

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
December 2011

Event of the Year: Christmas Breakfast, Sunday, December 11!

You are invited to join Christmas Breakfast on Sunday, December 11 from 8:45 to 10:00 am. A Chestnut Hill Meeting community tradition for over 40 years, the breakfast brings together members, attenders, and visitors, and attracts high school, college, and young adult members who come back to visit with former First Day School classmates and teachers.

The potluck breakfast is hosted by the Hospitality Committee and showcases an always amazing array of delicious and delectable food. Please bring a treat for the breakfast, but if you forget, do come anyway and enjoy the fellowship and fun.

Christmas-related activities

Sunday, December 11: FDS Holiday Bazaar - 12-1 PM

Sunday, December 18: Children's Christmas program - from the rise of meeting to 12:30 PM

Sunday, December 18: Carol singing at the meetinghouse and in neighborhood.

Saturday, December 24: Carols and candlelight worship.

Sunday, December 25: Yes, Virginia, we will have FDS!

Sunday, January 1: FDS December Calendar

Sat., Dec. 3 -- Workday @ Plymouth Meeting -- 9:00am to noon

Sun., Dec. 4 -- Outreach Committee Meeting -- MS room, 9-10:15am

Sun., Dec. 4 -- NO Community Lunch because of Christmas Breakfast on 12/18

Sun., Dec. 4 -- Worship & Ministry Committee meeting -- 12:15 in Middle School room

Sun., 11 Dec. -- Christmas Breakfast -- 8:45am - 10:00am

Mon., 12 Dec. -- Care & Counsel Committee meeting -- Mickey's home

Tue., 13 Dec. -- Men's Group -- NO MEETING THIS MONTH

Sun., 18 Dec. -- Children's Christmas Program -- 11:45am to 12:30pm, treats to follow

Sat., 24 Dec. -- Carols and Candles - #carols+candles -- 7:00 pm at meetinghouse

Fri., 30 Dec. -- January newsletter deadline

Sun., 1 Jan., 2012 -- Community Lunch -- at rise of meeting, in Social Room

Every Sunday

Early Meeting for Worship -- 9 - 10am in meeting room

Hymn-singing, in Social Room by piano -- 9:45 am to 10:15 am

Meeting for Worship (childcare available) -- 10:30 - 11:30 am

First Day School -- 10:30 am to 11:30 am

Quaker Rakers in the burial ground

The Property Committee reminds you that Quaker Rakers are needed to clean up the meeting's burial ground on Saturday, December 3, from 9:00 am - noon. Bring your own rake and gloves, if you have them, to Plymouth Meeting Friends School, Butler Pike at Germantown Avenue. PMF invites you to soup and fellowship following. If you have questions, call George Benz at 215-233-2450.

Treasurer's Report for November

To keep members and attenders better informed of our finances, I intend to provide brief monthly financial reports in our newsletter. As we approach the half-way point on the fiscal year, we would expect to see contributions approach 50% of budget, and yet our contributions received to date are less than 15% of budget, while half of our covenants to yearly and quarterly meetings (a total of \$19,087) will be due at the end of December. Please keep these things in mind in your year-end giving.

Wishing you all the joys of the season,
Daniel B. Evans, Treasurer

New Meetinghouse News

Widening the circle

Our campaign, now in its final community stage, has sent 830 letters to friends and neighbors asking them to make a gift to support the new meetinghouse that will serve the world in many ways. On Sunday, the committee will have letters available for Friends to sign and send to their own friends and relations who have been hearing about this project for several years. Stop by the campaign table to read, sign, and address letters to two or three who might want to make such a gift.

One more information event

The Campaign Committee's Communications team has held a series of information events at venues in and near Chestnut Hill. The last one is on Monday, December 5, at Springfield Library on Paper Mill Road, from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Our friend and neighbor Jordan Bastien, who spoke so movingly about the experience of a Turrell Skyspace at our public campaign kickoff event on October 26, will be joined by Heidi Heller and Meg Mitchell. They would love to see friendly faces.

Another successful grant!

Just in time for the newsletter deadline, an envelope arrived from The Lily Foundation announcing that their board had agreed to fund our request for \$10,000. This is an unrestricted gift. But there's no time to rest on our grant-writing laurels, as we are now working on grants to fund inclusion of a photo-voltaic array of solar cells on the roof of the two-story part of the building. If you are interested in helping, contact Ann Tydeman Solomon.

News of Friends

Signe Wilkinson has a new strip in the Inquirer; they ran a nice story about her recently.

Patricia Anthony, daughter of Meg and Phil, married Vincent Colella on the day of the October blizzard; they will live in Blackwood, NJ.

Mary Day Kent and Edgar Bermudez returned recently from a trip to Palestine.

Please send notices of family and community events for future issues of the newsletter.

Outside the Meeting

AVP Workshop

A Basic Workshop in AVP will be held December 2-4 in North Philadelphia. Co-facilitating will be Jorge ArÃ·uz, Ruth Pauly, Sister Barbara Brigham and Lynn Mather. This experience is open to any and all who wish to better meet the challenges and conflicts of human relationships. Particular focus is on communication skills: listening and speaking, bringing more truth, responsibility, and compassion to these.

Friends at Occupy Philadelphia

Christmas music from within our Meeting

Amey Hutchins and Dylan Steinberg sing with Choral Arts. On Sunday, December 4, at First Baptist Church, Dolce Suono Ensemble, First Baptist Church and Choral Arts co-present the Philadelphia revival of Gian Carlo Menotti's beloved "children's opera" Amahl and the Night Visitors.

Phil Jones sings with Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia, which presents its holiday concert on Saturday, December 10, at St. Paul's Chestnut Hill at 5:00 pm.

Poem

The Harvest Prayer

Please be gentle with yourself and others.
We are children of chance,
And none can say why some fields blossom
While others lay brown beneath the harvest sun.
Take hope that your season will come.
Share the joy of those whose season is at hand.

And if you need more music

Invitation to Caroling from the Christmas Revels Songbook (some music-reading skills advised): Monday, Dec. 12, 7:30-9:00 pm at 7425 Boyer St (Lynn Mather's). Bring along recorder, hand drum, bells. RSVP by email - LynnMather@verizon.net or to 215-248-8178.

No Childcare on Christmas Day

Terrie Abraham, who runs our wonderful childcare program, advises that there will be no childcare available on Sunday, December 25. (There will be First Day School , however.)

Shiva for Phyllis Levitt

David Watt's partner, Laura Levitt, is sitting shiva for her mother, Phyllis Levitt, at David and Laura's home (address in directory) in Germantown on the evenings of December 6 and 7. Phyllis died on November 27.

MJ Robinson's fall

We're not talking about the autumnal season here, but an unanticipated sudden meeting with the floor. On October 26 she fell in her apartment and broke her femur in four places near the hip. She has had surgery and is doing some time in rehab, but describes it all with characteristic good humor. She would love to hear from f/Friends in her old meeting. Send her email - marthajanerobins@bellsouth.net , or send snailmail to the address in the directory.

Address corrections

Please make the following corrections in your copy of the directory.

New address for Marcelle Martin 835 NW B St.
Richmond, IN 47374
home phone: 765-939-4970

New address for Eileen Flanagan and clan 3100 Midvale Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19129

New address for Ed Seiz and Diane Scutti 26 Glenn Circle
Erdenheim, PA 19038
215-233-1904

Patricia Anthony - now Patricia Colella with a new address 6
Bradford Place Blackwood, NJ 08012

Helen Mallon email correction
Email should have 2 "l"s, hmallon@navpoint.com

Jon Landau email correction
Email has "l" not "i", jlandau@bls-immigration.com
Dion Lerman's preferred email address dll33@psu.edu

Meeting for Worship

Children are welcome in meeting for worship from 10:30 to 10:45, when they leave to attend First Day School. Remember, no childcare on Sunday, 25 Dec.