

DECEMBER 2025 CALL TO ACTION:

Action Alert: 14 Simple Ways to Celebrate the Holiday Season

1. Develop a Christmas mantra – a saying to increase positivity during the hectic holiday season.
2. De-clutter- Remove excess from your home. One can start by removing excess toys and donate toys to Moorestown Meeting or a local charity.
3. Develop extra patience. Focus on inner patience at places like long store lines and traffic at the mall.
4. Create a time-saving strategy for wrapping gifts. Set up a station for wrapping items with paper, scissors, and tape. Make a goal of wrapping two gifts per day – while watching TV or waiting for laundry to dry.
5. When in doubt about what gift to give, consider a gift card. People value a card that they can use during the year, at places such as Panera or Apple.
6. Practice self-care. Set aside time for yourself.
7. Keep the music playing.
8. Go sledding.
9. Volunteer at a local soup kitchen or shelter.
10. Drive locally and check out the holiday lights. Hiawatha Avenue in Hi-Nella is especially colorful and bright during this season.
11. Visit a local cathedral or church — see the decorations at another beautiful church in your area.
12. Host a family movie night.
13. Pick an afternoon to do a puzzle together with family or friends.
14. Put together a “blessing bag” for someone in need. A blessing bag can consist of small items that can be handed to an individual, such as a homeless person. This bag can include warm socks, granola bars, gift cards for McDonald’s, a toothbrush.

Note: The Witness in the World Committee has partnered with Haddonfield Meeting to collect new toys for children of refugee families in South Jersey. A reminder that unwrapped toys can be delivered to either Moorestown or Mount Laurel meetings and dropped off in boxes provided.

NOVEMBER 2025 CALL TO ACTION:

Action Alert: What's Happening to Black history?

In January 2025, the new Trump administration did away with DEI (Diversity Equity Inclusion) by executive order and funding restrictions. Other anti-diversity executive orders have followed such as; moving the National Guard to LA, Chicago and DC as well as defunding support for historically Black Colleges. <https://www.cbcfinc.org/policy-research/cbcf-executive-order-tracker-impacts-on-black-america/> This was followed by attempted erasures of depictions of slavery at the presidents' house in Philly and on the National Parks website. <https://hiddencityphila.org/2025/04/op-ed-philly-must-fight-the-erasure-of-black-history/>

The end result of such actions erodes the hard-won civil rights of Black Americans dating back to the 1964 and 1968 Civil Rights Acts. The purpose of DEI and affirmative action was to address the problem of unequal opportunity. <https://diversity.com/post/history-of-dei-in-america>.

Results of these acts have created a rise in Black unemployment and obstacles for the established Black middle class. <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/trumps-agenda-is-a-direct-threat-to-the-black-middle-class/>

Consider these facts:

- Quakers were heavily involved with the Civil Rights Movement of the 60's due to their testimonies of Equality/Peace and their belief that there is that of God in every person. <https://horizonsproject.us/the-quakers-advance-democracy-in-the-us-civil-rights-movement/>
- Lynching only became illegal in 2022 in the US after hundreds of prior attempts with the Emmet Till anti-lynching Act of 2022. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/55>
- Moorestown Monthly Meeting established an Anti-racism committee during the COVID pandemic and currently has a DEI Book Club.
- There have been protests and pushback to the recent anti-DEI acts.

Take Action Now:

Buy from Black businesses. <https://www.buyblack.org/zuri>

Celebrate Martin Luther King's birthday, Jan. 19th, 2026. (It is still a holiday.)

Celebrate Black History Month in February 2026.

Support the ACLU which advocates for the civil rights of all Americans. <https://www.aclu.org/> Visit the African-American Museum on Arch St., Paul Robeson's and John Coltrane houses in Philly.

OCTOBER 2025 CALL TO ACTION

LGBTQAI+ Discrimination and Ways to Counteract Them

This Call to Action asks us to consider the importance of educating ourselves about LGBTQAI+ discrimination and ways to counteract them. In fact, to make a world “where laws and customs foster human dignity.” ([Quaker.org](#)) As the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting *Faith and Practice* says: “We believe there is that of God in every person, and thus we believe in human equality before God. ... In recent years, Friends have discovered and taken stands against other forms of discrimination and oppression to which they had earlier been insensitive.” ([Quaker.org](#)) And as our Equality/Equity Testimony reminds us “We seek a world where laws and customs foster human dignity. We encourage all people to realize their full potential as human beings bearing the light of God.” ([Quaker.org](#))

LGBTQAI+ people are one of the groups that Friends have come to understand are facing discrimination and threats. People who identify as LGBTQAI+ make up only 9.3% of the U.S. population according to a February 2025 Gallup Poll. LGBTQAI+ rights and protections are generally being eroded. According to GLAAD, [575 anti-LGBTQ bills](#) were introduced in state legislatures thus far in 2025. Transgender youth and adults are particular targets at this time. According to a UCLA Williams Institute poll from August 2025, people 13 and over who identify as transgender represent 1% of the U.S. population. ([Williams Institute](#))

To learn more about this, consider these resources.

- **Philadelphia Yearly Meeting LGBTQAI+ Resources** Updated March 5th, 2025 <https://www.pym.org/lgbtqia-resources-pym/>. This website offers a wide variety of resources including the Short Trans 101 video series and Quaker speak videos as well as materials for supporting Quaker Youth. It also includes a list of relevant books.
- **Quaker.org** has “Are Quakers LGBTQ+ affirming?” <https://quaker.org/are-quakers-lgbtq-affirming/>
- **Affirming Quakers** <https://www.affirmingquakers.com/quakerresources> specifically addresses issues of LGBTQAI+ members of the Society of Friends.
- **Human Rights Commission** has excellent information and action alerts. This is a link to their report on [Being an LGBTQ+ Ally](https://reports.hrc.org/being-an-lgbtq-ally). <https://reports.hrc.org/being-an-lgbtq-ally>
- **PFLAG** has excellent information on being an ally and understanding LGBTQAI+ issues. This is a link to their [Straight for Equality: Guide to Being an Ally to LGBTQ+ People](https://pflag.org/resource/s4e-guide-to-being-a-straight-ally/) Report. (<https://pflag.org/resource/s4e-guide-to-being-a-straight-ally/>).

SEPTEMBER 2025 CALL TO ACTION

ELECTION DAY 2025

Tuesday, November 4 is election day and while every election is important, this year New Jersey will elect a new governor. This election will have a profound effect on life in New Jersey for the next four years. Make sure you have all the information you need to vote.

Are you registered to vote?

- October 14 is the deadline for voter registration for this election.

To register in New Jersey, you must be:

- A United States citizen
- At least 17 years old, though you may not vote until you have reached the age of 18
- A resident of the county for 30 days before the election
- A person not serving a sentence of incarceration as the result of a conviction of any indictable offense under the laws of this or another state or of the United States.

Find out if you are eligible to vote, if you are already registered, and if not how to register [here](#).

New Jersey offers three ways to vote.

- **[Vote by mail](#)** – Fill out your ballot at home and either mail it in, drop it in a secure ballot drop box, or return it to Burlington County board of elections.
- **[In-person early voting](#)** – This is available at limited locations from Saturday, October 25 through Sunday, November 2. Click on [this link](#) to learn the early voting locations in Burlington County.
- In person, at your polling place on election day.
- Where is your polling place? If you choose to vote in person on election day, [click here](#) to find your polling place.

Learn more about the Candidates

The League of Women Voters of New Jersey provides non-partisan information including a schedule of upcoming candidate forums and recordings of past forums [here](#). Educate yourself before you cast your ballot.

Exercise your precious right to vote in the November 4 election and have your say in our democracy!

JULY 2025 CALL TO ACTION

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR REFUGEE FAMILIES

The Moorestown Meeting is renewing our Call to Action for School Supplies for Refugee Families. Our meeting is partnering with Haddonfield Monthly Meeting's Peace and Social Concerns Committee to gather new school supplies to provide to children of refugee families in South Jersey for the 2025-2026 school year. It is expected that school supplies will be needed for approximately 170 children by the end of August.

Priscilla Adams of Haddonfield Peace and Social Concerns Committee has led an effort through the Refugee Assistance Fund of Haddonfield Meeting to distribute school supplies to refugee students. The Refugee Assistance Fund started in 2016. Since then, the Fund has expanded its breadth of work to include providing donations such as backpacks and supplies in August, toys in December, and distributing household goods during the year.

In addition to current students, school supplies will be provided to children who arrive in New Jersey throughout the school year. The largest number of students come from Ukraine, Myanmar, and Afghanistan, as well as Syria, Iraq, Columbia, Uganda and Haiti. These families now live in Burlington, Camden, Cumberland and Gloucester counties.

We welcome donations of new school supplies. Recommended supplies are listed below. We will be collecting through the month of July and up until August 17.

Supplies Needed:

- Backpacks
- Spiral notebooks and composition books
- Pens and pencils
- Highlighters
- Erasers
- Markers & Colored pencils
- Crayons
- Pocket folders
- Glue sticks

Donations can be left on the hallway bench inside the Moorestown Meetinghouse.

Please be generous in your donations!

JUNE 2025 CALL TO ACTION

LGBTQ+ Rights

Although LGBTQ+ rights do not have a political party, they are often politicized. If you're sensitive to reading about politicized LGBTQ+ discrimination, avoid reading this action alert.

Learn About the History of LGBTQ+ Rights and Protections in the U.S.

- Visit the [Daily](#) website from JSTOR for a history of transgender legal battles in the U.S.
- Visit the [PBS](#) website for a timeline of milestones in the American gay rights movement.
- For a history of past presidential pro- and anti-LGBTQ+ views and actions see below.
 - o President Ronald Reagan: Visit the [Advocate](#) and the [Swarthmore College](#) websites.
 - o President George H.W. Bush: Visit the [Washington Blade](#) website.
 - o President Bill Clinton: Visit the [Clinton White House Archives](#) and the [ACLU](#) websites.
 - o President George W. Bush: Visit the [Politico](#) website.
 - o President Barack Obama: Visit the [AP](#) and [Obama White House Archives](#) websites.
 - o President Joe Biden: Visit the [Biden White House Archives](#) website.

Learn About Recent Changes to LGBTQ+ Rights and Protections in the U.S.

- Visit the [ACLU](#) website to learn about how the Trump administration is erasing LGBTQ+ freedoms by rolling back protections, mandating discrimination, and weaponizing federal laws against transgender people.
- Visit the [PBS News](#) website to learn about how President Donald Trump's executive orders are targeting transgender people.
- Visit the [Pew Research Center](#) website to learn about how LGBTQ+ people feel about the impact of the Trump administration on their rights.

Stay Up-to-Date on LGBTQ+ News

- Visit the [GLAAD](#) website to read a current list of attacks from the Trump administration on LGBTQ+ freedoms in chronological order starting 01/20/2025.
- Visit the [ACLU](#) website to view a U.S. map that tracks anti-LGBTQ+ bills by state.
- Visit the [Loyola University Chicago](#) website for their list of the most prolific LGBTQ+ organizations and news outlets to help keep you current on LGBTQ+ issues.
- Visit the [Strong Family Alliance](#) website to get an overview on how to stay informed and navigate LGBTQ+ issues on the news and social media *without getting stressed*.

Know the Rights of LGBTQ+ People in the U.S.

Visit the [ACLU](#) website to learn about the protected rights of LGBTQ+ people.

TAKE ACTION NOW Stand Up for Your Rights or Help Others Stand Up for Their Rights

- If you or someone you know has been discriminated against based on sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, or HIV status, contact the [ACLU](#), they want to hear from you.
- Contact [Lambda Legal](#) for general legal information and resources relating to discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, and HIV status.
- Donate to non-profit organizations that support LGBTQ+ people through community outreach and support, scholarships, free legal help, and/or fighting for LGBTQ+ rights at the local, state, and federal levels.

Note: Research LGBTQ+ organizations before donating. LGBTQ+ organizations that are top heavy, throw extravagant parties, have a history of discrimination (sexism, racism, transphobia), and/or have not done anything impactful, may not be the best organizations to donate to.

- Do a Google search to look for LGBTQ+ Pride events or demonstrations to participate in.
- Visit the [Center for American Progress](#) website to learn about and support the American Equality Act.

MAY 2025 CALL TO ACTION

PEACEBUILDING

- There are currently 56 armed conflicts in the world, the most since World War II.
- Some of the most prominent conflicts include the war in Ukraine, the conflict in Gaza, the conflict in Sudan, and ongoing conflicts in Myanmar, the Sahel region, and other parts of the world.
- The rise in conflict and violence has led to a greater need for international humanitarian assistance.

Here is some helpful information and resources on peacebuilding.

Act Now

- The Prevention and Protection Working Group (PPWG) <https://www.allianceforpeacebuilding.org/prevention-and-protection-working-group>
A coalition of human rights, religious, humanitarian, anti-genocide, and peacebuilding organizations dedicated to improving U.S. Government policies and civilian capacities to prevent violent conflict, avert mass atrocities, and protect civilians threatened by such crises.
- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) <https://afsc.org/> works with communities worldwide to challenge injustice and build conditions for lasting peace. They are steadfast in their commitment to nonviolence and their belief in the transformative power of love to overcome conflict and oppression.
- Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) On Foreign Aid Cuts (April 2025) <https://www.fcnl.org/resources/speak-out-against-foreign-aid-cuts>
Peacebuilding and conflict prevention programs reduce violent conflict and human suffering while saving taxpayer dollars. Yet, U.S. support for this work has been persistently underfunded.
- Tell Lawmakers to Support Foreign Aid <https://fcnl.quorum.us/campaign/108117/>
Take a minute to ask your senators and representative to speak up for continued investment in U.S. foreign assistance.

Some Books on Building Peace

- *You Can't Be Neutral on a Moving Train: A Personal History* (1994) | by Howard Zinn
- *The Moral Imagination: The Art and Soul of Building Peace* (1997) | by John Paul Lederach
- *How to Change the World* (2013) | by John Paul Flintoff at School of Life
- *Creating True Peace: Ending Violence in Yourself, Your Family, Your Community, and the World* (2004) | by Thich Nhat Hanh
- *Peace by Peaceful Means: Peace and Conflict, Development and Civilization* (1996) | by Johan Galtung
- *Can You Say Peace?* | by [Karen Katz](#) (for young friends)

APRIL 2025 CALL TO ACTION

IMMIGRATION CONTROL

Updates

As predicted in WiW's January Call to Action, there has been a renewed effort by the new administration to detain and deport immigrants. Here are some news reports of recent illegal actions and planned mass deportations:

- 137 Venezuelan migrants, allegedly gang members, were sent to a prison in El Salvador in defiance of a federal court order to stop the flight.
- Emine and Celal Emanet, Mahmoud Khalil, and Rumeysa Ozturk were abruptly detained/deported by ICE and now Kilmar Abrego Garcia. (Google names for updates.)
- Thousands of undocumented immigrants will be detained at military bases including the McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Base in New Jersey. Visit npr.org for the full story.

Why so controversial?

Visit, the ACLU's website, aclu.org, to learn about immigrant rights.

What Can We Do to Help?

- Stay positive/learn more
 - Visit New Jersey's Immigrant Trust Directive <https://www.njoag.gov/trust/>.
 - Go to aclu.org for updates on American Civil Liberties Union's Actions on behalf of immigrants.
 - Read SUNY sociologist Joanna Dreby's March 18th [address to Connecticut's legislators](#) and look for her new book, *Surviving the ICE Age*.
- Take Action
 - Write a minute in support of the lawsuit by PYM against ICE's threatened aggression into houses of worship.
 - Urge the NJ legislature to support the 24-25 Trust Act njleg.state.nj.us
 - Visit the ACLU's website, click on [Act Now](#).
 - Help your neighbors and protect families through suggestions on the National Immigration Justice Center website, immigrantjustice.org.
 - Visit American Friends Service Committee's website, afsc.org, to learn how to Stop deportations now!
 - Visit the Friends Committee on National Legislation's Action Center, fcnل.quorum.us to Tell Congress: Mass Deportation is Not the Answer.
- Work with other Friends Meetings
 - Medford Meeting prepares welcome bags for migrants through the Migrant Health Collaborative of South Jersey. To volunteer, email Sue Dietz: SueDietz@AOL.com.
 - Trenton Friends Meeting supports Latin American Legal Defense and Education Fund (LALDEF). To learn more about LALDEF, email Nikki Mosgrove: nmosgrove@pym.org.

MARCH 2025 CALL TO ACTION

Stewardship of the Earth

Sustainable stewardship of the Earth is a Quaker testimony. According to *Faith and Practice*, “The well-being of the earth is a fundamental spiritual concern... How we treat the earth and its creatures is a basic part of our relationship with God. Our planet as a whole requires our responsible attention.”

What can we do to be better stewards of our beautiful planet?

Learn More – [Check out these books](#) on our Meeting Library to learn more about climate change or if you prefer your learning online find reliable information from the following source.

- Climate change is a complicated concept and understanding it can be challenging. [Project Drawdown](#) can help. Their international team of scientists have evaluated 93 technologies and practices that can dramatically reduce greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and their research is clearly explained on the website.

Take Action

Join Allies and Friends – There is inspiration and strength in numbers. The following organizations offer information and opportunities to network.

- Philadelphia Yearly Meeting’s [EcoJustice Collaborative](#), a home for Friends acting on their leading in the intersection of racial, economic, and climate justice.
- [350.org](#) is a movement of ordinary people working to build a world powered by clean, accessible and affordable renewable energy.

Lobby for Change with elected officials

- [QAMAR](#) (Quaker Action for the Mid-Atlantic region) offers Friendly advocacy on state and local policy concerns.
- [FCNL](#) (Friends Committee on National Legislation) advocates at the national level.

Become an Informed Voter

- The [New Jersey League of Conservation Voters](#) offers the information you need to choose the best candidates and policies on election day.

Join us at our Loving our Earth fair on Saturday, April 12 from 1 to 3 pm

Learn about composting, buy some native plants, discover easy alternatives to plastic, and enjoy kid-friendly environmental activities. Find out how to turn your backyard into a National Wildlife Federation certified wildlife habitat. Meet Friends from Rancocas Nature Center and PYM’s EcoJustice Collaborative.

FEBRUARY 2025 CALL TO ACTION

Learn About Israel and Gaza

- Visit the [BBC News](#) and/or Reuters websites for a summary of the Israel-Gaza conflict.
- Visit [the American Friends Service Committee](#) (AFSC) website for a summary of what you need to know about the crisis in Gaza.
- [Read a book](#) to understand the Israel-Hamas War.
- Visit [Rowan University's Israel-Gaza Conflict Information and Resources Guide](#). (Online resources are free, but you must be affiliated with Rowan or Cooper Hospital to access the online library catalog for books and academic journals.)

Stay Informed on the Israel-Gaza Conflict from Reliable and Free News Sources

- For a regular and brief summary of the current conflict, listen to [The Daily](#) podcast from the New York Times on Apple Podcasts or another podcast app.
- Visit the [Reuters](#) website for regular news updates.
- Listen to NPR on the radio, WHYY 90.9 FM, or [online](#) for regular news updates.
- Watch the PBS NewsHour and PBS NewsWeekend for regular updates. Later in the broadcasts, the programs often have in-depth coverage from Leila Molana-Allen who is on location in Israel and Gaza. The programs may be watched live on [WHYY](#) (channel 12) and both live and on demand on the [PBS app](#) and [YouTube](#).
- Listen to the [BBC World Service](#) online and/or watch the BBC Newshour live weekdays on [WHYY](#) (channel 12) for regular updates.

Meet for Worship with Attention to Gaza

Join an online meeting for worship through [AFSC](#) every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. ET.

Donate to High Profile Organizations Who Help Gaza

- [Doctors Without Borders](#)
- [UNRWA](#) (United Nations Relief and Works Agency)
- [UNICEF USA](#)
- [AFSC](#)

Advocate for a Cease-fire and Humanitarian Aid in Gaza

- Join Friends and peace advocates online every Friday at 12 p.m. ET for [AFSC's Action Hour](#) to share tools for sharing our peace testimony.
- Contact your congressional representatives. Visit [AFSC's](#) or [Friends Committee on National Legislation's \(FCNL\)](#) websites for tools on how to advocate for peacebuilding, humanitarian aid, and a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.
- Talk to people you know about the Israel-Gaza conflict using [AFSC's](#) tips.

JANUARY 2025 CALL TO ACTION:

Migrants in the United States: How can we help

2025 brings with it a new presidential administration which has promised a much harsher climate for migrants in our country. It is time for us to take action to welcome and protect migrants in the United States.

Get Informed

- Resist the temptation to avoid the news. Find current and reliable information sources. If we are to be effective advocates for migrants, we need to know what's going on.
- The American Civil Liberties Union has been protecting our rights since 1920. Read [here](#) to see what they have to say about asylum seekers, deportation and due process, immigrant rights and detention, and ICE and border patrol abuses.
- What's happening in New Jersey? Find out about possible plans for increasing detention centers in our state [here](#).

Take Action

- The [National Immigration Law Center](#) offers opportunities for action including a day one response team and a way to sign up for updates to keep current on this issue.
- Become an effective resource for the people who are most at risk. Check out the [National Immigration Justice Center](#) to learn "5 things you can do now to protect yourself and your loved ones," then share what you learned with the people who need to know it.
- Accept the invitation from Friends Committee on National Legislation to "[tell Congress to invest in human migration solutions.](#)"
- Manasquan Quaker Meeting recently sponsored a Community Refugee Sponsorship Workshop. Learn more about refugee sponsorship opportunities at <https://welcomecorps.org>.
- Check out the American Friends Service Committee to "[act now for welcoming, dignified, and just immigration.](#)"

Many dedicated people are already working hard to support the migrants in our country. Let's join them in this important work.