

Plymouth Monthly Meeting Newsletter

November 2022

#### **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)

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## Nov 2022

Fri	Nov 4	7:00 pm	Peace and Social Concerns (blended)
Sat	Nov 5	9:00am – 8:00 pm	Continuing Sessions at PYM
Sat	Nov 5	10:30 am	Jack McGovern tree ceremony: PMFS play yard
Fri & Sat	Nov 11-12	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Foulkeways Craft Fair
Sun	Nov 13	6:00 pm	Worship & Ministry via Zoom
Sun	Nov 20	9:00 am	Meeting for Business (blended)
Sun	Nov 20	12:30 pm	After Meeting – Presentation by Oliva Hartshorn
			Kimber Myers and Alexa Beacham
Sun	Nov 20	5:00 pm	CPW Interfaith Council Thanksgiving Service
			Conshohocken Methodist Church 6 <sup>th</sup> & Fayette
Thurs	Nov 24	10:00 am	Meeting for Worship for Thanksgiving

### December 2022

Fri	Dec 2	7:00 pm	Peace and Social Concerns
Sat	Dec 3	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	AFSC Gwynedd Friends Meeting Flea Market
Sat	Dec 3	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Leaf Raking/Workday at Plymouth
Tues	Dec 6	7:00 pm	Care & Concern at the Meetinghouse
Sun	Dec 11	6:00 pm	Worship & Ministry via Zoom
Sun	Dec 18	9:00 am	Meeting for Business (blended)
Sat	Dec 24	6:00 pm	Peace Vigil & caroling details TBA
Sun	Dec 25	11:15 am	Meeting for Worship – No Friendly Fourth

• All First Day Meetings for Worship will begin at 10:00 (Plain worship, no Zoom) and 11:15 am (blended worship). Masks are not required but we will continue to social distance. 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

# **Query for November**

Who are we, and why do we stay or stick it out?

# **News from the Meeting**

Leaf raking/workday is Saturday Dec 3, when we get together with folks from the school and rake leaves and take care of the facilities. We would appreciate your rake, strong back, and any contribution of soup, dessert or bread. (Please let Fran Blackstone or Bonnie Miller know what soup, dessert, bread/butter or drink you will bring so we can coordinate).

**Christmas Eve**: As of early November, we are still planning a peace vigil, caroling and refreshments – details to follow in the next newsletter.

## **Notes from Dave Miller**

**Stewardship of the land** that the Monthly Meeting has responsibility for requires a long view. What we do with the land needs to benefit those of many generations into the future. Planting of trees is one action that bears fruits for generations to come. This week a very generous gift was made to our Monthly Meeting by Cedar Ridge Nursery of ten trees: 3 Sugar Maples, 1 Holly, 1 American Beech, 2 White Oaks, 1 Hickory, 1 Hackberry, 1 Coffee. The nursery staff delivered the trees, dug their holes for planting, planted, fertilized, and mulched the trees all as a gift to our Meeting and School.

One of the sugar Maples was planted in the play yard replacing a Maple that was removed last year. That tree was installed as a memorial to Jack McGovern, a former head of Plymouth Meeting Friends School. The children of the school have already named the tree Ribbon after the white and blue ribbon hanging from its limb that flutters in the breeze. In true Plymouth Hospitality they introduced Ribbon to Sanders (the hollow Sycamore), Mary (the large pasture



Maple) and Jake (not sure who that is). They did not want Ribbon to be lonely on her first night in a new home. The students remember being scared on their first day of school and therefore wanted Ribbon to feel welcome and not scared.

There are 7 donated trees planted on the rise of ground in front of the Meeting House. These trees are the beginning of returning that area to a more natural state that better supports the world both big and small. Two trees have been planted in the graveyard. One oak to replace the large pine oak that was taken down 10 years go under the watchful eye of Dick Kimber who so lovingly cared for the property and particularly the graveyard. Perhaps this tree is Dick's

tree. The second tree, a hickory was planted in the same place as was a tree removed many years ago due to wind damage. That tree was a memorial tree for Alice Ambler, the last plain-speaking elder of our Meeting, who was its heart and conscious. We thought it fitting to put in a replacement tree for her.

Welcome to our tree family Dick, Alice, and Ribbon. We will care for you as you care for us cleaning our air, storing our carbon, cooling our summer days, and feeding the many creatures of the earth and air that depend on you. In attention to this reciprocity of relationship, we will grow healthier, wiser and yes older together.

### **Minute from Lancaster Monthly Meeting**

Lancaster Pa Monthly Meeting shared with Plymouth this month a minute that they passed on Christian White Nationalism. They asked that we consider the minute,

inform ourselves on the growing White Christian Nationalism movement and discern what we are led to do. This minute will be reviewed at this Month's Peace and Social Concerns Meeting (Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, 7pm EDT) and will be brought to the Monthly Meeting for Business on Nov 20<sup>th</sup>. The minute is attached to this newsletter for your review and comment.

**Property Committee Update** 



### Crawlspace

As reported in the previous newsletter the contract has been signed to address the issue of water and high humidity in the crawlspaces of the Meeting House. The work has now been scheduled for the week of December 19<sup>th</sup> when the school is out of session.

# **Fire Inspection**

We are currently addressing code violations identified by the Fire Inspector for both the Meeting House and the Annie H Wilson room. It is anticipated that we will complete the necessary upgrades by the end of the year. It is important that all users be aware of the location of fire alarm pull switches in each of the main room, the location of fire extinguishers and when the evacuation plan is published know the steps need to follow when a fire occurs in the building. More information on this in the future newsletters and announcements after meeting for worship.

# **Meeting Library**

#### Please return what you borrow

Over the past year multiple new books have been added to our Monthly Meeting Library. From the rapid circulation of these books, it appears they have met the interest of our Meeting members and attenders. <u>Please</u> remember to <u>sign</u> them out on the clip board and <u>bring</u> them back for others to read. Check your book shelfs, coffee tables, bathroom reading basket, bottom of book bags, in the back of the coat closet where you left your flashlight when reading late at night, for any books that can come back to our library. Keep and eve out for the next additions to the library.



# **News from the Quarter**



The AFSC sale committee plans and manages ongoing fundraising sales for the American Friends Service Committee, with the largest sale of the year in December. Through collections from meeting members and some outside sources, including Kendall/Crosslands, the Subcommittee strives to recycle and reuse discarded items to raise money for AFSC.

"From their origins as a swap table in the late 1960s, the "Recycle Sales" which benefit AFSC have grown through a "tangled web of connections and efforts," according to Beth Binford. The sales are made possible by dedicated volunteers, many of whom have been involved with the operation for more than 20 years. The sales, hosted at Gwynedd Friends Meeting in Pennsylvania and at area Quaker retirement centers, result in some \$20,000 each year, with the highest total being \$32,000. Over the years, more than \$500,000 has been raised for AFSC programs."

# **News from Annual Meeting & Beyond**

# Colonial Ministerium Interfaith Service for Thanksgiving Sunday, November 20 5pm Conshohocken United Methodist Church

There will be a ministerium interfaith service on Sunday, November 20, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at the Conshohocken United Methodist Church, 6<sup>th</sup>. Avenue and Fayette Street in Conshohocken. Friends and their families (and friends) are invited to participate.

# **PYM CONTINUING SESSIONS**

#### Fall Continuing Sessions

#### November 4th – 6th, 2022

Join Friends of all ages from across Philadelphia Yearly Meeting in our first fully hybrid (online & in-person) Sessions! Our Sessions theme "Living communally with our neighbors, seeking to build beloved community," calls us to come together in the joyful work of reweaving our connections.

#### Children & Youth at Fall Continuing Sessions

#### November 5th, 2022

"Love my neighbor" is the focus of the program for children and youth. We'll gather with young Friends for a day of community, fellowship, worship and learning together. What is a neighbor? How can I be a good neighbor? What if we treated everyone as a neighbor?

#### All Together Worship

#### November 6th, 2022

We will gather all together online, from meeting houses and from homes, for this PYM-wide experience of worship. The Zoom link for All Together Worship will be shared with everyone who registers for Fall Continuing Sessions and has been sent to Clerks of meetings.