



Haddonfield Monthly Meeting Religious Society of Friends

Newsletter

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

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February 2007

From Worship and Ministry

Learning the Skills of Forgiveness

First Day School Session, February 4th

For the last two years, Haddonfield Friends Religious Education Committee has been kind enough to set aside the first few First Day School Sessions to the Worship and Ministry Committee. This has given our committee an opportunity to try to point the way for the Meeting's spiritual path for the year. Our committee members have led discussions on Quaker Practice, Friends' family life, prayer and meditation and seeking our spiritual heritage in the writings of Celtic and British theologians. This year I felt led to lead an inquiry into seeking to know God's will in our daily lives. As Friends, we seek to know God through experience. Thus, I felt it appropriate that we should relate to each other how we each discern the Divine, and his will, within our lives.

As I considered this leading, I was struck by the fact that before we can seek to know the mind of God, we must be able to open our hearts and our minds to the divine, and to do so, we must be free of anger and resentment that can cloud our thoughts and judgment and thereby separate us from the Divine will. As we lead increasingly busy lives, we don't always have the time, or inclination, to stop and release the anger and hurts we accumulate from our interactions with one another. We don't always understand why we do what we do when we act out of anger. And while we may agree intellectually that we need to forgive to release our anger, we don't always have the skills we need to do so. Yet we need to learn these skills if we are to grow spiritually. For the ability to forgive is so necessary for our spiritual health and growth that Jesus included it in the instructions he gave on prayer; "Forgive us our offenses, as we forgive those who have offended us." (Matt. 6:12)

I discussed this with several Friends in our Meeting and it was felt that it would be worthwhile, individually and corporately, to learn the skills needed to forgive that we may be able to move onward on our spiritual journeys, separately and together. It was felt that such an inquiry would be a good way to prepare for the Deepening and Strengthening exercise our Meeting is embarking upon this year. Two Friends with practical experience in counseling, Judy Owens and Francine Pagell, offered to help facilitate the discussion. We will discuss the physiological/health aspects of anger, learn to tell forgiveness from acceptance and discuss the various steps of forgiving and releasing.

Judy, Francine and I invite all members and attenders of Haddonfield Friends to join us for this session. We hope it will be a beneficial experience for everyone and a step forward together. In any event, we promise you will be home in plenty of time before the game begins.

*Gary Smith, Clerk for Worship & Ministry
Haddonfield Friends*

Four Thoughts from the Dalai Lama:

1. Anger is the most disturbing emotion. It affects not only the person who is angry, but also everyone around him or her. When anger dominates someone's mind, we should feel sorry for him or her. That way we will spare ourselves the trouble of reacting with aggression.
2. If we really want to be happy, we should understand that when we get angry, we are creating the causes for more of our own suffering. But if we cultivate patience, we are creating the causes for more long-lasting and interrupted happiness. That is what we are really striving for.
3. The Transcendent Perfection of Patience includes the capacity to be patient when harmed by others, the ability to face and accept suffering patiently, and the ability

to maintain patience while becoming certain of the true nature of reality.

4. Regard hostile people with gratitude. When a hostile person harms us and makes us angry, that is our opportunity to practice patience. This opportunity is not provided by the Buddha or by our spiritual guide or by our near and dear ones. Only our enemies provide such rare and valuable opportunities.

Coffee and Hospitality for February

Library Committee

Upcoming Events

February 1–25 — Musical Documentary on the Underground Railroad. Three Little Bakers Dinner Theatre in Wilmington, DE. “Railroad to Freedom” focuses on Thomas Garrett, Wilmington’s Quaker Underground Railroad “station master,” as well as conductors Harriet Tubman, William Still and Henry “Box” Brown. Group sales are available. For information call 800-368-3303 or visit www.tlbinc.com.

February 3 — Discerning the Leading of the Spirit
9 AM to 3 PM. Arch Street Meeting House. Part of Earlham School of Religion’s “Vitality Among Friends” series. Registration starts at 8:30 AM. The morning address will be “Seed, Spirit, Substance.” Morning and afternoon workshops will follow. Snow date: Feb. 10.

February 16–18 — Young Adult Friends’ Gathering
Young Adult Friends (ages 18 to 35) are invited to Burlington Conference Center for a weekend gathering to build connections, share information about supportive communities, and create programs for on-going nurture and support for Young Adult Friends’ communities. For more information, visit www.quakeryouth.org or contact Lauren Baumann, PYM Young Adult Friends Coordinator, at laurenb@pym.org or 215-241-7075.

February 17 — Conference for Meeting Librarians
Do you want to find a way to track library books that is easier than catalog cards? There are interesting software programs available for cataloging small book collections. There are also some exciting electronic technologies out there which offer new ways to serve our members. Meetings without a book collection can learn how to circulate PYM library books. If you are interested, please contact PYM librarian Rita Varley, 215-241-7219 or ritav@pym.org.

February 17 — Couples Workshop. Friends Center. “Partnering with You,” a workshop for committed couples regardless of marital status or gender, will be led by Patricia McBee and Brad Sheeks. Child care will be provided. Sponsored by the Couple Enrichment Program of FGC.

February 24 — Restorative Justice Conference
9 AM to 2 PM. Arch Street Meeting House. Restorative Justice is an approach to resolving the wounds of violence by focusing on “restoring” the dignity of both oppressor and victim, grounded in truth and reconciliation. There will be workshops on areas of interest to educators and others who are striving to integrate their Quaker spiritual and humanitarian convictions with their professional endeavors. Child care up to age 5 will be provided if requested by February 16. Registration details are available at www.pym.org/education, or from Elke Muller at elkem@pym.org or 215-241-7223.

February 25 — Quarterly Meeting at Moorestown

8:30 AM Coffee and doughnuts

9 AM First Day School (adults — John Woolman’s Journal, children — age-appropriate activities)

10 AM Meeting for Worship

11 AM Meeting for Business. During Meeting for Business, Margery Larrabee will lead a discussion on “Misunderstanding of Quaker *Faith and Practice*,” an article from *Friends Journal*. The agenda includes reports on budget, nominating committee, Greenleaf, Peace & Social Concerns, & Moorestown Meeting’s Annual Report.

Lunch is provided following business meeting.

February 25 — Special Called Meeting for Worship

7 PM in the Meeting House. This will be a memorial Meeting in celebration of the lives of Friends and attenders who have died in recent months. We will also honor Friends’ and attenders’ deceased family members.

Haddonfield Monthly Meeting Meeting for Worship for Business January 13, 2007

Robert Turrin, Alternate Clerk, presided. 33 Friends were in attendance. The meeting began with a period of worship. The Clerk read Query Number 2 from *Faith & Practice*, “Meeting for Business.”

Care Committee

In Bob Brookes’s absence, Bob Turrin, for Care Committee,

recommended final approval of the membership application of Mary Anne Gaffney, Susan Borkowski and their daughter Megan Borkowski Gaffney (held over, according to custom, from December Meeting for Business). Friends approved. Ceil McFadden, Mary Noland and Ann Miller will welcome them.

The clerk read an application for membership from David Gallivan, who has been attending Meeting since October 2003. This has been referred to Care Committee and a clearness committee has been appointed.

Care Committee recommends to Monthly Meeting that the Education Fund Committee be re-constituted as a standing committee of the Monthly Meeting, and that candidates to serve be identified and nominated by Nominating Committee according to customary practice. The Monthly Meeting approved.

Reports

Gary Smith presented the annual report for Worship and Ministry (*see page 4*). Members of Worship and Ministry and of the Meeting at large have brought leadings and concerns to Worship and Ministry for group consideration. Also, Several FDS programs were presented on various aspects of Quaker practice and behavior. Friends accepted the report with gratitude for the work the committee has accomplished over the past year.

Lisa Boyell presented the results of the annual financial audit for the Haddonfield Meeting.

Scott Buchheit, Recorder, read the annual recorder's report for 2006. The meeting accepted the report with gratitude for Scott's work and the assistance of the Recording Clerk.

John Donch presented the Treasurer's report for the year ending June 2006.

Announcements/New Business

Quarterly Meeting at Moorestown — February 25. There will be coffee and doughnuts at 8:30; FDS for all ages at 9; Meeting for Worship will be at 10; Meeting for Business at 11:00, followed by lunch for everyone.

Deedy Roberts presented to the Meeting a photo record of the Meeting from the 1950s and 60s. The album is from the effects of Albert Wallace, given to Deedy by Albert's daughter, Edith. It will be added to the library collection. The Meeting thanks Deedy for bringing this valuable historical record to us and thanks Jayne Stokes for the restoration.

In order to avoid misunderstandings and to ensure prompt consideration, any complaints, questions, suggestions regarding the Meeting House and attached structures should be directed to the Clerk of Property Committee.

John Heizer expressed a personal appeal that Friends entering the Meeting Room for Meeting for Worship on Sunday mornings consider carefully whether or not the ceiling lights are really needed — especially on a bright, sunny day

The Meeting for Business closed with a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne R. Heizer, Recording Clerk

Friends and regular Attenders may request copies of the complete minutes from the Recording Clerk at joanne@synchcorp.com or 856-429-9186.

First Day School

February 4 — Workshop on Forgiveness. A program based on a five-step program created by Charles Rieger of Salem Meeting. Participants will learn skills of forgiveness so that they may release old resentments and anger and rekindle their spiritual growth. Facilitated by Francine Pagell and Judy Owens.

February 11 — Monthly Business Meeting (No Adult First Day School)

February 18 — Still being planned

February 25 — Quarterly Meeting at Moorestown

March 4 — Presentation of the Children's Safety Program that we put in place last year

March 11 — Monthly Business Meeting (No Adult First Day School)

March 18 — Still being planned

March 25 — Annual Sessions of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting at Arch Street Meeting House

On April 22 and 29, Library Committee will hold a discussion of the book *Holy Silence* by J. Brent Bill. This book is an introduction to Quaker spirituality that should be of interest to new and long-time Friends alike. The books are \$7 each. If you are interested in joining the discussion or just want to read the book, please sign up on the sheet on the easel in the foyer.

Make New Friends (But Keep the Old) ...

While in her twenties, Tanya Hogan's travels took her to Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. These days, Tanya hits the road forty minutes each way, twice daily, between Sicklerville and Haddonfield Friends School, which her children attend. Often she stays at school and volunteers.

Tanya has an unusual story about her history with the Society of Friends. Her grandfather, a merchant marine from Jamaica, eventually settled in West Philadelphia, where Quaker factory owners named Chambers gave him a job and a home. Initially hired to do janitorial work, his skill with knots and ropes was recognized, and he was promoted. Also unusual is one of the family names, Naylor. Tanya isn't sure if this English branch might be related to the controversial Quaker figure James Naylor. But she has journeyed to Jamaica, where "the little Jamaican part of me loves the tropics." She also has some Portuguese roots, but that trip will have to wait until the children are older.

The youngest of six siblings, Tanya grew up mostly in Mt. Airy, after her family moved from West Philadelphia.

Decades ago, her parents sometimes took the kids to dinner shows at the now-gone Latin Casino in Cherry Hill, where they heard splendid musicians such as Gladys Knight and the Pips and Al Green. Tanya earned an elementary education degree from King's College in Wilkes-Barre, which led to a career as a computer science instructor. A few years later she met Tim at the Jersey shore. "I thought he was a very kind and gentle soul," she said. In 1998, she and her father moved to South Jersey to be closer to her siblings.

Music has been a consistent theme in Tanya's life. Not only did she take piano lessons as a child, but she still has her childhood piano, "which needs to be tuned ... my daughter wants to take lessons." Before the kids, Tanya and Tim loved to go out for dinner and dancing in Manhattan. These days Tanya listens to Peter and the Wolf, Edie Brickell, Ray Charles, Beyonce, and War. War? Remember that song? The lyrics are "War! Ugh! What is it good for? Absolutely nothing!"

By Judy Kruger

... One Is Silver And The Other Gold.

A song sung in Girl Scout camp.

Give a Valentine of Food

Haddonfield Quarter is collecting food for this Valentine's Day. Westfield Meeting's Young People's Peace Group will pack bags of food to be distributed to families with a loved one in prison and to New Visions in Camden. Non-perishable food donations will be collected through February 7th. The bags will be packed on the 9th and delivered the following week.

Worship and Ministry Committee Annual Report, January 2007

The Worship and Ministry Committee currently consists of the following members: John Sheffield, Marion Rannels, Kathy Donch, Drew Biehl, Maria Shivers, Judy Barnes, Gary Smith, Clerk and Harold Heritage, ex officio. In addition, long-time members Bob and Johanna DeRose and Louise Heritage left us last year after many years service as their terms came to an end. We have also been joined on occasion by Judy Owens, Michele Tarter and David Gallivan.

Over the last year our committee members and other members of Meeting have brought individual leadings and concerns to us to consider. Among these leadings and issues has been the "Intelligent Design" controversy, discerning the meaning of "Sense of the Meeting" compared to consensus, keeping alive the vitality of our Worship in the absence of ritual, and the cycle of life, death and eternal life. We have considered these things and have sent our minutes on them to be printed in the Meeting's newsletter.

There were other concerns that have led to special work by our committee. In September our committee hosted a dinner and movie showing of "Friendly Persuasion" in an effort at community building in the Meeting. More recently, Judy Barnes felt led to prepare a gathering to pray for peace. We feel this effort reflects our faith in prayer and desire for peace.

Last Fall we were approached by Judy Owens who felt led to prepare an exercise in Deepening and Strengthening the Meeting as a Faith Community. We considered the request and forwarded it to the community with our deepest support.

At the beginning of the year the Religious Education Committee was kind enough to grant us several Sundays to conduct First Day School sessions. Drew Biehl led the first session, which was a discussion of Quaker Practice. Kathy Donch led the second, which was a discussion on Quaker family life. Gary Smith completed the sessions with a discussion on Prayer and Meditation.

We are continuing our First Day School program this year with another discussion on Quaker Practice, and a discussion of Celtic Spirituality. To help prepare the Meeting community for the deepening and strengthening exercise we will complete our program with a workshop on learning the skills of forgiveness.

We strongly believe we cannot move forward as a community until we our business affairs are guided by the Spirit and established practice of Friends. We feel that the continued contention among persons within our Meeting for Worship for Business and among our various committees is unhealthy for us as a community and for the individuals involved.

We encourage the Clerk of the Meeting to ensure that Meeting for Worship for Business is conducted according to the ideals stated in *Faith and Practice*. We ask that those who participate in Meeting for Worship for Business come with an open heart and conduct themselves with restraint and dignity, being willing to be guided by the Spirit. We ask that those who participate in Meeting for Worship for Business do so in the loving spirit described in *Faith and Practice*.

We are saddened to see that in some instances, squabbling in our Meeting has led to certain Friends becoming disaffected and no longer worshipping with us. We encourage those who participate on our committees to lay down their responsibilities should they find themselves unduly burdened by them, lest their spiritual health suffer. Haddonfield Friends has been in existence for over three hundred years. The meeting may survive another three hundred years but you will not. Each of us is here for an all-too-brief time. Your time in Meeting needs to be focused on your own Spiritual growth, not on pointless and inane arguments.

Moving forward into the New Year, we eagerly look forward to the Deepening and Strengthening exercise. We have all come to Haddonfield Friends to grow in Spirit, and we seek to create a loving and caring Faith community in which to do so.

Help the PYM Annual Fund Earn a \$50,000 Matching Gift

A member of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting has generously offered a \$50,000 matching gift to encourage new donors and to increase the amount of Friends gifts to the Annual Fund. Here is how it works:

- If you did not contribute to the PYM Annual Fund last year, your gift this year of \$25 to \$50 will be matched.
- If you contributed \$50 last year and you contribute \$100 this year, the increase will be matched to \$150, and then doubled to \$300.
- If you contributed \$100 last year and you contribute \$150 this year, the increase will be matched to \$200, then double matched to \$400.

This \$50,000 match is a wonderful opportunity to help PYM meet its Annual Fund goal of \$475,000 by June 30. We're running behind last year's pace (\$167,600 vs. \$186,766), so let's use this matching opportunity to move up the pace! PYM provides programs, scholarship assistance and more to Monthly Meetings and their members and attenders, so please let's look into our hearts and contribute to our Yearly Meeting.

Electronic contributions can now be made through the PYM website at www.pym.org. Just click on development and follow directions to make an immediate electronic gift to the Annual Fund.

Connie Brookes

AFSC Mexico Summer Project

Now in its 68th year, the Mexico Summer Project brings together young people from 18 to 26 years old to participate in projects for sustainable development, justice and indigenous rights in the Sierra Norte de Puebla region of Mexico. For more information and to download an application, go to www.afsc.org/mexicosummer.htm. **Applications are due by March 26.**

Book Sale

The Library Committee is holding a used book sale on March 18 during covered dish. If you would like to donate gently used books toward the sale, place them in the drop-off box in the library. No textbooks or magazines, please. All proceeds benefit the library.

Yearly Meeting Sessions Will Be in March and July

A message from the Clerk of Yearly Meeting, Thomas Swain:

Friends are planning to gather as a Yearly Meeting in Philadelphia the weekend of March 23–25 to learn and share our continuing concerns of peace. We will search for right ways to use our personal and community resources. Our hope is that our time together in worshiping, visiting, sharing, connecting, searching, and discerning will enrich our spiritual lives and give direction to our witness to the world.

Residential Yearly Meeting this summer will be at Rowan University in Glassboro. The dates are Thursday, July 26 through Monday, July 30.

Our sessions together last summer and on November 18 enriched our PYM community. We are growing in joy and appreciation of one another as a Yearly Meeting. We are learning that our children have valuable contributions to share in our discernment. I hope you will participate as much as possible in our sessions in March and July. You are an important part of our community.

Would you like to help Friends plan these sessions or help to facilitate them? E-mail: pymsessions@pym.org.

February 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 10 am Meeting for Worship 11:20 am FDS	5	6	7 9:15 am Meeting for Worship	8	9	10
11 9 am Peace & Soc. Concerns 10 am Meeting for Worship 11 am Meeting for Business	12	13 7:30 pm Care Committee	14  9:15 am Meeting for Worship	15	16	17
18 Newsletter deadline 10 am Meeting for Worship 11 am FDS 12 noon covered dish	19 7:30 pm Prop. Committee PRESIDENT'S DAY	20	21 9:15 am Meeting for Worship	22	23	24
25 Quarterly Meeting at Moorestown 10 am Meeting for Worship 7 pm Called Meeting for Worship	26	27	28 9:15 am Meeting for Worship			