

— Ninth Month 2026 —

NEWSLETTER



Homewood Friends Meeting

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Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Faith and Practice Queries

#9: 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?

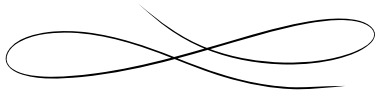
Do you oppose the use of land, labor, technology and capital for human exploitation or in ways destructive to other living things?

From the BYM Advices Advices for the Ninth Query, “The Social Order”

The basic Quaker trust in the Light within leads to our trust in the inherent dignity and sacredness of each person. This trust, combined with our Society’s own history of persecution, underlies our social witness.

War, violence in streets and homes, injustice in the justice system, prejudice and discrimination, the plights of starving, homeless, and disadvantaged people, and business conduct which involves exploitation of people or nature’s resources—all these still call us to action in obedience to the Spirit.

Read the full Query’s advices: BYM Faith and Practice, p 30.



Homewood Friends gathered to see speaker Valerie Brown at the 2026 BYM Annual Sessions at Hood College.



Spiritual Nurture Working Group

QUAKER FOUNDATIONS

Join Homewood online to learn about Quaker faith, practice, and history

OCTOBER: 13th, 20th, & 27th
7-8:30 PM VIA ZOOM

*FRIENDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO COMMIT TO PARTICIPATING IN ALL THREE SESSIONS.
HOWEVER, IF THAT IS NOT FEASIBLE, PARTICIPATE WHEN YOU CAN.*

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.

THREE SESSIONS:

- OCT 13 QUAKER WORSHIP AND VOCAL MINISTRY
- OCT 20 QUAKER FAITH AND PRACTICE
- OCT 27 QUAKER HISTORY

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.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED





September 13th
Meeting for Worship will be held at
Friends Burial Ground

The Meeting decided at the July Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business to allow the Hinenu Jewish community to have full use of the Meetinghouse on First Day, September 13 for Rosh Hashanah. We wish them l'shana tovah u'metukah!

On that day, Homewood Friends Meeting activities will be held at Friends Burial Ground at 2506 Harford Road, Baltimore. Friends Burial Ground is the oldest cemetery in Baltimore, established in 1713, and holds approximately 1,900 graves. This is a special opportunity to Worship together in the midst of over 300 years of Quaker history.

September 13, 2026

Viva House bag collection: rescheduled a week earlier to September 6

9:00-10 AM – Simple Meeting for Worship (**canceled**)

10:30-11:30 AM – Meeting for Worship (**Burial Ground**). Child care will be available at the Burial Ground.

11:45am-12:30 PM – Simple Lunch (**Burial Ground**). Bring a dish to share which does not require refrigeration or warming, and also bring an appropriate serving utensil if needed. Some serving utensils, as well as drinking water, recyclable plates, cutlery, cups, and napkins, will be provided.

12:30pm – Welcoming for New Member, Jossie Dowling (**Burial Ground**)

1:30-2:30pm – Spirit Led Action Group for Palestine and Israel (**rescheduled to Monday**

September 14th, 7 PM on Zoom. [Join Here](#))

There will be a separate Meeting for Worship on Zoom for those who cannot attend in person.

[Join Here](#)

Important Details for September 13th Meeting for Worship

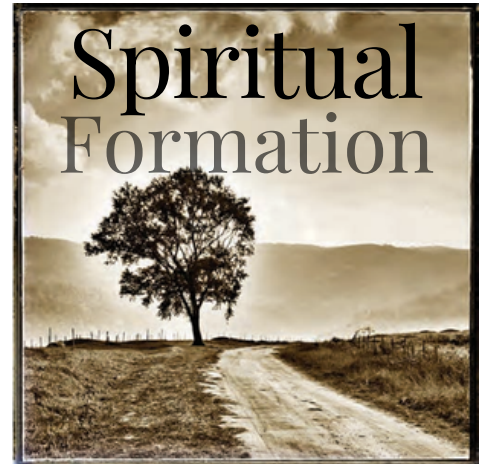
- Approximately 60 metal folding chairs will be available for use. For increased comfort you may wish to bring camping chairs or blankets.
- We will be outside so bring bug spray and sun block and consider the weather when dressing.
- There is limited parking along the narrow road inside the Burial Grounds. We encourage people to carpool, but those that drive can also park along Harford Road or in the parking lot across the street at REACH Partnership High School.
- If you would like to participate in the carpool, [please complete this form](#) or email homewoodfriends@gmail.com and provide your name, address, and whether you would like a ride or can provide a ride/ for how many people.
- In case of severe weather, Meeting for Worship will be held online only, Simple Lunch will be canceled, and Jossie Dowling's welcoming will be moved to the Meetinghouse Library. If we are switching to the severe weather plan, an email with these instructions will be sent to the Meeting.



A Note from the Hospitality Committee about Simple Lunch on September 13th

Friends should bring a dish to share which does not require refrigeration or warming, and also bring an appropriate serving utensil if needed. Some serving utensils, as well as drinking water, recyclable plates, cutlery, cups, and napkins, will be provided.

Homewood Friends are thrilled to resume the Spiritual Formation program at Homewood Friends Meeting. There are multiple ways to participate in the program. Please join us for whichever offerings you can.



Baltimore Yearly Meeting Spiritual Formation Fall Retreat
9/11 to 9/13 | Claggett Center, Adamstown, MD | Register

Monthly Homewood Gatherings

2nd Wednesdays beginning September 9th 6:45-8:30 PM | Library & Lobby | Register

We will share a light dessert from 6:45-7 followed by Worship-Sharing 7-8 PM.

Discussion 8-8:30 PM. Registration details to come.

Optional Monthly Small Groups gather together to share about their spiritual life.



Art by Melanie Weidner

We are all pilgrims on a journey, taking different routes to the same destination. We are all seekers on a quest, searching for that which is greater, and our relationship to it. It is a journey not of miles, but of increments by which we, nonetheless, hope to arrive at the Ground of Our Being. To stand in God's Presence and—once there—dwell in the Center. For much of the way, we journey alone, seeking a course that is uncharted and freely chosen. Yet along the way, we encounter other pilgrims and share the experience in moments of sacred intersection that feed our spirit, deepen our experience, strengthen our resolve, and build community. And we know it to be good. This is the Spiritual Formation Program. And you are invited to journey with us.

For more information about the HFM Spiritual Formation program contact Homewood Office at: homewoodfriends@gmail.com.

For more information generally about Spiritual Formation see the Baltimore Yearly Meeting [Spiritual Formation Pamphlet](#).

Homewood's First Day School

Opening Day: September 20th



Homewood's First Day School opening day this year will be Sunday, September 20th. First Day School is open to school-aged children (generally kindergarten through 8th grade) each Sunday during the school year.

On Opening Day, we ask that students and their families meet in the library at 10:30 (instead of going into Meeting for Worship). We will talk together about the exciting things that are planned for this year. This is a good time to invite new families who might be interested in attending Homewood.

The theme for this year will be Quaker history. Our wonderful Religious Education teacher, Maddie Doll, has recently completed a training in Faith and Play, a technique for exploring spiritual questions through stories. We are excited that Maddie will be using this technique for some of the First Day School lessons this year.

Please email the Religious Education Committee clerk, Jen McCann at religioused@homewoodfriends.org with any questions.

The Religious Education Committee is looking for two kinds of volunteers:

1. One or two people who are interested in joining the Religious Education committee to help coordinate programming for our children and youth. The Religious Education Committee meets once a month over Zoom.
2. A number of folks who are interested in volunteering in the nursery or with First Day School occasionally.

Reach out to Jen McCann, clerk of the RE committee, at religioused@homewoodfriends.org if you are interested in either of these opportunities.

Thank you to everyone who came out for our Garden Work Day on August 22nd!

Wild flowers are abundant and there is no shortage of small, lovely vistas within the garden. Thanks to the thoughtful care of our volunteers, the wild growth from the summer rain is now lovingly tamed to a gently cared for garden that wears its native-ness well. The fig tree is bursting with fruit, both green and deepening purple, just in time for Fig Fest! We hope you enjoy a quiet moment in the Homewood garden the next time you pass through.



Hiroshima and Nagasaki Commemorations



This August Homewood Meeting co-sponsored two events in commemoration of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The main organizer of the events was Prevent Nuclear War Maryland.

On 08/06 about 25 people gathered for a witness at 33rd and Charles St.

about JHU nuclear arms research. It is guidance systems, not the nuclear weapons themselves, that the JHU Applied Physics Lab (APL) works on with grants from the War Dept of hundreds of millions of dollars.

Afterward the gathering we potluck at the Meetinghouse and heard stories of the history of the peace movement in Baltimore including the Jobs for Peace movement and Baltimore City Council making Baltimore a Nuclear Free Zone in 1992.

On the 9th, about 35 people gathered in the Meetingroom to commemorate the Nagasaki bombing. It started with a video by Daniel Ellsberg regarding the heightened risk of nuclear war. Then we heard a 5-minute video from our Senator Van Hollen about the increased threat of nuclear war. Finally a doctoral student from JHU, Jasmine Sausado spoke. She is researching the link between universities and the military-industrial complex and specifically JHU and APL. We shared light refreshments downstairs afterwards.

The Back from the Brink campaign lists 5 ways that the risk of nuclear war can be reduced.

1. Actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals;
2. Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
3. Ending the sole, unchecked authority of any U.S. President to launch a nuclear attack;
4. Taking U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;
5. Cancelling the plan to replace the entire U.S. nuclear arsenal with enhanced weapons.



Let us see what we can do together to advance these aims.

Photos from the Hiroshima and Nagasaki Commemorations August 6th & 9th, 2026





Quaker Call to Action

An invitation to a national dialog about threats to our democracy

National Meetings to Protect our Elections:
August 30, September 20, October 18

Dear Friends,

We at Quaker Call to Action are calling upon each of you to take action to protect our democracy prior to, during, and after the upcoming November election.

The threats from the Trump administration and others to prevent free and fair elections are real. At one time we could assume that US elections would be free and fair. We can no longer assume that. We must speak clearly and act decisively to protect the integrity of the democratic process. There is a role in this work for each of us to play in safeguarding this election.

Our next national video call on August 30 will provide you with specific suggestions and resources to enable you to plan and carry out your own chosen actions. Two more follow-up meetings will be held in September and October to share more information and provide you with an opportunity to share what actions you have taken and what you have experienced in defense of democracy.

These three meetings will be held, over Zoom video conferencing, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on these dates:

- **Sunday August 30**
- **Sunday September 20**
- **Sunday October 18**

Register for the next meeting, or for all three, at this web page:

<https://quakercall.org/meetings/register>

We are deeply grateful for the many Friends and other people of faith who are striving to help our country to restore the values of decency, truth, equality, and guiding democratic principles in our country and abroad.

Yours in faith,

The Quaker Call Steering Committee

Marian Beane, Bruce Birchard, Lauren Brownlee, Diana Hadley, Dale Keairns, Yvonne Keairns, Mary Ellen McNish, Jim Waddington, Terry SoRelle, and Michael Wajda (clerk)

A MESSAGE FROM:



If you haven't heard yet, our Quaker Earthcare Action Map is live and ready for exploring! This is a place to discover Quakers around the world who are doing the work of Earthcare, explore efforts near and far, celebrate what Friends have already built together, and find inspiration for what comes next. The Action Map is a living testimony of Friends' environmental initiatives, growing alongside the movement of Quaker Earthcare.

Not only can the map tell you about different Meetings' actions, but it is also a place to learn and share personal stories of Friends' Earthcare, and your story belongs here, too. It's never too late to join the network. [Click here](#) or [below](#) to add your Meeting to the map.

Let's take a moment to deep dive into one meeting on the map that deserves a round of applause for its earthcare efforts!

Earthcare in Action

Meetings on the map choose from a set of official Earthcare tags to describe their work. Homewood's efforts fall under:

- ★ Sustainable Energy Systems
- ★ Ecological Restoration
- ★ Sustainable Food Systems
- ★ Water Systems
- ★ Sustainable Transport Systems
- ★ Environmental Community Engagement
- ★ Environmental Financial Planning
- ★ Environmental Certifications



Oh, so many! Way to go, Homewood Friends!

Seven years ago, Homewood Friends formed a Green Organizing Action Team. The team has had major success implementing sustainable practices on their grounds. They have advocated for the installation of 66 solar panels, and created certified pollinator gardens (pictured below), featuring cisterns and a composter. Their kitchen is zero waste, and they prioritize energy efficiency, using solar power to run their HVAC system. Beyond their own grounds, they hold community education programs to expand their impact further.

On environmental community engagement, Gary Gillespie of Homewood Friends Meeting shared some wise advice: “Recognizing that collective action is essential to address the climate crisis, we have partnered with several environmental groups to support climate and environmental actions and legislation.”

This story is proof that a single meeting, taking one step at a time, can build a lasting foundation for Earthcare.

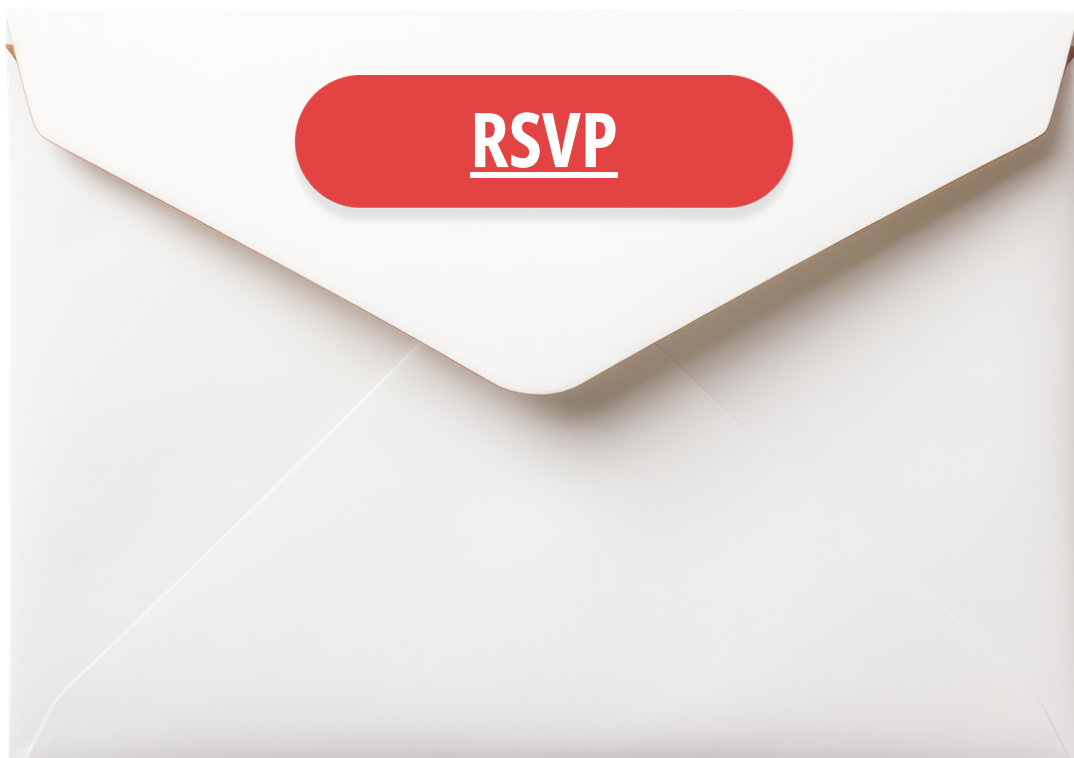
[View the QuakerEarth
Action Map](#)



IAHR Pen Pal Orientation

Mon. September 14, 7:30 - 8:30 PM

Consider becoming a pen pal to someone who is incarcerated. IAHR is dedicated to supporting incarcerated men and women. One way we do that is by identifying volunteers who will commit to writing at least once a month to an incarcerated person. To become a pen pal, you must attend a one-hour Zoom orientation. The next orientation will be on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 7:30 pm EDT. Once you RSVP, we will send you the Zoom link along with a document, "Guidelines for Correspondents."



A weekend for reflection, spiritual refreshment,
community, small group sharing, worship and
music among women+

Quaker Women+ 2027 RETREAT

**Community, Courage, and Creativity:
Unlocking the Precious Power of Our
Differences**

March 5 - 7, 2027

On behalf of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, the women+ of Adelphi Friends Meeting invite you to gather with others in a welcoming environment to explore, harness and celebrate our differences* – and experience the power and possibility that flow from sharing and learning from each other.

***We are a people with differences including different sexual orientations, gender expression, abilities, ages, race and ethnicity, economic status and theological perspectives.
We welcome all.**

**Location: Pearlstone Retreat Center
Grants available**

For more information:

womensretreatplanningcommittee@bym-rsf.org



Coming up at Homewood

FIG FEST

Sun. August 30, 3-5 PM | Dining Room

Celebrate the fig harvest with friends and neighbors from Homewood Friends Meeting, Hinenu, and other faith communities that share our space.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Second Wednesdays beginning in September 6:45 PM | Library | Starting 9/9 | [Register here](#)

Gather and reflect on spiritual texts using a worship-sharing/discussion format. We will have a brief time to socialize with a light fruit snack and then will gather together in the Library.

MEMBER WELCOMING: JOSSIE DOWLING

Sun. September 13th 12:30 PM | Friends Burial Ground

FRIENDS OF COLOR DINNER

Mon. September 14th 6-9 PM | Dining Room

Please RSVP by September 7th. Contact Julieta (julietaecuellar@gmail.com) with any questions.

FALL HOMEWOOD QUEER QUAKERS POTLUCK

Fri. September 18th, 6-8 PM | Dining Room

Bring a dish to share!

FIRST DAY SCHOOL OPENING DAY

Sun. September 20th

First Day School is open to school-aged children (generally kindergarten through 8th grade) each Sunday during the school year.

QUAKER FOUNDATIONS

Tuesdays October 13th, 20th, and 27th, 7-8:30 PM ZOOM | [Register](#)

This basic class in Quakerism provides an introduction for newcomers and a refresher for members and attenders through a diversity of perspectives

In the Wider Community

QUAKER CALL TO ACTION: NATIONAL ZOOM MEETINGS TO PROTECT OUR ELECTIONS

Sun. August 30, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM | [Register](#)

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Notices

Friend Beth Edelstein will be undergoing medical treatment and living at her home in Timonium during the fall. She welcomes visitors! Her daughter Risë Hunter is here as well. Please contact Beth via her home phone 410-252-7333 to chat or to arrange a visit.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR MIBS PELL

Sat. September 19th, 3-4 PM | Library

Homewood member Mibs Pell passed away on 3/31/26 at the age of 98. Mibs had been living in Peterborough, New Hampshire, for the last eleven years.

Schedule of Committee and Group Meetings

Administrative	Last Sundays in Odd months, Time TBA, hybrid
(Open) Community and Outreach	3rd Sundays 12:30 PM, SBA Room
(Open) Green Organizing Action Team	4th Mondays 7:30 PM, Zoom
(Open) Hospitality	As Called
House & Grounds	2nd Tuesdays 6 PM
(Open) Library	3rd Sundays 12:20 PM, Meetinghouse Library
Ministry & Counsel	Third Thursdays, 6:30 PM, Zoom
Peace & Social Justice Coordinating Team	3rd Sundays 12:30 PM, Mott Room (upstairs)
(Open) Religious Education	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.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED

FIRST DAY

✓ Simple Meeting for Worship

Every Sunday 9:00 AM | Library
An earlier worship time in a smaller room without microphones and screens.

✓ Meeting for Worship

10:30 AM in the Meeting Room and on Zoom

WEEKLY

✓ Experiment with Light (info)

Every Thursday 7 PM | Zoom

✓ Peace Vigil: No War On Iran

Every Friday 5:30-6:30 PM
In front of meetinghouse on Charles St.

MONTHLY

Trustees meeting

First Wednesdays 7:15 PM | Zoom | Next up: 9/2

✓ Black Fire Study Group

First Sundays 9:15-10:15 | Mott (upstairs)
Next Up: 9/6

✓ Meeting for Business

First Sundays 12:30 PM | Meeting Room | Next Up: 9/6 (childcare available)

Viva House Bags (monthly deadline)

Second Sundays | Next Up: 9/6 (Rescheduled to a week earlier)

Place items on blue table outside of the office.
Item list on page 2 of January newsletter. More about Viva House

✓ Spiritual Formation

Second Wednesdays beginning in September
6:45 PM | Library | Next Up: 9/9 | [Register here](#)

✓ Spirit Led Action Group for Palestine & Israel

Second Sundays 12:30 PM | Lucretia Mott Room (upstairs) and on Zoom Rescheduled to 7pm on Zoom on 9/13. [Join here.](#)

Ministry and Counsel

Third Thursdays 6:30 PM | Zoom | Next up: 9/17

✓ Bible Study

Third Sundays 9:15 AM | Lucretia Mott room (upstairs) | Next Up: 9/20
No prior reading required

✓ Library Committee

Third Sundays 12:20 PM | Homewood Library | Next Up: 9/20

✓ Community Building & Outreach Team

Third Sundays 12:30 PM | Susan B. Anthony Room | Next Up: 9/20

Peace & Social Justice Coordinating Team

Third Sundays 12:30 PM | Lucretia Mott Room (upstairs) | Next Up: 9/20

✓ Green Organizing Action Team (GOAT)

Fourth Mondays 7:30 PM | Zoom | Next Up: 9/28