

## **ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2014**

### **CALENDAR**

- Meeting for worship: 11 a.m. on First Days
- First Day School for children will begin again after Labor Day.
- 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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> First Days
- Pastoral Care is offering a monthly Meeting for Healing on first Thursdays, 7 - 8 p.m. (April 3)
- North County mid-week meetings: First Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Call 410-439-2319 for more information.
- Meditation study group will resume after Labor Day with Suzuki's "Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind."
- NOTE: The deadline for submitting newsletter items is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month

JUNE 1: 9 a.m. Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

JUNE 8: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

JUNE 15: 9 a.m. Committee Meetings; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

JUNE 22: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship; 1 p.m. Potluck lunch

JUNE 29: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

CARE OF THE MEETING HOUSE: Outreach

### **QUERIES FOR SIXTH MONTH: HOME AND FAMILY**

Do you make your home a place of affection where God's presence is felt? Do you practice family prayer? Do you share your deepest beliefs and interests with all in the family? Do you grow together through sharing prosperity and adversity? Can you keep a sense of humor and avoid taking yourself too seriously? Do you establish family standards including the mutual obligations of children and adults?

Are you as children learning to be accountable for your own actions? Do you as parents help your children to grow in independence and responsibility? Do you consider the needs of grandparents and older members of the family circle? (Faith & Practice, p. 39)

### **DECONSTRUCTING RACISM DISCUSSION**

Dear Friends –

Our next deconstructing racism discussion will be Saturday, June 7, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the meetinghouse library. The group is under the care of AFM Ministry and Worship Committee. Friends gather 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!

In peace,  
Jean

## **MEETING FOR LEARNING AND SHARING: HOLISTIC HEALING/HEALTH**

On June 8, Meeting for Learning and Sharing will be devoted to holistic healing and health – the body, emotions, mind and spirit working together; with a focus on holistic alternatives that are complementary to Western's medical methods.

Share your knowledge of personal experience and/or work that you do in this area, including how participants could benefit.

Mardy will start with a discussion of my evolutionary triune brain model: body, emotions, mind and spirit - and their physiological instinctive needs and how communication has been physiologically missing until discovery of frontal lobes and their position of intercom and decision maker between the other three. Thus, we have evolved with these elements working together. The healers - you and others - have discovered ways to enable that to happen, often outside of the regular medical profession.

Mardy, Kit, Dotty and possibly Denise will each present their experiences for about 10 minutes. Join us - to present, to share informally, or to simply attend. Please contact Mardy.

We look forward to an exciting Meeting for Learning.

Mardy and Kit

## **WHITE FRIENDS WORKING TO ELIMINATE RACISM**

Pat S, Elizabeth D, and Gail T will offer a workshop, "White Friends Working to Eliminate Racism," on Saturday, June 14, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the meetinghouse.

The morning program will be similar to workshops Pat has given around the yearly meeting. She has not shared most of this material with AFM before. It will include exercises from her 2011 Pendle Hill Pamphlet, with plenty of time to talk about how we, as a meeting and as individuals, can work toward a more equitable society.

The afternoon program will be a workshop by Elizabeth D of Stony Run Meeting and Gail T of Bethesda Meeting called "Children Can Discriminate," given previously at BYM annual sessions. Kids as young as 6 months judge others based on skin color. What's a parent to do? This workshop is inspired by the work of child psychologists Po Bronson and Ashley Merryman, in their 2009 book, "Nurture Shock." We teach our children that there is that of God within everyone, yet the larger society often tells them otherwise. How can we help them sort through the mixed messages with integrity—ours and theirs?

There will be a \$10.00 charge for the workshop, which will include lunch. Registration will be closed on Sunday, June 8, and the minimum number to go forward will be eight registrants.

## **LIBRARY CORNER**

The BYM Query of the Month for the Sixth Month is titled Home and Family. Come into the AFM library for books, pamphlets, and other materials related to the Queries each month. Books for the Sixth Month Query are in the section on Parenting/Family, but you might also consider looking at some of our Pendle Hill pamphlets. They're interesting, relatively short, and insightful.

### **Books in Parenting/Family Section:**

- "One Small Plot of Heaven," by Elise Boulding
- "Codes of Love," by Mark Bryan
- "A Kids Guide to Working Out Conflicts," by Naomi Drew
- "Raising a Family: Living on Planet Parenthood," by Jeanne and Don Elium
- "Using Your Values to Raise Your Child to be an Adult You Admire," by Harriet Heath
- "Unconditional Parenting," by Alfie Kohn
- "Committed Relationships," by QuakerBooks
- "Positive Parenting for a Peaceful World," by Ruth Tod

- "How Children Succeed," by Paul Tough
- "Recovery of Family Life," by Elton and Pauline Trueblood

**Pendle Hill Pamphlets in Clear Boxes on Quakerism Shelves:**

- 36, Martha and Mary: a Woman's Relationship to her Home
- 125, Children and Solitude
- 157, Facing and Fulfilling the Later Years
- 222, The Family as a Way into the Future
- 239, Growing Old, a View from Within
- 315, Answering That of God in Our Children
- 362, Bringing God Home: Exploring Family Spirituality
- 396, God Raising Us: Parenting As A Spiritual Practice

Reviewed by Phyllis S

**QUAKER QUOTES FOR JUNE**

If there is light in the soul, there will be beauty in the person. If there is beauty in the person, there will be harmony in the house. If there is harmony in the house, there will be order in the nation. If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world. (Chinese Proverb)

Endeavor to make your home a place of peace and happiness where the presence of God is known. Try to live simply. Remember to value beauty in all its forms. Encourage the appreciation of music, literature and the other arts and the development of taste that will reject the worthless and the base. God's good gifts are for all to enjoy; learn to use them wisely. (From Advices, London, 1964)

Watch with Christian tenderness over the opening minds of your children. Seek to awaken in them the love of Jesus Christ and an understanding of his teaching. Uphold in your own conduct, and thus encourage in theirs, truthfulness and sincerity. Through example and training help them to recognize and obey the voice of God in their hearts that they may be joyful and willing in his service. Remember, at the same time, that there is a unique potentiality in each human being as a child of God, and that the Holy Spirit may lead your children along paths which you have not foreseen. (From Advices, London, 1964, in Daily Readings from Quaker Writings Ancient and Modern, p. 292, Linda Renfer, Ed.)

**MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS MINUTES**  
FOURTH DAY OF THE FIFTH MONTH, 2014

Present were: Elise A (Clerk), Phil C (Recording Clerk), Martha B, Bob B, Bonnie P, Carol B, Ester G, Martha O'H, Nan & Sky E, Phil F, Beth & Dave I, Wes J, Joanna T, Phyllis S, Jennifer D-M, Cairn K, Mary B, Karen C, Will C, Kim F, Pat S, Ruth S, Doug M, Pete M, Bill R, and Barb T.

We began with centering worship. Our clerk initially read from the Psalm calling for people to join with the natural world and "make a joyful noise" such as those we enjoy every spring. In this spirit of joyful growth and renewal, today we consider the possible of future growth of our own Meeting. But, first, we review our finances.

1. Treasurer's Report (Sue P)- See attached report. Sue noted we are ahead of schedule in our expected 2014 rental income. Revising our 2013 year-end accounting to remove "unrealized gains," we still retain \$28,061 in "undedicated reserves." We spent \$564 net on Interim Yearly Meeting; this was taken from the Committee Contingency Fund.

2. Stewardship and Finance ("S&F")- (Karen C) reported on various matters as follows:

a) S&F suggests a revision to guidelines for Adult Scholarship Fund description, inserted in these minutes here-

[Note: additions underlined; deletions stricken; AMENDMENTS BY MfB IN CAPS.]

1. Fund Type: Contingency Sinking
2. Name: Adult Scholarship Fund

3. Purpose: To provide assistance to Annapolis Friends Meeting members and attenders for Quaker-based spiritual growth opportunities. In particular, attendance at Friends United Meeting Triennial, Friends General Conference Gathering, Pendle Hill courses, Yearly Meeting annual sessions, Quarterly Meeting, SILENT RETREATS SUCH AS DAYSPRING, and the like.

4. Restrictions: Not to be used for general educational purposes.

5. Disbursement Authority: Stewardship and Finance

6. Miscellaneous Information: ~~The operating budget may also contain funds for this purpose; the Adult Scholarship Fund is intended to fund unbudgeted opportunities. There should be no pressure to "spend it because it is there".~~ The funding goal is \$2,000. Friends/attenders who would like assistance should contact the clerk of Stewardship and Finance. The clerk has authority to approve assistance of up to \$250 if: (1) the amount requested is less than half the total amount needed; (2) the purpose is to attend a Quaker event; and (3) the person requesting assistance is a regular attender and has not received Adult Scholarship Funds in the last year.

ISSUES OF CONFIDENTIALITY, ALSO WEIGHING THE BENEFITS OF TRANSPARENCY, WILL BE CONSIDERED FUTHER BY S&F for later final approval by MfB. Requests not meeting these criteria will be confidentially considered by committee.

Checks will generally be written to the sponsoring organization, although other arrangements can be made under special circumstances.

People who receive assistance should consider ways they can share what they gained from attending the event with the meeting.

Friends approved these changes. S&F will review the related policy as to transparency vs. confidentiality and will report back any recommended revision.

b) As to 2 budget line items -- Support for Leadings (M&W) and Camping Fee Assistance (CREC), S&F recommends that these items change to restricted funds. This would make these funds easier to manage.

Other notes on these items: Anne R ministry would fall under the first fund. CREC will consider whether its currently separate "Youth Opportunity Fund" should be separate from the camping fund. Per the sense of the Meeting, the committees involved will prepare a concise description for each fund as is our practice for such restricted funds for later final approval by MfB.

c) As to our 2013 surplus, S&F recommends that we bring AFM's Adult Scholarship Fund up to goal level, then place the surplus remainder in our Committee Contingency Fund. Friends approved this plan to add \$1,095 to bring the Adult Scholarship to \$2,000 & raise the Committee Contingency Fund balance to \$6,745.

d) S&F also reported on the BYM apportionment meeting last week in Adelphi: BYM's planners seek to raise the whole BYM budget by 3% but, due to the applicable formula, our AFM actual apportionment would be reduced by a little more than \$300 per year. The same formula raises the apportionments more on Meeting with larger investment income and does not take into account our (& other Meetings') substantial rental income. Our representatives also noted that smaller meetings with obligations to maintain historic buildings struggle to meet their greater obligations. They suggest AFM should volunteer to maintain the past year's apportionment level in light of this need; AFM approved sending this message to BYM. S&F also will consider a possible future message from AFM to BYM to address these ongoing issues as to the apportionment formula, rental incomes & smaller meetings.

3. Outreach: (Bonnie P) Outreach recommends that AFM should re-visit our recent change to the potluck schedule, still pursuing our purposes of greater accessibility and fellowship. After some feedback from Friends, Outreach suggests 2 potlucks per month, one on the first Sunday AND one on the 4th Sunday! Alternately, we might change this schedule to the 1st and 3rd so that we don't have 2 in a row.)

Outreach also suggests we avoid having programs during potluck as Friends have shared that it interrupts the community sharing that is the reason for potluck, and programs tend to end in an untimely fashion after many attenders wander out, leaving the clean-up to fewer people later in the

afternoon. Potluck without a program ends in a timely fashion with all hands on deck.

After much discussion, Friends asked Outreach to put this issue on "the discuss list" and to return the topic to MfB at a later time with this seasoning.

4. Update: "Ad Hoc Building / Future of AFM Committee" (Kim F). Kim distributed materials used by Friends during at least five prior AFM discussions of the growth issues going back to 2003. A flow chart outlining questions for discussion also was provided. She noted that, last week, about 25 people met to discuss these issues and to visit the next door property which could impact our plans.

Our current property has 4.5 acres of land of which less than half is developable, due to steep slopes, stream and conservation areas. Our parking lot generally is full, even though we have not yet build our potential larger, "ultimate Meeting Room" or potential separate "Peace & Justice Center." The only remaining area for possible expansion on the original site now is used as our children's play area.

A new and recently-emerging opportunity to purchase the next door neighbor's property, including a livable carriage house and an unfinished residence. The property also presents a boundary problem (its carriage house impinges by 2 or 3 feet on our property) and other building permit related issues. The unfinished construction is considered about 54% complete. This might be an alternate or supplementary solution to our recognized shortage of space issues. This next door property likely will be sold in the near future, whether AFM buys it or not. We should ask ourselves what would happen if someone else purchased this property and developed it differently.

Another meeting of the Ad Hoc Building Com. will be held on Wed., May 14, at 7 p.m. and all are invited to attend. AFM will need to decide whether to get an appraisal on the next door property as its next step.

5. Announcements: A North County mid-week meeting for AFM will meet for the first time next week: Diane E invites any interested Friends or attenders to a mid-week meeting on Tuesdays. The first will be held May 6, Tuesday, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at Diane's house on 7627 Locust Grove Road, Glen Burnie. For more information, phone Diane at (410) 439-2319. All are welcome.

Closing: These minutes were read and approved during Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elise A, Clerk, and Phil C, Recording Clerk

## **HOW TO SUBMIT NEWSLETTER ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Please submit items for the calendar and brief descriptions of events by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- Beth M is the editor of the Annapolis Friends Newsletter. Please send any items for inclusion in the newsletter to [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)

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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