

## **ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2015**

### **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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> First Days
- The North County mid-week meeting: First Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Call 410-439-2319 for more information.
- Meditation study group meets at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in the meeting room
- NOTE: The deadline for submitting newsletter items is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month

JANUARY 4: 9 a.m. Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

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

JANUARY 18: 9 a.m. Committee Meetings; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

JANUARY 25: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship; 1 p.m. Potluck lunch

CARE OF THE MEETING HOUSE: Ministry and Worship

### **QUERIES FOR FIRST MONTH: MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP**

Are meetings for worship held in expectant waiting for Divine Guidance? Are Friends encouraged to share spiritual insights? Are special gifts of ministry recognized and encouraged?

Do you come to meeting with heart and mind prepared? Are you careful not to disturb the spirit of the meeting by late arrival or in other ways? (Faith and Practice, p. 37)

### **THINKING ABOUT RACE – JAMES BALDWIN IN 1963**

James Baldwin published this 51 years ago. The context for this quote is limited, due to space constraints, but Baldwin's take on "a limit to the number of people any government can put in prison" is a message for today, given the extent of mass incarceration.

"How can the American Negro past be used? It is entirely possible that this dishonored past will rise up soon to smite all of us. There are some wars, for example... that the American Negro will not support, however many of his people may be coerced – and there is a limit to the number of people any government can put in prison, and a rigid limit indeed to the practicality of such a course. A bill is coming in, that I fear America is not prepared to pay."

From *Fire the Next Time*, the section entitled "Down at the Cross. Letters from a Region in My Mind," 1963.

These monthly items are prepared by the BYM Working Group on Racism (WGR) and sent to the designated liaisons at each Monthly and Preparative Meeting for publication in their newsletter or other means of dissemination. The WGR 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 E at david.etheridge@verizon.net or Pat S at pat.schenck@verizon.net.

## DAYSPRING SILENT RETREAT

Dear Friends:

Our beautiful winter Dayspring Silent Retreat will take place February 6 - 8. I hope you can take this opportunity to hear the Still Small Voice while walking in the meadow or warming at the hearth. Registration form is attached and pasted below. Please share this information with your meetings. Annapolis Friends will be joined by other Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends, space allowing. In the past there has been ample room! I look forward to our sacred time together in the SILENCE.

In peace,  
Jean

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### **ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS MEETING SILENT RETREAT AT DAYSPRING**

**February 6 - 8, 2015**

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

Friends, I hope you can share in the silence of Dayspring Retreat Center. 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](tel:301-916-1131).) See [www.dayspringretreat.org](http://www.dayspringretreat.org).**

**DIRECTIONS:** DIRECTIONS TO DAYSPRING RETREAT CENTER: 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, January 30. 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](mailto:jschristianson@gmail.com) or call me at [410-544-1912](tel:410-544-1912) with questions.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly  
Meeting \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred  
phone \_\_\_\_\_

## DECONSTRUCTING RACISM DISCUSSION

Our next deconstructing racism discussion will be Saturday, February 28, 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

## NANCY KNAPP MEMORIAL MINUTE

Nancy K was born in Washington, DC on August 20, 1942, to James Webb K and Bierne Davis K. She moved to the Annapolis area in 1979 and on September 16<sup>th</sup> became a member of Annapolis Friends Meeting. Nancy was a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Lothian Elementary School for many years. She was nutrition conscious years before it became popular. Nancy was a life-long student and practitioner of Transcendental Meditation, which suited her quiet and spiritual nature. She served on Clearness Committees at AFM and was a standing influence in the process. An avid reader, Nancy recently served on the Library Committee. She enjoyed pot luck lunches and the community they provided. Nancy died on October 16, 2014. She is survived by a niece, Liz N.

## HOLIDAY MARKET OUTCOME

Dear Friends,

Support from the whole AFM community is what makes Quaker Markets possible. Some simplify their lives by donating clothing, housewares, books, etc. that they no longer need and wish to share, while others may sort those items and display them attractively, make soup, bake quiches and desserts, create handcrafted items such as scarves, lap robes, pottery, live table centerpieces, or set up tables, staff the kitchen and check-out table, provide live music, or clean up. All of these tasks and more are needed, and appreciated.

Our children worked hard to prepare for Holiday Market, preparing, packaging and decorating jars of 13 Bean Soup Mix, baking cookies, practicing their musical pieces, rubber stamping bags for the paperwhite narcissus bulbs, and working on art and handcraft projects. Their preparations and participation as integrated members of our community are gifts that help us get to know each other more deeply, in addition to helping to make our market more successful.

With your help we were able to raise over \$4,000, which will be split among our chosen causes according to the following schedule: \$100 for the FDS children to work through what causes they would like to support, 75% to our external causes for this event (split evenly between Doctors without Borders and Services from the Heart), and 25% to Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis, a cause created and championed by a number of our community members. In addition to raising funds for the

causes chosen as the recipients for this Market's proceeds, we also worked to raise awareness. For the first time we had informational tables staffed by two of these causes present at the event, as well as a table staffed by Fahima Gaheez, our dear friend from Afghan Women's Fund, and educational posters for all four of these causes.

Many thanks to all who supported and worked so hard on Holiday Market 2014! We would like to extend a special thanks to two members of our committee, Jean C and Careen M, who, in spite of their own health issues, continue to champion Quaker Market, bringing their gifts of wisdom, grace, and cheer to Quaker Markets, and to our community. Many thanks, dear Friends!

Peace,  
Cairn for the Market Committee

P.S. It's not too early to mark your calendars for Spring Market 2015, on Saturday, 7 May...



*At AFM's Holiday Market, the Meeting's oldest and youngest members (Iris I—age 100, and Joey K—age 1) had the chance to get acquainted.*

## **LIBRARY CORNER**

A REMINDER: You will find books and pamphlets on the query of the month in the book rack on the counter and on the rack (hopefully) on the table respectively.

The book for the environment is a great resource:

"World Changing: A User's Guide for the 21st Century," edited by Alex Steffin with and a forward by Al Gore

This is a book we all could use in our homes for resource. It is divided into topics, from shelter and politics to plants. The first chapter is entitled "Stu here as an ff." Each has a short intro with short text and then further resources.

How to use this book suggests using the ideas here as an avenue for exploration—finding the ones we can use and following through on what they suggest. It is a very resourceful book. One which the editor quickly states some of the ideas may or may not be for the reader: "You are the best judge of how to apply these ideas to your own life."

Check out the Pendle Hill pamphlets too as very short and informative reading.

## QUAKER QUOTES FOR JANUARY

For when I came into the silent assemblies of God's people, I felt a secret power among them which touched my heart; and as I gave way unto it, I found the evil weakening in me and the good raised up. (Robert Barclay)

Bring the whole of your daily life under the ordering of the spirit of Christ. Live adventurously. In every situation seek to be aware of the presence of God, praying that spiritual energies in yourself and in others may be released for the furtherance of God's kingdom. (Advices, London YM, 1964)

With diligence meet together, and with diligence wait to feel the Lord God to arise, to scatter and expel all that which is the cause of leanness and barrenness upon any soul; for it is the Lord must do it, and he will be waited upon in sincerity and fervency of spirit; ...and let none be hasty to utter words, though manifest in the light in which ye wait upon the Lord; but still wait in silence, to know the power working in you to bring forth the words, in the ministration of the eternal word of life to answer the life in all. (Stephen Crisp, 1663)

The Quaker meeting for worship is not a place for individual meditation, it is a community in which two or three are gathered together to wait upon the presence in the midst which links us all. (Edward Hoare, Deepening the Spiritual Life of the Meeting, FGC, 1995)

John Woolman experienced the mystical Presence of God long before it ever occurred to him that slavery was unethical. Then one day in his retail office someone asked him to write out a receipt for a slave. Something revolted in Woolman's conscience because, as a result of his spiritual consciousness, he was terribly present to that moment—awake, mindful. He didn't write the receipt. It was a personal matter for him. Gradually thereafter, he began speaking to his friends, to his meeting, to other meetings, about freeing the slaves. His ethics spontaneously grew from his spiritual sensitivity. No one pressured him to join any committees. He did not start with an ethical ideal of human rights and go to meeting in order to talk about it. It happened the other way around. He went to meeting to be present before God. His ethics was the flowering of Silence. (Alfred K. LaMotte, 1982)

We become what we do. A great religious interpreter of our times once said that he kissed his child because he loved her and that he kissed his child in order to love her more. Regular participation in corporate worship is a school and workshop in which those who would grow in the religious life, no matter how tenuous may be their present connections, should be in attendance. (Douglas V. Steere, Prayer and Worship, FUP, 1978)

## MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS MINUTES SEVENTH DAY OF THE TWELFTH MONTH, 2014

Present were: Elise A (Clerk), Phil C (Recording Clerk), Cairn K, Nan & Sky E, Jennifer D-M, Kim F, Barb T, Joanna T, Kimberly & Carl B, Karen C, Careen M, Pat S, Will & Margaret C, Sue P, Patty R, Wes J, Dot W, Phyllis S, Lynada J, Ruth S, Hugh C, Bill K, Mardy B, Marcia O, Jack L, and Beth I.

We began with centering worship. Our Clerk invited Friends to be open to the light & love of the season as we look forward to plans for the new year.

1. Cairn K reported that our Quaker Holiday Market was another fantastic success thanks to the work of many Friends, delectable food, and our children's music. Over \$3500 was earned, including proceeds from our AFM cookbooks and other funds dedicated to Quaker causes. A Friend commented, "Each market gets better," noting this year we have helped more participating organizations and more needy individuals than before. At 8:45 a.m., our lobby was filled with faithful customers waiting for the Meeting Room doors to open and Phil F speaking to them about climate change.

2. Friends approved this memorial minute for Nancy K: "Nancy K was born in Washington, DC on August 20, 1942, to James Webb K and Bierne Davis K. She moved to the Annapolis area in 1979 and on September 16th became a member of Annapolis Friends Meeting. Nancy was a 4th grade teacher

at Lothian Elementary School for many years. She was nutrition conscious years before it became popular. Nancy was a life-long student and practitioner of Transcendental Meditation, which suited her quiet and spiritual nature. She served on Clearness Committees at AFM and was a standing influence in the process. An avid reader, Nancy recently served on the Library Committee. She enjoyed pot luck lunches and the community they provided. Nancy died on October 16, 2014. She is survived by a niece, Liz N."

3. Ministry and Worship (M&W): Patty R presented M&W's proposed guidelines (attached to these Minutes) and a fund description as to Embraced Ministries and leadings. One Friend raised the concern that the Guidelines for leadings may be too restrictive or elitist per Quaker tradition, but she stood aside. For M&W, Patty pointed out that there may be flexibility, committee contingency funds available for leadings, and future review if the guidelines prove too restrictive. Friends blessed the new guidelines and approved the fund description.

4. CREC: Kimberly B reported that AFM's Ad Hoc Homeschooling Committee successfully completed 2013-2014 school year oversight for the educational experiences of eight families and 15 students in two Maryland counties (Anne Arundel and Prince George's) during the 2013/2014 academic year. Oversight for the current year will continue for the same eight families. The number of children has expanded to six (6) families and 19 children as younger siblings have entered the program and has gained volunteer support from a parent who once worked with the Calvert homeschooling program. (A complete report is attached to these Minutes.) The Committee welcomes assistance from others to improve scheduling, revise forms, and organize opportunities for group interaction. Friends expressed their appreciation to the Committee for all its work and its amazing progress.

5. Outreach: Pat S presented some ideas for Friends consideration and future discussion: 1) To help build community after First Days when there is no potluck, Friends might meet at the Whole Foods café after Meetings as this location has good food and flexible seating. 2) Rather than our current welcome for visitors to "meet in the corner," we might add a Quaker Quest-type question each First Day for discussion such as "If you don't have a minister, how do Friends get anything done?" Outreach invites Friends comments on these proposals.

6. Nominating Committee: Barb T presented a 2nd reading, for approval, of AFM's 2015 slate of officers, committees, clerks, and liaisons to Quaker-related organizations with two or three changes from the 2st reading. She noted that every committee also may welcome additional members throughout the year. Some liaison positions are unfilled, but will be covered by the related committees.

Barb also noted that attenders are welcome on all committees but that our by-laws require that Trustees, clerks of Meeting, Ministry & Worship, and Pastoral Care all be members of the Religious Society of Friends. She noted that our incoming clerk of Ministry and Worship, Joel R, is in the process of becoming a member and asked for an exception so that his service as clerk might begin Jan. 1. Friends approved.

Nominating also requested a second exception for our co-clerks of Children's Religious Education Committee, Kimberly B and Joanna T, to continue for a third 2-year term. This is not a by-law requirement and has never been passed as a formal AFM minute, but clerks customarily have been urged to rotate after two terms. Thus, Nominating seeks the blessing of Meeting to support our CREC co-clerks through a third term. Friends approved.

Per our by-laws, members of other Friends Meeting, as recognized sojourners with us may serve in clerking roles: Martha B as assistant clerk of Meeting and Dotty D as clerk of Pastoral Care wish, at this time, to maintain their memberships in their home Meetings while they continue to worship and serve with Annapolis Friends. Dot and Martha will supply sojourning letters from their home meetings.

Meeting approved the slate.

Clerks of committees are asked to reach out to their new members, welcome them, let them know about meetings, and explore with them their interests and gifts. In addition, she encouraged clerks to use this orientation as an opportunity to review committee descriptions on AFM's website and to update these as appropriate.

7. Stewardship and Finance: Karen presented the second reading of the 2015 AFM budget. (A copy is attached to these minutes.) She noted, as two long-time renters recently have left, using of our 2014 surplus and replenishing other funds will be considered later. Friends approved the budget.

8. Peace and Social Concerns (PSC): Carl B reported as to the 10% of unrestricted contributions that Annapolis Friends Meeting traditionally sets aside for contributions to Quaker causes. This year \$882 will go to the Emergent Social Concerns Fund and \$1000 will go to the Lighthouse Shelter. PSC has allocated the remaining \$2530 to a dozen other causes (see attached).

9. Peace & Justice Center (PJC): Phil C reported that PJC would like permission to use AFM's street address for the website of its Maryland Alliance of Justice Reform (MAJR) project. He suggested this will not constitute use of a "substantial portion" of AFM's resources in partisan political or lobbying activities as PJC has spent less than \$25 on MAJR in 2014 compared to AFM's approximately \$60,000 per year total budget; MAJR also has used less than 4 hours per month of Meeting House time, and involves active work of less than 10 as compared to AFM's total of approximately 100 members and attenders. Friends approved this request and agreed to study the issue further (including bylaws particular restriction against supporting particular items of legislation), recalling that Friends traditionally have made exceptions support certain legislative concerns. The clerk of Trustees also agreed to make a record of this. Friends approved PJC's request.

10. Friends minute our enthusiastic thanks to Elise A as she concludes clerking her last Meeting for Business.

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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