

# YARDLEY FRIENDS MEETING

## NEWSLETTER

March 2019

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65 North Main Street, Yardley PA 19067  
<http://yardleyfriendsmeeting.org/>

Meeting for Worship 10:00–11:00  
First Day School 10:15–11:00

Linda Jacobs, Clerk  
Ed Snyder, Newsletter Editor

*Think Spring! Picture of daffodils was taken this morning, March 1.*

### ***This month at YFM***

#### **Mar 3**

Committee Meetings following Meeting for Worship.

#### **Mar 10**

8:30. Men's Group. (Q. What is the Men's Group?  
A. We meet in the office by the Meeting Room  
and read excerpts from a book, currently *Life Lessons  
from a Bad Quaker*, and discuss it...and whatever else  
might come up.)

Meeting for Business following Meeting for Worship.

#### **Mar 17 (a full day...)**

8:30. Clerks' Meeting  
"Show up/Come back" day – please "Show up" for  
Meeting for Worship if you come irregularly, and  
"Come back" if you haven't been here for a while.  
Adult education following Meeting for Worship –  
Tom Wells will talk about climate change

#### **Mar 24**

Adult education following Meeting for Worship -  
TBD

### **Looking ahead**

**Children's Book Swap** April 13<sup>th</sup> (tentative date).  
Other activities/fun too!

**Simple Gifts** folk duo, **May 11**. Workshop in the  
afternoon, concert in the evening. Save the date!

### ***Around the Quarter/PYM***

#### **Mar 9**

2 PM. Sam Snipes memorial at George School.

#### **Mar 31**

1 PM. Film "I'm Not Racist...Am I?" at the  
Newtown Theatre. Followed by discussion with  
the producer.

#### **Apr 5**

6:30 dessert, 7 PM Film – The Human Element,  
at Fallsington Meeting.

#### **Apr 20**

10-2. Quakerism 101 at Wrightstown Friend  
Meeting

*See this month's Quakerphernalia for details and all events  
and activities!*

### **Your Francis and Betty Irwin calendar inspiration for the month**

The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is  
for good men to do nothing.

Edmund Burke

### Simplicity

A mathematical principle dating back to the thirteenth century, Occam's razor, states that simpler solutions are more likely to be correct than complex ones. In my experience and way of thinking this rings true. Mistakes are more likely to happen when we don't go for the simplest solution.

Simplicity is a Quaker testimony. It is a belief that a person ought to live a simple life in order to focus on what is most important and play down everything else.

In the 18th and 19th centuries Friends avoided fancy dress, speech, and material possessions. They were easily recognized in society by plainness. Emphases on outward luxuries were believed to cause a person to focus on himself more than on his fellow human beings. This was considered a distraction from waiting on God's personal guidance. Friends truly believed in Jesus' teaching to "love thy neighbor as thyself."

Before I met any modern day Quakers, I could be counted among the people who thought this may be the same for Quakers today. My first knowledge of Quakerism was reading books like James Michener's "Chesapeake" that talked of Quakers in earlier days. We don't use plain dress or speech today. Simplicity isn't as obvious in the Quaker world today.

It's a matter to think about. Do we still live by the testimony of simplicity in our individual lives? Is simplicity at the core of our Meetings and other establishments? Quakers today strive to use our resources, including money and time, in ways that are most likely to make life better for ourselves and others.

Like most things in Quakerism, simplicity might mean different things to different people. It all comes from the light within. It might be as stated in Occam's razor that when presented with competing hypotheses to solve a problem, one should select the solution with the fewest assumptions. Simplicity is about how we live our life in so many ways. It can be our architecture or the car we drive. Just simple acts of love and kindness can change so many lives. Living with simplicity in mind can lead to a better life and a better world.

### Query 3. Deepening Our Faith: Spiritual Nurture

How does the meeting encourage the use of spiritual practices that deepen our faith, enhance the excitement of shared religious discovery and increase the possibility of spiritual transformation?

What is the nature of our shared experience of the Divine and how do we nurture our collective spiritual growth and transformation?

In what ways do we support each other in our spiritual journeys, in our search for God's will and in our efforts to increase understanding of humanity's relationship to life on earth?

How do we recognize, develop and nurture the spiritual gifts of all in our meeting?

*How do I incorporate into my personal and family life those daily practices that focus on continued spiritual growth, including worship, reflection and engagement with writings that nurture the soul?*

#### **A note from your newsletter editor**

If you have info for the next newsletter, please e-mail me at [ed@mrppplansinc.com](mailto:ed@mrppplansinc.com). Cut-off is the 25th of each month. Feel free to write with suggestions for improvements. **If you are reading a hard copy and don't mind having it e-mailed, please let me know and we can save some paper and postage.**

Ed Snyder

The following was contributed by Betsy Cadwallader

### Symptoms of Inner Peace

An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.

A tendency to think and act spontaneously, rather than on fears based on past experiences.

A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others and judging other people.

A loss of interest in conflict.

A loss of the ability to worry.

Frequent, overwhelming episodes of appreciation.

Contented feeling of connectedness with others and nature.

Frequent attacks of smiling.

An increased susceptibility to the love extended by others as well as the uncontrollable urge to extend it.

*Unknown*



Also contributed by Betsy...

Painting by Dick Wedderspoon: a member of YFM with his wife Margaret, for many years. Dick was included in The New Hope School of Artists in the 50's-quite a prestigious honor.

This picture came from Mom & Dad's estate (Sid & Carol Cadwallader)

Has anyone been skating here this winter (2018 -2019), or other years?



Still more from Betsy (thanks!)

At left, Anne meets Twain after adult ed Feb 24.

At right, we hoped this was the last snow of the year melting...but not quite!

