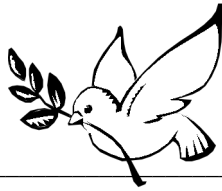


Concord Quarterly News

of the Religious Society of Friends



Concord Quarterly Meeting Newsletter Volume 19, Issue 2, April 2022

Something Odd at Quarterly Meeting

(A unique program at our next Quarterly Meeting at Birmingham)

On April 24, 2022, at Quarterly Meeting, Birmingham Monthly Meeting will present a program like no other in the history of the Quarter. The youth of the Meeting will perform a short radio play called "Something Odd About the Dyers". The play is based on a science fiction short story written by Mel Stephen Sharpe that was published in the *Friends Journal*, [November 2021](#). The story is about a

Quaker family that finds a pod from another world that has landed in a forest near the family's farm. The family must decide how to react to the pod and the creature that it contains.

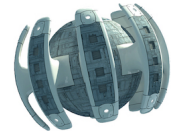
The play brings up questions of how Quakers should treat "the other." The play has implications for interactions with transsexual persons, immigrants, or any living "other." It helps one understand why transsexual people are referred to as "they." The play also

deals with issues of what is acceptable behavior in protecting and reacting to the "other." How should Quakers relate to transsexual people? Is it murder to kill any living creature? Should the family report the visitor from another world to the authorities if that is the law? Should the family lie to protect the visitor? How should Quakers treat

undocumented immigrants? After the play is presented, the attendees will have time to discuss all the various issues raised in the play by discussing some wondering questions.

A subplot of the play draws parallels between the Old Testament story about Moses's mother placing her baby in a basket and putting him in the bulrushes to save his life and what the interplanetary visitor's family may have been doing sending the young creature off to earth in a pod. Pondering this act helps the Dyer family

understand to what lengths parents will go to protect their children or to give them a better life. It won't be lost on the listener that there is also a parallel with immigrant children from other countries showing up on their own at the United States border. By the end of the story, the Dyer family figures out how they will be reacting to the questions the pod landing raises. Come listen to the story and decide what you think you should and would do!



It was interesting that the author, Mel Stephen Sharpe, decided to use the name "Dyer" for the family in the story. Was she thinking about the famous Quaker Mary Dyer who was killed for her beliefs when she chose that name? Mary Dyer, an English and colonial American Puritan turned Quaker, was hanged in Boston, Massachusetts Bay Colony, for repeatedly defying a Puritan law banning

Quakers from the colony. Is there a connection between Mary and the Dyer family in this story?

Birmingham Meeting decided on the radio play format since the COVID pandemic has made it difficult to have everyone in the Quarter meet in person. The Meeting will be open for people who wish to attend in person and others can join on-line. The play, while performed by the youth will be appropriate for children as well as adults. The Meeting's Religious Education Committee will be producing the radio play with Gwynne Ormsby as the play Director and Collier Zug as the Narrator. Concord Quarter hopes that everyone in the Quarter will be able to join for the radio play and for the discussion following about these timely cultural issues.

- Marty Boston - Birmingham Meeting
(Images used with permission from Friends Journal)

New Name for an Old PYM Committee: Quaker Fund for Indigenous Communities

Formerly known as the Indian Committee, we are Quakers from all parts of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting who support Indigenous communities through grants as well as advocacy. Our small grants provide seed money for projects identified and implemented by Native communities in the Philadelphia area and throughout North, Central and South America. These include projects to build cultural, economic, environmental, and social well-being. We currently fund projects through small grants but we hope to build that grant base so we can fund larger projects in the future especially projects that support language and culture so that children and youth benefit from the transmission of unique heritages from elders in their communities.

The Indian Committee began its ongoing relationship with Native peoples in 1795, and in the past Quakers were complicit in efforts to wrongfully "civilize" Native peoples. Supporting young people and their communities in their efforts to learn and take pride in their identity and traditions is one way to redress wrongs of the past.

We are currently seeking new members and hope you might consider service on the Quaker Fund for Indigenous Communities. We value the diverse experiences and knowledge new members bring to our work and in return you will have the opportunity to learn more about the complex issues that impact Indigenous communities. To explore participation on this granting group contact: Tom Armstrong, our PYM Granting Committee Liaison: tarmster@gmail.com

Please visit our website to learn more about our work: <https://www.pym.org/grants/quaker-fund-for-indigenous-communities/>

We encourage you to also explore the PYM First Contact Reconciliation Collaborative as another way to act on concerns in support of Indigenous peoples. <https://www.pym.org/first-contact-reconciliation-collaborative> - Lois Kuter

[Exploring Quakerism with Newcomers](#)

(Click link above to go to the PYM web article for reference links)

Supporting Seekers

When adult seekers demonstrate interest in our meeting by attending week after week, how do we demonstrate our commitment to them? One way is to invite them to take part in a series of classes which cover the basics of Quakerism, some of its nuances, and how the meeting works. Birmingham Meeting has such a program for seekers called *Exploring Quakerism for Newcomers* facilitated by two members of the meeting.

Our approach is inspired by resources from Friends General Conference aimed at helping meetings welcome seekers into the life of the meeting and assisting them in their experience of Quakerism. As facilitators we want the participants to feel comfortable asking questions in a friendly, informal setting so they can learn about Quaker faith and practice and our meeting and discover ways to get involved if they are interested.

Our explorers' series usually takes place in the fall or winter and includes four sessions in which material is presented about such topics as Quaker beliefs, meeting for worship, vocal ministry, Friends testimonies, and examples of how Quakers make decisions and put leadings into action. We have chosen not to include Quaker history, knowing participants can access that information in many other places.

Accessible Language and Interesting Resources

We make an effort to use materials written in accessible language and point out other resources for those who may be interested. Questions and discussion are encouraged, and each week participants are invited to suggest other topics for a future session. The sessions are scheduled at the convenience of the participants with every effort made to include everyone in every session. There is no homework!

In the first session, everyone introduces themselves and talks about their spiritual background and what led them to Quakers

Concord Quarter's New Climate Action Working Group

Concord Quarter's Climate Action Working Group (CAWG) held the first of a series of public meetings on February 21, 2022. The title of the session was "Friends Caring for Each Other in Times of Extreme Weather." First, we'll describe the foundation for this work; next, we'll describe the overall work of the CAWG; and finally, we'll describe the February program.

Foundation For This Work

Our starting point was the work of the PYM Climate Change Sprint and its comprehensive report, "Moving Forward Together in the Face of Climate Change", which was accepted at Annual Sessions 2021. The introduction sets out the reasons for Friends to do this work:

As members of the Religious Society of Friends, we witness to the truth of our times. In this moment, we recognize that we are facing an existential crisis that requires more than individual actions. We already face catastrophic fires, storms, droughts, crop failures, and floods.

Scientists tell us that what we do in the next decade will determine the fate of humanity. Racial injustice, social injustice, and the climate crisis are inextricably linked; marginalized and economically disadvantaged communities suffer greater effects of this crisis. Many people already suffer and call us to act. Future generations depend on us to act. Knowing the consequences of inaction, integrity demands that we act.

On a fundamental level the Climate Crisis and our response to it is deeply linked to our testimonies of simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality and stewardship.

As people of faith, seekers of the truth, and stewards of Creation, we must act with urgency to prevent further suffering and destruction of our planet. We seek to energize everyone involved with PYM to actively undertake this leading and help halt the destruction of life on this sacred earth.

Overall Work of the CAWG

Concord Quarter formed the CAWG at the October 2021 QM. The group first met in December 2021. Representation was solicited from the eight meetings of CQM, and most meetings sent representatives.

and to Birmingham Meeting. After reading aloud about the "Light Within" from *Faith and Practice*, the group learns about worship sharing by experiencing it directly, responding out of silence to a query about their individual experience of God. In each session we watch one or more QuakerSpeak videos. The videos are short, cover many topics and show a greater diversity of Friends and Friends' experiences and understanding than a viewer might encounter in their own meeting.

Tapping into a Wealth of Material from Faith & Play

The Faith & Play story *Friends Meeting for Business* is shared both as an example of how Friends make decisions and to demonstrate one of the ways the children in our meeting gain knowledge about Quaker faith and practice. Just like our young people, we adults find ourselves drawn into the stories and enjoy the open-ended questions that invite wonder and reflection.

Prior to the pandemic, the sessions were held in the home of one of the facilitators, and light refreshments were served. This year the series was held on Zoom, which provided greater access to the series, including one individual who lives in another state. New families are invited to have the "Exploring Quakerism" series in their home, where children can participate if they like and parents don't have to arrange childcare. The group size has varied from year to year at 3-7 individuals.

Small Group Settings are Key

Attendees have said how much they have appreciated getting to know a few people in the small group setting. The introduction has helped them feel more comfortable in our meeting community and interested in participating further in our work days and social events. For others the series has helped them decide whether they will continue as seekers in the Quaker way. We would be happy to share our ideas and materials for "Exploring Quakerism" if this is something you feel called to do in your meeting.

-Sallie Jones and Leslie Leonard - Birmingham Meeting

CAWG's vision is to unite monthly meetings, schools, and retirement communities in Concord Quarter to support each other in Spirit-led actions to address climate change.

Our programs will cover these topics: Disaster Preparation, Activism, Education, Carbon Footprint Reduction, Finances, and Mourning Loss and Instilling Hope.

The first effort of the Working Group was to survey meetings regarding meetings' energy usage and progress to date in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. A report was recently presented to the group summarizing the results of this survey. Although meetings and institutions are at different places in the process, real progress has been made. We discussed exploring several paths forward in the next few months to help our meetings set goals. These include:

- Completing transitioning to LEDs;
- Assessment of our properties' potential for solar plants;
- Considering buying renewable energy credits (RECs)
- Considering installing EV chargers on our properties;
- Assuring all meetings have had an energy audit.

CAWG Public Program

CAWG's initial topic is to work on disaster preparedness. Our first public program was held on February 21, 2022, hosted by West Chester Meeting at the meetinghouse and on Zoom. It was well attended. We learned about:

- Climate mitigation, adaptation, and the disaster cycle;
- Why we matter and why having a disaster plan matters;
- The elements of a preparedness plan.

Individual meetings are now encouraged to undertake the development of a preparedness plan, based on the vision and goals of that meeting.

- Tom & Rosanna Ceresini - Middletown Meeting

Why Do Quaker Schools Matter?

At a recent meeting that I attended, a Friend pointed out that the original mission of many Quaker schools was to educate Quaker children from neighboring meetings. Given that there are relatively few Quaker children these days, the Friend asked whether we should continue to have Quaker schools. I hear the same question raised in other settings from time to time, by Quakers and non-Quakers alike. My consistent reply is that Quaker schools are important because we are trying to create a better society, that we start with the heart and that teaching is an act of love.

Good teaching has to be an act of love, and that's because children figure out very early in life that adults can influence them, or control them, with power and authority. While children, most of the time, will submit to power and authority, they are not impressed by it at all, and it does not touch them or move them in a deep way. What moves them is love. If a teacher's interactions with a child come from love, instead of strictly from power, the effects on the child and the teacher are sometimes magical and transformative. We see it all of the time. When children know that our expectations are coming from love, we create possibilities and openings that might not otherwise be apparent to us, thus teaching in a Quaker school is also showing faith in continuing revelation.

Continuing revelation is the foundation of our work in schools. Revelation comes about when we allow that we don't know all of the answers, when we create a space for mystery and possibility. With children, that means that we consider what we don't know about a student to be just as important, or more important in some cases, as what we do know about them. If we only consider what we already know, we limit our understanding and theirs. I think of it as nurturing a mystery and being optimistic about the outcome. Waiting for revelation is the spiritual part of teaching, from one heart to another.

In a larger context, this is important because as the writer Isabel Wilkerson has said, if we are going to create a better society, the



heart is the last frontier because we have tried so many other things. We have laws against discrimination and violence, we know about the crushing effects of poverty and struggle in our country, yet all of these things persist. Wilkerson says that they persist because we have not changed our hearts. We have power and authority, but we don't seem to recognize our common humanity. She says that what is called for is radical empathy, the sincere and dogged effort to understand another person's reality and to understand the experiences that have shaped that reality. In Quaker schools, we expect children to practice radical empathy. We insist on conflict resolution, restorative justice, and building and repairing relationships.

Toward the end of one year a student showed up in my office due to some chronic misbehavior. Right from the start, it went badly. He was not very responsive to my questions and the longer this went on, the less I seemed to care about what was going on with him. I suggested that we sit in silence for a while to see if that might help. After about five minutes I told him that all I was feeling was resistance, from him and from me, so we agreed to come back and talk about it the

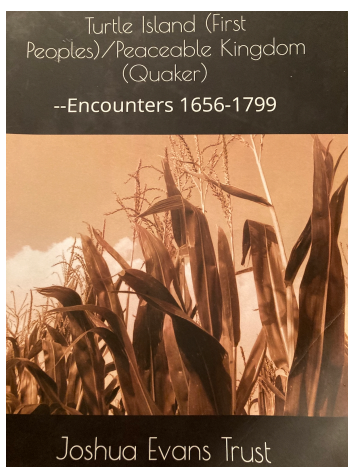
next day. He was waiting for me first thing in the morning and we talked for a while and I learned some things that I didn't know about him, and some other things that he was worried and anxious about. I said that since we weren't really communicating the day before, the only thing I felt was the desire to punish him. In that scenario, we both would have missed the chance to understand each other.

And then we talked about how he might repair the relationship with his teacher. It was a true heart-to-heart, where we both came away feeling better understood by the other. It's interactions like those that will help children learn how to practice empathy and how to love others, and to help us create a better society. A just society and a better world can't be achieved just by passing laws. It has to be done, as Isabel Wilkerson says, one heart at a time. And that is why we need Quaker schools.

- Brian Fahey has been working in Quakers schools since 1985 and has been the head of school at West Chester Friends School since 2014. He is also a member of Wilmington Monthly Meeting.

Colonial Quaker Pacifists in the 18th Century

The following is an excerpt from a remarkable though a bit cumbersome book "Turtle Island (First Peoples)/Peaceable Kingdom (Quaker): --Encounters 1656-1799" available on Amazon. The author is Ralph Greene, a Quaker minister who is a friend of the Men's Group of Middletown Meeting. The book has many entries from the journals of colonial Quakers who'd written about their encounters with the "First Peoples" they'd met. - Rich Ailes



A Journal or Historical Account of the Life, Travels and Christian Experiences of that Antient, Faithful Servant of Jesus Christ, Thomas Chalkey, London 1751

In 1704 a neighbor ... told me, that as he was at work in his field, the Indians saw and called to him, and he went to them. They told him, that they had no quarrel with the Quakers, for they were a quiet peaceable People, and hurt nobody, and that therefore none should hurt them. But they said that the Presbyterians in these Parts had taken away their Lands, and some of their Lives, and would now, if they could, destroy all the Indians. Those Indians began about this time to shoot People down as they rode along the Road, and to knock them on the Head in their Beds. And very barbarously murder many. But we traveled the Country, and had large Meetings, and the good Presence of God was with us abundantly, and we had great inward Joy in the holy Ghost in our outward Jeopardy and Travels. The People generally rode and went to their Worship armed, but Friends went to their Meetings without either Sword or Gun, having their Trust and Confidence in God.

Concord Quarter January 2022 Announcements & Calendar of Events

Announcements

The draft minutes from our January 23 Quarterly Meeting via Zoom are on the website:

<https://concordquarter.org/documents/?category=Minutes> Please send any comments about those minutes to the Recording Clerk, Marty Boston, at mboston0916@gmail.com by April 15, 2022 so they can be presented for approval at the April 24th Quarterly Meeting.

PYM's Children and Families Program has a number of events including the Giant Children's Meeting every 3rd Sunday. For info: <https://www.pym.org/event/giant-childrens-meeting-on-3rd-sundays/all/>

Pendle Hill has a number of programs available: <https://pendlehill.org/learn/workshops-courses-events/>

Friends General Conference now has year round programs for children and youth, programs for Friends of Color, virtual worship opportunities and more: <https://www.fgcquaker.org/virtual-opportunities-fgc> Retreats for high school aged youth of color: <https://www.fgcquaker.org/deepen/help-your-meeting-challenge-racism/virtual-retreats-youth-color>

Calendar of Events

For Updates and Future events with the Quarter Visit: <http://concordquarter.org/quartercalendar/>

- Mar 31 to Apr 10** Quaker College Fair: For students interested in Quaker values-based higher education. Students in High School from across the country are invited to attend a series of conversations and panels to ask questions, meet current Quaker college students and reps, and get to know other Quaker(ish) students. <https://www.pym.org/event/quaker-college-fair/>
- Apr 3 3:30pm** **FGC Youth Clerking Workshop** - training to strengthen young Friends understanding of the spiritual grounding of Quaker business practices. <https://www.pym.org/event/youth-clerking-workshop/2022-04-03/>
- Apr 5 7:00 pm** **Dr. Michael Mann, Climate Scientist at Wilmington Friends School**
To Register: <https://www.wilmingtonfriends.org/community/nathan-m-clark-speaker-series>
- Apr 6 10:30am** **Concord Quarter Working Group on Aging Concerns:** Elizabeth Kautz, Nutritionist for Kendal/Crosslands will do a presentation on Adult Nutrition. Open to anyone interested in aging concerns. For more info and to register email: concordquarter@pym.org
- Apr 12 7-8:30pm** **CQM CAWG Disaster Preparedness Series: Part III** - The CQM Climate Action Working Group has developed a series of presentations on Environmental Disaster Preparedness.
More Information at: <http://concordquarter.org/climate-action>
- Apr 17 9 am-9:45am** **PYM Giant Children's Meeting:** Join Friends and Families from across the Yearly Meeting for a monthly religious education program. It's "giant" because everyone is invited! For more info and to register: <https://www.pym.org/event/giant-childrens-meeting-on-3rd-sundays/2022-04-17/>
- Apr 19 7-8:00pm** **CQ Working Group on Climate Action:** Meets 3rd Tuesday of the month
For more info visit: <https://concordquarter.org/climate-action>
- Apr 24 8:30am - 12:30** **Concord Quarterly Meeting via Zoom**, hosted by Birmingham Meeting featuring Meeting for Business (with a report from West Chester Meeting, Community Worship and a Radio Play by Birmingham Youth! For more info and to register: <https://concordquarter.org/nextqm-pastqm/2022/qm-at-birmingham>
- April 30 To May 1** Spring Family Overnight 2022: Overnight at Camp Dark Waters in Medford, NJ
<https://www.pym.org/event/spring-family-overnight-2022-2/>
- May 1 2 pm** **Concord Quarter Planning Committee via Zoom.** Open to all interested in the activities and workings of Concord Quarter. Contact the Coordinator with questions and for the Zoom link at concordquarter@pym.org
- May 4 10:30am** **Concord Quarter Working Group on Aging Concerns:** Open to anyone interested in aging concerns. For more info and to register email: concordquarter@pym.org
- May 7 10 am-12** **Gathering Virtually - A Special Workshop by PYM.** Best Practices for Gathering Virtually for more information visit: <https://www.pym.org/event/gathering-virtually/>
- May 17 7pm-8pm** **CQ Working Group on Climate Action:** For more info visit: <https://concordquarter.org/climate-action>

Concord Quarterly Meeting April 24, 2022 - Birmingham Meeting

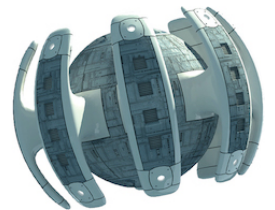
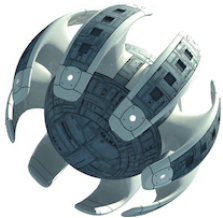
ZOOM event but the Meetinghouse will be open

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83236468259?pwd=VnMxOGg2RWFEMmhSbmFWVWZlQWxoZz09>

8:30-9:45	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
10:00-10:15	Opening Exercise with David Jones
10:15-11:15	Children & Youth Practice for Radio Play
10:15-11:15	Meeting for Worship
11:15-11:30	Break
11:30-12:30	Radio Play performed by Birmingham Young Friends



Birmingham Monthly Meeting presents a program like no other in the history of the Quarter. The youth of the Meeting will perform a short radio play called "Something Odd About the Dyers". The play is based on a science fiction short story written by Mel Stephen Sharpe that was published in the *Friends Journal*, [November 2021](#). The story is about a Quaker family that finds a pod from another world that has landed in a forest near the family's farm. The family must decide how to react to the pod and the creature that it contains. Please join us for this thought provoking adaptation of Sharpe's story with time for lively discussion following. *(images used with permission from Friends Journal)*



Calling all children and youth who would like to help put on the radio play at Quarterly Meeting. Practice will be held in person from 10:15-11:15 at Birmingham Meeting. The play will be performed as part of the program.

For more info go to <https://concordquarter.org/nextqm-pastqm/2022/qm-at-birmingham>
You can also email Bianca Santini Dumas, Coordinator, at concordquarter@pym.org
or call (267) 632-7770 and leave a message.

CQM zoom: (for worship and program)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83236468259?pwd=VnMxOGg2RWFEMmhSbmFWVWZlQWxoZz09>

Concord Quarterly Meeting via Zoom - January 23, 2022 – Wilmington - Minutes

Opening Worship

Debbie Murray-Sheppard welcomed attendees to the meeting and began the meeting at 8:30 AM with a period of silent worship.

Welcome to Newcomers - The clerk extended a welcome to newcomers: Rosanna Ceresini from Middletown Meeting; Walker Beadenkopf from Westtown Meeting; Debbie Fetzer and Ellen Gay from Wilmington Meeting; and Diane Zappas from West Chester Meeting.

Monthly Meeting Count (Birmingham, Concord, Goshen, Middletown, West Chester, Westtown, Willistown, Wilmington)

Thirty-one friends were present as the meeting began. All the Meetings of the Quarter were represented.

Approval of Agenda - The group approved the agenda as written.

Approval of Minutes from October 24, 2021 - The minutes from October were approved with one change. October 24 Minutes indicated the September 18, 2021, minutes were approved. It should have said the JULY 18, 2021, minutes were approved.

Joys and Challenges Report (attached) - Laura Laky read the Joys and Challenges Report from Goshen Monthly Meeting. A question was asked about how friend, Pat Daly from Goshen Meeting is doing. She is recovering from some medical issues and may be able to join Quarterly Meeting later today. The group held Goshen Meeting in the Light.

Treasurer's Report (attached) - Charles Spadoni reviewed the Treasurer's report. The Quarter is in good financial shape. Charlie said the covenants to the Quarter for Meetings would be the same for 2022 as in 2021. A question was asked about whether a property tax law has changed to tax Meetinghouses. Charlie said that school property could be taxed, but not Meetinghouses. Elizabeth Varley said Concord Meeting is being taxed on everything except the Meetinghouse. Chichester is being taxed \$12,000 as a commercial property for the woods and the care-takers house which is creating a hardship for Concord Meeting.

Nominating Committee report (attached) - Deb Wood gave a report from the Nominating Committee's meeting this past week. The Committee continues to seek an assistant clerk and is checking about whether the Delaware Valley Friend's School Care Committee members will continue next year and whether the Treasurer will continue in his role. Debbie Murray-Sheppard thanked the Committee for its work.

Working Group on Aging Concerns (attached) - Evelyn Brownlee gave a report from the Working Group on Aging. George Schaffer recently gave a workshop to the group about going into retirement communities and that talk is now on YouTube. The Working Group meets monthly. One person stated that she has a problem attending workshops in the evening and thought that Saturday morning might be a better time to host programs, but others felt that the evening works better for their schedules. Evelyn asked for people to send her feedback about whether future programs should be held on Saturday mornings or on a weeknight and she also asked for suggestions for topics for future presentations. The next time the group meets will be February 2nd at 10:30.

Climate Action Working Group (attached) - Paula Kline gave a report from the Climate Action Working Group. Paula mentioned that Jonathan Evans who is on the Working Group lost his mother last week. The group is holding Jonathan and his family in the Light.

The Climate Action Working Group's vision is to unite monthly meetings, schools, and retirement communities in Concord Quarter to support each other in spirit-led actions to address climate change. This is in line with the work of PYM's Climate Change Sprint. Concord Quarter's initiatives will respond to and be organized according to the following action areas: activism, education, carbon footprint reduction, finances, mourning loss and instilling hope, and disaster preparation. The Quarter's initiatives will ask each meeting to look at energy use and to have a six-part series that will develop a disaster preparation plan in place in six months. The next meeting will be at West Chester via Zoom on February 1st at 7 PM. The Working Group is asking each Meeting in the Quarter to send one or two representatives to be a part of the group. The Quarter approved the charge.

The Working Group is asking each meeting to complete a short survey on energy use and level of disaster preparation as a baseline and as a tool to discern priorities. The survey is here. The group will support one another in taking actions and use the CQ website, the monthly meeting websites, and social media to make information available; report at each Quarterly Meeting in 2022; and connect with and draw inspiration from the Climate Action Network organized by the PYM Eco-Justice Collaborative.

Serita Spadoni noted that Birmingham Meeting already has a disaster plan in place and is using all green energy.

Coordinator Report Bianca Santini-Dumas - Bianca updated the group on the following topics:

George Schaefer gave a program on Financial Support for Aging adults that is now available on YouTube.

PYM Continuing Sessions will be held on March 25th 7 PM; March 26th 9:30 AM – 4 PM; and March 27th after worship.

Seven children came to Parent's Day Off at Westtown Meeting, and they all had a great time.

Bianca has been attending the Listening Sessions at 9 AM with Tom Haviland of Westtown Monthly Meeting, 2nd Sundays before meeting for worship.

The Climate Action Working Group is asking all Meetings to send representatives to the group and to fill out a survey.

Delaware Valley Friends School Care Committee is discussing how to do an event later in the year. The students were invited to the program today on the Underground Railroad.

Applications for tuition aid from the Quarter are due February 19, 2022.

Bianca attended a potluck dinner at Goshen Meeting and a Holiday Pageant at Willistown Meeting.

Bianca reported that Quarterly Meeting Leadership is connecting with other Quarters.

Bianca is continuing to create posts on Facebook and other social media. She asked if Meetings in the Quarter could send her things to post, to check-in on the Quarter's Facebook group, and to comment and "like" things that are posted.

An item for discussion or sharing:

Susan Brodesser, Clerk for Delaware Valley Friends School Care Committee, said the school normally gives an annual report to the Quarter at the January Quarterly Meeting, but because the staff has been so incredibly busy due to the Covid pandemic, the report will be given at the April meeting instead. The school continues to meet in person. The Quarter held DVFS and all Quaker Friends Schools in the Light.

Westtown Meeting had a meaningful Christmas Eve program. Westtown has a Land Acknowledgement for indigenous people.

Middletown Meeting is working on a presentation on indigenous people for October.

There is an interfaith group in Chester County that is hosting a program on indigenous people. Bianca will send out the information.

Reading of Minutes for Approval - There was one action item approved today from the Climate Action Working Group as noted above.

Second Count of Meetings in Attendance - Thirty-one people were present at the second count of the Meeting. At one point, thirty-six people were in attendance. All Meetings were represented.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted, - Martha Boston, Recording Clerk

Goshen Meeting Report to Concord Quarterly Meeting Virtual Session 1/23/2022

As in previous years, our meeting can report many joys. Among these is a centered meeting for worship with ample ministry. And there are new attenders since last report as well as two new members.

Other things that bring joy to us are periods of time meeting in person at the meeting house. We have a robust adult learning session (Meeting for Learning) via Zoom once a month. We also enjoy a check-in time once monthly via Zoom, which sustains fellowship for those who cannot come to the meetinghouse. Some of us are even reaping benefits from the Zoom format. We see ourselves as a loving meeting. We are finding ways to interface with the wider community through outreach activities, such as a yard sale, and having a presence on Facebook

Our relationship with Goshen Friends School is collaborative, and the school is doing well with all preschool classes. Our property is in very good order, with needed work being accomplished in a timely manner.

The challenge of being a small meeting and needing to do the work of the meeting is a continuing issue at Goshen. We of course have also been challenged to provide worship both live and on Zoom in a safe manner during the pandemic. It has also been a challenge to do without two seasoned Friends who have died. We miss their presence. We try to discern ways to help some increasingly infirm Friends find ways to contribute to our Meeting. The Meeting continues to rise to the challenge of offering Quaker worship and spirituality to seekers near and far.

Submitted, Laura Laky, Clerk, Goshen Meeting & Pat Daly, Goshen Meeting

TREASURER'S REPORT to Concord Quarterly Meeting Virtual Session 1/23/2022

Un-reviewed Financial Statements for the First Quarter of the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022 (Except As May Be Noted Below, Reported On A Cash Basis)

- One constituent monthly meeting fulfilled its financial covenants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, in the first quarter of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. Another monthly failed to make its normal semi-annual payment in December 2021.
- The significant increase in the cost of administrative/programs expenses is a result of the payment of the property casualty insurance premium in December 2021 instead of January 2022.
- In September 2021, the amount of \$10,795 in the Tuition Operating Fund was distributed to three Quaker Schools (Westtown, West Chester Friends and Wilmington Friends) in the form of grants for the benefit of 17 students. Each grant was for \$635.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INCOME STATEMENT - Through The Second Quarter Ending December 31, 2021 Revenues and Expenses Versus Prior Year's Revenues and Expenses Through the Second Quarter (numbers are redacted, contact the Coordinator for a full report)

BALANCE SHEET - December 31, 2021 Balance Sheet Versus Prior Year's December 31 Balance Sheet

- There are no liabilities. Note: Individual constituent monthly meeting December 31, 2021, Growth & Income Fund balances are available upon request. (For a non-redacted report, contact the CQ Coordinator)

Respectfully submitted, Charles B. Spadoni, Treasurer January 23, 2022

Nominating Committee Report to Concord Quarterly Meeting Virtual Session 1/23/2022 - The Nominating Committee was able to meet on January 18th to discuss positions coming to term and potential candidates to approach for potential nomination. If you or someone you know would be interested in a leadership role please do not hesitate to contact Deb Wood, Clerk (qdeb406@gmail.com) or Bianca Santini-Dumas, Coordinator (concordquarter@pym.org)

Concord Quarter Working Group on Aging Concerns Report to Concord Quarterly Meeting Virtual Session 1/23/2022 - The Working Group has sponsored several virtual programs in the last year on topics related to aging. Attendance has been sparse. No programs are planned for the immediate future; however, we continue to explore topics that may be of interest. Our most recent program led by George Shaefer was successful and is available on YouTube. If anyone has suggestions on topics they would like to see covered, please contact the Quarter Coordinator.

As part of our outreach efforts, members of the Working Group will have testimonials posted on the website of why we are involved in the Working Group and how this adds value to our lives. The Working Group continues to meet virtually on the first Wednesday of each month. Please contact the Quarter Coordinator if you are interested in joining the group. For more information, you can contact Bianca Santini-Dumas at concordquarter@pym.org or the clerk, Evelyn Brownlee: evelynbrownlee@gmail.com or visit <http://concordquarter.org/aging-concerns>

Concord Quarter Climate Action Working Group Report to Concord Quarterly Meeting Virtual Session 1/23/2022

The Climate Action Working Group has agreed upon its charter. The group has successfully gathered on ZOOM twice since the October Quarterly Meeting of 2021. Representation from each meeting continues to grow as we continue developing an ongoing calendar of events and schedule. Our next meeting is February 1, 2022, at 7:00PM Via ZOOM. There will be a Disaster Preparation presentation and discussion on ZOOM on February 21, 2022, at 7:00PM. The subject was generated the most interest from our Survey regarding the current state of Monthly Meetings and Climate Change. We are grateful to West Chester Monthly Meeting for being the first to host a CAWG sponsored event. For more information, you can contact Bianca Santini-Dumas at concordquarter@pym.org or visit <http://concordquarter.org/climate-action>

Editor's Note: The description of the first Disaster Preparedness program and a list of topics in the Coordinator's report are included in the official on our website at <https://concordquarter.org/documents/?category=Minutes>

Concord Quarterly Meeting Newsletter
Volume 19 Issue 2 April 2022

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Treasurer: Charles Spadoni
Coordinator: Bianca Santini-Dumas

Address Service Requested

Concord Quarter Meetings

Appoquinimink Preparative (Under Care of Wilmington MM)
Birmingham
Chichester Meetinghouse (Under Care of Concord MM)
Concord
Goshen
Middletown
West Chester
Westtown
Willistown
Wilmington

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Submissions Due: March 17, June 17, September 17 and December 17

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