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 Drake, Clerk of Board  
Michael Green, Administrator

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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;

- 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.

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
• 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;

• 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.

• 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;

• Naming Carole Treadway to join Fran Taber and Linda Chidsey as Elders of SoTS;

• Naming of Ray Treadway (Friendship,NCYMC and PFF) as treasurer.

• 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;

• 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 Advice 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.

Spiritual Renewal Retreat 2011

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

Operating Expenses and Income, 2011-12

EXPENSES
Staff $32,000
Travel $23,100
Other (incl. office) $4,669

INCOME
Contributions $32,000
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!