



Yardley Friends Meeting Newsletter

65 North Main Street, Yardley PA 19067

www.YardleyFriendsMeeting.org

Ed Snyder, Clerk

Meeting for Worship: 10:00—11:00

First Day School: 10:00—10:45 (except summer)

September 2009

Coming Events

- Sept. 6**—Committee Meetings after Meeting for Worship
- Sept. 10**—Thurs night worship, 7:00
- Sept 12**—FLEA MARKET!
- Sept. 13**—Meeting for Worship. Child care provided.
- Sept. 17**—Thurs night worship, 7:00
- Sept. 19**—Flea Market rain date
- Sept. 20**—Meeting for Worship; Meeting for Business after worship. First Day School resumes.
- Sept. 24**—Thurs night worship, 7:00
- Sept. 27**—Meeting for Worship
- Oct. 4**—Committee meetings after Meeting for Worship

Superintendent for Sept: Linda Flower

Don't forget that the Flea Market and our own White Elephant only happen through the hard work of YFM volunteers! If you haven't done so yet, contact Karen Lucca at 215-943-5478 and offer your time and talents to make this year's event a success.

FIRST DAY SCHOOL RESUMES!

On Sunday, **September 20**, the Children's First Day School Program will resume at Yardley Friends Meeting. Childcare for very young children will resume however, on Sunday, **September 13**. On that day, older children will attend Family Meeting for Worship.

Beginning on September 20 and ending on October 4, Janie Scurti will be working with all of the children on a multi-age program. As part of this program, the children will be collecting food items for a Mercer Street Friends project entitled "**Send Hunger Packing.**" Information about this project and a list of items we are hoping to collect beginning September 13 (after the flea market!) are detailed on page 2.

FIRST DAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Following Meeting for Worship on September 20, the Religious Education Committee will be gathering to make additional plans for the Children's FDS program. We are looking for Friends to teach either the Young Friends group or the Middle School Friends group on **Oct. 18, Oct. 25, Nov. 1, Nov. 15 and Nov. 22**. If you are willing to lend a helping hand in either class on one of these dates, we will provide you with the necessary teaching materials and lesson plan.

If Friends have any questions or concerns about the children's program or about the "Send Hunger Packing" program, please contact Janie Scurti janescurti2002@yahoo.com.

LOOKING FOR WAYS TO HELP?

Do you have stashes of plastic grocery bags taking over your kitchen? Recycle them locally by bringing them to the Meetinghouse and placing them in the large box in the hallway for use at the Food Pantry at the Morrisville Presbyterian Church. They are serving over 125 clients each week and are running short of bags. With your help, they won't have to purchase new bags. Thanks for your support!

"Bucks Food for Friends" continues to prepare a meal once a month for those in need. We are looking for volunteers within our various Meetings who would like to help out at these dinners. There is a group who have been consistently helping each month but we would like to expand the list to include anyone who would be interested in sharing in this project.

We meet at Fallsington Meeting on the third Monday of each month. The dinner starts at 6:00 pm but the preparation starts earlier about 2:00 pm and ends with clean-up about 7:30 pm. A "sign-up" sheet is posted on the bulletin board in our hallway listing the various areas where help is needed. Any help would be appreciated for any amount of time you have to spare.

BFFF is also happy to have your financial involvement, so if the program speaks to your condition but not your time and energy, please consider a financial contribution. Donations can be sent to: **Rich Richardson, 1 Atkinson Lane, Newtown, Pa 18940** (note on the check "BFFF donation").

Our "Yardley Friends" contacts for more info are Christine Breidenbach, Marna Matthews, Sunny Mitchell, Chris Lucca, and Lou Bifano.

SEND HUNGER PACKING

We know that there are school age children who live in households suffering from "food insecurity", where there is insufficient income or resources to adequately feed the family. The School Breakfast and Lunch programs provide meals to feed these children during the week. But what happens over the weekends? Some of these children do not get enough to eat over the weekend and go hungry.

As one way of addressing this need among food insecure children, the Mercer Street Friends Food Bank has started a new initiative, called the **Send Hunger Packing Program**. In partnership with three elementary schools and one middle school in Mercer County, children are identified by school counselors, teachers and nurses as being at risk for food insecurity. They are given backpacks on Friday afternoons that are filled with kid friendly, easy-to-open and nutritionally sound food to get them through the weekend. The food and backpacks are provided by the Food Bank.

We are asking Friends to donate the following food items for the program:

- Shelf stable (i.e. Parmalat) 2% reduced fat milk- **8 oz** single serving size
- Individual size (single serving) cereal bowls or boxes
- Starkist Tuna to Go (or equivalent)
- Bumble Bee Tuna Salad with crackers Ready to Go (or equivalent)
- Chef Boyardee Microwaveable bowls (or equivalent)
- Hormel Completes Entrees (or equivalent)
- Campbell or Progresso microwaveable soups (or equivalent)
- Peanut Butter (18 oz)
- Jif to Go (little peanut butter cups)
- Grape Jelly in **PLASTIC** container (14 to 18oz)
- Yo on the Go (a yogurt smoothie drink in shelf stable brick packs)
- Granola Bars
- Shelf stable pudding cups

Do YOU have news for the Newsletter? Contact Betty Steckman at alphabetty123@earthlink.net, 609-393-0015. Deadline is the 25th of each month.

SUPPORTING TED

Over a year ago, Yardley Friends Meeting approved a minute of support for Ted Taylor in his healing ministry as chaplain in hospital and hospice environments. In recording his ministry, the Meeting recognized its responsibility to provide ongoing spiritual and financial support for Ted. Please continue to hold him in your thoughts and prayers as he represents us, and Quakerism, in his work and life.

Here is the minute, approved in April 2008:

MINUTE REGARDING THE RECORDING OF MINISTRY OF TEDFORD TAYLOR

Through a careful process of discernment, the Yardley Monthly Meeting has come to unity in the recording of the healing ministry of its member Tedford Taylor in the Religious Society of Friends.

Ted's gifts of ministry have been recognized and named. His generosity of time and personal energy, his kindness, patience, humility, his listening skills and his personal leading to pursue a healing profession have all been noted by Meeting members. In his choice of profession of chaplaincy and his personal life, he is deeply centered and grounded in the Spirit. We perceive that his primary ministry is in the wider world, as he serves as a channel through which the Inward Christ may comfort, console, encourage and heal those who are suffering.

Ted has grown in his spiritual life as he has continued his education and training, taken leadership roles in the Meeting in the areas of adult religious education, clerkship of Worship and Ministry Committee, and Recording Clerk of Meeting.

As Ted goes out into the world of work, teaching, and conference participation, we feel that he is a fitting representative of Yardley Meeting and the Religious Society of Friends.

With the recording of Ted's ministry, Yardley Monthly Meeting accepts its responsibility to support his ministry through an ongoing eldering and counseling process, through such formal minutes as may be required by outside agencies to certify his standing, and by reasonable financial support for travel and other expenses related to his ministry.

Thursday Evening Meetings to Continue through September

The Worship and Ministry Committee will continue to offer a short Quaker Meeting on Thursday evenings at 7:00. Meetings will run half an hour, followed by another half hour of discussion.

We want to provide an opportunity for an interlude of spiritual quietude into our members' and attenders' busy weeks. If you're looking for an oasis of peace, if you couldn't make it to Sunday worship, if you want to explore Quakerism, please join us.

Quaker College Fair is November 14

The Quaker College Fair sponsored by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and the Friends Association for Higher Education will be Saturday, November 14, 2009, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

High school students and recent graduates (and parents) are invited to come learn about Quaker colleges and adult study centers including Bryn Mawr, Earlham, George Fox, Guilford, Haverford, Pendle Hill, Swarthmore, Whittier, William Penn, Wilmington, and Woodbrooke.

For more information, visit the Friends Association For Higher Education page on Facebook, watch www.pym.org or contact Kori Heavner at 215-241-7116 or FAHE@quaker.org.

PEACE FAIR SEPT 26

Yes, there's a one-mile fun run/walk bright and early, and a 5K run too. But after that, there's the annual Peace Fair on the Buckingham Meeting grounds, with lots of food, vendors, music, and fun things to do. Bring your kids! The keynote speaker will be Jim Fine, member of Bristol and Ramallah meetings.

See September [Quakerphernalia](#) for more information, or contact Holly Olson at 215-860-9747 (hollybqc@verizon.net).

ELEVENTH QUERY: Stewardship of Resources

Does our Meeting serve social and economic justice in the uses of property and money?

How does our Meeting engage its members in the support of the Meeting's work, its ministry, and the upkeep of its property?

How does our Meeting engage its members in the support of the quarterly and yearly meetings and other Quaker organizations?

To what extent does our Meeting rely on current members for financial support, and what role does endowment income serve? Does the Meeting consider carefully the appropriate role of invested funds?

Am I clear that I am the steward, not the owner, of property in my care? Do I simplify my needs, making choices that balance self-sufficiency (to avoid unnecessary dependence on others) and fair sharing of resources? Do I make choices as a consumer that support the equitable distribution of income?

Do my employment and other activities allow for use of time and energy in spiritual growth and in service to the Religious Society of Friends?

Do I contribute generously within my means to the funding of the work of Friends in my Meeting, in the yearly meeting, and in the wider world of Friends?

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