## **2018 TEA DISCUSSION GROUPS**

<u>Creative, Comfy and Clever Quilter's Work Spaces</u> – Do you desire a better space to work on your quilts and creative projects? Join this discussion group and find ways to become more creative with the space you have, more comfortable/happy in your space and find some clever organizing tips to help with time management and clutter.

<u>Sewing Tips to Make Your Quilting Life Easier</u> – Are you looking to save money on some sewing notions? Would you like some suggestions on items to pack for a sewing day/retreat? Is your craft room disorganized? Come share your tips and hear ours.

<u>Easy Dresden Plates</u> – Have you ever admired the beautiful Dresden Plate quilt block but thought it was too complicated? Have no fear – once you see how easy they are to piece, you will be hooked. Learn about the history behind Dresden Plates, the rulers you need to rotary-cut your pieces, and the easy process for stitching them up and creating your own. Bring along a needle and thread so that you can try one and see how easy they really are!

<u>What Your Longarm Quilter Really Wants!</u> – Do you have a top you want to have quilted by a local longarm quilter? Want the skinny on just what they may need from you before you send your treasure to them? Come find out from our "stationary" and "movable" longarmers just what each style's special needs are and how to work with them.

<u>Quilt Coloring 101</u> – You can use stenciled designs in place of appliqué. Come see examples of stenciled designs colored using various media.

<u>New York's Beauty</u> – Come along on the up and down journey of two Loose Threads members who decided to enter the "New Quilts from an Old Favorite" contest sponsored by the National Quilt Museum.

<u>Many Hands Make Great Quilts</u> – There are many ways for quilters to gather to make their quilts. Sourdough exchanges are a great way to start. We will be giving examples of the different ways to do a sourdough exchange and talk about other kinds of exchanges such as round robins and online swaps.

<u>Guest Speaker</u> – Janneken Smucker is an Associate Professor of History at West Chester University where she specializes in digital history, public history and American material culture. A 5<sup>th</sup> generation Mennonite quiltmaker, Janneken is the author of "Amish Quilts: Crafting an American Icon" (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013) and her presentation will be about Amish quilts.