

Ninth Month (September) 2019

Homewood Friends Meeting

Newsletter

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Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, the Ninth Query: The Social Order

Do you promote social justice and make your life a testimony to fair dealing? Do you seek to understand and appreciate differing cultures and social values? Do you support fair treatment of all regardless of race, gender, age and other differences? Are you concerned for those in our society who are disadvantaged? Do you take your full share of civic responsibility by voting and giving service? Do you oppose the use of land, labor, technology and capital for human exploitation or in ways destructive to other living things?

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

Civic Responsibility

Friends believe that the aim of government is to preserve a community in which justice, peace, good order and individual development are possible. Members of our Society are also citizens of the community and the nation. Quakerism is not intended to be a refuge from the disturbing events of our times, but rather a source of strength and support in facing them. The free institutions under which we live give many of our members a direct share in the responsibilities of government and in forming a healthy public opinion. ...

Whether or not directly involved in government, we need to consider carefully our responsibilities in influencing legislation and educating fellow citizens on public issues. Friends should work with people in other churches and in the community to bring about desirable ends through the institutional resources of society.

From the beginning, Friends have found that loyalty to God results at times in refusal of the demands of the state, as in opposition to war and unjust laws, and have supported decisions of conscience taken by individual Friends. Before deciding on a course which involves civil disobedience, a Friend should consult with persons of trusted judgment who have sympathy with the individual's sense of duty. Clearness committees within the Meeting are valuable in such situations.

Vocational and Financial Decisions

The relationships, decisions, and actions of our working lives should reflect a calling to the service of God. Our witness will be unconvincing unless we seek and heed Divine guidance. Individual leadings vary with differences in talents and interests. Each Friend's talents, however, should be fully used.

Investment of assets and consumption of resources require our careful stewardship. As Friends we can direct our investments toward socially desirable ends, avoiding speculation and activities wasteful or harmful to others. We seek to participate constructively and without greed in the economic life of the community. We should refrain from undue accumulation of wealth as well as irresponsible borrowing.

Friends' Meetings and concerns require money and time. Non-pastoral Meetings do not need as much financial support as churches with paid ministers, but our concerns do call for considerable funding. We are required to give generously of our time, since our way of serving the Spirit depends on our personal efforts. For every Friend, the responsibility to give generously of both money and time is real. Monthly Meetings should provide regular opportunities for us to discuss our practices in the use of money and time. Wills should be made and periodically revised with care. This avoids difficulties for heirs and beneficiaries. The needs of our own family members and the merits of contributions to worthy causes should be considered in a spirit of love. Selection of a capable and understanding executor is encouraged.

Social Responsibility

The basic Quaker trust in the Light within leads to our trust in the inherent dignity and sacredness of each person. This trust, combined with our Society's own history of persecution, underlies our social witness.

Some concerns which once drew the witness of Friends are obsolete today, but still we have many challenges. War, violence in streets and homes, injustice in the justice system, prejudice and discrimination, the plights of starving, homeless and disadvantaged people, and business conduct which involves exploitation of people or nature's resources all these still call us to action in obedience to the Spirit.

TRUSTEES FUNDING TO ATTEND QUAKER EVENTS

Trustees Committee has funds to support children and adults who would like to attend Quaker gatherings, camps, and educational institutions. Members and regular attenders may apply at any time, and may be given at maximum one grant per calendar year. These funds are intended to supplement resources available to the participant from other sources. For more information and for the application form, please see our website page: <https://homewoodfriends.org/member-resources/scholarship>.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOMEWOOD

HYMN SINGING: Sunday, September 1 (first Sunday), 10:00 - 10:20 a.m. in the meeting room, led by Dave Sydlik. Join us!

MEETING FOR BUSINESS: Sunday, September 1, 12:30 p.m. Childcare is available.

YAF (YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS) POTLUCK: September 1 (first Sunday). Contact Maya Muñoz (301-703-0522) or Dave Sydlik (484-264-8489) for details.

MID-WEEK MEETING FOR WORSHIP BEGINS on SEPT. 5: Ministry and Counsel Committee will offer mid-week meeting for worship **every Thursday at 7 p.m.** in the library. 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!

QUAKER BOOK CLUB (second Sunday): September 8, 9:15 a.m. in the dining room. Quaker Book Club will start again on September 8th at 9:15 downstairs with Donna McKusick and Kathryn Munnell as co-leaders. We are currently taking suggestions for books, pamphlets, or readings. In about a week we will send out a few titles and ask people who have regularly attended or those who plan to attend book club to express their preferences. If you would like to be on the Quaker Book Club mailing list, please send Donna McKusick a note a dmckusick@icloud.com.

POTLUCK LUNCH (second Sunday): Sunday, September 8.

HOLDING IN THE LIGHT PEOPLE TOUCHED BY MURDER IN BALTIMORE: Sunday, September 8 (second Sunday), 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, September 22 (4th Sunday), 9:15 a.m. in the library, led by Susan Russell Walters.

GARDEN CELEBRATION AND GREEN RESOURCE FAIR! Sunday, September 22, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. in the garden! Join us (GOAT) for a celebration of our newly planted garden of native plants designed to be bird and pollinator-friendly. Several of our partners in this work will be here, including the Chesapeake Bay Trust, Blue Water Baltimore, the Patterson Park Audubon Center, Interfaith Power and Light, and the One Water Partnership. We will share information about gardening for the environment and upcoming workshops at Homewood. Our garden is the most recent and visible part of Homewood's ongoing commitment to living our faith as a green congregation.



FIRST DAY SCHOOL:

- **ADULTS NEEDED on September 1 and 8.** 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 sign up on the RE bulletin board and/or speak with John McKusick 410-830-9225.

- **FIRST DAY SCHOOL OPENING DAY: September 15 from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. in the Dining Room.** All are welcome!
- **WELCOME TO OUR NEW FIRST DAY SCHOOL TEACHER!** The Religious Education Committee is pleased to announce that Maddie Doll, a member of Stony Run Friends Meeting, will serve as the First Day School Teacher for our children in grades 1 - 8. Maddie is a junior at UMBC, majoring in Psychology and Social Work, and will replace Rory Kennison who is starting graduate school. Maddie has been involved in the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Camping Program as a camper, counselor, instructor and leader for many years. She also served as Clerk of the Young Friends while in high school. The Committee believes that Maddie will build strong relationships with the children and be a great facilitator of the curriculum which focuses this year on the Quaker Testimonies. Maddie will be introduced to the children and families at the Opening Day of First Day School on September 15th at 10:30 a.m. in the dining room.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: Sunday, September 29, 12:15 p.m.

ROSETTA GRAHAM AND JO BROWN at the joyous and well-attended welcoming for Jo, held at Rosetta's home, Heritage Run, on August 10. Photo by Bess Keller.



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 September continues to be **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, you can 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 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 Hospitality easel if you can provide simple lunch for a day of your choosing. Instructions are right there!

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

INTERFAITH ACTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ANNUAL EVENT: **September 4, 5:00 p.m. at Adas Israel Congregation, 2850 Quebec Street, NW, Washington, DC 20040.** Interfaith Action for Human Rights (IAHR) is hosting its **inaugural annual event** - an opportunity to meet other IAHR supporters, enjoy good food and drink and hear remarks from MD 8th Congressional District Congressman Jamie Raskin. For more information about the work of IAHR, go to www.interfaithactionhr.org.

To RSVP, go to www.interfaithactionhr.org/human_rights_at_the_prison_door. The RSVP deadline is **August 26**. Free parking is available next door, first come, first served. There is also free street parking.

HISTORIC SANDY SPRING BUS TOURS

Saturday and Sunday, September 14 and 15.

Friends House is sponsoring a series of three historic bus tours in September. These tours will start and end at the Sandy Spring Friends Meetinghouse at 17715 Meeting House Rd, Sandy Spring, MD 20860 and will include stops at Woodlawn Manor Historical Park, the Sandy Spring Slave Museum, and the Sandy Spring Museum.

Lorne Garrettson, who is very knowledgeable about the history of this area, will be the tour guide, with additional tour guides at each of the stops.

People will gain an understanding of the settlement and history of the town of Sandy Spring; some of the interesting facts about the Quaker Meeting House and community, the neighboring Lyceum and the graveyard; and the history of slave-holding in the Sandy Spring area, along with some of the activities of those who were freed.

Each of the tours will be about 3 hours in length. Income from these tours will benefit Friends House. Two seats accessible for wheelchairs are available for each tour.

Dates and Times:

Saturday, September 14th 9 a.m.

Saturday, September 14th 1 p.m.

Sunday, September 15th 1 p.m.

Tickets are \$40 apiece and are available online. The link for ordering tickets:

<http://www.friendshouse.com/lifestyle/events/>. For more information, call Anne Derby at 301-924-7510.

FAMILY CAMP WEEKEND: September 20 – 22, Shiloh Quaker Camp (Hood, VA).

Family Camp Weekends at Baltimore Yearly Meeting Camp Properties offer us all a chance to enjoy our beautiful camp properties. Individuals and families are invited to enjoy the camps for a day or for the weekend. There will also be plenty of work projects, which offer people with all kinds of skills the opportunity to enjoy some meaningful and satisfying service. We will savor meals together, have time to explore and even spend time around a camp fire in the evening. We invite you to join us for a BYM Quaker Camp experience, give the gift of your time, participate with children in activities and find yourself rejuvenated. Participants are asked to contribute according to their ability – \$25-50 per person. To register please contact David Hunter, Camp Property Manager (301-774-7663 or davidhunter@bym-rsf.org). For more information, see the BYM Camps web-site at bymcamps.org/programs/family-camp-weekends/.

WEST VIRGINIA FRIENDS FALL GATHERING, September 20 – 22, Bishop Hodges Pastoral Center (Huttonsville, WV). Monongalia Friends Monthly Meeting invites you and your friends to join us for the 2019 West Virginia Friends Fall Gathering. Our theme is *Finding and Creating Peace in a Chaotic World*. All are welcome! Registrations are due no later than **August 31st**. For more information, including the registration form, contact Lois Harder (lcharder@gmail.com). We will have the usual book and video exchange, and we welcome healthy snacks.

YOUNG FRIENDS CONFERENCE, September 27 – 29, location to be announced.

Young Friends should plan to begin arriving at 7:00 p.m. on Friday. For information, check the Young Friends website (www.bym-rsf.org/what_we_do/yfs/yfcon.html) or contact Jocelyn Dowling (301-774-7663). **Remember that the deadline to register at the discounted rate and be guaranteed a slot is two weeks before the conference (September 13).** Anyone registering after that date may be placed on a waiting list.

CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING, September 29, Sandy Spring Friends Meeting

(Sandy Spring, MD). Join Friends from across Chesapeake Quarter for their program titled *Nurturing the Children in our Meetings: managing our shrinking First Day Schools, and the potential for future growth*. Join us as we examine the current state of our first day schools and hear what is working best in other meetings. Help us consider new ways to reach out to parents and families.

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY:

9:00 a.m.	ARRIVAL, SIGN IN, COFFEE
9:30 a.m.	MEETING FOR BUSINESS: REPORT FROM WORKING GROUP ON QUAKER VOICE IN MARYLAND
11:00 a.m.	MEETING FOR WORSHIP
NOON	LUNCH
1:15 p.m.	PROGRAM: NURTURING THE CHILDREN IN OUR MEETINGS
2:45 p.m.	DAY ENDS



AT STONY RUN

- **Programmed Meeting for Worship, Sunday, September 8, 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 Gilbert Imbayi at gilbert.imbayi@gmail.com.
- **Annual Stony Run Concert. September 21, 7:30 p.m.** Don't miss Stony Run's 2019 concert! This year we'll be entertained by the Nico Sarbanes Quartet. Tickets are \$25 at the door or \$20 in advance (\$10 for kids 12 and younger), which includes a festive sweet & savory reception after the concert. Tickets can be purchased in advance at www.stonyrunfriends.org (click on Concert Registration) or by check to Stony Run Friends Meeting.

PENDLE HILL (WALLINGFORD, PA)

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

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

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 ends on August 28.** Go to www.bym-rsf.org/events/spiritform/ to register now.

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

QUAKERS AND THE LARGER COMMUNITY

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION (FCNL)

**Working Together to End Gun Violence: Meet Advocacy Corps Organizers and Take Action
September 3, 2019 at 8:00 p.m. EDT | Video Conference**

In response to recent mass shootings and the pain that has swept our communities once again, young people are raising their voices and taking a stand against gun violence. You can join this movement! Over the next ten months, FCNL's Advocacy Corps members are organizing in their communities to end gun violence. Join us on Tuesday, September 3, for a special video conversation: Meet some of our organizers, listen to their stories, and hear more about what they learned about effectively advocating against gun violence.... We will close with a call to action and offer steps you can take right now to end gun violence. To register, go to https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_R_R5X5PwRJGtRqyBvwVc9A.

Witness Wednesdays continue at the Quaker Welcome Center in Washington, DC. The schedule is available at <https://act.fcnl.org/event/quaker-welcome-center/search/?zip=20002>.

FRIENDS UNITED MEETING (FUM)

Amari Play Center

In 1974, Violet Zaru, a Palestinian Quaker, founded a preschool in the Amari Refugee Camp near Ramallah, to help address the lack of early childhood resources in the camp, and the need for refugee children to receive trauma healing support in a safe and loving environment. Today, the Amari Play Center works with 40-50 children per year, with three dedicated and qualified staff. FUM partners with Friends World Committee's European and Middle East Section and Palestinian Appeal to sponsor the Play Center.



More information about the Amari Play Center is available on the Friends World Committee (FWCC) for Consultation site: <https://www.fwccemes.org/emes/amari-play-centre>.

THINKING ABOUT RACE (SEPTEMBER 2019): “A solution for white people”

“... There’s no need to explain to people of color the ways that racism shapes their lives. Instead, real remedies require a frank discussion with people who perpetrate racism and who benefit from racist policies.

“Here’s a solution for white people: Don’t answer questions on race by listing the struggles of people of color. Talk about what you can or will do to decrease support for white nationalism among whites.”

From an op-ed in *The New York Times*, August 1, 2019, by Dr. Melanye Price, a political scientist who specializes in contemporary black politics, political opinion, and political rhetoric.

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

BUSINESS MEETING: SEPTEMBER 1.

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> , 410.889.3176

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.