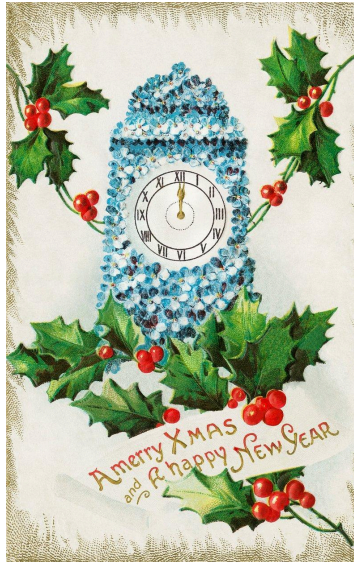




ABINGTON QUARTER NEWSLETTER

Holiday 2025



www.abingtonquarterlymeeting.org

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Quick note from the Editor

Happy Holiday Friends!

The deadline for the next newsletter is Monday January 19 , 2026. Please note that events going on in Monthly Meetings can be shared with Friends in the Quarter before the next newsletter comes out. So please feel free to email them to me.

The Quaker Monthly Meetings in the Abington Quarter

**Abington - Byberry - Gwynedd - Horsham - Norristown - Plymouth -
Richland - Unami - Upper Dublin**

Upcoming AQ Workshop: Taking Minutes – Quaker Style!

With Jim Herr

Date: Saturday, December 13th. Time: 10 AM - 12 PM. In person and Zoom.

Hosted at Plymouth Friends Meeting. Sponsored by Abington Quarter.

Address: 2150 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

Workshop Description: Is your Meeting looking for Friends who are willing to take minutes? Are you open to helping with the minute taking yourself, but unsure what the role requires? Do you want a refresher about Quaker minute taking? Join us for a lively 2-hour hybrid (in person and Zoom) workshop led by Jim Herr, followed by an optional brown-bag fellowship from 12 - 1 PM. Jim brings clarity, humor, and deep experience to this essential service to the meeting. Minute-taking, when done “Quaker style,” is a rewarding spiritual practice.

Jim demystifies:

- What Quaker minutes are (and are not),
- How to keep them simple, and
- The importance of active listening in Quaker decision making.

Friends will leave inspired, supported, and more confident about participating in the work of the meeting!

To register, click the link below, or go to the Abington Quarter website, click on the **Calendar**, then locate the workshop link on December 13. *The Zoom meeting link will be sent after registration. Watch for it.*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/v7DdHzESSlCWRtM1yijFBw#/registration>

Childcare/Youth program available. Register ahead.

This workshop is part of the *AQM Outreach, In reach, Engagement & Communications Topic Series*, designed to grow skills, Quaker meetings, awareness, and community.

Questions? Contact Lanza, AQM Communications Coordinator

AbingtonQTRCommunications@gmail.com

215-990-3196.

News from Meetings of the Quarter

Abington Monthly Meeting

Christmas Eve

Our Worship & Ministry Committee invites all to join in a special evening of peace and joy on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24th, as we gather together.

*John Barnes Room at Abington Monthly Meeting
(520 Meetinghouse Road, Jenkintown PA 19046)*

Christmas Caroling, beginning at 6:45 PM, followed by a special Christmas Eve Meeting for Worship in our meetinghouse and on Zoom at 7:30 PM until approximately 8 PM.

Meeting for Worship will use our regular Zoom link, available in our Weekly Announcements or by request. We ask that the section of the meetinghouse closest to the East Wing be reserved for Friends wearing masks.

Following worship, all are invited back into the John Barnes Room for Christmas cookies, milk and hot cider. Wishing all a very Merry Christmas!

Upcoming Adult Class for December 7th

Below is the description for the 12/7 Adult Education class, beginning at 11:30 AM in our John Barnes Room at Abington Monthly Meeting (520 Meetinghouse Road, Jenkintown PA 19046).

Philadelphia's Quaker Experiment and Arch Street Meeting House

This talk will explore the founding of Pennsylvania by William Penn, the expanse and downfall of Quaker colonial rule in early Pennsylvania, followed by an explosion of Quaker activism in the 19th and 20th Centuries.

Topics will include:

- The founding of Pennsylvania,
- The abolition movement,
- Quakerism reinvented, and
- The legacy of Quakerism in the fabric of Philadelphia to this day.

Arch Street Meeting House and Burial Ground serves as a core example of this Quaker influence in Pennsylvania. As the most visited Quaker historic site in the world, it serves as an important symbol of Quakerism from the 17th Century to today.

The talk will end with an exploration of how Arch Street Meeting House is now used and where the meetinghouse is heading.

Presented by Sean Connolly, Executive Director of the Arch Street Meeting House Preservation Trust.

Job Opening

Abington Monthly Meeting is seeking a Secretary/Administrator to work on-site in the Meeting office, 25 to 30 hours per week.

Click [here](#) to view the full job posting. Please submit a resume and letter of interest by **November 30, 2025**.

Gwynedd Monthly Meeting

The Friendly Finds Holiday Sale



The **AFSC Sale** that started as just one table at *American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)* headquarters in Philadelphia over 60 years ago, is now the **Friendly Finds Sale**. Same sale, and it still supports AFSC, but just a new name.

Hope you can join us, and consider bringing a F(f)riend or family member. Please let Chris Mrozinski (Clerk of the AFSC Sale Subcommittee at Gwynedd) know if you have any questions about the sale.

Join Us at the Gwynedd Friends Meeting Christmas Tea on Sunday, December 21 at 5 pm

All members, attenders, and their guests are warmly invited for a candle-lit talent-sharing program of music, stories, and poems starting at 5 pm. Then we'll gather to socialize with friends while enjoying a spread of tasty treats. Please encourage college students and young people visiting from afar to attend and visit with their friends.

If you'd like to attend, please bring a plate of finger food if you can and plan to arrive 10 or 15 minutes before 5 pm to put on your name tag, set out your food in the Community Room with one of our serving utensils, and find a seat in the Meeting for Worship room.

Contact Betsy Lowe at lowezone@aol.com if you can:

- Help decorate the Meeting House on December 20 starting at 9 am,
- Make punch at the Tea, or
- Help serve food or clean up afterwards

Put **Christmas Tea** in the subject line, or text Betsy at 610-400-9160.

We tentatively plan to make bunches of greens for the outside doors on Sunday, December 8 after Adult Quaker Education. Please bring some evergreen trimmings to Meeting by that day if you can.

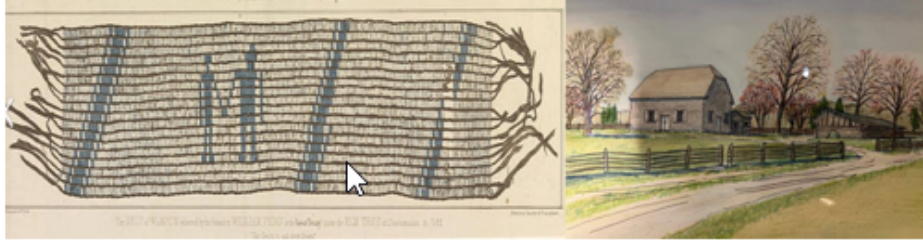
Performers Needed for *Christmas Tea*, December 21, 5 pm

Would you like to sing, play an instrument, dance, or read a story or poem? If so, please contact Carl Baron at cbaron292@gmail.com by Sunday, December 14 with the title of your song or reading. Each person or group should limit their performance (including introductory remarks) to 5 minutes. Children and youth are welcome to perform.

Gwynedd's Fellowship and Outreach Committee

Plymouth Monthly Meeting

2025 Annual Plymouth Monthly Meeting Indigenous Grant



Plymouth Meeting Friends (Quakers) and the Lenape of Lenapehocking

Plymouth Monthly Meeting accepted the recommendation of its *Right Relationship Working Group* to distribute the annual *Plymouth Monthly Meeting Indigenous Grant* to the *Native American House Alliance* and the *Native Roots Farm Foundation*. This grant is made to projects created and overseen by indigenous peoples.

Native American House Alliance: <https://nativeamericanhousealliance.org/>

Native American House Alliance was founded by indigenous people and allies to promote an accurate understanding of the Native American experience, history, and culture. All that they do will aid in dispelling prevailing stereotypes and generalizing cultural representations of American Indians by providing culturally-specific programs and information about the contemporary as well as historical cultures of distinct tribes and communities within the United States, and especially here in the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania region.

Services they provide:

- Cultural and social activities,
- Preservation and protection of Native American sites and places,
- Drug and alcohol counseling/ referrals,
- Domestic Violence Services referrals,
- Employment services,
- Housing referrals,
- Youth activities,

- Social Service Grants,
- Helping people get oriented to the Philadelphia region.

Native Roots Farm Foundation (NRFF) <https://www.nativerootsde.org/>

Native Roots Farm Foundation (NRFF) is a Native (Nanticoke), woman-led organization, founded with a mission to celebrate Indigenous cultures and protect open spaces – in particular, areas stewarded by the Nanticoke and Lenape communities who have called Delaware and the surrounding region home since time immemorial.

Through public programming and the development of our public Hakihakàn (Lenape for “garden” or “farm”), NRFF leads innovative and impactful community programs that recognize Indigenous ecological knowledge and the important roles native plants have played in Native cultures. Their work is focused on helping reconnect Indigenous people with aspects of our heritage. Utilizing a variety of educational programs and hands-on activities, NRFF shares this knowledge with the wider community and cultivates awareness of and appreciation for the natural world.

Donation to the United Palestinian Appeal - UPA

A donation was made from the Plymouth Monthly Meeting to the *United Palestinian Appeal* (UPA). In 1978 a group of Palestinian-American professionals witnessed the deep predicament that Palestinian communities continued to face thirty years after Nakba. Among these people were Quakers from Ramallah Palestine. They recognized the need to establish an independent platform to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people and

contribute to the long-term socio-economic and cultural development of Palestinian communities in the West Bank, Gaza and the diaspora.



Throughout the current war in Gaza, and the steady settler encroachment in Palestine (West Bank), the UPA has been a continual source of humanitarian aid. The UPA has programs for emergency response, health and wellness (including mental and trauma), economic development, education and outreach. Their programs have earned many awards and their fiscal responsibility is highly regarded: programs receive 98% of funds raised. Click this link to go to their website; <https://upaconnect.org/>

David Miller

Unami Monthly Meeting

Do you want to consider being a *Conscientious Objector* to military service?

Youth and young adults facing a possible Federal military draft may arrange individual or very small group direct counseling regarding the thought process appropriate for considering Conscience Objection (CO). This service was offered during the 60's and '70's by the *American Friends Service Committee*.

The counseling will be offered by John Munro, Unami Quaker and Conscientious Objector, who was processed by the Selective Service and county Draft Board, obtained CO status, and served a mandatory 2-year civilian service during the Vietnam War.

The counseling will be based on examining and answering a number of challenging questions and theoretical situations that relate to understanding and holding a well-thought-through conscientious objection position.

To arrange and schedule such sessions contact munroeco@verizon.net (Two or more 2-hour sessions would be normal.)

John Munro

Quarterly Meetings & Locations

2026 Quarterly Meetings & Locations		
Hope to see you all on February 1		
February 1	Unami	Quarterly Meeting
March 2	Gwynedd	Representatives
May 3	Plymouth	Quarterly Meeting
June 7	Horsham	Representatives