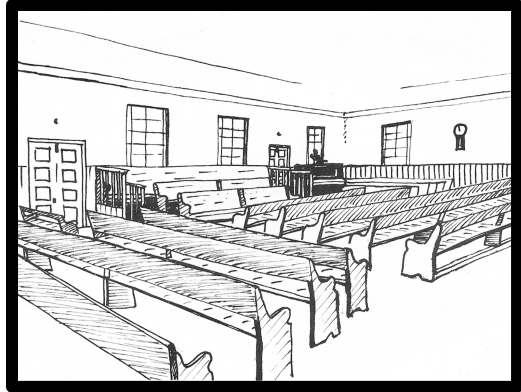


JANUARY 2022

**Westfield Monthly Meeting
of the
Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship
First Day (Sunday) 10:00 AM in
Meetinghouse & on Zoom
Children are Welcome**



**The First Query
Deepening our Faith: Meeting for Worship**

- a. Are our meetings for worship held in stilled, expectant waiting upon God?
- b. As we worship in the living silence, are we drawn together by the power of God in our midst? Do we experience a deep reverence for the integrity of creation?
- c. How does our worship nurture all worshippers, creating a deeper sense of community?
- d. How does our Meeting encourage vocal ministry that spiritually nurtures the worshipping community?

- e. *Do I faithfully attend meeting with heart and mind prepared for worship, clear of any predetermination to speak or not to speak, expecting that worship will be a source of strength and guidance?*
- f. *Does worship deepen my relationship with God, increase my faithfulness and refresh and renew my daily life, both inwardly and in my relationships with other persons and with all of creation?*
- g. *Does worship enhance my capacity for attentive, nonjudgmental listening to others?*
- h. *How does participation in meeting for worship contribute to my life-long spiritual journey?*

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Westfield monthly Meeting News and Notes



Spiritual Oasis

Spiritual Oasis will meet on January 12th at 1:30 pm on Zoom. Please contact Deborah Mosley-Duffy for Zoom link. Her email address is mosleyduffy@gmail.com.

Friendly Circle

Friendly Circle will meet at 11:00 am the 3rd and 4th Sundays in January, both in-person and on Zoom. All are welcome!

Let's Talk About Our Hidden Biases

January 6, 2022, at 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Free

Join Moorestown Meeting's Anti-Racism Committee for a 'rap session' about **hidden biases and how we're personally working to identify and change them** on Thursday, January 6 at 7:30 pm. Bring your questions, concerns, New Year's resolutions, success stories – or just your active listening skills – and phone 646-558-8656 and use meeting ID 815 8781 6369 to be part of the conversation. For more information visit the Moorestown Meeting website at: <https://moorestownfriendsmeeting.org/home/meeting-news/>.

An Evening Honoring Rev. Dr. King's Pilgrimage to Non-violence

January 12, 2022, at 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm



Fellowship for Diversity in Negotiation, Mediation, and Conflict Resolution

A Virtual Conversation with Dr. Kathy Gonzales on the Fellowship for Diversity in Negotiation, Mediation & Conflict Resolution

Rev. Dr. King transformed our nation's approach to conflict resolution. *How can we honor his legacy and encourage more trainers and peace-making practitioners from the most*

marginalized groups in society — including people of color, women, trans and gender nonconforming/nonbinary people and people from poor and working class backgrounds?

Westtown Monthly Meeting is hosting Dr. Kathy Gonzales, Director of the Fellowship for Diversity in Negotiation, Mediation & Conflict Resolution, to share a new vision and pathway to increase diverse leadership in the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) field. She will share the innovative and collaborative partnerships which have led to the Fellowship.

Why commit to expanding leadership in Alternative Dispute Resolution? The Religious Society of Friends believes that more can be accomplished by appealing, as Rev. King did, to the capacity for love and goodness in all of us, than can be hoped for by threatening punishment or retaliation. Rather than violence and dominance, we must turn instead, in the words of early Friends, to the ‘weapons of the spirit,’ allowing God to reach out through us to that of God in those with whom we are in conflict. Love, truth saying, non-violent engagement through mediation and negotiation, and using the moral imagination are “spiritual weapons” that heal and don’t destroy.

Westtown Meeting has committed to supporting this equity centered project. We invite other Friends to work together with us.

Kathy Gonzales is the Chief Trainer/Education & Development Officer at Habitus. Kathy operated as a conflict management consultant to organizations and government agencies in the Caribbean. She was an Assistant Professor at Creighton University’s Negotiation & Conflict Resolution Program. Kathy practiced as a family lawyer prior to entering the field of conflict engagement and holds a Bachelor of Laws Degree, a Master of Laws Degree and a Doctor of Philosophy in Conflict Analysis & Resolution.

Register in advance for this program:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqd-GqrD8vEtw5eSKJBldm4dCCUiyuDcDJ>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

The Lawnside-Haddonfield Connection

January 25, 2022 at 7:00 pm – 8:30

Join us for a presentation by Shamele Jordan regarding The Lawnside-Haddonfield Connection. We will start with the beginnings. What is the origin story for the two towns and their early connections? Then we will move to the modern era. What was it like to live and grow up being African American in Haddonfield? Then we will move to Now and the Future. What can we do to foster meaningful connections between the communities?



Jordon is a professional genealogist, lecturer, writer and podcaster (Genealogy on Demand). Her professional background includes being a researcher for the PBS series *Oprah’s Roots: African American Lives I and II*, a NJ State Library grant recipient,

researching Civil War Burials in Lawnside, NJ; former president of the African American Genealogy Group in Philadelphia, past board member of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, faculty at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, Athens, GA, and a workshop volunteer at the Family History Center in Cherry Hill, NJ.

This online program is presented by Haddonfield Friends Meeting. To pre-register and receive the zoom information one day before the program please use this link:
<https://www.southjerseyquakers.org/the-lawnside-haddonfield-connection/>

PYM Thread Gathering February 5, 2022 9-3 on Zoom

Restorative Racial Justice: From the Personal to the Systemic

Our faith calls us to racial justice and to healing the wounds of racism. Every day we see the realities of inequality and injustice. More and more we experience in ourselves and others, responses of overwhelming emotion when encountering the realities of inequality and injustice. The ability to listen deeply, to allow feedback in with a minimum of defensive responses, to be mindful of one's thoughts, feelings and body in the face of overwhelming emotion – these are important and necessary skills to develop in order to open the pathways toward real repair of relationships, and the healing of racism at both the personal and systemic levels.

Schedule

The morning session, facilitated by .O of Central Philly Meeting, will examine some of the ways that centuries of trauma and systemic racism condition and shape our personal patterns of emotional response and interpersonal interaction. We will explore the bases in the nervous system of several patterns of response to challenge and stress. Together we will practice ways to increase our self-awareness and shift an agitated state to a more open and receptive response. Expanding on our faith tradition we will practice deep listening to the spirit that dwells within one another.

In the afternoon session 3 Collaboratives, Middle East, Eco-Justice, and First Contact Reconciliation, will share how systemic racism shows itself within the areas of their focus. Each will look at ways that individuals and meetings can work on systemic racism, offering 3 levels of engagement. Let's get active!

To Register, go to the PYM calendar, locate the Thread Gathering event on February 5th and click on "Register here".

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

January 9, 2022

Deepening Our Faith: Meeting for Worship

Agenda

- Silent Worship
- Reading of Query/Reflections
- Approval of December Minutes
- Recorder's Report
- Outreach Committee Web- site Update
- Worship and Religious Education
- COVID guidelines
- Announcements
- Correspondence Received
- Silent Worship

Westfield Monthly Meeting Minutes of 11-14-2021

Present: Moon and Mark Beiferman-Haines, Georgeann Catanella, Gail Fountaine, Bill and Connie Beetle, Suzanne Day, Joan Spagnoletti, Rose Ketterer

Settling into opening worship, clerk read the 11th queries:

Witnessing in the World - Education. Some Friends shared aloud

- Many of us, and we as a Meeting are engaged with Friends education with WFS.
- We can support public school education is by being attentive to School Boards.
- Several of our members are teachers and they deserve our listening ears and supportive attention.
- American society at large displays such a lack of critical thinking!
- A teacher shared how she challenges teams of students to think creatively as they work with materials and one another to complete projects.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting for Business held 10-10-2021 accepted as circulated.

Westfield Friends School Report, also circulated in advance, accepted.

Naming Committee for Nominating Committee our clerk proposed that Alvin Figueroa and Michael Robinson serve as *ad hoc* naming committee to bring up to 3 our standing Nominating Committee. Meeting approved.

Collectors - While none could be present, their draft Letter to be sent out soon was welcomed by those in attendance, approved for circulation after very small changes.

COVID Guidelines - The guidelines we adopted at our June need to be updated, CDC Guidelines and the weather and booster vax changes considered. Suzanne Day agreed Worship and Religious Education Committee will review and revise our protocols.

Property Committee Bill Beetle reminded the Meeting of his 2 requests for leadership:

- Grounds-keeping monitoring and preparation for putting out request for contractors to bid on the job next year: Joan Biddle and Dean Kinsey's offer was welcomed.
- Finding an engineering firm to define the Riverton Road stormwater-runoff problem and propose solutions - no leadership identified yet.

Outreach Committee Gail Fontaine reflected on those who visited in person 10/3 for World Quaker Day: Some will not attend indoor meeting unless/until all are masked.

Worship and Religious Education Moon Beiferman-Haines reminded us that Friendly Circle meets 11am 3rd and 4th First-Days, currently focusing on Sense of the Meeting.

Westfield Friends School is preparing it's Annual Report and requests a paragraph describing the Meeting's relationship with the School. Joan Spagnoletti will draft and send out to those present for suggested changes.

Fall Continuing Sessions of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Rose Ketterer reported on progress in matters decided in the Summer . . . Rose was uplifted and felt hopeful.

- At-Large Membership in Yearly Meeting has at least one applicant currently going through the Clearness Committee process.
- Environmental activism had both an encouraging progress program and a
- Mourning Loss - Instilling Hope program.

Rose encouraged Westfield Friends to participate more in PYM programs, which stimulate and inspire.

Our agenda completed, we closed with quiet.

Suzanne Day, recording clerk Joan Spagnoletti, clerk

JANUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Meeting for Business 11:00 am in Meetinghouse & on Zoom	10	11	12 Spiritual Oasis 1:30 pm on Zoom	13	14	15
16 Friendly Circle 11:00 following MFW	17	18	19	20	21	232
23 Friendly Circle 11:00 following MFW _____ _____ 30	24 _____ _____ 31	25	26	27	28	29

Dates to Remember

Meeting for Worship during the month of January will be held in-person and on Zoom at 10:00 am. Please check for the LINK on the Friday preceding MFW.

January 9—Meeting for Business at 11:00 am

January 12—Spiritual Oasis at 1:30 pm on Zoom

January 16 & 23—Friendly Circle at 11:00 am following MFW

**Westfield Monthly Meeting
2201 Riverton Road
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077**

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