

Third Month (March) 2016

# Homewood Friends Meeting

## *Newsletter*

3107 North Charles Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21218

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(includes calendar, no password required)

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### ***Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, the Third Query: The Meeting Community***

Are love and harmony within the Meeting community fostered by a spirit of open sharing? Do you endeavor to widen your circle of friendships within the Meeting, seeking to know persons of all ages and at all stages of the spiritual journey? Does the Meeting provide for the spiritual refreshment of all members and attenders? Do Friends provide spiritual and practical care for the elderly, the lonely, and others with special needs?

### ***HOMWOOD EVENTS AND COMMITTEE NEWS***

**AUTHOR AND PEACE ACTIVIST PAUL CHAPPELL** will speak at Homewood on **Thursday, March 3**, at 7:00 p.m. Paul K. Chappell graduated from West Point in 2002, was deployed to Iraq, and left active duty in November 2009 as a Captain.

He is the author of the *Road to Peace* series, a seven-book series about waging peace, ending war, the art of living, and what it means to be human. The first five published books in this series are Will War Ever End?, The End of War, Peaceful Revolution, The Art of Waging Peace, and The Cosmic Ocean. The talk is sponsored by the Baltimore Quaker Peace and Justice Committee.

Chappell serves as the Peace Leadership Director for the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. Lecturing across the country and internationally, he also teaches courses and workshops on Peace Leadership.

He grew up in Alabama, the son of a half-black and half-white father who fought in the Korean and Vietnam wars, and a Korean mother. Growing up in a violent household, Chappell has sought answers to the issues of war and peace, rage and trauma, and vision, purpose, and hope. His website is [www.peacefulrevolution.com](http://www.peacefulrevolution.com).

**SILENT VIGIL FOR PEACE: Every Friday**, 5-6 p.m. Since 9/11/2001, we have held a vigil for peace every Friday evening. Join in at any time during the hour. The current focus is on “**BLACK LIVES MATTER/ALL LIVES MATTER**.” On the **first Friday of each month** a potluck supper and video program follow the vigil.

**WICKER BASKET CONTRIBUTIONS IN MARCH** will go to The International Rescue Committee (IRC). The Committee works in more than 40 countries and 26 US cities, helping people to survive and to reclaim some

control of their future in a new country. The IRC Program in Baltimore has resettled more than 10,000 refugees and asylees in central Maryland. To help refugees to move towards self-sufficiency and integration in their new community, IRC Baltimore provides initial housing, furnishings, food, and clothing, as well as employment assistance, health and social services, and English-language class referrals, and orientation.

<http://www.rescue.org/us-program/us-baltimore-md>

*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>.*

**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 for automatic transfers. This provides the Meeting with a predictable cash flow.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** is considering committee nominations and requests for the 2016-2017 year. If you are a regular attender and would like to get to know more people at Homewood, committee work is a great place to start. If you are a seasoned member, you know how much the Meeting values your involvement. Committee descriptions are available on the Homewood website as well as on handouts downstairs. We welcome questions, suggestions, or requests. Mina Brunyate, Karen Cook, Gary Gillespie, and Tanya Hicks.

**FRIDAY VIDEO SERIES:** following the Peace Vigil and potluck supper on **Friday, March 4**, see *Babe* [Australia & USA, 1995] One of the best films about nonviolence, this comedy-drama family film was co-written and directed by Chris Noonan. It is an adaptation of Dick King-Smith's 1983 novel *The Sheep-Pig*, also known as *Babe: The Gallant Pig* in the USA, which tells the story of a pig who wants to be a sheepdog. The main animal characters are played by a combination of real and animatronic pigs and Border Collies.

The series is sponsored by the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Commemoration Committee, the Baltimore Quaker Peace and Justice Committee of Homewood and Stony Run Meetings, and Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility. Videos are followed by a discussion and are free for everyone.

**EASTER SUNDAY (MARCH 27TH)** is the fourth Sunday/First Day of the month. The typical fourth Sunday program of art will not be held and a program related to Easter is being planned including - but not limited to - an Easter Egg Hunt. For planning purposes, it would be very helpful to have a count of the children who are likely to be at Homewood on Easter Sunday. If you have not done so already, please let John McKusick know via email or phone if your child/children will attend. [john.ca.mckusick@verizon.net](mailto:john.ca.mckusick@verizon.net) or 410-377-2797.

**HFM's Carbon Offset for last month: 927 lbs. This is the equivalent of: 11 trees.**

**GREEN ACTION FOR MARCH: ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION IN THE MARYLAND ASSEMBLY**

The Maryland legislature is in session until early April and our delegates and senators will be taking action (or **NOT**) on these pieces of environmental legislation in the next several weeks:

Ø **Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act (GGRA) renewal (HB0610; SB0323)** to renew and extend this 2009 law to strengthen Maryland's Climate Action Plan and require a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. The state's bipartisan Climate Change Commission unanimously endorsed this goal in October 2015. Learn more at [chesapeakeclimate.org/maryland/climate-action](http://chesapeakeclimate.org/maryland/climate-action).

Ø **Clean Energy Jobs Act (HB1106; SB0921)** to increase Maryland's clean electricity standard – wind and solar – to 25% by 2020 and create a dedicated clean energy jobs and business development program. More clean energy will significantly improve the state's air quality and increase regional economic growth due to better health outcomes. Learn more and email your legislators at [chesapeakeclimate.org/maryland/clean-energy](http://chesapeakeclimate.org/maryland/clean-energy).

Ø **Community Greening and Cleanup Act aka Bag Ban (SB198; HB057)** – to ban plastic disposable bags and require most retailers to use paper, charge 10 cents for paper bags requested by customers, and use proceeds of the fee to compensate retailers and fund fresh food initiatives and community cleanup and greening efforts. Similar legislation in Washington, DC, has yielded a 60% reduction in bag use and 72% reduction in litter. Support the bill and find ways to reduce your use of plastic at [interfaithchesapeake.org/bag\\_ban](http://interfaithchesapeake.org/bag_ban).

Ø **Pollinator Protection of 2016: Neonicotinoid Pesticides - Labeling, Signage, and Restrictions on Sales and Use (SB198; HB211)** to require a warning on plants that have been treated with neonicotinoids (neonics) and not allow sale of these pesticides to consumers. Neonics have been confirmed to play a significant role in the alarming decline of bees and other pollinators, like butterflies and birds, posing a serious threat to our food supply, public health, and environment. Maryland beekeepers lost 61% of their beehives in 2014-2015. Pollinators are responsible for 1 out of every 3 bites of food we eat. Take action at [interfaithchesapeake.org/neonics](http://interfaithchesapeake.org/neonics).

For direct contact, find information about your legislators from this site: <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmmain.aspx?pid=legisrpage&tab=subject6>. For more information speak with John McKusick, Gary Gillespie, Carol Beck, or Polly Heninger of the Green Organizing/Action Team (GOAT).

**FROM THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE:** Alene Carteret is the Simple Lunch coordinator for the month of March. If you can supply simple lunch on February 7, 21, or 28, please contact her at [fcarter1@jhmi.edu](mailto:fcarter1@jhmi.edu). Remember, March 13 is Potluck Lunch day

**THE BALTIMORE QUAKER PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE** posts an occasional newsletter on the Homewood Meeting website: <http://homewoodfriends.org/member-resources/committees/peace-justice/>.

#### **ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION meets at 9:15 a.m.:**

**March 13:** Quaker Book Club: *A Sustainable Life*, by Doug Gwyn, Chapter 7

**March 20:** Treasures in the Library: Library Committee members will share their favorite discoveries.

#### **FIRST DAY SCHOOL**

**March 6:** Quaker History Lesson

**March 13:** Service Activity  
**March 20:** Quaker History Lesson  
**March 27:** Art

**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. ”*

**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 Wilson. If you are concerned about occasional absences, talk with her anyway. Greeters and substitutes work together wonderfully, filling in for one another.

## ***OTHER QUAKER EVENTS AND NOTICES***

**2016 WHITE PRIVILEGE CONFERENCE (WPC):** All Friends are encouraged to join the Friends General Conference's (FGC's) Ministry on Racism and the Quaker group at WPC17, **April 14-17, 2016** in Philadelphia, PA at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. Registration is open.

WPC was established and is organized by African American professor Dr. Eddie Moore. The conference strives to empower and equip a variety of attenders to work for equity and justice through self and social transformation.

FGC is sponsoring a group discount for the White Privilege Conference for a fifth year. FGC has supported nearly 200 Quakers over five years in attending WPC. These Friends took advantage of a 55% discount on registration. Baltimore Yearly Meeting is also a sponsor this year.

For the past four years local Friends and FGC have sponsored a Quaker hospitality room where Friends could take a break when needed, gather for worship, and have a Quaker caucus for worship sharing. Local Friends have also provided overnight hospitality and transportation assistance to out-of-state participants.

FFI: Contact Vanessa Julye at FGC, 215-561-1700, ext. 3006  
Ministryonracism@fgcquaker.org  
www.fgcquaker.org/wpc

**THE MILES WHITE BENEFICIAL SOCIETY IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR EDUCATIONAL FUNDING:** Funds are available for College Scholarships, Educational funding for Programs for the Young, Friends Educational Institutions, and for Books and Tracts. Proposals will be considered for requests up to \$5,000.

## **POTLUCK DINNER FOR CATOCTIN CAMP'S NEW BATH HOUSE Sunday, March 13:**

Please join us for a Quaker Potluck Fundraiser to benefit and learn more about the new modern “green” and accessible bath house for Baltimore Yearly Meeting's Camp Catoctin in western Maryland, to be completed for the Summer 2017 camp season.

**Potluck info:** casual attire, **Sunday, March 13**, 4:30-9 pm at the home of Stony Run Friends Lynn & Terral Jordan: 1521 Applecroft Lane, Cockeysville 21030. Please RSVP to Lynn (& what dish you plan to bring): 443-465-1070, or [LynnRJordan@gmail.com](mailto:LynnRJordan@gmail.com).

**As many BYM Friends know**, BYM's three nature-based adventure camps in the Maryland and Virginia mountains welcome almost 600 young people each summer (ages 9-17; for 1, 2, or 4 weeks). Teen Adventure's 21-day wilderness trips challenge older teens, while Family Weekends serve even more (& more ages) in the spring & fall. Our acclaimed overnight summer camps & outdoor trips change lives; time and again they foster self-esteem while creating vibrant safe communities for spiritual growth.

**Why A New Bath House:** The single-structure replacement Bath House is designed sustainably, handicap-accessible, and will also discreetly accommodate gay & transgender campers. It will cost \$287,000 (over half of which has been raised). On hand to answer questions & provide details at the potluck dinner: David Hunter, BYM Camp Property Manager; Dyresha Harris, BYM Catocin Camp Director; Ann Venable, BYM Development Director. We've invited some YF/camp alums to join us, too (ages 18+, as wine & beer will be served at the potluck).

**For more information** on this project, visit BYM's main website at [www.bym-rsf.org](http://www.bym-rsf.org): click on "Supporting BYM", then on "Catocin Bath House Project" or go directly to [www.bym-rsf.org/giving/catocin-bath-house-project.html](http://www.bym-rsf.org/giving/catocin-bath-house-project.html).

### **Annual Session is Moving!**

**Baltimore Yearly Meeting Annual Session will meet at  
Hood College in Frederick, MD in August 2016**

**2016 Annual Session Theme: Discernment and Action in Spiritual Community**

*Sometimes people understand "God's will" or "God's plan" as something imposed on us by God, something we must discover and decipher. I understand it differently. I feel that God's path for our lives is constantly being developed. It rises within us and is something we develop in partnership with God as we learn to see and understand more clearly. With this seeing and understanding, we find the courage to step into the future.*

- Nancy Bieber, *Decision Making and Spiritual Discernment*

In our Quaker communities, discernment provides the spiritual basis for finding the pathways for our service and action. As our roots grow deeper into the ground, finding a spiritual source, our limbs and branches grow too, reaching out to each other and the world, bearing fruit. If our roots weaken, our harvest diminishes. If our branches weaken, so do our roots. When our inward and outward lives nourish each other, we thrive best and have more to offer each other and the world, both as individuals and communities. Younger Friends and diverse newcomers are more likely to be drawn in, bringing new life and helping sustain our beloved communities and our Quaker witness.

You are invited to come, explore, and experience these dynamics in community with other Friends at Annual Session. Come grow your life, then your Meeting, and then share with the world, so that it may share with you. We will consider these queries together:

- What paths to spiritual growth have we found?
- In our spiritual lives, how do worshiping and ministering interact?
- How does worship guide our ministry?
- How does our ministering feed and test our spirit?
- As we extend our ministry, what else develops? What costs result?

#### **Speakers:**

Nancy Bieber (Pre-session Retreat Leader)

Christina Repoley (Tuesday Evening Plenary)

Lauren Brownlee and Jen Cort (Wednesday Afternoon Plenary)

George Lakey (Friday Carey Lecturer)

See <http://www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession/ashome.html>

#### ***Schedule of Meetings for Worship***

Every First Day (Sunday)	10:30 a.m. Homewood Meeting House (downstairs in summer)
Every Tuesday	11:30 a.m. at <u>Sheppard Pratt campus Meeting House</u> (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	<b>Odd months last Sundays (March , 2016)</b> 12:15 p.m.
Hospitality—OPEN	<b>As called</b> ; contact <u>Pat Tracey</u> , 443.846.1036
House & Grounds—OPEN	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays</b> at 7:30 p.m., contact <u>Charlie Neill</u> , 410.323-8504
Indian Affairs—OPEN	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays</b> at 7 p.m. at Stony Run dining room, contact Dellie James, 443) 501-3535
Library—OPEN	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sundays</b> at 9:00 a.m., contact <u>Debbie Kennison</u> , 410.464.1835

Baltimore Quaker Peace & Justice Committee—OPEN	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sundays</b> at 8:45 a.m., alternates between Homewood ( <b>odd months</b> ) & Stony Run.; contact <u>Stan Becker</u> , 410.366.6923
Ministry & Counsel	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays</b> ; contact <u>Ann Walker Kennedy</u> , 410.426.5836
Religious Education—OPEN	<b>Dates vary</b> ; contact <u>Chris Rutkowski</u> , 410.325-9435
Stewardship & Finance	<b>As called</b> ; contact <u>Susan Russell Walters</u> , 410.377.3328
Trustees	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays</b> , Contact <u>Bess Keller</u> , 410. 889-3176

*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](http://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.*

The spiritual life has many sources of nourishment, among them the companionship of other seekers, the pleasures of solitude and silence, keeping faith as we wait for leading, experiencing the confirmation of having followed the leadings we have been given, and times of testing. In each of these, when I know I am being nourished and nurtured, I know something of joy. And there are other times I receive joy--as a gift of serenity, balance, deep happiness, and I know this is good for my spirit now and through the rest of my life.

When we share about the spiritual life, let us not be afraid to say what we know. Let us not, above all, be afraid to share the fact of joy, the gifts of joy. Joy is finally the greatest source of nourishment for the spiritual life, because it is God's greatest gift to us." -

*Paul Lacey, 1995*

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

