



Yardley Friends Meeting Newsletter

May
2011

655 North Main Street, Yardley PA 19067
www.YardleyFriendsMeeting.org

Ed Snyder, Clerk

Meeting for Worship 10:00–11:00
First Day School 10:15–11:00

Coming Events

- May 21 Friends Village Community Fair
- May 26 BQ Singing Group at 7:30 PM
Makefield
- May 28 Adult RE 9:00 AM
*Meeting for business in worship, and
gospel order*
Meeting for worship 10:00 AM
- May 28-30 Camp Onas Family Camp
Weekend
- June 26 Adult RE 9:00 AM
Eldership and Gospel Order
- July 27-31 Annual Sessions, PYM

The Peaceable Kingdom

by Edward Hicks, 1826.

Edward Hicks (1780-1849) was a distinguished Quaker minister and renowned American folk painter from Bucks County. He painted 61 versions of this composition, based on Isaiah 11:6-9. Finding that he could not travel in the ministry and paint, too, he devoted himself to painting and used his work to express his Quaker beliefs, especially that of the Inner Light, and to guide the viewer to redemption. He also painted Penn's treaty with the Indians several times and a number of renditions of Noah's Ark, among other subjects.

“The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.”

Isaiah 11:6-9

Baldwin Fund

Members attending college (and in certain circumstances high school or elementary school) may apply for no-interest loans from the Baldwin Fund. Applications for the 2011-2012 school year should be submitted by **June 10** so that the committee can meet and act on them. For more information on the Baldwin Fund and the application process, please contact Ed Snyder at (609) 689-9400 (work) or at mrp.ed@verizon.net.



Around the Quarter . . .

Camp Onas Family Camp Weekend

Open House Sunday, May 15 2–4 pm
Family Camp Weekend May 28–30

The Quaker Camp in Bucks County for all kids ages 8 to 13. Our active and creative program stresses sharing, cooperation, understanding, simple living, and most essential of all, fun! Campers can come for 2 or 4 week sessions starting June 26 and running into August. A one-week session for 7, 8 and 9 year old campers is available to introduce younger campers to overnight camp. Special rates for Quaker kids and financial aid is available. Please check www.camponas.org for dates, rates and session availability.

Family Camp Weekend: On the weekend of May 28-30, Camp Onas invites families to experience all that Onas has to offer—sleep in the bunks, eat camp food, swim, canoe, play games, explore nature and enjoy roaming the woods and fields together. Information and registration forms can be found at www.camponas.org. All ages of children are welcome and grandparents are very welcome to join in the fun.

Midweek Worship

Wednesdays at Middletown 7-8 pm
Wednesdays at Lehigh Valley 5-6 pm
Wednesday mornings at Middletown 7-7:45 am

Young Adult Friends Have a Blog

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting now hosts a blog by and for Young Adult Friends on its YAF website page: www.pym.org/yaf. (This URL takes you to the YAF program page; the latest blog postings appear about halfway down.) The blog features posts by YAFs about their life and experience in PYM. If you know a young adult Friend who might be interested in reading, posting or suggesting ideas for topics, spread the word. Interested YAFs can contact Sadie Forsythe for more information: sadief@pym.org.

Resources on Quaker Spirituality

The Journal and Major Essays of John Woolman, Phillips Moulton editor; \$25.

A Testament of Devotion, Thomas Kelly; \$13.95.

The Eternal Promise, Thomas Kelly; \$13.

The Sanctuary of the Soul (Thomas Kelly), Keith Beasley-Topliffe editor; \$6.

Quaker Spirituality (selected writings), Douglas Steere editor; \$24.95.

Leading and Being Led, Paul Lacey, Pendle Hill Pamphlet #264; \$7.00.

Leadings, Jim Corbett, Southeastern YM; \$5.

Listening Spirituality, Vols 1 & 2, Patricia Loring; \$18 & \$35.

Mind the Light, Brent Bill; \$14.95.

Holy Silence: The Gift of Quaker Spirituality, Brent Bill; \$15.95.

Light to Live By: An Exploration in Quaker Spirituality, Rex Ambler; \$11.

Living from the Center, Valerie Brown, Pendle Hill Pamphlet #407; \$6.50.

Living the Way: Quaker Spirituality and Community, Ursula-Jane O'Shea; \$12.

Celebration of Discipline, Richard J. Foster; \$23.95.

Intimacy with God: An Introduction to Centering Prayer, Thomas Keating; \$16.95.

Description of the Qualifications Necessary to a Gospel Minister, Samuel Bownas; \$15.

Deepening the Spiritual Life of the Meeting, Edward Hoare; \$1.25.

Tall Poppies: Supporting Gifts of Ministry and Eldering in the Monthly Meeting, Martha Grundy, Pendle Hill Pamphlet #347; \$6.50.

Bringing God Home: Exploring Family Spirituality, Mary Kay Rehard, Pendle Hill Pamphlet #362; \$6.50.

Most resources available from FGC Bookstore,
www.quakerbooks.org.

From the Yearly Meeting

Young Adult Friends – Spring Retreat

May 27-29

The Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Young Adult Friends Working Group is organizing a spring retreat for Young Adult Friends ages ~18-35 on May 27-29, 2011. The theme will be: *Food, Money, and Community: Spiritual People Navigating Earthly Matters*. The Retreat will also include a workshop by George Lakey on Quakers and Social Class. We will also consider topics like food justice, Quaker beliefs & financial stewardship, and of course worship and have lots of fun together. Information about the location, as well as online registration will be available soon at www.pym.org/yaf. For more information, contact Sadie Forsythe, Young Adult Friends Coordinator at 215-241-7075; sadief@pym.org. Location TBA (at a meeting house in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting). Download a poster below to share with Young Adult Friends at your meeting (<http://www.pym.org/event/young-adult-friends-spring-gathering>).

Registration fee (including food) is only \$30. Some partial scholarships are available for those who would not otherwise be able to attend.

Wonder what it will be like? Read blog posts about the January 2011 YAF retreat on the PYM YAF webpage: <http://www.pym.org/programs/blog-archive/10>.

2012 Quaker Pilgrimage (to England)

July 16-22, 2012

Pre-registration for the next Quaker Pilgrimage to England (July 16-22, 2012) is now open. Join Quaker Pilgrims and trip leaders, Irene McHenry (Chestnut Hill Meeting, PA) and Deborra Sines Pancoe (Abington Meeting, PA) to explore the roots of the Religious Society of Friends. With a guide from Britain Yearly Meeting, the 2012 PYM Quaker Pilgrimage will explore England's "1652 Country". To pre-register contact Deborra Sines-Pancoe, deborra@friendscouncil.org

Some Quotes on Quaker Spirituality

Personal practice, corporate practice and ethics are inseparable within Quaker formation and transformation. Neither the inner life nor meeting life nor an active relationship with the rest of the world is optional. Prayer that does not issue in deeds of love becomes a form of narcissism or an aesthetic exercise. Activity that does not take time to find its source and grounding in prayer, worship and divine leading becomes dry, exhausting, and exasperating—or an exercise in power. . .

By listening I mean the widest kind of prayerful, discerning attentiveness to the Source intimated within us, evidenced through others, and discernable through the experiences of life. This kind of listening is not simply auditory. It may be visual, kinesthetic, intuitive or visceral as well, depending on the deepest attentiveness natural to the particular individual. . .

When we are faithful to the patterning of listening, it forms and informs all the dimensions of our personal and corporate practice. The pattern of listening makes us more attentive and responsive to the Mystery within and among us, which gathers us in the Love and Life that is its very nature or being. . .

Quaker practice shapes and expresses our listening for the presence and guidance of the Mystery at the heart of the universe and of each of us—and our unity in Love in our personal lives, in our corporate life and in ethical relationships with the world. Our “formless forms” help us to transcend forms, help us be self-transcendent in our sense of reality, our place and work in it. I think we’ve never come close to realizing the possibilities inherent in the unique Quaker gestalt we’ve been bequeathed by generations of faithful Friends.

From *Listening Spirituality, Volume I: Personal Spiritual Practices Among Friends*, by Patricia Loring.

THIRD QUERY: Spiritual Nurture, Ministry, and Religious Education

Does our meeting encourage the ministry of both word and deed? How does our Meeting recognize, develop, and nurture the gifts of our members and attenders of all ages?

Does our meeting prepare all its members and children for worship and for a way of life consistent with the principles of the Religious Society of Friends? How do we teach about Quaker practices in business and worship and their importance to the functioning of our Meeting community?

In what ways do we support each other in order to seek God's will and act upon our understanding of truth? Is there opportunity in our Meeting to share the excitement of religious discovery and the possibility of religious transformation?

Does our Meeting provide opportunities for all in the Meeting to learn about:

- the Inner Light, the living Christ within, the Bible, the writings of Friends, our Christian heritage, other religious traditions and their respective roles in the history and formation of Friends' principles?

- the common testimonies Friends declare?
- the variety of expressions Quaker faith takes today?

Do I maintain as part of my personal and family life those daily practices that focus on continued spiritual growth, with disciplines, worship, inward retirement, and communion with the divine spirit?

Do I frequently read the Bible and other religious literature, including the records of the lives and experiences of Friends? Do I take the time to explore those resources with others, and likewise encourage my children?

Do I share my own faith and spiritual journey, and encourage such sharing within my family?

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