

Eighth Month (August) 2019

Homewood Friends Meeting

Newsletter

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***Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting*, the Eighth Query: Outreach**

Do you, as the way opens, share Friends' principles with non-Friends? Do you witness to your Quaker faith by letting your life speak? Do you make non-Friends welcome in your meetings for worship? Do you find ways to encourage their continued attendance?

***Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting*, Advices for the Eighth Query**

A. Within the Local Meeting

It is not easy to find community and fellowship in the modern world. Many Friends view relationships within the local Meeting as similar to partial relationships established with people met regularly at work, at play, and in the neighborhood. It is perhaps too much to expect that we all will make the Meeting central to our lives. But unless the Meeting fellowship can be made to speak to something deep in our lives, our Society falls short of fulfilling the true spiritual needs of its members.

Typically Friends come together in meetings for worship from diverse neighborhoods, seeing one another rarely except on First Day or on special occasions. Many Meetings find it helpful to encourage groups to meet in one another's homes for worship, recreation, study or fellowship. Committees provide opportunities for other kinds of relationships within the Meeting. But all too often these contacts fail to satisfy our yearning for community. Sometimes a glimpse of the meaning of community comes as Friends work together in projects of social service, peace education, religious education or pastoral care for fellow members. Each Meeting should have as an active concern before one or more of its standing committees the nurture of the Meeting community in whatever ways may open.

B. Within the Society of Friends

Friends who restrict their experience of the Society to their local Meeting are missing rich experiences of fellowship in the wider community. Quarterly, Half-yearly and Yearly Meetings as well as larger gatherings provide opportunities for Friends of all ages to broaden their experience of the Society and the circle of their spiritually-based friendships. Attendance at such larger Meetings should be seriously considered by each of us as a benefit of membership, an opportunity for spiritual nourishment and a means of widening our community.

Another rich resource within the Society which provides opportunities for fellowship and community is the variety of service committees and action organizations established to further our testimonies. Involvement in these endeavors can help to knit us one to another in common effort. The Society also

sponsors study, conference and retreat opportunities at various centers. Meetings should assist the attendance of members and provide opportunity to share the fruits of such experiences in the local Meeting.

Finally, the Friendly tradition of intervisitation, whether under the weight of specific concern or in the interest of wider Quaker fellowship, should be fostered among our local Meetings.

C. With Other Religious Bodies and Persons

Our belief in that of God in every person requires that we cooperate with other religious bodies. We are aware that we have much to learn from the religious experiences of other groups, Christian and non-Christian. We believe also that we have a rich and unique experience from which we can contribute. The Friends World Committee for Consultation brings us into contact with Quaker groups worldwide, often different from our own in culture, theology or practice. Through Friends United Meeting and Friends General Conference our Yearly Meeting is affiliated with national and international ecumenical movements. In addition, many of our local or area Meetings cooperate in community councils or associations of religious groups. In all these affiliations we make clear that our faith is one of experience rather than one of creed or doctrine. In sharing that experience with persons from other backgrounds through common worship and shared service we enrich our sense of community.

D. With All Humanity

Our belief in the universality of the Inner Light requires us to "walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in everyone" as George Fox urged. No human being is excluded from our sense of community, for we are led by our faith to view human beings as children of God rather than as stereotypes of cultures, nations, or ideologies. It is individual people with whom fellowship must be established, and each Friend must seek in the quiet of worship the personal strength to work at the establishment of community.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOMEWOOD

NO HYMN SINGING on Sunday, August 4. Dave will be out of town.

NO MEETING FOR BUSINESS in August.

YAF (YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS) POTLUCK: Sunday, August 4 (first Sunday). Contact Maya Muñoz (301-703-0522) or Dave Sydlik (484-264-8489) for details.

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.

- **The program in observance of Hiroshima Day, Tuesday August 6,** will feature Michiko Kodama, a Hiroshima survivor. Prior to her talk, we will gather at 34th and N. Charles Streets at 5 p.m. to demonstrate against Johns Hopkins weapons contracts, commemorate the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and celebrate the UN Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty. At 6 p.m. we will march to Homewood Friends Meetinghouse for refreshments and speakers. Max Obuszewski of the Baltimore Nonviolence Center will talk about the Back from the Brink movement, the UN Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty and the call for disinvestment from corporations profiting from nuclear weapons and endless war. Ms. Kodama will share her memories of the devastating event 74 years ago. At 8 p.m. we will adjourn for dinner at 18-8 Sushi, 727 W. 40th St., Suite 138, Baltimore 21211.

- **On Friday August 9**, the day in 1945 when the U.S. dropped a second atomic bomb on Japan, we will join the vigil in front of Homewood Meeting from 5-6 p.m. and then enjoy a potluck in the downstairs dining room. A coffee house style program will feature poetry and music by Baltimore peace activists, and Patrick O'Neill, a member of Plowshares, will dial in from South Carolina to tell about the April 2018 action he took part in at the Kings Bay submarine base.

These events are cosponsored by Homewood Friends Meeting, Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility, Prevent Nuclear War/Maryland and the Baltimore Nonviolence Center.

QUAKER BOOK CLUB (second Sundays) will resume in September.

POTLUCK LUNCH: Sunday, August 11. See the recipes in this newsletter!

HOLDING IN THE LIGHT PEOPLE TOUCHED BY MURDER IN BALTIMORE: Sunday, August 11, 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.



INSQUARE ART - COOL DOWN!: Opening reception of **Water's Edge** is on Sunday August 11, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m., 19 South Stricker Street, Union Square, Baltimore 21223. Eight artists (including Homewood member Jo Brown) explore this essential element and its effect on our lives. Jo says, "I have 9 paintings in this beautiful show, and plan to do an artist's talk later in August-early Sept. (TBA) on peacework & artwork."

EXPERIMENT WITH LIGHT: Sunday, August 25 (4th Sunday), 9:15 a.m. in the library, led by Susan Russell Walters.

MID-WEEK MEETING FOR WORSHIP BEGINS: Ministry and Counsel Committee will offer mid-week meeting for worship every **Thursday at 7 p.m. in the library beginning on September 5.** Meeting will last approximately one hour. On the **2nd Thursday** of the month we will have **Experiment with Light** instead of worship; it may last longer so that we have time for sharing. Please join us!

FIRST DAY SCHOOL:

- **ADULTS STILL 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 (6/9 - 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 meeting for 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 signup sheet on the RE bulletin board and/or speak with John McKusick 410-830-9225.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** First Day School Opening Day will be on **September 15th from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. in the Dining Room.**

The following Minute of Appreciation for Rory Kennison for his work as the Meeting's First Day School teacher during the 2018-19 school year was approved at the July 7 business meeting.

Rory grew up in Homewood Friends Meeting and it was a joy when he agreed to serve as First Day School teacher for our elementary and middle school aged children for the 2018-19 school year. Rory graduated from Haverford College in 2018 and decided that he wanted to pursue a career in education. While still early in his career as an educator, Rory brought with him a wealth of experience in working with and for Quaker youth within Baltimore Yearly Meeting, across the country, and abroad through the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage. During the recent school year, Rory also taught theatre arts to students in the Lillie Mae Carroll Jackson Charter School and developed skills and competencies in urban education. Beginning this summer, he will further hone these skills in the Urban Teachers program at the Johns Hopkins School of Education, which is a residency in the Baltimore schools plus a Master's degree and certification over four years.

During the year, Rory built a community of care among our children through his encouragement of honest and supportive conversations. The Old Testament was the theme for the year. Rory was very effective in helping the students to see that the Old Testament stories had relevance to questions and issues that we wrestle with in modern life. We had eight to ten regular to occasional attenders among the children in First Day School. However, they represent a wide range of ages and Rory was very effective at helping all students feel valued as participants. Both of the year's presentations to the Meeting (the Nativity Story in December and the Story of Joseph in Egypt in June) were largely written by the children, a tribute to Rory's belief in and commitment to nurturing the children's abilities. And we would be remiss not to acknowledge Rory's work with and facilitation of the annual family program

for the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday in January, which engaged not only parents and children but other adults from the Meeting.
For all of Rory's work with our children and service to the Homewood Friends Meeting community, we express our gratitude and extend our best wishes to Rory as he begins a new chapter in his life.

FRIENDLY RECIPES

What to do with summer harvest overload? What to do when you have volunteered for simple lunch? Megan Shook and Susan Johns Smith share some recipes that might answer these questions.

Maryland Summertime Salsa

I heard this recipe on the radio years ago:

1 Big ripe tomato
2 Juicy sweet peaches
1 small onion
1/2 green pepper
1 ear cooked corn, cut off the cob
2 sprigs mint
Old Bay
Chop and season to taste.

-- Megan Shook

Jeanne Newman's Rice con Queso

10 servings

Rice-beans mix - have ready:

2 ½ cups raw brown rice.
cooked, (about 6 cups)
2 – 15.5 oz cans of
cooked black beans;
discard can liquids

2 medium chopped onions, sautéed
in small amount of olive oil
5 cloves minced garlic, added at
end of sauté
Mix in rice and beans and add:
1 small can chopped green chilis
1 ½ teas. salt

In casserole repeat layers of:

1. Rice-beans mix
2. 1 lb. Ricotta cheese, thinned
slightly with milk until spreadable
3. 12 oz. shredded Jack cheese

Topping:

8 oz. shredded cheddar cheese

Optional garnishes:

chopped black olives, chopped
fresh onion, parsley

End with a layer of the rice-beans mix. Bake at 350 F for 30 minutes. During the last few minutes of baking, sprinkle grated cheese over the top. Garnish if desired.

Fits 4-Qt. Casserole or 10" x 15" baking pan.

Adapted from *Diet for a Small Planet*, 1975 edition.

In fond remembrance of Jeanne Newman, who prepared this dish for certain Homewood events.

-- Susan Johns Smith

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 August 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 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 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 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 all checks payable to “Homewood Friends Meeting.”*

SIMPLE, SIMPLE LUNCHES are 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

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING (BYM) ANNUAL SESSION 2019 continues until **August 4** at **Hood College in Frederick, Maryland**. Online registration is closed, but you can bring a paper registration form and register when you arrive on campus. <https://www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession/registration.html>.

CLIMATE UP CLOSE: **Friday, August 9, 7:30 p.m., York Friends Meeting (York, PA).**

Talk face-to-face with this panel of scientists from Climate Up Close. How do we know CO2 increases are human-caused? What are climate scientists highly confident about? What will my children's generation experience? This is a chance to find out. For more information, go to <https://www.climateupclose.org/>

AT STONY RUN

- **Programmed Meeting for Worship, Sunday, August 11, 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.

SAVE THE DATE: HISTORIC SANDY SPRING BUS TOURS, Saturday and Sunday, September 14 and 15. Friends House is sponsoring a series of three historic bus tours starting from the Sandy Spring Friends Meetinghouse at 17715 Meeting House Rd, Sandy Spring, MD 20860 and including stops at:

1. Woodlawn Manor Historical Park
2. Sandy Spring Slave Museum
3. Sandy Spring Museum

Lorne Garrettson will be the tour guide, with additional tour guides at each of the stops. People will gain knowledge of the settlement and history of the town of Sandy Spring; some of the interesting facts about the Quaker meetinghouse and community, the neighboring Lyceum and the graveyard; and the history of slave-holding and some of the activities of the freed slaves.

Each tour will last about 3 hours and will start and end at the Meetinghouse.

Your ticket purchase will benefit Friends House. Tickets are \$40 each. Call 301-924-7510 for information and to order tickets.

Saturday, September 14th 9 a.m.

Saturday, September 14th 1 p.m.

Sunday, September 15th 1 p.m.

PENDLE HILL (WALLINGFORD, PA)

GOOD NEWS FOR THE POOR/OPPRESSED: Monday, August 5, 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. in the Barn. A First Monday lecture by Steven Davison. Liberation from economic oppression—this is how Jesus defined his mission as the Christ, the messiah. Steven Davison explores the economics of redemption in the common-wealth of God—Jesus’ promise of economic liberation, his plan for its fulfillment, and its implications for us today. Steven Davison is a member of Central Philadelphia Meeting. He is the author of the blog “Through the Flaming Sword,” the Pendle Hill Pamphlet *The Gathered Meeting* (PHP #444), a history of Right Sharing of World Resources, and of two books in progress: *The Economics of Redemption in the Common-Wealth of God*, and *Quakers and Capitalism*.

Free and open to the public (registration requested).

Live streaming will be available to registrants.

THE CHALLENGE OF PAUL: Friday, August 16 - Sunday, August 18. A weekend Bible study with Francisco Burgos. Join Francisco Burgos for a weekend devoted to the study of the life and teachings of Saint Paul. This workshop is based on the work of acclaimed Bible scholar and Christian historian John Dominic Crossan. Participants will have an opportunity to explore the historical Paul, his teachings, and his commitment to liberation from all forms of oppression as he followed the Inward Christ. The following themes will be addressed:

- In Search of the Historical Paul
- An Appealing Apostle

- How to Read a Pauline Letter
- The Romanization of a Radical
- Jewish Covenants vs. Roman Empire.

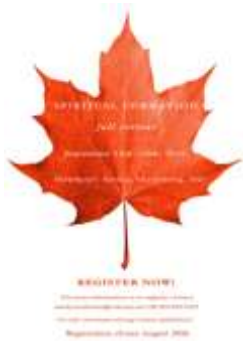
Francisco Burgos, director of education at Pendle Hill, has facilitated spiritual retreats and *lectio divina* sessions for many different audiences. Francisco was a De La Salle Christian Brother for almost 10 years, serving in Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Costa Rica. A Friend since 2004, Francisco is a member of Harrisburg Friends Meeting (PA) and has attended several monthly meetings including Monteverde Friends Meeting in Costa Rica and Adelphi Friends Meeting (MD).

Friday evening through Sunday lunch: \$315/private room; \$275/shared room; \$150/commuter. Fee includes accommodations, meals, materials, and refreshments.

→ 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/>.

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

FALL SPIRITUAL FORMATION RETREAT: September 13 - 15, Shepherd's Spring



(Sharpsburg, MD). The Baltimore Yearly Meeting Spiritual Formation Program invites its participants into a deeper experience of God's presence through retreats, devotional readings, spiritual community and individual spiritual practices. Spiritual Formation provides a practical way for people in our busy culture to turn to God with their hearts through daily spiritual practices, with their minds through spiritual reading, and with their human relationships through local friendship groups. Registration is now open.

Go to www.bym-rsf.org/events/spiritform/ to register now.

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

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)

“Large Banks Feel the Pressure and Divest from Private Prisons”

By Dalit Baum, July 18, 2019

“SunTrust Bank has joined a growing number of large financial institutions and announced it would stop financing private prisons and immigration detention centers operators. This announcement comes from the last of the large financial organizations which have provided credit to both giant prison and detention operators, GEO Group and CoreCivic.

“As investors or clients, activists or managers in institutions, we should all reach out to these and other financial institutions and ask them to join in on the same commitment to withdraw from the private prisons and immigrant detention industries.”

<https://www.afsc.org/blogs/news-and-commentary/large-banks-feel-pressure-and-divest-private-prisons>

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION (FCNL)

August Recess Kickoff Call & Training

This is an opportunity we can't pass up: **Every member of Congress will be home for the entire month of August.** We've heard from congressional offices that one of the most powerful ways to get the attention of a legislator is when constituents "drop-by" local offices to advocate for issues they're passionate about.

On August 1, join us for a lively training call and get the support you need to drop-by your local congressional office. We've set a goal of having 100 advocates do drop-by visits in August -- and we know this community will help us reach it!

During August Recess, FCNL is empowering our grassroots community to take action and drive change. Because when we work together to lift our voices, we can magnify our impact in the halls of Congress. We can't wait to get you prepared for your visits! **To learn more, visit us at fcnl.org/AugustAction.**

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>NO BUSINESS MEETING IN AUGUST.</u>

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>Gary Gillespie</u> , 443.680.1397
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>Dave Sydlik</u> , 484.264.8489
Peace & Justice Committee—OPEN	2nd Sundays at 1:00 p.m.; contact <u>Jo Brown</u> , 717.385.5813
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> , 410.302.3425

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.