

Report of Brooklyn Monthly Meeting
For New York Quarterly Meeting, 19th of Fourth Month, 2015

Brooklyn Monthly Meeting worshiped every First Day at 9:00 and 1:00am, as well as, on every Third Day at 6:30pm this quarter. Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business was held on First Day of Second Month, First Day of Third month, and Fifth day of Fourth month. During this period we received into membership Marie Hoguet and her son Louis Sundin (2&1/2 years), and a family, Leela Le Noury, Chris Stewart and their daughter Violet (5 years). A long time attender Joel P. Wolfe died Second Day of Third month, 2015. Heather McRae transferred her membership to Ann Arbor Meeting.

While the winter was bitter and long lasting, inside our meeting house we were warm, creative, and joyous. We continue to have hymn singing on First Day, adult religious education (currently Fox's Journal) on second First Days, worship sharing on a sacred text on third First Days, and our community dinner on fourth or fifth First Days. On the 15th of Second month Friends gathered to share their thoughts and feelings about the Apology to afro-americans approved by New York Yearly Meeting Fall Sessions. Our friend Paul van Linden Tol has a leading the meeting is embracing. In First month he began having a silent witness over the problem of mass incarcerations of afro-americans in America's prisons. Friends are encouraged to join him at the statue of Robt. F. Kennedy at the Brooklyn Supreme Court at 12:30 - 1:45 on Wednesdays. Our committee of Hikes with Worship published its plans for the coming season. The welcoming committee sponsored a day long workshop on "Sharing Your Joy." Some tech wizard parents meet with children one First Day each month to build robots. And, the following minute was sent on to New York Yearly Meeting:

"Brooklyn Meeting urges New York Yearly Meeting to follow the example of Canada Yearly Meeting and draft a letter to Friends United Meeting expressing our displeasure at its current discriminatory policy against LGBT Quakers in paid or unpaid positions of service or leadership." The letter further states that "until such time as such policies are laid aside and equality embraced for all Quakers, it will only designate its payments to Friends United Meeting for specific projects which, in the opinion of New York Yearly Meeting are worthy."

We are busy but the core of our corporate experience remains our worship which is deep and radiant among us.

For the meeting,

Ted Ehrhardt, clerk