



Plymouth Monthly Meeting Newsletter

Meetings for Worship

First Day Plain worship, no Zoom, 10-11
First Day Meeting blended worship: 11:15 am
Fourth Day Meeting: 7:00 pm (blended)

Address: 2150 Butler Pike,
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

January 2022

Clerk

Michael Mrozinski
1101 DeKalb Pike, The
Cottage, Gwynedd, PA 19454
484-390-0924

mike.menski@gmail.com

Asst. Clerk: Fran Blackstone
fblackstone03@gmail.com

Care & Concern

Bonnie Miller
153 E. 9th St.
Conshohocken, PA 19428
610-828-4970

bondave.miller@verizon.net

Treasurer

Linda L. White
519 Ft. Washington Ave.
Ft. Washington, PA 19034
215-641-4564

llfw2160@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor

Pattie O'Donnell
1620 Aidenn Lair Road
Dresher, PA 19025
215-704-1666

pattieod@gmail.com

January 2022

Sun	Jan 16	12:15 pm	Annual Meeting (likely blended live & via Zoom)
Sun	Jan 23	12:30 pm	QuakerSpeak video sponsored by Worship & Ministry: A Spiritual Response to Times of Division Annie H Wilson room

February 2022

Tues	Feb 1	7:00 pm	Care and Concern via Zoom
Fri	Feb 4		Peace & Social Concerns - Contact Dave Miller for more information
Sun	Feb 13	6:00 pm	Worship & Ministry via Zoom
Sun	Feb 20	9:00 am	Meeting for Business via Zoom
Sun	Feb 27	12:30 pm	QuakerSpeak video sponsored by Worship & Ministry

- All First Day Meetings for Worship will begin at 10:00 (Plain worship, no Zoom) and 11:15 am (blended worship). If joining in person, wear a mask Masks must be worn on campus for in-person Meeting for worship. **Check the website for updates**
- Wednesday evening Meeting for Worship begins at 7:00pm and will also be held via Zoom as well as *in person in the Meetinghouse (blended)*.

PMM Zoom information always available at plymouthmonthlymeeting@gmail.com or contact Dave Miller (blended)

News from the Meeting

A reminder that currently, First Day Meeting is held at two times and in two ways: There is **First Day Plain worship**, with no Zoom, at **10 am -11 am**. Folks from Plain Worship are then welcome to stay for the second, **blended worship at 11:15** (or not), which joins folks at the Meetinghouse, masked and spaced out with minimal contact, with folks joining via Zoom. We encourage those who do attend the 11:15 Meeting to stick around and greet those who are joining via Zoom.

Guidelines for In-Person Meetings During Covid

As Covid-19 cases surge, many due to the fast-spreading Omicron variant, please continue to be vigilant. Here are some guidelines you must follow regarding meeting for worship:

- Wear a mask inside the meetinghouse; N95 or KN95 masks are recommended and can be purchased at the following places: Lowe's, Home Depot, Staples, and possibly at local pharmacies like CVS and Rite Aid.
- Continue to social distance in the meetinghouse, during meeting for worship, and while socializing afterward. Inside, keep a six-foot distance between yourself and others. Outdoors, that distance may be reduced to three feet.
- If you come to the meetinghouse or the school during school hours, including before and after care (6:00 AM – 6:00 PM), you must check in at the school office and show your up-to-date vaccine card.
- If you have had an exposure or even a near-exposure to the virus, please use an abundance of caution and attend meeting for worship on Zoom.

The Risk Assessment Committee

Annual Meeting January 16 12:15

Plymouth Monthly Meeting Annual Business Meeting occurs First Day 1/16/2022 at 12:15 PM. The meeting will be blended; onsite in the Meeting House blended with a Zoom meeting using the login that is being used for worship. If you need login information contact [Dave Miller](#). We anticipate the meeting lasting about an hour and a half. Friends coming to the Meetinghouse may wish to bring individual lunches.

The meeting will focus on the queries below. From the sense of this meeting, a Clerk's letter will be drafted and then shared in coming days. Committee reports should be submitted to the Meeting Clerk by the end of First Month and at that time will be incorporated in his report to the Quarter.

Queries

1. What have we learned about what is fundamental to Plymouth as a religious society? Why do we continue to worship as we do?
2. What of our spirituality has changed? What has grown and what has dimmed? What can we do better?
3. What is Plymouth's role in the world - beyond what Plymouth is for us as individuals? Is this what it should be?

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the clerk Mike Mrozinski. Click [here](#)

Meeting for Worship

Our Meetings for worship are central to all that occurs here at Plymouth Meeting. The way Friends have worshiped has changed many times over the 3 three centuries that Friends have worship here: from house Meetings to a Meetinghouse across the river and then into our own Meeting House, English language to Welsh and back to English, united community of Friends to a divided community with two Meeting Houses to one remaining Meeting and many members lost to other Meetings or faiths, Men and Women together in the house praying to sitting on separate sides and then joining together again, a focus on how one dressed plain to adoption of the world's fashions.

Each generation adapted their ways of being in worship to what is needed for those present to communally enter the blessed gift of God's presence.

The last 2 years of COVID have brought many changes to how we live, changes that impact us differently as individuals. Technology used to bring people together virtually is experienced very differently by people. During the past two years we have experimented with blending and not blending virtual worship with onsite worship. We found that the processes we used could not meet the needs of all people with a single way of gathering in worship.

It was decided to try an extended Meeting for Worship each Firstday which would begin (10am) with no technology to blend offsite worshipers with onsite worshipers. Then at 11:15 off site worshipers will be blended with onsite worshipers using technology. There is a transition period where the technology is turned on and those who choose to worship only without technology or only with technology can enter or leave the Meeting room or virtual Meeting room. After (12:00) the close of worship there is time for sharing of announcements and then a shifting to a larger screen for the opportunity for continued fellowship between those in the Meeting House and those attending virtually.



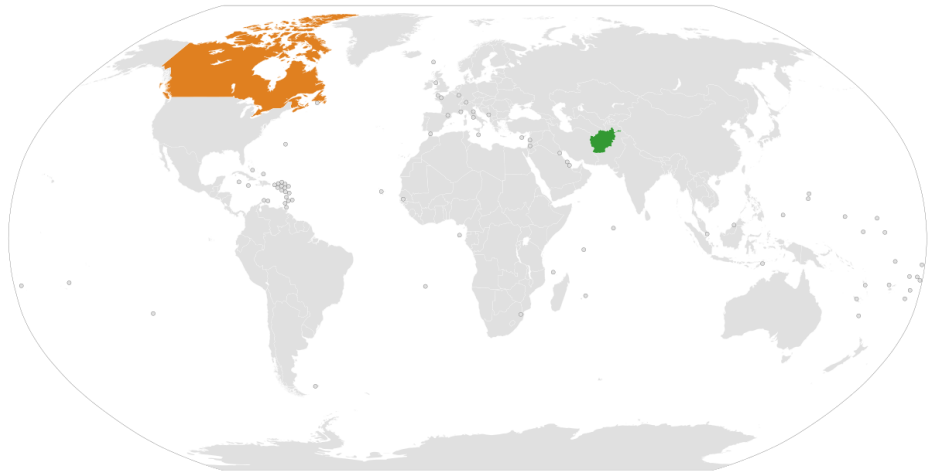
We recognize that this is iteration of changes to our way of gathering for worship and is just that, the current iteration. As Friends experience worship over the next several months other changes will be suggested and tried as the community discerns how to truly continue as one community seeking Gods will and expressing love for one another.

Dave Miller – Clerk Worship and Ministry

Update on Bashir

We received a note from Bashir at Christmas time. He is living in a house rented by the Canadian government with other members of his extended family in British Columbia near Vancouver. At this time, he is not allowed to work. I am unclear what would need to happen for him to gain that permission. His father is ill with diabetes and recovering from heart attack. Because there is no doctors remaining in rural Afghanistan his father has no medical care and no medicine. His father and other immediate family members continue to be on the run from the Taliban, moving from place to place every few days.

Bashir is adjusting to life in Canada as best he can. He continues in hope of bringing his immediate family to America and for him to also be allow entrance into the United States. Bashir sends his greetings and lives life in a sense of hope of better days if God wills Insha Allah (الله يَشَاءُ أَنْ).



Has begun meeting again on the first Friday of the month at 7pm on site and blended online. If you would like to attend and be added to the list for reminder and minutes of meetings, please let Dave Miller know. Send a note to plymouthmonthlymeeting@gmail.com

Web site Hints and tips Monthly Meeting address book

Care and Concern Committee has worked hard to bring our Meeting's address book up to date. The previous Microsoft Word formatted book has been replaced the address book function on the website. The addresses are secure and not available to the public by two levels of security.

Level 1 - Individuals choose what contact information they want made available in the address book.

Level 2 - Only registered members of the Web site have access to the address book. If an individual has not been applied to be registered on the website and approved, they will not see the Members Only tab at the top of the web page. None of the members only section will be visible to them.

Note: information available in the Monthly Meeting's prior address book was transferred to the web-based book. Individuals are encouraged to look at what is written and make sure it is correct and is the contact information they wish to have available in the Monthly Meeting's address book. Individuals can change, update their information (example new email address or phone number) by clicking on the My Account tab at the top of the website pages. The My account tab is not visible if a person is not registered on the website AND logged in.

The address book can be viewed two ways.

1. Under the members only Tab when the address book option is clicked the book will be displayed on your computer
2. Under the members only Tab, when you hover your curser over the address book option the sub option of address book – pdf becomes available. If you click on this pdf option a pdf file will be downloaded to your computer. This file can be saved or printed out.

Note: The two options are displayed in different formats. You may prefer one over the other. The first option allows you to search for a specific name. Both options display families together.

News from Plymouth Meeting Friends School



Dear Friends,

I am writing to share that Ralph Henninger, PMFS Director of Development, will retire at the end of this 2021-2022 year. Ralph has been a Plymouth mainstay for many years. When I reached out to community members to gather information about Ralph's early days at PMFS, most assured me that Ralph was already a legend before they arrived. Everyone has a "Ralph story" to share; yet no one could pinpoint the exact time of his arrival at Plymouth. Perhaps this is because Ralph has always been at PMFS--at the heart of our community—and he always will be.

Prior to his joining the school's administration as the Director of Development, Ralph was a member of the PMFS School Committee for many years, including years serving as Clerk. Much to the school's benefit, Ralph's experience and strong knowledge of the fiduciary responsibilities of trustees further enhanced his expertise with planning for the financial sustainability of the school. Over the years, he played a critical role in driving development practices at Plymouth, building and maintaining relationships with current and alumni families, grandparents and friends of the school. Ralph's historical knowledge of PMFS runs deep; he is a masterful story-teller about the school, its students, families and faculty.

Ralph's impact on Friends school education extends well beyond the Plymouth Meeting Friends School community. He was a founding member of the Friends Collaborative, a group dedicated to raising funds through Pennsylvania tax credit scholarship programs and distributing scholarship funds to member schools to help make a Friends school education accessible and affordable for children of all backgrounds. Ralph is a fierce champion of Quaker schools and remains passionate about the life-changing experience a Friends school education offers.

Ralph and Louise Henninger came to Plymouth Monthly Meeting when their girls Katie (PMFS '96) and Audrey (PMFS '98) were young. They found a home for worship in the Meeting and a school home at Plymouth Meeting Friends. Though Ralph points out the "Henninger bench" in the Meetinghouse, he is quick to welcome friends to settle in for worship beside him. This is typical of the warmth that he brings to our Plymouth community; his kindness enfolds others like members of the family. It is fitting that Ralph opens the campus gates and greets students when they arrive in the morning; and young friends count on seeing him each day.

Over the years, Ralph has been a quiet force and a strong presence at PMFS. He is a fierce advocate for teachers, a proud father, loving husband and shamelessly dotting "Pop Pop". On-campus, Ralph is all-in. He "pinch-hits" on recess duty, collaborates with the PTO, and serves on several committees. Ralph takes the work of students and teachers seriously, yet never takes himself too seriously. His work ethic, integrity and humility are models to match. He is quick to lift up the strengths and talents of others and to attribute his accomplishments to the efforts of his colleagues.

When Ralph shared his plans to retire at the end of the school year, he assured me that he would still be around and available to PMFS. We will begin a national search for our next Director of Development; and Ralph will play an integral part in the transition process for the Development Office. With a deep fund of historical knowledge and a keen eye on the future growth of PMFS, Ralph continues to share his expertise, generous spirit and love for Plymouth Meeting Friends School. We are honored to have such gifts in our colleague and friend, Ralph Henninger.

*In peace,
Brenda C. Crawley - Head of School*



January 2022 Events

[An Evening Honoring Rev. Dr. King's Pilgrimage to Non-violence, Westtown Meeting](#)

January 12, Virtual Conversation with Dr. Kathy Gonzales

"On the Fellowship for Diversity" in Negotiation, Mediation & Conflict Resolution

[GIANT Children's Meeting on 3rd Sundays](#)

January 16: The program theme in January is "*New Beginnings*," and we'll be sharing the book "*The Stuff of Stars*" and singing "*Morning Has Broken*" (preschool and elementary-age children and their families).

[Vigil for Racial Justice, Every Sunday](#)

We gather to center, then hold signs for one hour.

[January 16](#) [January 23](#) [January 30](#)

[Quaker Activism at a Local Level: Mutual Aid, Town Politics, & News , Barnegat MM](#)

January 16. Presentation and discussion led by Ali Mctar.

As a Watson fellow, Ali lived in Quaker communities around the world, specifically in countries with histories of conflict, learning how international Friends lived out their peace and justice testimonies.

[Concord Quarterly Meeting at Wilmington Monthly Meeting](#)

January 23. Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Inter-generational presentation: Harriet Tubman, Thomas Garrett and Wilmington's Underground Railroad.

[Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting, Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia](#)

January 23. "Quaker Worship in the time of Covid". Join us for the whole day or the portions you are able to attend.

[Grassroots Green Energy & Sustainability Development, North Branch Quaker Friends](#)

January 27, SEEDS and the Clean Energy Co-op will present information on energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable living, and mustering community financial resources.

February 2022 Events

[PYM Thread Gathering: Restorative Racial Justice: From the Personal to the Systemic](#)

February 5, 2022, 9-3 on Zoom

Our faith calls us to racial justice and to healing the wounds of racism. Every day we see the realities of inequality and injustice.

Morning Session: .O of Central Philly Meeting, will examine some of the ways that centuries of trauma shape our personal patterns of emotional response and interpersonal interaction.

Afternoon Session: The Middle East, Eco-Justice, and First Contact Reconciliation Collaboratives, will share how systemic racism shows itself within the areas of their focus.

Vigil for Racial Justice, Every Sunday

We gather to center, then hold signs for one hour.

[February 6](#) [February 13](#)

One Book, One Community, First-Contact Reconciliation Collaborative

February 16. Finding the Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest by Suzanne Simard

Clerking Skills! – A Governance & Stewardship Thread Gathering, PYM

February 19. Clerking when You Have Limited Time. Kathleen Karhnak-Glasby, Clerk of Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting Business Meeting from the Perspective of the Participant. Pat McBee, former Clerk of Central Philly Meeting and former Executive Director of Friends Center.

Winter Family Overnight for Children & Families, Camp Onas

February 19-20. YM Family Overnights are a one-night sleepover for families with kids K-5th grade, an intentional village for the purpose of being a Family of Friends. The Winter Family Overnight at Camp Onas is dedicated to getting cozy: hot chocolate, stories by the fire, and with a little luck, a high-velocity snowball exchange.

GIANT Children's Meeting on 3rd Sundays

February 20: Following Dreams. Each 30-45 minute program is for preschool and elementary-age children and their families.