

Seventh Month (July) 2019

Homewood Friends Meeting

Newsletter

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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

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 pretrial justice and the elimination of police brutality. Friends are led to oppose capital punishment by our belief in the sanctity of life.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOMEWOOD

HYMN SINGING; Sunday, July 7 (first Sunday), 10:00 - 10:20 a.m. in the meeting room, led by Dave Sydlik. Join us!

MEETING FOR BUSINESS: Sunday, July 7, 12:30 p.m. Childcare is available.

YAF (YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS) POTLUCK: July 7 (first Sunday). Contact Maya Muñoz (301-703-0522) or Dave Sydlik (484-264-8489) for details.

QUAKER BOOK CLUB will resume in September.

POTLUCK LUNCH: Sunday, July 14.

HOLDING IN THE LIGHT PEOPLE TOUCHED BY MURDER IN BALTIMORE: Sunday, July 14, 12:30 - 1:00 in the library. The Meeting for Healing format for the group will continue with 2-3 names of persons and a brief biography given into the silence sequentially in three groups: a) Names of those murdered in Baltimore and we hold family and friends in the Light; b) Names of persons arrested or convicted and in prison for murder; c) Unnamed persons touched by violence in Baltimore. If you have questions, please contact Susan Smith, Cathleen Hanson or Stan Becker.

EXPERIMENT WITH LIGHT: Sunday, July 28 (4th Sunday), 9:15 a.m. in the library, led by Susan Russell Walters.

HIROSHIMA-NAGASAKI COMMEMORATION: On August 6 and 9 from 6-9 p.m., special events are planned, both to reinforce memories of the catastrophes in 1945, when the U.S. dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and to mobilize around banning nuclear weapons. Homewood Friends Meeting, Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility, Prevent Nuclear War/Maryland, and the Baltimore Nonviolence Center will sponsor programs each evening. Three Hibakusha (survivors of the bombing) will be present and talk about what it was like to be there at the time of the bombings. Information will also be shared about on-going anti-nuclear activities, including Back From the Brink Campaign.

Look for more details about meals and speakers in future announcements.



FIRST DAY SCHOOL:

- **ADULTS NEEDED for Summer Activities.** The Religious Education Committee is seeking adults who are willing to meet with children during meeting for worship in the summer (until 9/8) once or twice during the summer. The summer program is very low key and provides an opportunity for an adult to read, play a game, or take a walk with an elementary aged child or children whose parents are in worship. The time period is 10:50 - 11:40 a.m., and then the child or children return to meeting and their parent(s). On some Sundays in the summer there are no children. However, this program enables parents to participate in meeting for worship. If you would like more information or would like to sign up, please see the sign up sheet on the RE bulletin board and/or speak with John McKusick 410-830-9225.
- **WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR A FIRST DAY SCHOOL TEACHER** to use existing curricula to facilitate lessons in Quaker Testimonies, Quaker History, Earth Care, and the Bible for children in grades 1–8. The teacher is responsible for planning, preparing, and teaching 45 minute lessons for this multi-age group of 8 to 10 students for 2 or 3 Sundays per month beginning in September and finishing in June. Compensation: The teacher will earn \$75.00 per session including time for preparation and planning. Time spent in training will also be compensated. For the full announcement and application instructions, contact John McKusick 410-830-9225.

PEACE VIGIL

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 “BLACK LIVES MATTER” and “We Are All One People.”

WICKER BASKET CONTRIBUTIONS: The Wicker Basket recipient for July is **San Diego Rapid Response Network**, which provides for concrete and immediate humanitarian needs arising at the U.S.-Mexico border, including widespread family separation and unlawful deportation of asylum seekers presenting at the Port-of-Entry. For more information, go to <http://www.rapidresponsesd.org/>.

Please pay attention to the silent announcements for more information. *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>.

GREEN ORGANIZING ACTION TEAM:

THERE IS NO “GOAT NOAT” FOR JULY 2019

HOMEWOOD IS ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

Remember that our committees and teams can share with the wider community our events and announcements on Facebook and Instagram!

Additionally, tag Homewood with any Facebook or Instagram posts with relevant things you are doing. We also have a hashtag #HomewoodQuakers.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MEETING are needed and gratefully accepted; they support the maintenance of the Meeting and our contributions to designated service organizations. **PayPal is now available on the Homewood Meeting website.** Look for the word "Donate" in our Website's menu bar, which is near the top of every page. If you prefer to pay by check, it is very helpful for you to make arrangements for your bank to send regular checks. This method provides the Meeting with a predictable cash flow. *Please make checks payable to "Homewood Friends Meeting."*

SIMPLE, SIMPLE LUNCHES are now in effect for the summer, although you are always welcome to contribute food. If you would like to prepare a lunch, sign up on the board in the meeting room.

JOIN A COMMITTEE: Nominating Committee invites you to consider joining a committee; it's a great way to serve the Meeting and to get to know others in the community. Committee descriptions are available on the Homewood website at <https://homewoodfriends.org/member-resources/committees/>. Please contact Carol Beck, Mina Brunyate, or Gary Gillespie for more information.

OTHER QUAKER EVENTS AND NOTICES

MUSIC ON THE LAWN at Little Falls Meeting Saturday, July 13, 2019, 6-8 p.m. at the **meetinghouse**. Performance by Hugh Campbell. Free ice cream and blueberry sauce! Rain or shine.

AT STONY RUN

Programmed Meeting for Worship, Sunday, July 14, from 2 to 4 p.m.: Programmed Quaker Worship in the Kenyan tradition, followed by social time. Everyone is invited to this monthly worship (on the second First Day) with Kenyan Quakers in the Baltimore area. For information, contact Paul Isayi at 240-521-6227.

SINGING FOR EVERYONE: July 14, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Sandy Winters will host. She is at 6350 Red Cedar Place, Apt 214. Bring a copy of *Rise Up Singing* and/or *Rise Again* if you have one.

FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE (FGC) 2019 Gathering: Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA, **June 30 - July 6.** The theme this year is *Peace in Our Hearts, Justice in the World*. Taste the vibrancy and the variety that is available by immersing yourself in this community of Friends for a week. And this year there are **NO program fees for children and teens!** **Registration is open;** Beginning **June 1**, there is a \$60 late fee for all full-time and half-Gathering registrations. Late fees will not be charged for part-time registrations. For more information, go to <https://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering/registration-details>.

ANNUAL SESSION 2019

JULY 29 TO AUGUST 4

HOOD COLLEGE - FREDERICK, MARYLAND

QUAKER TOOLS FOR THE JOURNEY

"We Friends have some precious tools and insights to help create the conditions for peace, stop the destruction of God's natural environment, and enable the growth of a just society...." Patience A. Schenck, *Answering the Call to Heal the World*, Pendle Hill Pamphlet 383, 2017.

Our world can at times seem bleak: corrupted by injustice, division and self-interest. What does our Quaker heritage teach us of resilience and discernment in the face of discouragement? Which tools, forged in Friends' faith and practice, will serve us best to meet today's challenges?

We look back to our Quaker heritage, the deep roots of our faith, for inspiration. We look to history to learn from the practices that gave a few early Friends the strength to effect real change. We also acknowledge that as we celebrate exemplary Friends, our history offers cautionary episodes: dark times when Friends allowed complacency to blind them to the deep wrongs they themselves participated in. We must live with all these examples as we shape our course both individually and corporately.

How has this rich tradition flowered into tools for today? The spiritual paths of early Friends branched out, with turning points and some divergences: we seek to learn from all Friends' practices. Let us find new uses for the tools offered by our testimonies both in our individual lives and in collective endeavors that work for our communities, nation and world. By these means we aspire to serve the challenges of this divided world.

How can our work today plant the seeds that will sustain this work through future challenges we cannot foresee? We recognize that willfulness as well as willingness may play a role in our attempts, but by acknowledging the failings that may slow our progress, we allow our faith to nurture us for the journey ahead. As we "answer that of God" in those we meet along the way, let us foster a wider use of our Quaker tools to build a future of reconciliation and connection.

- What are the "roots" we have grown from?
- What are the "flowers" of our faith and practice?
- What "seeds" have we planted that will nurture us for tomorrow?
- What tools will we need to speak to "that of God" in others?
- What do Quakers bring to these troubled times?

Online registration is now open at <https://www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession/registration.html>. All children 0 through 8th grade are free!

FIRST TIME ATTENDER AWARDS are available
to send three BYM novices to Annual Session 2019
for two days at no cost. If you are interested,
please notify the office or George Amoss.

→ Remember that you can apply for a grant from Trustees to help cover fees. Go to <https://homewoodfriends.org/member-resources/scholarships/>.



AT PENDLE HILL (WALLINGFORD, PA):

Vegan* Chocolate Cake (Yes! It's on the Pendle Hill website!)



CAKE

- 1 ½ cups unsweetened almond milk
- 2 tsp apple cider vinegar
- 1 ¼ cups unsweetened applesauce or mashed banana
- ¼ cup coffee + ¼ cup almond milk
- 2/3 cup melted coconut oil
- 2 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ cups sugar (or adjust to taste)
- 1 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 2 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ¼ tsp salt

FROSTING

- 1 cup vegan butter (softened)
- 2 1/2 – 3 cups powdered sugar
- 2/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- ¼ cup dairy-free semisweet chocolate (melted and slightly cooled)
- 2 tsp pure vanilla extract
- ~1/4 cup unsweetened almond milk

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (176 C) and lightly spray 2 8-inch round cake pans or 1 large rectangular pan with nonstick spray. Dust with cocoa powder, shake out the excess, and set aside.
2. Mix the almond milk and vinegar, and let set for a few minutes to activate. Add the oil+almond milk, coffee, vanilla extract, and applesauce and beat until foamy.
3. Sift the flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking soda, baking powder, and salt together and add to the wet ingredients while mixing. Beat until no large lumps remain.
4. Divide batter evenly between your cake pans or rectangular pan.
5. Bake 25-30 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Let cool completely before frosting.
6. While cooling, prepare frosting by beating together all ingredients until light and fluffy, adding the powdered sugar in small amounts until you reach your desired consistency and sweetness. If it becomes too thick, add more almond milk. If it's too thin, add more cocoa powder or powdered sugar.

Esther Grewe, one of their German kitchen interns, shared the recipe.

*See also “A Vegan Offers Three Reasons for Hope” in the July issue of *Friends Journal*.

Activities abound at Pendle Hill. For a complete list of events, go to <https://pendlehill.org/learn/workshops-courses-events/>.

→ Remember that you can apply for a grant from Trustees to help cover the costs of a weekend. Go to <https://homewoodfriends.org/member-resources/scholarships/>.

Suzanne O'Hatnick of Stony Run Meeting asked that this letter from the **Interfaith Action for Human Rights (IAHR)** be included in our newsletter.

Dear Homewood Friend,

Thanks in part to the support of Homewood Friends Meeting and some of its members, and to Quaker leadership on the board of directors, Interfaith Action for Human Rights has continued in 2018 and 2019 to move Maryland, Virginia and DC forward toward ending shameful and torturous penal practices such as solitary confinement.

I want to bring you up to date on the accomplishments you and others have made possible. By clicking here you will find a summary of IAHR's impact over the last year. As you'll see, we've continued to build on our *legislative success* in Maryland and Virginia, expand our person-to-person *Pen Pal Program*, and *raise public awareness and action against* extensive human rights abuses in our prisons and jails. We have also been able to serve more of the urgent *needs of individuals* trapped in inhumane isolation.

Several IAHR supporters want to assure even greater gains next year by encouraging you to make a generous gift to IAHR. They have committed **to double your impact by matching gifts** up to a total of \$30,000. With these vital additional funds, IAHR will be able to add resources for key legislative initiatives and for protecting the individual rights of those in solitary confinement.

IAHR 2019 MATCHING GIFT INITIATIVE

Find out how to make your contribution – *and have it matched* -- by visiting our website at <https://www.interfaithactionhr.org/donations> or writing us at the address below.

Here is one moving story of someone we were able to help directly: Michael Lawrence.

IAHR issued an appeal asking for messages to be sent to the Virginia Department of Corrections and other officials regarding Michael Lawrence, a man at Red Onion State Prison who has been in solitary confinement for *16 years*. After our appeal, Michael was assaulted by two guards. We followed up with urgent appeals to protect Michael from further retaliation. This led to his transfer to Sussex I State Prison.

Gay Gardner, IAHR Secretary, received this message from Michael: *"By the grace of God and your assistance I was delivered to Sussex I on May 29th! I was so happy I almost cried, but a voice said to me, 'Be thankful and continue to pray to me, and show your gratitude by doing the right thing.' And I am truly thankful to you and all you have done, and by the grace of God, you are to me a Super Human Being and I pray for the best for you, because you are truly one of God's best!"*

We have made good progress. But the need remains great. Please help us by making your new or increased contribution, if you can, at <https://www.interfaithactionhr.org/donations> or write to **Interfaith Action For Human Rights, P.O. Box 55802, Washington, DC 20040**. I give generously and pray you will too.

With warm regards,

Rabbi Charles Feinberg
Executive Director

SHILOH QUAKER CAMP SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

Have you always wanted to learn more about our Camping Program? Would you like an opportunity to live in a Quaker community and provide much needed service to BYM's camping program? Shiloh Quaker Camp, near Hood, VA is in need of volunteers to work and live at camp for a week to help our campers and camp staff by cooking, doing maintenance work, or medical work. You can sign up to fill one of these roles at Shiloh by going to our online registration site: bymcamps.campbrainregistration.com and selecting to register yourself, the volunteer, at the "camp" Shiloh Work Grant. The dates are weekly between June 29 – August 11. You must be 21 and over to do a work grant at camp. Your volunteer work at camp helps offset camp fees for campers in financial need! If you have any questions about volunteering, please contact Jane Megginson, Camping Program Manager, BYM Camps, jane@bymcamps.org or 717-481-4870.

DO YOU HAVE BIRD IDENTIFICATION BOOKS OR BINOCULARS?

We are hoping that campers at the BYM camps will participate in Virginia working landscape's citizen scientists program this summer! We are seeking donations of functional binoculars and bird identification books. If you have binoculars or bird identification books you would like to donate we can put them to good use this summer. Call 301-774-7663 or email campproperty@bym-rsf.org to make arrangements. Thanks in advance for your kindness and generosity.

EMPLOYMENT AT BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Seeks a STRIDE Coordinator

Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) is seeking a Coordinator for its Strengthening Transformative Relationships In Diverse Environments (STRIDE) Program. The STRIDE Program is a volunteer-based program, composed primarily of young adults who have been involved in the BYM camping program and who live in urban communities across the Mid-Atlantic. The program works to actively live out the Quaker values of community and equity by increasing the attendance, participation, ownership, and leadership of people from underrepresented backgrounds at every stage of the BYM camping program. STRIDE Core Groups carry out the work of the program. To date, Core Groups have been active in Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, DC, and Charlottesville. **For the complete job description:** Please visit the BYM web site at www.bym-rsf.org/what_we_do/committees/campdiversity/coordinator.html#job.

QUAKERS AND THE LARGER COMMUNITY

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (AFSC)

Immigrant Families Could Be Barred from Public Housing

By Myrna Martinez Nateras, June 28, 2019

“Tens of thousands of immigrant families could be evicted from public housing, under a proposed rule from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The rule would prohibit “mixed-status” families from living in public and other subsidized housing – one of the latest attacks by the Trump administration on immigrant communities.” ...

“Under existing rules, people who do not have eligible immigration status cannot receive housing subsidies – but can still live with family members who are eligible. The proposed rule would change that policy by barring eligible family members from housing assistance (including public housing and Section 8 vouchers) if they live with a family member who is ineligible.

“A family member does not have to be undocumented to be considered ineligible. HUD could consider immigrants ineligible even if they have legal immigration status, such as Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Deferred Enforced Departure, and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals or have secured visas after surviving serious crimes in the U.S. ...

“The rule would also toughen documentation requirements for U.S. citizens and immigrants who are 62 years or older. If they’re not able to prove their immigration status, millions of citizens and elderly residents could also lose their housing subsidies. ...

“**The public has until July 9 to submit comments on the proposed rule**, which has not been finalized.”

To find out more, go to <https://www.afsc.org/blogs/news-and-commentary/immigrant-families-could-be-barred-public-housing>.

FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION (FWCC)

The Peace Centre Information Hub in Khayelitsha, South Africa

This project opened on 2nd April 2018 and is planned to grow in 3 stages.

The aim is to encourage self-help in every way possible – individually and collectively. The concept is simple. People (especially in the poorest communities) have problems of every kind and very often do not know how to deal with them. The Hub will start as an information center/ advice bureau.

It will develop two databases:

1. Of all support services in both government and civil society
2. Of needs and resources available or required by the community.

The hub, centrally situated in Khayelitsha, has a project manager, a database operator, and community assistance. Staff and contractors are drawn from the community. Their job is to circulate in the township,



advertise the hub-service, find those individuals and communities with problems and guide them to the hub.

The hub will not offer solutions but, using the databases, will be able to guide the applicant to those who can provide it.

Computers are available for those who can use them, for example, for job hunting, information gathering and CV preparation.

More information is available at <https://qpc.org.za/hthe-ncedanani-hub-in-khayelitsha/>

THINKING ABOUT RACE (SUMMER 2019): Quaker Council on European Affairs

From *Race and Privilege in Europe*, published by the Quaker Council on European Affairs (QCEA)

Anti-racism as a spiritual practice (p. 65):

Anti-racism activities will offer our communities opportunities for connection and growth. In her chapter 'Not Somewhere else, but here: the struggle for racial justice as a struggle to inhabit my country' Rebecca Parker imagines anti-racist activism as a spiritual practice that can enable us to reclaim our humanity from a life of "numbness and disengagement." *

This challenge may feel overwhelming, but it is necessary and presents opportunities for growth. We need to unlearn behaviours and assumptions we have as part of a group with privilege. We need to discover seeking racial justice as a spiritual practice.

QCEA Assistant Clerk (vice-chair) and Swiss Quaker Rorie Nazareth says, "It would be interesting to think of the spiritual practice in two ways. One is developing the capacity of self-awareness, as in talking about racism, makes me deeply uncomfortable, defensive, angry, etc. Second is looking at working towards the structures that enforce equality as well as the internal, unconscious biases that drive the attitudes of racism that can persist even when there are laws against it."

**Soul Work: Antiracist Theologies in Dialogue*, edited by Marjorie Bowens-Wheatley and Nancy Palmer Jones, 171-198. Boston: Skinner House, 2003.

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.



Schedule of Meetings for Worship

Every First Day (Sunday)	10:30 a.m. Homewood Meeting House (downstairs in summer)
First Sunday of each month	12:30 p.m. Meeting for Business, Homewood Meeting House
	<u>JULY'S BUSINESS MEETING</u> will be on July 7.

Schedule of Committee and Group Meetings

Administrative	Odd months last Sundays 12:15 p.m.
Green Organizing Action Team (GOAT)-- OPEN	3rd Sundays , 9:15 a.m.; contact <u>TBD</u> .
Hospitality—OPEN	As called ; contact <u>Ned Worth</u> , 443.600.9380
House & Grounds—OPEN	2nd Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., contact <u>Susan Johns Smith</u> , 410.458-1835
Library—OPEN	3rd Sundays , 12:30 p.m.; contact <u>TBD</u> .
Peace & Justice Committee—OPEN	2nd Sundays at 1:00 p.m.; contact <u>Barbara Bezdek</u> , 410.241.1467
Ministry & Counsel	1st Wednesdays ; contact <u>Donna McKusick</u> , 410.426.5836
Religious Education—OPEN	1st Mondays , 7:15 p.m., Meeting House; contact <u>John McKusick</u> , 410.830.9225
Trustees	3rd Tuesdays ; 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 homewoodfriends.org). Location is at the Meeting House unless noted. Committees so marked are OPEN to guests; contact the committee clerk if you'd like to attend.