



The Green Street Messenger

monthly calendar & newsletter of...

Green Street Monthly Meeting of Friends
45 West School House Lane
Philadelphia, PA 19144

West Philadelphia Preparative Friends Meeting
1018 S 48th St (Squirrel Hill Apartment Bld.
Basement)
Philadelphia, PA 19143

Join us for...

First Day Meeting for Worship	10:30 AM
First Day School	10:30–11:15 AM
First Day Meeting for Worship at West Phila. Mtg.	1:30 PM
Wednesday morning Meeting for Worship	8:30–9:00 AM with GSFS
First Sunday evening Meeting for Worship	6:30–7:00 PM at Stapeley Hall

267-285-0553 / secretary@greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org Office hours: 9:45–12:45 Mon.–Fri.

For updates and more information: go to greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org

January 2017

Sunday, 1st	Rise of Meeting 12:30	Coffee Hour—Potluck coffee hour Care & Counsel Committee Meeting
Sunday, 8th	9:00 AM Rise of Meeting	Second Sunday Forum - <i>Ayesha Imani presents Minute on State sanctioned violence from the Friends of African American Descent Fellowship</i> (Please see the About F/friends section) Coffee Hour—Care & Counsel will provide
Sunday, 15th	Rise of Meeting 12:45	Lunch— Volunteers needed Meeting for business
Sunday, 22nd	9:15 AM Rise of Meeting	Friendly Bible Study Coffee hour—Peggy Worthington/Sheldon Berman
Sunday, 29th	9:15 AM 10:30 Rise of Meeting	What do you think is the purpose of worship? (Please see the About F/friends section) Family Meeting for Worship- Ally Fishbowl (Please see the About F/friends section) Coffee hour—Kathy Angell and Mina Baisch

Minutes of Monthly Meeting for Business Held Twelfth Month 18, 2016

At Green Street Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, held at 45 West School House Lane, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Twelfth Month 18, 2016: Business Meeting convened at 12:45 PM in prayerful silence.

16-12-01 The Clerk welcomed Friends, asking those present to reflect on how we maintain worshipful attention while we are conducting business.

16-12-02 Friends approved minutes from Eleventh month.

16-12-03 Friends reviewed, amended and assented to the agenda.

16-12-04 Educational Assistance Committee Report

William Van Stone reported on the way the Committee does its work and the Meeting's involvement.

Members of the committee agreed to collect questions from the Meeting about this process and hold a well-publicized second Sunday meeting to thresh them and to generate principles and further questions to bring back to business meeting. The following questions were asked:

1. Plan for what will happen with accumulated surplus?
2. Why is college being included? What does Quaker-affiliated mean?
3. Can we make it clearer what the distinction is between our school and other Friends schools?
4. What is best way to support community now vs what we've always been doing?
5. Do we grant money to students enrolled in non-Quaker colleges? Yes
6. Do we actually support students in Pre-K?
7. Are we comfortable with the percentage of total wealth of GSMM that goes to middle class vs the poor community that we live in? Where is the right place to discuss this? Should the process include an attention to outreach?
8. Should we be more generous with students at GSFS?
9. How do we publicize this fund and is it in a fair and comprehensive way? (post on website?)
10. Question of membership vs. frequent attender and how do we navigate that distinction?

The Clerk asked for a detailed report to be brought to a future business meeting on the process, including the formulas and the places where the process is flexible. Committee members agreed to this. Committee expressed appreciation for the meeting's scrutiny and that it will be helpful to have guidance. A Friend said that guidance will best come if we have a clear proposal to consider. In the meantime, the meeting asks the committee to continue its current process.

Question came up surrounding publicizing this fund - is it fair and equitable way? One Friend expressed that this question is important in Meeting business in general. How can the meeting best communicate across the community considering all of the different ways different people have access to information?

16-12-05 Care and Counsel

Charlotte Anderson reported on the approval Kyrie Wilson's membership held over from last month. The meeting joyfully approved his membership.

Friends discussed the Meeting's practices around membership approvals. The meeting currently holds over for a month the approval of a new membership, but if it is a transfer of a membership will usually approve immediately. The Meeting asked Care and Council to reflect on the question of how best to continue and report back to the Meeting.

Welcoming committee will be Marille Thomas, Charlotte Anderson and Traci Hjelt Sullivan (convener).

16-12-06 Report by the Secretary's supervisor

Robert Dockhorn reported on the proposed revisions to the Meeting Secretary's job description. Suggestions were encouraged and they will be discussed by the Clerk and the Supervisor and brought forward next month. Friends made a number of important and helpful suggestions for consideration. Any further thoughts may be forwarded to the Clerk of the meeting or the Secretary's supervisor.

16-12-07 Nominating Committee

Robin Mohr read the new nominations. These will be brought back up First Month 2017.

GSMM Clerk – JoAnn Seaver – 1/2017 to 6/2018

Property Clerk – Dan McDevitt – 1/2017 to 6/2018

Property – Robin Mohr – 1/2017 to 6/2018

Care and Counsel – Jim Hood – 1/2017 to 6/2019

Care and Counsel – Susan Chast to replace Pamela Draper for WPPM

Recording Clerk – Blythe Davenport – 1/2017 to 6/2019

Assistant Recording Clerk – Walter Hjelt Sullivan – 1/17 to 6/2018

The Meeting also acknowledged Robin's work on organizing the Nominating Committee and Friends thanked Robin for her service.

16-12-08 Establishing a process to choose the new rug in the Meeting Room

JoAnn Seaver proposed that the Meeting use a process used when we selected the linoleum for the Shoemaker Dining Room. We form a group, which would include one member chosen by the school and two or three meeting members. They would take the information about rug samples and costs to their constituents, thoroughly and systematically gather feedback, then make a final decision based on the feedback on which rug to buy.

Friends approved the process. The meeting requested that the Property Committee form this group by January business meeting, seeking a member of that committee, a member of the school, and one or two more participants in the meeting community.

16-12-09 Jobs to Fill Report

JoAnn Seaver opened the discussion of jobs that the meeting needs to fill:

1. Meeting House Openers and Closers for outside groups using the Meeting House
2. Point persons for Second Sundays
3. Archivists – to cull and archive meeting records, one general and one for financial files

Geniver Montalvo offered to serve as an archivist. Worship and Ministry has offered to take over the Second Sunday forums. Further discussion of these offers and other suggestions regarding each job will be carried over to January's meeting for business.

16-12-10 These minutes were approved.

16-12- Friends ended in worship

Meeting adjourned, agreeing to meet again at the appointed time on First Month 15, 2017.

JoAnn Seaver, Clerk
Blythe Davenport, Recording Clerk

Members present: Charlotte Anderson, Susan Christian, Doris Clinkscale, Blythe Davenport, Robert Dockhorn, David La Fontaine, Chris Mohr, Robin Mohr, JoAnn Seaver, Traci Hjelt Sullivan, Walter Hjelt Sullivan, Marille Thomas, William Van Stone, Margaret Walters

Attendees present: Mary Joy Benson, Geniver Montalvo

Staff: Gail Woodbury, Secretary

About our F/friends

(News and announcements of concern to the Meeting)

Changes in the Distribution of the Meeting's Newsletter

In a discussion with the Meeting secretary about her duties and the time limits of her job, JoAnn Seaver, Robert Dockhorn, and the Meeting secretary, Gail Woodbury, discussed the contents, printing, and distribution of the Meeting's newsletter. Putting together and distributing the newsletter take up a significant portion of the secretary's work. JoAnn and Bob also have in mind the need to keep the Meeting's website—which we expect to increase in importance in the Meeting's future outreach—as up to date as we can.

As a result of that discussion, starting with the February newsletter, the newsletters will be sent electronically, and not in hard copy, to all members and attendees for whom the Meeting has an email address. The few individuals for whom the Meeting does not have email will continue to receive hard copies.

There will also be a section called Quaker Connections, which will have a listing of major Quaker organizations as well as their websites. This means there will be fewer actual explanations of an event that is not a Meeting event, and instead, listings of the event titles only and a web link to further information.

A link to the Meeting's website, greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org, will appear prominently on the front page of the electronic newsletter, to direct attention there.

If you have questions about these changes, please contact JoAnn at joann.seaver@verizon.net or 215-438-6106, or Bob at dockhorn@verizon.net or 215-357-3857.

Meeting for Worship at Stapeley on the first Sunday of the month.

Stapeley residents will happily welcome anyone who wants to join them in their meeting for worship at 6:30.

Sunday, January 8, Second Sunday Forum, Considering Minute on Violence from the Fellowship of Friends of African Descent, 9:15 AM, presented by Ayesha Imani

The Fellowship of Friends of African Descent invites you to participate in a worship sharing to consider a corporate response by Green Street Monthly Meeting to the Fellowship's Minute Regarding State Sanctioned Violence. Members of the Fellowship of Friends of African Descent are operating under a leading to take action based on our Quaker faith and our ancestral mandate to address issues of peace, justice, healing, and reconciliation within our communities. Germantown Monthly Meeting and the Board of American Friends Service Committee have both endorsed this minute. We ask that members of Green Street Monthly Meeting be a part of the discernment process as we call upon members of our Quaker family to join us in seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit on this matter. The lives of so many are at stake. Come and join us on January 8 at 9:15 AM. For more information contact us at fofadphilly@gmail.com or call Phil Lord at 267-675-5025.

Next Adult Religious Education at Green Street Meeting, Sunday, January 29, 9:15 AM in the social room.

What do you think is the purpose of worship? How does meeting together move us toward that purpose? As part of an interactive session, we will read together an excerpt from [A Language for the Inward Landscape: Spiritual Wisdom from the Quaker Movement](#) by Brian Drayton and William P. Taber, Jr. In the middle of Chapter 6, Community and the Inner Life of the Meeting, it says, "A meeting's faithfulness depends in great measure on the faithfulness of its members. ... Our "purpose" in centering is to move into an altered state of consciousness in which we become aware of the ordering, orienting power of the Spirit. We don't worship in order to receive messages, or otherwise accomplish our own agenda, but to realign our will, our understanding, and values with God's." At Green St. Meeting, what are we doing here? Coffee and zucchini bread will be available

Sunday January 29, Family Meeting

Green Street has established a unique culture of tolerance and diversity that literally draws in people from the community, Friends from neighboring Meetings, and makes it a safe(r) space for Friends of different experiences. Some Friends at Green Street are more willing to acknowledge their privilege than Friends at other Meetings. But sometimes the particular voices of Friends, especially marginalized Friends, are silenced by Friends with established and historical privilege. Green Street can work together to become a safe(r) space for Friends that have marginalized experiences by first being open to hearing about the first hand experiences of marginalized Friends.

To this end, Worship and Ministry proposes an Ally Fishbowl for the intergenerational 5th Sunday program in January 2017 with a focus on Friends with marginalized experiences. Common in the PYM youth programs, 'fishbowl' refers to an inner ring of Friends that voice their particular experiences and an outer ring of Friends that do not share that experience. It is a format in which Friends that share experiences can speak to one another, while simultaneously, Friends that do not share that experience are still able to hear the conversations and voices of the inner circle. When Friends in the inner circle share what they need from F/friends in the community, they are essentially calling for allies. Hence, Green Street's Ally Fishbowl will give voice to marginalized Friends, allow Friends that experience privilege to hear the concerns of marginalized Friends, and in sum, give space for marginalized Friends to identify ways that marginalized Friends can be supported first at Green Street, and then in our respective communities.

Who is a marginalized Friend? A marginalized Friend is any Friend that has been the unfortunate recipient of discrimination based on any marginalizing factor. This can be Friends with physical, mental, and emotional disAbilities, Friends of Color, LGBT-identified Friends, Friends that are discriminated based on their age (younger and older), Friends that come from different religious practices or non-theist Friends, Friends from working class or Friends that grew up poor, etc.

The Ally Fishbowl is an awaited opportunity for Friends with marginalized experiences to acknowledge one another and voice their experiences and concerns. But even more importantly, the Ally Fishbowl would allow all Friends to hear the struggles and experiences of discrimination from many marginalized Friends than any one person's experience. We hope that Friends that have not had a certain marginalized experience will listen with open hearts and open minds to the first hand accounts of marginalized Friends.

We invite Friends of all ages to participate in this intergenerational program on 5th Sunday, January 29, 2017. Questions and comments regarding this intergenerational program should be directed to Shani Taylor at sianifairy@gmail.com or Kyrie Wilson at joel.kyrie.wilson@gmail.com.

In Peace, Love, and Light,
Green Street Worship and Ministry

LAST CHANCE! Parents of Kids in a Friends school? Deadline January 25, 2017

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) offers Applications for Tuition Aid for Friends Children in Friends Schools now. Families usually begin the application process in November. Please complete the form, ensure that our meeting receives it by our January 25, 2017 deadline, and ensure that the forms arrive at your school before the school's deadline. Application forms and instructions are online at www.FriendsEducationFund.org. Families and meetings with questions may contact Zachary Dutton, Associate Secretary for Program & Religious Life at 215-241-7008 or zdutton@pym.org. Please send the forms for signature to Bill Van Stone, the clerk of Green Street Meeting's Educational Assistance Committee at wvsdc@aol.com or 625 Burnham Road, Philadelphia, PA 19119, before Wednesday, January 25th, 2017.

Green Street Monthly Meeting (GSMM) also offers assistance to members who need (additional) financial aid from the Meeting to send their child to a Friends school, college, or a school for special education. Families interested should send a letter or email addressed to the Educational Assistance Committee with their request, name of parent(s) and child, upcoming grade of the child and name of the school to Bill Van Stone, Clerk of our Educational Assistance Committee. The deadline is January 25, 2017. If a family needs help to attend GSFS in addition to our standard 10% of tuition grant plus PYM Aid and whatever GSFS can offer, please write us a letter or email stating what additional funds you will need. College students are expected to submit their applications themselves.

Children are eligible for PYM support if their parent(s) are members of GSMM prior to the start of the previous school year (usually in late August or in September). Applicants for assistance from GSMM must be members of GSMM before January 1st of the upcoming year (1/1/2017). If you have questions call Bill Van Stone at 215 438 6106 or email him at wvsdc@aol.com.

Share what's happening at Green Street Meeting.

The Website Working Group is looking for photographs (with captions), descriptions of Meeting events, and short opinion pieces. We are happy to help with editing. Please submit to geniverm@yahoo.com. Items that you would like added to the Google calendar on our website should be submitted to the Meeting secretary at secretary@greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org.



The First Query on Meeting for Worship

Are our meetings for worship held in stilled, expectant waiting upon God?

As we worship is there a living silence in which we are drawn together by the power of God in our midst?

Is the spirit of our worship together one that nurtures all worshipers?

How does our Meeting respond when the vocal ministry seems inappropriate, or when the meeting for worship is consistently not gathered?

Do I faithfully attend meeting with heart and mind prepared for worship, clear of any predetermination to speak or not to speak, and expecting that worship will be a source of strength and guidance?

Does worship deepen my relationship with God, increase my faithfulness, and refresh and renew my daily life, both inwardly and in my relationship with others?

Have I experienced in worship that direct leading to listen or to speak, and have I been faithful to my own experience?



News and Announcements

Workshops and/or Short Courses at Pendle Hill

The Pendle Hill website now lists one day events, weekends and weeklong events. Please call Pendle Hill at (610) 566-4507 or (800) 742-3150, ext. 3, or go to pendlehill.org. Matching scholarships are available; please call. For more information, please go to their website, pendlehill.org, or call.

On-line course on Exploring the Quaker Way. January 16 - April 10. Please go to pendlehill.org.

Young Adult Friends Winter Retreat January 6-8, Swarthmore Friends Meeting Relationships, Communication, and Sexuality

Young Adult Friends (YAF) age 18-35ish will be spending the weekend together exploring relationships - romantic, familial, platonic. What does it look like to live out your values around relationships and sexuality? How do we strive to maintain the integrity of our inner and outer lives? Plus you'll get to know an excellent group of young Quakers.

Details: Elizabeth Piersol Schmidt, epiersolschmidt@pym.org or www.pym.org/event/young-adult-friends-winter-retreat/?instance_id=366

Climate, Race, Justice: We are All In This Together, Wednesday, January 11, 6-7:30 PM, at Friends Center

Join us for a 30 video presentation with breaks for discussion and worship sharing.

Light supper provided. Video comments by Cornel West, Juliet Schor, Van Jones and Naomi Klein about ways that climate disruption, social injustice and institutional racism are driven by indiscriminate economic growth.

Details: www.pym.org/event/climateracejustice-we-are-all-in-this-together/?instance_id=653 or PYM EcoJustice Collaborative: Pamela Haines, pamelahaines1@gmail.com

SAY THE WRONG THING: Racial Justice and Authentic Community

Using the Strategies of the H.E.A.R.T. January 14, 10 AM-3:30 PM, Buckingham Friends Meetinghouse

Bucks Quarterly Meeting is pleased to sponsor this very important workshop lead by Dr. Amanda Kemp. Amanda has recommended that Friends read her short book (also available as an e-book), *Say The Wrong Thing: Stories and Strategies for Racial Justice and Authentic Community* available at www.dramandakemp.com/say-wrong-thing. Details: Holly Olson, hollybqc@verizon.net or www.quakersbucks.org/index.php/site/activities

Extended Meeting for Worship January 28, 9:15 AM-3:15 PM, Hockessin Friends Meeting

Would you like to deepen your experience of Worship? Have you wished that Worship didn't end when the clock struck the hour? The Worship and Care Standing Committee and the Meeting on Worship and Ministry invite you to experience Extended Worship. Attend just a portion of the day or the full day.

And remember to bring your lunch.

Details: Lola Georg, lolageorg@gmail.com or www.pym.org/event/2017-extended-meeting-for-worship-jan-28

Broken Vessels Quaker Ministries Deeper Roots Program - March 2017 - October 2018

Broken Vessels Quaker Ministries is the outgrowth of a leading by Deborah Fisch and Lloyd Lee Wilson to undertake a joint teaching ministry designed to help individual Friends become more deeply rooted in the Quaker faith tradition, especially as it has been expressed among Conservative Friends. In our experience it is a path best learned by long apprenticeship to the living tradition rather than through catechism or independent individual searching. Interested Friends are invited to

join us, gathering for Deeper Roots: a series of four long weekends over an 18-month period to explore together in four foundational areas of the tradition: personal and corporate spiritual disciplines, historical gratefulness, scriptural literacy, and contemporary communities of faith. For more information, or to apply, visit bvqministries.org
Applications are due by January 13.

Humor Corner: For all good cooks.

A hungry little boy was beginning to eat his dinner when his father reminded him that they hadn't prayed. "We don't have to," said the little boy. "Mommy is a good cook!"

Quote Corner: I saw also that there was an ocean of darkness and death; but an infinite ocean of light and love, which flowed over the ocean of darkness. In that also I saw the infinite love of God, and I had great openings. ~ *Journal of George Fox (1647)*

The **submission deadline** for the February newsletter is **9:30 AM on Friday, January 13.**