

# Quakers in Hamilton

## Hamilton Monthly Meeting Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

**WELCOME** to **Hamilton Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends** (Quakers). If you have entered our doors, you have shown some interest in who we are and what we do. We are glad you have come. You may also wish to read our pamphlet "Your First Time in a Quaker Meeting" which gives some idea of what to expect in a Meeting for Worship.

Meeting for Worship is the centre of Friends' lives. Quakerism is a way of life, and we are led to let our lives speak our faith. A newcomer in a Meeting for Worship once whispered to Rufus Jones, (1863-1948): "When does the service begin?" His reply: "After you leave the Meetinghouse".

According to Quaker conviction, spiritual growth is made real by how one's faith is lived. From the premise that there is "that of God in every one" flow a number of conclusions about how life is to be lived and how we should relate to ourselves, to our fellow human beings, and to the earth. Many Friends are involved with peace and justice, social, and environmental concerns in the Hamilton community and beyond.

**SOME OF THE LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND GLOBAL** issues with which Hamilton Friends are involved are:

- The Department of Peace Initiative & Culture of Peace
- War Tax Concerns and Conscience Canada
- Social Justice concerns, including First Nations & prisons
- Environmental issues

### AT OUR MEETINGHOUSE:

- **Potlucks:** We regularly have potluck meals for fellowship and learning; the programmes grow out of our local, national & global concerns.
- **Indigenous Plants Garden:** Our concern for the earth is a spiritual one. Like others, we seek answers to the challenge of how to "tread gently on the earth". As part of our concern for the environment, we maintain a Peace Garden of indigenous plants.
- **First Day School:** **Children are always welcome** in our Meeting. From September through June, we have a First Day School for children aged 4-12. A planned curriculum is offered on the first and third Sundays of each month.
- **Discussion Groups:** Periodically, discussion and study groups form around books, issues, or concerns.
- **"Quaker Lite" and "Quaker 101":** From time to time, we present these learning and discussion sessions for newcomers.
- **Library:** Hamilton Meeting has an extensive collection of current and classical books and journals on and by Quakers, including a collection of children's books. Books are available for loan in person without charge.
- **Pamphlets:** A variety of pamphlets which expound on Quaker ways is available in the rack near the front door.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE** about Quakers, feel free to ask questions of Friends, look at our pamphlets, and browse in our library. (You may borrow a book if you wish. Please sign it out using the card system and remember to return it.) You may also visit our Meeting's website at [www.hamiltonquakers.ca](http://www.hamiltonquakers.ca) or for information about Quakers in Canada, [www.quaker.ca](http://www.quaker.ca)

**THE MEETINGHOUSE IS AVAILABLE FOR USE** by groups approved by the Meeting. Contact us by telephone to discuss use of our space. (905-523-8383). There is not a fixed charge for use of the Meetinghouse space. We are happy to talk with you regarding your needs.

This pamphlet is a work in progress and adapted from other sources. If you have questions or comments, please contact the Clerk of the Meeting at [hamiltonmonthlymeeting@gmail.com](mailto:hamiltonmonthlymeeting@gmail.com)

Published by  
Hamilton Monthly Meeting  
2010-09