

Tenth Month (October) 2021

Homewood Friends Meeting

Newsletter

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Baltimore, Maryland 21218

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(includes calendar, no password required)

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Effective **Sunday, June 13, 2021** Homewood is open for in-person worship. We worship together in-person with an option to worship with us remotely via Zoom (blended Meeting for Worship). We have found that Zoom has allowed us to incorporate Friends into the fabric of our worship life who otherwise are unable to participate in-person. We want to continue this option indefinitely.

Homewood's **Reopening Plan** addresses specific details about Meeting for Worship. It is available on the information tables in the Meetinghouse and [on our website](#).

Portions of the building are also open for committees and renters. The elevator construction project is not yet finished, and the dining room is still a construction zone. The second floor is not accessible until the new elevator is functional. Questions or concerns? Does your group or activity want to return to Homewood in person? Please contact the office and we'll be happy to discuss.

WICKER BASKET CONTRIBUTIONS: The Wicker Basket recipient continues to be CARES. The following items are consistently needed: **dried pasta, hearty soup, & household cleaners - particularly dish & laundry detergent.** Drop off times are Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 9:00 a.m.- noon, and Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 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."*

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/>

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOMEWOOD

PLEASE NOTE: Aside from blended Meeting for Worship, 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 & in-person blended worship.

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.

In-person Meeting for Worship will follow Baltimore City (& CDC) guidelines. Please refer to the Reopening Plan for details.

- **Masks are still required** inside the Meetinghouse. Friends have the option of removing their mask while speaking in Meeting for Worship.
- Physical distancing will be observed
- F/friends are encouraged to socialize outside whenever possible.
- In deference to those who are not comfortable with physical contact (e.g., handshakes or hugs), please secure permission before touching others.
- Access to the rest of the building will be limited. We're still (yes, still) a construction zone with the elevator replacement.

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. Masks optional.

BUSINESS MEETING: Sunday, October 3 at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom (using the Meeting for Worship link).

YAF (YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS): Gathering in the Garden, Sunday, October 3, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Finger foods provided by members to welcome (back to in person socializing) and appreciate our Young Adult Friends at Homewood. Contact the office or Ben Rogers benjamin.j.rogers.14@gmail.com for details.

WORKING FOR CHANGE FORUM: Sunday, October 10, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. on Zoom
A Change Group has been meeting at Homewood for the past year. Its purpose is spelled out below.

Under the care of Homewood's Ministry and Counsel committee, and attending to guidance from the BYM Working Group on Racism, the Change Group provides leadership and offers resources, discernment and concrete actions that support the Meeting on its journey in becoming an active anti-racist faith community.

In Spring of 2021, Homewood approved the following statement:

Homewood Friends Meeting seeks to be a diverse community which comes together in worship and action. We open ourselves to that radically loving spirit which guides us to live justly and peaceably. Homewood Friends Meeting affirms the worth and dignity of each person. We strive to actively dismantle systemic racism and its harmful effects within our community and the larger society.

Meeting-wide Forum on Becoming an Active Anti-Racist Faith Community

It is now our task to discern how to fulfil this commitment. For this purpose, we are holding an all-meeting forum on **October 10** on Zoom. We will update participants on the work of the committee, worship share on how the Spirit moves us to move forward, and briefly discuss the structure of the committee.

Please put this important meeting on your calendar and plan to attend. Link on last page

HOLDING IN THE LIGHT PEOPLE AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE IN BALTIMORE (second Sunday): October 10, 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.

QUAKER BOOK CLUB: Sunday, October 17 at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom. QBC will discuss the future of the book club and books or topics that people would like to discuss.

EXPERIMENT WITH LIGHT (fourth Sunday): October 24, 9:00 a.m. on Zoom, led by Susan Russell Walters. Please note the *time has changed*.

FIRST DAY SCHOOL: If you would like to be added to the list of families, please contact Kendall Kennison kendall.kennison@goucher.edu.

ADULT EDUCATION: Homewood Friends will be hosting a 5 session one-hour course in October and November called “Deepening our spiritual practice in the manner of Friends.” Ministry & Counsel has composed a survey to gauge interest and availability in the course. It is live (link here) and accepting responses through October 11. Questions? Contact Donna McKusick dmckusick@icloud.com

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!

Please increase our visibility on social media by engaging with our posts (that means liking, commenting and/or sharing them).

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

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE MOVIES

The Outreach team and GOAT are co-sponsoring a **film A Plastic Wave** (25 min). A surfing instructor and photographer finds more and more plastic washing ashore at his home beach. He does some research, including travel to India, and discovers the enormous problem of plastic pollution worldwide.

It will be virtual on an app called Gather.Town. We will view it together and then have worship-sharing about it. A link to Gather.Town will be sent out closer to the date (TBD).

GREEN ORGANIZING ACTION TEAM:

“GOAT NOAT” FOR OCTOBER 2021

The GOAT is reinstating our electronics recycling and collection box in the front foyer (closest to Charles Street). Any type of small electronics - cables, CDs, cell phone, etc. - are suitable. The recycler that we use is GreenDisk. We purchase a box with shipping paid upfront. For further information, please see <https://www.greendisk.com/gdsite/default.aspx>

En-ROADS: Software Program to Examine Global Warming and What We Can Do About It

The BYM Unity with Nature committee sponsored a thought-provoking climate change presentation on September 29th by Dr. Sara Via, University of Maryland Extension Service educator.

Dr. Via demonstrated the En-ROADS climate impact calculator, a rigorously designed online tool with public access that has been developed by MIT Sloan and Ventana Systems. This tool allows users to hone in on and compare specific strategies for reducing the rate of climate change and the overall gain or reduction in global temperatures. The program is organized into areas of activity:

- Energy supply
- Transport
- Buildings
- Growth
- Land and industry emissions
- Carbon removal

Users can test the impact of strategies such as the electrification of public transportation or afforestation (tree planting) over different time frames and with a variety of levels of public commitment. EN-ROADS also shows where we stand now with destructive practices, e.g., deforestation or fossil fuel cars, and see the impact on global temperatures of remaining at the status quo or lagging in efforts to reduce greenhouse gases.

While En-ROADS tests different propositions on a large global scale, it is clear that our individual, community, and regional choices and actions have great impact collectively. And using this software brings home in concrete terms the absolute necessity and urgency of continuing to work for a greener world. Gary Gillespie and John McKusick, members of Homewood Friends Meeting's Green Action Team (GOAT), attended the presentation. If you are interested in learning more about En-ROADS, please contact John or Gary or check out the tool online at <https://www.climateinteractive.org/tools/en-roads/>

News from the Garden: The Garden Club - open to anyone who likes getting their hands dirty - will meet on **Saturday, October 9th at 10:00 AM** in the native plants/pollinator garden for about an hour. We will work on tasks for autumn as the garden transitions. Feel free to bring your own tools if you wish, but the Meeting has plenty, too. If you can attend, a tasty homegrown fig may be your reward.

A lovely bench for contemplation or just give your weary self a rest will be installed in the garden later this month. Look for this welcome addition.

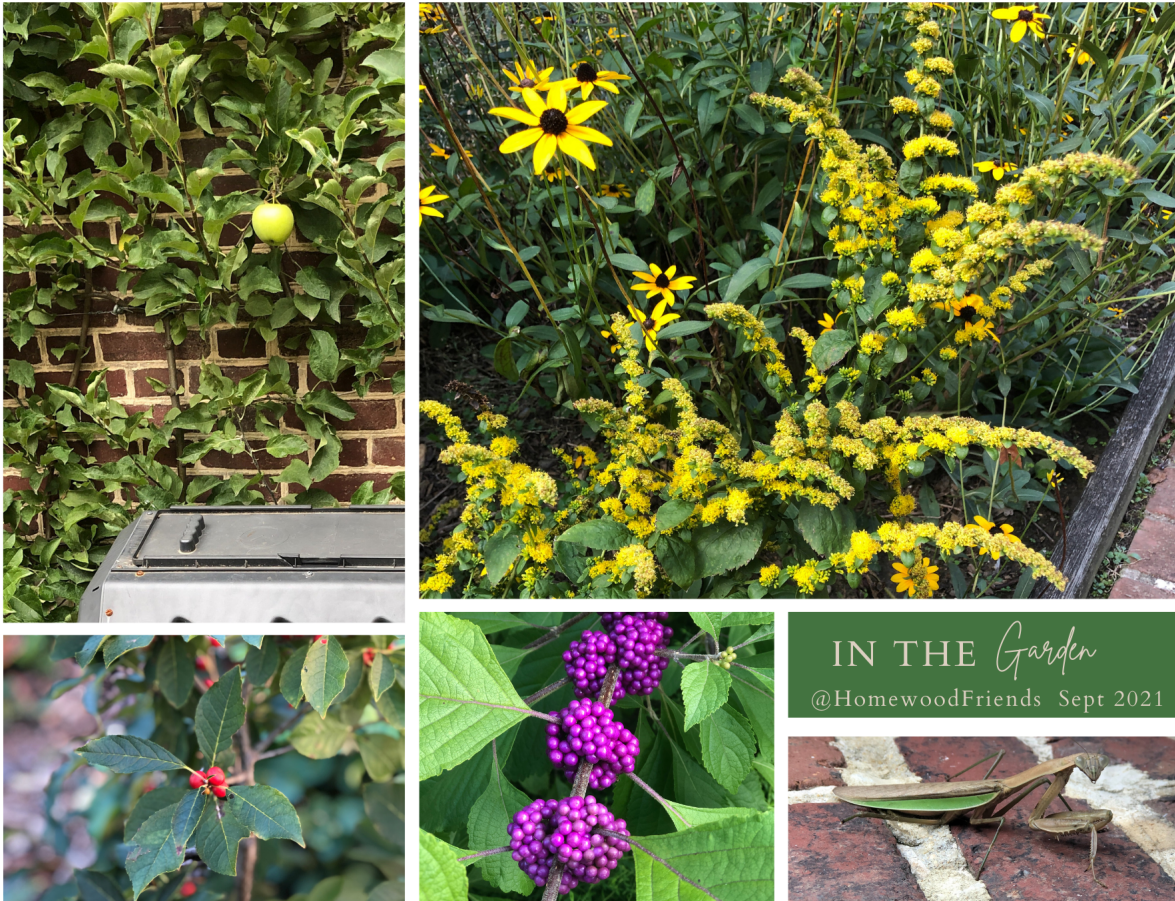


Photo credit: Kathy Rogers

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

OTHER QUAKER EVENTS AND NOTICES

BYM TENTH MONTH INTERIM MEETING: Saturday, October 9. BOTH in person at Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting and online - hybrid format. Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business will begin at 1:00pm. Friends joining in-person will gather for outdoor lunch at 12:00pm. Registration required <https://t.e2ma.net/click/s4n6wj/45ox7t/s00domc>

BYM CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR WORKSHOP: Selective Service System (SSS) registration for a possible draft into compulsory U.S. military service is automatic in most states when getting a state driver's license. If the draft is reinstated, draftees could have as little as nine days to prepare a CO claim before having to go before a local draft board.

Phil Caroom of BYM Peace & Social Concerns and Annapolis Friends Peace & Social Concerns is excited to offer a Conscientious Objector Workshop for Friends ages 15-25 **via Zoom on October 19th at 7pm and November 3rd at 3pm.**

Part 1 on October 19th will invite realistic consideration of a) what the U.S. military's ultimate function and command systems are, b) how the U.S. Selective Service System seeks to quickly transform ordinary young people into lethal fighters, and c) how one can seek conscientious objector (CO) status and alternate service. Young Friends also will hear two adult Friends tell briefly about their own experiences seeking conscientious objector status during prior U.S. wars.

Part 2 on November 3rd will cover the practical aspects of seeking CO status, including reflecting on the three requirements for CO status, practice responding to questions a Draft Board might ask, and consideration of best ways to document belief in the Peace Testimony. To attend, please email Phil at pcaroom@gmail.com.

FGC WELCOMES NEW STAFF: Rashid Darden is the new Communications Manager. As a novelist, a nonprofit leader, and a Quaker, Rashid brings a wealth of unique expertise to this position.

<https://www.fgcquaker.org/news/fgc-welcomes-new-communications-manager-rashid-darden>

Linnea Halsten is the new Ministry of Racism Program Assistant. In her short time with FGC, Linnea has been deeply touched and energized by the focus Friends have put towards centering anti-racism work. She especially wants to uplift Vanessa Julye and the Friends of Color who have done so much to center anti-racism and get FGC to where it is today. She says, "The work of anti-racism is huge, but I believe as long as we continue to meaningfully engage with it we are taking steps on the path. I am grateful to get to work alongside you all on this."

<https://www.fgcquaker.org/news/fgc-welcomes-new-ministry-racism-program-assistant-linnea-halsten>

Save the date for the **2022 FGC Gathering**, which will be held in Radford, VA from Sunday, July 3 - Saturday, July 9, 2022.

PENDLE HILL:

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

As Pendle Hill's campus is slowly reopening, they are offering a limited number of spaces for overnight sojourns and small groups. Details on their [website](#). NOTE: As of 9/24/21, there is a new vaccination/testing requirement for visitors <https://pendlehill.org/covid-19-policy-faq/>

Pendle Hill has an *online reading group* which focuses on PH Pamphlets and other Quaker writings. Free and open to the public. [Details and registration here](#). Wednesday October 13, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. This month's selection is [Marking the Quaker Path: Seven Key Words Plus One](#) (PHP #439) by Robert Griswold.

QUAKERS AND THE LARGER COMMUNITY

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION (FCNL)

Save the date for FCNL's (online) Annual Meeting and Quaker Public Policy Institute 2021. November 17 - 21, 2021. [Details here](#).

FAITH COMMUNITIES OF BALTIMORE WITH PRIDE (FCBWP)

The FCBWP Coordinating Team is always looking for new voices and new ideas from people who join us at the planning table. Due to illness, retirement, and relocation, the Coordinating Team again asks our members and supporters to step up and join the team. The blending of the FCBWP and the Baltimore LGBTQ+ community have a critically important relationship. So, consider joining the Coordinating Team family. Your thoughts, ideas, and voices belong on our planning group. For more information, contact Ryan Sattler ryansattler@comcast.net or 717-891-6156.

Thinking About Race – (October 2021) Isabel Wilkerson in *Caste*

Recent high-profile efforts to prohibit teaching about the racially fraught history of the United States and from suggesting that history has any impact or creates any responsibility today, is addressed succinctly by Isabel Wilkerson on page 15 of her latest book, *Caste: The Origins of our Discontents*:

“We in the developed world are like homeowners who inherited a house on a piece of land that is beautiful on the outside but whose soil is unstable loam and rock, heaving and contracting over generations, cracks patched but the deeper ruptures waved away for decades, centuries even. Many people may rightly say, ‘*I had nothing to do with how this all started. I have nothing to do with the sins of the past. My ancestors never attacked indigenous people, never owned slaves.*’ And, yes. Not one of us was here when this house was built. Our immediate ancestors may have had nothing to do with it,

but here we are, the current occupants of a property with stress cracks and bowed walls and fissures built into the foundation. We are heirs to whatever is right or wrong with it. We did not erect the uneven pillars or joists, but they are ours to deal with now.

“And any further deterioration is, in fact, on our hands.”

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.

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.

Schedule of Meetings for Worship

Every First Day (Sunday)	10:30 a.m. Homewood Meeting House (may hopefully return downstairs later this summer)
First Sunday of each month	12:30 p.m. Meeting for Business, Homewood Meeting House <u>BUSINESS MEETING: October 3 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>Gary Gillespie</u> , 443.208.2757
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>Meri Robie-Craven</u> , 410.207.3903.
Peace & Social Justice Committee—OPEN	As called ; contact <u>Malachy Kilbride</u> , 301.283.7627
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>Kendall Kennison</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 other than Meeting for Worship are still 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=UDNxVnlVSkZQOHlXWlc3NHpHeHdhZz09>

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: 9:00 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

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=VG9kV3V0di96VEFoZlo2Q2lTeEQrdz09>

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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