



Concord Quarterly Meeting Newsletter Volume 10, Issue 3 July 2014

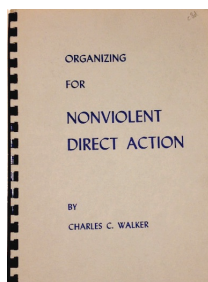
Charlie Walker, Teaching Gandhi & Jesus, Then and Now
Brenda Beadenkopf

Brenda Beadenkopf's presentation at our next Quarterly Meeting on July 20, is based on her upcoming book about Philadelphia Quaker pacifist Charlie Walker and his many contributions to the Civil Rights Movement. Charlie, aside from his participation in organizing major civil rights actions, was an expert trainer in Gandhian nonviolent techniques. Brenda will share a power point talk describing Walker's teachings in the principles and theories of nonviolence and his work with Martin Luther King and other civil rights leaders. She will then lead us in some of the role-play-based training she has been doing with adults and youth based on Charlie's work.

Charlie Walker was hired in the late 1940s by A.J. Muste, head of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR), a religious pacifist organization. While on staff for the FOR, Charlie arranged for Muste to speak at Crozer Theological Seminary near Philadelphia where young Martin Luther King was a student. In that lecture Muste was the first to introduce King to nonviolence, and Charlie Walker originated and facilitated that meeting! Later, during the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Walker met King and began a correspondence with him, who wrote Walker in 1956, "Let me express my personal appreciation to you for the interest you have taken in our struggle."

Muste, also hired Bayard Rustin, James Farmer, James Lawson, Glenn Smiley, and George Houser — who became key leaders in the Civil Rights Movement. These employees of FOR were important in the formation and development of three of the four main organizations of the movement: Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC),

and Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). Charlie Walker worked closely with them all, as



head of the FOR in Philadelphia, during 1950s, then as part of the American Friends Service Committee in the 60s.

As the Civil Rights Movement evolved, Charlie became a premier organizer, trainer, writer of training materials and recruiter. In 1961, A. Philip Randolph called Charlie a man who understood the discipline of nonviolence and served the cause of interracial brotherhood. King called Charlie Walker a man of skill and understanding who had been close to significant developments in the struggle for racial justice.

Working with Bayard Rustin, Jackie Robinson, and Rev. Leon Sullivan, Charlie helped organize the 1963 March on Washington and its two forerunners—the Prayer Pilgrimage For Freedom and the Youth March for Integrated Schools. Walker went on to work as an expert in Gandhian nonviolence—with the Sit-Ins, Freedom Rides and Poor People's Campaign.

After the presentation, the venue will move into



role-playing demonstrations to show how Walker trained civil rights workers. Brenda will facilitate role playing such as a sit-in, a picket line, or a Rosa Parks

bus. Discussions follow the role play, and questions will be raised as to how these "benchmarks" and disciplines of nonviolence can be viewed as practical applications of the teachings of Jesus and how these disciplines can be applied to everyday life.

Westtown Friend Travels in the Ministry with a Concern for Climate Change

Paula Kline is seeking to visit our Meetings in the Quarter to speak to them about withdrawing any investments in fossil fuel industries as a sign of concern for the catastrophic consequences of our changing climate. She travels under a minute of support from Westtown Meeting that in part reads

"Paula has shared with the meeting her leading to travel in the ministry among meetings which are seeking to deepen their practices concerning climate change. After careful consideration the meeting has found unity to approve this minute of travel."

We encourage any Meeting in the Quarter to respect our tradition of welcoming Friends who travel with the weight of a concern that has been tested with their meeting. Paula can be reached at: kline.paula@gmail.com

Visiting Days at local Meetings for Families at Friends Schools

(Note: The planning committee agreed the following proposal will be on the agenda of the July QM)

I propose that the Meetings in Concord Quarter should extend an invitation to all families with children enrolled in local Friends schools to visit our Meetings during the course of the school year. Working together makes sense, rather than having individual Meetings extend invitations, and I think the schools would be more receptive to a coordinated Quarter program.

To this end, we should adopt a day - the first Sunday of the month, for example - and designate a different Meeting as host for each month, as a way of welcoming families who are interested in learning more about Quakerism. Meetings may decide to have some educational piece following Meeting ("What Makes Friends Education Unique?" or "How Can the Testimony of Peace Apply to Siblings?") or not. Either way, the Quarter should put together a polished flier which should be distributed under Quarter letterhead to all the Friends schools in the area. – *Betsy Swan, co-clerk of Willistown*

Birmingham's First Day School Energized with the Theatrical

When Birmingham Township announced its planned re-enactment of the Battle of the Brandywine (September 11, 1777) on the weekend of May 17-18, 2014, members of Birmingham Meeting were concerned that such a celebration would glorify war and lead young children to think of it as a fun game. The Meeting engaged in a long process of discernment to determine whether the Meeting should oppose the event or hold an alternative one that showed the pain and suffering that accompanied that battle. The Meeting decided to go with the latter.

The program included (1) Quaker historians Nancy Webster of Swarthmore Meeting and Beth Berthaud of Birmingham Meeting who discussed the negative impact the battle had on the civilians (mostly Quakers) in whose midst it was fought, and (2) a play for and including children that would show the negative consequences of war. Since Quarterly Meeting was going to be held at Birmingham one month earlier (on April 27, 2014), it made sense to hold a similar program at Quarterly Meeting. It was easy to arrange for the historians to speak. Producing a play was another matter. It required all of those involved in Birmingham's religious education program – children and adults – and other members of the Meeting to carry it off.



After Sallie Jones proposed that the play be based on The Riddle of Penncroft Farm, Marty Boston, Clerk of the Religious Education Committee, wrote a script that centers on Lars, a young boy who moved to a farm located in northern Chester County only a few years ago where he meets Geordie, a ghost who relates his adventures as a young Quaker boy during the time he found himself in the middle of the Battle of the Brandywine. Beth Kaniefski helped the children make props and scenery. Debbie Nickles and Susan Taylor worked on costumes. Amy Taylor Brooks, Gwynne Ormsby, Kathy Mork and Cindy



colonial dresses and pewter tableware; Harriet Wentz provided baskets; and Beth Berthaud provided guidance on the historical aspects of the play.

Almost every child involved thought that the play was important enough for him or her come to First Day School week after week to practice his or her part. Producing the play galvanized the whole meeting in a way that holding a



Hunderuk made sure all of the children were involved in the play in roles in which they excelled. Other members of the Meeting contributed. Celia Lang provided a chicken barbecue has not. It appealed to the interests of the children and adults in the Peace Testimony, history, art, acting, and literature.

Throughout, the children played meaningful roles. Not only did they show that commitment once at Quarterly Meeting, but almost all of them did so again when they performed the play in May during the Battle of the Brandywine commemorative weekend.

One of the keys to getting the older children involved was the telephone call Gwynne Ormsby made to each inviting her or him to participate. Moreover, throughout the process of planning for and practicing the play, the children were asked for their ideas about what they wanted to do and how the play should be produced. As a result, they seemed to take ownership of the play that needed and used the gifts of many members and attenders and their families. The foregoing took place without the need to hold one meeting! *Gwynne Ormsby & Charles Spadoni*

Middletown Meeting Gets Visited

Twenty five Friends from all over PYM gathered at Middletown Meeting on April 5th for a workshop on "Christ as Our Inward Teacher." Ralph Greene, a recorded Friend's minister and "senior pastor" in New



England YM led us in song, bible study, discussion, and worship as we explored what it means to be faithful followers of the Inward Teacher today. Ralph summarized the call to modern day discipleship as a lifelong journey of stewardship and

reconciliation.

Ralph spoke of Christian stewardship as a commitment to the use of only those resources that we truly need. It includes a way of life that demonstrates respect for the earth as a cherished gift to hand on to future generations. He drew from the life and experiences

of Joshua Evans an 18th century Friend from New Jersey who lived a lifelong witness of equality, simplicity and peace.

Reconciliation is the commitment to practice peace and find ways to serve those in need all around us, recognizing that we are all children of one God. Although he came from the far north (Maine), Ralph brought us glimpses of the new life of spring. He intertwined stories of faithful individuals and groups, helping us all to draw closer to the work of Jesus in our hearts and in our midst.

Ralph spent a week traveling in the ministry among us. He visited and spoke with Friends at Middletown Meeting, Middletown Men's group, Swarthmore College, Pendle Hill, and Haddonfield Friends School. We are very grateful to the help that our Quarter coordinator, Charlie Spadoni, gave us in arranging meetings and transporting Ralph to various places.

We are thankful for the time we were given with Ralph, and are hopeful that we can, with God's help, learn from his encouraging words and humble example.

Chris Stern

Concord Quarterly Meeting Coordinator Report

Since I became coordinator in January of this year, I have visited each constituent meeting at least once to attend meeting for worship. It's wonderful to see Friends of long acquaintance and make new friends. It's also reassuring to learn that God's work continues to be carried out through the worship and good works of so many Friends who remain committed to their faith community.

In April I was pleased to assist Middletown Meeting as it hosted a Quaker minister from New England Yearly Meeting, Ralph Greene, in a series of workshops and talks centered on Quaker Ministry and the life of John Woolman's contemporary Joshua Evans, an 18th century Friend from New Jersey who led a life of witness similar to Woolman's.

The program at the April 27, 2014, Quarterly Meeting at Birmingham is described in great detail elsewhere in the newsletter. So is the program that will be put on at the July 20, 2014, Quarterly Meeting to be held at Concord Monthly Meeting. I hope you can join us to learn about the social justice work of the late Charlie Walker, a very well known activist in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and a member of Concord Monthly Meeting.

On June 7, 2014, Bruce Harrison, who becomes the Quarter's Clerk on July 1, 2014, Tom Woodward, Goshen Meeting's representative on the Planning Committee, and I attended a gathering at Reading Meeting of some 30 people interested in revitalizing Quarterly Meetings. Representatives came from the nine Pennsylvania Quarterly Meetings (Abington, Bucks, Caln, Chester, Concord, Haverford, Philadelphia, Upper Susquehanna, Western). Representatives from the three New Jersey Quarters (Burlington, Haddonfield and Salem) and from Southern Quarter, located in the Maryland Eastern Shore, did not.

The gathering issued the following summary minute.

Members from nine quarterly meetings gathered at

Reading Monthly Meeting on June 7, 2014 to affirm the role and importance of our quarters. There was a sense of community and belonging to each other.

We converged upon the truth that regional gatherings can be a place where yearly meeting becomes relevant. The quarterly meeting experience is an inspirational intermediary between monthly meetings and our wider yearly meeting community. When we come together, we collectively fuel our excitement about being Quakers.

We also considered the life in our quarterly meetings as it relates to leadership, youth support, membership, roles and responsibilities, working across our communities, and spiritual formation. As we adjourned, we affirmed the value of fellowship, worship, and sharing in love towards the development of new ideas and the seasoning of others.

It is time that we further explore concrete ways to integrate the structure, energy, and community between monthly meetings, quarterly meetings, and the yearly meeting.

It is clear that for many members of the Religious Society of Friends, Quarterly Meeting still holds an important place in their lives, and they will continue to work to ensure that it remains so.

On June 29, 2014, tubing on the West Branch of the Brandywine Creek is the place to be for any member of the Quarter who wants to have fun meeting other Friends in the Quarter, enjoying a potluck lunch and cooling off by floating down the creek reclining on an inner tube. I look forward to seeing you at Maryetta Clendenin's at 12:30 p.m. For directions and permission forms, go to the Quarter's website at <http://concordquarter.org/>

If you have issues about the Quarter you would like to discuss with me, please feel free to contact me at either concordquarter@pym.org or 610-256-3572. Charles B. Spadoni

Concord Quarterly Meeting

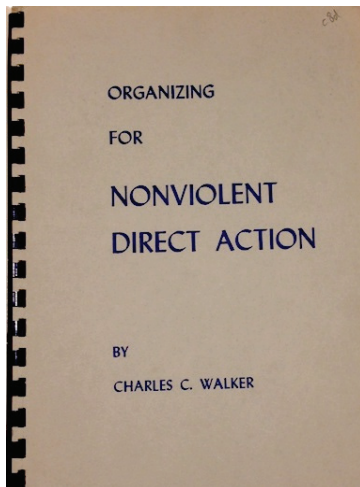
July 20, 2014

Concord Monthly Meeting

8:15-8:30	Sign-in
8:30-9:45	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
10:00-11:00	Program on Charlie Walker's Teachings on Nonviolent Direct Action
11:15-12:00	Meeting for Worship with Concord Meeting
12:15 -1:00	Lunch provided by Concord Meeting

Charlie Walker – Teaching Gandhi & Jesus, Then & Now

Brenda Beadenkopf's presentation at our next Quarterly Meeting is based on her upcoming book about Philadelphia Quaker pacifist Charlie Walker and his many contributions to the Civil Rights Movement. Charlie, aside from his participation in organizing major civil rights actions, was an expert trainer in Gandhian nonviolent techniques. Brenda will share a power point talk describing Walker's teachings in the principles and theories of nonviolence and his work with Martin Luther King and other civil rights leaders. She will then lead us in some of the role-play-based training she has been doing recently with adults and youth that come out of Charlie's work.



Note: Childcare is available beginning at 8:30.

Directions: Located at 827 Concord Rd., Concordville PA 19331. From Rte. 1 in Concordville, take Concord Rd. south 1/4 mile past the Concordville Fire House; meetinghouse is on left.

For more info and a map to the meeting go to <http://www.concordquarter.org>
You can also email Charlie Spadoni, Coordinator, at concordquarter@pym.org

Concord Quarterly Meeting Calendar of Events

- June 25 **Westtown Meeting's Weekly Potluck Supper at Westtown School's Lake**
6:30 p.m. each Wednesday through August 27; south shore of lake; bring reusable plates and silverware
- June 27 **John Flynn, a folk musician and peacemaker, will perform at Wilmington Meeting**
7:00 p.m. Sponsored by Harmony Hill, a committee of Wilmington Meeting; \$20 at the door; proceeds support New Beginnings, a *Pacem in Terris* support group for ex-offenders. For info: <http://www.harmonyonthehill.org/#!/events/ct1b>
- June 29 **Concord Quarter's Annual Tubing on the Brandywine**
12:30 – 4:30 p.m. Potluck lunch followed by tubing down the West Branch of the Brandywine Creek. For more information, directions and permission form, go to <http://concordquarter.org/brandywine-tubing-2014/>
- July 9 **The Hickman' Summer Concert Series – Goodfoot Band**
6:30 p.m. Concert will be held on The Hickman's patio and is free. Rain date is July 10
- July 20 **Concord Quarterly Meeting at Concord Monthly Meeting, Concordville, PA**
8:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information: <http://concordquarter.org/nextqm-pastqm/>
- July 23-27 **PYM's Annual Sessions**
For more information go to <http://www.pym.org/annual-sessions-2014/>
- Aug 2 **Birmingham's Annual Chicken Barbecue**
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. For more information go to <https://www.quakercloud.org/cloud/birmingham-friends-meeting>
- Summer** Seaville Meeting in Southern New Jersey, invites you to worship with them at one of their three summer sites.
(1)- Regular Meeting House, 3088 South Shore Rd, Seaville, NJ (1 mile south of Rt. 50) @ 10:00 year round. **(2) Cape May Beach Meeting**, Windsor Ave, Cape May (near LG Headquarters) @9:00 Bob Ewing –Clerk. **(3) Ocean City Beach Meeting**, 23rd Street, Ocean City @8:30 Sue Forrest- Clerk

Notes of Interest

Change of Quarterly Meeting clerks

As of July 1, 2014 Rich Ailes will be rotating off the clerkship of the Quarter. Bruce Harrison, former clerk of Westtown Meeting and our present assistant clerk, will become the new clerk for a period of 2 years. Rich Ailes will remain on as assistant clerk for another year. During that time the nominating committee will be looking for a Friend to begin serving as assistant clerk in July 2015, and then moving into the clerk's role for 2 years beginning in 2016. Many thanks to these two Friends for their commitment to Quaker service that helps our Quarter remain a vital piece of our Quaker community.

You can reach Bruce Harrison at 610-429-1131 or bnhwc@aol.com

West Chester Meeting seeks First Day School Teacher

Experienced teacher with Quaker values wanted to teach First Day School for children ages 5 thru 5th grade at West Chester Meeting. Good classroom management skills needed for 3-4 hours a week, including classroom time on Sundays from 10:15 am-11:45 am from September thru May. Responsible to Youth Religious Education Committee. Attendance at Youth Religious Education committee meetings, as needed. Weekly attendance ranges from 2-10 children. Pay negotiable based on experience. Child safety clearances required. For more information contact Marina Pavluk at marinapavluk1@gmail.com or 610-363-1515.

Concord Quarterly Meeting
Held at Birmingham Monthly Meeting - April 27, 2014

MINUTES

Opening Worship: The meeting opened with a period of worship at 8:30 am.

Welcome: The clerk welcomed those present. Representatives were present from Birmingham, Concord, Goshen, Middletown, West Chester, Westtown, Willistown and Wilmington Monthly Meetings

Nominating Committee Report: David Scott (Wilmington)
The following nominations were presented and approved by the meeting:

Bruce Harrison (Westtown), 2-year term as Clerk of Quarter
Rich Ailes (Middletown), 1-year term as Assistant Clerk
Bruce James (Westtown), 1-year extension as Treasurer (see 1/27/08 Quarter Minutes for term limit)
Pete Lane (Westtown), 2-year extension as Quarter Representative on PYM Nominating Committee

The meeting minuted its appreciation to Richard Ailes for his service as clerk and to the others who are completing their terms of service.

David Scott, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, provided the following background information: David Leonard (Birmingham), Recording Clerk, was appointed to a 3-year term starting in 2013. We will need to appoint a new Assistant Clerk in 2015 who will be willing to become Clerk in 2016. PYM Nominating has proposed that it reduce the size of the committee so only one representative per Quarter will be needed. Several people were approached about this position but no one was willing to take it over; Pete agreed to continue in this role for two more years. Quarter Nominating has only a few members, and several meetings are not represented. Clerks of those Meetings have been contacted, but no new members have been identified. Friends should be aware that the Nominating Committee has contacted dozens of people in recent years to fill Quarter positions, with a fairly low success rate.

Coordinator's Report: Charlie Spadoni (coordinator)
The report is attached to these minutes. The meeting expressed appreciation for the event at Middletown Meeting on Joshua Evans and the forthcoming one at Reading Meeting on revitalization of Quarterly meetings.

We have learned that Deborah Fisch of FGC, who presented at a CQM workshop earlier this year, was in hospital and is now recuperating. The meeting minuted its concern and best wishes for her speedy recovery. Friends might like to send her cards c/o FGC (1216 Arch Street, 2B, Philadelphia 19107).

Treasurer's Report - Budget for 2014/2015: Bruce James (Westtown)
The current accounts and the budget proposal for the financial year beginning July 1st are attached to the official copy of these minutes and the meeting approved the latter's \$145,760.28 in expected income and expenses (including covenanted contributions to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting). Any Friend wishing more details about these reports should contact Bruce James.

There had been discussion of trying to raise additional funds for the Tuition Endowment Fund and those who are interested in this activity might contact the clerk.

The meeting also approved a request for \$200 to cover the expense of a van for transporting QM youth to Camp Swatara.

Joys and Challenges:

A report was presented from West Chester Monthly Meeting by Deb Lyons, which is attached to these minutes. The Birmingham Monthly Meeting report consisted of vocal comments from three younger members – Hannah Blossom, Sarah Blossom and Kara Kanefski -- on the Youth Committee of the Meeting. The committee meets once a month and makes its own decisions with the help of an adult advisor. The focus has been on outreach to the meeting youth and service activities.

PYM Long Range Planning Proposal: Sallie Jones (Birmingham)
The draft of the proposal was released this past week and is on the PYM web site at <http://www.pym.org/long-range-planning-group/home/works-in-progress/>. Feedback over the next two months would be very warmly welcomed. Sallie presented a brief overview of the report and the feedback process, which is attached to the official copy of these minutes.

Sallie responded to several clarifying questions asked by members of the meeting. The clerk commended this document as being particularly clear in its implications.

Announcements:

Introduction to Quakerism at the Hickman on May 4
Annual Berry Festival at Wilmington Meeting on June 1

Gathering of PYM Quarters and their supporters at Reading Meeting - June 7
Concord Quarterly Meeting Annual Tubing Event - June 29
Next Concord Quarterly Meeting at Concord on July 20 (moved due to Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions)

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Ailes, Clerk

David Leonard, Recording Clerk

West Chester Monthly Meeting, April 2014

In the year since our last "Joys, Hopes, and Challenges" report, West Chester Monthly Meeting has continued to draw positive results from the work done through and as a result of our "Celebrating the Life of Our Meeting" discussion/study series. Inspired by those deliberations, a Finance Committee is in place, supporting the work of our Treasurer, and a simple but attractive website now provides basic Meeting information to the wider community. Further, we are conscious that the notes from those discussions are a resource available to draw upon for further growth.

When way opened this summer for three Friends from Concord Quarter to spend several October days in England, learning from the "Kindlers" group, one of our members assented to this opportunity, and our Meeting supported his travel. He and his fellow travelers have since worked at the Quarterly and Monthly levels to help Friends rediscover what "kindled" our individual feelings about Quaker practice and to build upon those feelings. We are hopeful that still more growth and inspiration may develop from this initiative as well.

Our Meeting has been saddened by the loss of three members within the last few months: Alda Knowles, Posey Jones, and Martha Yerkes. Each of these three was a distinctive and vital member of our Meeting, and we are grateful for the example that each of them provided as Quakers, as vital and generous members of the community, and—each in her own distinctive way—as educators.

At this moment in our Meeting's life, our active participation numbers are lower than we could wish. But we are glad to have been able to welcome several new children to our First Day School and to welcome their parents to our Meeting for Worship.

We are also grateful for the increasing warmth of connection and cooperation among the three entities on our Quaker Block: our Meeting, West Chester Friends School, and The Hickman. Together, we hope we will find new and useful ways to help each other in doing the work of the Spirit. - *Deb Lyons*



Attend PYM Annual Sessions

**July 23-27
Muhlenberg College
Allentown, PA**

Worship is a door to love.

Concord Quarterly Meeting Newsletter
Volume 10 Issue 3 July 2014

Rich Ailes, Editor
310 Park Avenue
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Clerk: Bruce Harrison
Asst. Clerk: Rich Ailes
Recording Clerk: David Leonard
Treasurer: Bruce James
Coordinator: Charles Spadoni

Address Service Requested

Concord Quarter Meetings

Birmingham
Concord
Goshen
Middletown
West Chester
Westtown
Willistown
Wilmington

Editor: Rich Ailes
Phone: 610-543-7321
E-mail: concordquarter@pym.org

Published: January, April, July and October
Submissions Due: March, June, and September 20; December 15