

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER — February 2013

CALENDAR

- Meeting for worship: 11 a.m. on First Days
- First Day School for children: 11 a.m. (Joining meeting for worship from 11:45 a.m. to noon)
- Nursery care for our youngest: 11 a.m.
- Meetings for Worship with a Concern for Business: 1st First Day of month at 9 a.m.
- Adult religious education: As noted in calendar below
- Early meeting for worship (weather permitting outdoors) at 8 a.m. on 2nd, 4th, and 5th First Days
- Meditation study group meets at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in the main meeting room
- NOTE: The deadline for submitting newsletter items is the 20th of the month

FEBRUARY 3: 9 a.m. Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship; 1 p.m. Potluck lunch

FEBRUARY 10: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

FEBRUARY 17: 9 a.m. Committee Meetings; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

FEBRUARY 24: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Workshop; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

CARE OF THE MEETING HOUSE: Pastoral Care

QUERIES FOR SECOND MONTH: MEETINGS FOR BUSINESS

Are meetings for business held in a spirit of worship, understanding, and forbearance? When direction seems lacking, is this seen as a challenge to a more prayerful search for truth? Do we humbly set aside our own preconceived notions as to proper action, seeking instead Divine guidance as to the right course? Is the Meeting aware that it speaks not only through its actions but also through its failure to act?

Do you participate regularly in meetings for business, discharge faithfully your committee responsibilities, and assume your share of financial support of the meeting? (Faith and Practice, p. 38)

REGISTRATION OPENS FOR NEW BYM CAMPERS

Kids grow spiritually when they explore new horizons in nature and in Quaker community. Registration opens at 7 p.m. for new campers at Opequon, Shiloh, Catoctin, and Teen Adventure Bike on Friday, February 1. Baltimore Yearly Meeting runs three camps for children 9-14 and two camps for teens ages 15-17. All of these camps are residential. Activities include community building, Quaker values, and developing a love of the outdoors. Trips out of camp include backpacking, rock climbing, and canoeing. See bymcamps.org for information and to register online, or contact Jane Megginson, Camp Program Manager (717-481-4870).

AFM SILENT RETREAT AT DAYSPRING

Be still and know that I am God (Psalm 46:10)

Friends, I hope you can share in the silence of Dayspring Retreat Center, February 8 - 10. The warmth of spiritual community in the heart of winter, amid nature's beauty--what a blessing! Love and LIGHT to you as you consider joining in this adventure.

Details about the retreat follow, starting with excerpts from the Retreat Center's welcome letter:

The purpose of silent retreat is the deepening of communion with God, with other persons and with oneself. ...(W)e make space for...a time of waiting in silence, in solitude, to hear the voice of the One

Who speaks in everything that is, and who, most of all, speaks in the depths of our own being.
(Thomas Merton)

LOCATION: Dayspring Retreat Center, 11301 Neelsville Church Rd., Germantown, MD 20874
(Telephone - in case of emergency: 301-916-1131.) See www.dayspringretreat.org.

DIRECTIONS: From I-270 take the Damascus exit (#15-A), Route 118 to the north. Go 8/10 of a mile on Route 118 to MD Route 355. Turn left on MD Route 355 and go a VERY SHORT block. Turn right on Neelsville Church Rd. Continue 6/10 of a mile on Neelsville Church Rd. to Dayspring Retreat Center.
OR From I-70 take Route 27 south at Mount Airy. It will merge into 355 (Frederick Rd.) continuing south. Turn left onto Neelsville Church Rd. (just before reaching Route 118) and follow directions above.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1) Over 50 years ago, Church of the Savior in Washington, D.C. was led to establish Dayspring as a silent retreat center. Two simple buildings overlook meadows, woodlands, and ponds filled with wildlife. The Inn (18 single rooms, each with Bible, bed, sink, desk, and reading chair) and the Carpenter's Lodge (living room with fireplace, dining room, kitchen, and porch) are connected by a path.

2) Meals are vegetarian. A Dayspring cook prepares the food. Retreatants carry out final preparation, set-up, and clean-up in silence.

3) Silence is maintained from Friday's opening meeting for worship through Sunday's closing worship.

4) Retreatants often bring devotional reading, personal journals, sketch books, knitting. Most importantly, we bring open hearts.

5) You will need toilet articles, warm casual clothes, walking shoes or boots, and a flashlight. Bed linens, blankets, pillows, washcloth, and towels are provided.

REGISTRATION:

Make check for \$210 payable to Dayspring Retreat Center and give or mail to Jean Christianson, 189 Edgewater Rd., Pasadena, MD 21122. We need a minimum of 9 registrants. Maximum capacity is 18. Your check will guarantee your spot. Registration deadline is Friday, February 1. Checks will be deposited after the retreat. Annapolis Friends are encouraged to ask AFM for scholarship assistance if the fee is an obstacle. Feel free to email jschristianson@gmail.com or call me at 410-544-1912 with questions.

Name(s) _____ E-mail _____

Address _____

Phone _____

MIDWINTER GATHERING OF FLGBTQC

Calling Friends (Quakers) and Fellow Spiritual Travelers of all descriptions who hold lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people close to your hearts! You are enthusiastically invited to gather at the Bryn Mawr Mountain Retreat and Conference Center in the Poconos of Pennsylvania, February 15-18. The Midwinter Gathering of Friends for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgendered and Queer Concerns will be held in Honesdale, PA.

Together we will seek spiritual growth and renewal through unprogrammed worship, learning, fellowship, and play under the care of Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns (FLGBTQC). We will be blessed by the ministry of Friend Niyonu Spann, founder of Beyond Diversity 101 workshops.

For more information and to register, go to flgbtqc.quaker.org/ and click on Midwinter Gathering or call 267-713-8694.

AFM DECONSTRUCTING RACISM DISCUSSION

Deconstructing Racism Discussion will take place Saturday, February 16, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the meetinghouse library. Our group is under the care of AFM Ministry and Worship Committee. Friends get together every two or three 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 unaware racism, discern our individual and collective leadings for furthering equality and justice, and close in silent worship. Hope you can share in this exchange. All are welcome!

Peace,
Jean

BYM THINKING ABOUT RACE GROUP

At this time of year, families with college-bound students are attentive to admissions issues. A New York Times editorial on November 19, 2012, addressed "Class-Based vs Race-Based Admissions." Here are excerpts:

"To maintain or build the levels of racial diversity on selective campuses, it is necessary to maintain race-conscious admissions.

"For colleges and universities committed to diversity, the right way to think about class- and race-conscious admissions is as complements rather than alternatives. Both are essential for a truly diverse campus.

"Maintaining race-conscious admissions contributes significantly to campus diversity, while serving racial and social justice. Expanding class-conscious admissions significantly expands diversity while serving social and economic justice—though it also requires considerably more financial aid, which is why the wealthiest and most selective colleges and universities have more such diversity."

The BYM Working Group on Racism meets most months on the third Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., usually at Bethesda Friends Meeting or Friends Meeting of Washington. If you would like to attend, on a regular or a drop-in basis, contact clerk David Etheridge at david.etheridge@verizon.net or Pat Schenck at pat.schenck@verizon.net.

RECRUITING FOR WINTER RELIEF SHELTER VOLUNTEERS

For several years, Magothy United Methodist Church in Pasadena has asked our Meeting to partner with it to provide shelter for the homeless for one week through Winter Relief. Our dates for 2013 are Monday night, March 18 through Monday morning, March 25.

Peace,
Peter (410-647-2487)

THANKS FROM FRIENDS THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE IN KENYA

On behalf of the principal, staff and students [of Friends Theological College in Kenya], I want to pass my sincere thanks for your support of construction and installation of the Biosand Water Filter project at FTC and others who have received the same. May God bless you so much.

Dominic Museve, FTC student

MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS MINUTES
SIXTH DAY OF THE FIRST MONTH, 2013

Present were: Elise Albert (Clerk), Phyllis Singer (Recording Clerk), Martha Baer, Mary Barbera, Will Candler, Phil Caroom, Minette Clarke-Swindle, Jennifer DeLorge McKeown, Nan Elsbree, Sky Elsbree, Phil Favero, Kim Finch, Wes Jordan, Bill Kinzer, Carol Kinzer, Cairn Krafft, Careen Mayer, Leo Pickens, Tricia Robinson, Joel Rodkin, Pat Schenck, Barbara Thomas, and Joanna Tobin.

Our Meeting began with centering worship.

Announcement: Two additions to 2013 Committee Slate:

- Ministry and Worship co-clerks: Tricia Robinson and Kim Finch
- Nursery Coordinator: Suzanne Spoor, who will be leaving the Library Committee and joining CREC.

The complete slate appears in the Newsletter and as an attachment in the book of MfB minutes.

ACTION: Meeting approved these two additions.

Minute in Appreciation of Margaret Holmes:

Annapolis Friends Meeting would like to express our appreciation to you, Margaret Holmes, for your leadership of the Spring and Christmas markets. Your warm and thoughtful example, attention to detail, creativity, and respect for Quaker process demonstrate the Spirit-led life. Please accept our thanks for your work that has benefited so many individuals and worthy organizations beyond our Meeting. You let your life speak.

ACTION: The meeting joyfully and enthusiastically endorsed the minute of appreciation for Margaret Holmes.

Ministry and Worship: Tricia Robinson related plans for the preparation of the 2012 Spiritual State of the Meeting report. The preliminary worship sharing is planned to be about 11:30 a.m. on March 3, 2013.

ACTION: Meeting approved the March 3 date for the worship sharing on the Spiritual State of the Meeting.

Quarterly Meeting: Jennifer DeLorge McKeown discussed the Quarterly Meeting that AFM is hosting on March 10, 2013. The Baltimore Yearly Meeting Working Group on Racism will be facilitating a workshop called What is this thing called 'privilege'? And what can we do with it? at the QM.

Friends Peace Teams: Barb Thomas presented a traveling minute for three Friends (Barbra Thomas, Martha Baer, Harriett Nettles) traveling to Indonesia with the Friends Peace Teams Asia West Pacific. The minute appears in the Newsletter and as an attachment in the book of MfB minutes.

Friends are interested in how AFM and members and attenders can financially, and otherwise, support this mission. Stewardship and Finance will take the lead in coordinating funding, with discussion with P&SC and CREC.

ACTION: The meeting joyfully and enthusiastically endorsed the minute for the Friends Peace Teams.

Building Use Coordinator: Leo Pickens presented his outgoing report. He noted that about a quarter of our income is provided by rentals, but that one of our anchor renters is not feeling welcomed here. A discussion followed.

Minette Clarke-Swindle will take the lead in making renters feel more welcome. There were many suggestions about how to more clearly indicate and direct Meetinghouse usage, at least for First Days. An important first step is to direct all proposed usage to the BUC (Minette Clarke-Swindle). Questions about building use are directed to Minette.

ACTION: Meeting is united in gratitude to the outgoing Building Use Coordinator (Leo Pickens) and to the incoming BUC (Minette Clarke-Swindle).

Committee Reports:

Pat Schenck reported on Outreach Committee. She outlined the committee's regular tasks, including greeting visitors at the front door, following up with them, making coffee, inviting visitors to meet with

Nominating: Clerk: Barbara Thomas, (10)(11)(13); Members: Cairn Krafft (10)(12), Margaret Holmes (11)(13), Nancy Jo Steetle (12); Bill Kinzer (13), Don Sillars (13)

Outreach: Clerk: Pat Schenck (12);
Peter Meredith (10) (11)(12), Mardy Burgess (12), Ruth Slavin (12), Bonnie Peregoy (12), Will Candler (12)
Web Manager: Wes Jordan (12)
E-mail List Manager: Esther Geil (11)(13)
Directory Editor: Barbara Thomas (13)
Newsletter Editor: Beth Mayer (11)(13), Asst. Phil Caroom (10) (12),
GAIN: Rep, Mardy Burgess (12), Asst. Peter Meredith (10)(12)

Pastoral Care: Clerk: Mary Barbera (09) (11) (12);
Nancy Jo Steetle (11)(13), Dotty Doherty (12), Stephanie DeAbreu (13), Nan Elsbree (13), Lynada Johnson (13), Sheryl Ingraham (13)
Quaker Dudes: Head Dude/Convener: Karl Richmond (10) (12)

Peace & Social Concerns: Clerk: Carl Benson (10) (12)
Ted Hawkins (10) (12), Lee Lougee (10) (12), Martha Baer (10) (12), Harold Saunders (10) (12),
Don Sillars (10) (12), Margaret Candler (12), Jack Lahr (12), Carol Brantley (12)
Peace & Justice Center Working Group: Co-Facilitators: Phil Favero (10)(12) & Kit Hanley (12)
AFSC Contact: Barbara Thomas (12)
FCNL Contact: Jack Lahr (13)
Lighthouse Shelter Co-liasons: Marcia Ormsby (07)(09)(11)(13), Joel Rodkin (13)
Lighthouse Support Group: Marcia Ormsby, Carol Brantley, Joel Rodkin, Peter Meredith, Nan Elsbree
Lighthouse Board: Carol Brantley (09—until LH term ends)
Wm. Penn Hs. Contact: Connie Parks (12)
National Religious Campaign Against Torture: Jack Lahr (12)

Stewardship & Finance: Clerk: Karen Cunyningham (11) (12),
Carol Kinzer (10) (12), Sky Elsbree (12), Barbara Thomas (12), Joel Rodkin, ex officio (08) (10) (12),
Bill Roberts (13), Sue Podolin (13)
Quaker Market Subcommittee Clerk: Cairn Krafft (12)(13)
Careen Mayer (11)(13), Kit Hanley (11)(13), Margaret Holmes (07-12) (13)

Trustees: Clerk: Ted Hawkins (12),
Elise Albert (11)(13), Marcia Ormsby (12), Mary Kniskern (13)

MfB Attachment

Annapolis Friends Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) unites with the leadings of Barbara Thomas, Martha Baer, and Harriett Nettles to participate in a Friends Peace Team delegation to Indonesia in the month of February 2013.

We support their commitment to peace and nonviolence and their desire to build positive friendships with the people of Indonesia. As faithful members of our community we send our love and support for their travels in Indonesia.

Each of these individuals brings unique and valuable experiences in creating peaceful resolutions to violence and conflict--both at home and abroad. We trust that Friends Peace Teams' partners in Indonesia will benefit from sharing deep listening and insights with them. We recommend them to your care and hospitality. Upon their return, we anticipate reports and stories of the experiences of the Friends Peace Team.

Approved and minuted at our Meeting for Worship With a Concern for Business, held First Month 6, 2013.

Sincerely yours,

Elise Albert, Clerk
Annapolis Friends Meeting
Annapolis, Maryland

MfB Attachment: Outreach Committee Report to Business Meeting

Members: Pat Schenck (clerk), Mardy Burgess, Will Candler, Peter Meredith, Bonnie Peregoy, and Ruth Slavin

Reporting to Outreach:

- Web Manager: Wes Jordan (12)
- E-mail List Manager: Esther Geil (11) (13)
- Directory Editor: Barbara Thomas (13)
- Newsletter Editor: Beth Mayer (11) (13), Asst. Phil Caroom (10) (12),
- GAIN: Rep, Mardy Burgess (12), Asst. Peter Meredith (10) (12)

Regular tasks:

- Greet visitors at front door
- Keep visitor materials current
- Keep the bulletin board in order
- Update and keep up the picture board
- Collect visitor information forms, follow up with an e-mail and later a hand-written note of welcome
- Make coffee before worship
- Move coffee to meeting room and invite visitors to join us after worship

Comments on above--still in transition:

- We are working on the bulletin board. Materials will remain on the board no longer than two months, and must be dated with a contact person. Some materials will go into a binder or folder on the cabinet beneath the bulletin board.
- Picture board is still in progress. Kim put up a new board and we have posted some pictures.

Other project in transition:

- Minutes on wall next to door to office

Other activities in 2012:

- March orientation to Quakerism for visitors and new attenders with lunch: small attendance, so we invited the meeting to lunch
- October orientation to committees with brunch: excellent attendance
- Mardy attended the annual public relations bazaar held at the U-U church
- Reps to GAIN: 2012: Peter; 2013: Mardy
- Contacted Capital about writing an article on our electric car charging stations; the reporter seemed very interested but hasn't followed up.
- We have contacted those people whose functions are listed under our committee and invited them to meet with us to see if we can be of help. Several have done so and we will meet with the others.

It is our hope that with some our responsibilities nearly completed, we can have more outreach events in 2013. We have brainstormed some ideas, such as another Meet Your Muslim Neighbor; a speaker on the environment; more respectful conversations like we co-sponsored with GAIN before the election, possibly on guns; and some kind of outreach to the growing number of people who consider themselves spiritual but not religious, the "nones," as in "none of the above."

QUAKER QUOTES FOR FEBRUARY

Friends are not to meet like a company of people about town or parish business ... but to wait upon the Lord. (George Fox, Epistle 313, 1674)

The belief that the Light is within all [people] means that every person is capable of taking an advanced position and can be appealed to on these grounds. The same identical Light shines in every heart however obscured by selfishness and greed. Hence the nonviolent method of good will and confidence will sometimes produce unexpected results because it reaches something in the other person which responds in similar fashion. That of God in one person arouses similar capacity in the other. [People] tend to rise to what is expected of them. No human being is so depraved that nothing but force can appeal to him [or her]. There are many extraordinary instances in Quaker history in which an evildoer has been suddenly halted and transformed by the power of nonresistance combined with good will. These methods sometimes fail, but so also does the method of violence. (Howard Brinton, "Peace Testimony of the Society of Friends," American Friends Service Committee, no date)

My child, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of life and abundant welfare they will give you.
Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.
Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. (Proverbs 3: 1-6)

The Quaker method is likely to be successful in proportion as the members are acquainted with one another, better still if real affection exists among them. (Howard Brinton, Reaching Decisions: the Quaker Method, Pendle Hill Pamphlet Number 65)

In a truly covered meeting an individual who speaks takes no credit to himself for the part he played in the unfolding of the worship. For the feeling of being a pliant instrument of the Divine Will characterizes true speaking "in the Life." Under such a covering an individual emerges into vocal utterance, frequently without fear and trembling, and subsides without self-consciousness into silence when his part is played. For One who is greater than all individuals has become the meeting place of the group, and He becomes the leader and director of worship. With wonder one hears the next speaker, if there be more, take up another aspect of the theme of the meeting. No jealousy, no regrets that he didn't think of saying that, but only gratitude that the angel has come and troubled the waters and that many are finding healing through the one Life. A gathered meeting is no place for the enhancement of private reputations, but for self-effacing pliancy and obedience to the whispers of the Leader. (Thomas R. Kelly, The Gathered Meeting, 1945)

HOW TO SUBMIT NEWSLETTER ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please submit items for the calendar and brief descriptions of events by the 20th of the month.
- Beth Mayer is the editor of the Annapolis Friends Newsletter. Please send any items for inclusion in the newsletter to 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; Discuss List: discuss@annapolis.quaker.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS MEETING

Address: 351 DuBois Road, Annapolis, MD 21401

Telephone: 410-573-0364

Website: www.quaker.org/annapolis

Clerk: Elise Albert (e.albert1656@gmail.com)

Building Use Coordinator: Minette Clarke Swindel (minette3@cs.com or 410-544-5838)

Newsletter Editor: Beth Mayer (annapolisfriendsmeeting@gmail.com)