

**Concord Quarterly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**  
**Held at Goshen Monthly Meeting**  
**January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

Meeting began with a period of silent worship. Rich Ailes welcomed everyone. There were 25 Friends in attendance. Friends from Birmingham, Concord, Goshen, Middletown, West Chester, Westtown, Willistown, and Wilmington were present. The agenda was reviewed and approved.

**Announcements:** a SHARE service project lead by Junior Interim Meeting will be held on Saturday February 9<sup>th</sup> at 2901 West Hunting Park Ave. Philadelphia. Junior Interim Meeting invites all to attend. The service organization SHARE (Self-Help and Resource Exchange) Food Program supplies food cupboards, emergency food packages and low cost food directly to families throughout the tri-state region. Both Rich and Averyl are willing to carpool. They plan to leave from Westtown at 9 am.

There will be a Square Dance at Willistown on February 16<sup>th</sup> from 7pm to 9pm. Rich asked that a flier be placed in each meetinghouse.

A **Minute of Travel for Thomas Swain** was read and is attached to the minutes. Among his many stops, Thomas is visiting England, Wales, Scotland and Nordic Yearly Meeting. Traveling in the Ministry is a strong calling which he is led to continue and help Friends with their spiritual gifts. The minute was approved by Middletown Monthly Meeting. Friends endorsed the Minute of Travel and wish him well.

A **Minute of Travel for Melinda Wenner Bradley** was read and is attached to the minutes. Melinda is a certified Godly Play trainer and she has helped to develop the Faith and Play stories in the Godly Play format. She is called to continue her leading to teach this method of religious education. The minute was approved by West Chester Monthly Meeting. Friends endorsed of the Minute of Travel and wish her well.

**Coordinator's Report** was given by Averyl Hall and is attached to the minutes. Over the past few months she was able to visit all meetings in the Quarter. She has reviewed the Quarter's minutes from the 1920's and 1980's to learn the Quarter's history and its past concerns. She has just returned from Cuba on a religious visa with Friends United Meeting and Guilford College. Friends accepted the report.

**Treasurer's Report** was given by Bruce James. He distributed handouts on the year-to-date finances of the Quarter. The Quarter uses the National Bank of Malvern which is a local community Quaker bank. The treasurer encouraged monthly meetings consider also doing their banking with a local bank. Beth Lawn's final invoice for the transition to Averyl has been paid. The budget for payroll has five months worth of funds available. Bruce thanked monthly meetings for their timely covenant payments. The Quarter is within one percent of the budget. Friends accepted the report.

Goshen and Wilmington's Joy's and Challenges were reported and are attached to the minutes. Friends minuted their appreciation to Goshen Meeting for their organizing and hospitality to the Quarter today.

**A report on the Quarter website** was given by Rich Ailes. Rich summarized a letter from Martin Reber (what is his title?) notifying Quarters that the Yearly Meeting is no longer supporting Quarterly Meeting websites. They are requesting that the Quarter website be moved to a new location within approximately four months. Friends approved allowing the planning committee make the decision on how to proceed with moving the website. The anticipated monthly charge for this service will be approximately \$20. Bruce James and Rich Ailes volunteered to serve on a subcommittee to help implement the move under the direction of the planning committee.

**A Threshing on the Tuition Endowment Fund** was led by Rich. A representative from each meeting gave a response. There was a sense of continued strong interest in the TOF and TEF. Friends approved a called meeting to continue threshing the Quarter's Tuition Aid program. The planning committee is empowered to set a date and location for the called meeting. The details assembled on the Quarter's Tuition Aid will be gathered and dispersed to the Monthly Meetings prior to the called meeting.

Meeting ended with a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Lavin  
Recording Clerk

Rich Ailes Clerk

Middletown Monthly Meeting of Friends  
435 N. Middletown Road  
Lima, Pennsylvania

01/23/2013

Dear Friends,

Thomas Swain has a calling to travel in the ministry among you this spring. The purpose of his travel is to encourage you in the work of identifying and helping to nurture spiritual gifts in your meetings. Thomas comes to you with many years of experience following a call to service. He sees this ministry as a part of God's continued prompting for renewal and re-vitalization of Friends.

We fully support him in this work and send our loving support and prayers with him.

We unite with Thomas in the hope that new life may burst forth amongst us. We ask for God's help in opening all our hearts that we may be bold in bearing witness to God's healing Love and Light in our broken world.

Thank you for your care and support to Thomas in his ministry and travels. We ask for God's help in bringing him back home safely.

Sincerely in faith,

Richard Ailes  
Clerk, pro tem  
Middletown Monthly Meeting

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Swarthmore, PA 19081  
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WEST CHESTER MONTHLY MEETING  
of the Religious Society of Friends

425 North High Street • West Chester, PA 19380 • 610-696-0491  
WCFMeeting@gmail.com

December 2012

To Friends everywhere:

At our June 10, 2012, Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, we approved the minute of travel for our beloved Friend, Melinda Wenner Bradley, whose leading to travel in the ministry has been seasoned in West Chester Monthly Meeting. We recognize her call to travel among Friends as the Spirit leads.

Melinda has served in our Meeting as the Clerk of Religious Education Committee and as a member of Overseers. Melinda also serves on the Faith & Play Working Group (of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting) and the Godly Play for Friends Working Group (of Friends General Conference). We value the gifts Melinda shares with us. She is gifted in presenting and originating ideas and relates lovingly to our children. Her gifts currently find expression in Godly Play and Faith & Play stories. Her faithfulness to this call has been an ongoing source of spiritual nourishment for our Meeting and beyond.

We commend Melinda to you, knowing you may trust the testimony she brings you and entrust that she will encourage and inspire the people with whom she interacts. Please care for her tenderly and encourage her heart. We request you receive this traveling minute on her behalf and document her service among you under this concern. We will be glad to receive reports of her experiences.

We send our greetings and love to you.

West Chester Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

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Deborah Lyons, Co-Clerk

Larry Wheeler, Co-Clerk

## **Coordinator's Report**

Since my report in October, I have made it to Goshen, Wilmington, West Chester, Middletown, and Concord. This means that I have made it to all eight meetings! I have enjoyed getting to meet each of the meetings and to begin to learn more about their characters and the concerns that they have. I have been considering ways in which I can be of assistance to meetings and how I can help facilitate relationships between Meetings. I have also made it to Meetings for Business at Wilmington, Concord, and Westtown. I am planning on making it to Meetings for Business at the remaining Meetings beginning in February. I also have plans to sit in on committee meetings when possible, to better learn about what concerns Monthly Meetings are discussing.

The Youth Committee has met twice in order to plan the youth event for Quarterly Meeting in January. Plans are underway for a Square Dance in February that will be held at Willistown. I have also met with the Coordinator of Western Quarter, Zac Dutton. We are excited about the possibilities of potentially having joint youth events in the coming months. Zac Dutton has also been seeking to have the coordinators of the Yearly Meeting youth programs to meet to discuss how to best integrate Quarterly Meeting programming with the programs offered by the Yearly Meeting.

Another project that I have worked on since the last Quarterly Meeting has been to look through the minutes of Concord Quarterly Meeting. I had the opportunity to spend time in the Quaker archives at Haverford and Swarthmore and was reading the minutes with an eye for those concerns that Friends had that were still present today. I believe that these minutes can provide us with insight into concerns that are present with Friends today. Please let me know if there are concerns within your Monthly Meeting that could be best address through the Quarterly Meeting

I have met with Martin Reber at Philadelphia Yearly Meeting to learn how to update our new website. I have also become aware of Friends General Conference's "Quaker Cloud," an on-line resource that provides Monthly Meetings with a website. I would encourage Monthly Meetings to look into this service.

I wanted to take this space to also say that I have just returned from a three week long trip to Cuba with Friends United Meeting and Guilford College.

**CONCORD QUARTERLY MEETING  
TREASURER'S REPORT**

January 26, 2013

**TREASURER TRANSITION**

The transition of Bruce James as the Treasurer of CQM is complete. Treasurers of monthly meetings are reminded to forward all financial correspondence to: Concord Quarterly Meeting, c/o Bruce James, PO Box 263, Westtown, PA 19395 OR [Bruce@BruceSoft.net](mailto:Bruce@BruceSoft.net)

**COORDINATOR/PAYROLL**

The payroll service has been going well. The documents are electronically transmitted, and the payment is directly deposited. The final invoice from Beth Lawn for consulting during the transition has been paid. The total for Beth's interim and transition work was approx \$4000.

Currently, more than \$9700 is available for payroll in the coming months. This represents about 10 pay periods (2 week pay period), or 5 months of payroll. The Treasurer wishes to thank the monthly meetings for providing timely contributions. The Quarter has not encountered any cash flow problems that were of concern in earlier reports. Contributions to date are within 1% of budget.

**BANK ACCOUNT**

Due to the larger number of transactions (and many via electronic/automatic systems), the bank account at National Bank of Malvern was converted from Money Market to Checking. This will discontinue the accrual of interest (approx \$75 of income), but avoids at least that much in fees that would be charged by the payroll service.

**TUITION FUND**

One semi-annual disbursement was received from Friends Fiduciary. So far this fiscal year, about \$6500 has been added to the 2012-2013 Tuition Operating Fund (to be granted for 2013-2014 school year).

Due to technical difficulties and coordination issues between the Treasurer and the bank, Tuition Grant payments were delayed. In order to properly account for this, the timing of the grant payments moved from the Q1 to Q2 statements.

Joys and Challenges  
Goshen Monthly Meeting

We are fortunate at Goshen Meeting to have a vibrant faith community, small but vital. At Goshen, the depth of our worship continues to be the key component of our communal experience. We are pleased about the ongoing spiritual nurture groups and the work of our few, but important, active committees. We are also grateful for our meetings for learning for adults and for our children's First Day School, which serves our families so well. We are mourning the loss of member Jacquie Moll, recognizing the transformations her presence brought to Goshen, and rising to the challenges of her absence.

At Goshen, we are happy for new attenders, and for occasional visitors. As a Meeting, we find ways to welcome those new to Quakerism as well as those who have come to Goshen as practicing Quakers. And we recognize that the many who come and either stay or move on, are changed here. Our welcoming and informing of attenders continues to evolve, as we recognize seekers and open our worship to them. The spiritual life of all of us grows.

We are willing to confront difficult questions with a faith in Spirit led discernment. We are asking questions about how to support members who serve from a distance. We are also asking if we do enough toward service and social action, beyond the Meeting community. The Meeting plans to hold a Meeting for Listening this spring, where these and other questions will be considered.

We know that God is at the center of our Meetings for Worship, and that we nurture members and attenders well. We endeavor to be realistic about what we expect from one another, as a Meeting and individually. Our Meeting remains a place of hope.

## State of the Meeting 2012

Wilmington Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends meets every First Day for worship and every second First Day of the month (except for August) for Meeting for Worship for Business. We have experienced many changes this year from new electrical wiring which you can't see to buoyant energy in the nursery which you can see. There is an increased willingness to trust and share as we pursue our individual and corporate journeys of the spirit. Some of the highlights of the year follow.

There were monthly adult education sessions held before worship. We forged bonds of greater trust which affected the depth and frequency of vocal ministry in worship. Overall, I believe this openness affected our ability to be more accepting of different points of view in meetings for business. This effort was initiated by Worship and Ministry who continues to seek meaningful ways to strengthen our spiritual community.

Committee on the Care of Members has addressed the pastoral needs of the Meeting with true courage and compassion. Concerted effort has been made to support those in need and strengthen the connections with Friends who consider Wilmington Friends Meeting to be their spiritual home.

Religious Education Committee has initiated several intergenerational projects. This has been a positive experience for young and old, weighty Friend and wiggly Friend. This has fostered a most exciting change: the integration of the adults in the meeting room and the children in the annex. REC has requested help from just about everyone and everyone has been generous in their support. REC is carrying a full complement of nursery school teachers for the first time in this clerk's memory; they are fairly bursting with enthusiasm and delight.

Harmony on the Hill has brought light and joy to the community through artistic presentations throughout the year. They coordinated the Berry Festival which draws attendance from the area of Quaker Hill and beyond. This event employs the gifts and talents of all members.

The first phase of the renewal project is complete; we had a ribbon cutting ceremony in June. The alterations were designed in such a way as to preserve the overall integrity of the worship room while creating a new office space and improving the social room. The Meetinghouse is now heated by a new furnace which uses natural gas; this is more efficient and less expensive to operate than the aged oil-fired boilers. Also, the original part of the Meeting house was completely rewired and now meets the fire code.

All of the committees are currently carrying out their duties efficiently. However, we are challenged by the fact that we are dependent on a few to shoulder the burden for the whole meeting. We offer our thanks to those who participate so generously, we encourage others to consider serving on a committee. The viability of our Meeting depends on all of us.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Ellen Green, Clerk  
On behalf of all the Clerks: Evelyn Brownlee, Dorothy Rademaker  
Mary Starkweather-White, Brian Fahey