

First Month (January) 2023

Homewood Friends Meeting *Newsletter*

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Baltimore, Maryland 21218
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(includes calendar, no password required)

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Thank you to everyone who has expressed their appreciation for my work at Homewood Friends Meeting. I've loved getting to know you (and/or knowing in new ways). I will miss my Homewood Friends very much, but look forward to many joint endeavors between Homewood and Stony Run.

Starting with the invitation to attend Stony Run's service project for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service on Monday, January 16, 2023. After the

BLMIC rally, we'll be making messages of support for the Baltimore Hunger Project.

BLMIC Rally: 1:30 - 2:30 PM in front of Mother Mary Lange Catholic School. (200 N. MLK Blvd. 21201)

Activity at Stony Run: 3-4 PM Please join Stony Run Friends for warm drinks and a service activity.

**Honor his legacy with
a day on,
not a day off.**

**Monday, January 16 2023
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
National Day of Service**



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

WICKER BASKET CONTRIBUTIONS: The Wicker Basket recipient continues to be CARES. The following items are desperately needed: **toiletries, one pound bags of rice and as always, sturdy paper bags.** Drop off times are Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 9:00 AM - 12 noon, and Saturdays 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. CARES is moving in January from their location at the rear of St. Mary's Church, 5502 York Rd, down the road to 401 Woodbourne Ave. You may also send checks.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MEETING:

You can make gifts online at our [website](#) or by mail to our office (3107 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218) or leave them in the wooden contribution box in the meeting room. Checks should be payable to "Homewood Friends Meeting."

If you have questions or would like to talk about giving, please feel free to contact Polly Heninger, Trustees clerk, at peh616@msn.com or 410-419-2305.

TRUSTEES FUNDING FOR EDUCATION & TO PARTICIPATE IN QUAKER EVENTS

Homewood Friends has set aside special funds to help members and regular attenders - adults and children - attend Quaker gatherings, camps and educational institutions. The funds are administered by Homewood's Trustees Committee. For more details and the form needed to apply, go to [Scholarships & Funds](#). The form is also available from the Meeting office.

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 in the dining room. Masks 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, January 8 at 1:00 PM on Zoom (using the Meeting for Worship link). Note the time change, to follow the Holding in the Light monthly event.

QUAKER BOOK CIRCLE: QBC remains on hiatus. Ministry & Counsel is looking to identify an individual to lead our Quaker Book Circle.

HOLDING IN THE LIGHT PEOPLE AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE IN BALTIMORE (second Sundays): January 8, 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.

YAF (YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS): There will likely be a YAF potluck on January 14, please save the date and watch for details from Ben. As always, reach out to Ben Rogers (410-622-5671) to get involved in YAF or with specific questions. You can also use the new email, YAF@homewoodfriends.org to contact Ben!

HOUSE & GROUNDS: Saturday January 14, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Homewood Work Day
Volunteers are needed to work on the following projects:

- Kitchen: organizing space and eliminating pots that do not work on electric cooktop
- Installing partition on double doors entering the meeting room, west side. This partition was built years ago to reduce noise and heat loss. If we like the effect, we will keep using it.
- Cleaning blinds in front vestibule. Evaluating if they can be painted.
- Pantry kitchen: taking up old tiles and replacing them.

MINISTRY & COUNSEL: The Baltimore Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice Committee has requested input from Monthly Meetings on proposed revisions to our Faith & Practice. As you may remember, Faith and Practice includes advice regarding procedures within the faith, membership, current practice for conducting meeting business, as well as numerous quotations from Friends on belief, worship, concerns, leadings, and testimonies. The BYM Faith and Practice Committee is currently focusing on the *Life of the Spirit* section of the current Faith & Practice (1988 rev through 2021).

Right now the Committee is looking for feedback on two proposed sections: *The Quaker Experience* and *Meeting for Worship*. These two sections would replace three sections in the current Faith & Practice: 1) *Cultivation of the Life of the Spirit*, 2) *Meeting for Worship*, and 3) *Vocal Ministry*. Two files with the documents are on the website under adult religious education materials. .

- [Proposed Revisions: BYM Faith and Practice Meeting for Worship Draft.pdf](#)
- [Current sections: Life of the Spirit Meeting for Worship Vocal Ministry \(2021F&P rev\).pdf](#)

Homewood's Ministry and Counsel Committee invites you to participate in two one-hour sessions to provide your input to BYM. Participation and insights from people new to Quakerism is valuable. We will have worship sharing around:

- *The Quaker Experience* on **January 15, 2023** at 12:15 pm to 1:15 pm
- *Meeting for Worship* on **February 19, 2023** at 12:15 pm to 1:15 pm.

Both sessions will be hybrid. The in-person sessions will be held in the meeting room.

The BYM Faith and Practice Committee asks that the Meeting consider the proposed replacements and share their sense of whether inclusion in Faith & Practice will make it a better document. They also welcome any suggestions for improvements. We will use the following queries provided by BYM's Faith and Practice Committee to guide the worship sharing.

- What resonates for you in this text?
- What if anything causes resistance?
- What challenges you?
- What suggestions do you have for improving the document?

Ministry and Counsel will record the responses from both sessions and share them with BYM's Faith and Practice Committee by March 1, 2023 so that they can reflect on the responses, revise as necessary, and produce a document for first reading for the June 2023 interim meeting. Ministry and Counsel will also make the responses available to Homewood Meeting.

Please join us for this important work on **January 15** and **February 19**! If you have any questions, please contact Susan Russell Walters at susan1624@gmail.com.

EXPERIMENT WITH LIGHT (fourth Sundays): January 22 at 9 AM on Zoom, led by Susan Russell Walters.

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). The website advertises rallies which are multi-congregational, multiracial, and interfaith. They provide an opportunity for Homewood members and the Meeting to build relationships.

On Sunday, **January 15**, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Baltimore Hebrew Congregation is partnering with other congregations and organizations in the Baltimore area for its 6th annual movie screening, panel, and talkback. This year's event will feature the film "**On These Grounds**," an award-winning documentary that explores the school-to-prison pipeline by focusing on an explosive video of a white school resource officer in South Carolina throwing a Black teenager from her school desk. The movie explores what role race played in the incident, examining the disparate media coverage of the incident and the origins of criminalizing children's

behavior in school. This event is free. Babysitting will be available. Light refreshments will be served. Please direct questions to Jacob Mishook, jacobmishook@gmail.com.

The next rally will be Monday **January 16** from 1:30 - 2:30 PM - location 200 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd (in front of Mother Mary Lange Catholic School). Related action is not yet announced. Look for more details on the website.

BLMIC Contest in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Attention: all Students (grades K through 12)

DEADLINE FRIDAY, JANUARY 6!

Prompt: Imagine if Dr. King came to your school (or other place) and observed a conflict. Describe the conflict. How do you think Dr. King would help you to settle the conflict? Write an essay, draw a picture, create a comic strip, etc. Be Creative! Prizes! Click [HERE](#) for more information and how to enter!

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

MINISTRY & COUNSEL: Homewood Friends Meeting strives to be a caring community, but we don't always know who needs support. Ministry and Counsel would like to maintain a list of those who need support (only with their explicit permission) so that Friends can reach out. This list would be updated weekly and would be available either in the silent announcements or as a separate email. If you would like to be on the list or to recommend someone, please text or call Tanya Hicks, 410-274-4696.

GREEN ORGANIZING ACTION TEAM:

"GOAT NOAT" FOR JANUARY 2023

All Friends are invited to participate in Veganuary "No Pressure" BYM Edition!

The BYM Working Group on Right Relationship with Animals is offering a BYM version of "Veganuary," when people around the world *try out* a plant-based diet in January: No pressure, no judgments! [Click here](#) for details.

We will provide you with super-easy options to help you adapt as many of your meals as you would like. We will send out suggestions in a weekly email to make meal planning and shopping painless. Need a specialized diet? All the recipes are dairy-free, and many are gluten-free.

We will also offer a weekly Zoom get-together, led by three Friends who are not themselves vegan, so we can encourage each other and celebrate the small victories. Join us for an optional introductory Zoom at 7 pm on Thursday, December 29. If you cannot make that meeting, that's okay. We will continue to gather weekly throughout the month of January.

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

Thinking About Race – (January 2023) —“Ladder to the Light”

Ladder to the Light -- An Indigenous Elder's Meditations on Hope and Courage, by Steven Charleston, member of the Choctaw Nation. 2021, Broadleaf Books, p. 79

“One of the greatest challenges we face in our ascent to freedom is the fear of diversity. Throughout the centuries, oppressive cultures have invented scores of ways to pretend human beings are fundamentally different. They have invented the concept of race. They have developed elaborate caste systems. They have engineered class distinctions. They have economically separated people by gender. They have practiced religious exclusivity and intolerance. The list goes on, but the results have been the same. Humanity has remained fractured along imaginary fault lines created by fear and perpetuated for social control and domination.”

Steven goes on to tell us how to climb the ladder: “In the kiva, we begin overcoming this fear. We begin to see the deeper truth of our own humanity. The higher we climb on the ladder, the more we realize the reality of our own existence. We are not different; we are the same. The light exposes these false divisions and helps us recognize one another for what we are: brothers and sisters in the great tribe of the human beings.”

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**.

ORAL HISTORY: Have you listened to [Homewood's History](#)? It's posted on the Centenary page on our website. Click through from the photo of the meetinghouse from the early 1920s on our home page, then scroll down to the embedded audio player.

OTHER QUAKER EVENTS AND NOTICES

BYM: The Friends Helping Friends group, a working group under the BYM Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee, is offering a training by Zoom on two weekends in February on the topics of mediation and facilitation. This training is for people who would be willing to be called upon to work with conflicts between Friends in Meetings in BYM. [Registration link here](#).

FMW: Friends Meeting of Washington has invited F/friends from throughout BYM to participate in this virtual learning opportunity. **Listening to the Heart of Genesis – A Contemplative Path – with Rabbi Leila Gal Berner, Ph.D.**

Basing her new Jewish practice on a Christian medieval contemplative practice, *lectio divina*, Rabbi Leila Gal Berner has developed *kriat hakodesh*, reading the sacred, in which we listen to a biblical text in deep contemplation and then enter into silence, after having been asked personal questions which pertain to the text and to our own lives. It is a powerful experience in which we enter into a new gateway to the Bible connecting it to our own life experience. The biblical matriarchs and patriarchs become US as we feel the commonalities between their lives and our own.

Rabbi Leila will offer five sessions of *kriat hakodesh* by Zoom from **February 3rd through March 3rd, 2023**. The sessions will be on **Friday mornings from 10 to 11:20 AM**. The five sessions are enriched through deep listening, silence, chanting and sharing. The stories of Genesis come alive for us in new ways.

Friends must commit to stay with the group for all five sessions. \$125 per participant. A minimum of eight participants is needed.

To register, please get in touch with Sabrina McCarthy at sabrina.mccarthy@verizon.net, cell 240.778.5234.

PENDLE HILL: [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

***Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting*, the First Query: On Meeting for Worship**

Are meetings for worship held in expectant waiting for Divine guidance? Are Friends encouraged to share spiritual insights? Are special gifts of ministry recognized and encouraged? Do you come to meeting with heart and mind prepared? Are you careful not to disturb the spirit of the meeting by late arrival or in other ways?

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 Tuesdays ; 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=bWZIM0tCZlJ2ZE5WU0FzR0R5RUlqZz09>
 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 (except this one!)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88006195829?pwd=T0xESkdGcmVTcGFZOlRnVtUzJhUT09>
 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 (on hiatus)

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
<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

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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