

# Newsletter

December 2019

Crosswicks Friends Meeting  
of the Religious Society of Friends



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*"I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that I can do or any kindness I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it for I shall not pass this way again."*

– Stephen Grellett (1773-1855)



Crosswicks Meeting House 1773

Diane Williams

## December Calendar

Sunday, December 1	Assembly Meeting for Worship	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	FDS MH
Thursday, December 5	Meals for the Needy	3:00 p.m.	FDS
Sunday, December 8	Assembly Meeting for Worship Meeting for Business	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	FDS MH MH
Sunday, December 15	Fellowship Meeting for Worship Quarterly Meeting Lunch and Presentation	9:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	MH MH MH FDS
Sunday, December 22	Meeting for Worship Candlelight Service	10:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	MH MH
Sunday, December 29	Meeting for Worship	10:30 a.m.	MH

John Andrews, Clerk

Russell Caldwell, editor

## This Month at the Meeting

**December 8: Meeting for Business.** Our monthly business meeting will be held on Sunday following the rise of meeting at about 11:30 a.m. in the Meeting House. As a reminder: all monthly Meetings for Business will be held on the **second Sunday** of every month (no Meeting in July and August).

**December 15: Quarterly Meeting.** The Fourth Quarterly Meeting of the Burlington Quarter will be held at our own Crosswicks Meeting. There will be fellowship starting at 9:30 a.m. before the Meeting for Worship at 10:00 a.m., followed by the Quarterly Meeting at 11:00 a.m. After the meeting, lunch will be provided in the First Day School and there is a planned presentation to be given by Friend Richard Moody about his experiences at a refugee camp near Athens, Greece, in 2017.

**December 22: Candlelight Service.** Our annual Christmas event will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting House. There will be carols and readings, and if you can, please bring a monetary donation for the Mercer Street Friends, to be placed on the tree.

### WE NEED YOUR COOKIES!

**HOMEMADE COOKIES ARE NEEDED FOR THE CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT SERVICE ON DECEMBER 22. NO NEED TO SIGN UP IN ADVANCE. JUST BRING YOUR COOKIES WHEN YOU COME.**

#### PLEASE NOTE:

The Meeting is no longer collecting wrapped toys for Mercer Street Friends

*Merry*  *Christmas*

## C.S. Lewis' *Mere Christianity* discussion to begin in December

Clerk of Meeting John Andrews will begin a six-part discussion of C.S. Lewis' seminal 1952 theological treatise *Mere Christianity*, which was taken from a series of talks Lewis gave for BBC Radio during the Second World War. The book has never been out of print and is readily available at libraries and online. John will be using an accompanying workbook by Devin Brown titled *Discussing Mere Christianity: Exploring the History, Meaning, and Relevance of C.S. Lewis's Greatest Book*, which is available on Amazon [here](#), among other places. John will be supplementing each of his discussions with a video. The dates for his talks are December 8, January 19, February 23, March 29, May 17 and June 7.

### The John Woolman Greens Sale

Hand Decorated Wreaths  
Variety of Fresh Clippings  
Pine Roping and Wreaths  
Christmas Crafts

Saturday, December 7 – 10 AM to 4 PM  
Sunday, December 8 – Noon to 3 PM



John Woolman Memorial Association  
99 Branch Street, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060

Would you like to help us decorate wreaths or create your own wreath using our materials? December 4 & 5. Contact us for details!

For questions, special orders, or more information call (609) 267-3226  
Or email [woolmanmemorial@gmail.com](mailto:woolmanmemorial@gmail.com)

We will be on the 2019 Mt. Holly Holiday Tour!  
December 14, 4 – 8 PM. Join us!

The **Committee on Care and Counsel** extends our thanks to all who helped in any way with Thanksgiving Breakfast on November 24. That includes those who came to share a varied and delicious meal, along with a chance to sit down and break bread together. We wish all who read this a wonderful holiday season and a peaceful New Year.

## Queries

### Twelfth Month

#### Integrity and Simplicity

What does our Meeting understand to be the meaning and implication of our testimonies on simplicity and integrity?

How do our Meeting's actions demonstrate this understanding?

As a Meeting, what are we doing to encourage members to embody integrity and simplicity in their everyday lives?

*How do I strive to maintain the integrity of my inner and outer lives—in my spiritual journey, my work, and my family responsibilities? How do I manage my commitments so that overcommitment, worry, and stress do not diminish my integrity?*

*Am I temperate in all things? Am I open to counsel and advice on overindulgence and addictive behavior, such as gambling? Do I take seriously the hazards associated with addictive and mood-altering substances?*

*Am I careful to speak truth as I know it and am I open to truth spoken to me? Am I mindful that judicial oaths imply a double standard of truth?*

*Do I refrain from membership in organizations whose purposes and methods compromise our testimonies?*

*Source: Faith and Practice, Revised Edition, June 2002*