

Ninth Month (September) 2022

Homewood Friends Meeting

Newsletter

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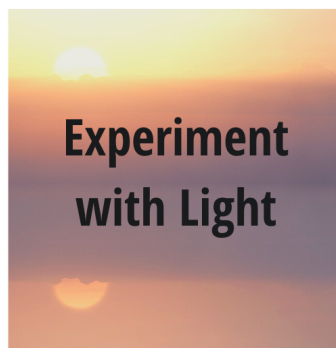
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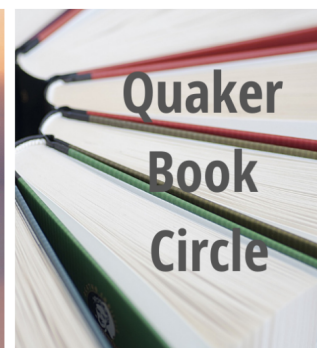
Religious Education at Homewood Friends Meeting



Quaker Speak
20 Minute Introduction
to Quaker Worship



**Experiment
with Light**



**Quaker
Book
Circle**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES

September is the start of a new year for children and adult Religious Education at Homewood Friends Meeting.

The start to the children's R.E. program will be a little different this year. On Sunday, **September 25**, Homewood is hosting Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting, and we'll offer an educational program for any young guests from other meetings as well as Homewood's children. We'll open our regular program on Sunday **October 2**.

The program will once again be taught by our beloved Maddie Doll. It may have some exciting new subject matter, and give children insight into how the meeting functions. Holiday and special events are also planned for this year.

The opening of the RE program is a great time to invite families with children to join us. It's helpful to know which children will be participating as we plan for the year (& their ages). Please let Kendall Kennison know if there are any changes with your family, or if you have a new young person to add to the program. kendall.kennison@goucher.edu

A group of teens from the various Baltimore-area Quaker congregations (Homewood, Stony Run, Gunpowder and Friends Church Baltimore) is forming this fall. The initial focus will be on service projects and discussions about topics of interest to the Young Friends. To learn more, please contact Kathy Rogers, Stony Run R.E. member and Homewood staff, 410-804-7224 (text or voice) or krogersmph@gmail.com.

Homewood Ministry & Counsel is also launching a new adult religious education program, a series of *20 Minute Introduction(s) to Quaker Worship*. Each session will start with a short QuakerSpeak video, followed by a brief discussion. Questions may include: These sessions will be held on four Sundays: **September 4, 11, October 2 and 9** at the rise of meeting. Please come to as many sessions as you can, each session will focus on a different QuakerSpeak video. [Video for September 4](#) and [Video for September 11](#).

In addition, the *Experiment with Light* sessions continue online every **Thursday evening at 7:30 PM**, as well as the **fourth Sunday at 9 AM**.

Quaker Book Circle is [looking for a new facilitator](#). This is a monthly discussion on a text or article focusing on Quaker beliefs. In the past QBC has been held both online and in person on the second Sunday of the month at 9:00 for 45 minutes, but the time and format are flexible. No experience is necessary, other than an interest in sharing with others your thoughts about the reading and facilitating the discussion. The group is usually around 5 to 7 participants. Past leaders of the book circle are willing to help. Contact Donna McKusick at dmckusick@icloud.com for more information.

Kevin-Douglas Olive expects to repeat his class "*Deepening our spiritual practice in the manner of Friends*." Please stay tuned for details.

Additional special events are in the works. Details will be published in future newsletters and the weekly silent announcements. We hope to find something that is of interest to you in this list.

If you have requests for future programming, please speak with a member of Ministry & Counsel, or the Religious Education committee for children's subject matters.

Pandemic update: We continue to monitor local positivity rates and other pandemic indicators. We still [require masks inside the meetinghouse](#) for all large gatherings. Our full pandemic protocols are on our website.

The building is open to committees and renters. We have welcomed both our returning renters and some new groups. Building users are required to follow all pandemic guidelines. Please contact the office to schedule space in the meetinghouse.

FAITH IN ACTION

AN URGENT CALL TO THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS: A group of 19 high-profile Friends from around the U.S. put out this urgent call to action <https://quakercall.net/>. Friends were asked to participate in a national dialog on the **urgent threats to our democracy** and what's at stake. Homewood Friends Meeting approved at July business meeting to sign on to the call. At the September business meeting, Homewood Friends will discuss next steps. Be alert for future updates.

WICKER BASKET CONTRIBUTIONS: The Wicker Basket recipient continues to be CARES. The following items are desperately needed: **canned pasta meals, one pound bags of rice, and jelly, as well as paper bags with sturdy handles.** Drop off times are Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 9:00 AM - 12 noon, and Saturdays 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. 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. Donations support the maintenance of the Meeting and our contributions to designated service organizations. Homewood Trustees have created these [FAQs of Giving to Homewood Friends Meeting](#) including our Switch to Breeze:

Why did we switch from PayPal to Breeze?

There are many reasons we made the switch to Breeze. Breeze is a company that manages online donations for thousands of organizations, including several other Friends meetings in Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and has lower fees than PayPal. It takes fewer steps for our office to process gifts through Breeze than PayPal. Like PayPal, Breeze's donation form is encrypted to protect your

personal information. And Breeze has additional database services, which are beneficial for the Meeting.

What is ACH and why should I give that way?

ACH is like an e-check. The amount is directly withdrawn from your bank account instead of charged to a credit card.

ACH has the lowest fees for online giving and is the easiest gift for us to process. It is recommended by our auditors as the most secure method of giving, and as an electronic method of money transfer, it is eco-friendly.

Can I still give by credit/debit card?

Yes! Breeze works just like PayPal or any other online giving form with a credit/debit card. The fee for Homewood to process gifts this way is just slightly higher than with ACH, but it is just as eco-friendly.

Why not give by auto-generated check?

This is still an option. However, when you give by auto-generated check through your bank, an actual check is created and mailed to our office. This uses more resources – paper for checks and deposit slips and energy to mail the checks and then drive to the bank to deposit checks; we have had trouble with USPS delays (sometimes months late); and paper checks are more time consuming for our staff to process.

Can I still give by paper check?

This is still an option, particularly if this is the most comfortable way for you to make a gift. If you prefer to give this way, please make your check payable to “Homewood Friends Meeting.”



You can learn more or **switch your donation to Breeze on [our website](#)**.

That page has a link to step by step instructions for signing up with Breeze.

You're also welcome to call the office or ask Polly Heninger, clerk of Trustees, for assistance.

TRUSTEES FUNDING FOR EDUCATION & TO PARTICIPATE IN QUAKER EVENTS

The Consolidated Education Fund is available for children of Homewood Friends Meeting. Many members have given to support education. This money can be used to support schooling at any level, public or private, as well as for educational projects, resources, and supplemental activities.

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 about either fund and for the application form, please see our website page: <https://homewoodfriends.org/memberresources/scholarships/>

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOMEWOOD

MEETING FOR WORSHIP: every Sunday, 10:30 - 11:30 AM on Zoom worship and in-person.

ONLINE SOCIAL TIME AFTER WORSHIP: 11:30 AM 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.

SIMPLE LUNCH: after the rise of in person Meeting for Worship is held on the side porch. Masks are not required outdoors, are required in the kitchen and dining room except when seated and eating or drinking. Contact the office with any questions.

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

BUSINESS MEETING: Sunday, September 4 at 12:30 PM on Zoom (using the Meeting for Worship link). As usual, there is no August Business Meeting.

QUAKER BOOK CIRCLE: As mentioned in the first article, QBC is looking to identify an individual to lead our Quaker Book Circle. Contact Donna McKusick at dmckusick@icloud.com for more information.

HOLDING IN THE LIGHT PEOPLE AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE IN BALTIMORE (second Sundays): September 11, 12:30 - 1:00 PM 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.

YOGA PRACTICE: Sunday, 9/18 9:00 - 10:15 AM Molly Mitchell will lead a gentle yoga practice suitable for all. Deep and complete breathing will guide our movement, leading us to a place of stillness where we can abide in the inner light: a beautiful preparation for worship. Please bring a yoga mat, and, if you have them, one or two blocks. Contact Molly with any questions, 1mollymitchell@gmail.com

YAF (YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS): As always, reach out to Ben Rogers (410-622-5671) to get involved in YAF or with specific questions. He will share details for the September social with YAF list once everything is figured out.

EXPERIMENT WITH LIGHT (fourth Sundays): September 25, 9:00 AM on Zoom.

PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE: (fourth Sundays): September 25, 9:00 AM on Zoom. Questions or issues to bring up? Contact Malachy Kilbride at 301.283.7627 or malachykilbride@gmail.com

CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING (CQM): will be hosted by Homewood on **September 25.**

CQM is a gathering of Friends from eight Monthly Meetings in central Maryland and includes Annapolis, Gunpowder, Homewood, Little Falls, Patapsco, Patuxent, Sandy Spring, and Stony Run. After a two year hiatus (March 2020 to February 2022), CQM resumed holding gatherings in February (virtual) and June (hybrid at Patapsco). September 25th will be the third and final gathering of CQM for 2022. The Nuts and Bolts Committee (for planning and coordination) has been pleased with the responses of support for continuing CQM.

On September 25th, we will have worship, a simple lunch, activities related to Homewood's 100th anniversary, a brief business meeting, and opportunity for Monthly Meetings to share what is happening in their Quaker communities. The primary focus is on spiritual and social fellowship as we rebuild the CQM community. It is a great opportunity to meet new Friends and renew friendships. Come for part of the day or all. We especially want to welcome anyone who has not attended CQM to join us!

The day's schedule is:

10:00 AM: Registration for Guests
10:30 AM: Meeting for Worship (Hybrid)
12:00 Noon: Lunch
1:05 PM: Overview of the Afternoon (Hybrid for Remainder of Program)
1:15 PM: Homewood's 100th Anniversary Program (1922 - 2022)
1:45 PM: Meeting for Business and Sharing by Monthly Meetings
2:25 PM: Closing

Volunteers are needed to assist with the meal and to serve as hosts for visiting Friends/friends. Please contact the Homewood office or John Mckusick, a member of the Nuts and Bolts Committee if you would like to help or if you have questions about CQM. John: john.ca.mckusick@verizon.net or 410-830-9225, Office: HomewoodFriends@gmail.com or 410-235-4438.

CHARLES VILLAGE GARDEN WALK: October 2, 12-4 PM, This event resumes after a pandemic hiatus. See the GOAT Noat for information about preparing our garden for visitors.

WORKING FOR CHANGE: Even though Homewood's Change Group has been laid down for now, important work continues to support Homewood's approved commitment to anti-racism.

Homewood is a member of the local Black Lives Matter Interfaith Coalition ([BLMIC.org](https://blmic.org)). The website advertises rallies which are multi-congregational, multiracial, and interfaith. They provide an opportunity for Homewood members and the Meeting to build relationships.

The September rally will be Sunday **September 18** from 1:30 - 2:30 PM - location TBA. Please check the website for details. Direct action: they continue to collect school supplies and uniforms for Calvin Rodwell Elementary/Middle School.

DAILY MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR UKRAINE: Friends are invited to participate in this one-hour, daily online meeting for worship hosted by Friends House Moscow. At 12 noon ET, Zoom opens at 11:45 AM. More details and Zoom link at this website: <https://westernfriend.org/meeting-worship-ukraine> Friend Tanya Hicks reports that she has been glad to be present among hundreds of worshippers attending virtual Moscow Friends Meeting. Visitors from around the world focus light on conflict, with inspiring messages of peace.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: See the featured article in the newsletter for details on religious education at Homewood this fall. Opening day for First Day School is split between September 25 & October 2 this year. If you would like to be added to the list of families, please contact Kendall Kennison kendall.kennison@goucher.edu.

TRUSTEES: It's the time of year for budget planning. Trustees needs your budget requests - from committees and anyone else who wants to request money for 2023 - **by Wednesday, October 5**. Please send earlier if possible. Send to Polly Heninger at peh616@msn.com.

Committee clerks and contact people have received an email with more details about making these requests though everyone can be thinking about the budget. Questions or concerns, please contact Polly at 410-419-2305 or peh616@msn.com.

Thinking About Race – (September 2022) Tears We Cannot Stop

This month's column, which quotes a passage from the book by Michael Eric Dyson, [Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon To White America](#) (2017), was contributed by Tronette Anochie of Sandy Spring Friends meeting who also provided a response.

"America is in trouble, and a lot of that trouble - perhaps most of it - has to do with race. Everywhere we turn, there is discord and division, death and destruction. When we survey the land, we see a country full of suffering that we cannot fully understand, and a history that we can no longer deny. Slavery casts a long shadow across our lives. The spoils we reaped from forcing people to work without wages and treating them with grievous inhumanity continue to haunt us in a racial gulf that seems impossible to overcome. Black and white people don't merely have different experiences; we seem to occupy different universes, with worldviews that are fatally opposed to one another."

Response: Where do we go from here? The BYM Working Group on Racism, the Growing Diverse Leadership Committee, the Reparations Action Committee, and STRIDE are seeking the way forward out of darkness. But everyone is needed as we move towards the Light. A Friend who

likes simple prayers asks, "What is mine to do?" Each person should be asking themselves this question and then listening to the Spirit within for direction, guidance, love, and action.

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, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, currently via Zoom. If you would like to attend, contact the clerk at david.etheridge@verizon.net.

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**.

GREEN ORGANIZING ACTION TEAM: "GOAT NOAT" FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

Achieving Zero Waste at the Meetinghouse and Home Beginning in September, the Green Organizing Action Team (GOAT) will be focused on the goal of "Achieving Zero Waste at the Meetinghouse and Home". Needless to say this is an ambitious goal. And also we acknowledge that what we are doing and will do, is like a tiny pebble thrown into the ocean. However, our faith guides and requires of us to do all that we can to care for the earth. We will start as we did a few years ago - before COVID 19, do you remember - with an audit and assessment of our practices that reduce our carbon and methane footprints in areas like heating, food, transportation, etc. Prior to the pandemic, we launched a workshop on the plastic emergency and how we can reduce our reliance on plastic. We hope to return to that campaign with renewed energy this year. Look for announcements on this campaign and other efforts to achieve zero waste.

Garden Club Work Opportunities - Stay Tuned Homewood hosts the Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting (CQM) on Sunday, September 25th and the Charles Village Tour on Sunday, October 2nd. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to share the Homewood Pollinators Garden with visitors. We will have at least two Garden Club work mornings or evenings in September to get the garden in great shape. Stay tuned for information in the Weekly Announcements about these activities.

Contributions to Area Environmental Organizations from Homewood - Budget Time for 2023 is Coming Soon Below are the four environmental organizations to which Homewood made donations in 2022 based upon recommendations from GOAT. These organizations are doing really good work and are great partners. Learn more about these organizations and let GOAT know if you have questions or suggestions as we approach the FY 2023 budget.

- Blue Water Baltimore (BWB) <https://bluewaterbaltimore.org>

- Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) <https://ccanactionfund.org>
- Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake (IPC) <https://www.interfaithpartners.org>
- Interfaith Power and Light (IPL) <https://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org>

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

OTHER QUAKER EVENTS AND NOTICES

BYM: Upcoming events of note:

- The Fall Spiritual Formation Retreat will be **September 9-11**. [Details and registration](#).
- Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting will be at Homewood **September 25** (details above).
- Save the Date for the BYM Women's Retreat, October 8 at Adelphi and online. [More info and registration](#).

FRIENDS MEETING OF WASHINGTON: September 18, 12:30 PM talk by Rabbi Leila Gal Berner, entitled, "*Listening to the Heart of Genesis: A Contemplative Path*." Rabbi Berner offers a fresh experiential approach to personal contemplation, based on a Christian method of reading Scripture—*lectio divina*. Rabbi Berner's adaptation, *kriat ha-kodesh* (reading the sacred), is welcoming and accessible to readers of all backgrounds. Rabbi Berner explains rabbinic perspectives that have illuminated the stories in Genesis and suggests questions for contemplation and meditation, interspersed with chants and silence. Groups have formed throughout North America using her method. [Register here](#). Questions should be directed to Sabrina McCarthy, sabrina.mccarthy@verizon.net or 240-778-5234.

PENDLE HILL: *Opening to the Heart of Worship* is an in person program featuring Christopher Sammond, **September 30 - October 2**. Learn more and register [here](#). Financial aid is available if cost is a barrier to attendance.

[Check here](#) for upcoming events at Pendle Hill.

JOIN PENDLE HILL FOR DAILY WORSHIP: You are welcome to join PH Friends for a half-hour Meeting for Worship every day from 8:30 to 9:10 AM Eastern Time. Details [on their website](#). Zoom: +1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 432 071 090

QUAKERS AND THE LARGER COMMUNITY

FCNL: *Strengthening Democracy this Election Year* **September 28 6:30 PM** online discussion of how Quakers are being led to respond to threats to our democracy. Featured speakers Gretchen Castle and Margaret Lew. [Details and registration](#).

Save the Date for the FCNL Annual Meeting & Quaker Public Policy Institute **November 16-20**.

Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, the Ninth Query: 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?

Schedule of Meetings for Worship

Every First Day (Sunday)	10:30 AM Homewood Meeting House
First Sunday of each month	12:30 PM Meeting for Business, virtual

Schedule of Committee and Group Meetings

Administrative	Odd months last Sundays 12:30 PM (Special date 10/2)
Green Organizing Action Team (GOAT)-- OPEN	3rd Sundays , 1:30 PM; contact <u>Gary Gillespie</u> , 443.208.2757
Hospitality—OPEN	As called ; for now, contact the office, 410.235.4438
House & Grounds—OPEN	2nd Mondays at 7:00 PM; 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	4th Sundays , 9:00 AM; 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 PM, Meeting House; contact <u>Kendall Kennison</u> , 410.830.9225
Trustees	2nd Thursdays ; contact <u>Polly Heninger</u> , 410.419.2305

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 unless otherwise noted. For more information about accessing Zoom, please go to <https://homewoodfriends.org/zoom-links/>. 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.

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** (12:30) 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 any later events.

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: 9:00 AM Eastern Time

Fourth Sunday of each month

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88006195829?pwd=T0xESkdGcmVTcGFZ0lrRnVtUzJhUT09>

Meeting ID: 880 0619 5829

Passcode: 139231

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 88006195829# US (Washington DC)

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/89966007788?pwd=WjBkUnFSV3d2WVQ1N0JPRmViN1BhQT09>

Meeting ID: 899 6600 7788

Passcode: 943260

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 89966007788#

Phone number: 301 715 8592

Topic: Homewood Quaker Book Circle

Time: 9:00 AM Eastern Time

Second Sunday of each month

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82663801938?pwd=aVktMVlLM0JlTcE5SQmdWUTlxeTBpZz09>

Meeting ID: 826 6380 1938

Passcode: 109924

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 82663801938#

Phone number: 301 715 8592 US

Topic: Homewood Peace & Social Justice Committee

Time: 9:00 AM, Eastern Time

Fourth Sunday of each month

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85688289550?pwd=bjFjTzU0ZDN0VmNKQnoreVB0VHI2QT09>

Meeting ID: 856 8828 9550
Passcode: 213715
One tap mobile: 3017158592, 85688289550#
Phone number: 301 715 8592

Topic: Trustees

Time: 7:00 PM every month on the second Tuesday or 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: Varies. Contact M&C
<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:
301 715 8592 US

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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