

Plymouth Monthly Meeting Newsletter

December 2023

Meetings for Worship

First Day Plain worship, no Zoom, 10-11 First Day Meeting blended worship: 11:15 am Fourth Day Meeting: 7:00 pm (blended)

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December 2023

Sun	Dec 10	6:00 pm	Worship and Ministry
Tues	Dec 12	4:30 pm	Land Acknowledgement Committee
Fri	Dec 15	10:30 am	PMFS Winter Sing at the gym
Sun	Dec 17	9:00 am	Meeting for Business (blended)
Sun	Dec 24	7:00 pm	Carol sing, Meeting for Worship and Peace Vigil at the wall

January 2024

Tues	Jan 2	7:00 pm	Care and Concern
Sun	Jan 14	6:00 pm	Worship and Ministry
Sun	Jan 21	9:00 am	Annual Meeting for Business (blended)
			More information in Jan newsletter
Sun	Jan 28	After Meeting	Friendly Fourth and Music Circle – all are welcome

- All First Day Meetings for Worship will begin at 10:00 (Plain worship, no Zoom) and 11:15 am (blended worship). Masks are not required but we will continue to social distance. Wednesday evening Meeting for Worship begins at 7:00pm and will also be held via Zoom as well as *in person in the Meetinghouse (blended)*.
- PMM Zoom information always available at <u>office@plymouthmeetingquakers.org</u>

Queries for December

Deepening Our Faith: Meeting for Worship

- What is our Meeting doing:
 - Are our meetings for worship held in stilled, expectant waiting upon God?
 - As we worship in the living silence, are we drawn together by the power of God in our midst? Do we experience a deep reverence for the integrity of creation?
 - How does our worship nurture all worshipers, creating a deeper sense of community?
 - How does our meeting encourage vocal ministry that spiritually nurtures the worshiping community?
 - Do I faithfully attend meeting with heart and mind prepared for worship, clear of any predetermination to speak or not to speak, expecting that worship will be a source of strength and guidance?
 - Does worship deepen my relationship with God, increase my faithfulness and refresh and renew my daily life, both inwardly and in my relationships with other persons and with all of creation?
 - Does worship enhance my capacity for attentive, non-judgmental listening to others?
 - How does participation in meeting for worship contribute to my life-long spiritual journey?

News from the Meeting

Peace Vigil every Wednesday evening

Given the current conflicts in the world, we have instituted a continuing candlelight Peace Vigil at the wall after our usual 7:00 pm Wednesday Meeting for Worship.

Food Donations Requested

Colonial Neighborhood Council is requesting nonperishable food donations. Please leave them in the basket by the piano in the Women's side of the Meetinghouse.

PMM Website

Remember: more information on anything you read in the newsletter (and more) is available on our website <u>https://www.plymouthmeetingquakers.org</u>

Community Outreach at Church on the Mall



Our Meeting has joined with the Interfaith Council and the CAARSEA (Colonial Area Anti-Racism & Social Equity Alliance) to help open a **Code Blue Shelter**. The shelter is being hosted by the Church on the Mall. A code blue shelter officially provides a warm place for a meal and a bed for one night when the temperature is 32 degrees or lower during the night. It, however, is so much more than just opening the doors to a warm room. When people come together to provide genuine hospitality, relationships are built with one another, with those who are creating

the space and with those who are in a place in their life where they need a warm place to stay for the night. With good food and conversation, we share in many unexpected ways.

During this initial period, as the shelter gets off the ground, our Meeting has volunteered to provide the evening meal. At this time that means working with people from the Church in the Mall to set tables for an evening meal, thaw out soup and serve it with bread and dessert along with hot drinks. There are several weeks of frozen soup currently available, donated by the Lutheran Church of Conshohocken. When this soup is used up donations of homemade soup will be requested. Bonnie Miller will put out the call for soup when that time comes. The shelter is open Monday through Thursdays when the Code Blue is called. **If you would**

like to help in the kitchen or in the future cooking soup, send a note to Bonnie Miller.

The time commitment at the church is from about 6 pm to about 10 pm, depending on how many people come and when they come. Intake hours are 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm. As we gain more experience, we will have a better understanding of the number of people needed and there will be more volunteers from other churches and organizations. Currently two to three people are sufficient for the number of people who are coming. Our hope is that once the word gets out, all 30 beds will be filled. Our real hope is that in the longer term, more stable housing will be made available. Stay tuned for work that is beginning on that issue.



Plymouth volunteered to help make sure the evening meal preparation and serving is staffed. There is also a need for volunteers to setup the room, overnight staff (4-hour shift) and morning cleanup. Go to the Church on the Mall website to see the list of other opportunities to help and a electronic form to submit your preference. https://www.churchonthemall.com/codeblueshelter