

Eleventh Month (November) 2016

Homewood Friends Meeting

Newsletter

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(includes calendar, no password required)

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JOB OPENING AT HOMEWOOD MEETING

Homewood Friends Meeting's Administrative Coordinator will be retiring at the end of this year. We are in search of a qualified individual to fill that position.

The primary function of this part-time position is to facilitate the effective daily operation of the meeting office and to coordinate building maintenance and use. The successful candidate will have a high school diploma, at least some college credits, and three or more years of office management or other relevant experience. The successful candidate will also be able to demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills, a strong work ethic, a history of working effectively with a diverse group of people, the ability to juggle tasks and to work independently in a solitary environment, and computer application skills. Familiarity with the Religious Society of Friends is preferred.

Please share this with anyone who might be interested. To apply, please send a letter of interest describing personal qualifications along with a resume and names of several references to Susan Russell Walters at susan1624@gmail.com. The full job description will be posted on the Homewood Friends Meeting website (<http://homewoodfriends.org/>). We hope to fill this position by the first of 2017.

Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, The Eleventh Query: Education

Do you provide religious education, including study of the Bible and of Friends' history and practices, in your Meeting? Do you ensure that schools under the care of Friends exemplify Friends' principles? Do you support and strive to improve the public schools?

HOMEWOOD MEETING EVENTS AND NOTICES

MEETING FOR BUSINESS on **November 6** will include the first reading of the 2017 budget.

The QUAKER BOOK CLUB is beginning to discuss Our Life is Love by Marcelle Martin on **November 13, 9:15**, downstairs. Please read through page 17. Here is an Amazon link to the book:

https://www.amazon.com/Our-Life-Love-Spiritual-Journey/dp/0997060417/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1473079610&sr=1-1&keywords=our+life+is+love. The FGC bookstore has it as well.

GOAT NOATS: The Green Organizing Action Team will screen Mike Wicklein's ***FRACKING WESTERN MARYLAND***, on **Sunday, November 20**, at 1:00 p.m. in the Homewood Meeting House Dining Room. The film has a particular impact at this point in the Maryland State Legislature's 2016-2017 session. A recent article in the *Frederick News-Post* described this documentary film and the political issues around fracking for natural gas in our region:

Fracking documentary reveals key players in big decision for Maryland

[By Samantha Hogan shogan@newspost.com](mailto:Samantha.Hogan@newspost.com), Sep 15, 2016 [Edited for space]

Independent Documentarian Mike Wicklein, 62, produced "Fracking Western Maryland?" to document the public outcry and legislative response to whether Maryland would allow hydraulic fracturing, commonly known as fracking, in Allegany and Garrett counties. The film was released earlier this year.

"Fracking Western Maryland?" was the first film Wicklein approached as a journalist, and is a primer for residents on the situation in Maryland.

[. . .]

"Very few people are key in how this goes forward," Wicklein said.

Many of those people speak in the film, including General Assembly Democrat Maryland State Senator Joan Carter Conway, who reads the stripped down fracking moratorium bill at the end of the film, and Wendell Beitzel, the Maryland House of Delegates member for the two counties that could be fracked.

However, most of the pro-fracking politicians would not go on record for the film. This included the Garrett County Chamber of Commerce, which changed its stance from pro-fracking to neutral near the end of filming, he said. Wicklein offered to speak with the chamber members again, but they refused.

[. . .]

In researching, Wicklein was surprised to learn that people living in portions of Western Maryland live in a unique media landscape where they do not receive Baltimore newspapers and TV, but rather Pittsburgh. "The people in Garrett County in particular are media orphans to the rest of the state," he said.

Until very recently, Wicklein said he remained unbiased on the fracking question. That changed when he saw the images coming out of North Dakota of the oil and gas industry bulldozing ancient burial grounds, Wicklein said by email. "The images of attack dogs were bad enough to remind me of Selma, Alabama, in the 1960s," Wicklein wrote. "But then the video of the bulldozers plowing through documented burial grounds just told me that the gas and oil industry has no regard for human beings."

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: All programs are at 9:15 a.m., First Day (Sunday).

Experiment with Light will be held in the Library on **Sunday, November 27**; Susan Walters will lead.

FIRST DAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE:

November 6th	New Testament Lesson (by age group)
November 13th	Service Activity (all ages)
November 20th	New Testament Lesson (by age group)
November 27th	Art (all ages)
December 4th	Christmas Play Preparation (all ages)

PEACEABLE CITY: **Peaceable City** is an 11-week, Quaker-led discussion series on the tributaries of violence, and its remedies. We meet each Tuesday, 7-9 pm, at Homewood Friends Meeting, 3107 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, to view and discuss a different TEDTalk video about ways of understanding and reconciling peace and social justice in our city. The series is sponsored by the Homewood Friends Meeting Peace and Social Justice Committee, and facilitated by committee member Jo Brown. All are welcome. Light refreshments are provided.

HOMEWOOD FRIENDS WILL BE THE GUESTS at Stony Run Meeting for **Thanksgiving Day** worship and dinner this year. Worship will begin at 10:30.a.m.

DAVID PENNEY, Homewood Meeting's Administrative Coordinator, will retire on December 31 after serving the Meeting for more than a decade. Please stop by or contact the office to wish him well.

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 their banks to send regular checks. This provides the Meeting with a predictable cash flow.

KEVIN-DOUGLAS OLIVE invites young Friends to travel to Quebec in **summer 2017**, with City College students and other students from the Baltimore area. You do not need to be a French student to go. Tentative trip dates are **June 24-July 2 2017**. Contact kdolive@hotmail.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” and “We Are All One People.” On the **first Friday of each month** a potluck supper and video program follow the vigil.

THE BALTIMORE QUAKER PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE posts occasionally on the Homewood Meeting website:

<http://homewoodfriends.org/member-resources/committees/peace-justice/>.

SIMPLE LUNCH: Everyone is welcome to lunch after Meeting for Worship; there is no charge. Friends are welcome to bring food but please bring enough for everyone. Please sign up on the Bulletin Board in the Dining Room if you can provide Simple Lunch for a month of your choosing.

WICKER BASKET CONTRIBUTIONS IN NOVEMBER will go to **Thread**. Thread weaves a new social fabric by connecting students, university and community-based volunteers, and collaborators, with freshman students at risk of failing to graduate high school. Thread provides committed volunteers who work with the students through high school and for up to six years thereafter. Thread breaks the cycle of crime and poor educational and economic outcomes, replacing it with a new cycle of educational attainment, service, and social well-being. Just this year, 255 students and alumni, 800+ volunteers and 175+ collaborators have spent over 30,000 hours together, building relationships that transcend barriers and enrich the lives of everyone involved. See <https://www.thread.org/>

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>.

OTHER QUAKER EVENTS AND NOTICES

THINKING ABOUT RACE, October 2016 – *Witnessing Whiteness*

“When we say that we do not see another person’s color, what we essentially are saying is that we do not see a person’s racial placement as meaningful... that we do not see the ways that a person of color experiences the world differently than does a white-appearing person. Worse, being colorblind usually means that since we do not see differential experiences, people of color will have to convince us that race continues to matter in their lives....

“In addition to offending people of color and denying and dismissing their experiences, choosing colorblindness also has one glaringly negative ramification for white people. Being colorblind truly keeps us blind, blind to ourselves. Our whiteness, already a rather blurry topic, moves from being uncomfortable and out of focus to being purposefully hidden from ourselves. As we refuse to see the color in someone else’s life, we refuse to see the whiteness in our own.” (pp. 27-28)

From **Witnessing Whiteness: The Need to Talk About Race and How to Do It**, second edition, 2010, by Shelly Tochluk. Tochluk trains educators to work with the diverse Los Angeles school population as an associate professor of education at Mount St. Mary’s College. She led workshops at the 2016 White Privilege Conference in Philadelphia

This column is prepared by the BYM Working Group on Racism (WGR) and sent to the designated liaison at each Monthly and Preparative Meeting. The BYM WGR meets most months on the third Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Locations vary to allow access to more Friends. If you would like to attend, on a regular or a drop-in basis, contact clerk David Etheridge, david.etheridge@verizon.net.

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 al absences, talk with her anyway. Greeters and substitutes work together wonderfully.

SAVE THE DATE: BYM has confirmed the reservation of Camp Catoctin from **April 28 through 30, 2017** for the **Men's Retreat**. Expect an invitation to a planning meeting early next year--Blaine Keener.

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	Odd months last Sundays (November , 2016) 12:15 p.m.
Hospitality—OPEN	As called; contact <u>Pat Tracey</u> , 443.846.1036
House & Grounds—OPEN	1st Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., contact <u>Charlie Neill</u> , 410.323-8504
Indian Affairs—OPEN	3rd Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Stony Run dining room, contact Dellie James, 443) 501-3535
Library—OPEN	1st Sundays at 9:00 a.m., contact <u>Debbie Kennison</u> , 410.464.1835
Baltimore Quaker Peace & Justice Committee—OPEN	4th Sundays at 8:45 a.m., alternates between Homewood (odd months) & Stony Run.; contact <u>Stan Becker</u> , 410.366.6923
Ministry & Counsel	1st Wednesdays; contact <u>Ann Walker Kennedy</u> , 410.426.5836
Religious Education—OPEN	Dates vary;
Trustees	3rd Mondays, contact Bess Keller, 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). Location is at the Meeting House unless noted. Most committees are OPEN to guests; contact the clerk if you'd like to attend.

Our deepest calling is to grow into our own authentic self-hood, whether or not it conforms to some image of who we ought to be. As we do so, we will not only find the joy that every human being seeks--we will also find our path of authentic service in the world.

Parker J. Palmer