

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting

September 2013

Monthly and Quarterly Meeting Events

A very moving experience

As soon as the City's inspectors have granted us an official Certificate of Occupancy, our contractor will officially turn the new building over to us, initiating several activities which may be of interest to you. A last-minute hitch (the elevator inspector can't come until Tuesday of next week) means that the timing of some of these events has had to be modified, as shown in the list below:

- **8/30/13:** Keycode Party POSTPONED
- **8/31/13:** Moving Day #1 POSTPONED
- **9/1/13:** Because the new benches will not yet have been delivered, we'll have what should be our last meeting for worship in our old home this Sunday. At the rise of meeting there will be a modified Community Lunch, more like an expanded continental breakfast (because most of the kitchen gear has been packed). The trip to the new building that had been announced has been cancelled.
- **9/7/13:** Moving Day #2 MAY BECOME #1; 9:00am until finished. If we have a C.O. by then, we'll be moving stuff; if not, we won't.
- **9/8/13 WE HOPE:** First meeting for worship in our new home; early worship at 9:00am; regular worship at 10:30am. Again, this is contingent on our having received the Certificate of Occupancy from the City.

Friends are urged to check email frequently next week for bulletins about last-minute schedule changes.

FCNL Letter-writing Table

Take five minutes to make a difference! Please participate in the Peace and Social Concerns Committee's letter-writing table, starting up again September 15 after meeting for worship. Sample letters will be provided, using topics and materials from the Friends Committee on National Legislation - <http://www.fcnl.org> (FCNL). FCNL carefully picks topics that are urgent and timely, and that maximize the likelihood of making a difference on issues of concern to Friends. If you'd like to help in organizing this effort, contact Mary Day Kent, 215-849-1182, MDayKent@verizon.net , or Judy Morgan, 267-385-5049, judymorgan711@yahoo.com.

Landscaping news

The Chestnut Hill Community Association, through its Green Space Initiative, has given \$2,000 toward landscaping the new meetinghouse in 2013. The Community Fund is dedicated to "assist in improving the quality of life in the community", and they are certainly doing that by supporting groups as diverse as Friends of the Wissahickon (more than a million visitors a year!), Allens Lane Art Center, Center on the Hill, Mt Airy Art Garage, Friends of Jenks, Teenagers, Inc., Time4Time (created by Friend Betsy Wallace among others), Friends of Wyndmoor Station, Meals on Wheels, Northwest Victims' Services and many more. A big thank you to the Chestnut Hill Community Association. -

Adult Class resumes on 9/29

The Adult Education Committee resumes Sunday morning classes, starting on September 29, with a three-Sunday series on a wonderful pamphlet by William Taber called The Prophetic Stream. It is described as "A call to revive the prophetic message in Quaker worship and ministry and in Christianity," and interweaves the experience and messages of Biblical prophets, including Jesus, with possibilities for addressing the challenges of our own time. Howard Lesnick will lead our exploration, which will include his own reflections as well as discussion. Howard teaches law at UPenn, and has attended Quaker meeting for nearly 40 years. -

Friendly 8s

Community is an essential part of Quaker life, and indeed is upheld as one of our Testimonies. We worship together, we work in committees together, we shovel snow together (well, a few much-appreciated souls do), and we certainly like to eat lunch together. But sometimes we are

so busy working together that we have neither time nor opportunity to get to know one another as individuals.

Friendly 8s are informal groups of - would you believe? - approximately eight people, who get together a few times over the course of a few months to get to know one another better. Ideally, each group has a few old-timers combined with a few more recent arrivals. A designated convenor for each group serves as the initial contact person, but the role of host rotates among the members, and hosts remind the group about the get-together at their respective houses. We ask that each group retain the same people over the course of four months.

September Calendar

Sun., 1 September, 12:00pm - Community Lunch - Social Room
Tue., 3 September: 7:00pm - RE Committee meeting - FDS area
Tue., 3 September: 7:30pm - Coordinating Committee meeting - Gathering Room
Thu., 5 September: 7:00pm - Peace & Social Concerns Committee meeting - Gathering Room
Thu., 5 September: 7:00pm - Skyspace Ad Hoc Working Group meeting - worship room
Sun., 8 September: 12:00pm - Worship & Ministry Committee meeting - Gathering Room
Mon., 9 September: 7:00pm - Care & Counsel Committee meeting - Mickey's house
Tue., 10 September: 7:00pm - Property Committee meeting - Gathering Room
Tue., 10 September: 7:30pm - Men's Spiritual Support Group - Office
Wed., 11 September: 7:30pm - Finance Committee meeting - Gathering Room
Thu., 12 September: 7:00pm - Outreach Committee meeting - Gathering Room
Fri., 13 September: 6:00pm - Clerks' Meeting - Social Room
Sun., 15 September: 12:30pm - Monthly Meeting for Business - Worship Room
Mon., 16 September: 7:00pm - Office & Records Committee meeting - Office
Sun., 22 September: 12:30pm - Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting - Green St MM
Sun., 22 September: 3:00pm - Gun Violence and Theology, Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill
Wed., 25 September: midnight - Deadline for October newsletter - by email
Sun., 29 September: 12:00pm - Blue Moon potluck - Social Room

Every Sunday

Early Meeting for Worship - 9 - 10am in worship room; also outdoors on 4th Sundays
Adult Class , 9:30 am to 10:15 am; or Hymn-singing - 9:45 am to 10:15 am in Social Room
Meeting for Worship (see note) (childcare available) - 10:30 - 11:30 am
Children's supervised activities - 10:30 am to 11:30 am

New website: requesting an account

We're about to shut down the old website and switch to the new one - <https://www.quakercloud.org/cloud/chestnut-hill-friends-meeting>. You can already see most of the content without an account, but with an account you'll see everything. Eventually that will include things like an online directory, but sooner than that you'll need an account if you are on a committee that shares documents and keeps its minutes online. (Committee business is visible only to the committee members and website administrator.) To get an account, follow the steps in [this article](#).

News of Friends

- **Eileen Flanagan:** Meeting member Eileen Flanagan wrote this cover story on climate change in Africa - <http://www.christiancentury.org/article/2013-08/temperature-rising> for Christian Century magazine.
- **Roberta and Terry Foss:** Roberta and Terry have their second joint exhibition of paintings (hers) and photographs (his) at the Christopher Financial Group, 161 Washington Street, Suite 225, Conshohocken PA 19428. The show is open from September 19 through October 25, with an opening reception on 19 September from 4 to 6 pm. To visit on workdays, call 610-897-2713. Some people will remember this as the location for previous exhibitions by Warren Witte and Yoma Ullman.
- **Marcelle Martin:** Our member Marcelle Martin, now living in Richmond, Indiana, will be visiting the Philadelphia area in September. After coming to meeting for worship at Chestnut Hill on September 22, Marcelle will be spending a week at Haverford College as Friend in Residence. The Friend in Residence program, coordinated by Haverford's Director of Quaker Affairs Walter Hjelt Sullivan (a Haverford alumnus and member of Green Street Meeting), "brings gifted and experienced Quakers to campus for extended

interactions with students, staff, faculty, and the community." Click for more information - www.haverford.edu/quakeraffairs/friend_in_residence/. On Friday, September 27, from noon to 1:30 pm, come to a "Brown Bag with Marcelle Martin", at the Quaker Collection in Magill Library on the campus. She'll talk about her research into the lives, travels, and ministries of 17th century Quakers.

- **Carolyn Schodt:** Carolyn's work bringing the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) to Memphis Street Academy in North Philadelphia was recently featured in The Atlantic magazine. This fall she is expanding the training to include teachers and administrators at two additional schools to reach a total of 550 high school students. Follow the link to read the full article - <http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2013/07/a-philadelphia-schools-big-bet-on-nonviolence/277893/> .
- **Colette Kleitz:** Colette writes, "My wonderful father, J. Shane Creamer, who has end-stage Parkinson's disease, suffered a fall recently and broke his hip. He now has complications from surgery and is not expected to recover. He is moving into hospice care. Thank you for holding us all in the Light."

Outside the Meeting

Growth Dilemma Project Open Discussion & Support Group

Join members of the Growth Dilemma Project of the PYM Ecojustice Working Group to learn about the intersection of economy and ecology, and consider how we can respond in our individual lives, our meetings, and the wider community. Discussions are held the first Tuesday of each month. -

Arch St. Lunch & Lecture Series

The guides of Arch Street Meeting House are hosting lectures throughout the year. The September talk with Tom Unkefer, Clerk of the Property and Use Committee at Arch Street, will include a tour of the grounds of Arch Street Meeting House and a talk on their historic significance. Bring a brown bag lunch, drinks provided. September 11, 2013 from 11:45 - 1:00, Arch Street Meeting House, 4th & Arch Streets, Philadelphia.

Click for more information - <http://www.pym.org/calendar/events/arch-street-lunch-lecture-series> , or contact volunteers@pym.org or 215-241-7238.

Historic Fair Hill fund-raiser

Join us for a Boat House Party to benefit the Historic Fair Hill (HFH) endowment fund on Sunday, September 22, 2013, 5-8 p.m. at the University Barge Club, 7 Boathouse Row, Kelly Drive, Philadelphia. The guest speaker is Denis Lucey, Landscape Manager, Awbury Arboretum. Enjoy artisanal beer, hors d'oeuvres and the sunset over the Schuylkill! Space is limited. Make your reservations early! All proceeds benefit the endowment fund of Historic Fair Hill.

Gun Violence and Theology: an Interfaith Conversation

On Sunday, 22 September, from 3:00 to 5:00pm, join the conversation, which will be emceed by Chris Satullo. Jewish, Christian and Muslim speakers will comprise a panel. This event at the Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill is sponsored by local congregations including CHFM, and organizations including Interfaith Peace Walk and Heeding God's Call. A free-will donation asked at the event.

Greeters for September

9/1	Mickey Abraham	Kathy Miller
9/8	Jocelyn Anthony	Susan Lee Barton
9/15	George Benz	Pauline Doyle
9/22	John Bieniek	Peter Borowiec
9/29	Crissy Bowen	Marja Brandon

Greeters for October

10/6	Chuck Bragitikos	Evangeline Bragitikos
10/13	Jude Brandt	Grace Moses
10/20	Barb Buonocore	Joe Byers
10/27	Ginny Christensen	Linda Clark

Letter to First Day School parents

If you have a child or children of First Day School age (infant through 8th grade), please click to download a letter from the Religious Education Committee about what your children will experience in the coming year, and how you can be involved.

August 28, 2013

Dear Parents,

We're very happy to welcome your children and you to Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting's 2013/14 First Day School. Some of you are old-timers, some first-timers, but everyone this year, young, old and in between, will be part of the First Wave in our new meeting house - an exciting time for all!

This year, the children participating in FDS will be in 3 divisions, based roughly - not rigidly - on age: Playschool - babies and toddlers through to K, under the loving care of Terrie Abraham and her assistant; Primary, grades 1 - 4, currently coordinated by Diane Dunning; and Middle School Friends, grades 5 - 8, currently coordinated by Jean Warrington and Tricia Walmsley.

Our teaching roster is not yet finalized, but this will be in place by the time classes begin on September 8. As in previous years, the children will worship together with the adults for 15 minutes, starting at 10:30, before leaving for their FDS classes. The youngest ones are welcome to go in to Terrie at any time.

The curriculum for this year will focus on Quakerism and what it means to be a Quaker. In general, we'll be basing the lessons on two publications of Friends General Conference (FGC): "Quaker Values" by Marsha Holliday, and "Sparkling Still", lessons put together by FGC's Religious Education Committee. The purpose of our program is to help children explore the values, faith and practice that grow out of Friends' belief that "there is that of God in everyone", that life itself is sacred. We'll be using a mix of contemporary, Bible and Quaker stories, along with activities, projects and games to guide the children in their growing understanding of the roots and meaning of Quaker values.

We're not asking parents to teach, but we greatly welcome - and need - your input, your enthusiasms, and the encouragement you give your children. Please mark Sunday, 13th October, 12:30pm. That's the date of our First Day School Parents' get-together for lunch and discussion of the coming year's program. Bring your questions and thoughts. We'll bring the food and provide the childcare.

We look forward to seeing you and your children very soon!

With love,

The members of the CHFM RE committee: Ginny Christensen, Diane Dunning, Randy Granger, Colette Kleitz, Irene McHenry, Hannah Mazzaccaro, Betsy Robertson, Tricia Walmsley, Jean Warrington. You'll find contact details for all the committee members in the Meeting's directory.

Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting

Philadelphia Quarter will hold its Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business at Green Street Meeting on Sunday, 22 September, 2013. Please join Friends for worship at 10:30, followed by a social hour and Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business around 12:30pm. Please feel free to bring a brown bag lunch. Agenda items for consideration by the Quarter must be sent to the Quarter Coordinator philaqtr@pym.org two weeks in advance of the Meeting, by September 8, 2013.

The Skyspace

Friends may be curious about the current status of the Skyspace. The structure is finished; the roof slides back and forth as it should; the special lighting has been installed. What

hasn't happened yet is for James Turrell to come and program the lighting sequences for sunrise and sunset shows for each season of the year. As you may know from all the press coverage he has received (three simultaneous major retrospectives), he's a very busy man. Now that the building is finished he can look for a slot in his timetable to come put the final touches on our Skyspace. We're hopeful that we can open the Skyspace as an artwork by October.

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.)

Third Sunday Lunch

Our meeting for business takes place on third Sundays of September through June (usually skipping December). Hospitality Committee supervises, but Friends are asked to contribute dishes, sometimes around a theme. Watch for sign-up information.

Allergy Reminder: Please don't bring anything with strawberries in it to a potluck or community lunch; a member of our community is highly sensitive to strawberries.

Meeting for Worship: Children are welcome in meeting for worship from 10:30 to 10:45, when they leave to adult-supervised activity (summer) or First Day (Sunday) school class (school year).

Quote: Community as Spiritual Discipline

As we ponder the importance of community as a spiritual discipline, it is helpful to remember that the model of community of Acts was not effortless, but rather the unfolding of mutual experience tested in the light of serious challenges and supported in God's strength. We must develop a way to understand genuine community as the product of conflict and testing. We must discover ways to be authentically present to and respectful of one another while we disagree strenuously. We must learn to discover and speak our own truths, without fear and without harm to others who also hold a piece of the truth in which we all live.

by Norvene Vest