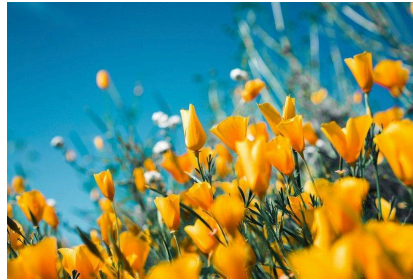


ABINGTON QUARTER NEWSLETTER



Spring 2024

www.abingtonquarterlymeeting.org

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Quick note from the Editor

I hope that one day each entire Monthly Meeting will attend Quarterly Meeting, either in person or via Zoom (May 5th, 8:30 AM–gather at 8:15 AM). Also, the deadline for the next newsletter is **July 19, 2024**

Please join us for Quarter on May 5 at Gwynedd

Join us **Sunday, May 5, 2024** for Abington Quarterly Meeting – by Zoom or in person with our hosts, Gwynedd Friends Meeting. The host program features Dr. Ayesha Imani and Phil Lord on Ujima Friends Peace Center and Ujima Friends Meeting. Gwynedd has planned childcare and a school age program on Environmental Stewardship so families across the Quarter can participate in the gathering!

Every member and attender in our local meetings is encouraged to attend! Remember - WE are all part of Abington Quarter, and we meet four times a year for a half day. The May 5th schedule starts at 8:15 coffee and bagels and spirit led Quarterly Business from 8:30 – 9:20. Hybrid worship opens at 9:30, followed by Quarterly updates and discussion. The host

program with Ujima Friends starts around 11:30 - 12:20 ish. Stay for a delicious lunch with Gwynedd Friends if you attend in-person.

Please note - To join via Zoom for this day, including worship with Gwynedd, use the link available on the AQM website <https://www.abingtonquarterlymeeting.org/>. Details about the schedule agenda, reports, program description and bios, childcare, contacts and other information are also on the website.

ABINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING

MAY 5, 2024

JOIN US LIVE OR BY ZOOM
Gwynedd Friends Meeting
1101 DeKalb Pike - Gwynedd, PA 19454

8:15 Coffee & bagels
8:30 Spirit led Quarterly Business
9:30 Hybrid Worship
10:30 Vital Quarterly Reports
11:30 Program on Ujima Friends
12:30 Lunch provided by our hosts: Gwynedd Friends

Provided by our hosts:
Childcare and a Children's Program on Environmental Stewardship!

For Event Info and Zoom Link:
Go to AQM website or scan the QR code

Program Presenter:
Ayesha Imani, Ph.D.
"Worship and Witness at
Ujima Friends Peace Center and
Ujima Friends Meeting"

AbingtonQuarterlyMeeting.org
SHARING HOW SPIRIT IS MOVING IN OUR QUAKER MEETINGS

The Gwynedd's Peace and Social Action Committee will be doing a "passing of a bowl" for the aid in Gaza with the American Friends Service Committee during lunch at Quarterly Meeting. Any donation will be much appreciated. There will also be a short peace vigil across Dekalb Pike which Friends are welcome to join at 1pm.

WHY PARTICIPATE IN QUARTERLY MEETING?

Inter-visitation is one of the oldest and most rewarding practices of the Religious Society of Friends. It allows for deeper understanding and cooperation between Quakers.

The Quaker Monthly Meetings in the Abington Quarter:

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

AQCC is expanding and we need you!

The **Abington Quarter Communications Committee** (AQCC) is seeking NEW or RETURNING friends to join our growing committee network. See below for gifts to share (scroll down for the list). *This AQCC committee works collaboratively on learning, developing and implementing communication–‘in reach’ and ‘outreach’ tools and strategies– that are essential to assuring the future vitality and life of our Quaker meetings. Together, we are stronger.*

We recently formed two AQCC subgroups: “Outreach” (odd weeks) and “Outreach Technical Support” (even weeks). These subgroups **currently** meet on alternate Mondays over Zoom at 1:30 PM (times can change to accommodate new members). New volunteers can join our network by taking on specific AQCC tasks.

Here is the ask: **We want each meeting to identify two new (or returning) friends** to join us. **Ideally, one will be familiar** with your meeting’s communications, outreach or programs. We also encourage meetings to **seek out an underutilized Friend(s)** who is willing to contribute, depending on time and tasks. We want to share the Abington Quarter with new folks!

Limited time availability or technical experience is not a barrier. Attenders and young people are WELCOME to join us. We anticipate meeting times will be adjusted to accommodate our new volunteers. Many vital tasks can be done independently. Time commitment is flexible.

Questions? Contact:

Bob Reiff, AQCC Convener and L. Lanza, AQM Communications Coordinator

Robert Reiff: abingtonquarter@gmail.com

Lanza: abingtonqtrcommunications@gmail.com (215-990-3196)

Can you offer a couple hours a month to make a huge difference in your own meeting and the entire Abington Quarter? Diversity of contributions is valued in the Abington Quarter Communications Committee!

Are you a member or attender who...

- ★ Loves learning, sharing knowledge, and getting the word out about fun events and Quakerism?
- ★ Are you an organizer or strategic planner?
- ★ Do you enjoy marketing and/or community organizing?
- ★ Do you know how to produce community events?

- ★ Do you like technical troubleshooting?
- ★ Could you teach others how to update the website or Facebook page?
- ★ Could you be a presenter for the Outreach Skills series?
- ★ Would you be the one to learn to use a new technology or apps and pass it on?
- ★ Could you fill out an inventory of your meeting's potential and existing partners?
- ★ Could you plan and lead an open house for prospective Seekers?
- ★ Do you like proofreading, transcribing, brainstorming ideas?
- ★ Are you interested in developing and strengthening your marketable skills?
- ★ Would you be interested in working with young people to earn community volunteer credits by doing some content creation?
- ★ Could you develop social media campaigns?
- ★ Are you able to write some short stories about your meeting?
- ★ Do you want to create YouTube or Facebook shorts? Take photos of Quaker Life?

Any of these diverse contributions can make a substantial difference for outreach and inreach of the meetings in the Quarter. Join the Quarter's Communications Committee and network - See Bob Reiff and Lanza contact info above.

News from the Meetings of the Quarter

Abington Monthly Meeting

Friend Request and Offer

Wanda Wyffels here, clerk of Abington Meeting and clerk of PYM's *Addressing Racism Collaborative* (ARC). ARC would like info from each meeting in Abington Quarter. I would appreciate it if a representative from each meeting to the Quarter would let the clerk of your meeting know about this request from ARC.

We would love to know what you're doing that's helping you on your antiracism path, any ways you see us helping you more fully live into the equality testimony, and/or any questions you have for us. If you are doing nothing to work on antiracism right now, we want to know that too. No judgments, just curiosity.

Switching hats... As clerk of Abington Meeting, I will be finishing my clerkship in May. My antiracism support committee at Abington has restarted and I have begun thinking on ideas for the meeting's antiracism journey. One idea that came to me as I was worshiping was that I could offer any classes, workshops, programs, etc. to other meetings in our Quarter. If this resonates with you for your meeting, let me know. To contact me for the ARC info, or if you want an invitation to antiracism work at Abington, my email is wwyffels@gmail.com.

Abington Monthly Meeting: SUNDAYS AT SEVEN 2024

An informal discussion group addressing Quaker topics

Do you wish to know more about Quakerism? Join us on seven Sundays at 7:00 PM beginning April 7 in the John Barnes Room at Abington Friends Meetinghouse. (Possibly moving to our Short Stable building, due to construction.)



April 7 — *Introduction to Quaker Faith and Practice* - Richard Alonso — Where is each of us right now in our spiritual explorations? What do Friends mean by "continuing revelation," by "that of God in everyone," and by "the Inner Light"? How do we use silence in worship and in daily lives?

April 14 — *Meeting for Worship* - Walter Singer — The heart of Quaker worship is communion with the invisible and eternal reality of the Divine. Friends can use the metaphor of passing through a series of four stages to reach this reality. How do Quakers use these doors to deepen worship?

April 21 — *Meeting for Business* - Richard Alonso — How does "sense of the meeting" differ from consensus? What are the roles of the clerk and the recording clerk? How does a Friends business meeting function, and what can those in attendance do to help make participation spiritually rewarding?

April 28 — *Faith into Action: Integrity Testimony* - Dan Turner — What is a testimony? A concern? A query? Integrity is basic to all Quaker testimonies and becomes a guiding principle for Friends' conduct. How does integrity relate to the Inner Light?

May 5 — *Peace Testimony* — Walter Singer - How do Quakers strive to live in nonviolence with love, forgiveness, and efforts toward reconciliation? What are different ways Friends act on the Peace Testimony? What are its implications in today's world?

May 12 — *Simplicity Testimony* — Dan Turner - What does it mean to Quakers to live simply? How do we learn to refrain from excessive consumption and too many secular involvements? How do Friends practice simplicity in the affluence of our American society?

May 19 — *Community and Membership* — Richard Alonso - What stages does a spiritual seeker typically go through to grow into the life of the Meeting community? How and why do people seek membership? What are the responsibilities of Meeting membership?

All Welcome!

Abington Friends Meetinghouse

520 Meetinghouse Road

Jenkintown, PA 19046

(215) 884-2865

amm@abingtonfriends.net

AbingtonQuakers.org

Abington Friends Meeting
Celebrates PRIDE!

Sunday, June 2 at 11:00 AM

Due to construction inside our building, this will be an outdoor event,
rain or shine!

At approximately 11:00 AM, we will gather for a
Public Witness for Pride
along the sidewalks near Jenkintown & Meetinghouse Rds
(exact location depends on Abington Township construction)
Make your own Signs saying that Abington Meeting celebrates Pride!
Pride flags will also be available!

At approximately 12:00 Noon, weather permitting,
we will move to the Grove for a

Pride Picnic

Please bring your own lunch and chairs or a blanket!
We will have music and singing, and contact Zoe Fox
if you have a favorite song you'd like to include!
Feel free to bring an instrument!

All Welcome, LGBTQ+ and Allies!

Loretta E. Fox

Gwynedd Monthly Meeting

Coffeehouse



Charlie Zahm, based in Chester County PA, is one of the most popular soloists at Celtic music festivals, Maritime, and American Traditional music events anywhere east of the Mississippi. He is joined by fiddler Tad Marks.

With a baritone voice some have described as "coming along once in a generation," Charlie has become one of the most successful performers

on the Celtic festival circuit, weaving magical moments of Scottish and Irish history for the listener and viewer, with passion for the performance and a chosen repertoire pleasing to all members of the family. A master of the guitar as well, Charlie brings an authentic love and respect for the music he sings-and with dashes of humor and a light in his eyes, he will draw you into the stories of his songs!



Please join us for our summer AFSC sale on **June 8 from 9-1**. There will be small furniture, clothing (all sizes), dishes, shoes, toys, puzzles, and so much more. A flier will be sent out closer to the date to share with your meeting.

AFSC Sale Committee

Horsham Monthly Meeting

PEACE WEEK

DAY CAMP

June 24-28, 2024

9AM-3PM • AGES 6-12

Registration NOW OPEN!

Find us on Facebook

at **HORSHAM FRIENDS MONTHLY MEETING**

500 Easton Rd. Horsham, PA 19044

Call or Text 267-291-4108

You can register at

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdicHD9tgGln2K91gRz1q8x6cxlbVE4B-zZU8Ie3BddDcncEA/viewform>

Norristown Monthly Meeting

Spirit Moving in Our Meetings

Norristown Friends gathered early in the morning of March 31st, the day the world calls Easter Sunday, with Quakers across the Quarter for worship inside the historic Upper Providence Meetinghouse which is under their care. The furnace was lit, window shutters opened, and vases upon vases of daffodils were lovingly placed on the sills. Crisp breezes sang through the space, ruffling flowers and announcing the emergence of spring. Afterwards most of us drove to the Norristown meeting house to meet more Friends for an intergenerational potluck feast, with lively fellowship and an interesting tour by Mary Green, Clerk of the meeting. This meeting is small but mighty in spirit!

Report by Lanza, Abington Quarter Communications Coordinator



Plymouth Monthly Meeting

2024 Multi-Church Servants Saw At Work Home Building - ?

We did it. With the leadership of Bethel Hill Methodist church and volunteers from the surrounding faith communities including Plymouth Friends Meeting, we completed the framing of a duplex house in just a few hours on a Friday evening and Saturday.

Approximately 100 volunteers followed the cut by number and assembled by printed patterns on the lumber to build more than 150 walls for these two-family homes. Would there be interest in Abington Quarter framing a house in 2025?

To see photos and read more go to

https://plymouthmeetingquakers.org/Articles/686811/2024_Multi_Church.aspx

David Miller

Quarterly Meetings & Locations

2023-2024 Quarterly Meetings & Locations		
Hope to see you all on May 5 at 9 am at Gwynedd		
May 5, 2024	Gwynedd	Quarterly Meeting
June 2, 2024	Upper Dublin	Representatives Meeting
August 4, 2024	Abington	Quarterly Meeting (short) and Annual Picnic
October 6, 2024	Plymouth Meeting	Quarterly Meeting