

A Ministry of Prayer and Learning

devoted to

the School of the Spirit



ANNUAL REPORT

6th month, 2012

The School of the Spirit Ministry serves the Religious Society of Friends throughout North America and is under the care of the Worship and Care Committee of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

Gratitude

This year has been an extraordinary year for the School of the Spirit Ministry (SotS). We feel a new vibrancy in our being, work and support. Strengthened by the knowledge of our history and roots, we function with a strong sense of mutual accountability and trust. We are aware of cooperating with God and do believe we are experiencing the blessed community. In this report, we share with you the highlights of the year.

We wish to express our deep gratitude for Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's continued support in many ways: the love and care provided by the Worship and Care Committee and the constant service and hospitality of PYM's Accounting and Development Offices.

We are grateful for God's presence among us and for the joyful support and service of so many Friends.

Matt, Michael

Matt Drake, Clerk of Board
Michael Green, Administrator

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Call

A Ministry of Prayer and Learning devoted to the School of the Spirit is dedicated to helping all who wish to be more faithful listeners and responders to the inward work of Christ.

Board members (6th month, 2012):

Jan Blodgett (Davidson, NCYMC and PFF)
John Carle (Alexandria, BYM)
Angi York Crane (Dover-Randolph, NYYM)
Matt Drake (clerk, Chapel Hill, PFF)
Eric Evans (Central Philadelphia, PYM)
Judy Geiser (Reading, PYM)
Michael Green (administrator,
ex officio, Chapel Hill, PFF)
Carolyn Moon (Gwynedd, PYM)
Rita Willett (Richmond, BYM)
Susan Wilson (Rich Square, NCYMC)

Elders to the Board:

Linda Chidsey (Housatonic, NYYM)
Fran Taber (Stillwater, OYMC)
Carole Treadway (Friendship, NCYMC)

Teachers and Facilitators:

Linda Chidsey, Michael Green, Patty Levering, Carolyn Moon, Beckey Phipps

Non-Board committee members:

Caroline Cox, Len Crane, Nancy Fennell, Sharon Frame, Ray Treadway (treasurer), Marian van Dellen, Michael Wajda

Hopes

- A fully subscribed *Silent Retreat in the manner of Friends* in Cincinnati this September;
- Accompanying this retreat, one or two Friends who are called to retreat leadership and who will be mentored by Linda Chidsey and Carolyn Moon;



Linda and Carolyn

- An extension of this mentoring program to the Silent Retreats held at Powell House;
- Preparation for a second Silent Retreat in PA in the fall of 2013;
- A 9th class of the *On Being a Spiritual Nurturer* program, to begin in September, 2012;
- Preparation for the third biannual Spiritual Renewal Retreat in the fall of 2013;
- Meeting our goal of \$16,000 for the annual fund;
- Continued discernment as to the expansion of our programming, both in number and geographically;
- Continued tending and expansion of the Board.

Programs

- Our first Philadelphia-located *Silent Retreat in the Manner of Friends* was led by Linda Chidsey and Carolyn Moon and was fully subscribed with 27 in attendance;
- Our second biannual *Spiritual Renewal Retreat* for past participants in SotS programs was also fully subscribed with 37 participants. Held in Philadelphia, it was led by Lloyd Lee Wilson (Rich Square, NCYMC) on the theme of *Jeremiah's Lament*;



Spiritual Renewal Retreat 2011

- Completion and publication of our first pamphlet on *The Spiritual Care Committee*, with special thanks to the work of board member Nancy Fennell (Fort Myers, SEYM). The pamphlet is a free download from our website and will be available in hardcopy at Friends' gatherings this summer;
- Six events led by the Core Teachers (Patty Levering, Beckey Phipps, and Mike Green) of the *On Being a Spiritual Nurturer* program in NC, VA, MI, MA, and PA, helping Friends to discern their call to ministry;
- Receipt, to date, of 21 applications for the next class of the program *On Being a Spiritual Nurturer*.

Service

- Naming Matt Drake as the new board clerk, following 5 years of faithful and visionary service by Michael Wajda (Goshen, PYM) in that role;
- Retirement from the board of Anne Pomeroy, Nancy Fennell, and Michael Wajda;
- Welcome to new board members Susan Wilson, Jan Blodgett, Rita Willett, and Judy Geiser;
- The lifting up with amazing clarity of Beckey Phipps (Fresh Pond, NEYM) as a core teacher for the *On Being a Spiritual Nurturer* program, after a search that received over 20 applications for the position from across the country;



Core Teachers Patty, Beckey, Mike

- Naming of Carole Treadway to join Fran Taber and Linda Chidsey as Elders of SotS;
- Naming of Ray Treadway (Friendship, NCYMC and PFF) as treasurer.

Structure

- The completion of our first-ever fund-raising campaign, *Abundant Gifts*, to which over \$270,000 in gifts and pledges were made by 114 supporters and 3 granting agencies;



Abundant Gifts, Steering Committee
Linda Chidsey, Karen Reixach, Mike Green, Sharon Frame, Michael Wajda, Susan Wilson, Matt Drake
(not pictured: Debbie Humphries, Lee Junker)

- Movement away from a board-centric organization to a board structure that utilizes several active committees. This has also allowed for the service of many non-Board members on the committees;
- Development of a new website which allows for online donations and event registrations;
- Approval of two documents: *Guidelines on Confidentiality and Advices on Consultation by Teachers and Facilitators with Mental Health Professionals*;
- With appreciation for the initiative of PYM, rewriting of our Memorandum of Understanding to bring it in line with current practice;
- Continued guidance through all the changes offered by the administration of Mike Green.

Finances

Abundant Gifts, Call for Support
Total Raised \$270,567
Apportioned as follows:

Current Programs	\$110,567	41%
Scholarships	\$75,000	28%
New Programs	\$40,000	15%
Teacher Enrichment	\$25,000	9%
Community Enrichment	\$10,000	4%
Call for Support Expenses	\$10,000	4%

Program Expenses and Income, 2011-12

EXPENSES	\$46,670
Spiritual Renewal Retreat	\$9,781
Silent Retreats	\$8,839
On Being a Spiritual Nurturer preparation (incl. Testing the Waters)	\$26,600
Other (web, pamphlet)	\$1,250
INCOME	\$20,590
Gain/(Loss)	(\$26,080)*

* The loss will be balanced by tuition from the upcoming *On Being a Spiritual Nurturer* program and from the *Abundant Gifts* Scholarships allocation.

Operating Expenses and Income, 2011-12

EXPENSES	\$32,000
Staff	\$23,100
Travel	\$4,231
Other (incl. office)	\$4,669
INCOME	\$32,000
Contributions*	\$654
Abundant Gifts – Current Programs	\$31,346

* Annual Giving goal for 2012-13 is \$16,000.

Your contribution next year will help us provide for our programs. Thank you!