



Goings on Around the Quarter/ May

Birmingham

Newcomers to our meeting are invited to attend, “Exploring Quakerism,” a series of four sessions for discussion about Quakerism and how our meeting works. These are organized and facilitated by members of our Meeting as the need arises. We are in the process of organizing one now!

Concord



Concord Friends Meeting, 1720.

Concordville, Pa.

Meeting for Worship, in-person, Sundays @11:15am

Goshen

Our monthly adult religious education program (Meeting for Learning) occurs via Zoom, enabling Friends unable to travel or who live at a distance to participate, and a monthly “mid-week check-in” offers fellowship for those who cannot come to the meetinghouse.

Middletown

Plans are underway for our annual Middletown Day, the first Sunday in June. This is a time that we invite anyone with connections to our Meeting, past or present, to join us for Meeting for Worship and a Cover Dish lunch. It has been a tradition at Middletown going back over 50 years and always provides a good time to re-connect, have fellowship, and share a good meal together.

West Chester

Our Meeting hosted a new series of Free Chamber Music Concerts called "Listening In." These concerts both supported local artists and opened our Meetinghouse to those in the community that may not have visited before. Speaking of music, our Intergenerational Worship this Sunday will begin in SONG with T. Jeff Domenick from Downingtown Meeting and WCFS.

Westtown

We offered a special opportunity to hear Joe Marchese's "Demystifying Clerking" presentation in person and on Zoom, during our April Meeting for Business. Also, people were able to stay online and in the Meeting House after Meeting for Worship for coffee, a snack, and additional comments from Joe.

Willistown

Easter Sunday was a spectacular event here at Willistown. The students met to practice "For the Beauty of the Earth", "Christ the Lord is Risen Today", and their song of gratitude to sing at the end of our Easter Meeting. The students then went out to hunt for Easter eggs which were hidden by the Members and Attenders of our Meeting. There was a special place close to our Meeting House for the younger children to hunt. The older students ventured out further. A great time was had by all.

Wilmington

The Meeting House main project has been completed and will be ready just in time for Quarterly Meeting on April 28th! You are welcome to join us to help get it all set up this Sunday, the 21st at noon. Also, please see these upcoming Wilmington Friends School 275th Anniversary events.

<https://www.wilmingtonfriends.org/community/275th-anniversary/275th-anniversary-events>

Worship at Appoquinimink continues to be held in person on the first and third Sundays each month at 10am.

Concord Quarterly Meeting Announcements for May 2024

April 28. Concord Quarterly Meeting hosted by Wilmington MM- The AFSC will provide a program on their ongoing work for peace and justice. There will be a full children's program. A Faith & Play multi-generational activity will be provided at the start of worship and many fun hands-on Earth Day activities will be offered (outside) during the AFSC presentation. **Please have the children dress accordingly.** The full day (except lunch!) will be available **both in person and by Zoom.**

8:30-9:45am Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (**Please contact the Coordinator ASAP if childcare is needed during this business session**)

10:00-10:10 Faith & Play intro to open worship – new Bayard Rustin story

10:10-11:00 Meeting for Worship (**children and youth activities provided**)

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15-12:30 Program on AFSC (**children and youth activities provided**)

12:30- 1:15 Lunch will be provided by the host Meeting. Please bring a dessert to share.

The Business Meeting agenda will be sent out next week. You can find the minutes from the last QM (January 2024) posted here <https://concordquarter.org/documents/?category=Minutes>

Reminder: The PYM Ministry and Care Committee asks Meetings to submit their Spiritual State of the Meeting Reports for 2023 to PYM by **April 29th, 2024**.

Registration is filling up for FGC!“ Dear Friends, if you are contemplating signing up for the Friends General Conference Gathering, you might want to do this now. Spaces are filling up quickly, even during the early registration period.” See “Looking Ahead” section below for registration details.

Save the dates request from PYM: May 15: Gathering of Quarterly Meeting clerks, assistant clerks, treasurers, committee clerks. May 22: Gathering of Monthly Meeting clerks, assistant clerks, treasurers, committee clerks. More information from PYM to follow.

Announcing a New PYM Collaborative! *Friends Ending Gun Violence*. Please join us in bringing a large Quaker presence to the End Gun Violence Advocacy Day in Harrisburg on May 7, organized by CeaseFirePA. For more information see the calendar below.



Ongoing. The Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia (Arch Street) supports necessitous Friends through The John Martin Trust. The requests must come from your Meeting, usually from the clerk of your Care Committee. Only requests for necessitous Friends and active attenders are considered. You may learn more information and acquire application forms by going to www.archstreetfriends.org/jmt. You may also contact the clerk of the committee (jmtrust@archstreetfriends.org).

Concord Quarterly Meeting Calendar/ May 2024

May 1 @10:30 am to noon via Zoom. Concord Quarter’s Working Group on Aging Concerns meets the first Wednesday of every month. Meetings are open to anyone interested in aging concerns in the Quarter. Contact the Coordinator at concordquarter@pym.org for the zoom link.

May 2-5, 2024. Pendle Hill Quaker Institute: Living Our Testimonies in “The Fierce Urgency of Now.” An on-campus gathering to explore how we can meet this political moment as Friends, individually and collectively. <https://pendlehill.org/events/pendle-hill-quaker-institute-living-our-testimonies-in-the-fierce-urgency-of-now/>

May 5 @1pm. The Concord Quarterly Meeting Planning Committee will meet at the Hickman (new building) in West Chester. Please join us! For more information, and/or to request the Zoom link, please contact concordquarter@pym.org

May 6 @7:30 in-person and via Zoom. Graffiti as Witness: The Art and Activism of a Quaker Pirate. A First Monday Pendle Hill Lecture with Todd Drake. Free and open to the public. Registration is required. <https://pendlehill.org/events/graffiti-as-witness-the-art-and-activism-of-a-quaker-pirate/>

May 7. End Gun Violence Advocacy Day in Harrisburg. CeaseFirePA, the organizer, hopes for full participation by faith groups and other constituencies affected by gun violence. [Register here and get legislative and transportation End Gun Violence information.](#)

May 7@7pm on Zoom. Religious Education Community of Practice Check-in. Friends are invited to join in on conversations for anyone serving on religious education committees, working with children and youth in their meeting, and people who are parents or caregivers. These are casual gatherings where we can share ideas, resources, and questions. Facilitated by Melinda Wenner Bradley, PYM Director of Program and Religious Life. Register in advance: <https://www.pym.org/event/religious-education-community-of-practice-check-in/2024-05-07/>

May 9@7-8:30 on Zoom. Climate Cafe: a place for support and to report. Whether your Meeting has a climate liaison yet or not, we warmly invite you to join us for the next online potluck to share both climate activities and needs. Register in advance for this meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsf-CopzgjGd32IEzzcapKEmmdfqZvRE-g>

May 9@ 5:30-7pm. The Radical Empathy of Anthony Benezet. In person at The Arch Street Meetinghouse. <https://www.pym.org/event/the-radical-empathy-of-anthony-benezet/>

May11-12. Spring Family Overnight at Camp Dark Waters. We welcome families with children in 8th grade and younger to join us for a Spring Family Overnight at Camp Dark Waters! There will be activities for the whole family, community meals, free time to play, bedtime stories, multigenerational worship on Sunday morning, and a chance for adults to spend time with other parents. For more information, please contact Kristin Simmons, *Youth Engagement Coordinator*: ksimmons@pym.org
<https://www.pym.org/event/spring-family-overnight-at-camp-dark-waters/>

May 17-May 19. In person and on Zoom. Playing in the Light: Godly Play®/Faith & Play™ Training for Quakers. This experiential approach to religious education can transform your program for children and nurture intergenerational spiritual community. Learn and practice a method of storytelling grounded in deep respect for children, that explores the existential limits of their lives through wonder, play, and stories from the Bible and Quaker faith and practice. <https://www.pym.org/event/godly-play-faith-play-training/>

May 19@3:00-4:30pm on Zoom. A new PYM Young Friends (YF) program for Grades 8-12! Responding to what we are hearing from current PYM youth, we are seeking to create a program that will focus on getting to know other teens, building community, and having fun together! There will also be time for workshops focused on Quaker faith and values and issues of importance to YFs. <https://www.pym.org/event/pym-young-friends-new-program/2024-05-19/>.

May 26@7:00-8pm on Zoom. Inclusion and Belonging in Quakerism. What are the ways that Quaker meetings can think expansively about inclusivity? How might Friends welcome spiritual seekers and support members of their own communities with a broad spectrum of needs Facilitated by Inaara Shiraz, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's Inclusion and Belonging Coordinator. Sponsored by The Adult Education Committee at Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia (Arch Street Friends).
<http://archstreetfriends.org/calendar>

Looking Ahead

June 29, 2024 @10:00 AM- 4:00 PM. George Fox's 400th Birthday Celebration

Come explore Quaker history and who Quakers are today with stories, discussion, games and crafts. Food and fun for all, and a birthday cake! [Arch Street Meeting House Preservation Trust 320 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA.](https://www.historicasmh.org/events-at-asmh/2024/6/29/george-foxs-400th-birthday-celebration) <https://www.historicasmh.org/events-at-asmh/2024/6/29/george-foxs-400th-birthday-celebration>

Learn about more GF Birthday celebrations happening around the globe: fwcc.world/fox

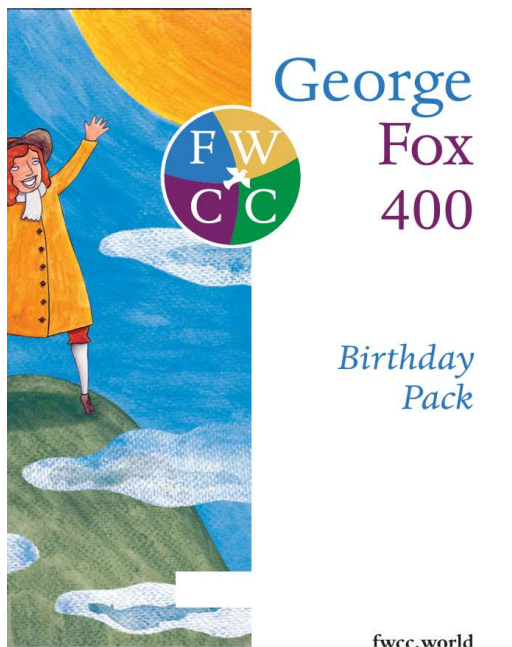
June 30 – July 6, 2024. The 2024 FGC Gathering, “Rooted in Story”, will be held in the Philadelphia area this year at Haverford College in Haverford, PA, from June 30 – July 6, 2024.

<https://www.fgcquaker.org/fgcprograms/the-gathering/>

July 28. Mark your calendars for the annual Joint Quarterly Meeting with Western Quarter. It will be hosted this year by West Chester MM in cooperation with Kennet MM. The program is being planned to correspond with the PYM theme of, “Called to Healing.” More information to follow soon.

Something Fun

The FWCC has put together this fun packet for George Fox’s Birthday.



<https://fwcc.world/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/George-Fox-400-Birthday-Pack.pdf>