



**TORONTO MONTHLY MEETING of the
RELIGIOUS SOCIETY of FRIENDS (QUAKERS)**
60 Lowther Avenue, Toronto, Ont. M5R 1C7
www.quaker.ca/toronto

Friends House:

416-921-0368

E-mail:

Tmm at web dot net

Toronto Monthly Meeting Office:

416-921-8002

Fax:

416-920-5214

TMM Newsletter: January 2012

Meeting for Worship is held at Friends House every Sunday at 11:00 AM. All are welcome.
Please see the back page for a list of regular events held throughout the month.

Ministry and Worship

Membership in the Society should be a continuing experience of learning and development. For that reason, study and discussion groups are helpful to the life of the Meeting. But learning and development are not only products of the intellect. Even adults need re-creation ... the way to knowing one another in the things that are eternal may sometimes lie through enjoying one another in the things that are ephemeral. Humour, fun and the incongruous, these puncture self-importance and remind us of our human weakness and our dependence on an inflowing love. Being reminded of our common vulnerability, we rejoice in the way in which we hold one another up in love. Peace begins to break out.

Hope and Kenneth Lee, 1975

Canadian Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice, 3.79

January Deadlines

Sunday 8 January

- Agenda items for January Meeting for Worship for Business
- Annual Reports: Resident Friend Report

Tuesday 17 January

- Items for the February *TMM Newsletter*

Meeting For Worship for Business

Sunday, 15 January, 12:45 PM

All Friends and attenders are encouraged to attend. Minutes of the Toronto Monthly Meetings for Worship for Business are available in the library.

Midweek Meeting for Worship

All are welcome at Midweek Meeting for Worship on Wednesdays. Join us at 6:30 PM for snacks before 7:00 PM worship.

Religious Education Committee

Sunday 8 January, 12:45 PM

Jo Vellacott, Ellie Perkins, and Ginny Walsh will be sharing (in the manner of Quaker Quest) their thoughts about Meeting for Worship for Business, with special attention to what Meeting for Worship for Business has meant in their own spiritual journeys. In preparation for this session, participants are asked to reflect on their own experiences and to read 3.39–3.50 of *CYM Faith and Practice*.

Peace and Social Action Committee

Sunday 8 January, 9:45 AM

PSAC will meet in the sunroom. All Friends and attenders who are interested in this work are welcome to join our discussion.

Sunday 22 January, 12:45 PM

Jane Mackay Wright will bring us up to date on what Kairos has been doing. In February we hope to hear from Anne Mitchell about her work on earthcare issues.

John Calvi's Year-End Letter

John Calvi has been traveling, teaching, and healing for thirty years. His annual letter, which is posted on the bulletin board, contains his calendar of meetings and workshops for 2011 and those scheduled so far for 2012, as well as information on how to support his work.

Quaker Earthcare Issues

Quaker Institute for the Future (QIF)

The third publication in the QIF booklet series *Genetically Modified Crops: Promises, Perils and the Need for Public Policy*, researched and written by Anne Mitchell, Pinayur Rajagopal, Keith Helmuth, and Susan Holtz – is available from the Quaker Book Service, 91A Fourth Avenue, Ottawa, K1S 2L1. The booklet can also be downloaded from the QIF website, www.quakerinstitute.org, and copies are in the TMM library. Other titles in the QIF series include:

Fueling Our Future: A Dialogue about Technology, Ethics, Public Policy and Remedial Action

How on Earth Do We Live Now? Natural Capital, Deep Ecology and the Commons

How Does Societal Transformation Happen? Values Development, Collective Wisdom, and Decision Making for the Common Good

The cost is \$9.00 per booklet.

Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW)

In 2012 QEW will celebrate its 25th anniversary, and Canadian Quakers have been involved with QEW from the beginning. Anne Mitchell, a member of Toronto Monthly Meeting, is currently serving as the QEW General Secretary. In April 2012 Anne will participate in a meeting in London, England, along with several Quaker groups including QUNO, AFSC, FWCC, CFSC, and Britain Yearly Meeting to explore how Quaker groups can work better together.

QEW and Pendle Hill will also sponsor a Young Adult Friends gathering on earthcare issues (Pendle Hill, 16–23 June 2012) – a great opportunity for Canadian Young Friends. In July 2012 QEW will host the Earthcare Centre at the Friends General Conference gathering. The QEW gathering will be in Chicago, 4–7 October 2012. The QEW annual report is available in the current *Befriending Creation* (QEW's newsletter). For more details, visit www.quakerearthcare.org or contact Anne Mitchell (annemitchell8@sympatico.ca).

Canadians can donate to QEW through Canada Helps (www.canadahelps.org): go to Canadian Yearly Meeting, and then choose QEW. Another option is to send a cheque payable to CYM, earmarked for QEW.

PeaceWorks

Monday 16 January, 7:00 PM

Forum on Nonviolent Social Change with guest presenters.

Saturday 21 January, 6:00 to 9:00 PM

Fun(d)raising Dinner at Friends House for PeaceWorks and (belatedly) for Lyn's 60th birthday. Sliding scale donation

Nonviolence in Action

Monday, 6:30–9:30 PM, 23 January to 27 February

Learn how to bring about effective social change through case studies in film, class presentations, and discussion. Consider the steps of visioning, analysis, and strategizing for change. Study the biographies of those who inspire us – Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Quaker activists. Learn the methods of Gene Sharp, whose teachings inspired the Arab Spring.

Registration cost is \$150 (\$25 deposit; some sliding scale spaces are available: please enquire). Registrations can be left in Lyn's mailbox at Friends House. For more information, contact Lyn Adamson (416-596-7328, 416-731-6605, [peaceworks@primus dot ca](mailto:peaceworks@primusdotca.com).) Donations to Peaceworks enable students and activists to gain nonviolence training. (The last series included a young woman participant in the Occupy movement.) Cheques should be payable to "Toronto Monthly Meeting" and marked "PeaceWorks."

Christian Faith and Practice

The TMM Office has two new hardcover copies of *Christian Faith and Practice* (London Yearly Meeting, 1960) on sale for a reduced price of \$5 each. If interested, please contact the secretary, Linda Stemmler (416-921-8002, [tmm@web dot net](mailto:tmm@web.net))

Friends World Conference Nairobi, Kenya, 13 to 21 August 2012

The Theme of the sixth Friends World Conference is "Being Salt and Light – Friends Living the Kingdom of God in a Broken World." For details, visit www.saltandlight2012.org/.

Of Thee and Thine

Welcome to new attender **Philippa Davies**, who has been living in the UK for some time and attending

Sutton Meeting in Southwest London. She can be reached at [philippadavies at gmail dot com](mailto:philippadavies@gmail.com).

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REGULAR EVENTS

FIRST SUNDAY (1 JANUARY)

- 11:00 AM – Meeting for Worship (please note that Friends House will close at 2:00 PM)

SECOND SUNDAY (8 JANUARY)

- 9:30 AM – Early Meeting for Worship
- 9:45 AM – Peace & Social Action Committee meeting
- 11:00 AM – Meeting for Worship
- 1:00 PM – Religious Education Committee presentation

SECOND MONDAY (9 JANUARY)

- 2:00 PM – Downtown Worship Group (contact Richard Lush 416-537-1569 for details)

THIRD SUNDAY (15 JANUARY)

- 11:00 AM – Meeting for Worship
- 12:45 PM – Meeting for Worship for Business: All Friends and attenders are encouraged to attend.

THIRD MONDAY (16 JANUARY)

- 6:30 PM – West End Worship Group: Worship sharing and potluck (contact Gerhard Peters 905-488-0740 for location)

FOURTH SUNDAY (22 JANUARY)

- 11:00 AM – Meeting for Worship
- 11:00 AM – First Day School (Children join Meeting for Worship for the first 15 minutes.)
- 12:45 PM – Peace and Social Action Committee presentation

LAST SUNDAY (29 JANUARY)

- 4:30 PM Bible study, 5:15 PM worship, 6:00 PM potluck – Sunday Night Worship Group welcomes people who are open, accepting, and supportive of diverse expressions of sexuality. Contact Jane Orion Smith for location ([monday.night.wg at gmail dot com](mailto:monday.night.wg@gmail.com)).

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

- 7:00 PM – Midweek Meeting for Worship

THURSDAY EVENINGS

- 5:30 PM – Quaker Program at Toronto West Detention Centre meets with a group of 6 to 18 prisoners for discussion and support.

FIRST DAY SCHOOL

- First Day School resumes on 22 January 2012

NEWCOMERS

Welcome. If you are new and interested in participating in Toronto Monthly Meeting activities or have questions, please speak with the co-clerks Ginny Walsh or Ruth Pincoe, or any other member.

FRIENDS WHO HAVE PHYSICAL DIFFICULTIES

Financial assistance for taxis is available for those Friends and attenders who have physical difficulties getting to Meeting for Worship by public transport. Please speak to a member of Ministry and Counsel or the Resident Friends to obtain taxi chits.

THE VISITING COMMITTEE

The Visiting Committee co-ordinates visits with members and attenders who are unable to attend Meeting for Worship. Please contact a member of the Committee if you know of someone in need of a visit: Leonard Molczadski or Daisie Auty.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please let the TMM Office (tmm at web dot net) know of changes in your address, phone, or e-mail. Due to government privacy legislation, this information will be put in the newsletter only if you request it. Please note that personal information is removed from the version of the *TMM Newsletter* posted on our website. These changes will, however, be added to the TMM Directory and passed on to Canadian Yearly Meeting for their Directory unless you request otherwise.

DONATIONS TO TORONTO MONTHLY MEETING

Have you wondered how best to give financial support to TMM? Here are three ways:

Mail a cheque payable to "Toronto Monthly Meeting" to 60 Lowther Ave Toronto at the address on this Newsletter. (To specify one or more Meeting projects for your donation, pick up a "Donation Form" outside the Meeting Room.)

Mail several post-dated cheques to TMM.

Make an online donation at www.canadahelps.org (Canada Helps deducts a 3.9% service fee).

All donations are welcome and appreciated.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Arrival is God's business. Getting onto the bus is ours.

Farid Esack