



NEWSLETTER

Reading Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

SPRING 2025



RMM Calendar 2025

- RMM Potluck - 1st Sundays following worship
- RMM with Attention to Business - 2nd Sundays following worship
- Worship and Ministry Committee - 1st Thursdays at 6:30 pm
- Zooming in the Spirit - 3rd Tuesdays, 6:30 pm
All welcome, monthly topics vary.
- March 7-8 - PYM Spring Continuing Sessions
- April 4-6 - Finding Peace and Hope in Spiritual Community Pendle Hill
- April 20 - Easter at Reading Monthly Meeting
- April 25 - Earth Day at City Park Reading, PA **
- May 2-4 - Caln Qtr. Weekend, Camp Swatara
- July 20 2025 - Reading Pride Festival, Jim Dietrich Park, 11 am-6 pm **

**VOLUNTEERS and donations are welcome;
RMM will be hosting information tables.

See the detailed RMM Calendar for more information.



WORSHIP 10:00 A.M.
610-372-5345

Join Us Every Sunday
(First Day) for 10 am worship

Reading Monthly Meeting
108 N. 6th St. Reading, PA 19601

(June-August meeting for worship
is held at Maiden Creek Meeting House).

Learn about us at our website:

readingfriendsmeeting.org

Clerk of Meeting: Janet Lamborn
Clerk of Trustees: Roger Lawn
Treasurer: Jim Lamborn
Newsletter: Jennifer Hanf, Heather Ehrlich
and Bonnie Knutzen

GOD is present to us as an inwardly felt lure to live with wisdom, compassion, and creativity, and as a companion to the joys and sufferings of all living beings. God acts through persuasion not coercion; the future is open, even for God.
-- A Process Worldview. Jay McDaniel

Friend Morrissey

Jim Morrissey has been an active member of Reading Monthly Meeting for many years. In 1964, Jim and his wife Nan Morrissey joined Reading Monthly Meeting with their family of four children; Shawn, Brion, Kathleen, and Joe. Reading Monthly Meeting was an active and lively place, with many other young families. The Meeting was welcomed and respected everyone of all ages. First Day School discussions included Quaker history and testimonies and fostered understanding and respect for all cultures and traditions, religions, backgrounds, and forms of worship.



E. James (Jim) Morrissey, MD



QUAKER ACTION

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION (FCNL) advocates for safe and just immigration and border control policies, “The immigration system desperately needs informed, modern solutions that establish safe, effective management of the border, sensible pathways, and prosperity. None of the current US administration’s executive actions nor the promised future orders, ensure that security,” *Anika Forrest, FCNL Domestic Policy Legislative Director*

THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION (ACLU) has argued more cases before the Supreme Court than any other nonprofit and has partnered with Quakers on many social justice issues.

Both Organizations ask you to contact your elected Congressional officials and urge them to fight for humane and just treatment of all immigrants and asylum-seekers.

[Find your legislator here](https://www.legis.state.pa.us/)
<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/>



Artwork “Hands holding Earth” by Nan Morrissey

Our Newsletter is back!

The RMM Newsletter will be published quarterly. (Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter). The newsletter will be available in print, on the website, and as an email to members and attenders. **The Friends Community Calendar** will also be available monthly .

WE WELCOME CONTENT FOR THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER! If you will be planning a RMM event, hosting a meeting activity or want to report on committee activities, please share your details:

1. Fill out this online [submission form](#)
2. Fill out the print version of the form
3. Speak directly to Janet Lamborn, Clerk, or to Jennifer Hanf, Newsletter Coordinator.

Janet Lamborn: janetlamborn.mlt@gmx.com
or Jennifer Hanf: jenhanf@yahoo.com

Deadlines for submission will be announced.



Responsible Stewardship of our Carbon Footprint and support of Social Justice: Look for information about the time and place for a forum, most likely to be hybrid meeting on Zoom. Our Meeting is seeking counsel to guide us towards ethical financial investing of RMM funds. We are seeking presenters from [Friends Fiduciary Corporation](#) as well as other experts to guide this discernment process.

There has been renewed interest expressed in reinstating the OUTREACH COMMITTEE. We are indeed a small Meeting. Nevertheless, outreach is important to sustain and grow our Meeting community. Read PYM’s description of the [Outreach Committee’s role in Monthly Meetings](#). If you are interested in learning more, sharing ideas, and participation, please email Janet Lamborn, RMM Clerk, janetlamborn.mlt@gmx.com

Action for Peace: Berks Peace Community continues to hold a vigil for peace every Friday Morning 8 to 9 am. All are welcome to join. Contact John Hoskyns-Abrahall, john@bullfrogfilm.com for more information



Photos and Memories

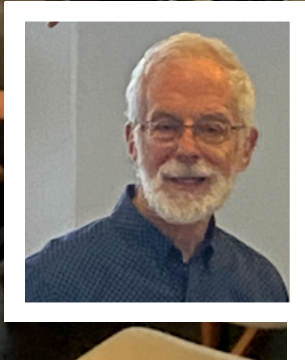
Christmas Tea December 22, 2024



Caln Quarterly Meeting for Business

hosted by Reading Monthly Meeting February 16, 2025

Jim Herr, Clerk, Jim Lamborn, Recording Clerk



Quaker News

CALN QUARTERLY MEETING NEWS

The Annual Friends Quarterly meeting gathering will be held at **Camp Swatara**, May 2-4 2025. Look for registration information. The weekend includes workshops, social gathering, music and fun. The theme for this year is “ Building Inclusive Communities: How Can Quakers Do It?” Cost is pay as you are lead. Please contact Janet Lamborn for more information.

On page 3, enjoy photos from the Feb. 16 **Caln Quarterly Meeting** gathering which was hosted by Reading Monthly Meeting. We are grateful for the fellowship of our Friends in the Quarter.

PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING SPRING CONTINUING SESSIONS “Members One of Another” is this year’s theme. Saturday, March 8, the session takes place in five regional locations and over Zoom. On Sunday, March 9 all join for “**All Together Worship**” from local meetings or virtually. Reading meeting will worship locally with our RMM community.

~ article continued from front page ~

Friend Morrissey

As a practicing orthopedic surgeon, Jim found the Reading Hospital to be welcoming to new specialists. In his professional life, Jim learned to speak about the Peace Testimony and Quaker views on nonviolence that led to opposing military service. He learned to listen carefully and openly — for what is said but also what is not said — This belief that everyone has value has been a great asset throughout Jim’s life.

Jim remembers fondly the RMM community life he has enjoyed. First of all, in person get togethers are warm memories, including community activities and in person RMM committee meetings. Meeting in Friends’ homes allow for gathering, sharing food and conversation. Jim served as RMM Clerk of Worship and Ministry. Under his guidance, the committee evolved from an emphasizing reports to a more open forum to address growing in society and in the larger world.

*For the entire article, please read “**The Full Story: Friend Morrissey**” available on our website or as a printed handout.*

COMMUNITY JOYS!

COMMUNITY DANCING: THE BIRDSBORO CONTRADANCE every first Saturday except July and August, 7:30 to 10:30 pm. Dances are held at 201 East Main Street, Birdsboro, PA 19508 For more information www.birdsborocontra.org or FB **Birdsboro Contra, PA**

You are encouraged to host a fun, interesting, and/or educational activity for RMM Friends and friends. Sharing events, like the Birdsboro Contra Dancing, in our broader community, enrich our lives. Ideas for Activities include Discussion Groups, Forums, Picnics, Games. Please bring your ideas and proposals to RMM Monthly Meeting for Business or contact Janet Lamborn, RMM Clerk.

Concerns and Matters in Need of Light

Please continue to hold in the Light our Friends and friends who need our support and prayers.

Furthermore, hold in the light our elected officials who’s words and actions have far reaching impact affecting all people, locally and around the globe. May power and influence be used to make decisions and actions guided by Love and Light. Wisdom is much needed by us all.

OUR VISION

Reading Monthly Meeting is an inclusive fellowship of families and individuals who nurture and support one another for spiritual growth and individual and community well-being. We take guidance from Quaker writings, Christian scripture, and the wisdom of other religious and thoughtful texts. We are committed to religious education for adults and children. While we worship mostly in silence, words and music contribute to our gatherings in the meeting house.