Abington Quarter Newsletter

Religious Society of Friends

Autumn 2017

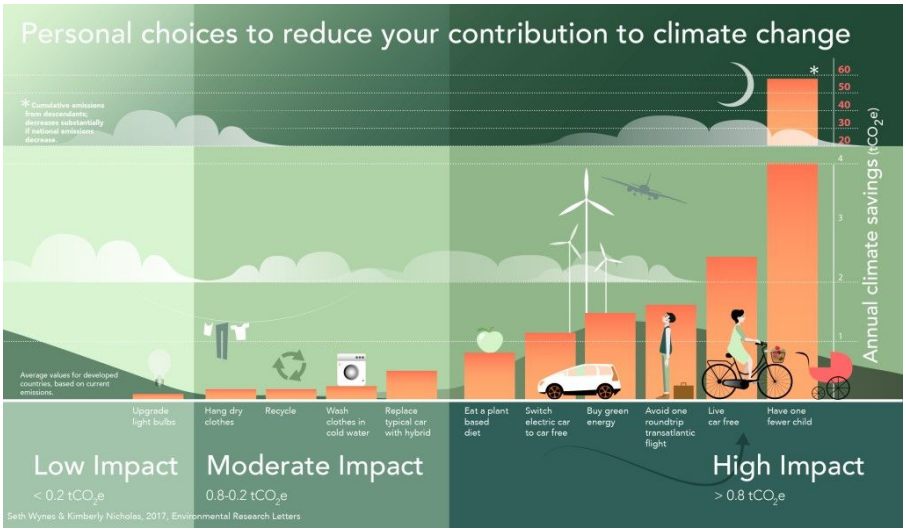
Friends,

This past summer came as a season of reflection. Over the previous winter, my attention had been called into shifting circumstances; movements that felt like increases in our pulse, changes in our corporate temperature. Now a question kept coming up, "How am I responding as a servant of the body?" What response comes when facing a change in situation; and what alternate responses, at different times, between similar situations? This gnawing at my interiors grew into "Am I keeping the long view while staying in presence? - embracing the unexpected? – remembering to 'walk lightly' over grounds of perceptions?" I ask of myself. We each seek.

Lately, I've been appreciating the beauty of finding no direct answers. Inconstant thoughts and fragmented glimpses come as messengers of greater purpose being conducted on ground higher than my own. I'm looking to faith. I'm looking to serve the motions of prayer and grow into the seasons of ourselves in community. The following is from Howard Thurman, Meditations of the Heart.

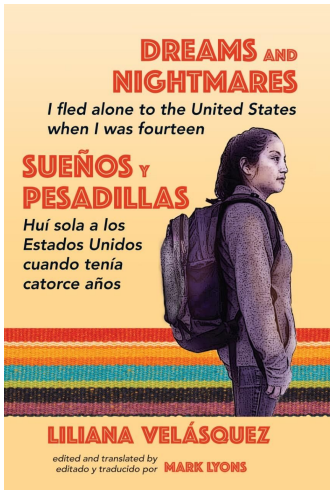
"The earth takes into itself the rain, the heat of the sun, and it works with these gifts of life to bring the magic out of itself to be used for growth and sustenance of all living things....it takes what life gives and within itself it uses its gifts to make life abound. It waits for fruition and gathers its fruit unto itself for more life and more growing. I shall learn of the earth the meaning of the humble spirit."

-Amelia Diamond, Clerk AQM



(Learn more about Gwynedd's Minute of Support for Planned Parenthood in the report below)

AQ Announcements



Invitation to a special presentation at Chestnut Hill Monthly Meeting

Dreams and Nightmares: I fled alone to the United States when I was fourteen
In the last five years, over 200,000 minors have fled their countries in Central America and Mexico and traveled north without their families, only to be caught by immigration at the U.S. Border. Liliana Velásquez is one of them.
Come hear her tell her story.
When she was fourteen, Liliana fled horrific violence and poverty in Guatemala and headed out alone for the United States. On her two-thousand mile trip through Mexico she was robbed by narcos and rode the boxcars of La Bestia. Finally, she made it to the US border, and headed out across the Sonoran Desert, where she encountered death and was caught by US Immigration. After four months in a detention center, she was placed in foster care while the courts decided whether to deport her. After having to recount her story of abuse several times, the judge determined it was too dangerous for her to return home and finally granted her a green card. She just graduated from high school and received two scholarships to go to college, where she will study nursing. She is also working to support her family back home.
Now, more than ever, voices like Liliana's must be heard. She will share her story at
Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
20 E. Mermaid Lane, Philadelphia 19118
Sunday, October 29, 9:00am

Do you know someone fearing deportation?

Immigration Rights Attorneys Coming to Abington Friends Meeting House

Sunday, November 12th 3 – 5 p.m.

Attorneys from the firm Gian-Grasso, Tomczak & Hufe, P.C. will be providing immigration rights training. Time will also be made to meet individually with those who have personal, specific questions.

Abington Friends Meeting 520 Meetinghouse Road Jenkintown, PA 19046

www.AbingtonMeeting.org

AQ Updates:

Reports:

Minutes of AQ Picnic Meeting 2017 Click on the link to open minutes

Report on PYM Annual Sessions 2017, by Thomas Rie, Gwynedd

Of Thee and Thine

Please send announcements of births and passages to aqnewsletter@gmail.com for inclusion in the upcoming Newsletter.

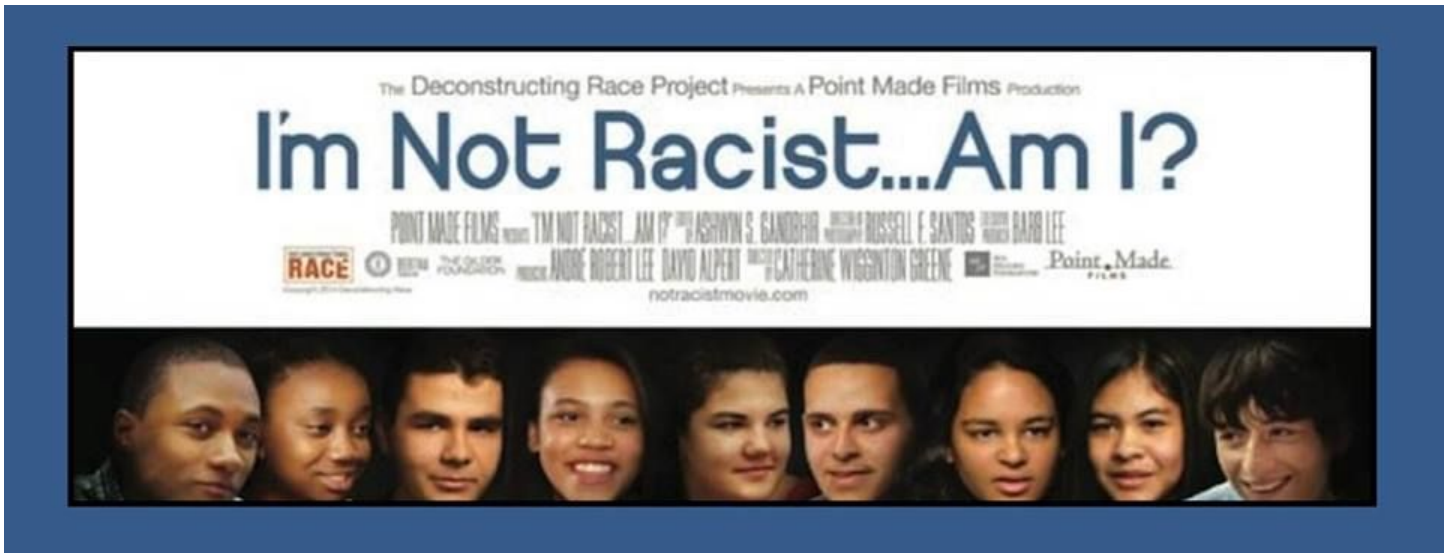
AQ Business Calendar 2017-18

November 5	Foulkeways	Representative Meeting
February 4	Richland	Quarterly Meeting
March 4	Byberry	Representative Meeting
May 6	Plymouth Meeting	Quarterly Meeting

AQ Events *Weekly Happenings*

When	Where	What
Mondays		
Tuesdays	Gwynedd MM	Meditation Group 7:30-8:30 p.m. Sharing 8:30-9 p.m. Guidance for interested beginners offered. Contact: Beth Roberts luobaifeng3@yahoo.com for questions.
Wednesdays	Plymouth MM	Mid-week worship 7:00 p.m. Contact: Dave Miller d.j.miller@verizon.net
	Richland MM	"Light Group" 7:00 p.m. Explore a type of meditation used by early Quakers to "find the Truth in the Light", centering. Contact: Susan Abbott, naisma@aol.com, 610-346-1937 OR Jack Schick, sjckschc@aol.com.
	Upper Dublin	Unplug and Recharge, 2nd Wednesday. 6:30 p.m.
	Gwynedd MM	Yoga 6pm
Saturdays	Gwynedd MM	First Saturdays 9:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m. AFSC Sale. Community room

Other Events



Thursday, November 2 at 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM
The Hiway Theatre 212 Old York Rd, Jenkintown, Pennsylvania 19046

Abington Friends School, Friends Council on Education, and The Race Institute for K-12 Educators, and the Hiway Theater present a special screening and discussion of this important documentary.

I'M NOT RACIST... AM I? is a feature documentary about how this next generation is going to confront racism. We asked 12 teenagers from New York City to come together for one school year to talk about race and privilege in a series of workshops and in conversations with friends and family members. We hope that by documenting their experience, the film will inspire others to recognize and interrupt racism in their own lives.

Join us after the film for a discussion about the topics in the film moderated by filmmaker André Robert Lee.

Tickets are a sliding scale from $5-$20. We recommend $5 for students, $10 for general admission, and $20 if you would like to support this event.

FGC Autumn Retreat for Friends of Color

"Healing as we Wade in Troubled Waters"
FGC's Ministry on Racism Program is sponsoring a Fall Gathering for Friends of Color and their immediate family members
Friday, November 3 rd, 2017 to Sunday, November 5th , 2017
Stony Point Conference Center
Stony Point, NY

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Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

Continuing Sessions Fall 2017

All are welcome!

Saturday, November 4
9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Arch Street Meeting House
320 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

Continuing Sessions are held twice a year, once at Arch Street Meeting House and once at another location outside Philadelphia. The Sessions Coordinating Committee together with Youth and Young Adult Program Staff have discerned that Fall Continuing Sessions will work best at Arch Street this fall. The Seeking Faithfulness Series will still be held at Arch Street in March 2018.

Friends of all ages from throughout the yearly meeting and beyond are invited to Continuing Sessions where we gather for fellowship, worship, learning and to carry out the work of our yearly meeting.

- In the morning, adults will be together in worship and for business, including an update on our Multicultural Institutional Audit and reports from our governing councils.
- Children, Middle Schoolers and Young Friends have their own, age-specific programs concurrent with Continuing Sessions.
- We'll enjoy fellowship over a brown bag lunch, and continue our work together to become more welcoming and inclusive meetings, led by Sarah Willie-LeBreton and Inspira Williams. The afternoon sessions include tools for Friends to take home to their monthly meetings.
- Everyone is welcome, and all meetings should plan to send at least two members or attenders to carry the training and resources back to your meeting.
- Children, Middle Schoolers and Young Friends must be registered in advance so that we can provide adequate support.
- It's very helpful if adults can register online ahead of time as well, but pre-registration for adults is not required.

This will be a day to gather all generations and across our diverse yearly meeting, to foster deep connections among Friends in our spiritual community, and come away with clarity, hope, and action.

The minutes of the Called Session June 24, 2017 may provide helpful context for the morning Meeting for Business at Continuing Sessions.

Minutes of Called Minutes June 24, 2017

Greetings from Pendle Hill,

Make sure to register for Arthur Larrabee's annual Clerking Workshop: Serving the Community with Confidence and Joy, November 17-19, 2017. This perennial favorite for new and continuing clerks from around the country fills quickly and offers an opportunity to learn from an excellent teacher to and confer with peers about common issues.

Please consult the Pendle Hill website, www.pendlehill.org for more information about all of our programs.

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Pizza-Ween

A Fund Raiser for Syrian Refugees

Sponsored By Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting

Chestnut Hill Meeting is beginning a year-long effort to raise funds for LIFELINE, the U.N.'s direct cash assistance program for Syrian refugees in Jordan.We invite you to come and learn about the program, enjoy fellowship and eat delicious pizza, salads and dessert. Games and fun for all ages!

Menu: Pizza, salad & dessert

When: Saturday, October 28 @ 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Where: Chestnut Hill Meetinghouse, 20 E. Mermaid Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19118

Cost: Donations accepted

Dress code: Halloween attire, mystical, magical, marvelous…or just as you are

R.S.V.P. & Questions: CHMLifeLine@gmail.com

Friends Conference on Religion and Psychology

FCRP is one of the oldest conferences in the U.S. dedicated to individual spiritual exploration with a focus on in-depth psychology, specifically Jungian psychology. For the better part of the last half-century our Conference was held at Haverford College on Memorial Day weekend. It was located in beautiful central Pennsylvania on the campus of Lebanon Valley College for 27 years. In 2018 the Conference will move to Pendle Hill near Philadelphia. For more information, please visit http://fcrp.quaker.org/

Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups of Abington Quarterly Meeting

Abington MM: 520 Meetinghouse Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046
http://www.abingtonmeeting.org
Byberry MM: 3001 Byberry/Southampton Road, Philadelphia, PA 19154
Gwynedd MM: 1101 DeKalb Pike, Gwynedd, PA 19454
www.gwyneddmeeting.org
Foulkeways WG: Foulkeways at Gwynedd 1120 Meetinghouse Road, Gwynedd PA
Pottstown WG: Bethel Community Church, 575 Keim St, Pottstown PA 19464
Horsham MM: 611 and Meetinghouse Road, Horsham PA 19044
Norristown MM: 20 E Jacoby Street (at Swede Street), Norristown PA 19401
Upper Providence Meetinghouse: 807 Black Rock Rd Oaks PA 19426
Plymouth MM: E Germantown and Butler Pikes, Plymouth Meeting PA 19462
Richland MM: S. Main St. & Mill Road (just off Rt. 309) Quakertown, PA 18951
www.richlandquakers.org
Upper Dublin MM: 1506 Fort Washington Avenue, Maple Glen PA 19002
Unami MM: 100 E Fifth Street, Pennsburg PA 18073

Monthly Meetings for Business Days and Times

Abington: First day may vary; generally 9 a.m. on 1st day; check calendar
Unami: 2nd First Day, 9 a.m.
Richland: 2nd First day, 12 noon
Plymouth: 3rd First Day, 9 a.m.
Gwynedd: 3rd First day, 10:45 a.m.
Byberry: Last First day, 10 a.m. unless otherwise arranged
Horsham: Last First day, 11 a.m. unless otherwise arranged; Soup Sunday follows

Thank you for 40 Years of Youth Conferences!

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To all the contributors to this newsletter, please know that your time and interest is very much appreciated. If anyone would like to submit photos, articles, essays or the like to this Newsletter, please send to aqnewletter@gmail.com and if possible, we will include your submission as received. Thank you!

Margaret Anderson, Editor