

## ***ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER — SEPTEMBER 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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> First Days
- The North County mid-week meeting: First Tuesday (September 1) from 7 to 8 p.m., at 7627 Locust Grove Road, Glen Burnie. Call 410-439-2319 for more information.
- Starting September 9, the Meditation Study Group will resume meeting 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

SEPTEMBER 6: 9 a.m. Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

SEPTEMBER 13: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship; 9:15 a.m. [Meeting for Learning—The Quincy Solution, Part 2](#), led by Margaret C; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

SEPTEMBER 20: 9 a.m. Committee Meetings; 10:30 a.m. [Singing at AFM](#); 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

SEPTEMBER 27: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship; 9:15 a.m. [Meeting for Learning—Aging in Place](#), led by Pastoral Care; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship; 1 p.m. Potluck lunch

CARE OF THE MEETING HOUSE: Meeting House and Lands

### ***QUERIES FOR NINTH MONTH: THE SOCIAL ORDER***

Do you promote social justice and make your life a testimony to fair dealing? Do you seek to understand and appreciate differing cultures and social values? Do you support fair treatment of all regardless of race, gender, age and other differences? Are you concerned for those in our society who are disadvantaged? Do you take your full share of civic responsibility by voting and giving service? Do you oppose the use of land, labor, technology and capital for human exploitation or in ways destructive to other living things? (Faith & Practice, p. 40)

### ***MINISTRY AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS***

The Ministry and Worship Committee would like to remind Friends of the upcoming Meetings for Learning. The Meetings for Learning will begin at 9:15 a.m. and end at 10:45 p.m. The Meetings will be held in the classroom.

- September 13, 2015 - The Quincy Solution, Part 2 - Margaret C.
- September 27, 2015 - Aging in Place - Pastoral Care
- October 11, 2015 - AFM Budget Process - Stewardship and Finance Committee
- October 25, 2015 - William Penn - Tom W.

Also, we will continue to have Singing at AFM on the third First Day of the month, next held September 20 from 10:30 - 10:50 a.m.

Thank you for your participation in these events.  
The Ministry and Worship Committee

## ***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:(410)439-2319)

1st Tuesday, 7 to 8 p.m. (next meeting September 1)

Diane

## ***HAVE LUNCH WITH FRIENDS AT WHOLE FOODS***

Every First Day except the fourth, when we have potluck, Friends meet at the Whole Foods salad bar and buffet for an informal lunch.

Join the group to get to know other members and attenders of AFM and discuss a variety of topics of interest to Friends.

## ***SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED***

Dear Friends,

It is that time of year to collect school supplies for those in need in our community. Last year we delivered school supplies to the After School Programs for Public Housing Communities (like Robinwood). It was greatly appreciated, so that is what we are aiming for this year. Every week there are 1 cent or 25 cent deals at Office Depot or Staples. These are great deals, but usually limited to 5 at Staples, or 3 at Office Depot. Please buy them if you are so inclined. Also asked for: notebook paper, composition notebooks, pencils, pens, and glue. These, and any contribution will be gladly accepted.

We will collect supplies now through mid-September. Please put supplies in coat area in the hallway. Hopefully we will put a bin there for collection soon. Many thanks for your help, dear Friends!

Ruth S and Cairn K

## ***DECONSTRUCTING RACISM DISCUSSION GROUP***

Dear Friends –

Our next deconstructing racism discussion will be Saturday, October 3, 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

**DAYSRING SILENT RETREAT FOR BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING FRIENDS**

October 9 - 12, 2015

Dear Friends:

The fall silent retreat for Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends is coming soon. Dayspring's solitude, community, meadows, woods, ponds, warm hearth and cool breezes all await us. If Dayspring is new to you, [www.dayspringretreat.org](http://www.dayspringretreat.org) will give you a sense of it and there is a YouTube piece online created at an October BYM retreat. The registration form for October 9 - 12 is below. I hope you can be part of the SILENCE.

In peace,  
Jean

True silence ... is to the spirit what sleep is to the body: nourishment and refreshment. (William Penn)

Is your spirit in need of nourishment and refreshment? Come to the Silent Retreat at Dayspring for Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends. We will keep the silence from Friday evening until after worship on Monday, enjoying the beauty of God's creation in meadows and woods, walking, resting, praying, reading, finding our own rhythms, listening for the Still Small Voice.

WHERE: Dayspring Retreat Center, 11301 Neelsville Church Rd., Germantown, MD 20876 (301-916-1131).

FACILITATOR: Jean Christianson, Member of Annapolis Friends Meeting

ARRIVAL: 3:30 -7 p.m. Friday. (Dinner at 7 p.m.) DEPARTURE: 2 p.m. Monday.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Individual room in the Inn with Bible, bed, desk, sink, bed linens, blankets, towels and washcloth. Nine vegetarian meals in the Lodge dining room. Gatherings in the Yoke Room for community worship and shared solitude by the fireplace. 200 acres for roaming.

COST: \$300.

REGISTRATION: Deadline October 2 (if not filled earlier). Minimum number is nine participants. Maximum is 18. Friends will be enrolled in the order in which checks are received.

BRING: Toilet articles, casual clothes, walking shoes, and a flashlight. Long socks and hats are recommended to deter ticks.

QUESTIONS? Call Jean C at 410-544-1912 or e-mail [jschristianson@gmail.com](mailto:jschristianson@gmail.com).

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.

The emergency telephone number for Dayspring is 301-916-1131 .

Make check for \$300 payable to Dayspring Retreat Center and send with registration form to Jean C, 189 Edgewater Rd., Pasadena, MD 21122

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Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Special

Needs \_\_\_\_\_

### ***BEST DINNER AND PROGRAM ON THE MADISON, WISCONSIN FRIENDS' VIETNAM INITIATIVE***

The final dinner prepared for the meeting by the BEST program of the Lighthouse Shelter will be held on Thursday, November 12, followed by a program on the Madison, Wisconsin Friends' Vietnam Initiative. Some Friends will remember when the program's founder, Mike B, gave a program on the program several years ago at AFM. Come find out about the work that continues, as this Vietnam veteran works to improve the lives of Vietnamese people. The program will be held at AFM at 7 p.m. following the dinner. It is being sponsored by the Greater Annapolis Interfaith Network (GAIN).

Kids at the dinner eat free! More details will follow.

### ***THINKING ABOUT RACE (SEPTEMBER 2015) – ANNE BRADEN, CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST***

"I never knew anybody who really got active because of guilt. Everybody white that I know that's got involved in this struggle got into it because they glimpsed a different world to live in... Human beings have always been able to envision something better... All through history there have been people who have envisioned something better in the most dire situations. That's what you want to be a part of." Anne Braden, quoted in the Facebook page, "The Other Tennessee," (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Other-Tennessee/464461963762234>).

The Other Tennessee is part of a regional online campaign of Southerners stepping up against hate and racism in response to both Black liberation movement on the move and the presence of hate groups in our towns and cities. We're building on and expanding the white anti-racist tradition in the South. See the coalition's full statement at <http://surjnashville.org/get-involved/the-other-tennessee/>

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, [david.etheridge@verizon.net](mailto:david.etheridge@verizon.net) or Pat S, [pat.schenck@verizon.net](mailto:pat.schenck@verizon.net).

### ***QUAKER QUOTES FOR SEPTEMBER***

For God has not given us the spirit of fear but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. (2 Timothy 1: 7)

We were born to make manifest the glory of God within us. It is not just in some of us, it is in everyone and as we let our own light shine we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear our presence automatically liberates others. (Nelson Mandela)

And all friends everywhere this I charge you... live in peace... and therein seek the peace of all men and no man's hurt.... And so...it is love that overcomes and not hatred with hatred, nor strife with strife. Therefore live in the peaceable life, doing good to all men, and seeking the good and welfare of men. (George Fox, 1659)

Love was the first motion, and then a concern arose to spend some time with the Indians, that I might feel and understand their life, and the Spirit they live in, if haply I might receive some instruction from them, or they be in any degree helped forward by my following the leadings of Truth amongst them.

And as it pleased the Lord to make way for my going at a time when the troubles of war were increasing and when by reason of much wet weather traveling was more difficult than usual at that season, I looked upon it as a more favorable opportunity to season my mind, and bring me into a nearer sympathy with them. And as mine eye was to the great Father of Mercies, humbly desiring to learn what his will was concerning me, I was made quiet and content. (John Woolman, 1763)

In describing the concern that led him to visit the Indians, John Woolman wrote, "Love was the first motion." Love of our fellow man is more fundamental than international influence or economics or even the preservation of our nation. For 300 years Quakers sensitive to the spirit have endeavored to express a love that knows no limits of race or creed or nation. When motivated by this power, they have testified by word and deed to the dignity of all men everywhere. (Frank S. Loescher, *The First Motion*)

## **LIBRARY CORNER**

Attention: There are five new books in your library:

- "Waking up White" by Debby Irving – This is the book that Pat S reviewed a couple of months ago
- "Quaker Process For Friends On the Benches" – a good overall look at Quakers
- "Bayard Rustin" – a biography of an active African American when it was tough to be active
- "A Sustainable Life"
- "This We Can Do: Quaker Faith in Action Through Alternatives"

New pamphlets are on the rack under the label "new pamphlets." If you are looking for a short, inspiring subject, please check the rack—new pamphlets come out every other month.

Come enjoy the library. By the way, look at home to see if you have a book or pamphlet at home that needs to be returned. We would appreciate your help.

Thank you.

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

SECOND DAY OF THE EIGHTH MONTH, 2015

Present were: Joel R., Kim F., Bill K., Ruth S., Jen & Ceili M., Jean C., Susan P., Karen C., Martha B., Bob B., Phil F., Barb T., Jack L., Kim B., Dot W., Diana T., Patty R., Carol B., Lee L., Lynada J.

Our Meeting began with centering worship.

Comments, Selections from BYM F&P & AFM By-Laws / Wes J reporting

### **CULTIVATION OF THE LIFE OF THE SPIRIT**

Quaker faith welds the beliefs of its Christian foundation with the conviction that the Holy Spirit speaks to men and women and children of all races at all times. It draws individuals into a community of worship and of work for the redemption and improvement of human life. A Friends Meeting should be such a community. It should involve frequent, regular coming together in a common spiritual search, with members sharing experiences and insights, and finding the channels of service to which we are called individually and collectively.

### **PERSONAL LIFE**

The individual Friend should lead a life rooted in an awareness of God's presence in all times and places. Although special times and locations may provide helpful reminders of the need for spiritual communion, they cannot take the place of turning daily to God for guidance. The foundation for all our personal life and social relations should be the consciousness of the Holy Spirit.

Sincerity, simplicity and moderation are vital to all the dealings of life. We advise the observance of care in speech and the use of only such statements as convey truth without exaggeration or omission of essential fact. Taking legal oaths implies a double standard of truthfulness and is contrary to the teaching of Jesus.

Self-indulgent habits and luxurious living dull our awareness and make us insensitive to the needs of others and the leading of the Spirit. Ostentation and extravagant expenditure should not be a part of Friends' lives. Friends should be particularly aware of this in planning marriages, funerals, social gatherings or public occasions. True simplicity does not consist of particular forms or the absence of grace, symmetry and beauty, but of avoiding over-indulgence, maintaining humility of spirit, and keeping material surroundings in proportion to human needs.

Friends' longstanding testimony against the use, production, or sale of tobacco and alcoholic beverages is not fully accepted by some. For many, however, complete abstinence is the only effective way to avoid the dangers of the use of these materials. Friends are in unity against illegal narcotics and mind-altering substances, now readily available. Use of any of these materials has adverse effects which reach beyond the individual to harm the family and the community; dealing with illegal drugs also supports a criminal underground. Even legitimate prescription drugs can be used inappropriately and excessively. All these usages deaden the individual to life and spiritual values.

For those trapped in substance abuse, such advice may seem hollow. Commonalities exist between addictive behaviors with these substances and other compulsive actions, such as in the areas of eating disorders, gambling, overwork, and physical abuse. The causes go deep and may not be fully understood, but the resulting pain, fear, desperation and denial, damaging the abuser and all those around that person, need to be supportively recognized.

A Meeting community should be ready to listen non-judgmentally, offer information about sources of help, refuse to enable people to continue in harmful patterns, and continue to offer an environment free from addictive practices.

We are faced at every hand with enticements to risk money in anticipation of disproportionate gain through gambling. Some governments employ gambling as a means of raising revenue, even presenting it as a civic virtue. The Religious Society of Friends continues to bear testimony against betting, gambling, lotteries, speculations or any other endeavor to receive material gain without equivalent exchange, believing that we owe an honest return for what we receive. Indulgence in games of chance blunts a proper sense of obligation.

How we use our working hours, our leisure and our resources has direct bearing on our spiritual life. Time for recreation is needed to refresh spirit, mind and body. Our use of time may determine whether the Divine Spirit grows within us or is crowded out.

We are called upon to be stewards of the rich provisions which God has made for all creation. As Friends we are advised to consider the effects of our charitable gifts and of all our expenditures, in the light of our concern for the right and fair sharing of the world's resources.

#### Treasurer Mid-Year Report / Sue P. reporting

Please refer to attached Treasurer's Report.

Note:	2015 to July 17	2014 to July 17
Rental Income	\$9,862	\$14,616
Contributions	\$20,333	\$26,031
Total Income	\$30,195	\$40,647

Compared to last year as of July 17th, we are \$10,452 short of income.

A total of \$18,285 in budgeted restricted funds have not been funded yet this year.

## Stewardship & Finance Committee - Budget Kickoff – 2016 / Karen C. reporting

### TIMELINE FOR 2016

September – Committees finalize their budget requests and send to S&F Committee.

October – S & F develops a draft budget, corresponding with committees as needed.

November – S & F brings the first reading of 2016 budget to business meeting; S & F makes any requested adjustments to budget.

December – S & F brings the second reading of 2016 budget to business meeting for approval.

Note that this process is more streamlined than in recent years. Committees have until the end of September to develop their budget requests and S & F will bring the first reading of the budget to business meeting in November rather than October.

### Interim Meeting / Patty R. reporting

Sixth Month 2015 Interim Meeting held at Patuxent Friends Meeting on June 13, 2015.

Youth Programs Managers: A Minute of appreciation was read and approved for Alison D., outgoing Youth Program Manager. We heard of Alison's grace in the face of chaos, holistic perspective and ability to bring those of different ages together.

Unity with Nature: The establishment of a working group on the Right Relationship With Animals was approved. The current focus of the working group is on food choices.

Indian Affairs: Approved was, "We unite with our Indian Affairs Committee's 3/21/2015 minute calling for Leonard Peltier to be allowed to rejoin his family. The minute is included in the report.

Outreach and Inclusion Coordination: job description – was approved. The report can be found on line.

Growing Diverse Leadership Committee: A proposal to create an ad hoc Growing Diverse Leadership Committee is to be seasoned further. Concerns were expressed on the breath of work across age and diversity that may require separate committees, and that coordination of roles are not well thought out. Written report is available on line.

Intervisitation Working Group: Report indicated that Martha G. (Adelphi) is seeking a travel companion to Western Yearly Meeting.

Presiding Clerk's report covers a "Visiting Support and Services Proposal Outline" and can be found on-line.

General Secretary's report and appreciation. A minute of appreciation, available online, was read out of the silence. Riley R will leave the position of General Secretary of BYM, after serving for nine years, to assume a position at FCNL . People spoke of Riley's habit of speaking his heart and soul, of the value of his visits to a Monthly Meeting. We heard of Riley's Christ like actions of reaching out to those who may not like him, we heard of Riley's courage in serving Friends United Meeting with depth and ability despite some board members who would not look at him. Riley asked for BYM to have excellence in multiple areas and called on us to be more willing to ask for help.

Nominating Committee: Karen C. (Annapolis), Clerk, welcomes conversations with folks about the roles they can play in the Yearly Meeting. Report is available online

Search Committee: Barbara T. (Annapolis), Clerk, asked for suggestions for members from Virginia Meetings, as there are no Virginia members on the Committee.

Manual of Procedure: The Committee seeks guidance on including a list of important Yearly Meeting minutes in the Manual of Procedure. Approved was "we directed creation of an online reference to a list of important Yearly Meeting minutes subjects.

HOPE: The creation of an ad hoc Healthy Organization and Purposeful Evolution (HOPE) Committee was approved.

Additional reports were presented from: Treasurers, Trustees, Faith & Practice Revision, Friends United Meeting Board, Development, and Supervisory.

Full reports are available on-line at [bym.org](http://bym.org) Attachments are available.

#### BUC/Newsletter Editor Volunteers – Nominating Committee / Wes J. reporting

Carol B has generously volunteered to have relieved Minette C-S for the remainder of this calendar year, but we are still in need of filling the very important Building Use Coordinator position by the start of next year on a more permanent basis. Anyone interested in filling this position should notify Nominating Committee (Barb T, Clerk, or MH&L (Kim and Bob, co-Clerks). Additionally, we are also desirous of finding a Relief for Beth M as Newsletter Editor. Beth has done a tremendous job for many years and is due for a rest. Again, anyone interested should let Barb and the Nominating Committee, or Pat S, Clerk, Outreach, know of any interest they may have fulfilling this role.

#### Announce/Discuss Lists – Outreach / Wes J. for Pat S

Most everyone is aware of the severe problems we've been experiencing with our Announce/Discuss Lists. Outreach, the committee responsible for their management, is looking into the problem and will be convening an ad hoc meeting to investigate solutions in August. Anyone with interest or expertise in this matter is welcome to attend the next meeting. Schedule is to be determined Pat S, Clerk of Outreach is not returning until next week to facilitate that scheduling.

#### Meeting House and Lands Committee / Kim F. and Bob B. reporting

Encroachment Settlement Progress (Lot Line Adjustment) BFF Updates/Info (if necessary)

#### Other Member/Attender Concerns / Bob B. reporting

Tonight, as I watched the Sewing Group prepare for their Sewing extravaganza tomorrow at AFM I just realized that AFM has a very unique offering as a rental venue.... That is, 100% Solar renewable powered. As I watched them string extension cords to over 30 sewing machines, I didn't realize 'til after they left that this might be the first time for such a sewing session to be 100% solar powered. Maybe we need to remember to mention that in our Rental out-reach. Maybe other groups and NGO's might want to have their meetings with such a zero carbon footprint.

Just a thought. But I think we should add it to our "rental features list"...

I looked at the electric meter, and now in a year and a half, we have still generated more power than we have used. We are at -250 kWh from where we started.

**Closing:** 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 Marcia O, 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***

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS MEETING

Address: 351 DuBois Road, Annapolis, MD 21401

Telephone: 410-573-0364

Website: [www.quaker.org/annapolis](http://www.quaker.org/annapolis)

Clerk: Wes J ([wesjordan@comcast.net](mailto:wesjordan@comcast.net))

Building Use Coordinator: Carol B ([afm.meetinghouse@gmail.com](mailto:afm.meetinghouse@gmail.com) or [410-353-7400](tel:410-353-7400))

Newsletter Editor: Beth M ([annapolisfriendsmeeting@gmail.com](mailto:annapolisfriendsmeeting@gmail.com))