

Fifth Month (May) 2016

# Homewood Friends Meeting

## *Newsletter*

3107 North Charles Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21218

Website: [www.homewoodfriends.org](http://www.homewoodfriends.org)

(includes calendar, no password required)

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***Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, The Fifth Query, Personal way of Life:*** Do you live in accordance with your spiritual convictions? Do you seek employment consistent with your beliefs and in service to society? Do you practice simplicity in speech, dress and manner of living, avoiding wasteful consumption? Are you watchful that your possessions do not rule you? Do you strive to be truthful at all times, avoiding judicial oaths?

Do you strive to develop your physical, emotional and mental capacities toward reaching your Divinely given potential? Do you cultivate healthful and moderate habits, avoiding the hazards of drugs, intoxicants, and over-indulgence generally? Do you try to direct such emotions as anger and fear in creative ways?

***Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, Advices for The Fifth Query:***

The individual Friend should lead a life rooted in an awareness of God's presence in all times and places. Although special times and locations may provide helpful reminders of the need for spiritual communion, they cannot take the place of turning daily to God for guidance. The foundation for all our personal life and social relations should be the consciousness of the Holy Spirit.

Sincerity, simplicity and moderation are vital to all the dealings of life. We advise the observance of care in speech and the use of only such statements as convey truth without exaggeration or omission of essential fact. Taking legal oaths implies a double standard of truthfulness and is contrary to the teaching of Jesus.

[...]

Quaker faith welds the beliefs of its Christian foundation with the conviction that the Holy Spirit speaks to men and women and children of all races at all times. It draws individuals into a community of worship and of work for the redemption and improvement of human life. A Friends Meeting should be such a community. It should involve frequent, regular coming together in a common spiritual search, with members sharing experiences and insights, and finding the channels of service to which we are called individually and collectively.

## ***HOMEWOOD EVENTS AND COMMITTEE NEWS***

**HOMEWOOD MEETING** will joyfully welcome transferring Members Phil and Carol Furnas on **First Day, May 15**. Please join us in the Library after Simple Lunch. Carol and Phil have been attending HFM since moving to Baltimore in 2015 from Philadelphia, where they were members of Central Philadelphia Friends Meeting. Carol was an elementary school teacher and Phil an architect before retirement. They look forward to becoming members of HFM and joining its wonderful community, and they are already involved in Meeting activities.

**HOUSE AND GROUNDS WORKDAY: Saturday, May 14.** H&G will have a workday starting at 10 a.m.. We're planning to work in the bed along the south side of the Meeting House; repaint the black iron railings; repair some spindles on the railings around the porch; paint the door to the dining room; and clean the stove in the kitchen. Volunteers will be welcome!

**YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS WELCOME DINNER: Sunday, May 15th @ 6:30 p.m.** Homewood Meeting will convene a gathering of young Baltimore adults—ages 18-35-ish—who are interested in Quakers and/or Homewood. Dinner will be provided. Introductions and chat to follow. RSVPs would be helpful to get a dinner count (but not essential): [sarahbur2@gmail.com](mailto:sarahbur2@gmail.com). Vegan/Vegetarian options will be available.

**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.

**THE FRIDAY VIDEO SERIES:** follows the Peace Vigil and potluck supper on the first Friday of each month, and 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.

**Friday, May 6, *BUBBLE*** [USA, 2006] Steven Soderbergh's film delicately examines the everyday life of three Ohio factory workers. To cast his film, Soderbergh used actual blue-collar workers from the Parkersburg, West Virginia / Belpre, Ohio. We see the desperation of working poverty, in which one works double shifts, stares at the TV, and collapses.

**WICKER BASKET CONTRIBUTIONS IN MAY** will go to the Maryland Food Bank.

*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.

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

**THE WORKING GROUP FOR ART AT HOMEWOOD** asks artists in the Meeting community who want to share their gifts with the Meeting to let it know. The Group is looking for artists of all sorts: ceramists, photographers, dancers, puppeteers, musicians, painters, poets, writers, film makers, weavers, and others. It will collaborate with each artist to design the presentation.

So far the Working Group has exhibited Mibs Pell's' works, and co-sponsored a showing of Exsul Van Helden's film "New Roots". In the near future Noelle Zeltzman will display her paintings and some of her family's art. In the fall the Working Group has a proposal to hold a coffee house once a month to showcase singers, poets, comedians etc.

Talk to Megan Shook 410-419-0099, Phil Furnas, or Jo Brown: The Working Group for Art.

### **GOAT Noat for May: Environmental Victories in the Maryland Assembly**

Ø **Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act (GGRA):Reauthorization (HB610/SB323)**— requires a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. **Governor Hogan signed into law.**

Ø **Clean Energy Jobs Act (HB 1106/SB 921):** increases Maryland's clean electricity standard—wind and solar—to 25% by 2020 and creates a dedicated clean energy jobs and business development program. **Passed the General Assembly by large margins. Urge Governor Hogan to sign into law:** [org.salsalabs.com/o/423/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action\\_KEY=19561](http://org.salsalabs.com/o/423/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=19561)

Ø **Pollinator Protection Act aka Pesticides or “Neonics” bill (HB211/SB198):** requires a warning on plants that have been treated with neonicotinoids (neonics) and doesn't 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. **Passed the General Assembly. Urge Governor Hogan to sign into law:** [sierra.force.com/actions/Maryland?actionId=AR0034950](http://sierra.force.com/actions/Maryland?actionId=AR0034950)

For more information speak with John McKusick, Gary Gillespie, Carol Beck, Kevin-Douglas Olive, or Polly Heninger of the Green Organizing/Action Team (GOAT).

**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. 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.

**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.

**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. Michael Prior will coordinate in May; Susie Higgins in June.

## **FIRST DAY SCHOOL**

**May 1:** Quaker History Lesson

**May 8:** Service Activity

**May 15:** Quaker History Lesson

**May 22:** Art

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

**May 9:** Quaker Book Club: *A Sustainable Life*, by Doug Gwyn

**May 15: Habits of Faith campaign (50,000 Earth-care Actions)**, is a faith-to-action campaign for environmental justice which encourages congregations and their members to perform and record earth-care actions. Through these actions, we demonstrate our commitment to the health of the earth and each other, and establish earth-care as a habit of faith. The campaign is organized by Central Maryland Ecumenical Council (CMEC) and endorsed by the Ecumenical Leaders Group of Maryland. Learn more at <http://www.cmecouncil.org/AwakeArise.html>. Sponsored by Green Organizing Action Team (GOAT).

**THE HOMEWOOD DIRECTORY** is constantly updated; the online version (<https://homewoodfriends.org/member-resources/directory/>) has the latest information that has been provided to the Meeting office. The member/attender password is required to use it (call the office or ask another Homewood Friend). **Printed** directories are produced no more than once per year, using the same information. We anticipate a new edition this summer. Please check your listing and keep the Administrative Coordinator (David Penney) up to date.

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

**CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING (COM)** is scheduled for **Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>** at Patapsco Friends Meeting in Ellicott City. Patapsco Friends have planned a great program that addresses a significant challenge for many of us: **Growing Our Meetings: Inreach, Outreach, and Integrating Newcomers.** This program will feature Discussion Leaders Bob Rhudy, Baltimore Yearly Meeting Interim General Secretary and Josh Wilson from William Penn House. Lunch will be vegan *Mexican Almuerzo*.

Childcare and children's programming will be provided. Please RSVP by 6/3/16 with ages and numbers of children to [Jeanpfeff@gmail.com](mailto:Jeanpfeff@gmail.com). Please let Sarah Bur know if you have items for the Business Meeting.

**KEVIN-DOUGLAS OLIVE** would like to extend an invitation for young Friends to travel to Quebec in summer 2017, with City College students and other students from the Baltimore area. An information meeting will be held at the Meeting House on **Saturday May 14, 2016** at 1 p.m. You do not need to be a French student to go. Tentative trip dates are **June 24-July 2 2017**.

**ANNUAL SESSION IS MOVING!** **Baltimore Yearly Meeting Annual Session** will meet at Hood College in Frederick, MD on **August 1-7**. The 2016 Theme is *Discernment and Action in Spiritual Community*.

In our Quaker communities, discernment provides the spiritual basis for finding the pathways for our service and action. 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.. 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)

Homewood Friends Clerk George Amoss, will present a workshop with Chuck Fager from 2 to 4 p.m. on **Saturday, August 6**. The title is "Quakerism's Basic Theology: The Essence of Christianity? Or Marching Orders for A Chosen People? A Conversation About Contrasting Models."

For registration and information see <http://www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession/ashome.html>

**NEWS FROM FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE (FGC):** Homewood Meeting received a letter recently from the FGC Central Committee, about the status and future of some programs. Friends should know that the traveling ministries, Quaker Quest, New Meetings, and QuakerBridge programs will be laid down, as grants have run out and new funding has not been forthcoming. Couple Enrichment will become a largely independent project. QuakerBooks and Quaker Cloud, however, are prospering, and last summer's FGC Gathering was very well attended. Expectations are high for the 2016 White Privilege Conference. For more details and ways to help, see [www.fgcquaker.org](http://www.fgcquaker.org).

Friends General Conference provides services and resources for individual Friends, meetings, and people interested in the Quaker way. FGC is an association of regional Quaker communities in the U.S. and Canada working together to nurture a vital Quaker faith.

**REGISTRATION FOR BYM CAMPERS IS OPEN!** Registration is open for all campers for Teen Adventure, Shiloh Quaker Camp, Opequon Quaker Camp, and for Catoctin Quaker Camp. Go to the registration pages for full information about dates, schedules, pricing, etc.

**Camp Staff applications** are being accepted now! All returning staff need to log in here and fill out a "Returning Staff 2016" application. We are using a new database this year, and we need to collect updated information for returning staff..

## **BYM SPRING YOUTH EVENTS:**

**Junior Young Friends:** The last JYF con of the year will be **May 13-14<sup>th</sup>** at **Shiloh Quaker Camp**, 4774 Middle River Rd, Stanardsville, VA 22973. Driving directions can be found here: <http://bymcamps.org/programs/shiloh-quaker-camp/#shiloh-directions>. **Note:** this conference will begin at **7 p.m. on Friday evening**, rather than the usual Saturday morning. Pick-up will be between 11 a.m. and 12 noon Sunday.

PACKING LIST: Med form, a sleeping bag, sleeping pad, change of clothes, toiletries, prescribed medication, a swimsuit, towel, flashlight, and clothes /shoes to get dirty.

Please register in advance: [https://bymrsforg.presencehost.net/what\\_we\\_do/jyfs/jyregister.html](https://bymrsforg.presencehost.net/what_we_do/jyfs/jyregister.html). Further communication about carpooling to and from the conference will be sent out after registration.

**Young Friends: May 27-29<sup>th</sup>** is our annual Graduation Conference in which we say goodbye to our beloved seniors. Please don't forget to register in advance so that we can get an accurate head count. The link to register online is: [https://bym-rsforg.presencehost.net/what\\_we\\_do/yfs/yfcon.html](https://bym-rsforg.presencehost.net/what_we_do/yfs/yfcon.html). The conference will tentatively take place at Hopewell Monthly Meeting, 604 Hopewell Road, Clearbrook, VA. However please understand that the location is subject to change. Please arrive around 7 p.m. Friday and prepare to leave at 12 noon Sunday.

**Youth Program Committee:** We will host training for Friendly Adult Presence on **May 7<sup>th</sup>** at Charlottesville Friends Meeting from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 1104 Forest St., Charlottesville, VA 22903. Lunch will not be provided so please bring a bag lunch. I highly encourage you to attend if you haven't been to a conference in a while or would like a refresher. Please let me know if you plan to attend. Even if you can't attend, please spread the word to your respective meetings and worship groups.

**Lastly,** As we prepare for this summer's Annual Session, please keep a look out for more info in the upcoming issues of the Interchange. Annual Session is an opportunity to spend a week with Young Friends alongside the yearly meeting community.

Light & Love,

Jocelyn "Jossie" Dowling; Youth Programs Manager, Baltimore Yearly Meeting  
[youthprograms@bym-rsf.org](mailto:youthprograms@bym-rsf.org) 301-774-7663

I believe there is something in the mind, or in the heart, that shows its approbation when we do right. I give myself this advice: Do not fear truth, let it be so contrary to inclination and feeling. Never give up the search after it: and let me take courage, and try from the bottom of my heart to do that which I believe truth dictates, if it leads me to be a Quaker or not.

*Elizabeth Fry, 1780-1845*

***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 (May , 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
Trustees	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays</b>

*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.*

