

# ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

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## Meetings for Worship:

**Annapolis Friends Meeting House**  
**351 DuBois Road, Annapolis, Md. 21401**  
**First Days, 11:00 A.M.**

## First Day School for children

**11:15 A.M. (join meeting for worship from 11:00-11:15)**  
*SUMMER BREAK 6/13 through 8/22. (See article p.4)*

## Nursery care for our youngest

**11:00 A.M.**

## Meetings for Worship with a

**Concern for Business:**

**1<sup>st</sup> First Day of month at 9:00 A.M.**

## Adult religious education:

**As noted in calendar below**

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## AUGUST 2010 CALENDAR

01	9:00 A.M.	-	Meeting...for Business – See agenda, p. 2
	11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship followed by potluck & <u>DISCUSSION OF FIRST DAY SCHOOL!</u> – (See p. 3)
02		-	<i>Meeting provides Lighthouse Shelter Supper (See pg. 5)</i>
08	8:00 A.M.	-	Early Meeting for Worship
	10:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for learning: a young Friend (Martin Krafft) visits Samoa and the South Pacific (See p.2)
	11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship
15	9:00 A.M.	-	Committee Meetings
	11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship
22	8:00 A.M.	-	Early Meeting for Worship
	9:00 A.M.	-	Talk about BYM with Meg Meyer – (See p. 6)
	11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship
29	11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship – <i>FIRST DAY SCHOOL RESUMES!</i>
	9:00 P.M.	-	<b>Newsletter items due:</b> please email!

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## Care of the Meeting House for Seventh Month: Pastoral Care

## QUERIES FOR EIGHTH MONTH: OUTREACH

Do you, as way opens, share Friends' principles with non-Friends? Do you witness to your Quaker faith by letting your life speak? Do you make non-Friends welcome in your meetings for worship? Do you find ways to encourage their continued attendance? **Faith & Practice, p.40**

*See more Quaker quotes on page 2.*

**MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS MINUTES –**

Because no Meeting for business was held last month on 7/4/10, we have no minutes in the newsletter this month. Here is the planned agenda for Meeting for business this month on 8/1/10:

**Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business  
August 1, 2010**

**9 am: Centering Worship**

**9:15: M&W—Marcia Ormsby**

Survey Results re spirituality and attendance at MfB

**9:35: CREC:**

(i) Approval for Nov. 7 Child Welcoming—Cairn Krafft

(ii) Homeschooling Report—Kimberly Benson

**9:55: P&SC—Leo Pickens**

(i) Conflict Resolution Workshop Oct. 17

(ii) Mtg. for Learning on End of Life Issues

**10:15: Suggestion for Committee Sharing Potluck(s)—Barbara Thomas**

**10:25: BYM and MM visioning—August 22 with Meg Meyer**

**10: 30 Darfur Update—Sylvia Oliva**

**10:40: Closing Worship**

**"Sense of the meeting is a gift. It came to the Quakers through their commitment to continuing revelation. They discovered that the Light which had come to teach the people could lead them to revealed corporate decisions. The Quakers cherished the gift. They handed it down as a spiritual heirloom from generation to generation, even as the Jews hand down their covenant with God." from Beyond Consensus by Barry Morley**

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**MORE QUAKER QUOTES FOR AUGUST:**

*No one after lighting a lamp puts it under a bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16*

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*"Let me light my lamp," says the star "and never debate if it will help to remove the darkness."*  
**R. Tagore.**

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*What does love look like? It has hands to help others. It has feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like. St. Augustine*

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*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like unto it. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. Matthew 22:37-40)(KJV)*

**A YOUNG FRIEND TELLS OF HIS SOJOURN IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC**

**At 10 am, August 8th, Young Adult Friend Martin Krafft will offer a powerpoint presentation about his trip to the South Pacific. He will talk about his participation in the Emory Psychology in the South Pacific Program in Samoa and Vanuatu, and subsequent adventures hitch-hiking through New Zealand. Come for adventure stories, cultural reflections, and photos of the Far Side of the World.**

**FIRST DAY -- AUG. 1 AFTER POT LUCK – FIRST DAY SCHOOL DISCUSSION**

**Please come to a meeting to discuss next year's First Day School program, at rise of Pot Luck, 1PM. Senior Highs kids, parents, teachers and any others interested in our First Day School program.**

**What would your ideal First Day program look like, feel like? What are our needs? Those of children and adults? What results do we want?**

**What should it be? Theme based – relating to Christianity, Quaker materials (continuing with Dot's program from this past year), different religions, AVP activities, other? OR/AND Creative emergence, a spontaneous process of teacher working with students**

**How do we do this? Come share your ideas as we prepare for the fall.**

**Nursery Caretakers Needed:** Spending time with our youngest Annapolis Friends is a joy that we invite you to share. You get to play, read to the kids, play again, tell stories, play more and have a snack! If you forgot how to play, the kids will remind you. Please consider volunteering in our nursery and contact Sylvia O. at [soliva@erols.com](mailto:soliva@erols.com).

**BACK TO SCHOOL DONATION PROGRAM**

Dear Friends,

Each summer we collect back to school supplies for children in need. This year we will be working with wish lists from our partner school in Philadelphia and Jenn's school in Silver Spring :)

Here are the wish lists:

**Philadelphia (5th Grade)**

pencils                      pencil top erasers                      pencil sharpeners  
Crayola markers, fine line, 10-pk                      composition books  
paper folders (two pocket with prongs)                      copy paper  
transparencies                      wet erase markers  
anything else you think would be useful for the 5th grade

**Jenn's School in Silver Spring (pre-k through 2nd grade)**

shoes, used or new, sizes 12, 13, 1 or 2 (no wheelies)  
backpacks, used or new, large enough to accommodate an 8.5 x 11 inch folder

Please place supplies in the box in the large classroom. If you would like to be on an e-mail list to receive alerts about good sale prices, please let me know.

If you would rather make a financial donation than shop, that would be great as well. Checks should be made payable to Annapolis Friends Meeting with "schools project" in the memo. If you give the checks to me or place them in the CREC mailbox in the office, I will give them to Joel Rodkin, our treasurer, in batches to make his life easier. Please bring in Philadelphia supplies by 5 September, Silver Spring supplies can be ongoing.

Thanks so much for your help!

- Cairn K., CREC co-clerk

## Annapolis Friends Newsletter

### HOW TO SUBMIT NEWSLETTER ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – PLEASE NOTE NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR & EMAIL ADDRESS

- Please submit items for the calendar and brief descriptions of events by the deadline listed above in the calendar. Phil Caroom is the new editor of the Annapolis Friends Newsletter. Please send any items for inclusion in the newsletter to him at [annapolisfriendsmeeting@gmail.com](mailto:annapolisfriendsmeeting@gmail.com)
- Friends also are asked to watch your email for announcements of meetings and to listen for announcements at the rise of meeting.
- Event and activity organizers, please also post your announcements on the bulletin board for those who do not use electronic mail!

Announce List: [announce@annapolis.quaker.org](mailto:announce@annapolis.quaker.org)

Discuss List: [discuss@annapolis.quaker.org](mailto:discuss@annapolis.quaker.org)

## FALL CAMPING PLANS GET UNDERWAY

Traditionally we have held our meetingwide camping trip at Catoctin Quaker Camp the 4th weekend in September. But Catoctin is not available this year on 24 - 26 September, the weekend we usually aim for to avoid other conflicts. Is there interest in going to Opequon Quaker Camp instead that same weekend? Opequon is located near Winchester, Virginia, next-door to a local Quaker farm and potter's home.

Opequon has cabins of a couple of sizes, or you can use your own tent or rv. Friends typically arrive Friday afternoon/evening, or as they are able. Meals and chores are communal Saturday morning through Sunday morning. It sounds like we might be able to include a gentle canoe/kayak trip on the Antietam on Saturday. Are Friends interested in attending? Helping to organize? So far two families have offered to take the lead on organizing a meal. Since there are four communal meals total, we need two more families to volunteer to take the lead on a meal. Also, if you have a canoe and/or kayak you could bring, please talk with Cairn K. of CREC.

The fall camping trips are a great opportunity for community fellowship. All ages are welcome!

## LIGHTHOUSE SHELTER, ANCHOR HOUSE SHELTER, AND PANTRY

AFM provides the shelter meal each first Monday of each month (July 5<sup>th</sup> this month). Peter Meredith (410-647-2487) and Marcia Ormsby (410-280-5025) serve as our schedulers to identify Friends to coordinate monthly meals.

### URGENT REQUEST FOR PANTY SUPPLIES! STOCKS ARE VERY LOW

Due to the recession, homeless and unemployed families need for food and other supplies from the Lighthouse pantries has more than doubled in recent months, while contributions have fallen substantially. As a result, the cupboards soon will be bare unless Lighthouse supporters can respond to this challenge. Please give what you can. **Items may be placed in (or next to) the container in the lobby of the Meeting House.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! For more information please contact : Michele Marshall 410/349-5056 ext14 or [marshall@annapolislighthouse.org](mailto:marshall@annapolislighthouse.org)

**LIBRARY CORNER:** :-) **Still open for business as we are reorganizing :-)**

*A library book review for August- Quaking* by Kathryn Erskine  
(Philomel Books/Penguin Books for Young Readers, 2007)

Sam and Jessica are definitely the oddest relatives Matt (not Mattie and never Matilda) has been sent to live with. Matt is a withdrawn and prickly fourteen-year-old, and with good reason. She tries to remain invisible, especially at school, to ensure she won't become a victim again. Living with Quakers in the time following 9/11 and the start of the second war in Iraq make that impossible, however...

This novel for teens covers many themes: the polarization in the US over the second war in Iraq, the life and beliefs of contemporary Quakers and, in a matter as unsentimental as Matt herself, the power of caring and love. Katherine Erskine has a good writer's gift for "showing, not telling," and her characters' personalities pop off the page as we meet each of them. "Enemies" are somewhat stereotypical and more sophisticated readers can predict some major changes, but there are some surprises.

A good read for teens and adults who want a novel about Quakers for our time and place.  
--Beth Chandler

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## SUMMER BREAK CONTINUES FOR FIRST DAY SCHOOL

This summer we will be take a break from regular First Day School classes, beginning June 13 and continuing through August 22. **But, nursery care will continue as usual during the summer!**

During this time, we extend a warm invitation for children to attend some or all meeting for worship with their parents. And/or children may join us in the nursery area or go with parents or another Friendly adult to play outside or spend time in the classroom.

When First Day School resumes on August 29, we will have our usual organization of school supplies for Philadelphia during First Day School, followed by the swim-party potluck at Tricia Robinson's.

Questions? Please contact Cairn Krafft ([cairnkrafft@comcast.net](mailto:cairnkrafft@comcast.net)), Mardy Burgess ([Mardypb@comcast.net](mailto:Mardypb@comcast.net)) or for trail work, Phil Caroom ([pcaroom@gmail.com](mailto:pcaroom@gmail.com)).

### Deconstructing racism workshop – next meeting Sat., 8/14, 2 - 4

This group is now under the care of AFM Ministry and Worship Committee. Friends get together every few months to talk about our recent experiences related to race and diversity.

We open in silent worship, update each other on events in our lives, examine our own collusion in racism, discern our individual and collective leadings for furthering equality and justice, and close in silent worship.

All are welcome to join in this positive, mutually supportive experience.

## Annapolis Friends Newsletter

### *A visitor comes to Annapolis to talk about “WHAT IS BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING?”*

Baltimore Yearly Meeting (“BYM”) is visiting every Monthly Meeting this summer and fall. Yearly Meeting wants to listen to Monthly Meeting members and to talk about the Yearly Meeting organization. Yearly Meeting hopes to discover what vision Friends have for our larger organization and hear Friends' thoughts about the relationship between Monthly Meetings and Yearly Meeting. BYM rep. Meg Meyer will join us at 9 a.m. on Sunday August 22nd. No prior experience with Yearly Meeting is needed to participate.

Here is an introduction to Quaker organization for those unfamiliar: Baltimore Yearly Meeting is a regional Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends that has existed for more than 300 years. Geographically, it includes most of Virginia, the portion of Maryland west of the Chesapeake Bay, central Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, and eastern West Virginia. It has about 4,740 members--Friends of all ages--organized into 41 established Monthly Meetings plus several Preparative Meetings and Worship Groups. Like any Friends Meeting, the Baltimore Yearly Meeting comes together for gathered worship and corporate discernment, seeking to know God's will.

In many ways a Yearly Meeting is the central organizing unit of the Religious Society of Friends. No larger Quaker body has authority over the Yearly Meeting. Books of discipline, defining the faith and practice of Friends, are developed and approved at the Yearly Meeting level. It is the Yearly Meeting that knits local Meetings into the Religious Society of Friends; recognition by a Yearly Meeting distinguishes a Quaker Monthly Meeting from a non-denominational worship group. Friends ask for membership at the local level, and may not realize that they are also joining a Yearly Meeting, but their Yearly Meeting membership is what makes them part of the Quaker movement.

Like a Monthly Meeting, the Yearly Meeting exists to build community, to support the life of the spirit, to discern right action, and to bear witness in the world. Like a Monthly Meeting, it carries out these responsibilities through shared worship, regular Meetings with a Concern for Business, ongoing committee work, and sponsored projects. A Yearly Meeting, in other words, can best be understood as an ordinary Friends Meeting, on a much larger scale.

The central responsibility of Baltimore Yearly Meeting is corporate discernment. Much of this takes place during the week-long Annual Session held each summer, to which all members of the Yearly Meeting are invited. Annual Session offers programs for children, worship and Bible study, workshops, interest groups, plenary speakers, and daily business sessions. Between Annual Sessions, the work of our Yearly Meeting is carried forward by Interim Meeting, which meets in October, March and June. Again, all Friends are welcome to attend. Yearly Meeting committees are encouraged to meet on Interim Meeting days, and may meet at other times during the year as needed. Local Meetings or individual Friends can bring their ideas, concerns and proposals to a Yearly Meeting committee, which may bring these forward to Interim Meeting or to the Annual Session for further discernment, thus enabling BYM to speak with a corporate voice in the world. Friends are encouraged to let Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee know if they would like to serve on a particular committee. Many hands are needed to do the work of the Yearly Meeting.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting, through its committees and staff, offers a wide range of programs designed to build community and support spiritual growth. The largest is the summer camping program, operating three separate

camps in Maryland and Virginia (Catocin, Opequon, and Shiloh) and a “Teen Adventure” program for older campers.

An active youth program sponsors weekend gatherings throughout the year for middle schoolers (Junior Young Friends), high schoolers (Young Friends). Young Adult Friends take charge of their own program that enables them to network and nurture one another. The BYM Spiritual Formation Program draws together groups of Friends throughout the Yearly Meeting to nurture individual spiritual growth in community. The January Women's Retreat, the annual Peace Networking Day, and other programs and events support spiritual life and community among Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends.

INTRODUCTION TO BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING – continued:

As part of a network of Quaker Yearly Meetings around the world, Baltimore Yearly Meeting is a gateway to the larger Quaker universe. It connects individual Friends to a range of Quaker “umbrella” organizations, from Friends World Committee for Consultation, to Friends General Conference and Friends United Meeting, to Friends Committee on National Legislation and the American Friends Service Committee. Many Friends from around the country have attended Baltimore Yearly Meeting Annual Session in recent years, and there have been an increasing number of visitors from overseas, thanks to the work of the *ad hoc* Intervisitation Committee. The Annual Session provides opportunities to learn about other Quaker organizations, and to meet with a wide variety of Friends face-to-face.

The search for unity among Friends, grounded in worship, is at the heart of Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s mission. In strong local Meetings Friends learn to listen deeply to each other, to care for one another, to engage with each other, and not to walk away when things get hard. At the Yearly Meeting level, Friends have a chance to practice the same Quaker ways. What binds us together as Friends is the belief that we can find unity, if we dig deeply enough. All it takes is an attitude of patience, openness, humility and love, with creativity and a sense of humor thrown in for good measure.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting challenges us to expand our understanding of what it means to be a Quaker and part of a Quaker community. In fellowship, in deep listening, in waiting worship, in commitment to each other, it richly rewards those who embrace the challenge of being a “Yearly Meeting” Friend.

The office of Baltimore Yearly Meeting is located in Sandy Spring, Maryland (phone: 301-774-7663, email: [bym@bym-rsf.org](mailto:bym@bym-rsf.org); website: [www.bym-rsf.org](http://www.bym-rsf.org)). The staff consists of a General Secretary, a Youth Secretary, a Camp Program Secretary, a Camp Property Manager, a Development Director, a Comptroller, and an Administrative Assistant. The staff is overseen by BYM’s Supervisory Committee, and staff members serve at the direction of the gathered body of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. The BYM Presiding Clerk Howard Fullerton may be contacted at 301-774-6258 or [YMClerk@bym-rsf.org](mailto:YMClerk@bym-rsf.org), and the Clerk of Interim Meeting Betsy Meyer may be contacted at 301-384-5146 or [efmeyer@comcast.net](mailto:efmeyer@comcast.net).

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### **A meeting for learning “radical hospitality” -**

Outreach Committee feels led to develop a meeting for learning which is described below. It would be for our Meeting and perhaps later for the wider community. As we plan it, we would love to have your ideas—e.g. different title, etc. Please read on:

A year ago Nancy Jo expressed to me a strong leading to help people be open to each other and able to listen deeply and respectfully—people who are on opposite sides, especially politically and religiously. Pat S., in her article “Keeping Close to That Which is Pure,” wrote, “Being listened to is spiritually enabling.”

Currently on the political level what we do is, instead of trying to find a little common ground or a nugget of truth in the “other”, we tend to shut out people who think differently than we do. We make caricatures of them, lump them together and label them, and close our minds to everything they say. We have TV news programs on the far right and on the far left. There is much bitterness. There is much exaggeration and ridicule of opposing views. “Hot button” issues, “trigger” words, and “trigger” images set us off. The search for truth suffers, and so does our nation which is so divided!

We can take this to a personal level, and I think the personal is the ground from which many wider issues come (e.g. immigration, racial and lgbt concerns, respect for Muslims and their desire to build a mosque near Ground Zero). In my own life I experience a need to learn radical hospitality. I believe Outreach Committee could serve our Meeting by making us more aware of the dangers of where we are heading, and how to steer in the right direction, first of all in our own mind, and in our everyday inter-personal relationships.

The first time I heard the term “radical hospitality” was from the Wm Penn House. They practice it in their welcome of people there, providing “safe places for many truths to be spoken and heard with love.” For an example, at one of their Sunday potlucks they invited Navy Midshipmen for an evening conversation on how they see their military service as serving their vision for the world.

In the program of the FGC 2010 Gathering, a reflection on one of the offerings caught my eye. It read: “My workshop

## Annapolis Friends Newsletter

### RADICAL HOSPITALITY – continued:

inspired me to make my speech more non-violent; taught me a technique to engage in a positive way with people with whom I strongly disagree.” Last March AFSC’s Mary Ellen McNish wrote a letter to John Boehner, the House Minority Leader. She was concerned about the deterioration of Congressional discourse in policy debates. She spoke about the language of hate and fear which was used to whip up public support, and called for an end to “demonizing individuals whose policy perspectives may be different from our own.”

Audre Lorde in her book “Sister Outsider” wrote: “Institutionalized rejection of *difference* is an absolute necessity in a profit economy which needs outsiders as surplus people. As members of such an economy, we have *all* been programmed to respond to the human differences between us with fear and loathing... But we have no patterns for relating across our human differences as equals. As a result, those differences have been misnamed and misused in the service of separation and confusion.”

Sojourners Magazine has taken a public stand for civility. Contributors to their blog are asked to sign a “Comment Code of Conduct” which is based on several New Testament prescriptions. And in this pre-election season they are inviting readers to sign a “Civility Covenant” which states: “We pledge to God and to each other that we will lead by example in a country where civil discourse seems to have broken down. We will work to model a better way in how we treat each other in our many faith communities, even across religious and political lines. We will strive to create in our congregations safe and sacred spaces for common prayer and community discussion as we come together to seek God’s will for our nation and our world.” (I have signed this.)

So, how to bring this into our practice! What tools may help us, what knowledge? How can we develop the qualities needed? Are there things we can do to personally experience these truths and live them out?

Curiosity has a part to play in this, according to Nancy Jo. And Debra Dean Murphy of Sojourners writes: “People who maintain long-term friendships with those whom they strenuously disagree with are usually possessed of a repertoire of skills and habits that make such relationships possible, that in fact govern their lives in their totality. They are innately curious about the world and other people—the kind of curiosity that is ... a form of compassion.”

A simple experiential exercise we could do in a group to show how well we listen is:

A person asks a question. A volunteer will give his/her answer while the others listen. Then each listener in turn will say what she heard the person who answered say. The volunteer then gives feedback. (This probably has variations and could be fine-tuned. I’m sure there are other helpful exercises as well.)

In sum, I believe there is a real need to listen deeply to one another, to try to dissolve prejudices and preconceptions; to seek to understand the “other” and what we hold in common: that of God in each one. I am challenged by the prayer of St. Frances when he says, “O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek...to be understood, as to understand.”

By Marge Larabee who instead of fault-finding practiced “good-finding.” By Rumi, who said “Speak a new language so that the world will be a new world.” By the words I say in my Yoga practice: “The Divine Light in me celebrates the Divine Light in you.” And by my own belief that what we do to the “other” we do to ourselves.

Outreach Committee would love to hear from you if you feel such a meeting for learning might be worthwhile, and would gratefully welcome your input or help.

Annapolis Friends Meeting  
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