

Tenth Month (October) 2020

# Homewood Friends Meeting

## *Newsletter*

3107 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21218

Website: [www.homewoodfriends.org](http://www.homewoodfriends.org)  
(includes calendar, no password required)

Phone: 410.235.4438

Email: [homewoodfriends@gmail.com](mailto:homewoodfriends@gmail.com)

Clerk: Sarah Bur

Assistant Clerk: Kathryn Munnell

Newsletter Editor: Mina Brunyate

### ***Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, the Tenth Query: The Peace Testimony***

Do you endeavor to live "in virtue of that life and power which takes away the occasion of all wars"? Do you work to make your peace testimony a reality in your life and in your world? Do you weigh your day-to-day activities for their effect on peace-keeping, conflict resolution and the elimination of violence? Are you working toward eliminating aggression at all levels, from the personal to the international?

### ***Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, Advices for the Tenth Query:***

Since their beginnings over 300 years ago, Friends have been led by their commitment to the ideal of peace to renounce wars and violence, as in the declaration made to Charles II by George Fox and other Friends on November 21, 1660:

*We...utterly...deny all outward wars and strife and fightings with outward weapons, for any end or under any pretense whatsoever. And this is our testimony to the whole world. ... The spirit of Christ, by which we are guided, is not changeable, so as to once command us from a thing as evil and again to move unto it; and we do certainly know, and so testify to the world, that the Spirit of Christ which leads us into all Truth will never move us to fight and war against any man with outward weapons, neither for the kingdom of Christ, nor for any kingdoms of this world. (George Fox, 1660)*

God's law of love, as taught and lived by Jesus Christ, applies to all the levels of society. Wars break the law of love as do violence in communities and families and fighting between individuals. Friends have a settled intention to practice love and to make peace.

As peacemakers we hold that attitudes of justice and compassion are basic. A peacemaker must be able to identify with others. Peace cannot be attained at the expense of others. "Do to others as you would be done by" is indeed a Golden Rule.

We are called as peacemakers to deal with the violence and aggression within ourselves, to find ways of living in harmony with ourselves and neighbors. A simple life style is useful in this connection, since the pursuit of excessive material wealth or power entails competition and exploitation of others. As John Woolman urged, "May we look upon our treasures, the furniture of our houses and our garments 2 and try whether the seeds of war have nourishment in these our possessions." The development of inward peace is part of the process of making outward peace.

Friends need to wage peace boldly and positively. The promotion of peaceful methods of conflict resolution, of international exchanges, of peace education and research, of world law and world-wide standards of human rights all are positive ways.

One important aspect of our peace witness is refusal to serve in the military or in activities contributing to military preparedness. Friends who face the draft or registration for it should consider prayerfully their alternatives. Their Meetings should stand ready to counsel and support them. Friends of all ages may witness by acts ranging from refusal to pay war taxes to non-participation in war-related work to demonstrations and other public witness. All should be aware of the tragic consequences of indifference, timidity and procrastination.

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### ***UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOMEWOOD***

**PLEASE NOTE:** Most of our regularly scheduled activities are meeting on Zoom until further notice. For more information about accessing Zoom, please go to the homepage on our website at [www.homewoodfriends.org](http://www.homewoodfriends.org). **Please see the list of new Zoom URLs and phone numbers for regularly scheduled groups at the end of the newsletter.**

**MEETING FOR WORSHIP:** every Sunday, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. on Zoom.

**SOCIAL TIME AFTER WORSHIP:** every Sunday after worship, 11:30 a.m. on Zoom. The Outreach Team invites you to catch up with f/Friends in an informal Zoom gathering every Sunday after meeting. The Zoom URL is the same as for meeting for worship, so you can just stay online or, if you missed meeting, you can join us.

**MID-WEEK MEETING FOR WORSHIP:** Our Ministry and Counsel Committee continues to offer **Experiment with Light every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.** Please join us for this more intimate form of worship.

**FRIDAY PEACE VIGILS CONTINUE:** 5:00 p.m. Fridays in front of the meetinghouse.  
**6 p.m.:** Information and resource sharing on meetinghouse steps. Physical distancing applies. Wear your mask.

**MEETING FOR BUSINESS:** Sunday, October 4, 12:30 p.m. via Zoom.

**YAF (YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS) GATHERING** (first Sunday): October 4 on Zoom. Contact Maya Muñoz (301-703-0522) for details.

**EXPLORATIONS INTO QUAKER FAITH AND PRACTICE CONTINUES:** Quakers throughout history have published faith and practice documents to guide Friends. Our member George Amoss has published a version of Faith and Practice based on the writings of early Friends. This 4-session workshop will provide an opportunity to read and discuss George's text and explore its message in light of our own experience with Friends Meeting. It is hoped that these discussions will deepen our

understanding of the Quaker endeavor and build relationships with each other. The text is available at: <https://postmodernquaker.wordpress.com/faith-practice-home-page/>.

Each session will be held via ZOOM on **Mondays from 7-8:30 PM. Two sessions remain:**

**Monday, 10/5:** Session 3. Meeting for Worship & Vocal Ministry

**Monday, 10/12:** Session 4. Meeting for Business & The Meeting as Caring Community & The Use and Nurture of Gifts

**Facilitators:** George Amoss & Sarah Bur

Registration: It is requested that you register for the Exploration series at this link

<https://forms.gle/dR7owQu5oeGHZwGH7> . The ZOOM link will be sent to you.

**QUAKER BOOK CLUB (second Sunday): October 11, 9:15 a.m. on Zoom.** We will continue discussing *Answering the Call to Heal the World* by Patience A. Schenck. We will discuss the section "Barriers to Faithfulness," which begins on page 22. For a PDF of the pamphlet, please contact Donna McKusick at [dmckusick@icloud.com](mailto:dmckusick@icloud.com).

If you would like to be on the Quaker Book Club mailing list, please send Donna a note.

**HOLDING IN THE LIGHT PEOPLE TOUCHED BY MURDER IN BALTIMORE (second Sunday): October 11, 12:30 - 1:00 on Zoom.** 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 (fourth Sunday): October 25, 9:15 a.m. on Zoom,** led by Susan Russell Walters.

### **FIRST DAY SCHOOL:**

#### **Opening Day for First Day School**

The First Day School Opening Day was held in Homewood Garden on September 27th. The day was a bit wet and partly overcast, but this did not deter ten children and five parents from attending. Under the guidance of our teacher, Maddie Doll, most of the kids participated in a crazy colorful project to make tie dye shirts, face masks, and other articles. The kids went home with useful and beautiful articles that will remind them of Homewood and be part of their wardrobe. We held a meeting for parents while the children worked on the dyeing project. The Religious Education Committee got some excellent ideas to use in putting together the program for 2020-2021.

Religious Education (RE) is trying to make "lemonade out of lemons" this fall with the program. We will use outdoor spaces as much as we can to gather safely and supplement these gatherings with virtual meetings as well as good, old fashioned communication modalities e.g., a pen pal project. Our theme for the year is the "Life and Teachings of Jesus". We welcome anyone who has taught children about the New Testament to share their experiences and insights with us. Feel free to contact John Mckusick, the clerk of RE, at [john.ca.mckusick@verizon.net](mailto:john.ca.mckusick@verizon.net).

--John McKusick

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## **WORKING FOR CHANGE: RACIAL EQUITY AT HOMEWOOD**

Several months ago, Homewood appointed a small core committee, the Change Group, to help the Meeting become more welcoming and inclusive to people of color. Thus far, we have had one workshop facilitated by Khalila Lomax of Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM). We have discussed at a meeting for worship with a concern for business the Declaration of BYM as an Anti-Racist Organization and have asked members to consider the following queries when making decisions about policies and practices at Homewood:

1. How could this decision affect those who have been harmed by racist behavior?
2. To what degree have privilege, class, stereotypes, assumptions, and our ability to include other perspectives affected this decision? Will this decision promote equity, diversity, and inclusiveness? Will it enable us to be more friendly and whole?
3. How will we provide opportunities for those most likely to be directly affected by our decision to influence that decision?
4. How does this decision support the declaration of our Yearly Meeting that we are an anti-racist faith community?

To help infuse anti-racist attitudes and actions at Homewood, we have extended an invitation to all members to join a larger group of advocates called the Second Circle of Change.

Individuals on this group will do the following:

- Help the Meeting become more inclusive by vetting decisions against the Anti-Racist Declaration Queries.
- Assist committees in auditing policies and practices to insure equity.
- Listen to the needs of members concerning racial equity and convey them back to the Change Group.
- Be an active advocate for equity at HFM by publicizing and participating in activities.

Members of the Second Circle are invited but not required to attend bi-monthly Change Group Meetings. We will identify other ways of connecting with Zoom-weary change advocates. If you are interested in being part of the Second Circle, send an email to the Change Group convener, Donna McKusick at [dmckusick@icloud.com](mailto:dmckusick@icloud.com).

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**OUTDOOR WORSHIP AT BURIAL GROUND** will resume in the spring.

**WICKER BASKET CONTRIBUTIONS:** The Wicker Basket recipient for the upcoming weeks is CARES. The following items are needed: **spaghetti sauce, hearty soups, canned vegetables, and shopping bags.** Drop off times are Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 9:00 a.m.- noon, and Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. CARES is located at the rear of St. Mary's Church, 5502 York Rd, 21212. Checks are also very welcome.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MEETING** are needed and gratefully accepted, particularly during these difficult times when our rental income has disappeared. Contributions 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."*

## **GREEN ORGANIZING ACTION TEAM:**

### **“GOAT NOAT” FOR OCTOBER 2020**

#### **Mutual Aid for Recycling in Baltimore City**

For those who have not seen, Baltimore City has suspended curbside collection of recyclables until Nov. 1. Baltimore’s Department of Public Works (DPW) said the move was necessary because of the additional volume of waste being generated since the pandemic struck combined with the absence of workers, either from COVID-19 or from fear of being exposed to it. Baltimore City residents have the option of taking their recyclables to one of 18 collection locations around the city until curbside recycling begins again.

The change has led some residents to question the program anew, asking whether the paper, plastic, aluminum, and glass from household consumption put out for collection -- or now taken to a drop-off location -- really does get recycled. Acting DPW Director Garbak in a written statement said unequivocally yes. Waste Management Corporation holds the contract with the city for sorting the mixed recyclables and sells the materials.

Garbak reminds residents that recyclable materials with food in them and plastic bags cannot be recycled. Plastic bags shut the system down. For more information, go to

<https://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/collectionupdatereallydidgetrecycled>.

GOAT would like to hear from anyone who is having difficulty taking their recyclables to a drop-off center. We can pair you with someone who is making regular trips or simply take your recyclables to a drop-off location for you. Please contact John McKusick at 410-830-9225 or

[john.ca.mckusick@verizon.net](mailto:john.ca.mckusick@verizon.net).

”Above all, don’t throw things away if they can be recycled or reused by others; waste is never a simple solution to any problem, it just moves the problem Elsewhere” (Ray Lovegrove [AKA “Hay Quaker”] from the blog “A Plain and Simple Place”).

--Bess Keller

#### **Preparing the Homewood Garden for Winter**

Homewood’s native plant garden is now in its late summer/early fall glory. But soon it will be time to do a bit of clean up in the garden in preparation for winter. ***If you would like to help, please be on the lookout for information from Gary Gillespie about a couple of dates for weeding, pruning, and mulching.***

And how about getting *your* garden in order? Are you hoping that doing less work might be better for your garden? Well, just maybe that is true. You might enjoy reading this article from the Audubon Society about how going easy on fall yard work might be better for the birds in your neighborhood:

<https://www.audubon.org/news/to-help-birds-winter-go-easy-fall-yard-work> .

--John McKusick

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Current GOAT members are Carol Beck, Stan Becker, Gary Gillespie (clerk), Polly Heninger, Bess Keller, John McKusick, and Rachael Neill. GOAT is an open committee that meets monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the Library (presently on Zoom). We would love to hear your questions, concerns, and ideas.

## **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.

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

**QUAKER VOICE OF MARYLAND**, as they say on their website, “seeks to bring Maryland Friends together to advocate for state-wide policy. We are currently seeking input from Friends across Maryland to prepare for the 2021 General Assembly. If you would like to contribute please complete our input form by **October 4th, 2020**. Our form can be completed two ways - either using the online form or printing the form and mailing it to a Working Group member.” For more information, go to <https://www.quakervoice.md.org/>.

### **INVESTING OUR GIFTS: Saturday, October 3, 2020, 1:00 - 3:00 pm, via Zoom.**

In a time when the world’s desperate needs demand our attention and energy, it is more important than ever to understand how our gifts intersect with need and discover new ways to invest our talents/gifts and feel empowered to act. A deeper understanding of our own strengths and an appreciation of others’ gifts creates the possibility of grounded, centered action.

This workshop will use storytelling, poetry, video, journaling and small-group discussion to explore our gifts and help us more consciously create the beloved community - in our families, communities and the world. Join us for this joyful exploration.

#### **Workshop facilitators:**

**Martha Baer** is Clerk of Annapolis Friend Meeting.

**Nancy Jo Steetle** is a member of Annapolis Friends Meeting and has been a Life Coach for over 20 years.

#### **Please register in advance for this meeting:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUzf-CsrTMpH922Zqy4VEdt\\_ntcUh1ExVdK](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUzf-CsrTMpH922Zqy4VEdt_ntcUh1ExVdK)

Don't worry - you can cancel at any time, if needed.

We plan to e-mail workshop materials to registrants a day or so before the workshop

Questions? Please get in touch with Sabrina McCarthy, [sabrina.mccarthy@verizon.net](mailto:sabrina.mccarthy@verizon.net), cell 240-778-5234.

**CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING** is on hiatus.

### **AT STONY RUN:**

**Mark G. Meadows & The Movement concert: Saturday, October 24, 7:30 p.m. in the comfort of your home via Zoom.** 2020 Jazz concert featuring a musician on a mission to create a unifying sound that breaks through social barriers. **While tickets are free, donations to Stony Run for the benefit of United Efforts are gratefully accepted.** To register, go to <http://www.stonyrunfriends.org/srcms/concert>.





You can find this wonderful photo and information about Mark Meadows at <https://www.markgmeadows.com/about>.

### **AT PENDLE HILL:**

**Spirits in Darkness: Black Women’s Virtual Writing Workshop, Oct. 19-23, 2020, gathering three times daily Monday-Friday (see below).**

With K. Melchor Quick Hall, Joanne Daley, and Danie "Ocean" Jackson via Zoom.

The “Spirits in Darkness” Black Women’s Virtual Writing Workshop honors the spirit of Black women writers – past, present, and future – who guide our various writing projects, from songs to grant applications. We are looking to connect across genre to the written text, the spoken word, and the body’s language. Although this trio of facilitators brings a range of skills, Melchor is a university professor and the author of an academic manuscript, Danie is a singer-songwriter and life coach, and Joanne is a bodyworker and healer. This workshop aims for a well-rounded exploration of the legacies, dedications, texts, sounds, and bodily manifestations of Black women’s writing. We hope that you will join us!

This program will be online via Zoom and will follow this daily schedule:

11am – 12noon EST (8am – 9am PST): Writing Goals & Intentions with Melchor

3pm – 4pm EST (12noon – 1pm PST): Body Check & Alignment with Joanne

7pm – 8pm EST (4pm – 5pm PST): Open Mic Readings & Song with Danie

For more information and to register, go to <https://pendlehill.org/events/spirits-in-darkness-black-womens-virtual-writing-workshop/>.

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**What Happens Wednesday? Preparing Ourselves for the Work Ahead, Nov. 2, 2020, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. via Zoom. A First Monday Lecture with Eileen Flanagan.**

Whoever wins the presidential election, whether or not the result is contested, we know there will be much work to be done. How do we prepare when we don’t know what is coming? We will explore the different possibilities and ground ourselves in what we do know – about what it will take to create a

more just, sustainable, and loving world, as well as Quaker practices that keep us grounded and listening to Spirit for the times ahead.

Free to the public! Registration required. For more information and to register go to <https://pendlehill.org/events/what-happens-wednesday-preparing-ourselves-for-the-work-ahead/>.

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**JOIN US FOR DAILY WORSHIP:** Our international circle of Friends meeting for daily worship via Zoom continues to expand. We invite you to join over 150 Friends and seekers for a half-hour Meeting for Worship every day from 8:30 to 9:10 a.m. Eastern Time. On Wednesdays and Saturdays, we follow worship with 15 minutes of worship sharing in small groups. Zoom: +1 312 626 6799  
Meeting ID: 432 071 090

### **CRITICAL CAMP PROPERTY NEEDS @ BYM**

Please consider investing in the camps' future. Fixed costs and maintenance issues continue, despite the lack of income from campers. For example, Catoctin Lodge needs a new roof (\$5,300) and vehicle and property insurance costs over \$35,000. To see additional financial needs and to contribute, go to <https://bymcamps.org/fixed-assets-appeal/#fixed-costs>.



**CAMPING PROGRAM MANAGER:** Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) is seeking a Camping Program Manager. The Baltimore Yearly Meeting Camping Program is a religious education program carried out in a diverse inclusive community in an outdoor setting. The Camping Program Manager, with the oversight and assistance of the Camping Program Committee (CPC), is responsible for the Yearly Meeting's camp programs, which provide a summer camping experience for 500-600 young people aged 9-17 each year.

The Camping Program Manager engages in the ministry of empowering BYM workers, campers and work grantees to safely work, play, learn and worship in a creative spiritual community. The Camping Program Manager directly supervises the Camp Directors of Catoctin Quaker Camp, Shiloh Quaker Camp, Opequon Quaker Camp, and Teen Adventure Quaker Camp. The Camping Program Manager works closely with the Camp Property Manager, the Camp Directors, and other camp staff. The Camping Program Manager implements the goals, directions and policies set by the Camping Program Committee for the successful annual operation of the camp program.



To see the complete announcement, go to [https://www.bym-rsf.org/what\\_we\\_do/committees/campprogram/cpmjob.html](https://www.bym-rsf.org/what_we_do/committees/campprogram/cpmjob.html).

To apply: Please send a cover letter, resume, and list of three references to Camping Program Manager Search at [applications@bym-rsf.org](mailto:applications@bym-rsf.org). Applications received by **October 29, 2020** will be given preference in consideration, but applications will be accepted until the position is filled.



REPARATIONS ACTION GROUP PRESENTS:

## FALL WORKSHOP SERIES



LEARN THE SKILLS TO TAKE REPARATIVE ACTION IN BYM'S COMMUNITY

This is a three part workshop series designed to learn about our history as an institution, discuss potential ways to work toward repair and reconciliation within and outside of our community, and to build a toolbox for action and forward movement as individuals and a collective.

You will walk away from this series with a deeper knowledge and understanding of our roles in the larger system and with the skills to prompt direct action toward repair in your community.

There will be a direct focus on the legacy of slavery in the United States, racial oppression, and reparative action by White people for Black and Indigenous communities and individuals.

This workshop is open to all who are affiliated with Baltimore Yearly Meeting in any way.

### Dates:

- Pre-course the week of October 1st
- October 10th
- October 24th
- November 14th

*All three workshops are from 1pm - 3pm; Pre-course workshop is self-led*

**Trainers:** Missy Smith & Jay Little; Racial Justice Trainers & Experts

### Fees:

Sliding scale fees of \$150 - \$300; if assistance is needed please contact Nikki Richards at [nikkirichards1993@gmail.com](mailto:nikkirichards1993@gmail.com)

*\*Black Friends, Indigenous Friends, and other Friends of Color are not required to pay the fee; it is free to attend*

### To Register:

Contact Nikki Richards at [nikkirichards1993@gmail.com](mailto:nikkirichards1993@gmail.com)

### The Reparations Action Working Group (RAWG) is excited to present our Fall Workshop Series!

Mark your calendars for a virtual workshop experience designed to help our Yearly Meeting understand and embrace Reparations in our community. There will be three workshops hosted on October 10th, October 24th, and November 14th; please also block out time during the first week of October for pre-course self-led materials. All three facilitated courses will take place from 1pm-3pm.

We ask that those who register commit to attending all three workshops if possible. If you need to miss one, that is ok, but we hope for all to be present the entire time. These trainings are only open for people affiliated with Baltimore Yearly Meeting in some way.

The price for workshops is a sliding scale of \$150-\$300. Please pay at the time of registration. Note that this course is free to all Friends of Color and Black Friends; you do not need to pay when you register. If you cannot afford the fee please contact Nikki Richards (email below); no one turned away for lack of funds.

[To sign up, click here.](#)

[To pay the sliding scale fee of \\$150-\\$300, click here.](#)

[To view the bio for our trainer, click here.](#)

**A WHITE HISTORIAN EXPLORES BLACK VOTING RIGHTS: with Susan Strasser on October 5 and 6 at 7 p.m.** American voting has historically been restricted on the basis of many things other than race, including gender, class, ethnicity, religion, age, and personal history. But race stands out. Only African Americans have had the right to vote granted and repeatedly taken away. Voting has been one aspect of a larger system of racist laws and customs, and the right to vote has been intertwined with the rights to good education, housing, and jobs. And that system has been backed by violence, terror, and intimidation.

Using nearly sixty images and maps, *A White Historian Explores Black Voting Rights* surveys this history, with emphasis on two moments of possibility—Reconstruction and the early 1960s— and on recent attacks on the right to vote. Historian Susan Strasser seeks to serve people grappling with contemporary issues of race and racism. This is the third of a series of illustrated talks, *A White Historian Reads Black History*.

Presented on Zoom by the Peace and Social Justice Committee of Bethesda Friends Meeting over two nights – Oct 5 and 6 at 7 pm. The first night’s talk will last approximately 40 minutes. The second night will last about an hour and have time for questions and discussion.

You must register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsdOmuqj8jHNyVXuJ-C8Hd-OIHStRfqJl6>.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link for joining the talk and other information. If you have questions, please email [forum@bethesdafriends.org](mailto:forum@bethesdafriends.org). For more information on Susan Strasser, go [susanstrasser.net/a-white-historian-reads-black-history](http://susanstrasser.net/a-white-historian-reads-black-history).



### **Young Friends Conference Calendar**

- **November 27 - 29, 2020**  
Virtual Event
- **February 26 - 28, 2021**  
Charlottesville Friends Meeting
- **April 16 - 18, 2021**  
Gunpowder Friends Meeting

To register, go to [https://www.bym-rsf.org/what\\_we\\_do/yfs/yfcon.html](https://www.bym-rsf.org/what_we_do/yfs/yfcon.html) .

### **Junior Young Friends Conference Calendar**

- **November 21 - 22, 2020**  
Virtual Event

To register, go to [https://www.bym-rsf.org/what\\_we\\_do/jyfs/jyfreger.html](https://www.bym-rsf.org/what_we_do/jyfs/jyfreger.html).

## **LONGING TO GET AWAY, MAYBE TO CONGENIES, FRANCE?**

The Centre Quaker de Congenies, in the south of France, is seeking long term volunteer Resident Friends. Enjoy the region, the garden and the conviviality of visits from (f)Friends around the world. Accommodation at the centre is offered in exchange for managing the house, organizing events and hosting BnB guests (5 rooms). This position is ideal for two active retirees or telecommuters. At least one must speak reasonably good French. We seek a commitment of at least 2 years. Flexible start date. Respond to: [centre.quaker.congenies@gmail.com](mailto:centre.quaker.congenies@gmail.com).

Thank you, in Friendship,  
Marie & Nick  
Amis-Residents  
Centre Quaker de Congénies

## ***QUAKERS AND THE LARGER COMMUNITY***

### **FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE ON CONSULTATION (FWCC)**

**WORLD QUAKER DAY: Sunday, October 4.** The theme, *What Does it Mean to be a Quaker today? Living a Faithful Life in a Changing World*, draws us into our shared experience of being Quakers. It is a chance to celebrate what is at the core of our Quaker faith at a time when COVID has given us a new lens through which to consider what we want in a changing world – where our faith is strengthened and issues of systemic inequality, climate change, and economic justice, among others, are elevated. We have been given new eyes... and much to consider!

This year, with new experiences of gathering online, we are encouraging online worship, and the opportunity to invite another worship group to join you. Sections are offering online shared experiences. As usual, FWCC offers many resources that can be used, shared, and discussed. Please visit our website [www.worldquakerday.org](http://www.worldquakerday.org).

### **FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION (FCNL)**

#### **September 2020: Native American Legislative Update Savanna's Act and the Not Invisible Act Pass the House**

By **Kerri Colfer**, September 28, 2020

In a huge victory for Indian Country, both Savanna's Act and the Not Invisible Act passed in the House on Sept. 21. The bills, which already passed the Senate by unanimous consent in March, will help to address the rising numbers of missing and murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives. Both bills will now go to the president's desk to be signed into law.

Savanna's Act (S.227) will establish better law enforcement practices by requiring federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies to develop protocols for cases of missing or murdered Native Americans. The bill also provides training and technical assistance for implementing these new guidelines, and authorizes the Department of Justice to provide grants for compiling and annually reporting data related to missing and murdered Native Americans.

The Not Invisible Act (S. 982) requires the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) to create a joint advisory committee on violence against American Indians and Alaska Natives. The committee, which will be made up of law enforcement, tribal leaders, federal partners,

service providers, and survivors of domestic and sexual violence, will make recommendations to the DOI and DOJ to combat crime against Native Americans.

The passage of these bills in both chambers is an especially sweet victory for FCNL and tribal advocates. FCNL first began working on a similar version of Savanna's Act when it was introduced in October 2017 in the 115th Congress by Sens. Lisa Murkowski (AK) and Heidi Heitkamp (ND).

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### **Webinar: Holding Candidates Accountable**

**Oct. 6 at 8:00 p.m. EDT**

By **Larissa Gil Sanhueza**, September 24, 2020

Everyone is talking about the upcoming elections, and for good reason: We have the opportunity to elect lawmakers who will support us in Congress.

But the agenda of the next Congress is being formed right now. What candidates hear between now and Nov. 3 will guide policy discussions for years to come.

Together, we can hold candidates accountable. **Join us for a webinar on Oct. 6 at 8:00 p.m. EDT and learn how you can engage with future legislators to make sure they're working on the issues you care about.**

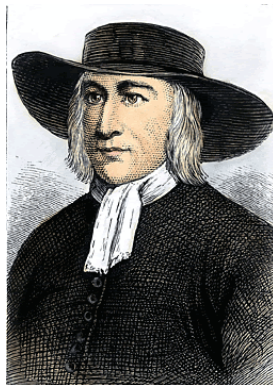
Voting, making calls, volunteering for a campaign...it can all feel overwhelming. This event will help guide you through the confusion and show you how to contribute your voice and power.

Whether it's helping your roommate update their voter registration or attending a virtual campaign event, we'll make sure you have the tools, confidence, and energy you need to hold your candidates accountable. To sign up, go to <https://fcnl.actionkit.com/event/quaker-welcome-center-events-watch-home/1839/signup/?akid=&zip=>.

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### **Annual Meeting Registration**

**The FCNL Annual Meeting is November 14 - 17 online.** To register, go to <https://act.fcnl.org/survey/annual-meeting-2020/?source=lightbox>.



George Fox

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**THINKING ABOUT RACE (OCTOBER 2020):** Cash Bail

From “Criminal Conditions,” by Jan A. Fernandez, ACLU Magazine, Summer 2020, pp. 24-29.  
<https://www.aclu.org/aclu-magazine/aclu-magazine-summer-2020>

“The United States has many distinguishing traits, but its most damaging distinction is that it imprisons the most people on Earth: 2.3 million, or nearly 35 percent of the world’s incarcerated population. Environmental, judicial, and institutional factors feed this unconscionable bloat, filling jails and prisons with people who can’t afford fines or bail while disproportionately punishing Black and Brown communities. ....

“Driving this national tragedy is an exploitative cash bail system that funnels hundreds of thousands of people into local jails. More than 70 percent of those incarcerated—about half a million people—are pretrial detainees who have not been convicted of any crime, and many are only there because they could not afford bail. It’s a profitable, prejudiced machine that targets poor people and people of color, who are jailed at higher rates and charged higher bail amounts.

....  
“... Black and Latino men are on average assigned substantively higher amounts than white men for similar crimes—and those who cannot afford either land in jail. Trapped there, they are subject to a system that perpetuates negative outcomes: Defendants are four times more likely to be sentenced to prison if they spend their pretrial time in jail; they are more likely to take guilty plea deals for lesser charges to obtain release, even if they are innocent; they suffer the psychological trauma of being cut off from family and friends for weeks, months, or even years; they are exposed to violence, abuse, and poor health conditions; and they risk losing homes, jobs, and custody of their children.” [emphasis added]

“To support your state’s efforts toward rapid decarceration and an end to cash bail practices... visit [www.aclu.org/smartjustice](http://www.aclu.org/smartjustice).”

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](mailto:david.etheridge@verizon.net).

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### *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
	<b><u>BUSINESS MEETING: OCTOBER 4.</u></b>

### *Schedule of Committee and Group Meetings*

Administrative	<b>Odd months last Sundays</b> 12:15 p.m.
Green Organizing Action Team (GOAT)-- OPEN	<b>3rd Sundays</b> , 9:15 a.m.; contact <u>Bess Keller</u> , 410.302.3425
Hospitality—OPEN	<b>As called</b> ; contact <u>Ned Worth</u> , 443.600.9380
House & Grounds—OPEN	<b>2nd Mondays</b> at 7:00 p.m.; contact <u>Susan Johns Smith</u> , 410.458-1835
Library—OPEN	<b>TBD</b> ; contact TBD.
Peace & Justice Committee—OPEN	<b>2nd Sundays</b> at 1:00 p.m.; contact <u>Louise Hopkins</u> , 443.996.4133
Ministry & Counsel	<b>last Wednesdays</b> ; contact <u>Donna McKusick</u> , 410.426.5836
Religious Education—OPEN	<b>2nd Tuesdays</b> , 7:15 p.m., Meeting House; contact <u>John McKusick</u> , 410.830.9225
Trustees	<b>2nd Wednesdays</b> ; 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](http://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.*

**MOST OF OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES** are meeting on Zoom until further notice. For more information about accessing Zoom, please go to our website homepage at [www.homewoodfriends.org](http://www.homewoodfriends.org). Below are the Zoom URLs and phone numbers. They are also available in the weekly announcements. Note that these are **NEW links** as of the end of September.

These new links should take you -- unless you're dialing in on a phone -- into the meetings without the need to enter the passcode separately.

The use of "virtual backgrounds" has been turned off for security.



**Topic: Sunday Worship**

Time: 10:30 AM Eastern Time

Every week on Sunday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/255867065?pwd=UDNxVnlVSktZQOHlXWlc3NHpHeHdhZz09>

Meeting ID: 255 867 065

Passcode: 438589

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 255867065#

Phone number: 301 715 8592

Sunday worship is followed at **the same URL** by

- **Administrative Committee** (12:15) on the last Sunday of odd-numbered months, and by
- **Meeting for Business** (12:30) on the first Sunday of each month.
- **Social Time after Worship** (11:30) every Sunday, length depending upon subsequent regularly scheduled meetings.

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**Topic: Experiment with Light (Thursday evenings)**

Time: 7:00 PM Eastern Time

Every week on Thursday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87411498198?pwd=bWZlM0tCZlJ2ZE5WU0FzR0R5RUlqZz09>

Meeting ID: 874 1149 8198

Passcode: 976351

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 87411498198#

Phone number: 301 715 8592

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**Topic: Experiment with Light (Sunday mornings)**

Time: 9:15 AM Eastern Time

Fourth Sunday of each month

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84212168159?pwd=T3ZsRmFlNWYwVHJnYjJON3hLY25oZz09>

Meeting ID: 842 1216 8159

Passcode: 694102

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 84212168159# US (Germantown)

Phone number: 301 715 8592

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**Topic: Holding in the Light People Affected by Violence in Baltimore**

Time: 12:30 PM Eastern Time

Second Sunday of each month

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/902429904?pwd=TTR1dHZERGJxbG9mWGNlL1JRcHFDdz09>

Meeting ID: 902 429 904

Passcode: 943260

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 902429904#

Phone number: 301 715 8592

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**Topic: Homewood Quaker Book Club**

Time: 9:15 AM Eastern Time

Second Sunday of each month

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87679969602?pwd=OFICOGFQblZqamtEd05XcnVBeFNLUT09>

Meeting ID: 876 7996 9602

Passcode: 811552

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 87679969602#

Phone number: 301 715 8592 US

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**Topic: GOAT (Green Organizing Action Team)**

Time: 9:15 AM, every month on the third Sunday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82929449941?pwd=T0VYNEdyYUg1M2ZBZkFqVk5pcjFCZz09>

Meeting ID: 829 2944 9941

Passcode: 982321

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 82929449941#

Phone number: 301 715 8592

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**Topic: Trustees**

Time: 7:00 PM every month on the second Wednesday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88668338386?pwd=UDZabDZ1emZjdzkzVFJjZlJwelpudz09>

Meeting ID: 886 6833 8386

Passcode: 975670

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 88668338386#

Phone number: 301 715 8592

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**Topic: Ministry & Counsel**

Time: 6:00 PM every month on the last Wednesday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/487422834?pwd=VG9kV3VOdi96VEFoZlo2Q2lTeEQrdz09>

Meeting ID: 487 422 834

Passcode: 869880

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 487422834# US (Germantown)

Phone number: 301 715 8592

Enter the meeting ID (the 9-digit number at the end of the URL above) followed by the # sign. To mute and unmute your phone during the session, you can press \*6.