



## Haddonfield Monthly Meeting Religious Society of Friends

# Newsletter

Meeting for Worship  
10:00 a.m. Sunday  
9:15 a.m. Wednesday

Volume 51 No. 4  
December 2004

### From Worship and Ministry

#### The Birth of Jesus

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

#### The Shepherds and the Angels

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem

and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

*Luke 2: 1-20*

**Coffee and hospitality for December**  
Property Committee

**December 19 is the annual Christmas breakfast.**  
Please join us at 8:30 a.m. and bring a Christmas bread to share.

### Upcoming Events

**December 2 — Discussion on Urban Violence.**  
7:30 p.m. at Swarthmore College, Room 101 in DuPont Science Center. How do we make America safe for those whose neighborhoods, homes and schools are violent battlegrounds? What can we do about the violence that is killing our children? An open forum cosponsored by Pendle Hill Peace Network and Swarthmore College. Free. For more information, visit [www.phpeace.net](http://www.phpeace.net).

**December 5 — Simple Gifts.** Please join us after Meeting for our annual intergenerational gift-making activity. Get in the Christmas spirit with seasonal music, wreath-making and crafts.

**December 9–10 — Ten Thousand Villages Craft Sale at HFS.** Do your Christmas shopping and provide a sustainable income to artisans in Third World countries. Hours are: 8:30–9 a.m., 12–1 p.m., and 3–7 p.m. on December 9th; 8:30–9 a.m., 12–1 p.m., and 3–5 p.m. on December 10th.

**December 11 — 45th Annual Christmas Peace Pilgrimage from Nazareth to Bethlehem (PA).** This Pilgrimage began in 1960 as a Christian witness for peace. Symbolic of the journey of Mary and Joseph, the 10-mile trek seeks to reflect the non-violent life of Jesus Christ and his truth of forgiving love. Pilgrimage participants meet at the parking lot at 520 E. Broad Street, Bethlehem, before 11:00 a.m. Buses transport pilgrims to Nazareth Moravian Church on Center Square where the Pilgrimage begins. Pilgrims arrive at Christ United Church of Christ, Market & Center Streets, Bethlehem, around 5:30 for a light meal and to hear Dr. Bob Edgar, the General Secretary of the National Council of Churches speak on The Patriotism of Peacemaking in the 21st Century. An offering is taken to cover the cost of bus transportation and food, and for a gift to UNICEF.

**December 11 — Native Peoples in the International Arena.** 1:30 to 4 p.m., Friends Center, 15th and Cherry Streets. Come hear about the international indigenous movement. Sponsored by: the Native American/Native Peoples program of American Friends Service Committee (AFSC); Indian Committee of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting; and United Nations Working Group of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

**December 19 — Cropwell Meeting Holiday Open House.** 5 p.m. Cropwell Friends Meeting cordially invites all to attend a Holiday Open House. Our special guest will be Priscilla Adams, Regional Secretary for Quaker Concerns. It will be an evening filled with good friends, good food, caroling, and good conversation. We extend a special invite to young Friends to learn more of what Friends are doing locally and globally.

**December 24 — Christmas Eve Worship.** Meeting for Worship will be at 7 p.m.; carol singing follows at 7:30.

**December 27-30 — Young Friends Christmas Gathering.** The theme for this gathering is “Expressing our spirituality through creativity, communication, arts & crafts and poetry.” For more information and to download an application form, go to [www.pym.org/youngfriends/index.htm](http://www.pym.org/youngfriends/index.htm).

Friendly Adult Presences are needed for this and other gatherings. Call Cookie Caldwell at 215-241-7222, e-mail [cookiec@pym.org](mailto:cookiec@pym.org) or go to the Young Friends web site and click on the “Adult Volunteers” link.

**January 8 — Annual Gathering of Quaker Public Educators.** Friends Center, Philadelphia. The Keynote speaker is Penny Colgan Davis, principal of Russell Byers Charter School and a member of Germantown Meeting. For more information, call 215-241-7223.

## **November Monthly Meeting for Business — November 14, 2004**

The meeting opened with a period of open worship.

The Clerk read Query Number 2 from *Faith & Practice* on Meeting for Business.

For Nominating Committee, Ceil McFadden proposed Drew Biehl to fill a vacancy on the Worship and Ministry Committee. Ceil also proposed Scott Buchheit as Monthly Meeting Recorder, to begin in January. Friends approved both nominations, and entered a minute of thanks to Johanna DeRose for her service as Recorder.

For School Committee, Pat Williams asked the Monthly Meeting to approve the following positions as signatories on all Haddonfield Friends School accounts: Head of School, Assistant Head of School, Director of Development and Clerk of School Committee. Signatures of any two of these four are needed. All previous minutes regarding authority are superseded by this minute. Friends approved this minute.

On behalf of the School Audit Committee, Connie Brookes sought direction concerning meeting with the auditor whose 2003-2004 report has been completed. Pat Williams will arrange the next step with the Head of School.

Joanne Heizer presented her concern about the storage of the tables used for covered dish lunches and other social events in the auditorium. The problem was referred to Property Committee.

Joanne also expressed concern over poor communication between various groups in the Meeting. She asked that individual Friends and committees please try to be conscious of when information needs to be shared and of the possibility that a planned event may present scheduling conflicts. Friends decided that brief reports at

Meeting for Business of proposed events might be helpful. The Clerk asked that Clerks of committees notify him ahead of time of the need to give such reports.

Flora McKinney, our representative to the PYM Annual Fund, reminded us that it's time to consider our contributions to the Fund for the coming year.

Some Friends expressed concern over the financial condition of the school and the lack of information about school finances. Friends suggested that we would benefit from continuing coordination between School Committee Finance Committee and the Meeting Finance Committee. Friends approved that Finance Committee and representatives from School Committee meet before the December Meeting for Business. Finance and School Committees will report in December.

The Meeting for Business closed with a period of worship.

## Religious Education

With the Fall semester over, Religious Education will focus on family and intergenerational activities for the month of December. December 5th will be Simple Gifts, the 12th will be sharing Christmas Stories, and the 26th will be an extended coffee hour to allow us to catch up with F(f)riends who are visiting for the holidays. We especially invite all high school and college-aged Friends.

January's plans are tentative, but firming up. Adults and high school-aged Friends can look forward to a celebration of the Meeting House, Godly Play with Helen Fields, Selective Service and our Meeting youth, and a program on the Gathered Meeting. February's offerings include a series of programs on Racial Justice. Look for more information in next month's newsletter.

## Here's What You Missed in November First Day School

November First Day School for Adults featured two sessions presented by Meeting member Michele Tarter. Michele is an author who teaches literature at the College of New Jersey. Her first session addressed the role of women in ministry in the Society of Friends. One of the epistles attributed to Paul included an injunction against women speaking in Church. George Fox disagreed with this prohibition, citing *Joel 2:28* "And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions." Women responded to Fox's invitation to participate as they felt led. Among their responses was to have a physical reaction, sometimes quaking or even swooning in the presence of the Lord. The name Quaker was applied later to describe this phenomenon.

Michele spoke of Dorothy White, an early Quaker writer. White wrote *Epistle of Love* (1661) detailing some of the early beliefs of Friends and answering critics. There was much discrimination against women Quakers, often simply in reaction to their speaking out. The so-called "Scold Trials" were an example of one of the ways this discrimination played itself out.

We heard of early Quaker travelers to America, including Mary Fisher and Mary Dyer. Dyer was executed for defying colonial authorities. The writing of Elizabeth Ashbridge influenced John Woolman. A list of references is available from Jake McGlaughlin.

The second session described Michele's work at the Correctional Facility for Women in Clinton. Michele, along with some of her students at CNJ, worked on a project to teach the women to write their own stories. The women first read Audrey Lorde's *The Life of a Slave Girl*. Then, they wrote their own personal narratives, taking guidance from the text as well as instruction and assistance from Michele and her students. The work was the subject of a documentary by one of Michele's colleagues, and we viewed segments of the documentary. We also met two of Michele's students who had been a part of the documentary.

## Nonviolent Peaceforce: First Year in Sri Lanka

*Report from Flora McKinney*

Working against the backdrop of a ceasefire that hasn't yet healed old wounds, the Nonviolent Peaceforce ended up the first year in a network of activities to promote peace on the island nation.

On the individual level, NP members work with mothers seeking the return of their children who have been abducted and forced to soldier for combatants. At the same time, they work to halt the practice of child soldier recruitment. NP team members also accompany civilians who ask for help in making abuse complaints against the Sri Lankan army.

In schools in the south, NP members help to form Peace Youth Clubs. On the community level, NP members work with peace committees on response strategies to communal conflicts. Team members also investigate and contain rumors that emerge in divided communities.

The NP contingent and Sarvodaya (a network of Sri Lankan NGOs and Gandhian movement) are exploring a large-scale Sri Lankan Rapid Deployment Peaceforce. The NP unit also is talking with the Sri Lankan Red Cross about adding a peace training and conflict resolution component to the Red Cross' program.

The NP unit recently decided to shift some personnel to eastern Sri Lanka, particularly in the Batticaloa District, where daily political killings and child soldier recruitment go on.

The team in Batticaloa is made up of three women and three men from India, Canada, Pakistan, Kenya, Germany and the U.S. From a religious perspective, they represent Hinduism, Christianity, Islam, no particular faith and Agnosticism. A multicultural team is key to maintaining NP's nonpartisan status in the conflicts.

"Our work is clearly both deepening and solidifying," said Jan Passion, a team manager. "The Sri Lankans in the communities in which we work are developing a stronger idea of what the Nonviolent Peaceforce is about and how we may be of assistance as they work for peace and justice in Sri Lanka."

### **Holiday Gift Ideas!**

**Donation gifts to friends and family • Ask family to give your gift to NP • Buy NP Peace Bonds • Give a day's wages**

### **Preparing For the Draft**

The following is an excerpt from an FAQ on draft issues from Quaker House. For the full article, go to Quaker House's web site, [www.quakerhouse.org](http://www.quakerhouse.org)

*Submitted by Flora McKinney and Jake McGlaughlin*

#### **Q. Will the military draft return?**

A. We don't know the future. What we do know is that the current U.S. military is seriously over-stretched, with no relief in sight. We also know that the military is trying various "quick fixes" to close the gaps, and they don't seem to be working. Many military professionals have also raised alarms about how over-stretched the "volunteer" U.S. military now is,

and how this might point to the draft's return.

#### **Q. If the Draft returns, how can we prepare?**

A. We are often asked what can be done now to protect you or your children from being selected in the event of a draft. Because there is no draft today, no one can say exactly what the rules and procedures would be. However, it seems safe to assume that a future draft would not call up persons who are currently unqualified or unacceptable for military service. So what a person can do now is to create a file documenting any problems or restrictions, so if the draft returns they would have necessary paperwork ready and complete on short notice.

#### **Q. What if I want to be a Conscientious Objector (CO)?**

A. Today, the only formal CO regulations are for persons already in the military. The key sections of these military regulations demand that CO claimants not only explain their pacifist beliefs, but also document a track record of acting on them. As the Bible says: "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only." (James 1:22)

#### **Q. How can I establish a CO "track record?"**

A. Again, there are no formal regulations for future CO claims. But our advice is to document carefully your religious or philosophical objections to war and violence, and your actions for peace. Speak with a sympathetic pastor or mentor, one who could vouch for you later, about your antiwar beliefs. Express them in letters to the editor or other forms of dated publication. Register them with your meeting or church, or a national CO registry like the Center for Conscience and War in Washington DC ([www.nisbco.org](http://www.nisbco.org)). Collect news articles, flyers, or photos from marches, vigils or prayer services attended, and other related documents. As sources to support CO claims, medical professionals, public officials, religious leaders, school guidance counselors, and current and former military service members (the higher ranking the better) generally have more credibility. Non-family members are considered less biased. Parents and family can still be good sources, but better to include statements by these others when possible.

#### **Q. What if I don't want to register with Selective Service?**

A. There are automatic federal and state penalties for declining to register (Info at: [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov)). Registration is also automatic in many states (32 at last count), when you get a driver's license. As this shows, in today's no-privacy electronic society, the Selective Service could

likely find almost anyone if it went looking.

**Q. If I do register, can I claim CO status then?**

**A.** Not in the legal sense. There is no line on the SSS registration form to state a CO claim. But here is something a young man can do.

1. Write a phrase like, I AM A CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR on blank spaces on the registration form, in clear block letters.
2. Make copies of the form, then mail one copy to yourself, and another to someone who has agreed to receive it.
3. Do not open the envelopes with your copies when they arrive. Keep them with your file of CO-related documents.
4. If the draft returns, this copy, and your file, should help substantiate your CO claim. (But remember: there are no guarantees!)

**Q. How can I keep up with bills to restart the draft?**

**A.** Beware of vague rumors spread on the internet! The Friends Committee on National Legislation ([www.fcnl.org](http://www.fcnl.org)) will track such proposals carefully and accurately.

## **World Gathering of Young (Adult) Friends in 2005**

The World Gathering of Young Friends will take place August 16-24, 2005, in Lancaster, England. For the first time since 1985, Young Friends ages 18-35 will be gathering together from North America, South America, Africa, Asia, the West Pacific, and Europe. They will study our Quaker heritage, share our daily experiences of our faiths, and discern how Christ as our present teacher is guiding us to find understanding between different traditions of Quakerism.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting will appoint two delegates to the Gathering, but others from PYM can also attend. The application form is on the web at [www.wgyf.org](http://www.wgyf.org). Completed applications should be submitted by December 10 to Connie Blood, PYM, 1515 Cherry Street, Philadelphia PA 19102. Her email is [connieb@pym.org](mailto:connieb@pym.org). More information is available by email at [friendsinstitute@pym.org](mailto:friendsinstitute@pym.org).

## **Middle School Friends Gathering in February**

Parents and First Day School Teachers! Put the winter gathering for PYM Middle School Friends on your calendar: February 4-6, 2005 at Swarthmore Meeting (PA). A weekend of fellowship and fun in our special community of kids 11-14 years old, and parent and high school chaperones. Singing, games, worship and sharing about life guaranteed. Snow will mean sledding! Parent support group Friday evening, February 4. We look forward to having you join us.

## **Green Gift Ideas**

### **Books:**

*Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things*, by William McDonough & Michael Braungart  
*Natural Capitalism: Creating the Next Industrial Revolution*, by Paul Hawken, Amory Lovins & L. Hunter Lovins  
*The Ecology of Commerce: A Declaration of Sustainability*, by Paul Hawken

### **Memberships:**

**Center for a New American Dream** ([www.newdream.org](http://www.newdream.org)) – family oriented organization promoting sustainability. Ask for their “Simplifying the Holidays” packet.

**Quaker Earthcare Witness:** [www.quakerearthcare.org](http://www.quakerearthcare.org)

**Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom:** [www.wilpf.org](http://www.wilpf.org)

**Fair Trade Coffee and Tea:** 10,000 Villages carries Equal Exchange coffee and tea, as well as fairly traded crafts. *They will be at HFS Dec. 9 & 10. See Upcoming Events for hours.*

**Gifts that help others and promote peace:** each of the following offer gifts you can purchase, or you can give memberships and/or donations in someone’s name.

**UNICEF:** [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)

**AFSC:** [www.afsc.org](http://www.afsc.org)

**Heifer International:** [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)

**Women in India:** [www.marketplaceindia.com](http://www.marketplaceindia.com) or 800-726-8905

And don’t forget to wrap your purchases in gift wrap from Innisbrook. HFS makes 50% profit! Go to [www.innisbrook.com](http://www.innisbrook.com). Our school number is 115016.

# December 2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> 9:15 am All-school Meeting for Worship 7 pm School Committee	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 9 am Graveyard Comm., sewing room 9 am Library Comm, library 10 am Meeting for Worship 11:00 Simple Gifts	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  9:15 am Meeting for Worship	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9 am Peace & Social Concerns 10 am Meeting for Worship 11 am Monthly Meeting for Business	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  7:30 pm Care Committee	<b>15</b>  9:15 am Meeting for Worship 7:30 pm Property Committee	<b>16</b>  7:30 pm Worship & Ministry	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <b>Newsletter deadline</b>  8:30 am Christmas breakfast 10 am Mtg for Worship	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  9:15 am Meeting for Worship	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  7 pm Mtg for Worship and Carol Sing	<b>25</b>  CHRISTMAS
<b>26</b>  10 am Meeting for Worship 11 am Extended coffee hour	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	