

Newsletter

September 2021

Crosswicks Friends Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends



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*“Better than a thousand hollow words is
one word that brings peace.”*

Gautama Buddha (583-463 BCE)



Crosswicks Meeting House 1773

Diane Williams

September Calendar

Sunday, September 5	Meeting for Worship	9:30 a.m.	MH/Zoom
Sunday, September 12	Assembly	9:30 a.m.	MH/Zoom
	Meeting for Worship	10:00 a.m.	MH/Zoom
	Meeting for Business	11:00 a.m.	MH/Zoom
Saturday, September 18	Meeting Retreat	9:30 a.m.	MH
Sunday, September 19	Assembly	9:30 a.m.	MH/Zoom
	Meeting for Worship	10:00 a.m.	MH/Zoom
	Burlington Quarterly Meeting	11:00 a.m.	Mt. Holly
Saturday, September 25	Jan Williams' Memorial Service	11:00 a.m.	MH
Sunday, September 26	Assembly	9:30 a.m.	MH/Zoom
	Meeting for Worship	10:00 a.m.	MH/Zoom
Tuesday, September 28	Motel Meals	3:00 p.m.	FDS

Mike Brick, Clerk

Russell Caldwell, editor

This Month in the Meeting

September 18: Meeting Retreat. The Crosswicks Meeting will be holding a retreat for all members and attenders on Saturday, September 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Meeting House. The theme of the retreat will be "Listening into Wholeness: Finding Unity in Our Diversity." The session will be led by George Shaefer, the Care & Aging Coordinator at the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

September 25: Memorial Service for Jan Williams. There will be a Quaker memorial service for our dear Friend Jan Williams at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 25, in the Meeting House. She passed last year, and we weren't able to celebrate her life together because of the pandemic. Following the service there will be lunch served (on the Meeting Green, weather permitting).



Tents and crowd behind the Meeting House on June 19th, when we held our first Juneteenth celebration.

Please contribute cereal

Please continue to donate new, unopened boxes of cereal for St. Mary's Pantry in Bordentown. The drop-off containers are located inside the First Day School front door in the vestibule. Thanks!

ADVICES FOR THE NINTH MONTH

Accept with serenity each new stage of life. Welcome the approach of old age, both for oneself and for others, as an opportunity for wisdom, for detachment from turmoils, and for greater attachment to the Light. Make provision for the settlement of all outward affairs while in health, so that others may not be burdened, and so that one may be freed to live more fully in the Truth that shall stand against all entanglements, distractions and confusions of our times.

Juneteenth in Crosswicks

On Saturday, June 19th, the Crosswicks Monthly Meeting hosted its first Juneteenth celebration, on the Green behind the Meeting House. The event was organized by the Interfaith Community Builders, which is led by our own John Enz, who spoke along with other local church and civic leaders. The uplifting speeches were punctuated by inspiring music by Rod Blackstone, who sang and accompanied himself on the keyboard. Our own Chris Bond was among several speakers who outlined the history of Juneteenth and the abolition of slavery in the U.S.

The Chesterfield Township Historical Society was also on hand, exhibiting items from its collection of items involving the local African-American community. Included in their display were scans of two certificates of manumission signed by members of our Meeting in 1777, freeing slaves in their possession.

Queries

Ninth Month

Outreach

What are we doing as a Meeting to communicate our presence and our principles to the community around us? Does our Meeting's ministry of outreach lead Friends to share their spiritual experiences with others?

What are we doing to invite persons not in membership to attend our meetings for worship and to encourage their continued attendance? How does the Meeting welcome visitors? Are we sensitive to the needs and hesitations of each visitor?

Are we tender to the needs of isolated Friends and Meetings, and to nearby Meetings seeking support?

How do I ground myself in the understandings of my faith? Am I clear about my beliefs? How do I prepare myself to share my faith and beliefs with others?

Does my manner of life as a Friend attract others to our religious society?

Do I seize opportunities to tell others about the Religious Society of Friends and invite them to worship with us?

Is my manner with visitors and attenders to our Meeting one of welcome?

Collaboration

In what ways does our Meeting respond to opportunities to join with other faiths in worship, in social action, and in spiritual dialogue?

How does our Meeting encourage its members to seek opportunities to meet and work with Friends worldwide?

What opportunities have I taken to know people from different religious and cultural backgrounds, to worship with them, and to work with them on common concerns?

What opportunities have I taken to know, to work, and to worship with Friends outside of my own Meeting?