

Seventh Month (July) 2015

Homewood Friends Meeting

Newsletter

3107 North Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21218
Website: www.homewoodfriends.org
(includes calendar, no password required)
Newsletter Editor: David Penney

Phone: 410.235.4438; Fax: 410.235.6058
Email: homewoodfriends@verizon.net
Co-Clerks: George Amoss, Louise Hopkins

Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, the Seventh Query: *Caring for Others*

Do you respect that of God in every person? Do you search yourself for and strive to eliminate prejudices such as those related to race, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation and economic condition? In what ways do you accept and appreciate differences among your friends and associates? Do you avoid exploiting or manipulating others to accomplish ends, however worthy?

Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, Advices for the Seventh Query:

Prejudice and Discrimination

We are all human before we are of one race or another, and it is on this common ground of being human that we live truly and on which we meet. (Martin Buber)

From its earliest days, the Society of Friends has supported the equal right of all individuals to be treated with dignity and respect. The opposition of Friends to slavery is well known. Less well known is their support of the rights of women. Quakers, particularly Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony, and Alice Paul, were in the forefront of the American suffrage movement. We oppose all forms of prejudice. Prejudice should never be allowed to keep any persons from a chance to develop or use their abilities, or deprive them of their political, economic or social rights. We are called to work creatively for equal opportunity in education, employment, justice, housing and the like.

Since thought and action are reflected in words, we should take care to use language that reflects the equal dignity and worth of all human beings. We support an ongoing search for broader language to express the continuing revelation of the nature of God. Use of masculine or feminine forms when referring to God perpetuates gender-specific images. With terms such as the Inner Light, That of God in Everyone, and the Seed, Friends already have a vocabulary which is inclusive.

Those Requiring Special Care

We must be sensitive to the need for an institutional and societal framework within which disadvantaged individuals can achieve dignity and can experience a purposeful life within the limits of their capabilities. Aging is a natural part of human life. At no time should people be considered to be on the periphery of society because of their age. Older persons, who represent an increasingly large portion of the population, have varied talents, interests and concerns. Friends have a long tradition of appreciation of the gifts of older members, and our Meetings should continue to encourage participation of all ages in Meeting activities.

The same concern for human dignity, and opposition to the use of physical force and violence, has motivated Friends to work toward improvement in institutions and services for the aged, for the mentally or emotionally ill, the retarded, and the handicapped. Employment of members of these groups is encouraged, as well as special education and training.

The Society of Friends has long worked toward improvement in the treatment of offenders. While continuing to press for programs of rehabilitation inside prisons, Friends also recognize a need for pre-trial justice and the elimination of police brutality. Friends are led to oppose capital punishment by our belief in the sanctity of life.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MEETING are needed and gratefully accepted; they support the maintenance of the Meeting and our contributions to designated service organizations. It is very helpful for contributors to make arrangements with their banks for automatic transfers. This provides the Meeting with a predictable cash flow.

As of the end of May, we have raised about 25% of the contributions needed from members and attenders to meet our goal for 2015. Please consider making a contribution and, if possible, setting up automatic transfers. Every bit helps and no contribution is too small!

WICKER BASKET collections in July will go to Out for Justice, an ex-offender, member-led Baltimore organization that promotes reform of policies that adversely affect ex-offenders' successful re-entry into society. Funds will be used to purchase books for a reading and literacy program. Learn more at <http://www.out4justice.org/> or visit the group on Facebook.

Please consider making a regular Wicker Basket contribution. Recipients are chosen by the Baltimore Quaker Peace and Justice Committee (BQPJC), which meets on the fourth Sunday of each month. Everyone is welcome to attend. FIND BQPJC on Facebook at <https://facebook.com/BQPJC>.

HOMEWOOD EVENTS AND COMMITTEE NEWS

THE BALTIMORE QUAKER PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE (Homewood contingent) is being reconstituted. Friends are invited to get involved on any level. The June Meeting for Business approved continuing the Friday vigils with the theme "Black Lives Matter, All Lives Matter" until the new members of the committee can discuss it and make a recommendation. Friends are especially urged to participate in the vigils in light of recent events.

THE 2015 HOMEWOOD DIRECTORY is being printed; copies will be available at the July Meeting for Business. The website Directory will continue to be updated.

SIMPLE LUNCH offers soup, bread or bagels, peanut butter, jelly, at times some fruit, and a salad. Everyone is welcome; there is no charge. Friends are welcome to bring other food but please bring enough for everyone.

Note: The Hospitality Committee needs to complete Sunday's Simple Lunch in a reasonable amount of time, to make time for their other obligations. Thank you, Pat Tracey & Susie Higgins, Co-Clerks.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE requests everyone to help keep the kitchen(s) tidy by doing their own dishes.

PLEASE CONSIDER BEING A MONTHLY GREETER, an important opportunity to welcome newcomers, members, and attenders as they come to the experience of worship. It is satisfying and enjoyable—just ask a greeter! Interested? Have questions? Talk with Kathleen W. If you are interested but concerned about occasional absences, talk with her anyway. Greeters and substitutes work together wonderfully, filling in for one another.

ONGOING HOMEWOOD EVENTS

JOIN US FOR OUR PEACE VIGIL: Each Friday the Baltimore Quaker Peace and Social Justice Committee (BQPJC) holds a 5-6 p.m. peace vigil in front of Homewood Meeting House; everyone is welcome. The current theme is "BLACK LIVES MATTER/ALL LIVES MATTER."

HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI DAY: On 1st day (Sunday), the 9th of 8th month (August) from about 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Homewood Peace and Social Justice committee will co-sponsor (with the Baltimore Nonviolence Center) the Hiroshima/Nagasaki commemoration. After a pot-luck dinner there will be a talk by Ralph Moore about Freddie Gray, Black Lives Matter and the need for cutbacks to military spending to provide jobs with peace. There will also be music and poetry. Later, organizations will be able to speak about their peace and justice events, e.g. the peace vigil. Everyone is welcome.

THE SUSAN B. ANTHONY ROOM will be available as an air-conditioned space until fall, thanks to our resident violin teacher, Megan Beller, who will teach her students there. Friends are welcome to cool off.

OTHER QUAKER EVENTS AND NOTICES

FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE GATHERING 2015 will be at Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC, **July 5-11**. The theme is "Seeking Wholeness." Speakers will include Daryl Atminson and Scott

Holmes, Carrie Newcomer, and Parker J. Palmer (see <http://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering/programs-and-events/evening-programs>). Registration is open. <http://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering/registration-details>.

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING ANNUAL SESSION 2015 will return to Frostburg State University. The Pre-Session Retreat will begin after lunch on **Monday, August 3** and conclude with Meeting for Worship at 11:00 a.m. on **Tuesday, August 4**. Annual Session will begin with Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business at 3:00 p.m. on **Tuesday** and will continue through **Sunday, August 9**. Registration is now open. See other Yearly Meeting events at: <http://www.bym-rsf.org/events/ymevents/>.

Annual Session Registration forms are in the spring 2015 issue of the *Interchange*. We also have online registration this year—go to <https://bym-rsforg.presencehost.net/events/annualsession/registration.html>.

THE 2015 FALL SPIRITUAL FORMATION RETREAT this year will be **Friday, September 4, - Sunday, September 6**, at Priestfield Retreat Center. You must register by August 1. Learn more at <https://bym-rsforg.presencehost.net/events/spiritform/>.

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING'S "Seek Peace and Pursue It" silent vigil is held each Saturday, 12 to 1 p.m. on the West Lawn of the Capitol (nearest the wall along First St.). See www.bym-rsf.org/quakers/news/peacevigil.shtml.

For Friends the Testimony of equality begins with the belief that the Light is present in us all. All are deserving of respect, no matter what our differences. When we respect the Light in ourselves and others, we encourage all to turn inward for guidance and truth.

Friends Seminary Handbook on Faith and Practice

Schedule of Meetings for Worship

Every First Day (Sunday)	10:30 a.m. Homewood Meeting House (downstairs in summer)
Every Tuesday (on vacation until September 8 2015)	11:30 a.m. at Sheppard Pratt campus Meeting House (under the care of Stony Run Friends Meeting)
First Sunday of each month	12:15 p.m. Meeting for Business, Homewood Meeting House

Schedule of Committee and Group Meetings

Administrative	Odd months last Sundays (September 27, 2015) 12:15 p.m.
Hospitality—OPEN	As called ; contact Pat Tracey, 443.846.1036
House & Grounds—OPEN	1st Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., contact Charlie Neill
Indian Affairs—OPEN	3rd Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Stony Run dining room, contact Barb Katzenapple, 410.319.6440
Library—OPEN	1st Sundays at 9:00 a.m., contact Debbie Kennison, 410.464.1835
Baltimore Quaker Peace & Justice Committee—OPEN	4th Sundays at 8:45 a.m., alternates between Homewood (odd months) & Stony Run.; contact Stan Becker, 410.366.6923
Ministry & Counsel	1st Wednesdays ; contact Ann Walker Kennedy, 410.426.5836
Religious Education—OPEN	Dates vary ; contact Chris Rutkowski, 410.325-9435
Stewardship & Finance	As called ; contact Susan Russell Walters, 410.377.3328
Trustees	3rd Tuesdays ; contact John McKusick, 410.377.2797

These are the regularly scheduled meeting times for each committee or group. Changes and special meeting times will be announced and/or committee members will be notified (see calendar at www.homewoodfriends.org). Location is at the Meeting House unless noted. Most committees are OPEN to guests; contact the clerk if you'd like to attend.

I shall pass this way but once; any good that I can do or any kindness I can show to any human being; let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

Etienne de Grellet, 1773-1855 (attributed)

Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends, Homewood
3107 North Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21218



