



Plymouth Monthly Meeting Newsletter

Meetings for Worship

First Day Meeting: 11:15 am
 First Day School: 11:30 am
**Fourth Day Meeting: 7:00 pm
 still happening via Zoom**
 Fifth Day Meeting with PMFS:
 8:45 am

Address: 2150 Butler Pike,
 Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

Tenth Month, 2020

Clerk

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 1223 Forsythe Drive
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October content written by
Dave Miller

October 2020

Sun	Oct 11	9:00 am	Worship & Ministry via Zoom
Tues	Oct 13	7:00 – 8:30 pm	Book discussion series from Gwynedd Friends
Wed	Oct 14	4:00 – 5:30 pm	Meeting: My Grandmother's Hand (see attachment)
Sun	Oct 18	8:30 am	Meeting for Business via Zoom

November 2020

Tues	Nov 3		Election Day
Sun	Nov 8	8:30 am	Worship & Ministry
Tues	Nov 10	7:00 pm	Care & Concern
Sun	Nov 15	8:30 am	Meeting for Business via Zoom
Sun	Nov 26	10:00 am	Meeting for Worship for Thanksgiving via Zoom

- All First Day Meeting for Worship will begin at 11:15. You may join us any time after 11am and settle in.
- Midweek meeting for Worship will begin Wednesday at 7:00 pm
- All meetings will be conducted via Zoom, with First Day Meetings live on the patio as weather permits (see guidelines in this email)

Contact Dave Miller or plymouthmonthlymeeting@gmail.com for PMM Zoom information

Music Circle every Sunday from 2:00-4:00 pm until further notice via Zoom (contact Bill Alberts for an invitation) billalberts@verizon.net

Queries for October

Witnessing in the World: Witness and Civic Responsibility

What is our meeting doing:

To become aware of systemic legal, economic and political injustices in our local community?

To build relationships with other faith communities around common concerns?

To reduce polarization within the larger community?

To work together with others to address injustice?

How does our meeting assist in restoring public recognition that government fulfills legitimate functions?

- *Am I mindful of how my lifestyle, work-life and investments affect others?*
- *Am I open to seeking clearness on matters of conscience? Am I open to assisting others in doing so?*
- *Do I fulfill my civic responsibilities when they do not conflict with divine leading?*

Website



Meeting Website news <https://plymouthmeetingquakers.com/>

Welcome to month two of our new web site. If you have not seen the website please take a look and provide your feedback directly to a website committee members David Miller and Carolee Duckworth, or use the contact function on the home page of the website to send an email. Website is seeking more members - indeed we hope everyone finds a way to contribute to the site.

The web site has a monthly cost of \$33. Its value is dependent on how much we use it. The website committee members encourage you to not only browse the website but consider what is missing, what you can offer, and what you can ask to have included in the site.

Our web site can be viewed on computers, tablets, or smart phones. The website has many sections. Some of them are focus on information to help people who are new to Quakers and others are being developed to support the functions of the Monthly Meeting. Those that are not for public viewing are protected within the members only section which requires registration on the website and then permission to view. The Members only section is not visible as an option

unless a user applies to be registered and granted registration. Our site is hosted on a secure site, that is then protected by our Monthly Meeting's permission requirements.

The site is backed up by the host (Churchinsight) and by the Monthly Meeting.

At the top of the home page there are multiple tabs that will take you to various sections of the site. The moving pictures below the tabs cycles to different topics and pictures. There is a box in the picture which will take you to that section of the website. On some computer screens you will not see what is below the picture unless you page down. There is lots more down there.

We are working on fixing this.

At the bottom of this newsletter website introduction is a quick index of information on the site. Keep in mind much of the members on section is just being built now but there is a lot of information already on the site.

Three exercises for learning about our website. Remember that any word in red is a link to click on for more information.

1. Find your way to the library. Yes, we have a virtual library that is just beginning to grow. In the library you will find our link to the Friends Journal. Readers have access to current and past Journals. Question: what is the Topic of the October issue? If this were last year, I would award extra brownies for a successful search to find the answer. For now, however, I offer you access to good and challenging reading from a wide diversity of Friends. Perhaps when potlucks begin again I (Shhhh, Bonnie -she is the better cook) will be responsible for make sure there are plenty of brownies.

2. Before the next Business Meeting get registered. The draft minutes of the last Business Meeting and the Treasurer's report will be posted for review. Come prepared by reading them. The minutes will be in the members only section under Meeting Resources/Members only/Business meeting.

3. Can you find the Meeting Mailbox?

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<https://www.fgcquaker.org/cloud/plymouth-friends-meeting>

COVID-19 Guidance for Attending Indoor Meeting for Worship

If you are sick or may have been exposed to COVID-19, please stay home and join Meeting remotely. If you have joined us for Meeting for Worship and find later that you have had an exposure, developed symptoms, or tested positive, please contact Bonnie Miller at 484-213-5439 or 610-828-4970.

PLEASE NOTE: Masks are required to be worn at all times while on the property.

When you arrive, park to allow social distancing when getting in and out of the car. Please enter the meeting house through the door to your right as you face the building also known as the women's side. It is the front door on the Germantown Pike end of the building. Sign in, using one-time-use pencils provided. Please provide your name, phone number, and e-mail address.

You may have a favorite place to sit in the meeting room, but at this time, we ask that you go to the furthest empty spot, filling the back rows first. This will allow for social distancing and prevent others from having to move past you. Please allow more than six (6) feet, both side to side and back to front, between yourself or your family and others.

The meeting house may be chilly if doors are cracked to provide ventilation. Lap robes will be available; also feel free to bring your own.

The ADA bathroom (opposite the kitchen) will be available. Parents, please accompany children. Please use provided wipes, to sanitize all contact areas (toilet seat and flush handle, sink and faucets, inside and outside door knobs, etc.) before and after using the bathroom. Discard used wipes in the wastebasket.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no First Day School or supervised childcare. The Annie H. Wilson Room will NOT be available. During Meeting for Worship, children may play on the lower playground near the gym (not by the Meetinghouse) and must be accompanied by an adult.

At the rise of Meeting, greet each other with smiles and waves - no hugs or handshakes. After announcements, please exit the meeting house through the emergency exit (crash door) closest to you. Those wishing to remain and socialize, please do so on the porch or in the driveway, using social distancing at all times.

Please check the website for any changes or announcements.

<https://www.plymouthmeetingquakers.org>

Care of Property and Meeting House



We are blessed to have received the stewardship of our Meeting house and its surrounding property from the generations that have gone before us. This old and, yes, historic space is not a museum. It is our well-loved and well-worn home. The place in which our Meeting community resides. In this time of worship, Business, and committee Meetings using Zoom, the understanding of “resides” is changing. But the physical home continues to need care. About five years ago as we determined that major renovations were required to allow our Meeting property to serve the next generation of Friends a group of members and attenders began meeting on Saturday mornings to do whatever chores had risen to the top of the pile. There were no prerequisites for joining in. Only a desire to help and be rewarded with good fellowship and a few tall stories (a legacy of Jim Williams and Paul Tapley). Some come each week some once in a while.

There remains a need to pitch in and keep the home. Chores come in all shapes and sizes from painting to gardening, cleaning to building wooden benches, roofing to washing windows, pointing stonework to deep cleaning bathrooms, fixing grave stones to planting shrubs and trees, etc... Each of us have different abilities and gifts. Some can help with the physical work, some with the administration, some with financial. Our Meeting has no paid staff. We do the work and pay for it ourselves. Please consider how you can contribute. To help contact:

Ralph Henninger - clerk of House Committee
ralphh@pmfs1780.org<mailto:ralphh@pmfs1780.org>

Vincent O'Grady - clerk of Property Committee
vogrady@gmail.com<mailto:vogrady@gmail.com>

Dave Miller - convener of Saturday work groups
d.j.miller@verizon.net<mailto:d.j.miller@verizon.net>

Linda White - treasurer for donations
llfw2160@comcast.net<mailto:llfw2160@comcast.net>

Peace and Social Concerns

As this year enters the fall season we have and continue to see the impact of the warming of our world on the lives of people. The sustained higher temperatures of the seas surrounding North America have contributed to increase frequency and magnitude of rain produced by the hurricanes this season causing property damage and loss of life. Some regions have suffered multiple storms in one season. The multiyear drought that has settled on the western states along with the sustained high dry temperatures have produced fire seasons that almost cover the full 12 months. Fires, like this year's hurricanes are of increased strength and magnitudes that our older firefighters have not seen before.



As Quakers we come to stewardship of the world from a place at the core of our faith. From our shared book of Faith and Practice:

We recognize that the well-being of the earth is a fundamental spiritual concern. From the beginning, it was through the wonders of nature that people saw God. How we treat the earth and its creatures is a basic part of our relationship with God. Our planet as a whole, not just the small parts of it in our immediate custody, requires our responsible attention.

Friends are called to become models and patterns of simple living and concern for the earth.

Are we accountable to this aspect of our Faith? Or are we waiting for some government agency to make policy changes to address the warming of our climate? Are we tempted to blame the lack of change on others? What kind of models and patterns are we to the world?

These are hard questions and can only be answered by each of us individually. We each have our own opportunities and restrictions which shape but do not inhibit our faithfulness. There are significant changes that we can make personally that will impact the rate of global warming.

Over the next several months different opportunities for change will be explored in the newsletter. To begin that exploring reflect upon what your relationship is with fossil fuel usage in your transportation, heating, electrical use, cooking, financial banking, work.

Write a simple audit of these areas to become aware of your current usage. When will changes be coming in your home that require replacement of appliances, transportation, electrical provider, investments? What options are available to make changes? As in the time of Woolman, the different aspects of our life have become the norm but are based on products that degrade God's creation and inhibit the peaceable kingdom from becoming a reality. In the coming year we will jointly share the learnings from our audits and find ways to decrease our personal CO2 output.