

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2016

MEETING SCHEDULE

- 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 the Meeting Calendar below and in Other Scheduled Items and Items of Note
- Early meeting for worship (weather permitting outdoors) at 8 a.m. on 2nd, 4th, and 5th First Days
- North County mid-week meeting: First Tuesday (September 6) from 7 to 8 p.m., at 7627 Locust Grove Road, Glen Burnie. Call 410-439-2319 for more information.
- The 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 20th of the month (All committees and their reps, and all F/friends with leadings are welcome to submit items for inclusion).

MEETING CALENDAR (may also be found on our website)

SEPT 4: 9 a.m. Meeting for Business; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship; 6:30 p.m. William Penn House Potluck
SEPT 7: 7:30 p.m. Meditation Group
SEPT 8: 2:30 p.m. Spiritual Formation Group
SEPT 9: 12:00 p.m. Quaker Burial Ground Trustees
SEPT 10: 2 p.m. Memorial Service honoring Joel Rodkin
SEPT 11: 8 a.m. Early Worship; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship; 12:30 p.m. Poetry Group
SEPT 14: 7:30 p.m. Meditation Group
SEPT 15: 7 p.m. Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis (CSGA)
SEPT 18: 9:15 a.m. Most Committees Meet; 10:30 a.m. Hymn Singing; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship; 12:30 p.m. Committees: CREC; 9 p.m. Newsletter Items Due
SEPT 21: 7:30 p.m. Meditation Group
SEPT 22: 7 p.m. Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis (CSGA)
SEPT 25: 8 a.m. Early Worship; 9:30 a.m. Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship; 12:30 p.m. Potluck
SEPT 28: 7:30 p.m. Meditation Group
SEPT 30: 7 p.m. Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis (CSGA) Movie Night: A showing of the half-hour 2016 documentary "Facing the Surge" about the tangible costs of sea level rise. There will be a discussion afterwards with several panelists including one of the documentary filmmakers, director Diogo Castro Freire.

CARE OF THE MEETING HOUSE: Ministry and Worship Committee (Note: Peter T is assisting with mid-week check-in and reporting of any discrepancies found; Thank you Peter!)

QUERIES FOR NINTH 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?

OTHER SCHEDULED ITEMS AND REPORTS (Expanded in paragraphs following; all events at AFM unless otherwise noted)

[Joel Rodkin Memorial Service \(September 10\)](#)

[Mike Tidwell Presentation & Dialogue \(September 15\)](#)

[Habitat For Humanity Chesapeake Interfaith Build \(Sept 25\)](#)

[Ruah Swennerfelt Presentation & Dialogue \(October 3\)](#)

[Dayspring Silent Retreat for Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends \(October 7-10\)](#)

[Corey Ramsden & Gary Sklunick Presentation & Dialogue \(October 20\)](#)

[Meeting for Business Minutes September 2016](#)

[Guidelines for Submission to this Newsletter](#)

Joel Rodkin's Memorial Service: Saturday, September 10 at 2 p.m.

Joel's Memorial Service will be at 2:00 p.m. on September 10 at the Meeting House. A reception will follow.

Karen has asked whether there is anyone who could help her with audio recording the service. If anyone has expertise in this area, and equipment (or ideas of how to rent) please contact Karen at kpell851@comcast.net

I know we all continue to hold Karen, Joel's family and all who grieve in God's healing light,

Mary B. for Pastoral Care

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Mike Tidwell Presentation & Dialogue – Thursday, September 15 at 7 p.m.

Hear and dialogue with **Mike Tidwell**, founder and director of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network, speaking about the politics of fracking and other climate change issues. Cosponsored by the Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis and the Maryland Climate Coalition, and held at Annapolis Friends Meeting House at 7:00 PM.

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Habitat for Humanity Chesapeake Interfaith Build: Sunday, September 25, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

These are full work days designed to bring together people of many different faiths to work side by side. Lunch is provided. A construction crew will provide training and oversight.

If the either build is of interest, please let Betsy Wilmerding of Habitat Chesapeake know by email at bwilmerding@habitat Chesapeake.org. She will mark people down on a first come, first serve basis, trying also to include as many different faiths as possible (tell her with AFM).

Habitat is asking that participants commit to the entire day because it's hard on construction staff to have people come late or leave early.

Peace, Peter
[410-647-2487](tel:410-647-2487)

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Ruah Swennerfelt Presentation & Dialogue – Monday, October 3 at 7 p.m.

Hear and dialogue with **Ruah Swennerfelt** -- activist, homesteader, blogger, author, and former General Secretary of Quaker Earthcare Witness -- speaking about her new book, ***Rising to the Challenge: The Transition Movement and People of Faith***. Sponsored by the Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis and held at Annapolis Friends Meeting House at 7:00 PM.

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Dayspring Silent Retreat for Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends – October 7-10, 2016

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 await us. If Dayspring is new to you, www.dayspringretreat.org will give you a sense of the setting, as will the Dayspring Silent Retreat Center, Germantown, MD - YouTube slide show created by a Friend on retreat. Please request assistance through AFM's Stewardship and Finance Committee Adult Scholarship Fund if the fee is an obstacle to your participation. I hope you can be part of the SILENCE. In peace, Jean

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DAYSPRING SILENT RETREAT FOR BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING FRIENDS

October 7 - 10, 2016

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](tel:301-916-1131)).

FACILITATOR: Jean Christianson, Member of Annapolis Friends Meeting

ARRIVAL: 3:30 -7:00 p.m. Friday. (Dinner at 7 p.m.) DEPARTURE: 2:00 p.m. Monday.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Individual room in the Inn with Bible, bed, desk, sink, bed linens, blankets, towels and washcloth. 9 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 September 30th (if not filled earlier). Minimum number is 9 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](tel:410-544-1912) or e-mail 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](tel:301-916-1131).

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

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Name(s) _____ Meeting _____

Address _____

Phone(s) _____ E-mail _____

Special Needs _____

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Corey Ramsden & Gary Skulnick Presentation & Dialogue – Thursday, October 20 at 7 p.m.

Hear and dialogue with **Corey Ramsden**, MD SUN, and **Gary Skulnick**, Neighborhood Sun, speaking about Rooftop Residential and Community Solar Power. Cosponsored by the Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis and the Maryland Climate Coalition, and held at Annapolis Friends Meeting House at 7:00 PM.

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**ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS MONTHLY MEETING (AFM)
MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS (MFB)
NINTH MONTH, FIRST FIRST DAY, 2016**

Present were: Wes J (clerk), Phil C (recording clerk), Martha O’H Mary D, Martha B, Nan & Sky E, Will and Margaret C, George & RuthC, Karen C, Francis W, Dot W, Mary B, Bill K, Jack L, Careen M, Kim F, Pat S, Kim R, Mardy B, Carol B, Ruth S, and Lee L

Opening: We began with centering worship. Our Clerk thanked Friends for attending MfB despite the holiday weekend.

1. Misc short notes and calendar items:

Our Clerk noted that he circulated Minutes from a recent semiannual **Clerks Meeting**. (See attached.)

A number of calendar items, listed below, also were mentioned. Friends should see the AFM webpage calendar online for times and locations, if not listed here:

9/6 A “Green Team” meeting will be held. (See minutes below for further description.)

Wednesdays -- Meditation Group

9/8 Spiritual Formation Group

9/10 Joel Rodkin’s Memorial Service will be held under auspices of AFM in Columbia, Md., as large attendance is expected. Directions will be resent later this week.

9/11 at 9:15 a.m. -Meeting for Learning (MfL) with PowerPoint slides titled “Climate Change for Quakers.”

9/15 Md.Alliance for Justice Reform (MAJR) com./Climate Stewards of Greater Annap.(CSGA)

9/17 Deconstructing Racism discussion group

9/22 CSGA meeting

9/25 Quarterly Meeting at Sandy Spring

10/9 Pat Schenck: MfL on “Rubrics on Race - Where We Stand And Where We Want To Be”

10/23 Mardy and Susan: MfL on “The Sacred Feminine and Divine Masculine”

10/30 MfL - Outreach-Orientation for Newcomers (tentative)
11/13 MfL on "The Four Doors of Meeting for Worship" (Pendle Hill Pamphlet)

2. Our Black-Lives-Matter ("BLM") banner has reached its one-year anniversary, noting this, our Clerk asked if Friends were comfortable joining St. Philips Episcopal, Unitarians & others in transition to a new banner reading "Dismantle Racism: Join the Conversation."

One Friend noted that the new anti-racism banner is broader than the BLM banner as it is not limited to African Americans. Others agreed the new banner is a more positive statement. A third Friend suggested AFM should designate a committee with authority to maintain and replace a banner, if needed. Yet another comment was made that, because any banner on our dead end street does not get much public view, Friends should consider how to support this concern in the community. Another Friend suggested we should not wait for a "successful" destruction of our BLM banner, but should join with other communities that have adopted the new banners and hold our current BLM banner for appropriate occasional use.

Friends initially agreed to refer these concerns to AFM's Deconstructing Racism workgroup. Mary D. raised questions about her informal role as a representative or liaison for AFM in BLM campaign organizers' discussions. Barb T., for PSC, reported that this committee would agree to offer care & seasoning for her Mary D.'s efforts. We agreed to continue displaying the current banner, pending further discussions in our committees. 2

3. Memorial Minute for Joel Rodkin – For M&W, Martha O presented a memorial minute. (See attached.) Friends came to unity and approve this Minute.

4. Treasurer's Report – Our Treasurer (Sue P.) presented a financial statement for the first 8 months of 2016, noting that our receipts and proceeds are "pretty normal" and we are somewhat ahead of last year's contributions and rental income. Friends thanked our Treasurer for her work on this report. (See attached.)

5. 2017 Budget Kick-off – For Stewardship and Finance Com. ("S&F"), Karen C. reminded Friends we are kicking off the budget season. All committees are asked to send requests for the coming year so S&F can "smoosh these into a budget" and bring this back to MfB in November.

6. Nominating Committee is expected to propose making the Market Committee a standing committee, our Clerk noted, although this is not expected to require more Friends. A friend of Cairn reportedly is willing year round to take antiques or large items on consignment for the benefit of AFM. He thanked Friends for their various Committee efforts.

7. Ministry & Worship ("M&W") Committee: For M&W, Martha O. announced various items, including:

a. A new ad hoc subcommittee, called the "Green Team(GT)," was approved at the recent Clerk's Meeting to replace our recently disbanded "Ad Hoc Growing and Greening Committee" (now reconstituted as our "Building for the Future (BFF) subcommittee). Martha O. and Phil F., as GT coclerks, invite interested Friends of all ages and from all committees to participate.

(MHL & M&W will be asked to consider which committee should take this new subcommittee under its care.)

Joining with the national GreenFaith campaign, BYM's Unity with Nature, and other faith communities, GT will consider checklists to confirm our Meeting House's qualifications to become a "Green Sanctuary" as the first GreenFaith-affiliated Quaker meeting in the U.S., as well as making recommendations for more practical steps towards best practices in our "Care for Creation."

GT invites all to read a document called "Living in a Hinge Time," to meet on Sep 6 at 7-9 PM, and to consider the urgency of GT's mission. (See attached.)

b. Request for \$500 for West River Quaker Burial Ground (WRQBG): Martha noted that M&W, in years past, maintained a budget line-item for an annual donation to the West River Burying Grounds. But, we have not contributed in at least 5 years. M&W asked meeting to approve an immediate donation from the Emergent Social Concerns Fund or the Committee Contingency Fund, noting its plan to add the same amount as an annual donation to its budget request in 2017 and subsequent years. Our Clerk noted that up to \$500 may be spent from our Committee Contingency Fund without formal MfB approval. Friends approved making this a part of our budget.

c. At our recent meeting for learning on vocal ministry, Friends rejoiced to deepen our understanding of vocal ministry in Meeting for Worship. Via weighty texts provided by Outreach, we considered the wisdom of many voices in our query.

Most notably, we were encouraged to courageously speak our vocal ministry, even if it not completely seasoned and eloquent, if it felt like a message for the gathered meeting. We also were admonished to welcome the imperfect vocal ministries of other Friends, and to allow the Spirit to "add on" to the message as Meeting progressed, thus using many Friends to complete it. 3

We also embraced the admonition to be good Listeners to the vocal ministries, to take in the message wholeheartedly, then to let God apply it to our hearts to determine its application (or not). We were encouraged to let a message

which seems inapplicable to us to “run off our shoulders like water off a duck.” (Additionally, copies of the pamphlet “Silence and Speech” are available in the lobby.)

After this MFL, two Friends offered further suggestions for M&W to consider: writing the new learning as queries, and continuing our study of Spirit-led worship. M&W will pursue these matters in our committee meetings.

In the fall, M&W will offer a meeting for learning on the “Four Doors of Meeting for Worship”, a Pendle Hill pamphlet, describing how we can prepare, during the week, to help ourselves grow and to have a truly “gathered meeting” on First Day.

8. Peace and Social Concerns: Peace & Justice Center (P&JC), Martha B. offered an update to Friends on the outcome of steps that P&JC has held for us to educate ourselves on immigration issues, including individual research, attending meetings at Sandy Springs, and meeting with representatives of the First Presbyterian Church, Annapolis that “adopted” an Iraqi immigrant family via the World Relief organization.

While P& JC has not, as yet, reached unity on a single project or leading, Martha provided various community and govt. programs in an “opportunity chart” titled “**How might you help?**” If there is an activity on the list (attached to these minutes) that interests Friends, P&JC can assist Friends in learning more about the organization and how to connect with the opportunity. As individuals become more involved, it may help our Meeting discern additional directions. Friends thanked PJC members for their work so far.

We recognized that we had insufficient remaining time to allow for the full consideration of items from P&SC.

Consequently some additional items were either postponed to next Business Meeting, or may be handled via e-mail if they allow.

9. Other Items:

a. MarthaO also offered some **additional calendar items** (included above).

b. A Friend noted she still is **not receiving email via the “Announce List.”** As a stopgap, Wes and Meeting clerks have been sending Announce emails to an ad hoc list of cc’s for people not receiving the Announce list items. Wes agreed to re-send Announce to this group on a regular basis, and some clarification of its status and use.

Closing: MfB closed with silent worship transitioning into MfW.

Respectfully submitted, Wes Jordan, Clerk, and Phil C., Recording Clerk

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HOW TO SUBMIT NEWSLETTER ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please submit items for the calendar and brief descriptions of events by the 20th of the month.
- Susan W and Nicole S are the editors of the Annapolis Friends Newsletter. Please send any items for inclusion in the newsletter to annapolisfriendsmeeting@gmail.com. Please include the word “Newsletter” in the subject heading of your email
- 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!
- The AFM Announce (announce@annapolis.quaker.org) and Discuss (discuss@annapolis.quaker.org) E-Mail Lists are described on the AFM Information Web Page at <http://annapolis.quaker.org/information>

CONTACT INFORMATION

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS MEETING

Address: 351 DuBois Road, Annapolis, MD 21401

Telephone: 410-573-0364

Website: www.quaker.org/annapolis

Clerk: Wes J (wesjordan@comcast.net)

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

Newsletter Editor: Susan W and Nicole S (annapolisfriendsmeeting@gmail.com)

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