

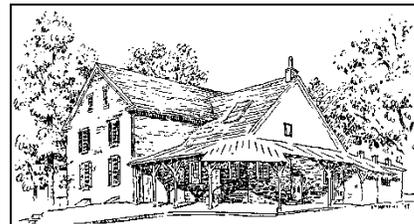
West Chester Monthly Meeting of Friends

425 N. High Street

West Chester, PA 19380

610-696-0491, Email: WCFMeeting@gmail.com

www.WestChesterFriends.org



Welcome to Meeting for Worship. If you are a visitor, please sign the guestbook on the table near the High Street entrance, and help yourself to literature there. Please join us after Meeting for refreshments.

Audio devices are available from the Greeter.

Announcements

12/15/19

Calendar

Sunday, 12/15: 9am Worship & Ministry; Christmas Program & Dinner at 4:30pm

Tuesday, 12/17: WCFS Holiday Concert for 3rd-5th grades at 7pm; Social Room in use 5-9pm

Thursday, 12/19- Wednesday, 1/1: WCFS closed

Sunday, 12/22: Community Worship at 10:30am

Tuesday, 12/24: Christmas Eve candlelight Worship at 7pm

Sunday, 12/29: Poetry Share at 10:30am

Friday, 1/3: Social Room in use by WCFS 8am

Sunday, 1/5: Care of Meeting 9am

Sunday, 1/12: Query reading at 10:30 am; **Meeting for worship** with attention to **business** begins at **9am**

Sunday, 1/19: Worship & Ministry and Peace & Social Concerns both meet at 9am; Meeting Health Education presentation at shared lunch

Christmas at West Chester Meeting! Carol Singing and our First Day School Christmas pageant begin at 4:30 PM. Turkey dinner is scheduled to begin at 5:00. Our talented Meeting chefs will prepare turkey, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, and cranberry sauce. We hope many Friends will bring side dishes (vegetables or salad) and/or desserts to round out the offerings.

Help the West Chester Food Cupboard help our neighbors make ends meet! Please donate store gift cards (Shop Rite, Giant, Acme) as the Food Cupboard can stretch their value. Nonperishable/non-expired canned or boxed foods; and/or personal-hygiene items for adults and children are also most welcome, and anyone can participate in the "**Reverse Advent**" activity that connect our giving with the needs in Nativity story, and benefits the Food Cupboard. (Need ideas or more information? Check out the posters on the WCFC collection boxes in the Social Room, grab a "Reverse Advent" flyer, or visit wcfood.org.)

Friends of all ages will gather for a multigenerational **Community Worship on December 22** at 10:30. That morning, we'll hear the Godly Play story of the Nativity before we settle into waiting worship together. Children are invited to stay for the whole time, and child care will also be available. Join us for this family-friendly time of reflection and worship before Christmas celebrations!

The **Christmas Eve Meeting for Worship is at 7:00pm**, it is a candlelight worship that is multi-generational (no childcare) and is shortened to 30-45 minutes. There will be coffee/ hot cocoa and Christmas cookies afterwards.

Nominating Committee has created a brief questionnaire as one step in their work for 2020. As we consider the needs of our community, and the gifts and leadings of members and attenders, your responses will help to inform and guide the committee in service to the meeting. Copies of the questionnaire are available at the meetinghouse, or from a member of the committee. There is also an online link to complete the form: <https://forms.gle/aL-yhL7DuG0j7tUnv7> We encourage Friends to complete the questionnaire on paper or using the online link by January 5.

Due to the holidays, **Peace & Social Concerns Committee will skip their December meeting.** In January, they will meet on 1/19 at 9AM to allow some additional time to prepare the program for Concord Quarterly meeting.

Let us honor and be attentive to the Spirit by not entering or leaving Worship during spoken messages.

Save the Date! West Chester Monthly Meeting will be hosting the **Concord Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, January 26**. Peace & Social Concerns Committee will be presenting **The Water Project**. Dirty water impacts health, education, women, and income. Providing a reliable and safe water source allows communities to thrive. **The Water Project** provides access to safe and reliable water across sub-Saharan Africa. Together, our support can end the water crisis and restore hope, one community at a time. Read more about it, and learn how you can help here: <https://thewaterproject.org/community/profile/wc-friends-concord-quarter> As we continue planning, We are looking for several Friends who can prepare and share soup, bread, or a simple dessert (cookies and fruit are always welcome). If you can prepare and bring along to the Meeting kitchen a big pot of soup--either vegetarian or not-- to serve a dozen or more Friends, that would be great. It would be even better if you can share "up front" (say by Tuesday 1//21) the kind of soup you're planning to bring.

Time Change! Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business will begin at **9:00am** on the second First Day of the month in January, February, and March. This is an experiment with "inreach" with the hope that more Friends will be able to attend and participate in business meeting during the time before worship. Child care will be available in the classroom building during this time. The intention is to take a break at 10:15 for a transition to worship and Youth RE programs from 10:30-11:30am, as usual. At a future meeting for business Friends will have an opportunity to consider the 3-month experiment, how it worked for our meeting, and whether this is a model we are led to continue.

West Chester Friends School is having the **stage floors** refinished starting on December 18 and the remaining of that week.

Downingtown Friends Meeting wishes to extend an invitation to us for **Christmas in the Light on Wednesday, December 18 at 7pm**. Feel free to bring a poem or song to share. If you are interested in going and need childcare, please contact Jim Supplee at 610-363-2884 or jsupplee7@gmail.com.

Birmingham's annual Carol Sing is on December 22 from 7-8:30pm! Bring a friend or neighbor! Bring a plate of cookies to share! Join us as we sing holiday favorites. After the singing, we will share fellowship, cookies and punch.

Join Quaker artist **Carol Sexton** for an artist talk and reception marking the opening of an exhibit of her paintings, "Botanical Explorations," on display in the **Barn Gallery at Pendle Hill from November 19, 2019, through March 3, 2020**. Carol's work explores the wide variety of forms, textures, and colors found in plants.

Friday, December 27, 4PM—Sunday, December 29, noon: Join Young Friends at Woodstown Meeting, 104 N. Main St., Woodstown, NJ, for the **PYM Young Friends Christmas Gathering 2019**. We'll be diving into our yearly theme of "Change," beginning with this gathering's theme, "Change Within Ourselves." Multiple Young Friends will be presenting workshops relating to identity and exploring the ways in which we are all superheroes. Go to: <https://www.pym.org/event/young-friends-christmas-2019/> for more info and to register.



I think that for Fox, and anyone who proposes an experiential theology, as Friends do, the element of experiment is important. Fox came to his opening only after he had traveled around seeking out the leading lights of his day. He found that none of the people who he met could answer the questions in his soul. He found the answers in an inner voice. He heard this voice, he identified it as the Inner Christ, and he found confirmation in that his "soul did leap for joy."

Will Taber, 2011

As quoted in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's Faith & Practice Revision Final Draft, 2016

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