

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2017

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

NOVEMBER 5: 9-10:45 Meeting for Business; 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:30 Potluck; 6:30-8:30 William Penn House Potluck
NOVEMBER 6: 9pm Newsletter Items Due
NOVEMBER 7: 7-8pm North County Mid-Week Meeting; 7-9pm Green Team Meeting
NOVEMBER 8: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group
NOVEMBER 9: 2:30-4pm Spiritual Friendship (full); 7-8pm "The Conversation Project" with GAIN
NOVEMBER 10: 7-9pm MPR CSGA Movie Night "Awake, A Dream from Standing Rock"
NOVEMBER 11: 2-4pm **Cancelled**: Working Group on Deconstructing Racism
NOVEMBER 12: 8-9am Early Worship; 9:15-10:45am Meeting for Learning: IAF; 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:30-2 Poetry Group & Writers Gathering
NOVEMBER 15: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group
NOVEMBER 16: 7-9pm CSGA/MCC Speakers Series
NOVEMBER 18: 1-4pm CSGA: Healthy Soils
NOVEMBER 19: 9:15-10:45am Most Committees Meet; 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:30-1:30pm Committees: CREC
NOVEMBER 22: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group
NOVEMBER 26-December 2: Holiday Market SetUp All Rooms
NOVEMBER 26: 8-9am Early Worship; 9:15-10:45am Meeting for Learning: TBA; 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship
DECEMBER 2: 9am-2pm Holiday Market
DECEMBER 3-5: Holiday Market Breakdown
DECEMBER 3: 9-10:45 Meeting for Business; 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:30 Potluck; 1-2pm Friends House: Meg Meyer; 6:30-8:30 William Penn House Potluck
DECEMBER 4: 9pm Newsletter Items Due
DECEMBER 5: 7-9pm Green Team Meeting; 7-8pm North County Mid-Week Meeting
DECEMBER 6: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group
DECEMBER 7: 7-9pm CSGA Strategic Planning Meeting
DECEMBER 9: 2-4pm Working Group on Deconstructing Racism

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 ELEVENTH 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? Do 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?

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

[Meetings for Learning](#)

[Thinking About Race](#)

[Meeting For Business Minutes November 2017](#)

[Guidelines for Submission to this Newsletter](#)

Meetings for Learning:

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

November 12: Industrial Area Foundation

November 26: TBA

December 10: Dance and Chant

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Thinking About Race

Thinking About Race (November 2017) – Stirring Words

The one-year mark of the presidential election is a good time to recall words from 2015 that may help us feel inspired and, perhaps, even hopeful: **Remarks by the President at the 50th Anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery Marches**, Edmund Pettus Bridge, March 7, 2015. (It also reflects today’s emotional issues around taking a knee.)

“What greater expression of faith in the American experiment than this, what greater form of patriotism is there than the belief that America is not yet finished, that we are strong enough to be self-critical, that each successive generation can look upon our imperfections and decide that it is in our power to remake this nation to more closely align with our highest ideals?

....

“It’s the idea held by generations of citizens who believed that America is a constant work in progress; who believed that loving this country requires more than singing its praises or avoiding uncomfortable truths. It requires the occasional disruption, the willingness to speak out for what is right, to shake up the status quo. That’s America.

....

“Because Selma shows us that America is not the project of any one person. Because the single-most powerful word in our democracy is the word “We.” “We The People.” “We Shall Overcome.” “Yes We Can.” That word is owned by

no one. It belongs to everyone. Oh, what a glorious task we are given, to continually try to improve this great nation of ours.”

- President Barack Obama

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 410-263-4529.

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**Annapolis Friends Monthly Meeting (AFM)
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MfB)
Eleventh Month, First Day, 2017 (11/5/17)**

Present were: Wes J. (clerking), Phil C. (recording clerk), Martha B., Pat. S., Ted R., Mary B., Sheryl G., Nan & Sky E., Bill K., Will C., Cairn K., Jean C., Tom W., Ruth S., Ellen M., Jen D-L., Dot W., Carl B., Patty R., Julie R., Jeanne W., Phil F., Olivia, Kit H., Margaret C., Jack L., Francis W., Wade L., Karen C., Lee L., Sue P., Sylvia O., Carol B., Ann R., Pat E., and Lo H.

Opening – We began with centering worship. Our clerk jokingly appreciated all who remembered our Daylight Savings Time adjustment as well as those who realized they arrived an hour early for MfB.

Katrine Anderson Memorial Meeting – Remembering Katrine’s active and vibrant involvement with Annapolis Friends Meeting after her untimely recent passing, Pastoral Care has begun plans for her memorial meeting. Mary B. reported this meeting will be held at the Unitarian Church to ensure sufficient seating on 11/11/17 at 1:30 p.m. AFM will coordinate this with Katrine’s spouse Howard Green; food contributions should be discussed with Mary B. A memorial minute will be presented next month by Barb T. who was a coworker with Katrine at the World Bank.

Committee/Calendar Scheduling – Martha B. has begun to set up our AFM 2018 online calendar. Committees should let her know if there are recurring or special space needs that they anticipate and would like to have put on the calendar.

Martha also offered this “help wanted” ad: We are looking for someone who temporarily to take on Martha’s AFM calendar duties for December through April 2018 when she will be out of town. This is not a time-consuming task and can be done from the comfort of your personal computer or tablet. You need to attentive to email requests and it is helpful to know how to use a Google calendar, but this is easy to learn.

Holiday Sharing – Ruth reported that, this year, the County has assigned us a family consisting of a single mother and 7 children, plus a senior citizen, for Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Ruth soon will prepare a clipboard to coordinate Friends’ donations.

Membership Clearness Committees – For M&W, Phil F. reported for Julie Rouhi’s clearness committee appreciated her deep, careful and clear discernment process that led her to find a spiritual home with our Meeting. Friends joyfully approved her membership -- and also welcomed Julie’s agreement to serve as AFM co-Treasurer in 2018.

Tom W. reported that Sheryl Lynn Grier also has completed her clearness process and Friends joyfully approved her membership as well. Sheryl also brings particularly welcomed energy and technical abilities to AFM's web-presence and assists significantly as co-BUC with Carol B.'s tireless and dedicated efforts.

First Reading 2018 AFM Clerks and Committees slate – In the absence of Nominating Committee Clerk Elise (who is with daughter Bethanne celebrating the birth of granddaughter Isabel), Patty reported for the (attached) first draft of our 2018 AFM slate with two corrections: 1) Nan E. has agreed to sit with but not to serve on Library Committee, and 2) we are seeking a new 2018 Newsletter Editor. Additional volunteers should contact Nominating Committee.

Friends also discussed some other issues in relation to our nominating process & certain positions: Sheryl explained that her co-BUC duties relate primarily to automation and Carol duties relate primarily to people. She also noted that, as the in-person duties are substantial ones, more BUC-related volunteers to assist would be welcome to lighten the burden on Carol.

For M&W, Tom also thanked Sylvia for taking on responsibilities as AFM's GAIN representative.

Friends also discussed the phenomenon of clerks and committee members sometimes stay on a single committee for more than the presumptive limit of 6 years—an exception permitted with MfB approval. Some Friends expressed concerns and others affirm the benefits of longer terms. Another suggested focusing on committee clerks' terms and excluding noncommittee groups. We recalled prior discussions in another MfB a few years ago when Friends discussed this same concern. Wes and Sheryl will try to excavate MfB minutes of this prior discussion, referring this back to Nominating Committee, before this concern is revisited at a future MfB.

Treasurer's Report – Our Treasurer, Sue provided copies of a current financial statement, commenting that on 10/30/17 we had a \$13,554 deficit in expected 2017 individual contributions resulting in an approximately \$5,000 annual deficit, so far. But, she also noted, we traditionally have a large number of Friends who delay their contributions towards the end of the year; she encouraged Friends to make these year-end contributions ASAP.

First Reading 2018 Budget – The Stewardship and Finance (S&F) Committee Clerk Phil C. provided a first-read of the 2018 AFM budget (attached). He noted that this is not submitted for approval but for information and discussion. It is based on committee requests submitted prior to our last committee meetings and will be updated before a second-read seeking final approval next month.

Possible AFM - Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF) commitment – For Peace & Social Concerns (P&SC) Committee, Mary D. reported the committee recommendation that AFM should co-sponsor the A.A.Co. IAF interfaith/community organizing effort both with \$650 annual dues (likely recurring for some time) and with active participation by Friends. This is done recognizing our current year commitment of funds and member participation with developmental efforts toward this end so far this year. She speculated that such participation might include one or more AFM representatives, such as Mary, and involvement by other Friends in one or two two-hour events per year. Our Clerk noted that many Friends have attended IAF meetings already.

Examples of accomplishments of other MD IAF chapters (each of which will adopt an appropriate local name other than IAF) include a Montgomery County action to obtain full funding of the recreation and after-school program budgets and a Howard County appeal for financial assistance for trailer park residents being displaced by government action.

P&SC Clerk Barb T. was unable to attend MfB today, but sent this endorsement: "*The emerging Annapolis IAF*"

organization is an enthusiastic and hopeful interfaith initiative that gathered 400 participants for its first meeting [from 18 local church congregations and other local organizations] and 200 for its second. Given that 3/4s of the 400+ attending the Sept. 28 action were African Americans, it is a concrete opportunity [for AFM] to partner on issues important to African Americans in Anne Arundel County.” Another Friend noted that the alliance of many churches can help give minority and disadvantaged citizens’ political clout that they otherwise lack; Mary clarified that the group will not be involved in partisan, election politics. Any participant who runs for political office will no longer be allowed to participate.

Carol B. commented that this gathering of faith-based organizations “feels similar” to the gathering years ago that gave rise to Annapolis’ important interfaith Lighthouse homeless shelter program. One Friend expressed reservations about AFM possibly overextending itself. Friends will continue this discussion at December MfB in connection with AFM’s budget. In the meantime, we agreed to make this the topic for a Meeting for Learning on 11/12/17 at 9:15 a.m.; also, our Ad Hoc Committee on action after our Black-Lives-Matter banner may consider this topic.

Closing: Due to shortness of time, the form of the final segment of these minutes was deferred to discretion of the Clerk and Recording Clerk. MfB closed with silent worship, transitioning into MfW.

These minutes respectfully submitted – P. Caroom, Recording Clerk

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HOW TO SUBMIT

NEWSLETTER ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Items in RED are new information as of March 2017

- 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 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>~~
- 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>

CONTACT INFORMATION

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