means the Library now has three copies of this important text in its collection. The committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of our sale through their donations and their purchases. We have so many books left over that we may hold an "everything must go" sale before the summer. Watch for future announcements!

The Committee would also like to thank all those who donated their time in helping out with February's covered dish. Our little crew could not have done it without you.

Thanks to Jake McGlaughlin for his generous donation of a brand new copy of *The New Oxford Annotated Bible*, which will make a beautiful addition to our collection.

The committee has also added a copy of *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace ...*

One School at a Time by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin, to the circulating collection. Review to follow soon.

Religious Education

The Religious Education Committee would like to thank everyone who has participated in making our First Day School programs for all ages a success so far this year, and look forward to everyone's continued participation and cooperation. The schedule for adult classes follows. We urge Friends to read the book *Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship: Quakers, African Americans, and the Myth of Racial Justice*, by Donna McDaniel and Vanessa Julye before April 26, when we have our first of two sessions on issues raised in this book, to be led by Sarah Burgess (Philadelphia [Arch Street] Monthly Meeting), and Alison Duncan, (Adelphi MM in Baltimore Yearly Meeting and attendee at Central Philadelphia MM). Books may be purchased for \$28.00 cash from the Library Committee (See David Austin) or borrowed from the library.

March 8 - Meeting for Worship for Business

March 15 - Deepening and Strengthening Committee & Covered Dish

March 22 - Death and Dying, Part 1 of 2

March 29 - PYM Sessions, Death and Dying, Part 2

April 5 - Palm Sunday Play, by Ty Drago, performed by Youth Group

April 12 - Easter



Volunteer Opportunity: FCNL Liaison

The Friends Committee on National Legislation, the largest peace lobby in Washington, D.C., is seeking a volunteer liaison to HMM.

Founded in 1943 by members of the Religious Society of Friends, FCNL staff and volunteers work with a nationwide network of tens of thousands of people from many different races, religions, and cultures to advocate social and economic justice, peace, and good government.

FCNL is nonpartisan. <http://www.fcnl.org/>

The liaison would receive and read the FCNL monthly newsletter and act as go-between for FCNL and disseminate information as needed about the work of FCNL. When requested the liaison would gather information about Haddonfield Meeting priorities for FCNL. The liaison could opt to participate in FCNL subcommittees on the environment, civil liberties or other topics. They would be asked to write letters, display and distribute War Is Not the Answer materials, participate in vigils, organize events and attend the annual meeting in November.

The liaison should be an energetic person likes to keep abreast of current events and enjoys working with people.

If you are interested in learning more about this position, please contact Jake McGlaughlin at 856.663.1154 or at jmcglaug@verizon.net.

Book Review and Recommendation

“A Crime So Monstrous: Face to Face with Modern-Day Slavery,” by E. Benjamin Skinner

While there are fewer slaves today by proportion than ever before in known human history, the exact opposite is the case with respect to absolute numbers. In other words, there are more slaves on the Earth today than ever before in human history.

Possibly because of more casual definitions by others, the author defines the term “slave” for this book as being someone forced to labor by fraud or violence.

The author recounts his global travels meeting slaves. He visited slaves in the former Soviet Union and in India. In Sudan and Haiti. Even though the practice of holding slaves is illegal worldwide, all nation states of any significance have slaves within their borders,

Slavery is nearly institutionalized in parts of India, as people born into it do not know of their rights under Indian law and are forced through fraud and culture to remain in perpetual debt bondage in dangerous jobs that horribly shorten their lives.

We learn of a girl in Florida, who, following incredible work on her part and on the part of a few determined officials, has left bondage and is making a way for herself as a young women in her early twenties, albeit with heavy emotional scars.

Friends should read this book.

~ Bill Patterson



Among Friends

Mary Berger passed away suddenly on Feb.12. Mary was an active attender at Meeting, serving on many committees, including the newsletter committee. She will be missed by many. Her family said she passed away peacefully, and they attributed that peace to her long association with the Meeting. They wished to express their thanks to the Meeting for their caring and friendship to Mary through the years. Donations in Mary's name may be made to American Association of University Women, AAUW Development Office, PO Box 630832, Baltimore MD 21263-0832.

David Gallivan has accepted an invitation to join Mennonite Central Committee's project in Sudan, where he will spend the next three years assigned to the Sudan Council of Churches as an Elections Program Officer. He will be developing advocacy positions, networking with international partners and assisting the Peace and Advocacy Coordinator in overseeing work related to good governance and the electoral process.

Directory Addition:

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