

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2018

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 from 7 to 8 p.m., at 7627 Locust Grove Road, Glen Burnie. Call 410-439-2319 for more information.
- NOTE: The deadline for submitting newsletter items is end of day the Monday after Meeting for Business. Please include the word "Newsletter" in your subject line. (All committees and their reps, and all F/friends with leadings are welcome to submit items for inclusion).

MEETING CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 4: 9-10:45 Meeting for Business; 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:30-1:30pm Potluck; 6:30-8:30 William Penn House Potluck
FEBRUARY 5: Newsletter items due by 5pm
FEBRUARY 6: 7-9pm Green Team
FEBRUARY 7: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group
FEBRUARY 8: 2:30-4pm Spiritual Friendship; 7-9pm CSGA Business Meeting
FEBRUARY 9-11: Dayspring Silent Retreat
FEBRUARY 9: 7-9pm CSGA Movie Night "Tomorrow"
FEBRUARY 11: 8-9am Early Worship; 9:15-11am Meeting for Learning: Quakerism 101; 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:30-2pm Poetry Group & Writers Gathering
FEBRUARY 14: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group
FEBRUARY 15: 7-9pm CSGA Speaker Series
FEBRUARY 17: 2-4pm Deconstructing Racism
FEBRUARY 18: 9:15-10:45am Most Committees Meet; 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:30pm-2pm AFM Ad Hoc Committee; 12:30-1:30pm Committees: CREC;
FEBRUARY 19: 7-10pm FCNL Advocacy Team training
FEBRUARY 21: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group
FEBRUARY 25: 8-9am Early Worship; 9:15-10:45am Meeting for Learning: Animals: Eat Them As Long As You Can; 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:30-2pm AFM Child Welcoming; 12:30-2pm AFM Committee Clerks Meeting
FEBRUARY 28: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group
MARCH 4: 9-10:45 Meeting for Business; 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:30-1:30pm Potluck; 6:30-8:30 William Penn House Potluck
MARCH 5: Newsletter items due by 5pm
MARCH 6: 7-9pm Green Team
MARCH 7: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group
MARCH 8: 2:30-4pm Spiritual Friendship; 7-9pm CSGA Business Meeting
MARCH 10: 12-2pm Market Committee Meeting
MARCH 11: 8-9am Early Worship; 9:15-10:45am Sacred Chant & Dance; 11-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:30-2pm Poetry Group & Writer's Gathering

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 THE FIRST MONTH: Outreach

Do you, as the way opens, share Friends' principles with non-Friends? Do you witness to your Quaker faith by letting your life speak? Do you make non-Friends welcome in your meetings for worship? Do you find ways to encourage their continued attendance?

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

[Meetings for Learning](#)

[New Information About Room Reservations](#)

[Thinking About Race](#)

[Meeting with the Architect](#)

[Meeting For Business Minutes February 2018](#)

[Green Team Water Report](#)

[Surplus Report and Recommendations](#)

[Guidelines for Submission to this Newsletter](#)

Meetings for Learning:

Generally 2nd and 4th First-Days 9:15-10:45am

2/11 Sunday 9:15am: Patrick Nugent- Ministers & Ministry in Quaker History

Unprogrammed Friends (indeed Friends of all varieties) have stories we tell ourselves about why we worship the way we do, the role of the spoken word in worship, and the (apparent) lack of presiding leadership in worship (what other Christian traditions might call a "minister.")

But the stories we tell--and the ways we worship--are creations of the twentieth century. To be sure, they are made from raw material produced by Friends in the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries. Yet in every century the Society of Friends has reinvented itself, taking on new forms and practices to meet the challenges of the world around it--and sometimes leaving behind valuable old forms and practices. This presentation will examine how the role of the spoken word in Quaker worship has evolved and changed, and along with it, the understanding of "Who" speaks in our meetings for worship and to the outside world. In short--ministry and ministers. We will also look more broadly at the origin, rise, and decline of the threefold New Testament ministry of elders, ministers, and overseers in the Society of Friends from the earliest days until today.

2/15 Thursday 7:00pm: CSGA Climate Change Speakers Series

Climate XChange Maryland will join us to discuss how carbon pricing programs can be implemented at the state level in Maryland. Held at Annapolis Friends Meeting House

2/25 Sunday 9:15am: Bethanne Bruninga-Socolar - The Buzz about Bees: Challenges and Hopes for the 21st Century

Some discussion of honey bees, or perhaps bee declines in general? Other topics I could focus on would be: restoring habitat to benefit bees (both at the scale of personal gardens and at much larger landscape scales), or my own doctoral research, which focuses minutely on how bees decide which individual plants to visit when faced with a

variety of choices.

3/8 Thursday 7pm: GAIN Unity of the Good News between Christianity, Islam and Judaism (The Abrahamic Faiths)

Led by Tom Wolfe of Annapolis Friends Monthly Meeting. Held at St. John Neumann Church Hall, 620 Bestgate Rd. Annapolis, MD

3/11 Sunday 9:15am: Sylvia Oliva- Sacred Chant & Circle Dance

Sponsored by Ministry and Worship Committee. When we dance together our bodies will form a circle. Like a sphere, it is a form that is most efficient and sustainable. Each person has a unique place, equal in value to all the others, and the same distance from the center. We often dance with hands joined. For Sylvia, this symbolizes our journey together with good Friends, sharing fun and laughter, supporting and connecting with one another as we draw life from the One Source that is within, between, and around us ... and then carry it into the world. No experience required. Bring a child, bring a friend. All are Welcome! Kid friendly!

3/25 Sunday 9:15am: Mary Campbell & Dayna Baily- Eat Them as Long as You Can Speaking first about the effect of our food choices on the welfare of animals and the environment, followed by worship sharing around two queries: How does our food connect us to the rest of the living world? How can we live more in harmony with that world?

4/8 Sunday 9:15am: Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) Priorities for the FCNL National meeting on 4/18

6/10 Sunday 9:15am: Sylvia Oliva- Sacred Chant & Circle Dance

One Source that is within, between, and around us ... and then carry it into the world. No experience required. Bring a child, bring a friend. All are Welcome! Kid friendly!

9/9 Sunday 9:15am: Sylvia Oliva- Sacred Chant & Circle Dance

One Source that is within, between, and around us ... and then carry it into the world. No experience required. Bring a child, bring a friend. All are Welcome! Kid friendly!

12/9 Sunday 9:15am: Sylvia Oliva- Sacred Chant & Circle Dance

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Other Upcoming Meetings for Learning (Dates TBA)

Jim Hall/Tom Wolfe - Quakers and the Bible "What Does the Bible Actually Say?"

Barbara Thomas- Role of Values in Communicating with the Other "Searching for spaces of commonality and respect by surfacing the values/moral foundations we hold. I will use Jonathan Haidt's book, The Righteous Mind: Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion."

Barbara Thomas - Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home by Richard Foster." Exploring Prayer "Does prayer sometimes elude you? Let's consider and share experiences on various types of prayer using the book:

2018 Quakerism 101 Series

Ann Riggs- Quaker Organization [Quakerism 101 Series](#)

Tom Wolfe- William Penn and the Universal Light Within/Unity of the Good News [Quakerism 101Series](#)

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New Information About Room Reservations

Mary Barbera is managing **room reservation for the AFM activities** (that is, any Meeting, committee activities and/or use by us including all groups where there no expectation of remunerations such as MAJR, CSGA).

If you need to reserve space, please check the calendar on our AFM website for availability first, then contact Mary at afmeeting@yahoo.com with a request to schedule space. Be sure to **include the name, date, time and preferred building location** (e.g., classroom) for the event. It is possible to include a short description as well.

To make the calendar useful as an information source, please be sure to think about information or details that might be useful to add to the calendar to inform our AFM community. For example, although Meeting for Learning is listed on 2nd and 4th Sundays, Ministry and Worship provides the topics to Mary so that people know what the topic is

on a particular week.

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Thinking About Race

Thinking About Race (February 2018) – Service to the cause of racial equality

“It does no service to the cause of racial equality for white people to content themselves with judging themselves to be nonracist. Few people outside the Klan or skinhead movements own up to all-out racism these days. White people must take the extra step – they must become anti-racist.”

-- Clarence Page, 1996

This column is prepared by the BYM Working Group on Racism (WGR) and sent to the designated liaison at each Monthly and Preparative Meeting. The BYM WGR meets most months on the third Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Locations vary to allow access to more Friends. If you would like to attend, on a regular or a drop-in basis, contact clerk David Etheridge, david.etheridge@verizon.net or Pat Schenck at pat.schenck3227@gmail.com or [410-263-4529](tel:410-263-4529).

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Meeting with the Architect

The Building for the Future Committee is scheduling a meeting with our architect to discuss the conceptual design of expanded the meetinghouse on February 18th after Meeting for Worship. All are welcome and encouraged to attend, and light refreshments will be provided.

The possibility of a "pre-meeting" of the Building for the Future Committee to plan for the meeting and review historic materials was suggested, and may be scheduled if there is interest from the committee and/or from the community. Please let us know if you would be interested in attending.

We are in the process of setting up a website to contain historic and new materials as they become available, and will provide the link in the next few day.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Kim Finch, Clerk, Ad Hoc Building for the Future Committee

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**Annapolis Friends Monthly Meeting (AFM)
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MfB)
Second Month, Fourth Day, 2018 (2/4/18)**

Present were: Wes J. (clerking), Phil C. (recording clerk), Peter M., Jack L., Karen C., Tom W., Mary B., Will C., Jeanne W., Phil F., Carl & Kim B., Sky & Nan E., Sue P., Sheryl G., Lynada J., Bill K., Dot W., Elise A., Bob B., Annie S., Pat S., Kim F., Barb T., Ruth S., Suzanne S., Wade L., Collette M., Ellen M., Lo H., and Diane E.

Opening – We began with centering worship. Our clerk thanked Friends for attending despite the imminent forecast for sleet, snow and other wintry mix.

AFM calendars & short items – Again, in recognition of recent work by Outreach on AFM’s calendars, our clerk skipped a comprehensive item-by-item review of last month’s and the coming month’s Meeting activities.

However, he previewed a few events: 1) AFM committee clerks will meet in Feb.25 after MfW—other Friends are invited to join to brainstorm plans for the coming year; and 2) BYM committee clerks will meet on a spring date, still t/b/d, at AFM with hospitality to be provided by us.

Our clerk also noted that he will be absent for MfB on 4/1/18 and that date is Easter. In light of this, we will reschedule our MfB and potluck to 4/8/18, but still will need a substitute to clerk on that occasion. A previously contemplated discussion of FCNL priorities for the coming year will be moved after the 4/8 MfW together with potluck.

A conflict for next week: Friends also discussed a potential conflict between next week’s pre-MfW Meeting for Learning, an architect’s meeting and a Silent Retreat. Considering the goal for a good AFM turnout, Friends after discussion agreed to postpone the architect’s meeting and to distribute by email a summary of our previous discussions with the architect beforehand. Kim will check with the architect about possible dates to meet after MfW on 2/18 and 3/11, perhaps with a “brown bag” or simplified potluck.

For M&W, Tom reported that Mary Kniskern requested transfer of her membership from AFM to Berea Monthly Meeting, having moved outside of Maryland many months ago. Friends regrettably approved.

Further, Tom urged Friends to attend next week’s Meeting for Learning on the history of Quaker ministry lead by Patrick & Mary Kay N.

M&W also asked that Friends plan on 2/18 to include worship-sharing as to the Spiritual State Of Meeting with our MfW hour and a child-welcoming at the conclusion of 2/25 MfW. Friends approved.

M&W reported, additionally, that they have checked with a number of seldom-seen Friends on our AFM membership roles to see if they had any objection to being labeled as “inactive members.” Only one response was received requesting to stay active.

Finally, M&W asked Friends to be mindful that hallway conversations, during MfW time, can delay and slow the start of our collective worship. They proposed a guideline to say, “It is our practice to chime a bell to begin worship and we encourage friends to use the library and classroom rather than the hallway for conversations during time set aside for worship.” After debating our use of a gong, possible communicative changes of lighting, and the difficulties of “legislating courtesy,” Friends deferred to M&W to continue their efforts towards such improvements.

Lighthouse (LH) Shelter project announcement – As AFM’s LH rep., Sue reports that LH is initiating an “Open Table” program to assist some individuals leaving LH with their transitions. It is hoped that each LH affiliate congregation would have 6 to 8 people of a variety of skill sets commit to weekly, one-hour meetings with the transitioning individual (or family) for a period of one year. The intent is to offer emotional, intellectual and other needed support as if they were family members. Sue suggested that AFM might initially partner with St. Margaret’s Episcopal congregation which is ready to begin shortly and two Friends already have volunteered for this purpose. There is a need for others to volunteer as they may be led, and Sue is happy to coordinate. Other Tables and partnerships might be formed later as there are many individuals leaving LH on an ongoing basis and there are other congregations attempting to get Tables organized.

One Friend suggested that it would be desirable to include minority churches in such partnerships. The location of Table meetings would be up to each group. Some fees (\$500 per table enrollment & \$10 per week per participant) are needed; as to our initial Table-partnership, St. Margaret's will pay the enrollment fee. Friends approved.

For our CY17 Final Treasurer's report, Sue announced a \$11,050 year-end 2017 surplus as a result of approximately \$8,000 over budget contributions, \$1,000 over budget investment income, as well as \$1,000 under budget committee spending.

For Stewardship and Finance Committee (S&F), Phil reported that, as a result of the request for surplus suggestions, S&F received recommendations from six Friends. (See attached written S&F report.) After discussion, Friends approved the recommended surplus allocations, but also agreed to ask Peace & Social Concerns Committee and S&F to continue discernment over the request from Ann R. to send \$5,000 to FGC—towards which the surplus has provided only \$2,500. Friends will consider, next month, whether an additional \$2,500 should be allocated from our Committee Contingency Fund and/or the Emergent Social Concerns Fund.

For Meeting House and Land(MH&L) and the Green Team, Kim offered and discussed a lengthy report as to AFM drinking water. (See attached report.) The current bottled water contract has been discontinued and, upon receipt of further water testing, Friends will resume discussion of this topic at a later MfB. Our clerk especially thanked Kallan and other Bensons for pursuing this concern.

Due to shortness of time, Friends agreed that our Clerk and Recording Clerk should finalize these minutes.

-These minutes respectfully submitted – P. Caroom, Recording Clerk

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Green Team Water Report

Green Team 2/4/18 report on AFM Drinking Water--A Source of Concern

Last summer, the Green Team expressed concerns about AFM's dependence on bottled water. We conferred with MHL and the AFM treasurer, solicited concerns and opinion during three meetings for learning, and conducted a taste test to investigate the situation. Today, we are addressing MFB to share with the entire AFM community our results, conclusions, and actions taken in conjunction with MHL. The original issues expressed by the Green Team concerned the general environmental sustainability of bottled water and specific ethical considerations of supporting the Nestle corporation.

Bottled water from any provider has a significantly higher carbon footprint than tap. At a minimum, water must be extracted, processed, bottled, and transported from the source to the location. It is also bottled in and capped with plastic. In the case of the large delivery bottles, the containers are reused multiple times while the caps are disposable (possibly accepted as recycling). In either case, plastic is not an eco-friendly material. It does not degrade naturally. It is also not truly recyclable and expensive to downcycle. The latter typically occurs overseas further increasing the overall carbon footprint of the product. Furthermore, the use of a bottled water dispenser in place of a drinking fountain in the lobby creates a requirement for single-use cups, the majority of which are disposed of not recycled.

Practices of The Nestle company, our current bottled-water provider, are also not consistent with AFM's advocacy for social and environmental justice. Nestle promotes formula over breastfeeding in many third world countries. Nestle is also an egregious player in the privatization water resources. It negotiates contracts for substantial water extraction for commercial sale in disadvantaged communities and to maintain high levels of extraction even during drought restrictions.

Further concerns about bottled water were raised by MHL and the AFM treasure. The latter confirmed that AFM spends

- a. Short-term solutions for AFM may include continuing the purchase of reverse osmosis water or entering a water delivery contract with Crystal Springs or another company.
- b. Long-term solutions may entail installing additional filtration systems in the utility closet or at dispensing sources (e.g., drinking fountain, kitchen sink).

The overall goal is to ensure safe, in-house drinking water to the AFM community if this option is at all possible and cost-effective in the long-run.

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Surplus Report and Recommendations

AFM Stewardship & Finance Com. – Report and recommendations for 2017 year end surplus

<u>category</u>	<u>allocation</u>	<u>fund change</u>
Surplus	\$11,050.00	
INSIDE AFM		
Embraced Ministry Fund	- 365.00	1,635 to 2,000
Capital replacement	- 3,705.00	26,295 to 30,000
Building Fund	- 1,140.00	178,860 to 180,000
Capital improvement	- 490.00	24,180 to 24,670
<u>Subtotal inside AFM fund</u>	<u>\$5,700</u>	
OUTSIDE AFM		
Stride/BYM camp scholarship	-1500.00	no current donation
FGC	- 1250.00	no current donation
FGC- com. focused on anti-racism	- 1250.00	no current donation
Light House	-1350.00	adds 1,000 to AFM yr. contrib. plus change
<u>Subtotal outside AFM</u>	<u>\$5,350</u>	
<u>TOTAL disbursed</u>	<u>\$11,050</u>	

NOTES:

S&F Committee received surplus recommendations from six Friends.

Of these, five either suggested AFM's building fund (or a specific building improvement—i.e., a filtered water-bottle filler) either exclusively or in combination with other uses.

Four suggested various Quaker organizations or projects outside of AFM with FGC mentioned most frequently (3 times).

One (Ann Riggs) visited our meeting to tell of FGC's near insolvency & an FGC anti-racism program.

S&F recalled the discussion in MfB as to the Lighthouse that our annual contribution has been lower than other congregations & that we aspire to increase it in future years.

S&F members also united with one Friends' suggestion that "half" our surplus should go outside the meeting (although the goal of "topping off" some reserved fund made the actual recommended division 49% outside.

And S&F recalled BYM's goal to increase our Quakers' youth, diversity and outreach. On this basis, we also united with two Friends' suggestions to support STRIDE, a regional Quaker camp scholarship program for disadvantaged minority youth.

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HOW TO SUBMIT

NEWSLETTER ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please submit items for the calendar and brief descriptions of events by end of day the Monday after Meeting for Business.
- Susan W is the editor of the Annapolis Friends Newsletter. Please send any items for inclusion in the newsletter to her at 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 Announce and Discuss Email Lists have been replaced with AFMAnnounce at GoogleGroups. Please email announcements to afm-announce@googlegroups.com. If you need to be added to the GoogleGroup, please email Doug at afmeeting34@gmail.com or send a request to join by visiting <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/afm-announce>

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