

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting  
June 2012

Meeting Events

Summertime? Already?!

The FDS school curriculum year will end with a picnic on 24 June, and then we will move to our summer schedule. First Day School will continue to be held at its regular time throughout the summer, but the RE committee relies on individual volunteers to sign up to teach one or two weeks. Lessons and activities are completely up to the volunteer and do not need to follow any set curriculum, though they should be appropriate for children in Kindergarten through eighth grade. We invite everyone in the meeting community to start thinking about a fun project, a book to share, a lesson on what you do for work, a favorite bible story or Friends' testimony, etc., that you would enjoy teaching the children.

May Workday

The following Friends turned out on Saturday, 19 May, to help keep the meetinghouse and grounds in good condition: Phil Jones; Dennis Trach; Cyane Gresham; Scott Hitz; Bob Reynolds; John and Sophia Florence; Storm, Dan, and Griffin Evans; Mike Quirk; Alan Bayersdorfer (earlier in the week).

Here are some of the tasks accomplished: pruned privet and viburnums, etc.; hauled away mountain of cut limbs; raked old leaves around the meetinghouse and hauled to lower lot; took out leaves, trash and weeds behind lilies along the sidewalk and street...

Meeting Handbook

During Jean Warrington's clerkship, she urged the Meeting to develop a written document to record many aspects of the way we operate. With such a handbook, we would have to depend less on handed down lore as our leadership and personnel change, and could give new arrivals to the Meeting a handy orientation in one document. That document, thanks to the work of several people but led by Jean with Ellen Deacon's help, has reached the stage of final comments. Committee clerks and officers will be reviewing it; once their comments are folded in, it will be made available to everyone. Jean and Ellen hope that by the June business meeting it will be in that form; watch for it.

June Calendar

Sun., 3 June, 12:00pm - Community Lunch - Social Room  
Sun., 3 June, 12:15pm - Worship & Ministry Committee - Middle School Room  
Wed., 6 June, 7:00pm - Finance Committee - Office  
Thu., 7 June, 7:00pm - NIM Annual Assembly - Germantown Jewish Centre  
Sun., 10 June, 12-1pm - Forum: BOOKS! - Worship Room  
Mon., 11 June, 7:30pm - Care & Counsel Committee - Mickey's home  
Tue., 12 June, 7:00pm - Peace & Social Concerns Committee meeting - Stapeley Hall  
Tue., 12 June, 7:30pm - Men's Spiritual Support Group - Middle School Room  
Sat., 16 June, 9:00am - Mindfulness Meditation Retreat - Social Room  
Sun., 17 June, 12:30 - Meeting for Business - Worship Room  
Sat., 23 June, 1:00pm - Recycling Event w/Weavers Way - UCPA Parking Lot  
Sun., 24 June, 9:00am - Early meeting for worship - Worship Room and building site  
Wed., 27, - July newsletter deadline - midnight, via email

Every Sunday

Early Meeting for Worship - 9 - 10am in worship room; also on lower lot on 4th Sundays  
Hymn-singing, in Social Room by piano - 9:45 am to 10:15 am  
Meeting for Worship (see note ) (childcare available) - 10:30 - 11:30 am  
First Day School - 10:30 am to 11:30 am

June 16 Mindfulness Meditation Retreat

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting is hosting a silent Mindfulness Meditation retreat on Saturday, June 16, 2012, from 9 am to 2 pm. Irene McHenry, a seasoned mindfulness meditation teacher,

will guide a full range of mindfulness practices including sitting, walking, gentle movement, mindful listening, eating meditation, and compassion practice.

Join us to explore the transformative possibilities in each moment of our lives. Please bring a bag lunch; tea, juice and water will be provided. Bring a pillow or cushion to sit on, if desired. Register by email - [reeniemac@gmail.com?Subject=Mindfulness%20Retreat](mailto:reeniemac@gmail.com?Subject=Mindfulness%20Retreat) . This is a free offering for the community. Donations to Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting are welcome.

New Meetinghouse News  
Ground symbolically broken

Okay, so we didn't actually puncture the asphalt on the building site. But four of our youngest Friends did a very energetic job of getting to the bottom of a raised bed of dirt (raised especially for the occasion), backed by a succession of cheering and cheerful adults. By holding the groundbreaking on a weekday morning, we expected a rather limited turnout. And by holding it on a day when (yet again) the heavens opened just when we were scheduled to start, we were absolutely certain that nobody would come. But they came.

Okay, so where's the construction machinery?

Project Manager John Howard advises us that because of a number of last minute complications, the contractor won't be starting until around the middle of the month.

News of Friends Honoring our Youth at NIM Annual Assembly

Sam Lovett-Perkins, who has grown up in our Meeting, is our honoree for the NIM Annual Assembly , where this year's theme is the youth of the NIM congregations. Register in advance for \$25 per person (so they're sure to make enough dessert for all of us!) and then come to the Germantown Jewish Centre, Ellet Street and Lincoln Drive on Thursday, at 7:00 pm on 7 June. We'd like to have a full table of Friends to cheer for our honoree. And the dessert buffet really is something to come out for.

Outside the Meeting  
Quarterly Meeting: What canst thou TWEET?

The second quarterly program of the year, on Sunday, 3 June, is slated to address the current state of communications and media technologies within and between the seven monthly meetings of the Philadelphia quarter, and to facilitate a dialogue about what we envision for the future and how we hope to make that vision a reality.

The program will begin with a series of queries addressing how members currently communicate, give and receive news within their meetings. Attendees will be invited to discuss in small groups followed by cross-sharing in the larger group.

In the second part we will open the floor for brief presentations from representatives of each monthly meeting, detailing the present state of media and communications in their meeting and any new initiatives that they've been working on. We will also hear remarks from a few avid social media users/bloggers within the community, thus covering everything from printed newsletter mailings to Twitter feeds.

Lunch and childcare will be provided by Green Street Monthly Meeting Staff. Lunch will be from 12-1pm.

Is our Quarter interested in sponsoring a QVS workcamp?

Quarter clerk Tom Hardy is exploring the possibility of Philadelphia Quarter joining an effort to re-establish Quaker Voluntary Service work camps in the area.

NIM Annual Assembly

The 23rd Annual Assembly of the Neighborhood Interfaith Movement will be held on Thursday, June 7, 2012, at the Germantown Jewish Centre, Lincoln Drive and Ellet Street, at 7:00 P.M. The special guest speaker will be renowned artist and children's book illustrator E.B.

Lewis, a Philadelphia native and graduate of Temple University who has inspired many with his books about overcoming adversity and differences and celebrating community. Mr. Lewis, whose book *Talkin' About Bessie* received the Coretta Scott King Book Award, will receive the Reverend Richard R. Fernandez Religious Leadership Award.

In addition to honoring Mr. Lewis, NIM has asked its member congregations to name honorees from their midst. To make a reservation, visit [www.nimphilly.org/tickets](http://www.nimphilly.org/tickets) or call Eric Wilden at 215-843-5600, ext.104. Tickets are \$25 per person.

#### New Sanctuary Movement is Hiring a Community Organizer

New Sanctuary Movement of Philadelphia (NSM) is an interfaith, multi-cultural immigrant rights organization working to build alliances across ethnicity, faith and class in order to give voice to immigration injustices and enact policies that reflect values of hospitality, justice and dignity.

NSM is currently working on two campaigns to build a more welcoming and just city and state: to stop the collaboration between the Philadelphia Police Department and Immigration, and to fight a package of anti-immigrant bills in the PA State Legislature. You can find out more about this work here: <http://www.sanctuaryphiladelphia.org>.

NSM is hiring a Full Time Community Organizer to join their dynamic and upbeat team working to build a faith-based grassroots movement for immigrant rights. The organizer will develop leaders in the community, build a network of congregations and oversee campaigns.

#### Parents's Email List

If you are a parent of a child who attends our meeting, and you do not already receive email updates from Hannah Mazzaccaro, please send your email contact information to her - [hannahmazz@gmail.com](mailto:hannahmazz@gmail.com) - so you can get important information about field trips, family nights, and other First Day School announcements. (Don't use the RE parents' list published in the directory until further notice; we will update it with the email addresses you send in.)

#### Hospitality: Third Sunday Lunches

Thanks to all who have helped with the Third Sunday lunches this year, especially to those who pitched in on such short notice on May 20, providing a nice variety of delicious food! Could you volunteer to bring a dish or to coordinate lunch for June 17? Please contact Liz Williams or Dona Garrettson if you could be the coordinator or if you'd like to contribute an entree, salad, or dessert for June 17.

#### Small Grant applications due

Peace & Social Concerns Committee advises that the deadline for small grant applications is Thursday, June 7.

#### June Forum: Your favorite books of late

It's Book Forum time again. Bring one or two books that you've read recently and would recommend to others. We'll publish the list in the next newsletter. Light refreshments will be served at rise of meeting. Childcare is also provided.

#### Recycling Event with Weavers Way

Our Peace & Social Concerns committee is collaborating with Weavers Way to offer another Electronics Recycling event on Saturday, June 23. The committee would love to have volunteers to help; if you are a Weavers Way member you can also get work credit. Contact Kathy Miller - [kathy.miller127@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.miller127@gmail.com), 215-247-8105.

#### Care & Counsel: Job opening

Care & Council Committee is looking for an individual (or individuals) interested in redoing our picture directory currently displayed on the bulletin board. This is a project without a committee commitment! And it could be a good way to get to know meeting members and attenders. If interested, please contact Jude Brandt - [judester14@gmail.com](mailto:judester14@gmail.com) at 215-779-4383.

## Address change

Abbe Foreman and Shelly Komito  
1727 SE 5th Court  
Cape Coral, FL 33990  
239-673-9777

## Community Lunch

Community Lunches occur on the first First Day (Sunday) of the month from 12:00 - 1:00pm and are provided by the Hospitality Committee (i.e., it's not a potluck). All are welcome. (We do have a potluck lunch on the fifth Sunday of the month, when there is one.)

## Allergy Reminder

Friends are reminded that a member of our community has a severe allergy to strawberries, and has to leave the building if they are present. So please don't bring strawberries in any form to any meeting social function or meal.

## Meeting for Worship

Children are welcome in meeting for worship from 10:30 to 10:45, when they leave to attend First Day School.

## Quote

What is the Quaker faith? It is not a tidy package of words which you can capture at any given time and then repeat weekly at a worship service. It is an experience of discovery which starts the discoverer on a journey which is life-long. The discovery in itself is not uniquely a property of Quakerism. It is as old as Christianity, and considerably older if you share the belief that many have known Christ who have not known His name. What is unique to the Religious Society of Friends is its insistence that the discovery must be made by each man for himself.

No one is allowed to get it second-hand by accepting a ready-made creed. Furthermore, the discovery points a path and demands a journey, and gives you the power to make the journey.

Elise Boulding, 1954