

Ninth Month 2023

# Homewood Friends Meeting

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## Newsletter

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Baltimore, MD 21218  
homewoodfriends@gmail.com  
[homewoodfriends.org](http://homewoodfriends.org)  
410.235.4438



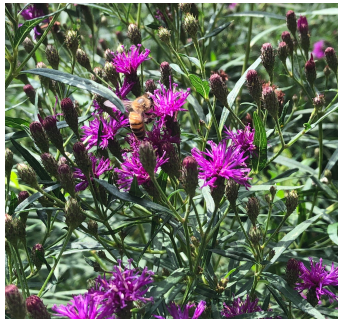
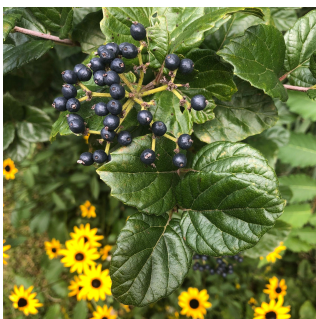
Clerk: Sarah Bur  
Interim Asst. Clerk:  
Mina Brunyate  
Newsletter Editor:  
Luke Mayhew

### *Queries from Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting*

#### The Ninth Query: The Social Order

Do you promote social justice and make your life a testimony to fair dealing? Do you seek to understand and appreciate differing cultures and social values? Do you support fair treatment of all regardless of race, gender, age and other differences? Are you concerned for those in our society who are disadvantaged? Do you take your full share of civic responsibility by voting and giving service? Do you oppose the use of land, labor, technology and capital for human exploitation or in ways destructive to other living things?

For references related to the Query see [BYM Faith and Practice](#), page 29.



## Summer Highlights



(Cori Fordham/The Baltimore Banner)

### A Homewood Friend in the News!

Anne Beck showed her swimming and performance skills as part of Fluid Movement's water ballet "Sinkholes, Sewers and Streams" with performances at both Druid Hill and Riverside Park. Fluid Movement not only dazzled audiences, but brought awareness to our city's water infrastructure, from rain to tap, from drain to surface water. Check out the photo essay in the [Baltimore Banner 8/11/23](#)

### Movers & Quakers

In preparation for Hinenu's office move-in, a team of Friendly volunteers cleared out old furniture from the Vera Shank Room, while our House and Grounds committee arranged for installation of new electrical outlets and a deep clean by Diamondz and Pearlz.

The office has had a history of hosting important community work, including the American Friends Service Committee and The Baltimore Orchard Project. It bears the name of Vera Shank, a Homewood Friend who we remember for her longtime work partnering with Native American communities and resource centers in Baltimore.



John McKusick, Peter Sheehan, and Perry Rose.



Hinenu members in their new office, preparing for the Selichot service. All are welcome for the service in the meeting room that includes contemporary music and liturgy together -- 9/9 from 8 to 9:30 PM.

### Office Warming

In August, after being part of our building-use community for several years, Hinenu Justice Shtiebl moved into their new office in the Vera Shank room of the meetinghouse. This will serve as a workspace for Rabbi Ariana and other Hinenu leadership, as well as a space for educational, advocacy, and faith activities. To celebrate, Hinenu invited community members and Friends to an office warming on the porch (see picture on p.5).



## Around the Building

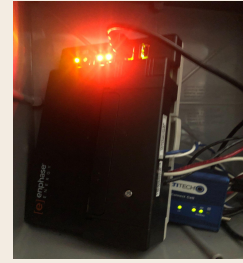
### New Office Windows



Improved look, building integrity, and insulation. This will make the office a more comfortable workspace in the cold months!

Over the summer Friends have continued to maintain and improve our beloved meetinghouse. Whether it was a small tweak, routine maintenance, a nifty addition or a major project, thank you to committee members and volunteers who keep us going. Special thanks to the House and Grounds committee for most of the projects here.

### Solar Tracking Reboot



Friend Rachael Neill made brave journeys to the sub-basement (and through an hours-long labyrinth of service calls) to get our solar modem back online to track our generated energy. This is in addition to a new 5G modem installed earlier this year.

### New Cisterns Part 1



Collects rainwater from our roof which helps limit overflow and debris runoff in our watershed. Thanks to Homewood GOAT for leading this project!

### New Cisterns Part 2



We can use cistern water and a new pump to water our garden. Thanks to Blue Water Baltimore for installation, and Chesapeake Bay Trust for grant funding.

### Mailbox



Keeps our mail secure -- no longer will mail go through the old slot and onto the floor! This also lets us share a mailing address with Hinenu.

### New Front Doorbell



Allows ramp users to get door assistance even when events are downstairs.

### A "Knox Box"



Allows firefighters to enter in an emergency without breaking down our front doors.

### Tuning Our Piano



Now your songs won't just be spirit-led, they'll also be *in tune*!

**ATTN: Committee Clerks, Project Points, and all who are part of and interested in the Homewood budgeting process:**

As we work toward a **narrative budget**, which describes in words the resources that we devote to things that matter to Homewood Friends Meeting, we also still need a **line-item budget** to manage funds throughout the year. Trustees will use the process we have used in previous years to develop this line-item budget.

*To that end, please send your committee or group's requests for the 2024 budget to Polly Heninger ([peh616@msn.com](mailto:peh616@msn.com) or [polly.heninger@gmail.com](mailto:polly.heninger@gmail.com)) **no later than Wednesday, October 4**. The earlier the better!*

*Committee clerks and contact people have received an email with queries and 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 the email address above.*



PHIL FURNAS, A MEMBER OF HOMEWOOD FRIENDS MEETING, PASSED AWAY IN LATE AUGUST IN THE CARE OF GILCHRIST HOSPICE.

THERE WILL BE A MEMORIAL AT THE MEETINGHOUSE. TIME AND DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED TO ALL HOMEWOOD MEMBERS AND ATTENDERS.

WE ARE HOLDING IN THE LIGHT PHIL'S WIFE CAROL, AND THEIR FAMILY. SENDING CONDOLENCES AND CARE IS ENCOURAGED:

CAROL FURNAS  
119 BURNETT ST.  
BALTIMORE, MD 21230

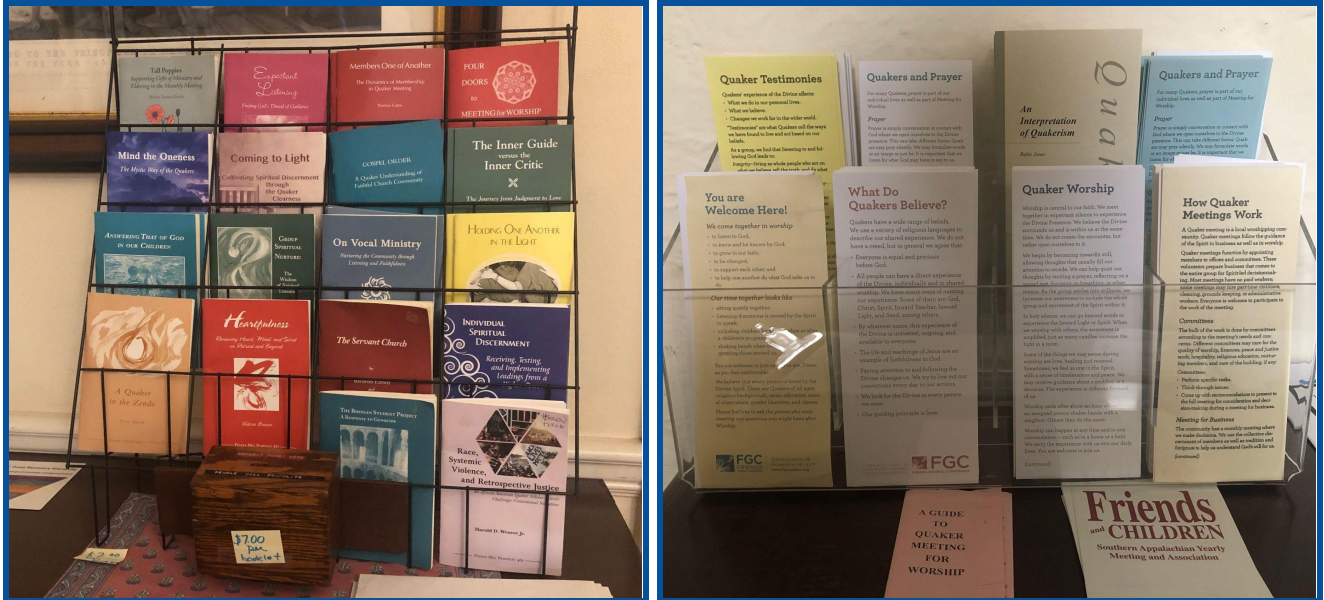


PHIL FURNAS  
1937 TO 2023



**From Outreach Team: Please send in profile pictures (simple headshots) to the office so they can be added to a visual directory** 😊

Restocked!



Our Pendle Hill Pamphlet rack is full of readings for sale, specially picked out by our Ministry and Counsel Committee and Outreach Team to supplement the spiritual journeys of our members, attenders, and newcomers. For a more basic introduction to different aspects of Quakerism, take some of the free tri-fold pamphlets, also newly restocked. Contact the office if you would like help obtaining any of these publications. And don't forget the many books that you can borrow from the Homewood Friends Library!



# INVITATION TO HOMEWOOD SPIRITUAL FORMATION 2023-2024

Now is the time to [register](#) for Homewood's Spiritual Formation program for 2023-24.

During Spiritual Formation, we gather in friendship for deep listening that opens our hearts and helps us discern how the divine is at work in our lives. The goal is to support and encourage one another in finding spiritual practices that nourish us individually and as a community.

Many of you got a sample of spiritual formation programming by attending the "Mini Retreat" session in July. Please consider if you are able to commit to the full program. It is important for participants to make themselves as spiritually present as they can at the monthly large group gatherings and the monthly small group meetings. That being said, folks with limited availability may choose to attend only the large group gatherings. ***If you think you are interested, but not sure, please register and come to the first large group meeting on 9/18.***

[REGISTER NOW](#)

## THE 2023-24 SPIRITUAL FORMATION PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- **B.Y.M. FALL RETREAT (OPTIONAL)**  
September 22-24, 2023  
An optional opening weekend retreat at the Claggett Center in Adamstown, MD.  
Requires [separate registration](#). See below for funding assistance\*
- **MONTHLY LARGE GROUP**  
3rd Monday evening of each month, **starting 9/18**  
A monthly potluck and gathering for worship in the Homewood dining room, with reflection on readings that will be chosen by the participants the month before.
- **MONTHLY SMALL GROUPS**  
Smaller friendship groups within the Homewood community which will meet monthly at various locations set by each small group.
- **B.Y.M. SPRING RETREAT (OPTIONAL) -- May 2024**
- **DAILY SPIRITUAL PRACTICE (ENCOURAGED)**  
Commitment to a daily spiritual practice of your choice.

### \*Don't let funding be a barrier:

The BYM retreats have registration fees that Homewood can help defray. To apply for Homewood funding, mark your retreat registration form as "pay later" (still complete your registration!), then go to this link for the [Application for Funding from Homewood Friends Meeting form](#). (Mark the "Davis fund")





# GOAT's Noats

**News from the Garden:** A Garden Club workday for the late summer garden will be held on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:00 AM. Our focus will be on weeding and pruning. The native plants garden, now firmly established, is thriving and so much so that it is overflowing into the walkway! Tools and gloves are provided. The fellowship is great!

**Spotlight on Homewood's Composting Program Part 1 (gathering materials), Part 2 (turning the batch), and Part 3 (harvesting the composted material):**

Rachael Neill monitors the composting bin and collection bucket located adjacent to the side porch. Rachael has now made several batches of rich, finished compost with the third batch now ready for distribution. If you would like compost for your garden, bring a container for pick up. Finished compost is made most quickly when there is a 2/1 ratio of "brown" material (dead leaves) to "green" material (fruit and vegetable waste) and the composter is rotated regularly. At this point in time, Rachael has or is getting enough "green" material.

Rachael continues to need more "brown" to maintain the essential balance of 2 brown/1 green. If you would like to donate composting material or have questions about composting at Homewood, please email Rachael at [rvneill@yahoo.com](mailto:rvneill@yahoo.com).

**Mark Your Calendar for a GOAT earthcare event: "How Do We Get to Meeting?" Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> after Meeting for Worship and First Day School.** According to the EPA [28% of Greenhouse Gas emissions](#) into the atmosphere comes from burning fossil fuels for transportation. We would all like to reduce our carbon footprint and improve how we get from place to place. Easier said than done! Join members of GOAT for demonstrations of low/no carbon transportation options – EV autos, electric bikes, scooters, etc. - as well as information on public transit and bicycling. The program will run from the Rise of Meeting through Simple Lunch. Drop in when you can and stay for as long as you like.

**Implementing the Climate Action Now legislation of 2022.** This act gave Maryland a map for meeting an ambitious target of carbon reduction. Now the state government is developing specific steps and actions for reaching the goals. Opportunities for common citizens to hear and contribute ideas through several listening events are being held in September. Both in-person and online are available. To learn more, see the schedule of events and sign up, see <https://www.marylandsclimatepathway.com/events>. Feel free to contact John McKusick ([john.ca.mckusick@verizon.net](mailto:john.ca.mckusick@verizon.net)) with questions.

GOAT Members: Carol Beck, Luke Early, Gary Gillespie (Clerk), Bess Keller, Cathie Magee, Luke Mayhew, John McKusick, Rachael Neill, and Heather Ravlin

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**MEETING FOR WORSHIP:** every Sunday, 10:30 - 11:30 AM on Zoom ([link](#)) and in-person.

**MID-WEEK MEETING FOR WORSHIP:** Every Thursday, 7 PM Ministry & Counsel continues to offer **Experiment with Light on Zoom** ([link](#)). Please join us for this intimate form of worship.

### **VIGIL FOR NONVIOLENCE**

**Friday, September 1, 5-6 PM**

On the first Friday of each month, we hold a solemn and silent vigil, seeking to bear witness to the root causes of social ills such as racism, poverty, gun violence, and other manifestations of structural violence and inequality. We have a banner "*Practice Nonviolence*" which we hold together. All friends and neighbors are welcome to join.



2 Reading Suggestions by Vigil Organizers

>> [Why the moral argument for nonviolence matters](#)

>> [MLK's final marching orders](#)

Next Vigil: 9/1

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# VIGIL FOR NONVIOLENCE

SILENT WITNESS TO INJUSTICE

COLLECTIVE ENVISIONING OF PEACE TO COME

FOR OUR CITY AND BEYOND ALL BORDERS

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Homewood Friends

First Fridays 5-6 PM

**HOLDING IN THE LIGHT PEOPLE AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE IN BALTIMORE (second Sundays):** September 10, 12:30 - 1:00 PM in-person and on Zoom ([link](#)). The Meeting for Healing format will continue with 2-3 names and brief biographies given into the silence in three groups: a) Those murdered in Baltimore -- family and friends held in the Light; b) Persons arrested or convicted for murder; c) Unnamed persons touched by violence.

**BLACK LIVES MATTER INTERFAITH COALITION RALLY:** September 10, 1:30 to 2:30 Notre Dame of Maryland University (4701 N Charles St) [Visit BLMIC website](#)

**BYM ANTIRACISM TRAINING:** Saturdays 9/16 and 10/14 Join Friends at the meetinghouse as we lean into our work to foster antiracism culture and practice at Homewood. Baltimore Yearly Meeting is presenting a 2-day online training by [Crossroads Antiracism](#) that we will Zoom into together from the Lucretia Mott room (upstairs conference room), while discussing (and snacking) together. [Register here](#)

**CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING:** Sunday 9/17 Annapolis Our Friends from the region will meet at Annapolis Friends Meetinghouse. Business includes hearing from Quaker Voice of Maryland and MD Alliance for Justice Reform, as well as a report back from a delegation to Israel and occupied Palestine. [More info here.](#)



**OPENING OF FIRST DAY SCHOOL: Sunday 9/17**

Welcome back! Young friends are invited to First Day School, which begins its new semester on 9/17. When First Day School is in session, children have the opportunity during Meeting for Worship to join our FDS teacher Maddie Doll in the upstairs classrooms for activities that shed light on Quaker testimonies and practice. (Childcare will still be available downstairs in the nursery for our youngest children.)

This is a great time to invite families with children to come to First Day at Homewood. For more information, contact our Religious Education clerk: [kendall.kennison@goucher.edu](mailto:kendall.kennison@goucher.edu).



**HOMEWOOD SPIRITUAL FORMATION: Monday 9/18 6:00 to 9:30 PM The 2023-2024**

Homewood Spiritual Formation begins with a large group gathering for potluck and worshipful reflection in the dining room. [Sign up here.](#)

**B.Y.M. SPIRITUAL FORMATION FALL RETREAT: 9/22 - 9/24 Adamstown, MD** [Register here!](#)

Homewood Friends encourages Meeting for Worship attenders to give this experience a try and can [help defray financial costs](#).

**FALL PICNIC: Saturday 9/23 12:00 PM Wyman Park Dell** The Outreach Team invites everyone to a fellowship picnic in the park on the Fall Equinox.

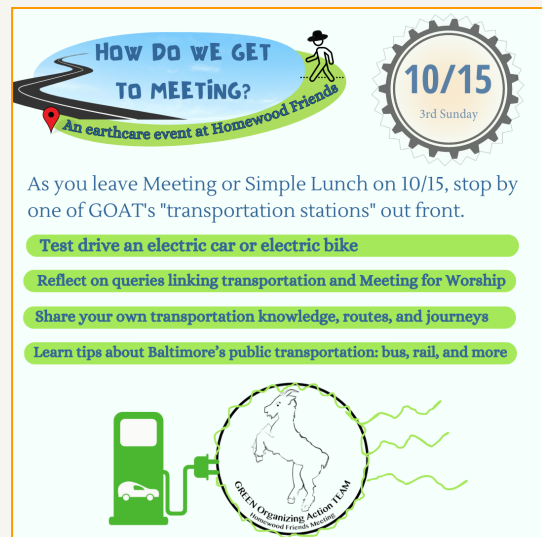
**EXPERIMENT WITH LIGHT September 9/24, 9 AM:** [Zoom Link](#) -- Fourth Sundays at 9 and Every Thursday at 7 PM. See last page for dial-in details.

**OCTOBER SAVE-THE-DATES**

**10/1** Pancake Breakfast: A special breakfast will be held before Meeting for Worship on World Quaker Day. This day is also the “**Bring a Friend to Meeting**” day, so feel free to show some hospitality to anyone interested in participating in a Quaker Meeting for Worship or checking out the meetinghouse.

**10/14** Antiracism Training Part 2 (see above, 9/16)

**10/15** GOAT presents “How Do We Get to Meeting?” – an earthcare event to reflect on our transportation habits and to learn more about options, including the chance to test drive an electric car and bike, and get tips on public transportation routes and phone apps.



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## OTHER QUAKER EVENTS AND NOTICES

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

>>> Join PH for [Daily worship on Zoom](#): half-hour Meeting for Worship every day @ 8:30 AM

>>> 9/11/23: Tune into the Stephen G Cary Memorial Lecture, given this year by FCNL General Secretary Bridget Moix. “How do we live “in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of war”? How do we “walk cheerfully over the Earth” while sacred forests burn and oceans rise around us?” [More Info and Registration here](#)

**QuakerSpeak** Learn more about Quakerism through personal stories and perspectives. For instance, you might want to examine the [Quaker Peace Testimony](#)—click the link to hear from Adria Gulizia of Chatham-Summit Friends Meeting in New Jersey.

**B.Y.M. Plenary Recordings:** Check out these videos of speakers from BYM Annual Session!

>>> [Diego Navarro](#) -- spirit-led educator, community organizer, and Pacific Yearly Meeting Friend.

>>> [Jared Wood](#) -- director of Opequon Quaker Camps.

>>> And here is the [BYM epistle](#) (written) that recaps the spirit and business of the annual session.

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### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MEETING

You can [make a contribution online](#) or make a check payable to “Homewood Friends Meeting”, which you can mail or drop off at the office or put into the contribution box in the meeting room. Thank you for all that you give to and share with our Meeting.

### FOOD DONATIONS

We are renewing our food-drive support to [GEDCO CARES](#). Please bring non-perishable food items to the box in the Homewood foyer.

Specific item requests: canned corn and green beans, pancake mix and syrup, jelly, canned fruit. Other items are welcome.

Thank you to Heather Ravlin and Caroline Hippler for their initiative to restart our regular support to GEDCO after the food pantry’s move to a new location (401 Woodbourne Ave.) If there is anyone in our Meeting who can join them in a regular delivery cycle, we can sustain this project. Contact the office to inquire.







## 5 ways you can support Palestinians in Gaza



*Jennifer Bing, 8/24/23*

Gaza is home to two million Palestinians who continue to face suffocating conditions imposed by Israel and upheld by the international community. For 16 years, Palestinians in Gaza have lived under a brutal blockade, isolated from the rest of Palestine and the world.

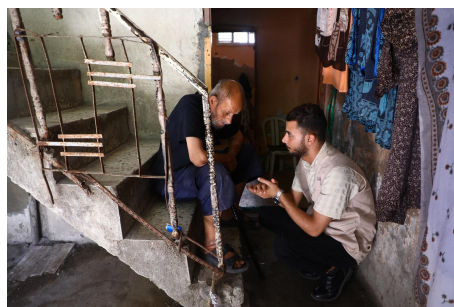
The consequences of the military blockade have been devastating. Unemployment in Gaza has reached over 50% (even higher for women and youth), and over 80% of the population depends on international assistance to survive. Access to clean water and electricity is limited, hospitals are out of nearly 50% of essential medicines, and rates of hunger are on the rise. Palestinians continue to face challenges seeking medical care not available in Gaza.

Israeli military attacks, including devastating bombing assaults in May 2021, August 2022, and May 2023 have injured and killed hundreds of civilians and destroyed critical infrastructure in Gaza. Military assaults and the ongoing blockade have made it difficult for Palestinians in Gaza to recover and rebuild. Since 2018, the psychosocial well-being of children, young people and their caregivers has declined dramatically to alarming levels, according to [a report by Save the Children](#).

Palestinians in Gaza face wars, bombardments, trauma, fear, poverty, isolation, & dehumanization by the rest of the world.

We must renew and strengthen our efforts to change these realities. Our research shows that [a growing number of people in the U.S.](#) want elected officials to address the critical humanitarian crisis caused by years of blockade and end the collective punishment of Gaza.

[Here are five ways you can join efforts to support Palestinians in Gaza today. \(full article here\)](#)



AFSC staff meet with seniors in Gaza. AFSC Gaza

## REGULARLY SCHEDULED

### *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

### *Schedule of Committee and Group Meetings*

Administrative	<b>Odd months last Sundays</b> 12:15 PM
Green Organizing Action Team—OPEN	<b>3rd Sundays</b> , 12:30 PM, Meetinghouse
Outreach Team—OPEN	<b>2nd Sundays</b> 9 AM
Hospitality—OPEN	<b>As called</b>
House & Grounds—OPEN	<b>2nd Mondays</b> at 7:00 PM
Library—OPEN	<b>2nd Sundays</b> 12:15 PM, Meetinghouse Library
Peace & Social Justice —OPEN	<b>4th Sundays</b> , 9:00 AM, Zoom
Ministry & Counsel	<b>Last Wednesdays</b> , 6:30 PM, Zoom
Religious Education--OPEN	<b>2nd Tuesdays</b> , 7:15 PM, Meetinghouse
Trustees	<b>2nd Tuesdays</b> 7:15 PM, location varies

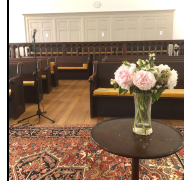
*Committees so-marked are OPEN to guests; contact the committee clerk or the Homewood office if you'd like to attend or have questions.*

### Meeting for Worship

Every Sunday 10:30 - 11:30 AM

At the Meetinghouse and on Zoom ([Zoom link here](#))

And then: Join us for social time after Worship at the same Zoom link or downstairs for a simple lunch.



## Experiment with Light

Part of the mid-week meeting for worship series.

=== Zoom only ===

*free and open, no experience necessary*

### FOURTH SUNDAY MORNINGS 9/24 9:00 AM

[Join Zoom Meeting \(click here\)](#)

Meeting ID: 880 0619 5829

Passcode: 139231

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 84212168159#

### EVERY THURSDAY EVENING 7:00 PM

[Join Zoom Meeting \(click here\)](#)

Meeting ID: 874 1149 8198

Passcode: 976351

One tap mobile: 3017158592, 87411498198#

[Learn more](#) about Experiment with Light on our website.

### Vigil for Nonviolence

**FIRST FRIDAYS 9/1 5-6 PM**

Outside of the Meetinghouse

✓ **All are Welcome**

### Meeting for Business

**FIRST SUNDAYS 9/3 12:30 PM**

In the Meeting Room and on Zoom

Use the [Worship Zoom \(click here\)](#)

✓ **All are Welcome**

### Outreach Team

**SECOND SUNDAYS 9/10 9:00 AM**

In the Meeting Room and on Zoom

Use the [Worship Zoom \(click here\)](#)

✓ **open committee**

### Library Committee

**SECOND SUNDAYS 9/10 12:15 PM**

In the Meetinghouse Library

✓ **open committee**

### Holding in the Light Group

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

**SECOND SUNDAYS 9/10 12:30 PM**

In-person and on Zoom

[Join Zoom Meeting \(click here\)](#)

✓ **open group**

### Quaker Bible Study

**THIRD SUNDAYS 9/17 9:30 AM**

In the Lucretia Mott Room (upstairs)

*All are welcome, no prior readings or experience.*

✓ **open group**

### Green Organizing Action Team

**THIRD SUNDAYS 9/17 12:30 A.M.**

In the Library

*Native plant gardening, zero waste, climate advocacy & more*

✓ **open group**

### Peace & Social Justice Committee

**FOURTH SUNDAYS 9/24 9:00 AM**

Zoom only

[Join Zoom Meeting \(click here\)](#)

✓ **open committee**