



Lancaster Monthly Meeting The Religious Society of Friends

Newsletter No. 576

January-February 2011

Clerk: Joe Moore

Assistant Clerk: Tom Latus

Recording Clerk: Maria Cattell

Treasurer: Karen Zimmerman

Assistant: Christine Fuller

Meetinghouse Scheduler: Jean Eaton

Newsletter: Editor: Jim Herr, 360 Blossom Hill Dr., Lanc. 17601 (569-7848) (e-mail to herrs at bellatlantic.net)

Keeper of the Label List: Karen Zimmerman

Circulation: The Scanlon Family

Caln Quarter Coordinator: Marie Ryan (610-777-5825, coordinator at calnqm.org)

CALENDAR

First-day - 8:00-8:55 AM – Early Meeting For Worship

- 10:00 AM Meeting For Worship. Children worship with us for the first 20 minutes, then go to First-Day School classes

Second First-day – 11:35 or so – Meeting For Worship For Business

Third First-day – Cooperative Meal—co-opted by Middle School Friends in Feb. (see below).

Third First-day – Letter writing campaign from FCNL

First First-day – 10:00 AM – Meeting For Worship, Cornwall Worship Group, in January, February, and March in Bradley Lounge.

Last First-day – 10:00 AM - Meeting For Worship, Willow Valley Worship Group (Joyce Collins 464-6363 for more information)

Every Fourth-day – 7:00 PM – Mid-week Meeting For Worship

FORUMS

January 16 – Cooperative Meal and social time—ALL are welcome

January 23 – “State of the Meeting” threshing session.

January 30 – Amanda Kemp, “Theater for Transformation”

February 6 – Haydn McLean, Spiritual Journey

February 13 – Meeting For Worship For Business

February 20 – Rice and Beans Compassion Café (see below)

February 27 – The One Minute Quaker from Worship and Ministry Committee

ACTIVITIES

Every Saturday – 11:00-Noon – Vigil For Peace in Lancaster. For more information, call Charles Lane 394-5912

Mon. Jan. 17 – 7:00-8:30 PM – Spiritual Oasis in meetinghouse

Tue. Jan 18 – 7:30 PM – Science & Spirituality in meetinghouse (see last month)

Wed. Jan. 19 – 7:00 PM – Mid-week meeting for worship

Fri. Jan. 21 – 7:00 PM – Meet in meetinghouse parking lot to visit synagogue (see below)

Sun. Jan. 22 – 1:00 PM – Memorial service for Ted Herman (see below)

- ACTIVITIES CONTINUED -

Sun. Jan. 23 – 9:00 AM – First-day School Committee in the basement
 Sun. Jan. 23 – 3:00-5:00 – LIPW annual meeting in meetinghouse (see below)
 Wed. Jan. 26 – 7:00 PM – Mid-week meeting for worship
 Sat. Jan. 29 – 9:00-4:00 – Day-long Quaker Quest info at Little Britain (see below)
 Sat. Jan. 29 – 6:30 PM – Gather for Young Friends Contra Dance (see below)
 Sun. Jan 30 – 10:00 AM – Meeting For Worship at Willow Valley
 Tue. Feb. 1 – 7:15 PM – Care & Counsel in meetinghouse
 Wed. Feb. 2 – 7:00 PM – Mid-week meeting for worship
 Sun. Feb. 6 – 10:00 AM – Meeting for worship at Cornwall Worship Group
 Sun. Feb. 6 – 9:00 AM – Environmental Concerns Committee in meetinghouse
 Sun. Feb. 6 – 12:50-1:50 PM – Peaceful Families Subcommittee in meetinghouse
 Sun. Feb. 6 – 2:00 PM – Info Day at Camp Onas (see below)
 Sun. Feb. 6 – 2:00-4:30 PM – Shape-Note singing in meetinghouse
 Mon. Feb. 7 – 7:00-8:30 PM – Spiritual Oasis in meetinghouse
 Mon. Feb. 7 – 7:00 PM – Worship & Ministry in meetinghouse
 Wed. Feb. 9 – 7:00 PM – Mid-week meeting for worship
 Sun. Feb. 13 – 11:35 AM – Meeting For Business
 Tue. Feb. 15 – 7:30 PM – Science & Spirituality in meetinghouse (see below)
 Tue. Feb. 15 – Deadline for February-March newsletter
 Wed. Feb. 16 – 7:00 PM – Mid-week meeting for worship
 Fri. Feb. 18 – 7:30-9:00 PM – Sing-along concert at Burlington Conference Cent (see below)
 Fri. & Sat. Feb. 18-19 – Conference of Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts (see last month)
 Sat. Feb. 19 – 6:00 PM – Healing Racism Working Group potluck. Call Brian Hernon for info.
 Sun. Feb. 20 – 10:00 AM – Quarterly meeting of Caln Quarter in Reading (see below)
 Sun. Feb. 20 – 11:30 AM or so – Cooperative meal co-opted! All are welcome. (See below.)
 Sun. Feb. 20 – 12:15 PM – Peace & Social Concerns Committee in meetinghouse
 Wed. Feb. 23 – 7:00 PM – Mid-week meeting for worship
 Sun. Feb. 27 – 10:00 AM – Meeting For Worship at Willow Valley

**LANCASTER MONTHLY MEETING
 THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
 HELD AT LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA
 ON FIRST MONTH 9, 2011**

At noon, after worship sharing on queries on meeting for worship followed by a brief period of silent worship, Clerk Joseph Moore took up the business of Meeting. The agenda was reviewed and approved, and minutes for Twelfth Month were approved as read.

Report from Facilities Managers. Cindy and Kirk Hummel reported on their experiences as meeting's facilities managers since 2007. The lack of a budget has led to some inconsistencies and misunderstandings concerning spending such as deciding which committee pays for what and capital versus maintenance expenses. Kirk and Cindy are working with the Long Range Planning Committee on a periodic maintenance schedule which will include the Community Room partitions, carpet cleaning, painting, cork floor care, tree maintenance and exterior lighting. Kirk

and Cindy presented a detailed budget of \$8,177 for property expenses for 2011. The budget covers services such as lawn care, snow removal, landscaping, security, and trash removal; repairs to electrical, HVAC, and plumbing systems; purchase of equipment and paper products; carpet cleaning; and general repair and maintenance including bringing wiring in the basement up to code. Capital expenses such as roof and HVAC replacement eventually will be included in the budget as regular annual amounts to go into the Future Needs Fund. Several Friends asked whether we might consider having a greener lawn or perhaps no lawn at all. This concern was turned over to the Garden Committee.

Cindy does a regular weekly walk through the meetinghouse and Kirk does the same about twice a month. They respond to issues raised by individuals such as replacing light bulbs or taking care of bigger problems, though there has been only one emergency (a gas leak fixed by UGI). All toilets have been replaced with power-flush toilets because there were so many prob-

lems with clogs, and low decibel electric hand driers will soon be added to the bathrooms as being easier on the environment plus solving some issues with paper towels especially with non-meeting people using our facilities. (Paper towels will still be there.)

Cindy and Kirk have a support/supervisory committee and Kirk has joined the Long Range Planning Committee.

Friends expressed their appreciation to Kirk and Cindy for their work in facilities maintenance and budget planning, and also for their quick responses to problems.

Treasurer's report. Treasurer Karen Zimmerman reported December contributions were around \$20,000 and that for the year 2010 meeting's income exceeded expenses by \$2637.

Budget for 2011. Ernie Nute for Finance Committee presented the proposed operating budget for 2011 as revised based on comments made in our December meeting. Our janitor was contacted and informed we would like to give her and her family (who work with her) a raise from \$25 to \$30 an hour, raising that item by \$1,000. Property maintenance also got a \$1,000 boost. These two additions bring the total budget for 2011 to \$95,250. For comparison, the 2010 budget was \$87,320 but we spent only \$78,286—which often happens, as committees frequently do not spend their entire allocation. Meeting approved the budget.

A Friend commented that this is a very good budget and she was happy to approve it, although it means she must contribute more in 2011, and so must all of us. Another Friend suggested that we might change our budget schedule from presenting the preliminary budget in November and approving in December to presenting a preliminary budget in December and approving in January. Meeting approved the idea, but left the final decision to Finance Committee.

Memorial minute for Ted Herman. Clerk said that Nancy Bieber and Joe DiGarbo already have a good bit of information on Ted Herman's life and that they have agreed to write Ted's memorial minute. Stan Carnarius volunteered to join them in this task.

Other matters. Clerk read a letter from Doug Neuhauser and Louise Kellogg, for whom 2010 was a tumultuous year. Doug's work involves

monitoring earthquakes and making recommendations for building codes. He found the situation in Haiti very difficult. Louise had a stressful year because of extensive treatment following a cancer diagnosis.

Grayfred Gray said that 35 people at Conestoga View received Christmas gifts from Meeting. Gray conveyed thanks from Conestoga View. He also thanked those in Meeting who made the gifts possible.

Maria Cattell, who is Clerk of the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts, invited everyone to come to a sing-along concert by Annie Patterson and Peter Blood, authors of the songbook, *Rise Up Singing*. It is the opening feature of FQA's two-day arts conference, February 18-19, at Burlington Conference Center in New Jersey. The concert will begin at 7:30 pm and end at 9:00. She will put a poster on the bulletin board.

After a brief period of silent worship, Meeting for Business ended at about 12:55 pm. There were 37 present.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Moore, Clerk

Maria Cattell, Recording Clerk

Present Karen Alderfer, Ronald Ashby, Stanley Carnarius, Andrea Carty, Maria Cattell, Joyce Collins, Joseph DiGarbo, Jean & William Eaton, Elsie Eberly, Erika Fitz, Elizabeth & Thomas Gates, Albert Geier, Grayfred Gray, Debra Hewes, Mark Horst, Cynthia & Kirk Hummel, James Kallish, Charles Lane, Thomas Latus, Patricia Lea, Ilona Lind, Cynthia & Robert Lowing, Anna & Joseph Moore, George Nofer, Ernest Nute, Joanna & Loren Sadler, Deborah Spence, Raymond Trayer, Anne Wallace DiGarbo, Erma Weaver, Karen Zimmerman.

INTERESTED?

PEACE – Those of you living at a distance should know that Ted Herman passed away on Thursday, December 30th, 2010. A memorial service will be held next Saturday, January 22 at 1:00 PM in the meetinghouse.

GREEN DRY – As you see in the minutes above, we will soon have electric hand dryers in the bathrooms. If, like me, you have wondered if electric dryers are ecologically preferable to paper towels, check out this article in the on-line magazine Slate: www.slate.com/id/2193740/. More or less in favor...For the most ecological choice, per-

haps those of us who can should consider Maria Cattell's suggestion: use your hair!

???? – The queries for us to consider in February concern the Meeting for Business:

How do we respond if we notice the meeting has lost an understanding of the presence of God?

Do we recognize that we speak through our inaction as well as our action?

Do I consider prayerfully the many concerns that are lifted up on any issue, acknowledging that the search for truth in unity involves what God requires, being open to personal transformation as the community arrives at the sense of the meeting?

FOLKIES – The Lancaster County Folk Music & Fiddlers' Society meets in the meetinghouse on the second Sunday of every month but October, from 2-5 PM. In October they provide entertainment for Harvest Days at Landis Valley Farm Museum.

PEACE WRITE – Every year since Friends in Lancaster Meeting started it in 1982, the Lancaster County Peace Essay Contest has worked to get high school students thinking about peace with themes that stress peace as a secular subject. And for much of its existence, the contest has been administered by different faith communities around the county. This year it's back to us.

The topic is "World Peace: How Can This Dream Become a Reality for Me?" The Contest begins on February 1 and the closes on April 22, 2011. Essays must be written by children of high school age from public, private, or home school. A distinguished panel of judges will award significant cash prizes for first, second and third winners in each of two divisions, Grades 9 & 10 and 11 & 12. There will be an Awards Ceremony on May 15 with a featured speaker, and the winning students will be asked to read their essays.

The Peace Essay Contest Committee urges Meeting to take every opportunity to engage youth in this conversation. In the past, students have been advised by parents at home, classroom teacher assignments, club sponsors, or simply by individual initiative.

Rules are simple: Essay entries must be between 500 and 1000 words in length. Pages should be numbered and the top of each page should repeat the title given to the essay by its writer. (Please do not write your name on your

essay. Instead, include a title page with your name, email address, telephone number, school, grade, title of your essay, and the name of the teacher or other person who advised you for this contest.) The essay will be judged on the basis of its originality and the organization of ideas expressed. It should reflect your own character and include personal experiences and views. All essays must be received by April 22, 2011. They can be submitted by mail or email. Mail to: Lancaster County Peace Essay Contest, P.O. Box 1331, Lancaster, PA 17608-1331 or email peace-essay at gmail.com. Winners will be informed by phone and email and it is hoped that each winner will be able to attend the awards ceremony at the Lancaster Friends Meeting on the afternoon of Sunday, May 15, 2011.

For more information contact Beth Hernon-Reeves hernonreeves at hotmail.com.

KITCHEN NOTES – If the dishwasher has one full rack of dirty dishes, please run it. ...We have a small collection of personal mugs on the counter in the kitchen and ask the owners to please take their mugs home. Thanks (from the Social Committee).

CAREFUL! – Albert Geier lost his coat last week when someone accidentally left wearing the wrong one. This time of year, with the rack jammed full, that's a risk. Please be careful!

SURVEY TIME – The Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) Annual Sessions are the single place in the life of the Yearly Meeting where there is an opportunity for **ALL** of us to come together from all over the YM territory—Friends of all ages; Friends with particular callings to deep worship, to powerful witness, to education, to children, to administration, to pastoral care, to outreach and sharing our stories. All of us together have the experience of living in the Spirit as a community at Sessions. At the conclusion of each of the last three summer sessions, Friends have commented "This was the best year ever!" The hope is that more Friends will have this experience of the Spirit and of Sessions in the coming summer and into the future.

As Friends may be unfamiliar with Annual Sessions, here is a brief description: In PYM we come together once a year in the summer (in the past we have also met in March) for five days. In the mornings and the evenings we engage in the business of the Yearly Meeting (children, middle

schoolers and high schoolers and adults in their own settings, each gathering in their own ways). We all come together for worship at the end of each morning and for key, multigenerational events. In the afternoons we learn and play together in workshops and other activities. For many years and for this coming summer we meet at the DeSales University Campus in Center Valley, PA. In the summer of 2012 we will gather in Center City Philadelphia. The 2011 Annual Sessions will be Wednesday evening, July 27 through Sunday afternoon, July 30, with a special pre-sessions gathering during the day on the 27th.

Now Friends from across the Yearly Meeting are invited to participate in a survey so that the Sessions organizers may find more ways for more Friends to attend these important gatherings. For instance, there may be financial stumbling blocks, or there might be programs that could be added or enhanced that would speak to Friends' condition. They are especially interested in hearing from Friends who have not attended Sessions in the past. Please spend 5 minutes at www.surveymonkey.com/s/SessionsAttendance

LET'S GO!

ROAD TRIP – Here's a brief reminder from last month's newsletter: the High School class of First-day School is going to visit Congregation Shaarai Shomayim synagogue this Friday, Jan. 21. Caravan leaves the meetinghouse parking lot at 7:00. Everyone is welcome. For more information contact Haydn McLean 799.4031, hjmclean at comcast.net.

GATHER FUN – If you're in Middle School there's still time to register for next weekend's PYM MS Friends gathering at Haddonfield Meeting. The group will wrestle with the challenges of winter, investigate the relationship between dark and light, talk about what the "Inner Light" means to us, and share how we sustain ourselves through the "dark nights of the soul." They will share music, dreams, ideas of Light and vision, and the things that keep us going when times get tough. There will be a group workshop about the healing/sustaining power of music, a dance, and as tradition demands: ICE-SKATING! Get a registration form at <http://pym.org/event/middle-school-friends-longest-night-inner-light-gathering> or email Stephen Dotson stephend at pym.org

If you (or your child) fall into Middle School

age range, this event will be a good one to get to know the group. Their next gathering will be here at our meetinghouse, March 18-20, when the focus will be "Difference, Diversity, and the Divine."

PEACE MEET – The Annual Meeting of the Lancaster Interchurch Peace Witness (LIPW) will be held in the meetinghouse next Sunday, January 23 from 3:00 to 5:30. It is free and open to the public.

Dr. Donald B. Kraybill will deliver the keynote address entitled "O Victory in Jesus: How the Church Lost its Soul." Dr. Kraybill is the Distinguished Professor & Senior Fellow at the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietism Studies, a joint appointment of the Sociology and Religious Studies departments of Elizabethtown College. He is internationally recognized for his scholarship on Anabaptist groups, and the author of many books and dozens of professional articles. He is the recipient of grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and numerous private foundations.

Dr. Kraybill was one of several distinguished peace activists at a conference in 2004 initiated by our Peace and Social Concerns Committee in response to the Iraq war. LIPW came together, in part, because of his statement at that conference that peacemaking should be at the core of our Christian faith, Christian peacemaking has implications for public policy, and God calls us to pursue peace—peacefully, truthfully, hopefully.

The annual meeting will challenge the public to envision the mission of LIPW for the next two years, with a program that will include small group discussions to respond to Dr. Kraybill's address and to respond to the year-end reports by the LIPW program committee, the Middle East Interest Group, the Latin American Interest Group, the Taxes for Peace Interest Group, and the Arts for Peace Interest Group.

For more information: Bob Lowing 394-6070 or R.lowing2 at verizon.net

QUESTING? – Did you miss the Meeting Retreat in 2009 with our discussion of Quaker Quest? Are you interested in learning more about this program? Maybe you're interested in visiting one of the old meetinghouses in southern Lancaster. Saturday, Jan. 29 will be the day for answers. Little Britain Monthly Meeting is having a day-long exploration of Quaker Quest and invites us all to join them from 9:00-4:00 at the Eastland mee-

tinghouse, Kirks Mill Road, Nottingham. Pot luck lunch. For more information: Linda Coates, lindajcoates at gmail.com, cell-603-831-2141

DANCE DANCE – The 4th Annual Youth Contra Dance is being held Jan. 29 at St. John's Episcopal Church from 7 until 10 p.m.. Any adult who is interested in attending to be a friendly adult presence can contact Joanne Leatherman. Any adult who would like to be a FAP at the Young Friends overnight following the dance contact Anne Wallace-DiGarbo. High School age children from all over Philadelphia Yearly Meeting are liable to be here, as well as those students from our Meeting.

CAMP ANSWERS – Camp Onas, the Quaker Camp in Bucks County for all kids ages 8 to 13, is looking for campers. Its 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. Info Days at Camp Onas are Sunday, February 6 and March 6 at 2pm. For more information and a brochure: 610-847-5858 or friends at camponas.org.

SPICY – The Spirituality & Science study group will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 7:30 in the Community Room of the meetinghouse to contin-

ue its discussion of the book *The Biology of Transcendence* by Joseph Chilton Pearce. To be covered will be Chapter 7 (The Enculturated Self) and Chapter 8 (The Great Accusation). All are welcome to join us. Any questions-please call Adele Berardi at 391-8915.

SIMPLE – The Middle School class of First-day School plans to co-opt the February cooperative meal on Feb. 20 for a wonderful service project they're calling "Beans and Rice Compassion Café." With awareness of members of our human family who live with hunger, the class will prepare a simple and delicious meal of beans, rice, and cornbread. They'll even handle clean up. In exchange, they ask for your generous donations in place of bringing a covered dish. Money raised will benefit The Heifer Project and Amazon Watch. If you want to contribute ahead of time, write your check to Lancaster Monthly Meeting with a note "For Middle School Fundraiser" and place it in the donation box.

QUARTERED – The next meeting of Caln Quarterly Meeting takes place Sunday, Feb. 20 at Reading Meeting, probably after their 10:00 worship. If you attend Lancaster Monthly Meeting, you are automatically part of Caln Quarter and are extremely welcome to participate in its business. Contact Jim Herr 569-7848 or herrs at belatlantic.net for more information.