



London Grove Monthly Meeting

~ Begun 1714 ~
~ Established 1792 ~

May Bulletin

5th Month Queries Nurturing Our Community: Religious Education in the Home and Meeting

- How does our meeting prepare its members, attenders and children for worship, for the conduct of its business and for a way of life consistent with the principles of the Religious Society of Friends?
- What opportunities do we provide for all in the meeting to learn about Friends' history, practices and testimonies, the Judeo-Christian tradition, the life and teachings of Jesus, and other religious traditions?
- How does our meeting's religious education program provide experiential learning that enhances the sense of belonging to our worshipping community?
- *How do I help create a home where all members of the family receive affection and understanding and where visitors are welcome?*
- *How does my manner of living enrich body, mind and spirit; enable all to learn what it means to live a life of Spirit-led commitment; and demonstrate a high regard for family, community and the integrity of creation?*
- *How do I engage with my family and others who are dear to me regarding such sensitive topics as death, faith, money, sex and drugs?*

"QuakerSpeak", a project of Friends Journal, puts engaging 5 minute videos about Quaker topics online. To visit QuakerSpeak, go to www.quakerspeak.com

May 2023 Calendar

5/4	7:30 pm	Property Committee
5/7	9:30 am	Family Meeting for Worship—Hybrid
	9:45 am	Young children move into their program of play and learning
	10:45 am	Meeting for Worship for Business
	7:15 pm	Religious Education Committee—on Zooming for Worship
5/9	4:00 pm	Care & Membership Committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	Book Discussion <i>My Bright Abyss</i> by Christian Wyamn—on Zoom. All are welcome
5/14	9:30 am	Family Meeting for Worship—Hybrid
	9:45 am	Young children move into their program of play and learning
	10:30 am	MOTHERS DAY — <i>No Second Hour</i> program
	7:30 PM	Peace & Social Justice Commkittee—on Zoom
5/16	7:30 PM	Climate Discussion Group on Zoom
5/17	10:00 am	Volunteer opportunity with Allen AME Church (See story on page 4 for details)
5/18	10:00 AM	Library Committee meeting
5/21	9:30 am	Family Meeting for Worship—Hybrid NOTE: Allen AME Church will join us for Worship, Singing, First Day School and Refreshments and PYM Presiding clerk Melissa Rycroft will also join us.
	9:45 am	Young children move into their program of play and learning
	10:45 am	Bible Study with Donald LaBranche: A Family Affair; Isaac & Ishmael--Hybrid
5/28	9:30 am	Family Meeting for Worship—Hybrid
	9:45 am	Young children move into their program of play and learning
	10:45 am	Quakerism study with Atala Toy: PYM Faith & Practice 6th month Query (F&P page 209)--Hybrid
NOTE		Worship and Religious Education programs are offered in person and over a Zoom link, which is published in emails sent to members and attenders at London Grove Meeting.

FOURTH MONTH 2023 MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR BUSINESS—SUMMARY

On April 2, 2023, following responses to the Queries on Nurturing Our Community: Care for the Meeting, the Meeting continued in worship with attention to the business of London Grove Monthly Meeting. Minutes from the Third Month meeting were approved as read.

Following the recommendation of Care and Membership Committee, the Meeting joyfully approved the memberships of Steve McHenry and Jan McHenry.

Letters from Andy Strode and Karen Jury requesting membership were read aloud and passed along to Care & Membership Committee, which will convene a clearness committee.

Doug Myers presented the Treasurer's Report for 3rd Month. As of March 31, we were 25% of the way through the year and had received 31.1% of budgeted contributions.

Appreciation was voiced for the positive influence our Kindergarten provides in the wider community. A team of educators from Unionville - Chadds Ford School District visited the kindergarten because they heard from parents that it is excellent and are considering using it as a model as they move forward with developing an all-day kindergarten for the school district. The meeting approved recording appreciation in the minutes for the model provided by the Kindergarten.

Based on a recommendation from Peace and Social Justice Committee, the Meeting agreed to support the concern raised by Lancaster Monthly Meeting's (LMM) minute regarding the rise of Christian Nationalism, and their call for Friends to educate themselves and communicate personal concerns to their elected representatives. The Peace and Social Justice Committee will continue to explore writing our own minute regarding this issue, and will further educate the Meeting. The Meeting approved sending a letter to LMM indicating our support as described above.

Susanna Davison read a draft for a Minute of Welcome to the Blackburn family on the occasion of their visit to London Grove on July 30. Friends are asked to inform Susanna of changes and additions needed. Approval of the Minute, which will be read at rise of meeting on the day of the visit, will be requested at our 5th Month meeting.

Matthew Provinski presented the annual report for the Burial Grounds Committee, including a detailed account of the committee's finances during recent years. The committee is responsible for administering and caring for the burial ground, and carrying out burials for families.

Karen-Lee Brofee presented the annual report of the Care & Membership Committee. The committee's work revolves around clearness, counseling and confidentiality. Committee members greet those arriving for worship, convene clearness committees, and reach out as appropriate to those who may need support. Any individual who sees a need is encouraged to reach out to a committee member.

The following upcoming events were announced:

Shared worship with Allen A.M.E. Church at London Grove on May 21

Picnic with Allen A.M.E. members at Jennersville Park on June 25

Combined Western Quarter and Concord Quarter Meeting at London Grove on July 16

Edna Collins, Clerk

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

London Grovers and Allen AME friends will be gathering for a volunteer morning at the Orphan Grain Train Center in Jennersville on Wednesday morning, May 17th at 10 AM to work together sorting and packing clothes and materials to be shipped to areas of emergency and need in the United States and abroad. Orphan Grain Train is a Christian volunteer network that ships, food, clothing, medical and other needed items to people in 69 different countries and in the US. You can learn more about this organization through their website (<https://www.ogt.org/branches/mid-atlantic/>) and these links: <https://www.ogt.org/team-work-gets-it-done/> or <https://www.ogt.org/great-group-of-volunteers-load-container-destined-for-malawi/>.

Our plan is to gather volunteers from our Meeting and Allen AME to volunteer for the morning from 10-12, break at noon for lunch and fellowship with our packed lunches, and then individually continue a little longer with our work or head home. We need volunteers! Please email (klbrofee@gmail.com) or call (443-754-1051) Karen-Lee if you would like to participate. It is bound to be a fine morning!

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