



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)

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October 2024

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 thanks again to Dave & Sally
 for their October articles

October 2024

Sun	Oct 13	6:00 pm	Worship and Ministry
Mon	Oct 14	11:00 am – 5:00 pm	Indigenous Peoples' Day -- Philadelphia Event
Sat	Oct 19	8:30am – 1:30pm	Fall Spiritual Retreat – Contemplative Day at Plymouth
Sat	Oct 19	9:30 am – 4:00 pm	PYM Pastoral Care Thread Gathering on Grief, Loss & Bereavement at Chestnut Hill Meeting
Sun	Oct 20	9:00 am	Meeting for Business (blended)
Tues	Oct 24	6:30 pm	Lois Kuter speaks on Lenape history at Jeanes Library
Sun	Oct 27	After Meeting	Friendly Fourth – all are welcome
Sun	Oct 27	2:00 pm	Music Circle
Thurs	Oct 31	8:30 am	PMFS PTO Breakfast, followed by Halloween Parade at 9am

November 2024

Tues	Nov 5	7:00 pm	Care and Concern
Sun	Nov 10	6:00 pm	Worship and Ministry
Tues	Nov 12	4:30 pm	Land Acknowledgement Committee
Sun	Nov 17	9:00 am	Meeting for Business (blended)
Sun	Nov 24	After Meeting	Friendly Fourth – all are welcome
Sun	Nov 24	2:00 pm	Music Circle
Wed	Nov 27	10:00 am	PMFS Thanksgiving Program held in the Gym

- 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. 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 office@plymouthmeetingquakers.org

Queries for October

Right Relationship with Indigenous Peoples

1. How are we seeking to understand the role that prior generations of Quakers played in displacing Lenape peoples from Lenapehoking and in participating in programs of cultural erasure (such as Boarding Schools)?
2. How are we seeking to renounce those Christian Church ideologies that legitimized colonization, genocide, and cultural erasure of Indigenous peoples in Lenapehoking and elsewhere (such as the Doctrine of Discovery)?
3. In what ways do we seek opportunities to meet Lenape peoples and to learn directly from them about their history, culture, and current concerns?
4. In what practical ways (monetary or other) have we supported Lenape or other Indigenous peoples in their initiatives and challenges?
5. In what ways have we embraced Lenape perspectives and knowledge of the land, water, and air in the stewardship of the land where our Meetinghouse is located?

News from the Meeting

Worship and Ministry Fall Spiritual Retreat Saturday October 19th, 8:30 am to 1:30 pm

Plymouth will host an opportunity for friends to step out of the hustle and bustle of life to rest in the presence of our communal love for one another and God's love for us. It is hard to just stop activities. They are important for the good work that is achieved. There also is an importance of tending to the inward life, paying attention to where strength and discernment come from for us to live a faithful life full of activities. Consider laying down responsibilities for a few hours to rest contemplatively with fellow members of your faith community on Saturday morning (Oct 19th) to travel prayerfully in the garden of your spirit.

We envision the day to be:

8:30 - Arrival and coffee, tea, other goodies

9:00 to 9:30 - Centering worship together

9:30 to 11:30 - Contemplative activities entered into individually or with a friend(s) such as

- Reading: Lectio Divina – prayerful reading
- Writing: journalling, poetry, song writing,
- Hand work: drawing, painting, sewing, knitting, fixing items
- Contemplative walking, sitting in the beauty of our trees and campus
- Contemplative sharing of the heart one with another
- Other?

These activities can occupy the full time or flow one into another

11:30 - Worship Sharing

12:15 - Shared Breaking bread – Shared Lunch



What is Spirituality?

“George Fox’s spirituality, like any spirituality is an expression of how God is experienced....Theology is reflection on one’s experience (of God), spirituality is the lived experience.”

“Quakers have long held that theology begins with experience, here one appropriately notes spirituality is rooted in the lived experience.”

- Alan Kulp



Right Relationship with Indigenous Peoples Working Group Lois Kuter Presentation at Jeanes Library October 24, 6:30 pm

Lois Kuter of our working group will make a presentation for us at **William Jeanes Memorial Library on Joshua Road in Whitmarsh on October 24 at 6:30pm**. She will provide an overview of Lenape history in our area using the format of John Ruth’s book *This Very Ground*. In addition, Lois will intertwine Quaker past / present relationship as well as what Plymouth Meeting has done as we begin our focus on Lenape and other indigenous peoples close or farther away. Attendees will receive an information sheet with books and references to events and links to organizations for future reference. Look for future announcements about a group trip to the Indigenous Day celebration in October. If anyone would like to help with future projects, please feel free to join the working group. Contact Dave Miller or register with the library by phone 610-828-0441 or on their website at www.jeaneslibrary.org. This presentation is for adults and teens.

Eighth Annual Indigenous Peoples Weekend October 12-14

According to Wikipedia, Indigenous Peoples' Day is a holiday in the United States that celebrates and honors Indigenous American peoples and commemorates their histories and cultures. It is celebrated across the United States on the second Monday in October, and is an official city and state holiday in various localities. It began as a counter-celebration held on the same day as the U.S. federal holiday of Columbus Day, which honors Italian explorer Christopher Columbus. Some people do not observe Columbus Day at all, citing the lasting harm Indigenous tribes suffered because of Columbus's contributions to the European colonization of the Americas.



There will be many events occurring during Indigenous Peoples Weekend this year in Lenapehoking, presented by Indigenous peoples of many nations and tribes who live here in Lenapehoking and from around the United States and Canada.

Museum of the American Revolution will have events Oct – 12-

14 <https://www.amrevmuseum.org/events/indigenous-peoples-weekend-2024-at-the-museum>

Bartram's Garden October 13, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm:

<https://www.bartramsgarden.org/event/indigenous-peoples-day-24/>

Pennsbury Manor – Lenape Cultural Program October 26 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

<https://www.pennsburymanor.org/event/lenape-cultural-program-2/>

The [Eighth Annual Indigenous Peoples' Day in Philadelphia](#), organized by [Indigenous Peoples' Day Philly, Inc \(IPD Philly\)](#) Shackamaxon (Penn Treaty) Park, 1301 N Beach St, Philadelphia, Monday, October 14 from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Join in commemorating the remarkable strength and resilience of Indigenous communities, which have remained unwavering for over 530 years in the midst of challenges. Indigenous Peoples' Day, Philly 2024 is a celebration of Indigenous communities in Philadelphia and beyond. This event will combine traditional and contemporary indigenous art, music, dance, and food to increase awareness of indigenous issues. The festivities also serve as an opportunity to discuss the strengths and history of the First Peoples of Americas. (Note: This is an in-person and live-stream event)

Oak Flat: Support of Apache Stronghold's brief to the US Supreme Court

During the 9th month Business Meeting the Right Relationship working group requested that our Monthly Meeting sign on to a legal brief to the United States Supreme Court requesting it to hear a case to repeal the transfer of Apache Sacred Land under the care of the US Forest Service to a foreign mining company. Our Monthly Meeting was in unity with taking this action. The paperwork was submitted and accepted listing our Monthly Meeting in the Brief field with the Supreme court. When the brief is complete with all names of cosigners we will post it on our website. For more information go to the Meeting's website in the Peace and Social Concerns section. A decision on if the Court will hear the case will be made early next year.



Homeland Return to the Nevada City Rancheria (NCR) Nisenan Tribe

Earlier this year members and attenders of our Monthly Meeting raised money along with other Meetings and Churches to help with the purchase of the John Woolman School property (232 acres) in California so that the land could be the Nevada City Rancheria (NCR) Nisenan Tribe whose land this was before their forced removal from it. The escrow completed on September 27, 2024 and was the result of significant and inspired effort of all parties.

The land, located on the historic Nisenan village site of Yulíca, will once again become a landbase for the Tribe and provide an opportunity for the NCR Nisenan Tribe to reclaim a piece of their land-based ceremonial and Cultural practices, Elder housing, and renewal of the Tribe's relationship with their Ancestral Homelands and its more-than-human kin.

A fuller account of the success of this collaboration between Woolman Friends, the Nisenan Tribe and California Heritage: Indigenous Research Project (CHIRP) go to this link: <https://chirpca.org/yulica-escrow-press-release>

News from the School PMFS Quakerism Training

In early September, Drew Smith of Friends Council on Education presented training to our faculty, staff and administration at PMFS for **Educators New to Quakerism**; sitting in were some members of the School Committee and the Meeting. Faculty and administration are deeply appreciative of Meeting's willingness to fund this training. Everyone felt the information presented was useful and helpful for all, from the most experienced to the newest teachers. The presenter provided information that ranged from interesting historical facts to information about Quakerism today.

News from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Bereavement Thread Gathering Oct 19th, 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Friends are invited to an in-person pastoral care thread gathering happening this Fall, providing a sacred space for Friends who feel called to healing. It allows participants to support each other in a community of care. While each journey through grief and healing is unique, we hope this event offer a chance to find mending. [Grief, Loss & Bereavement: A pastoral care Thread Gathering](#): Join Friends in addressing grief through pastoral care on **October 19th** at Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting. This event will include a panel on how various meetings support those grieving, followed by lunch and workshops that broaden the conversation around different forms of loss. This thread gathering welcomes everyone and is particularly relevant for those interested or engaged in pastoral care roles. For more information contact Tara Rubinstein at trubinstein@pym.org or at (215) 241-7228. To explore more of the events that are happening throughout Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, [please follow this link](#).