

Mickleton Monthly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends

2015 Annual Report

Mickleton Meeting continues to be a warm, welcoming spiritual home. Friends gathered on First Day with an average attendance in the low twenties. We welcomed into membership 2 adults and 3 children, bringing our total membership to 48 adults and 8 children.

Concern for social issues was a priority. The Meeting hosted a book discussion group using the One Book One Yearly Meeting selection, The New Jim Crow. Several people of color connected with Friends School Mullica Hill (FSMH) participated, and one family subsequently joined the Meeting.

The third annual Community Awareness Fair and Fall Yard Sale was held in October. Several non-profit organizations participated in the fair, and proceeds from the sale were given to charities. FSMH gave us the use of its gym for a basket auction to raise additional funds for our charitable donations. The women's Alcoholics Anonymous group continued to meet weekly in the annex.

The John and Helen Glass Peace Essay Contest was resurrected this year after a two year hiatus. The eighth graders at FSMH wrote essays on the theme: Peacemaking is Hard Work. One student was chosen to receive \$500 for tuition at a Quaker high school or for college. Mullica Hill Meeting contributed half of the award. The readers met at Shady Lane Nursing Home to choose the winning essay so Alice Glass could participate.

We are especially grateful to have children in our meeting. A religious education committee met in the fall to plan themes and schedule teachers for First Day School for the year. Often we are able to have two classes, one for school-aged children, and one for preschoolers.

It was a busy year for property committee. At last the doors to the annex open outward in compliance with fire code. The riser in the worship room was removed so the benches could more easily be arranged facing each other. A severe wind storm took down trees in June. Our insurance paid to have the fences repaired at both graveyards where trees caused damage, but tree clean-up was not covered.

The Little Red Schoolhouse Committee was finally able to start renovations with a new heating and central air conditioning system. Meeting showed appreciation to the committee and for stewardship of the building by paying for a new cedar roof to match the roof on the meetinghouse.

Covenant was lowered from \$700 to \$600, because the Fiduciary loan for the meetinghouse roof was repaid. Income from covenant was about \$21,000, and Fiduciary income was about \$16,500.

Three families from Meeting attended Friends General Conference Gathering in July in North Carolina. One of the attendees was given a first time attender grant from the Meeting. Meeting again hosted the Friends Village birthday party in August. Salem Quarterly Meeting met at Mickleton in December with an inspiring presentation by the clerk and general secretary of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

It has been my pleasure to serve the Meeting as clerk this year. Gloria Horvay