

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER — MAY 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 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.
- 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

MAY 2: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. [Spring Market](#)

MAY 3: 9 a.m. Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

MAY 10: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

MAY 17: 9 a.m. Committee Meetings; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

MAY 24: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship; 1 p.m. Potluck lunch

MAY 31: 8 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

CARE OF THE MEETING HOUSE: Stewardship and Finance

QUERIES FOR FIFTH MONTH: PERSONAL WAY OF LIFE

Do you live in accordance with your spiritual convictions? Do you seek employment consistent with your beliefs and in service to society? Do you practice simplicity in speech, dress and manner of living, avoiding wasteful consumption? Are you watchful that your possessions do not rule you? So you strive to be truthful at all times, avoiding judicial oaths?

Do you strive to develop your physical, emotional and mental capacities toward reaching your divinely given potential? Do you cultivate healthful and moderate habits avoiding the hazards of drugs, intoxicants and over-indulgence generally? Do you try to direct such emotions as anger and fear in creative ways? (Faith and Practice, p. 39)

SPRING MARKET

Please join us for Spring Market on Saturday 2 May from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. We will be offering plants (perennials and annuals); gourmet baked goods; soups; salads; and food from the grill; handmade Afgan jewelry and rugs; books; clothing; housewares; toys; and gardening and craft supplies.

Proceeds benefit PRONICA, working to repair social injustice in Nicaragua; the ANNE ARUNDEL CONFLICT RESOLUTION CENTER; and SHINING HOPE FOR COMMUNITIES, combatting gender inequality and extreme poverty in urban slums in Kenya.

Here is the list of plants we are expecting for Saturday's Spring Market:

- Hybrid Tomatoes: Early Girl, Better Boy, Sungold Cherry (one of the most popular hybrids around)
- Heirloom Tomatoes: Aunt Ruby's Green (ripe when green w/pinkish blush), Black Krim, Thessaloniki, White Cherry, Russian Orange 117, Lucky Cross, Opalka Polish Paste, Artisan Blush Bicolor, Abe Lincoln's, Tiger Toms, Doctor's Green Frosted Cherry, Mortgage Lifters

- Additional Tomatoes: Best Boy, Tigerella, "Sun Sugar" cherry toms
- Bell peppers - mixed colors
- Eggplant - "Tsakoniki" (small yellow, mild)
- Parsley - curly leaf
- Tithonia - "mexican sunflower"(orange, up to 3')
- Coleus
- Canna lily bulbs
- Aloe vera
- Epiphyllum
- Iris- purple, white
- Siberian iris
- Orange lily
- Tiger Lily
- Monarda
- Japanese painted fern
- Woodland Poppy
- Hellebore
- Hyssop
- Prairie coneflower
- Purple coneflower
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Numbers are limited, so best to get there early.

MINISTRY AND WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE MEETING

The Ministry and Worship Committee would like to thank all of the Friends who participated in the AFM Spiritual State of the Meeting Report. The Report was sent to BYM on April 20, 2015.

NEW MEMBER OF THE MINISTRY AND WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Ministry and Worship Committee welcomes Tom W to the Committee. Tom is currently a Friend at Adelphi Friends Meeting, however, he will be transferring his membership to AFM in the near future. Welcome Tom.

FUTURE MEETINGS FOR LEARNING

On April 19, the Ministry and Worship Committee developed the following schedule for future Meetings for Learning. Please note that this is a tentative schedule and is subject to change.

Meetings for Learning will begin at 9:15 a.m.

- May 24, 2015 - "The Quincy Solution, Stop Domestic Violence and Save \$500 Billion." Margaret C will lead this discussion and urges Friends to read the book: "The Quincy Solution, Stop Domestic Violence and Save \$500 Billion" by Barry Goldstein. (It is available on Amazon.com)
- June 14, 2105 - The Life of William Penn - Tom W
- June 28, 2015 - Quaker 101 - 2nd Meeting for Learning - Dot W
- July 12, 2015 - Quaker 101 - 3rd Meeting for Learning - Dot W
- July 26, 2015 - Friends Committee on National Legislation - Lance B
- August 9, 2015 - Quaker Query for the Eight Month - Outreach
- August 23, 2105 - Introduction to Islam - Fatima A
- September 13, 2015 - Vocal Ministry
- September 27, 2015 - Quaker Query for the Ninth Month - The Social Order
- October 11, 2015 - AFM Budget Process - Stewardship and Finance Committee
- October 25, 2015 - Quaker Query for the Tenth Month - The Peace Testimony

Thank you for your continued support and interest.

The Ministry and Worship Committee

DAYSPRING SILENT RETREAT

Dear Friends: Another opportunity for Dayspring's beauty, precious solitude and spiritual companionship awaits us. Registration form is attached and pasted below. Please spread the word to others in your spiritual community. I hope you can share in the blessings of this weekend retreat. In peace, Jean

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DAYSPRING SILENT RETREAT: June 26 - 28, 2015

True silence ... is to the spirit what sleep is to the body: nourishment and refreshment. (William Penn, 1699)

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

SPONSOR: Annapolis Friends Meeting FACILITATOR: Jean C

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

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

BRING: Toilet articles, casual clothes, walking shoes, and a flashlight.

MEALS: Vegetarian meals are prepared by a Dayspring cook. Friends share final preparation, set-up and clean-up.

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.

COST: \$220. The fee covers a single room, 6 vegetarian meals, bed linens, blankets, towels and washcloth, meadows, ponds, woods, wildlife.....

REGISTRATION: Deadline is June 19 (or when full). Minimum number is 9 participants. Maximum is 18. Friends will be enrolled in the order in which checks are received.

QUESTIONS? Call Jean C at 410-544-1912 or e-mail jschristianson@gmail.com

NEXT RETREAT: October 9 - 12, 2015

REGISTRATION

Make check for \$220 payable to Dayspring Retreat Center and give or mail to Jean C, 189 Edgewater Rd., Pasadena, MD 21122, with this completed form. We need a minimum of 9 registrants. Maximum capacity is 18. Your check will guarantee your spot. Registration deadline is Friday, June 19. Checks will be deposited after retreat.

Name: _____ Meeting: _____

Address: _____ Phone(s) _____

Email: _____

THINKING ABOUT RACE: UNCONSCIOUS BIAS--AN EXAMPLE

"The Hero's Fight: African-Americans in West Baltimore and the Shadow of the State," by Patricia Fernández-Kelly, was published Feb. 1, 2014, by Princeton University Press. See <http://press.princeton.edu/titles/10328.html#.VPHv1BBwbLw.gmail>. If you click on the link, you may be struck by the unconscious bias in one sentence in the summary: "While ordinary Americans are treated as citizens and consumers, deprived and racially segregated populations are seen as objects of surveillance, containment, and punishment." It is easy to infer that, by "ordinary Americans" the writer means "white Americans," since "racially segregated populations" clearly means populations of color. We (whites) still tend to think of ourselves as the "ordinary" Americans. Even this blurb writer has fallen into that trap. One can only wonder what Fernández-Kelly thinks of that description of her book, if she has noticed it. One can also wonder how often any of us fall into that same trap.

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 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.schenck@verizon.net.

QUAKER QUOTES FOR MAY

We are called as peacemakers to deal with the violence and aggression within ourselves, to find ways of living in harmony with ourselves and neighbors. A simple lifestyle is useful in this connection, since the pursuit of excessive material wealth or power entails competition and exploitation of others. As John Woolman urged, "May we look upon our treasures, the furniture of our houses and our garments and try whether the seeds of war have nourishment in our possessions." The development of inward peace is part of the process of making outward peace. (From BYM Faith and Practice, p. 32)

All the faithful are not called to the public ministry; but whoever are, are called to minister of that which they have tasted and handled spiritually. The outward modes of worship are various; but whenever any are true ministers of Jesus Christ, it is from the operation of his Spirit upon their hearts, first purifying them and thus giving them a just sense of the conditions of others. This truth was early fixed in my mind and I was taught to watch the pure opening, and to take heed lest, while I was standing to speak, my own will should get uppermost, and cause me to utter words from worldly wisdom, and depart from the channel of the true gospel ministry. (John Woolman's Journal)

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. (BYM Faith and Practice, p. 19)

Dwell in the life, and love, and power and wisdom of God, in unity one with another and with God; and the peace and wisdom of God fill all your hearts, that nothing may rule in you but the life, which stands in the Lord God. (George Fox)

MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS MINUTES

Fourth Month, Second First Day, 2015 (4/12/15)

Present were: Wes J (Clerk), Phyllis S (Acting Recording Clerk), Martha B, Mary B, Carl B, Kimberly B, Carol B, Bob B, Margaret C, Will C, Jean C, Minette CS, Jennifer D-M, Sky E, Phil F, Kim F, Cairn K, Jack L, Careen M, Peter M, CREC people, Sue P, Joel R, Pat S, Ruth S, Barbara T, Joanna T, Dot W

Our meeting began with Centering Silent Worship

1. Wes noted that he will be opening MfB by reflections on other faith traditions and on Faith and Practice. Yearly Meeting is still contemplating the update to F&P.
2. For Ministry and Worship, Joel presented the second Draft Spiritual State of the Meeting Report, together with comments already submitted. MfB discussed the draft and made further suggestions. Meeting affirmed that M&W will update the Spiritual State of Meeting as suggested and submit it to BYM by April 18, 2015.
3. For Outreach Pat reported on Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting. Five from AFM attended Quarterly Meeting. AFM is requested to host Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting on March 13, 2016. Friends approved hosting CQM in March 2016.
4. For Pastoral Care, Jen reported that Pastoral Care is reporting a name change for the Suffering Fund. PC proposed that the Suffering Fund be renamed the Suffering and Individual Emergency Fund after consultation with Stewardship and Finance. The current description of the fund accurately portrays the use of this fund for Annapolis Friends Meeting. This name change has been made to reflect the current use of the fund, for individuals experiencing financial need, as well as to reflect the historical and spiritual experiences of Friends who suffer hardships as a result of bearing witness to our testimonies. Friends joyously affirmed this name change.
5. For the Market Committee, Cairn reported on the planned contributions from this year's Spring Market. The 1st \$100 will go to CREC and the children of our FDS program, so that they can work through their own discernment process. The remaining funds will be allocated as follows: the external 75% of the proceeds will be split evenly between The Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center and Shining Hope for Communities (combatting gender inequality and extreme poverty in urban slums in Kenya). The internal 25% will be awarded to ProNica, a Quaker-initiated non-profit that works to repair social injustice in Nicaragua. In addition to these three causes, we will also be promoting Afghan Women's Fund by providing space for Fahima V to sell crafts, and Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis and the documentary La Ruta de las Almas ~ The Road of the Souls, by providing advertising space.

Quaker Spring Market will be on Saturday, 2 May, 2015. Flea market contributions will be accepted starting Thursday, April 26.

The full Market Committee report will appear in the MfB book of minutes and also in the Newsletter.

6. For Meetinghouse and Lands, Kim requested that Wes cut the ribbon on our new flat screen monitor. This was part of our AV upgrade project. Further enhancements are still in discussion in the committee.

The Annapolis Traditional Dance Society recently cancelled a planned session for which they had paid their usual rental fee. Instead of requesting reimbursement, they chose instead to make it a donation to meeting, for which we are thankful.

We benefited from the participation of fourteen midshipmen from the Naval Academy Fishing and Conservation Club on April 11 who assisted us in planting a dozen new trees on our property that will satisfy our remediation efforts required when we installed our new solar

array on our lawn. Their efforts are greatly appreciated and a proper thank-you will be forwarded.

Spring Cleanup and Maintenance Day will be April 18, from 9 to 12. Refreshments and a light meal will be provided. Volunteers are welcome.

MH&L requested Friends search their pantries for some plain white or off-white linens that can be used for memorial services.

The Building for the Future Committee continues its work and the next planned session is a further meeting with our architect, Evan Lippincott. Date and time for the meeting to be announced.

MH&L presented a concept proposing to hire a Building Use and Facilities Maintenance Assistant, in order to assist the Building Use Coordinator (BUC) and relieve meeting of relevant concerns. Furthermore, there was discussion of the need to find a replacement for our current BUC, Minette C-S, who is stepping down in June. It was agreed that MH&L and Nominating Committee, in consultation with the BUC, would continue to pursue a resolution to this personnel issue, made even more crucial because of the importance of rentals to meeting our operating budget goals, and the stellar manner in which our current BUC has performed her duties.

Meeting for Business was adjourned with Closing Silence.

Respectfully submitted,
Wes J (clerk) and Phyllis S (acting recording clerk)

QUAKER MARKET COMMITTEE REPORT

Fourth Month, Second First Day, 2015 (4/12/15)

The Market Committee received a number of good suggestions for recipients for Spring Market, too many for us to fund all of them at any meaningful level. Our discernment process led us to the following funding decisions: the 1st \$100 will go to CREC and the children of our FDS program, so that they can work through their own discernment process. The remaining funds will be allocated as follows: the external 75% of the proceeds will be split evenly between The Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center and Shining Hope for Communities. The internal 25% will be awarded to ProNica.

Since we are working to raise awareness of these causes in addition to funds, we would like to provide some additional background information here, to augment what will be provided on our educational display board at the market.

The Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center began in 1993 when a group of local citizens began meeting to discuss violence and were interested in creating a community-based solution. Today they offer mediation, facilitation, and community conferencing services to individuals and groups in conflict. Their services are largely free. They also offer training and workshops in mediation, anger management and other conflict resolution processes. Members of the AFM community have played a vital role in this organization throughout its history.

Shining Hope for Communities combats gender inequality and extreme poverty in urban slums in Kenya by linking tuition free schools for girls to holistic social services for all. This organization was featured recently in A Path Appears, a PBS documentary on making a difference in the world. Kennedy Odede started Shining Hope for Communities in 2004 with passion, 20 cents and a soccer ball. Growing up in Kibera, one of the largest slums in Africa, he experienced extreme poverty, violence, lack of opportunity, and deep gender inequality.

However, Kennedy also witnessed the palpable hope that persists in slums and recognized that people sought something different for themselves, their families and their communities. Visionaries like Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela showed Kennedy that great, systemic change can come from within. Women like Kennedy's mother inspired him to build the solutions to urban poverty

through addressing one of its core obstacles—the prohibitive level of gender inequality.

In 2007, Kennedy met Jessica Posner, a bright and driven American student studying abroad. Together they devised the model that SHOFCO utilizes today. SHOFCO's innovation is to link girls' education to deeply-needed community-wide services. This increases the value of girls and women, invites both genders to participate in the solution, and allows girls' schools to be portals for large-scale social change. Their schools provide daily nourishment, health care, psychosocial support, after school programs, uniforms and supplies all free of charge. Parents, or other relatives of students are also required to work for five weeks at the school, part of their holistic approach to invest the entire community in girls' education.

Kennedy and Jessica's partnership is a unique, pioneering collaboration in the field of international development. Bolstered by grassroots knowledge, they have dedicated their lives to bringing hope to urban communities.

ProNica

Established in 1987, ProNica formalized the charitable work of two selfless Quakers, who were driven by a deep concern over the international exploitation of the people and resources of Nicaragua and filled with a desire to respond in practical and constructive ways.

ProNica's approach focuses on supporting community-initiated projects focused on promoting health, harmony and well-being of individuals as well as the community as a whole. They address not only urgent needs but the roots of social injustice, empowering successive generations in poor communities to continue to strive for economic, social and ecological sustainability.

The ProNica projects hold promise for grassroots growth, arise from Nicaraguan needs and tradition, and provide not only survival but also empowerment. The programs serve the most disadvantaged members of our human family, fostering economic, social and ecological sustainability and build foundations of equality and integrity. At the heart of the work is the awareness that people in marginalized communities understand their own problems and are in the best position to innovate solutions.

- Acahualinca Beauty School: Vocational Training for Former Prostitutes & Exploited Women
- Acahualt Women's Center: Physical & Mental Health Services for Marginalized Women
- Alternatives to Violence: Workshops led by a Former Inmate
- Casa del Nino: Preventative Health Care Services, Education, Rural Community Enrichment & Empowerment Opportunities
- Casa Materna: Temporary Home & Medical Access for High Risk Pregnancies
- Domestic Violence Network: Legal Support, Guidance & Safe Haven for Women Experiencing Domestic Violence
- Libraries: Expanding Public Access to Educational Resources & Opportunities, Recreational Reading Materials, Computers/WiFi
- Los Quinchos/Las Yahoskas: Holistic Support to Rehabilitate Street Children & Reintegrate Them into Society
- Martin Centeno Community: Experimental Cooperative Community Serving as a Model of Collaboration & Solidarity

AFM partnership with ProNica began early this year when the children of our First Day School reached unity on donating \$300 of their Quaker Market proceeds to assist the work of the organization. They entrusted the Bensons, who were traveling to Nicaragua to visit family, to carry material goods to the organization. With the assistance and input of the children and ProNica staff, the Bensons compiled bed sheets, craft supplies, personal care items,... goods that are typically expensive and poor quality locally. The children's support inspired generous individual contributions among AFM members and attenders.

In country, the Bensons were delighted to visit the Los Quinchos and Las Yahoskas residential homes for abused and abandoned children. They were impressed by the full-range of work and services provided by the centers and by the transformation of the children in the care.

The Bensons returned to AFM with incredible memories and ideas for further support and a broader relationship with this proactive and holistic Quaker organization.

In addition to these three causes that we will support with Spring Market proceeds, we will also be promoting Afghan Women's Fund by providing space for Fahima VG to sell crafts. For nearly a decade, Afghan Women's Fund (AWF) has nurtured Afghan women desperately in need of a reliable water supply, medical clinics, literacy and craft skills, and- most of all- education for their girls. We are also providing advertising space for Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis and La Ruta de las Almas ~ The Road of the Souls. CSGA arose from AFMs minute on global climate change, and is flourishing through a lot of hard work on the part of members of AFM, and partly through financial assistance provided by proceeds from Holiday Market 2015. The Road of the Souls is a music documentary that explores the ancestral connections of music from Persia to Patagonia, tracing the cultural and spiritual journey of the Ibero-American region. This independent film is directed and scored by the Cuban composer, Pavel Urkiza, and is produced by he and his wife, Ana Maria Kley Meyer, one of AFM's highly active newer attendees. They will also be holding a benefit fundraising concert at the meetinghouse on the evening of Saturday, 9 May, which all are invited to attend.

Quaker Spring Market will be on Saturday, 2 May. It is a community effort, and we look forward to having the community pitch in to help make it a success. There will be emails describing how you can help, and a volunteer sign-up sheet. We will start accepting donations of flea market items on first day 26 April, or earlier by arrangement. Most importantly, we hope Friends will plan to come out on the day, to eat delicious food, buy your spring plants, shop for flea market treasures, and enjoy fellowship with members of the AFM and broader communities.

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

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS MEETING

Address: 351 DuBois Road, Annapolis, MD 21401

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Website: www.quaker.org/annapolis

Clerk: Wes J (wesjordan@comcast.net)

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

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