

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER — JULY 2015

CALENDAR

- Meeting for worship: 11 a.m. on First Days
- First Day School for children: Will resume on September 13
- 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
- The North County mid-week meeting: First Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Call 410-439-2319 for more information.
- Leo's meditation study group will be taking a break this summer. Please contact Scott T if you are interested in continuing to gather and meditate.
- NOTE: The deadline for submitting newsletter items is the 20th of the month

JULY 5: 9 a.m. Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

JULY 12: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship; 9:15 a.m. Meeting for Learning with Dot W on Quakerism 101; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

JULY 19: 9 a.m. Committee Meetings; 10:30 a.m. Singing at AFM; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

JULY 26: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship; 9:15 a.m. Meeting for Learning with Lance B from FCNL; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship; 1 p.m. Potluck lunch

CARE OF THE MEETING HOUSE: Ministry and Worship

QUERIES FOR SEVENTH MONTH: CARING FOR OTHERS

Do you respect that of God in every person? Do you search yourself for, and strive to eliminate prejudices such as those related to race, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation and economic condition?

In what ways do you accept and appreciate differences among your friends and associates? Do you avoid exploiting or manipulating others to accomplish ends, however worthy? (Faith & Practice, p. 40)

NORTH COUNTY MEETING

The North County Meeting is very small. Only a handful of people attend, but it is quite wonderful: an hour of quiet stillness shared.

Sometimes we meet indoors, and sometimes outside in a small screened porch, listening to the birds, and watching them at feeders.

When you miss regular Meeting, or need an additional quiet time during the week, join us in northeast Anne Arundel County at:

7627 Locust Grove Road, Glen Burnie

[\(410\) 439-2319](tel:4104392319)

1st Tuesday, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. (next meeting July 7)

Diane

DECONSTRUCTING RACISM DISCUSSION GROUP

Dear Friends –

Our next deconstructing racism discussion will be Saturday, 7/11, 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 and LIGHT,
Jean

THINKING ABOUT RACE (SUMMER 2015) – FROM *WAKING UP WHITE -- AND FINDING MYSELF IN THE STORY OF RACE* BY DEBBY IRVING, 2014

Author Debby Irving will spend two days at Friends School of Baltimore in September. Over the summer, Trustees and faculty of Friends School, and perhaps also parents and students, will read *Waking Up White* in anticipation of her visit. The book is divided into 9 parts and 46 short chapters. Titles of some of the parts give a sense of what she covers: "Childhood in white," "Midlife wake-up calls," "Why didn't I wake up sooner?" "Inner work," "Outer work," and "Reclaiming my humanity." Each chapter ends with queries to answer or a statement to reflect upon, and she encourages readers to journal their responses and reflections. Here are the queries at the end of chapter 6, "From Confusion to Shock:"

"The late historian Ronald Takaki referred to the history taught in American schools as 'The Master Narrative,' the version of history told by Americans of Anglo descent. Think about what you did not study. Did you learn about Lincoln's views on enslaved black people? Anti-immigration laws of the nineteenth century? America's laws regarding who could and could not gain citizenship? The Native Americans who had once lived on your town's or school's land?"

This column is 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, except July & August, 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, david.etheridge@verizon.net or Pat S at pat.schenck3227@gmail.com.

QUAKER QUOTES FOR JULY

Divine love imposeth no rigorous or unreasonable commands, but graciously points out the spirit of brotherhood and way to happiness. (John Woolman)

The gift of love is the gift of the power and the capacity to love, and, therefore, to give love with full effect is also to receive it. So, love can only be kept by being given away, and it can only be given perfectly when it is also received. (Thomas Merton)

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)

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)

MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS MINUTES

SEVENTH DAY OF THE SIXTH MONTH, 2015

Present were: Wes J (Clerk), Phil C (Recording Clerk), Jean C, Carol & Bill K, Carl B, Pat S, Mary B, Peter M, Susan P, Ruth S, Cairn K, Martha O'H, Bob B, Nan E, Martha B, Barb T, Susan P, Doug McC, Carol B & Nancy Jo S.

1. We began with centering worship. Our clerk commented that he traditionally prepares for Meeting for Business wondering if there will be enough business to fill the time, but concludes wondering if we will have enough time for all our business. He also read a selection from BYM's Faith and Practice as to "principles of organization and business" including that we are "Friends of Truth" meeting in a "spirit of worship," although not without humor. We seek "unity, not majority rule."

2. Ministry and Worship (M&W) presented three items:

a. Nancy Jo S, as clearness committee clerk, reported that Kelly B and Luke P have asked for marriage under the care of the meeting. As suggested by the clearness committee, we joyfully and enthusiastically support this young union. Luke already is a Quaker from an Indiana meeting and the couple may request membership at AFM in the near future. The wedding is planned for 6/27/14 and many family members are expected. Friends agreed that Nancy Jo S will sign the wedding license then for Meeting. The couple will attend graduate school in North Carolina, planning to return to live in the Annapolis area.

b. M&W also reported Arielle J's application for membership. In her application, Arielle describes a sense of always being held in the community of Meeting and realizing through her travels how much guidance this has provided to her. Friends joyfully approved!

c. M&W, instigated by Tom W, also proposes to add more singing to our agendas. Tom W relates that Adelphi Meeting has a twenty-minute singing session prior to their Meeting for Worship. Ministry and Worship Committee suggests that AFM should try this on the third First Days for a few months before deciding if AFM would like to continue this practice. Friends approved.

3. Market Announcement – Cairn reported "Spring Market was a terrific success with opportunities for community outreach and inreach, as well as raising \$3,183.55 for the Spring Market causes. Quaker Market truly is a community endeavor, and we thank all those who helped make Spring Market possible. Looking ahead, please mark your calendars for two more dates: a. for our Holiday Market on Saturday, December 5, and b. for a benefit concert that our own Katrine A, a Scottish vocalist, has offered to host at the Meetinghouse on Saturday, November 7. The full report will be attached to the minutes.

Cairn also asked that Friends could notify her of available garage or storage space to help store early donations to Market.

5. Newsletter Editor – Wes reports that Beth M, who has edited the newsletter for many years, is seeking a replacement. Phil, a former newsletter editor, reported that the job permits the editor to keep in touch with Meeting activities and to pick whenever he or she wants to spend a couple of hours once per month.

6. Habitat for Humanity – Wes and Peter report that the Unitarians have invited us to join them again in a Habitat building project, supervised by Pat F. This project, now in progress, will rehabilitate a home on Clay Street in Annapolis. AFM would need a volunteer to help coordinate our participation and, perhaps, an optional donation to costs. Wes agreed to get more details in order possibly to solicit AFM volunteers.

7. MH&L (Kim) provided various reports: As to pending maintenance tasks, next week starting 6/15, the main Meeting Room will close for five days for refinishing the floor and the piano will be in the kitchen. Beginning 6/29, there will be a few days of painting in the hall, the foyer and the kitchen; but this will be done during weekdays, so it should not interfere with worship or evening meetings.

Our HVAC System is 22 years old and has been repaired many times. Now, with increasing propane costs, MHL has done researched and recommends replacement with a high efficiency electric heat pump, which also may increase our use of solar power. (Future expansion of our solar capacity, it is predicted, may cost only a fraction of the price for our original system.) From three estimates, the cost may be \$18-20K, as compared to \$40K for a geothermal heat pump. MHL proposes that this new system be installed before the next heating season using existing funds available in our capital replacement fund. AFM still would use propane for our efficient new hot water heater & kitchen stove. Friends approved, with final arrangements to be completed by MHL, and thanked MHL for this work.

MHL also reported that Doug McC now has completed an update of our wifi system with two hot spots. Friends greatly appreciate this improvement!

We also have acquired a "plug and play" audio-conference phone that can be plugged in and used in the multipurpose room, office & library; Friends are encouraged to use AFM's "free conference call" number to avoid long distance charges.

Next on a list of audio-visual upgrades, a 6' x 8' projection screen in the multi-purpose room is under consideration that, in the future, could be recessed in the ceiling. Kim will bring in a sample "rain gutter" to simulate the appearance of the screen retracted in storage.

Last but not least, a new door knob has been installed on the front door that should avoid locking itself at random times, but should still open with the same key.

Our transition from Minette to Carol as BUC person has begun and will be completed on 7/1/15. Friends expressed their appreciation to both the outgoing and incoming BUCs!

The BFF committee soon will schedule its meeting with our neighbor Mr. B, as discussed at our previous BFF meeting.

8. Other Member/Attender Concerns. Our next Meeting for Business would occur on 7/5/15—on a holiday weekend and during Friends General Conference. Wes may ask to cancel this meeting if there is not much business, get a substitute clerk, or postpone for one week. Wes will contact Friends as way opens.

Wes also reports that Committee Clerks will have a special meeting next First Day, 6/14, at 12:30 after rise of meeting.

Closing: Running short on time, all but the final section of these minutes were read and approved during Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Wes J, 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 20th 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.
- 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

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Telephone: 410-573-0364

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Clerk: Wes J (wesjordan@comcast.net)

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

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