

ARCH Report NYYM Spring Sessions 2013

April 6, 2013

Here is a brief recap what we've been doing since Fall Sessions:

- Barbara and Callie Attended F-S Winter Gathering in Rochester and Farmington Friends Eldest Appreciation Dinner
- Barbara and Anita traveled to Old Chatham Meeting to discuss Advanced Directives
- Anita and Callie facilitated Visitor Training in Syracuse – 15 new visitors for a total of 65 – all over NYYM except CT and LI
- Anita and Callie traveled to Manasquan to facilitate a Quaker Values and end of life decision making workshop

Here is a brief look ahead to what we will be doing between now and Summer Sessions:

- Barbara will facilitate a workshop on Aging Spirituality and Music at F-S Spring Gathering
- Barbara and Anita travel to Northeast Regional Meeting for a Telling Our Stories Workshop
- Anita visits Greenhaven Prison – first in a series of listening prison visits
- Barbara, Anita and Callie will be meeting with Care and Aging folks from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting to update website QuakerAgingResources.org
- We were also all invited to participate in the Friends Foundation for the Aging annual retreat.
- At Summer Sessions we will all be offering worship sharing for care givers and other interest groups
- Anita as been invited to participate in Ohio Yearly Meeting in August
- In addition to the ongoing individual consultations and supporting our volunteer Visitors we are engaging in other behind the scenes work on aging prisoners, and housing resources by attending conferences, interviewing government agencies, and individuals.

We want to remind Friends that we are available for workshops and individual consultations in person, or phone.

The heart of ARCH is listening to each other that of God in me meeting that of God in you and finding sacred ground. This is how the worshiping community lives out its care.

Working through aging concerns, as a community, is a spiritual opportunity to grow into relationship with one another.

Last week when Manasquan got together they shared many personal experiences and concerns. By sharing deeply with one another they developed a greater sense of trust and community. They were realizing that “these are the people that share my values,” which is the source of the Quaker Testimony of Community.

April 16 is National Health Care Directives Day. Barbara will be leading a workshop in Albany meeting. Two ARCH Visitors are doing one for Montclair community clergy people.

This afternoon during the second committee session Anita and Callie will be facilitating an Advanced Directives mini workshop utilizing the Five Wishes Workbooks that many of you will be taking home to your Meetings.