



# Plymouth Monthly Meeting Newsletter

## Meetings for Worship

First Day Plain Worship, no Zoom,  
10-11  
First Day Meeting blended worship:  
11:15 am  
Midweek Meeting for Worship: 7:00  
pm on Wednesdays (blended)

Address: 2150 Butler Pike, Plymouth  
Meeting, PA 19462  
[office@plymouthmeetingquakers.org](mailto:office@plymouthmeetingquakers.org)

## September 2025

### Clerk

Position  
Still  
Open

### Care & Concern

Bonnie Miller  
153 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
610-828-4970  
[bondave.miller@verizon.net](mailto:bondave.miller@verizon.net)

### Treasurer

Linda L. White  
519 Ft. Washington Ave.  
Ft. Washington, PA 19034  
215-641-4564  
[llfw2160@comcast.net](mailto:llfw2160@comcast.net)

### Newsletter Editor

Pattie O'Donnell  
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Dresher, PA 19025  
215-704-1666  
[pattieod@gmail.com](mailto:pattieod@gmail.com)

## September 2025

Sun	Sept 7	11:00 am	Friendly Fall Welcome: PMFS and PMM
Sat	Sept 13	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Fall Sale for AFSC at Gwynedd Friends Meeting
Sun	Sept 14	After Meeting	Spiritual Conversation Group
Sun	Sept 14	6:00 pm	Worship and Ministry
Tues	Sept 16	4:30 pm	Land Acknowledgement Committee
Sun	Sept 21	9:00 am	Meeting for Business
Sun	Sept 28	After Meeting	Friendly Fourth – all are welcome
Sun	Sept 28	2:00 pm	Music Circle

## October 2025

Sun	Oct 5	9:00 am	Abington Quarterly Meeting at Richland
Tues	Oct 7	7:00 pm	Care & Concern
Sun	Oct 12	After Meeting	Spiritual Conversation Group
Sun	Oct 12	6:00 pm	Worship and Ministry
Tues	Oct 14	4:30 pm	Land Acknowledgement Committee
Sun	Oct 19	9:00 am	Meeting for Business
Sat	Oct 25	10:00 am	Harry Grosch memorial
Sun	Oct 26	After Meeting	Friendly Fourth – all are welcome
Sun	Oct 26	2:00 pm	Music Circle

- All **First Day Meetings for Worship** will begin at 10:00 (Plain worship, no Zoom, no childcare) and 11:15 am (blended worship, childcare/First Day School available).
- **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 Meeting for Worship via Zoom info always available at [office@plymouthmeetingquakers.org](mailto:office@plymouthmeetingquakers.org)

## Queries for September

### Witnessing in the World: Ministry of Outreach

- How does our meeting communicate Friends' presence and principles to the wider community?
- How does our meeting join with other faith communities in worship, in spiritual dialogue and in social action?
- What are we doing to invite persons to attend our meetings for worship, to welcome them when they come, to listen sensitively to their needs and hesitations and to encourage their continued attendance?
- *How do I share my spiritual life and experience with others?*
- *Does my life as a Friend attract others to our religious society?*
- *What opportunities have I taken to worship with people from other religious and cultural backgrounds and work with them on common concerns?*

## News from the Meeting

### Friendly Fall Welcome for PMFS Families – Sept 7

The 3rd Annual 2025 Friendly Fall Welcome is upon us. Plymouth Monthly Meeting will welcome PMFS families returning to school for a day where we celebrate our larger community. We will start the day inviting families to join us for Meeting for Worship. Children are invited to attend First Day school with a special activity and continue the day with a communal lunch (provided by the school). Meeting members, school families, faculty and staff will share fellowship with delicious food. **Meeting members will be asked to contribute desserts for lunch and help with setup.** It's a great way to start the new school year and an opportunity to be with one another. Also a good time to meet the interim head Matt Bradley.

## Members Emergency Primary Contact



As we gather at the Meeting House, we enjoy worship and opportunities of fellowship together. We come with joyful hearts to be together. There is, however, the possibility of one of us having a health incident or accident while we are together. To be able to take care of one another in an efficient manner, it is important to have emergency contact information available so we know who to contact in an emergency. Care and Concern Committee will be circulating a request for this information for all members and regular attenders of the Meeting. Please provide contact information so that it can be collected and kept available if an emergency occurs.

## Worship and Ministry

### Prepared Hearts - Soul

Quakerism's chief enhancement of Christianity is "the man and woman who goes through life endeavoring to decide every question as it arises, not by passion or prejudiced, nor mainly by conclusions of human reason, but chiefly by reference to the light of God that shines in the prepared soul." --William Braithwaite

- How do we prepare our hearts to be a reflection of God's light?
- What actions do we or can we participate in that unprepared our hearts?



## Ninth Month Business Meeting

The agenda for Ninth Month (September) Business meeting is being gathered. If you have items to be considered please forward them to David Miller to be posted. Items that have been received are listed on the website with attachments. It is important that members review the attached documents before attending business meeting. To view the agenda log into the website, go to the Events + News tab and select Business Meeting Agenda. In addition to the Query of the month, the approval of prior minutes and the treasurer's report new items of business so far are



- Revision of School bylaws
- Discussion of plan for clerking our Meeting for the fall months
- Review of PMM minute on the Pledge of Allegiance
- Offer to purchase a painting of the Meeting

**Are there other items of business to be brought forward?**

## Clerking of our Monthly Meeting

Plymouth has had the privilege of dedicated clerking for many years. Recently as our Monthly Meeting has become smaller there are less people coming forward to clerk our Meeting. There are many very valid reasons for this, among them time and responsibilities to other Meeting ministries and civic responsibilities. Instead of rotating back in a prior clerk it is hoped that by trying a different way of Clerking more members will consider becoming a Meeting clerk.

Traditionally the Clerk had responsibilities outside of clerking the business meeting. A new model of clerking has been proposed that would use a clerking team to address the various responsibilities. At this coming business meeting (Ninth Month) a plan will be presented for the members to discuss. As part of that plan there is a desire to have members who have not clerked before to volunteer to clerk a business meeting in the coming months. Responsibilities outside of the business meeting will be divided between other members. In doing so it is hoped that the role of clerking a business meeting will be experienced as not an onerous responsibility but as a privilege to be the listener of the Meeting as we discern the Divine leadings on the topics of the business of the month.



## Right Relationship with Indigenous Peoples

Education is a foundational part of being in right relationship. Indigenous history has been systematically erased from the American experience. This month's look at history is back to the beginning of Lenape history. The first European contact with Lenape people was recorded in 1524 by Giovanni da Verrazzano in the lower New York Bay. But this is European history. Lenape peoples lived in Lenapehocking long before 1542. The Shawnee-Minisink site in the Delaware River Gap, which is

the historic heart of Lenape lands, has been dated to between 9,000 and 13,000 years ago. Is this the beginning of Lenape history?

Lenape tell their history as beginning with the story of Turtle Island. There are many versions of this story amongst the Northeast woodland tribes. The Haudenosaunee of New York were not forced from their homeland hence their language and stories remained more fully intact. The Lenape suffered forced migration and assimilation which nearly removed their historical memory but not completely. One short version of the Turtle Island story can be found on our website; Social Concerns tab/ Right Relationship with Indigenous Peoples. Cursor down to Understanding our history and culture of Indigenous peoples.

What occurred between the formation of the earth on a turtle's back and 10,000 years ago when villages were existing in the Delaware Water Gap? The stories passed down through the generations tells of a people who migrated from a distant western part of Turtle Island (American Continent). They migrated east as one very large body. After a very long journey they reached the shores of Namooeei Sipu (Mississippi) where they joined with the Mengwe tribe who were also looking for good land to settle on. They asked permission of the Alligewi tribe to cross over their land to the east of the river. The Alligewi were a vast tribe with many fortified cities. Permission was granted, but when seeing large number of Lenapi and Mengwe crossing they attacked them. A war ensued which caused many deaths on both sides. In the end Mengwe and Lenape were victorious. The Alligewi fled south down the river. The Mengwe went north up the river on the east side. The Lenape remained in the region for hundreds of years. The land was good and they multiplied. The huntsman continually ventured farther east until they reached the great salt water lake. From there they explored the Great bay (Chesapeake), the Great River (Lenape-wihittuck -Delaware) and the North River (Hudson).

Their nation divided into three separate bodies. The larger body - about half - settled on the Atlantic and the other half was again divided into two parts, one of which remained beyond the Mississippi, and the remainder east side of that river. Supporting this migration story is that the Delaware language was found among the western tribes by John Heckewelder in the 1700's. American history starts in the 1600's but the history of this Turtle Island starts long before the early Lenape villages of 10,000 BC.

## News From Our Friends in Palestine & Israel

The horrific pictures of people starving and being killed in the cities destroyed by war in Gaza fill our news feeds. Looking into, and longing to help those corralled within this Gaza military zone are the extended Palestinian families that live in Palestine and Israel. Christians and Muslims pray each day for the end to this madness. The war is never far away for them.

Go to the Meeting website, Social Concerns tab or the following link to read about, a recent visit from a FUM (Friends United Meeting) pastoral team to the Ramallah Friends School, the most recent posting in Palestine this week and a poem from a person born in Gaza. Go to the website: Peace + Social Concerns, cursor down to recent posts.



Ramallah Friends School welcome



Hennel Party 2025. (V or series. 1111d9cm



Photo by Fadi A. Thabet, photographer from Gaza.



# News from the Quarter

## AFSC Fall Sale & Bake Sale

### Gwynedd Friends Meeting, 1101 Dekalb Pike

Gwynedd will be hosting their regular Fall Sale & Bake Sale, featuring housewares, shoes, kids items, and men's and women's clothing. Proceeds benefit the American Friends Service Committee.



## The Spruance Fund

The Home and Care Committee of Abington Quarter provides pastoral care and financial assistance to members of our nine meetings whether they are living in their own homes or in any retirement facility.

For members living at Foulkeways, assistance has been provided by the F. Palin Spruance Fund. Currently, the monthly assistance paid on behalf of members is about \$12,000.00 per month. At this current rate of need, this Fund is estimated to be depleted within four years, sooner if the needs increase.

The Abington Quarter Home & Care Committee asks the members of our Monthly Meetings who are considering moving to Foulkeways, as well as those members already living there, to include a donation to Abington Quarterly Meeting in their wills so that the F. Palin Spruance Fund may continue to grow. Friends may also contribute to the fund during their lifetime.

Please make your checks payable to "The Incorporated Trustees of AQM" with "Sпруance Fund" in the memo and mail them to:

The Incorporated Trustees of AQM  
C/O Dan Hazelton, Treasurer  
1940 West Turner Street, apt. 507  
Allentown, PA 18104