

# NEWSLETTER

## Reading Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

FALL 2025

### RMM Calendar 2025

#### FALL MEETING SCHEDULE:

- MEETING FOR WORSHIP RESUMES AT READING MONTHLY MEETING  
Date: September 7, 2025, 10 AM  
Location: 108 N. Sixth St., Reading, PA & on Zoom
- POTLUCK 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays following worship
- MEETING FOR WORSHIP with Attention to Business - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays following worship at 6<sup>th</sup> Street and on Zoom.
- WORSHIP & MINISTRY 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays, 6:30 PM.
- ZOOMING IN THE SPIRIT 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays, 6:30 PM.  
All welcome, monthly topics vary.
- Games and Fun 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays after WORSHIP  
Bring snacks, games, and a bagged lunch.

See Page 4 for more Quaker News and Events.

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Join us for Worship every Sunday (First Day)  
10 AM at Reading Monthly Meeting

#### Reading Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

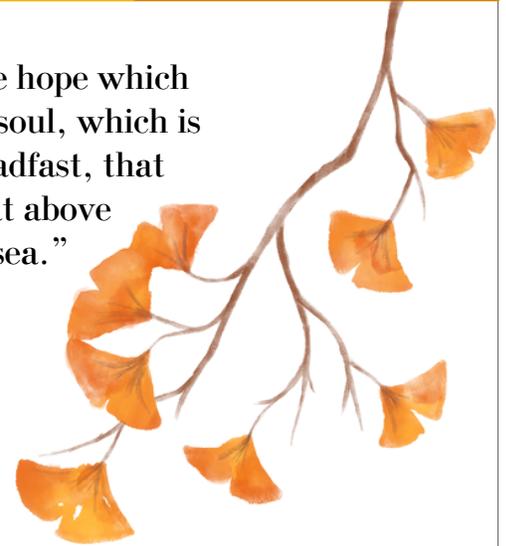
108 N. 6th St. Reading, PA 19601  
[readingfriendsmeeting.org](http://readingfriendsmeeting.org)

**Seasonal worship schedule:** Fall, Winter and Spring Meeting for worship is held at the 108 North Sixth Street, Reading location. Summer Meeting for Worship is held at the Historic Maiden Creek Meetinghouse located at 849 West Shore Drive, Shoemakersville, PA 19555 from Fathers Day to Labor Day.

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

“Hold fast the hope which anchors the soul, which is sure and steadfast, that you may float above the world’s sea.”

George Fox  
1656



### Reading Monthly Meeting Friends Annual Summer Picnic

SUNDAY AUGUST 3, 2025

Friends and their families gathered for our annual outdoor gathering, sharing delicious picnic foods, desserts, conversation, and great fun on Sunday August 3. For the second year, this Summer RMM gathering was hosted by John Loomis and Jennifer Hanf on their property in Centre Township, PA. The Meeting is most grateful to our outstanding grill master, Tom Hughes, and to everyone who attended. What a wonderful opportunity to share time and good fellowship with our RMM Friends Community!

Thank you! - Hosts John and Jen





# QUAKER ACTION

## IMMIGRATION

On Jan. 27, five regional Meetings filed a federal lawsuit against the Department of Homeland Security. This suit is brought jointly by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM), New England Yearly Meeting (NEYM), and Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM), along with two monthly meetings within BYM. **We maintain that the current DHS policy threatens religious liberty for all worshippers and undocumented immigrants.** We are asking the court to declare unconstitutional any policy permitting government agents to carry out immigration enforcement activities at or near houses of worship.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting is collecting minutes shared by meetings and worship groups that speak to the lawsuit. Find additional resources on [pym.org](http://pym.org).

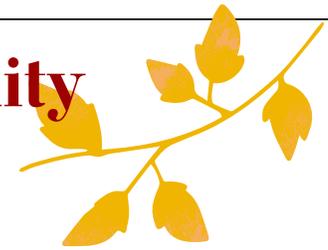
The National Council of Churches, of which PYM is a member, has shared two resources tracking the current administration's executive orders and explaining their potential impacts on different communities:

- Network Advocates for Catholic Social Justice tracker analyzes the impacts of EOs through their Economy For All agenda, which includes priorities like affordable housing, accessible healthcare, and clean air & water for all.
- Congressional Black Caucus Foundation tracker features in-depth analysis of how the EOs impact Black communities, and includes responses to the orders from members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

### GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY

- Support local immigration rights:  
**Make the Road PA Reading Organizing Center**  
<https://www.maketheroadpa.org/>
- Contact your elected Congressional officials and urge them to fight for humane and just treatment of all immigrants and asylum-seekers.  
Find your legislator: <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/>

# Community Impact



**Responsible Stewardship of our Carbon Footprint and support of Social Justice:** Look for information, most likely a hybrid forum on Zoom. Our Meeting continues to seek guidance towards engagement in ethical financial investing of RMM funds. We are seeking presenters from **Friends Fiduciary Corporation** as well as other experts to guide this discernment process.

**RMM OUTREACH COMMITTEE:** We are a small Monthly Meeting and outreach is important to sustain and grow our community. If you are interested in learning, sharing ideas, and participation in this committee, email Janet Lamborn, RMM Clerk, [janetlamborn.mlt@gmx.com](mailto:janetlamborn.mlt@gmx.com).

**Action for Peace:** Berks Peace Community continues to hold a vigil for peace every Friday Morning 8-9 AM. All are welcome. Contact John Hoskyns-Abrahall, [john@bullfrogfilm.com](mailto:john@bullfrogfilm.com) for more information.

## About this Newsletter

**The RMM Newsletter is published quarterly** (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter) and available in print where we worship, on the website, and by email. It highlights our community, faith, concerns, and joys. **RMM Calendar updates** are available regularly .

### WE WELCOME CONTENT FOR THE QUARTERLY

**NEWSLETTER!** If you will be hosting a RMM event or to report on committee activities, share your details:

1. Fill out the submission form found where we worship or request an emailed copy.
2. Speak directly to Janet Lamborn, Clerk, [janetlamborn.mlt@gmx.com](mailto:janetlamborn.mlt@gmx.com) or Jennifer Hanf, Newsletter Coordinator, [jenhanf@yahoo.com](mailto:jenhanf@yahoo.com)



# Photos and Memories



## Reading Monthly Meeting attended the 2025 Berks Gay Pride Festival Sunday July 20, Jim Dietrich Park, Reading, PA

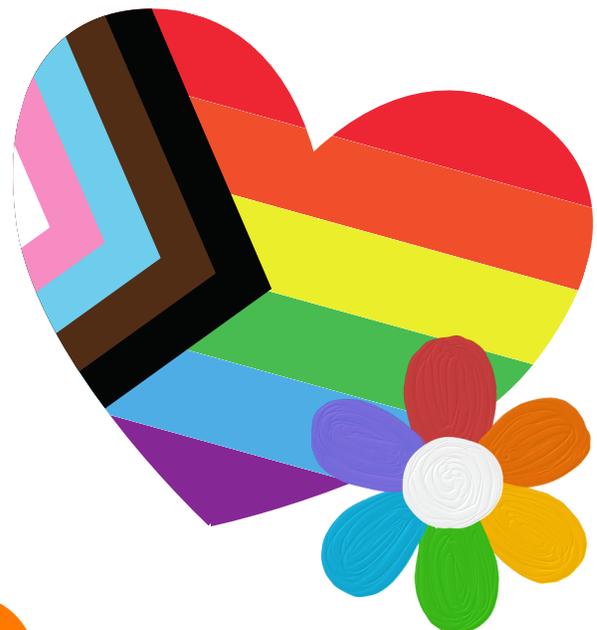
We enjoyed a beautiful hot and humid day with a large crowd of people, good food, entertainment, and many Berks County Organizations with interesting and educational displays, vendors and plenty of fun. Thank you to the Little family for organizing this successful outreach effort.

**"Everyone is equal and precious before God."**

**"Equality: treating everyone, everywhere, as precious to God; recognizing that everyone has gifts to share."**

**"We look for the Divine in Every person we meet."**

**"The life and teachings of Jesus are an example of faithfulness to God."  
"Our guiding principle is love."**



# Quaker News & Events

## CALN QUARTERLY MEETING

### • Caln Third Quarterly Meeting

Held in conjunction with the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of Exeter Friends Meeting and Daniel Boone Homestead's Heritage Day Fall Festival.

**Sunday, October 19, 9:30 AM-4:00 PM**

#### Schedule:

9 AM - Welcome

9:30-10:30 AM - Caln Quarterly Meeting

10:30-11:30 - Meeting for Worship

11:30-NOON - Fellowship and your bagged lunch (Hot Cider provided)

NOON-4 PM - Historic Interpretations and Displays  
Guided tours, Demonstrations, Quilt Code Display used on the Underground Railroad, Oral History, Quaker faith, history, and traditions, past, present, and future.

[exeterfriendsmeeting@gmail.com](mailto:exeterfriendsmeeting@gmail.com)

**Location:** EXETER FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

191 Meetinghouse Road, Douglassville PA 19518

<https://www.calnquarter.org/>

## PENDLE HILL NEWS

Discover Pendle Hill Quaker Study, Retreat, and Conference Center. Go to [pendlehill.org](http://pendlehill.org) to find lectures, worship, classes, and other options.

### • Pendle Hill's 95th Anniversary Gathering

On Campus and Online: Sept. 26 @ 4:30 PM to Sept, 28 @ 1:00 PM. For celebration details, go to [pendlehill.org](http://pendlehill.org) for more information.

Location: 338 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford, PA 19086

## PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING NEWS

### • Third Tuesdays: Protect, Resist and Build with AFSC: September 16, 8:00 - 9:30 PM

**Free Webinar:** Advocate for lasting social change. New monthly webinar series every third Tuesday of the month. AFSC staff and partners offer ways to take action for migrant rights, economic justice, and peace. <https://www.pym.org/calendar/>

### • Gather with Friends online at PYM CONNECT

Gather with members and attenders to share, learn, and support one another in their spiritual journeys. To get started, go to <https://connect.pym.org/>

# Words on showing up ...

Instead of saying  
"I know what it feels like."

Let's say  
"I cannot imagine your heartbreak."

Instead of saying,  
"You're strong, you'll get through this."  
Let's say  
"You'll hurt, and I'll be here."

Instead of saying,  
"You look like you're doing well."  
Let's say  
"How are you holding up today?"

Instead of saying,  
"Healing takes time."  
Let's say  
"Healing has no timeline."

Instead of saying,  
"Everything happens for a reason,"  
Let's say  
"This must feel so terribly  
senseless right now."

And when there are no words to say at all,  
you don't need to try and find some.  
Love speaks in silence too.

~ 'words' by @Ullie Kaye Poetry

## 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.





Lancaster County, near Drumore Meeting: the original Lamborn homestead farm. Shown above, front of farm; inset, a view of the east side. Date c. 1900-1920.

## Taylor Lamborn: Farmer, Historian, Scientist, Friend

Written and edited by John Loomis, Jim and Janet Lamborn, and Jennifer Hanf

Naturally, our Friend, Taylor Lamborn, developed a love and deep understanding of history. Taylor Lamborn's Quaker family roots in America go back eight generations, when his family arrived from England in 1717. The family settled in Southeast Pennsylvania (southern Chester County), where they farmed and helped form London Grove Monthly Meeting. Two generations later, they moved to Lancaster County, where they bought a small farm and helped form the Drumore Meeting. Over the years, the family farm expanded, and the Lamborns cleared woodland for farming. Originally, the farm was 8 acres and was cleared gradually with oxen and hand tools. It grew over time to 80 acres.



Taylor, at seven years old

Taylor's childhood was spent on the farm, and he became familiar with all kinds of farm work. He learned farming skills early and first drove a tractor at the age of six. His childhood was also spent in the company of neighbors and friends. As a child, Taylor remembers an outing with his mother and a friend who had a two-year-old daughter. Later, it turned out that this family friend and her daughter were to become his mother-in-law and wife, respectively.

Taylor went to public school and graduated a year early. As young men were being drafted to fight in the Korean War, Taylor voluntarily served as a conscientious objector. After his alternative service, he enrolled in Millersville University,

then known as Millersville State Teachers College, to study science and math.

In 1956, he first met his future wife, Betty Leighton, in a math class at Millersville. Their elderly math professor needed an easy way to remember names, so students were seated in alphabetical order. Betty Leighton and Taylor Lamborn were seated next to each other, and soon they got to know each other well. They discovered that they shared Quaker history and that both families had settled nearby. Although Betty was raised as an Episcopalian, her grandmother's family were Quakers through the generations back to George Fox. The families of Betty and Taylor shared a long history in America.



Taylor's birthplace, Lancaster County, near Drumore Meeting.

Taylor worked as a chemist at Polymer Corporation in Reading, where he met a fellow chemist and Quaker. Betty Hanf and her husband, Jack Hanf, were active members in the Reading Monthly Meeting. Taylor began attending the Reading Monthly Meeting in January 1960 and eventually transferred his membership to Reading Monthly Meeting.

Taylor and Betty were married on July 6, 1963, in the Episcopalian Church in Coatesville. As newlyweds, they purchased a home in West Lawn, which needed extensive work, so weekends were spent working on this renovation project.

Their two children are Janet, born in 1965, and Jim, born in 1967. When Janet and Jim were old enough, Taylor brought them both to Meeting for Worship, where they attended an active First Day School. His wife, Betty, was at first an attender, but later, as her children grew, became a member of Reading Monthly Meeting. She became active with the library, the hospitality committee, and other important aspects of the Meeting.



Betty and Taylor on their wedding day, July 6, 1963.



Lamborn family Thanksgiving, 1951

It is a wonderful coincidence that Taylor's great-great-grandmother once taught at the Quaker Maiden creek schoolhouse at its original location. This schoolhouse, now a caretaker's cottage, and Maiden creek Meetinghouse were moved when the Ontelaunee Dam was built, and they are now under the care of Reading Monthly Meeting. To this day, Taylor is instrumental in caring for the Maiden creek grounds. His daughter Janet Lamborn resides in the cottage.

In addition to fostering awareness of Quaker history in our RMM community, Taylor is a supporter of the Bart Friends Meeting and Bart Historical Society and is committed to preserving the history of Christiana, PA. He contributed to the writing of Drumore Quakers' Precious Habitation, a 200-year history of Drumore Friends Meetinghouse and Cemetery, written by D. Douglas Miller in 2016.

Since 1960, Taylor has had a deep commitment to the care of RMM properties and the community, including serving as a member of the trustees for close to 50 years. Additionally, he actively attended sessions of Caln Quarterly Meeting and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and served for many years on the PYM Field Committee.



Left, Taylor and Betty Lamborn, at the wedding of Jim's daughter, Ashley, Oct 2014.

Below, Taylor gathering firewood, at Taylor and Betty's home, in Berks County, in early spring of 2025.

