

Fifth Month (May) 2021

Homewood Friends Meeting

Newsletter

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Baltimore, Maryland 21218

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Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, the Fifth Query: Personal Way of Life

Do you live in accordance with your spiritual convictions? Do you seek employment consistent with your beliefs and in service to society? Do you practice simplicity in speech, dress and manner of living, avoiding wasteful consumption? Are you watchful that your possessions do not rule you? Do you strive to be truthful at all times, avoiding judicial oaths? Do you strive to develop your physical, emotional and mental capacities toward reaching your Divinely given potential? Do you cultivate healthful and moderate habits, avoiding the hazards of drugs, intoxicants, and over-indulgence generally? Do you try to direct such emotions as anger and fear in creative ways?

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

Self-indulgent habits and luxurious living dull our awareness and make us insensitive to the needs of others and the leading of the Spirit. Ostentation and extravagant expenditure should not be a part of Friends' lives. Friends should be particularly aware of this in planning marriages, funerals, social gatherings or public occasions. True simplicity does not consist of particular forms or the absence of grace, symmetry and beauty, but of avoiding over-indulgence, maintaining humility of spirit, and keeping material surroundings in proportion to human needs.

Friends' longstanding testimony against the use, production, or sale of tobacco and alcoholic beverages is not fully accepted by some. For many, however, complete abstinence is the only effective way to avoid the dangers of the use of these materials. Friends are in unity against illegal narcotics and mind altering substances, now readily available. Use of any of these materials has adverse effects which reach beyond the individual to harm the family and the community; dealing with illegal drugs also supports a criminal underground. Even legitimate prescription drugs can be used inappropriately and excessively. All these usages deaden the individual to life and spiritual values.

For those trapped in substance abuse, such advice may seem hollow. Commonalities exist between addictive behaviors with these substances and other compulsive actions, such as in the areas of eating disorders, gambling, overwork, and physical abuse. The causes go deep and may not be fully understood, but the resulting pain, fear, desperation and denial, damaging the abuser and all those around that person, need to be supportively recognized. A Meeting community should be ready to listen non-judgmentally, offer information about sources of help, refuse to

enable people to continue in harmful patterns, and continue to offer an environment free from addictive practices.

We are faced at every hand with enticements to risk money in anticipation of disproportionate gain through gambling. Some governments employ gambling as a means of raising revenue, even presenting it as a civic virtue. The Religious Society of Friends continues to bear testimony against betting, gambling, lotteries, speculations or any other endeavor to receive material gain without equivalent exchange, believing that we owe an honest return for what we receive. Indulgence in games of chance blunts a proper sense of obligation.

How we use our working hours, our leisure and our resources has direct bearing on our spiritual life. Time for recreation is needed to refresh spirit, mind and body. Our use of time may determine whether the Divine Spirit grows within us or is crowded out. We are called upon to be stewards of the rich provisions which God has made for all creation. As Friends we are advised to consider the effects of our charitable gifts and of all our expenditures, in the light of our concern for the right and fair sharing of the world's resources.

TRUSTEES FUNDING TO PARTICIPATE IN QUAKER EVENTS

The Davis Fund is available for adults who would like to participate in Quaker gatherings such as the FGC Annual Gathering, Pendle Hill, or BYM's Annual Session. 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/memberresources/scholarships/>

MILESTONES

Alex Walters earned a second Bachelor's Degree from Towson University in December 2020. His major was Computer Science. He has worked and is still working full-time in an internship and now a co-op with the United Parcel Services (UPS). Alex is hoping to get a full-time job (with benefits!) at UPS.

Annie Blalock, who served as a Children's Nursery Assistant under Chris Stadler, finished her degree requirements for a Bachelor's degree with a major in Environmental Studies/Conservation Biology from Middlebury College (VT) in February. She will be working for the National Park Service on Assateague Island from May through July. In August, Annie begins a two year graduate program at the University of Alabama where she will be a teaching and lab assistant.

Maddie Doll, our First Day School Teacher, is graduating from UMBC in May with a Bachelor's degree and a double major in Social Work and Psychology. She has been accepted and plans to attend University of Maryland Baltimore for a graduate degree in Social Work.

Ouranitsa Abbas, one of our Young Adult Friends, shares that as of Monday 5/10 at 12 p.m. she will have officially finished her first year of Zoom School of Law!

Shelby Kalm, one of our Young Adult Friends Liaisons, will be starting a Master's degree program in Food & Agriculture Law & Policy at Vermont Law School.

More to come in next month's newsletter. So many milestones and achievements to celebrate!

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. **Please see the list of 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 BEFORE AND AFTER WORSHIP: Before worship: from 10:10 until 10:20 the host will unmute all, to allow time for greetings and socializing. Worshipping in silence with everyone muted will begin at 10:20.

11:30 a.m. after worship: announcements and more socializing. 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: 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.
- **6:00 p.m.:** Information and resource sharing on meetinghouse steps.
- Physical distancing applies. Wear your mask.

MEETING FOR BUSINESS: Sunday, May 2, 12:30 p.m. via Zoom.

From Ministry and Counsel:

Process for Monthly Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business:

The Quaker process for conducting business is special, in that it occurs during a Meeting for Worship each month. We have traditions that guide our method for corporate decision-making so that all voices may be heard and considered in our quest for truth. Some principles to consider when we meet together for business:

- 1. We ask the clerk for recognition before speaking. Generally, we raise a hand to be recognized. In a Zoom environment, we may need to unmute and vocally ask the clerk for recognition if she doesn't see our raised hand on screen.*
- 2. We listen carefully to each opinion expressed. We pause before asking the clerk for recognition to respond to let the previous words have time for all to process.*
- 3. We try to offer a comment not more than one time per agenda item, allowing others the time to speak to an issue. (Not including asking questions for clarification).*
- 4. We can stand aside if our own opinions differ from the prevailing sense of the Meeting, or we can decide that our differences are important enough to hold over a decision until the next meeting.*

YAF (YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS) GATHERING (first Sunday): May 2, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. Please note the change of date for this month because of Easter. Contact Shelby Kalm (shelbykalm@gmail.com) or Michael Fell (michaelfell03@gmail.com) for details.

QUAKER BOOK CLUB (second Sunday): May 9, 9:15 a.m. on Zoom. We will continue discussion on articles from Friends Journal (links below). We will focus on the second article below about white stamina. Friends are also invited to look ahead in *Friends Journal's* archives to read any letters to the editor about this piece.

<https://www.friendsjournal.org/john-woolman-colin-kaepernick/>

<https://www.friendsjournal.org/white-stamina/>

<https://www.friendsjournal.org/racial-diversity>

HOLDING IN THE LIGHT PEOPLE TOUCHED BY MURDER IN BALTIMORE (second Sunday): May 9, 12:30 - 1:00 p.m. 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): May 23, 9:15 a.m. on Zoom, led by Susan Russell Walters.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING: Sunday, May 30, 12:15 p.m. on Zoom (same URL as for meeting for worship).

WICKER BASKET CONTRIBUTIONS: The Wicker Basket recipient continues to be CARES. The following items are needed: **pasta sauce, spaghetti, and bars of soap.** 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. You may also send checks.

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."*

FIRST DAY SCHOOL: First Day School (FDS) will meet four times in this month of five Sundays. There will be **no FDS on May 30th**. On **May 9th**, we will celebrate Mother's Day with a picnic at the Friends Burial Ground on Harford Road. The following Sunday (**May 16th**), we will do a community clean up project in Wyman Dell and/or Charles Village. Look for more information on FDS programs in the Silent Announcements each week or call John McKusick, Religious Education clerk, at 410-830-9225.



Scenes from the Easter Egg Hunt

Photo credit: Megan Shook

WORKING FOR CHANGE: NEWS FROM THE CHANGE GROUP

At the April 11th Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business, we had a challenging discussion about a proposed Statement of Commitment to Anti-Racism. As we delve deeper into this important but difficult work, it would not be unusual to experience more tension. Indeed, it is a part of the work! Below are some Touchstones from *The Little Book of Racial Healing* (DeWoof & Geddes, 2019) that may help us as we move ahead. These Touchstones aim to address participants' needs to feel brave enough and safe enough to speak openly and honestly and to help us all make more space for each other.

Listen deeply. Listen intently to what is said, and listen also to the feelings beneath the words. Listen to yourself also. Strive for balance between listening and reflecting, speaking and acting.

Identify assumptions; suspend judgments. Our assumptions often underpin our worldview, even when they are invisible to us. Our judgments are frequently automatic, and can block our growth. Pausing to identify assumptions and suspend judgments can aid listening to another, and to ourselves, more fully.

Speak your truth. Say what is in your heart, trusting that your voice will be heard and your contribution respected, even if it is different from or even opposite of what another has said. Own your truth by speaking only for yourself, using I statements.

Be aware of, and allow for, the difference between intention and impact. Give the grace of assuming that no one here intends to harm others. Give this to others and also to oneself. Be ready to acknowledge that words or behaviors can have harmful impacts.

Whenever possible, acknowledge uncomfortable responses – say ‘ouch’ or ‘whoops’! then explain. Let others know when you are responding with pain to remarks in the group, either from others (‘ouch’) or oneself (‘whoops’). Help all to understand the reason for your reaction.

Respect Difference. Recognize that different cultures, genders, ages, have different norms for speaking in groups (such as interrupting, finishing sentences, or degrees of assertiveness). There may be differences in power dynamics. Over-emphasis on norms of safety and politeness, for example, can be an unconscious way to reinforce white fragility and prevent expressions of strong feelings.

Maintain confidentiality. Respect the confidential nature and content of discussions in the change group. What is said in the group remains in the group.

When things get difficult, turn to wonder: try “both/and” rather than “either/or.” When someone else’s truth challenges your own, try “I wonder what brought her to this place?” “I wonder what my reaction teaches me?”

Expect non-closure. We probably won’t get to the end of the road today. *Coming* to the table is the first step. *Staying* at the table, *staying* conscious and committed, is the key to racial healing and transformation.

GREEN ORGANIZING ACTION TEAM:

“GOAT NOAT” FOR MAY 2021

The Maryland General Assembly adjourned the 2021 session on Monday, April 12th. Unfortunately, the environmental bill endorsed by Homewood and many faith groups, the Climate Solutions Now (CSN) Act, did not pass as the Senate and the House of Delegates could not agree on a key provision to establish a firm standard of 60% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

There were a lot of twists and turns in the saga of this bill. Quaker Voice in Maryland, an advocacy group for the environmental, racial justice, and criminal justice concerns of Friends, did an admirable job of keeping up with the changes and posting weekly updates. While the failure of the bill to pass was disappointing, some of the bill's provisions were approved as separate pieces of legislation such as to plant 5 million trees by 2030, including 500,000 trees in underserved, urban communities and to purchase new electric vehicles as the Maryland state fleet turns over.

An interesting article on what happened to the Climate Solutions Now Act appears in the April 13th issue of Maryland Matters:

<https://www.marylandmatters.org/2021/04/13/climate-bill-dies-as-house-and-senate-fail-to-compromise/>

Other environmental bills did pass. One requires the Public Service Commission to consider the impact on climate of new projects that seek PSC approval. Another bill, the Transit Safety and Investment Act provides funding for maintenance, repair, and replacement of polluting forms of transit. So, it was even still a productive session. For more details on what passed and what did not, please [view a recent debriefing session](#) with Friend and Homewood Member Jamie DeMarco of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN). The passcode is 8Gds2@dP

News from the Garden:

A garden work session is planned for **Saturday, May 8th at 10 a.m.** All are welcome. In addition to experiencing the pleasure of working with soil and plants, it is a chance for some lovely conversation with friends. Contact Gary Gillespie for details.

Members of GOAT are: Carol Beck, Stan Becker, Gary Gillespie, Bess Keller, Luke Mayhew, John McKusick, Rachael Neill, and Heather Ravlin

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

FGC REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN: The 2021 Gathering will be held virtually, from **June 27 – July 3, 2021!** **Early registration** for the Gathering is open from **April 15 through April 29**. All Friends registering during early registration have an equal chance of getting into their first choice workshop(s). **Standard registration starts May 6**, and at that point workshops will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Check out the schedule, program, and registration information through the following link.

<https://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering>

HELP GET CAMP READY FOR SUMMER: BYM Camps will be open in 2021. Registration is open! For more information, go to <https://bymcamps.org/>.

We have scheduled a number of workdays to prepare for camp. These workdays will be day-long events, attendance will be limited and we will not be able to serve any meals. Please bring your own bag lunches (please do not bring food to share). We will be wearing masks when around others and practicing social distancing. Bathroom and hand washing facilities will be available. Please use the Signup Genius links below to register for workdays. Unfortunately, those who do not sign up in advance may be turned away since it is important for us to limit numbers of participants so that we do not risk spreading illness. Additional dates may be scheduled if needed. Please use the links below to sign up and help out. There is a lot to do after over a year of dormancy at the camps so we need your help! We can't wait to see you at camp.

Catoctin Dates – May 1st www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48AFA62CABF8C43-lets

Opequon Dates – May 8th, 19th and 29th

www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48AFA62CABF8C43-lets2

Shiloh Dates - May 5th and May 15th

www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48AFA62CABF8C43-lets1

FREE SOJOURN IN QUAKER CAMP: From Megan Shook: Please consider the possibility of taking your vacation as a volunteer for one of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting camps this summer. They often are looking for cooks, nurses, and general repairers. PS To be honest, you do have to work a lot and the accommodations are basic!

The camps, Shiloh, Catoctin and Opequon, are in beautiful natural areas and daily life is simple and spirit-filled. The company of young people and the connections with people from all around the Yearly Meeting make the days rich and fulfilling. Inquire by contacting Camp Program Manager, Brian Massey 301-774-7663 brian@bymcamps.org

FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO A CONVERSATION WITH BYM GENERAL SECRETARY FINALIST

CANDIDATES: The General Secretary Search Committee is pleased to invite members of the Yearly Meeting to join open conversations with each of the three finalist candidates on **May 5, 6 and 7 at noon ET**. Friends will hear a brief presentation from the candidate and have the opportunity to submit questions. Friends will be invited to share feedback to the Search Committee electronically afterwards. Zoom links for each session will be sent the week of May 3. **The candidates are scheduled as follows: Rashid Darden, May 5; Sarah Gillooly, May 6; Wayne Finegar, May 7.**

OUR DIETS AND THE ENVIRONMENT: Tuesday, May 11, 6:30 – 7:15 p.m. on Zoom

To help inform our choices as we strive to live in harmony with the living world, Becky Ramsing of the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future will talk about the impact of our food systems on climate change and the ecosystem.

Co-sponsored by the BYM Unity with Nature Committee and the Right Relationship with Animals Working Group. Register here to get the Zoom link: <https://tinyurl.com/cejtnwnk>

SPIRITUAL FORMATION RETREAT: “JOY AND WOE” Friday, May 14 – Saturday May 15 via Zoom

Joy and woe are intertwined. In our May retreat, we will explore this foundational reality through story and song, the sharing of our own experiences, and deep listening. We welcome you to this time of fellowship with Friends across Yearly Meeting. **Registration ends May 10th.**

<https://www.bym-rsf.org/events/spiritform/>

WALK AND ROLL EVENT AT FRIENDS HOUSE: Saturday May 15, 10 a.m. Our “Walk and Roll” will be held on the Friends House campus grounds. There will be 3 paths, each designed for the participant’s comfort zone. Two paths will be on the campus. The third is a trail walk through the woods. The funds raised will benefit the Residents Fund which is used for food assistance, transportation and unforeseen bills of some of the residents.

You can sign up to walk at this link: weblink.donorperfect.com/Walk_roll2021

You can sign up to sponsor someone else at this link:

weblink.donorperfect.com/Walk_rol2021_sponsor

Call Anne Derby at 301-924-7510 with questions. Food and Drinks will be available. Families are encouraged to walk together.

THE UPLIFTING STORY BEHIND UNIFIED EFFORTS, Part 3

By Karie Firoozmand, Stony Run Meeting

UNIFIED EFFORTS: THE YEAR SO FAR

2021 – Time will tell whether the summer program can safely be held in person. If possible, summer 2021 will include some activities that have become annual events:

- Visit to the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Black history followed by lunch and ice cream at the harbor
- Workshop by a vice-president of PNC bank on tools for money management
- Writing and producing *I Belong* magazine

During the winter of 2020-2021, UE alums, now in their early 20’s, are hosting a weekly radio show – an offshoot of *I Belong* magazine - called “What Would Tay Say?” The

show is named in honor of the late Tayshawn Walker, a UE alum who is sorely missed. Justin Brooks and Tez Moseley host the show; Cencere Eccles is the IT support and Tanae Galloway is the scheduler. Their guests have included an official from the Baltimore City Fire Department,



children's author Calvin Ramsey (Debbie's brother), a psychologist and yoga teacher, and of course Debbie herself. The radio show is part of a new focus on career paths for UE alums.

For UE alums currently in college, UE provides some financial support. This support even extends to a UE mom who is also a summer employee. Touching the children means touching their families.

"We're evolving," says Debbie. What started as a violence and bullying prevention program in 2012 has put down roots in Penn North and deeply engaged the families that participate in the program – still with no cost to them. From 2016-2020 over 100 students – many of whom come back – have been part of Unified Efforts. Debbie is confident that "we're giving the children what they want."

Debbie comments that "a lot has happened." Weaving between the summer programs, throughout the year there are many other things that an organization needs to thrive: Board members meeting, getting to know each other, and contributing their knowledge and expertise. Donors providing support, and fund-raising from not only individuals but the foundations named above as well as the Baltimore Community Foundation and several years of funding from the Miles White Beneficial Society. Baltimore Youth Works contributes by enrolling some high school students and supporting them with stipends.

Since UE's inception, financial literacy for families has consistently been one of UE's main program components, and has always been the first activity kicking off all summer programs. PNC has provided employees to help UE's students better understand how to navigate banking institutions. Budgeting, savings, and confidence in dealing with financial institutions ensure long-term economic success.

Debbie views Unified Efforts, Inc., Out of School Time Program as a "Quaker-led" work.

UPDATED MARRIAGE PROVISIONS OF FAITH AND PRACTICE

The latest draft revision to the marriage provisions of Faith and Practice prepared by the Faith and Practice Committee, dated February 21, 2021 [is available here](#). This draft is being provided to Monthly Meetings and other BYM groups for comment, and will be available in the Faith and Practice Section of the BYM website. The Faith and Practice Committee email address is fandp@bym-rsf.org.

Since April 2020, two earlier drafts of this document have been sent to Monthly Meetings and other BYM groups for input, and the comments received have been faithfully incorporated. At this point in the revision process, the Faith and Practice Committee will only accept substantive comments from Monthly Meetings and other BYM groups regarding matters that would prevent approval of this section of Faith and Practice. **Deadline for comments will be May 14th** (before the June Interim Meeting). At Sixth Month 2021 Interim Meeting on June 12, an advance copy will be presented (in preparation for second reading at Annual Session). Any substantive issues that the Faith and Practice Committee cannot resolve on its own will be referred to the Yearly Meeting officers to determine next steps.

EMPLOYMENT

MEETING COORDINATOR, SANDY SPRING FRIENDS MEETING: [More information here.](#)

GENERAL SECRETARY POSITION REOPENING, FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION (FWCC): Information about this London based position [here](#).

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

JONATHAN TAYLOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED: The Jonathan K. Taylor Swarthmore College Scholarship Fund is administered by Baltimore Monthly Meeting, Stony Run to provide support to students attending Swarthmore College in Swarthmore, PA. Preference goes to members of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting community. For the 2021-2022 academic year, there are funds up to \$15,000 to be distributed among the successful applicants. For more information, or to apply by the **June 1, 2021 deadline**, contact Cindy Maier (cynthiamaier13@gmail.com) or Nick Fessenden (nicholasfessenden@comcast.net).

CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING is on hiatus.

BYM YOUNG FRIENDS CONFERENCE CALENDAR

- **GRAD CON May 15-16, 2021**, Location to be announced. [Registration information.](#)

BYM JUNIOR YOUNG FRIENDS CONFERENCE CALENDAR

- **April 30 - May 2, 2021**, Location still to be announced. [Registration information.](#)

AT PENDLE HILL:

KAIROS: A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY, MAY 13-16. A spiritual retreat (via Zoom) with Francisco Burgos based on the exploration of some Christian spiritual practices including worship, studying, and contemplation while experiencing the dynamic of solitude and community sharing. <https://pendlehill.org/events/kairos-a-spiritual-journey/>

GOING DEEPER TOGETHER, MAY 21-23. A weekend workshop with Marcelle Martin via Zoom. The goal of this online weekend workshop is to help us enter more deeply the truth in our hearts and connect more profoundly with the divine Presence in ourselves and in all of life. We will explore a number of practices to help us do so, including discernment exercises, supportive listening, evoking questions, focusing on God, collective sensing, and meeting for worship. We'll be accompanied by the words and stories of early Quakers, along with the gifts of continuing revelation in our time. <https://pendlehill.org/events/going-deeper-together/>

JOIN PENDLE HILL 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

QUAKERS AND THE LARGER COMMUNITY

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION (FCNL)

THURSDAYS WITH FRIENDS: STATE SUPPRESSION OF VOTING RIGHTS May 13, 2021 4:00 – 4:30 p.m. Online. Since the 2020 elections, many state legislatures have been – or are poised to – pass restrictions on people’s voting rights. What can people of faith do, especially at the federal level, to right these wrongs? Diane Randall’s guest will be Rev. Adam Russell Taylor, author and president of Sojourners.

<https://www.fcnl.org/events/thursdays-friends-state-suppression-voting-rights>

LEARN TO LOBBY IN 30 MINUTES, May 18, 2021 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. Join a 30 minute interactive call where we will share inspiring stories from our grassroots network, conduct a short skills training and answer questions about how to schedule and plan your visit. [Details here.](#)

THINKING ABOUT RACE (MAY 2021): Ibram X. Kendi on “not racist”

What’s the problem with being “not racist”? It is a claim that signifies neutrality. “I am not a racist, but neither am I aggressively against racism.” But there is no neutrality in the racism struggle. The opposite of “racist” isn’t “not racist.” It is “antiracist.” What’s the difference? One endorses either the idea of a racial hierarchy as a racist, or racial equality as an antiracist. One either believes problems are rooted in groups of people, as a racist, or locates the roots of problems in power and policies, as an antiracist. One either allows racial inequalities to persevere, as a racist, or confronts racial inequities, as an antiracist. There is no in-between safe space of “not racist.” The claim of “not racist” neutrality is a mask for racism....[The] only way to undo racism is to consistently identify and describe it—and then dismantle it.

From *How to Be an Antiracist*, Ibram X. Kendi, p. 9

This column is prepared by the BYM Working Group on Racism (WGR) and sent to the designated liaison at each local Meeting. The BYM WGR meets most months on the *first* Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, currently via Zoom. If you would like to attend, 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>BUSINESS MEETING: May 2 at 12:30 p.m.</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>Bess Keller</u> , 410.302.3425
Hospitality—OPEN	As called ; contact <u>Ned Worth</u> , 443.600.9380
House & Grounds—OPEN	2nd Mondays at 7:00 p.m.; contact <u>Susan Johns Smith</u> , 410.458-1835
Library—OPEN	As called ; contact <u>Mandy McMahan</u> , 443.756.0601.
Peace & Justice Committee—OPEN	Next meeting is in May.; contact <u>Peter Phelan</u> , 206.371.1107
Ministry & Counsel	1st Wednesdays ; contact <u>Donna McKusick</u> , 410.426.5836
Religious Education--OPEN	2nd Tuesdays , 7:15 p.m., Meeting House; contact <u>John McKusick</u> , 410.830.9225
Trustees	2nd Wednesdays ; 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). Meetings are virtual until future notice. 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. Below are the Zoom URLs and phone numbers. They are also available in the weekly announcements.

These 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=UDNxVnlVSklZQOHlXWlc3NHpHeHdhZz09>

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.

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

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

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

Topic: Homewood Quaker Book Club

Time: 9:15 AM Eastern Time

Second Sunday of each month

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87679969602?pwd=OFI0QGFQblZqamtEd05XcnVBeFNLUT09>

Meeting ID: 876 7996 9602

Passcode: 811552

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 87679969602#

Phone number: 301 715 8592 US

Topic: Homewood Peace & Social Justice Committee

Time: Noon, 2nd and 4th Sundays

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87882210468?pwd=SExyeHlvQm1nSVZ6T1BXMUFoSDgwQT09>

Meeting ID: 878 8221 0468

Passcode: 804715

One tap mobile: 3017158592,,87882210468#

Tel. #: 301 715 8592

Topic: Trustees

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88668338386?pwd=UDZabDZ1emZjdzkzVFJjZHJwelpudz09>

Meeting ID: 886 6833 8386

Passcode: 975670

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 88668338386#

Phone number: 301 715 8592

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

(Toll) numbers for voice-only telephone access:

646 558 8656 US (New York)

312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

253 215 8782 US

301 715 8592 US

346 248 7799 US (Houston)

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.

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