

Third Month 2026

Homewood Friends Meeting

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Newsletter

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Baltimore Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice

Third Query: The Meeting Community

Are love and harmony within the Meeting community fostered by a spirit of open sharing?

Do you endeavor to widen your circle of friendships within the Meeting, seeking to know persons of all ages and at all stages of the spiritual journey?

Does the Meeting provide for the spiritual refreshment of all members and attenders?

Do Friends provide spiritual and practical care for the elderly, the lonely, and others with special needs?

From the BYM Advices

8. The Meeting as Caring community

The guidance of the Inner Light has generally led Friends to common standards of conduct. We believe that a vital faith must apply to daily life. Through sharing personal spiritual experiences with others, our own insights are clarified and our convictions undergirded. Meetings can help each of us to gain spiritual strength for the good ordering of our lives and the right direction of our energies.

We must be concerned about the welfare of every member of the Meeting community. While Friends need to guard against prying or invasion of privacy, it is nevertheless essential that Meetings be aware of the spiritual and material needs of members of the community and express caring concern in appropriate ways. Many Meetings have found that specially formed support or clearness groups, either appointed by the Meeting or informally gathered, are a helpful way to minister to special needs within the Meeting.

[...] [Read the full Query's advices: BYM Faith and Practice, p 27.](#)



The Perfect Teachers

Megary's article in Friends Journal!

[Read the full article here.](#)

Saturday morning, I was late for yoga. Everyone else had settled on their mats and was breathing deeply as our yoga teacher issued quiet instructions. On my way to the cubbies to stash my socks and purse, I passed a large potted plant with a metal pole bearing a flag stuck in the dirt. In my haste to cause as little disruption as possible, my shirt caught on the flagpole and the whole pot tumbled, scattering soil, water, and roots across the hardwood floor of the studio.

As I finally got to my mat and sat cross-legged, I waited for the harsh barrage of self-criticism to bombard me, as it often does. But instead, a voice in my head whispered, Isn't it nice to be human? Humans are imperfect and make mistakes.

I was astounded. Usually, a faux pas like the plant tumble would have stayed with me for long into the class, a cruel voice inside my head yelling about making everyone angry and being an inconvenience. Why was I feeling this new wave of gentleness toward myself? I realized that the work I have been doing with my pre-kindergarten students had started paying off—for me.

When I make a mistake at school, I say, "See? Ms. Sigler made a mistake. Is it okay to make mistakes?" My four- and five-year-olds nod their little heads. I make a point to highlight my mistake and its okay-ness in order for them to soften and soothe their own self-talk and their relationship with themselves. I've heard my students saying it out loud about their own mistakes, so I knew it was having an impact. I had not predicted that it would have an effect on me.



But maybe I should have predicted it. I've been teaching for over 20 years. And while I've mostly taught art to older students, I know that whatever the age group, whatever the subject, when I teach, I become a learner in unexpected and life-changing ways. I grow in my ability to be in the present moment, to slow down, to experience feelings more vibrantly, and to find the Light in others.

In pre-K, we sing. We make art. We read stories. We are joyful and silly and inquisitive together. My students say things that make me laugh or see the world in a new way, like the time a four-year-old, admiring my tattoos, asked, "Do you have more at home you haven't put on yet?" Or when a kindergartener once asked me, "Where were you before you were born?"

[keep reading at <https://www.friendsjournal.org/the-perfect-teachers/>]

A note
from the

Development Working Group

A big thank you to all the people who have already made a financial contribution to the Meeting in 2026!! We are off to a great start.

As you may recall, the Meeting approved the 2026 budget with an aspirational giving goal that would put us on a strong footing to support our growing community and our aging building. The goal is \$81,000, which is 37% higher than the total we ended with in 2025.

Below is a chart of the gift ranges in 2025. You can clearly see that we are all in this together. We are not gifted with, nor dependent on, any one giant donor. Every gift helps. If you have any questions, or ideas about how to help us reach this goal, please let us know.

Thank you! From the Development Working Group: Carol Beck, Debbie Kennison, Joanna Maressa, Kathy Rogers.

Range	# of donors	% of donors	Total Giving	% of total giving
\$1-\$99	9	13%	\$358.85	1%
\$100-\$249	12	18%	\$2,033.95	4%
\$250-\$499	16	24%	\$6,317.08	11%
\$1,000-\$4,999	12	18%	\$26,162.66	47%
\$5,000+	2	3%	\$10,882.02	19%
Totals	67	100%	\$56,112.17	100%

**Note: this is slightly different than the total in the end of year budget because it does not include an estate gift, and it doesn't include cash (since we don't know how much each cash gift was)*



SAT March 21
9 am - 1 pm



Electronics Recycling Drive GOAT encourages Friends to donate old or broken tech at this convenient event. This is an easy way to divert electronic waste from the incinerator and work to reduce the digital divide in Baltimore.

They're partnering with PCs for People. List of accepted items. (Link: <https://pcsforpeople.org/faqs>)

March 21 from 9-1 at Roland Park Community Center. 5802 Roland Ave. Volunteers are needed for that morning to help carry donations from parking lot into the building. Questions or need to arrange a different drop off time (from 3/15 - 3/27), contact Kathy Rogers, rolandparkcc@comcast.net.

Homewood Friends Meeting Presents:
Quaker Foundations

Five Mondays in March
March 2-30 - 7-8:30 PM
via ZOOM

This basic class in Quakerism provides an introduction for newcomers and a refresher for members and attenders through a diversity of perspectives. These sessions provide a strong foundation of understanding regarding the ideals of Quakers as well as opportunities for spiritual and personal development within the Religious Society of Friends.

Five Sessions:

- Mar 2 Quaker Faith and Practice
- Mar. 9 Quaker Worship and Vocal Ministry
- Mar. 16 Quaker History
- Mar. 23 When Friends Get Down to Business: Our Process
- Mar. 30 Living your Quaker Testimony

Friends are encouraged to commit to participating in all five sessions. However, if that is not feasible, participate when you can.

Please [REGISTER](#) in order to get the Zoom Link.

Homewood Friends, with gratitude, has developed this series based upon an adaptation of the [Friends Meeting of Washington \(FMW\) Quakerism 101 course](#). For those of you who are unable to attend the Homewood course the FMW course can be used as a self-study course.

Wider Community Events (submitted by Homewood member Colette)

Join Braver Angels for a free Family and Politics Workshop
Catonsville Presbyterian Church
Saturday, March 7. 10:30 am - 1:30 pm

Family relationships can become casualties of a toxic political environment. Family members are having bitter political arguments, avoiding each other, or even cutting off lifetime relationships..

If you want to preserve important family bonds while still being true to your values and political beliefs, this free in person workshop can help you.

Braver Angels is a nationwide, non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to reducing the polarizing climate throughout the United States. For more information go to braverangels.org.

For more information and to register go [here](#).

For additional information you may contact: Deborah Kleinberg, Organizer, Braver Angels, Central Maryland Alliance, 301.503.9469

UPCOMING

QUAKER FOUNDATIONS: Mondays in March 7-8:30 on Zoom These sessions provide a strong foundation regarding the ideals of Quakers as well as opportunities for spiritual and personal development within the Religious Society of Friends. See page 4 for more information. [Register here](#).

BLACK FIRE READING GROUP: Sun. 3/1 at 9:15 AM in the Lucretia Mott room This is the first session! Gather on 1st Sundays of the month to read from the book [Black Fire: African Americans Quakers on Spirituality and Human Rights](#). Copies may be purchased online at [Quakerbooks.org](#) (or you can find used copies on other sites). If you don't have a copy yet, you can share. The readings will be short enough so that we can do them aloud and discuss.

MEETING FOR BUSINESS: 3/1 (First Sundays) 12:30 PM on Zoom ([link](#)) and in-person.

VIGIL FOR NONVIOLENCE: 3/6 (First Fridays) at 5 PM in front of the meetinghouse

VIVA HOUSE FOOD AID: 3/8 (Second Sundays) See exact list of requested food items on page 4

FAITH & PRACTICE STUDY: 3/8 (Second Sundays) at 9:15 AM Great for newcomers and old timers alike. What are our living traditions? Also good if you're thinking about membership. We will read from short segments of BYM Faith and Practice. We will have hard copies available, but you can also [read it online](#).

WELCOMING SAM: Sun. 3/8 12:30 PM in-person Friends will come together to welcome new member Sam Hack. Join after simple lunch for worship sharing and reception...with lemon cake!

BIBLE STUDY: 3/15 (3rd Sundays) 9:15 AM in the Lucretia Mott room We discuss a fairly short section that we read out loud together, while also sharing some silence and journaling time.

FASTING FOR PALESTINE: 3/19 (Third Thursdays) Sunrise to 6 PM Join Friends in a one-day fast, as we hold in our hearts the devastation and our hunger for change. Then gather at 6 PM in the dining room to break fast with a small lentil meal, to demonstrate the 245 daily calorie intake of people in Gaza. You can also consider making a donation to [AFSC's Gaza relief fund](#).

Rise-of-Meeting Quaker 101: 3/22 (4th Sundays) 11:45 AM Screening and reflection on a short QuakerSpeak video. Open to all - just stick around in the meeting room after Meeting for Worship.

SIMPLE MEETING FOR WORSHIP: 3/29 (Last Sundays) 9 AM in the Library An additional worship time in a smaller setting without microphones or computers.



REGULARLY SCHEDULED

Meeting for Worship

Every Sunday 10:30 - 11:30 AM
 At the Meetinghouse
 and on Zoom ([Zoom link here](#))

Afterwards: Join for simple lunch downstairs or stay on the same Zoom link for a fellowship chat.

Experiment with Light

EVERY THURSDAY EVENING 7:00 PM
[Join Zoom Meeting \(click here\)](#) (Zoom only)

free and open, no experience necessary
[Learn more](#) about Experiment with Light on our website.

<p style="text-align: center;">Vigil for Nonviolence FIRST FRIDAYS 3/6 5-6 PM Outside of the Meetinghouse ✓ All are Welcome</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Nelson Mandela Study Group FIRST SUNDAYS 3/1 9:15 AM Lucretia Mott Room ✓ All are Welcome</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting for Business FIRST SUNDAYS 3/1 12:30 PM In the Meeting Room and on Zoom Use the Worship Zoom (click here) ✓ All are Welcome</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BYM Faith and Practice Study SECOND SUNDAYS 3/8 9:15 AM Lucretia Mott Room ✓ All are Welcome</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Bible Study THIRD SUNDAYS 3/15 9:15 AM In the Lucretia Mott Room (upstairs) <i>All are welcome, no prior readings needed.</i> ✓ open group</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fasting for Palestine THIRD THURSDAYS 3/19 Break-fast gathering at 6 PM ✓ open gathering</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Library Committee THIRD SUNDAYS 3/15 12:15 PM In the Meetinghouse Library ✓ open committee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Community Building and Outreach Team THIRD SUNDAYS 3/15 12:30 PM Susan B Anthony Room and Zoom Use the Worship Zoom (click here) ✓ open committee</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Green Organizing Action Team (GOAT) FOURTH MONDAYS 3/23 7:30 PM Zoom only. Contact office for link. ✓ open committee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Simple Meeting for Worship LAST SUNDAYS 3/29 9:00 A.M. In the Meetinghouse Library ✓ open worship</p>

Schedule of Committee and Group Meetings

Administrative	Last Sundays in Odd months 12:30 PM, hybrid
Community and Outreach—OPEN	3rd Sundays 12:30 PM, SBA Room
Green Organizing Action Team—OPEN	4th Mondays 7:30 PM, Zoom
Hospitality—OPEN	As called
House & Grounds—OPEN	2nd Tuesdays 6 PM
Library—OPEN	3rd Sundays 12:15 PM, Meetinghouse Library
Ministry & Counsel	Last Wednesdays , 6:30 PM, Zoom
Religious Education--OPEN	1st Tuesdays , 7:15 PM
Trustees	1st Wednesday 7:15 PM

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

FUNDING TO PARTICIPATE IN QUAKER EVENTS

Homewood has funds to support children and adults who would like to participate in Quaker gatherings, camps, and educational institutions. 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/>.

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.

[Homewood Volunteer Form](#) Able to lend a hand? Let us know what ways you like to help by checking the boxes for your interests and telling us a skill we might not know you have.

