

2022 ANNUAL SESSION WORKSHOPS

**ONLINE PRE-SESSION WORKSHOPS:
TUESDAY, JULY 26TH, 7:00PM-9:00PM ET**

Black Resistance in Quaker Enslaver Households in Maryland and Virginia

We will explore examples and patterns of “slave resistance” by Black people enslaved by white Quaker enslavers. These actions helped precipitate an internal crisis and struggle among Chesapeake Region Quakers, who eventually disallowed slaveholders from remaining in membership as Quakers.

Facilitator: Jim Fussell, a member of Langley Hill Friends.

CLM: Issues that spring from the Spiritual State of Meeting

This is the Connecting Local Meetings (CLM) workshop sponsored by the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee. We will use the session to discuss spiritual issues that have arisen in the annual Spiritual State of the Meeting reports - to ground our committee deeper in the experience of our local meetings.

Facilitator: Greg Robb, a member of Friends Meeting of Washington, Greg has been co-clerk of the M&PC committee for the past three years.

FCNL Creation Care: Pursuing Transformational Climate Policies in an Era of Disruption

Focusing on Friends Committee on National Legislation’s advocacy for climate policies that will lead to a healthier planet, Clarence Edwards will discuss the latest efforts to reach FCNL’s vision of “an earth restored,” the sticking points of FCNL’s environmental policy priorities, and recommended actions to advance a sustainable low carbon society and just economy.

Facilitator: Clarence Edwards leads FCNL’s work on sustainable energy and environmental policy, bringing extensive experience in government relations, issue advocacy, and strategic communications to FCNL (full bio here: <https://www.fcnl.org/people/clarence-edwards>).

Enhancing Pleasure, Reducing Pain

We will worship share on Stoic practices to reduce negative emotions (like anger, anxiety, frustration, and envy) and to enhance positive emotions (like happiness, delight and joy). The Stoics, rooted in ancient history, were started in 300 BCE and their practices can help us grow into a Joyful Spirit.

Facilitator: Jerry Knutson, Jerry is a Minister traveling under the care of Orlando Monthly Meeting (OMM).



**ONLINE PRE-SESSION WORKSHOPS:
THURS, JULY 28TH, 7:00PM – 9:00PM ET**

Quakers and Anti-Lynching

We will learn about Quaker Anti-Lynching actions by four Yearly Meetings, by Black activists and individual Friends from the 1890s to the 1930s. And yet far too many white Quakers were silent in the face of these relentless white atrocity crimes.

Facilitator: Jim Fussell, a member of Langley Hill Friends.

Community Safety Beyond Policing: Building Community Alternatives

Communities across the country are calling for reduced spending on policing and reinvestment of those funds. Together, we will develop an understanding of current community-based responses to emergencies in communities across the country; learn how to do an assessment of the assets and needs for emergency response in our own community; and develop a plan to take concrete action toward building community alternatives to police response.

Facilitator: Jacob Flowers. Jacob is the Regional Director for the U.S. South at the American Friends Service Committee and is based in Atlanta, GA.

CLM: Change Groups Working to Reduce Racial Barriers

Many BYM local Meetings have small groups (sometimes called “Change Groups”) dedicated to lowering racial barriers in their Meetings. Friends doing this work will share with each other what they have been doing, what they plan to do, and what challenges they face.

Facilitators: David Etheridge, Clerk of the BYM Working Group on Racism and Peirce Hammond is Clerk of the BYM Growing Diverse Leadership Committee.

The Power of Enough

What is essential? How much is enough? How is my use of time, energy, and “things” in right balance to free me to do God’s work, and to contribute to right order in our world? Through personal reflection, discussion, and worship sharing, we will explore queries to discover our power of enough.

Facilitator: Jackie Stillwell is the General Secretary of Right Sharing of World Resources, a Quaker organization that facilitates opportunities to learn about right sharing, and provides micro-enterprise grants with educational support to women around the world; she has traveled widely among Friends with FWCC, FGC and FUM, serving as an elder and workshop facilitator.

Is your Meeting House a “Healthy Building”??

How safe are we in our Houses of Worship? Many lack fresh air that nourishes us, and removes contagion. Learn how to stay healthy inside, and avoid the spread of Covid-19 and other pandemics.

Facilitator: Adrian Bishop, a BYM Friend experienced in construction, property inspection and maintenance, as well as managing Quaker Meeting Houses.

Register for Annual Session 2022 online at
www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession

PLANNING TO SET UP A DISPLAY AT ANNUAL SESSION?

Here's What you Need to Know:

Display space is available on a first come-first serve basis.

Tabletop spaces are limited to 3 feet in width.

To reserve your space, please complete the form at
<https://bit.ly/BYMAAnnualSessionDisplay>
or call Linda Coates at 717-696-7914.

ONLINE PRE-SESSION WORKSHOPS:

SATURDAY, JULY 30TH, 10:00AM – 12:00PM ET

Quaker Response to Enslavement in BYM Territory

We will explore the history of how Quakers living on the lands that are now part of BYM responded to the existence of enslavement from 1672 to 1865.

Facilitator: Sabrina McCarthy and David Etheridge. David Etheridge is Clerk of the BYM Working Group on Racism.

The Many Faces of Wildflowers

Wildflowers work at many levels in our lives. We will share how they connect us to each other, the planet and the Divine. Bring your stories, art, crafts, writing, music, healing and gardening tips, recipes, conservation and sustainability ideas. I will provide inspiration with photos and quotes.

Facilitator: Friend Fran Palmeri, a naturalist and nursery co-owner, works to educate people about the beauty and fragility of Mother Earth.

The Lost Quaker Voice in Making America's Experiment

The Revolutionary Quaker Voice arising out of its Holy Experiment (1682) in the Mid-Atlantic was instrumental in design of the American Experiment and our Constitution. What was the transformative logic in social change of the Quaker Voice? What does the consequence of loss of its distinctive culture today mean for the Future of Democracy?

Facilitator: Lowell Christy Jr., Sandy Spring Meeting. Seven year cultural anthropological research on letters, ideas and influences forming America's Founding Thinkers. Forthcoming book, "UnCommon Sense: Making of the American Experiment" (2023).



A Young Adult Friend's Engagement with an End-of-Life Adult
Bob Rhudy, a member of BYM's End-of-Life Working Group, will introduce Martin Krafft, a Young Adult Friend, who has produced a documentary video of his relationship with a 46 year old woman dying of cancer, with their discussions on the interactions between young adult Friends and end-of-life persons and the invitation to Quakers to answer that of Spirit in those who are different from us.
Facilitators: Bob Rhudy, Facilitator; Member, BYM End-of-Life Working Group; elder law attorney; executive director, Senior Mediation and Decision-Making, Inc., Martin Krafft, Presenter, Annapolis Meeting; BA, Emory University; MFA, University of Arizona.

A Quaker Family Burial Ground Preservation in NE Baltimore
Neighbors are trying to preserve a Quaker family burial ground in NE Baltimore from depredation by a local developer. Learn about their efforts, their plans for the future, and how you can help.

Facilitator: Linda Rabben is an associate research professor of anthropology at the University of Maryland, a sometime attendee of Adelphi Friends Meeting, and a member of the Westfield Neighborhood Improvement Association in NE Baltimore.

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS AT HOOD COLLEGE: THURSDAY, AUG. 4TH, 2:00PM – 4:00PM ET

Creating Collage Wildflowers

Participants will create an 8" x 10" wildflower collage; a visual reminder of this year's theme. No "artistic" skills required. I guarantee you will have fun and take home a charming piece of art. Materials list will be sent. Intro zoom session prior to Annual Session (optional).

Facilitator: Dierdre Foley, Patapsco Meeting, Full-time Artist who taught Art at elementary, middle school and college levels, and considers Art as a spiritual practice.

Welcome to Friends Place!

Join us for a conversation about the exciting updates to the Friends Place space, programming, and operations. This workshop offers the opportunity to learn about the organization and guest house (formerly known as William Penn House), and to consider how we might fit into your next group trip to DC!

Facilitator: Sarah Johnson, the director of Friends Place on Capitol Hill.

Standing in the Way, Standing Aside, and Making Decisions that Include Everyone

Quaker Community may be a meadow of wildflowers, but we sometimes find ourselves sitting in a thicket in business meeting. How does it help our community when individuals "stand in the way" or "stand aside?" How do we make decisions that include everyone even when we don't all individually agree?

Facilitators: Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco) served as Presiding Clerk of Baltimore YM from 2014-2020. Rebecca Richards (Gunpowder) served as clerk of Gunpowder for 3 years.

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Becoming Comfortable with Our Mortality: Living and Dying Well as Friends

Ria Hawkins will share her experience where frequent and open communication about aging and dying contributed enormously to the deeply spiritual death of her beloved husband Ted. The workshop consists of presentations, an experiential exercise and worshipful sharing on queries from the End of Life Working Group's new publication.

Facilitators: Ria Hawkins and Ted started preparing for death when they started their family, by making a will and finding a relative who would care for their children in the event they both died. Patti Nesbitt is clerk of End of Life Working Group and a retired palliative care nurse.

Why is the shortest verse in the bible the most powerful?

Let's take a look at the shortest verse in the bible and consider its implications. It may be possible to see the words of a Jewish carpenter from Nazareth as wildflowers; bringing beauty and hope to an occupied land in a time of turmoil.

Facilitator: John Yost, Little Britain Monthly Meeting, Clerk of Eastland Preparative Meeting.

Exploration of the book *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson

Reading *Caste* together can help our Yearly Meeting become an actively anti-racist faith community. Isabel Wilkerson's writing style is personal and engaging, and the material can arouse our emotions. Gather with others who have read or are reading the book to share our experiences and ways we may feel stuck.

Facilitator: Members of the Working Group on Racism have been preparing to lead a study of this book, focusing on cultivating a brave space to explore uncomfortable truths.

Pronouns Practice

Growing towards Spirit and changing well-rooted habits takes practice. We will be going over the basics of how to talk about gender and how to help each other grow towards creating an inclusive space. You will leave this workshop with concrete ways to practice using someone's pronouns.

Facilitator: Sunshine Klein and the Young Friends Community.

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS AT HOOD COLLEGE: FRIDAY, AUG 5TH, 2:00PM – 4:00PM ET

A Walk in the Woods at Catoctin

(This workshop will leave campus at 1:30 to allow for driving time) We will see some flowers of the field and some trees of the forest as we meander through the woods at Catoctin Quaker Camp. We will explore some of the unique and beautiful places on the 385 acres the Yearly Meeting uses for its camping program. We will also take some time to stop and discuss some of the natural history and forest ecology in the area. Transportation will be provided from Hood College to Catoctin Quaker Camp and back again (about 30 minutes each way.)

Facilitator: David Hunter has been the BYM Camp Property Manager since 2003, has a deep interest in forest, forest ecology and in the lands that provide sites for our camping programs.

ZOOM ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Are you looking for a way to serve the BYM community this year? The Program committee is looking for volunteers to assist with the Zoom sessions. Training will be provided to all volunteers. We are looking for assistance for our presenters in managing simple things such as screen sharing, break out rooms (the computer does most of the work), and assisting with managing the chat and who has hands up during discussions. All levels of experience are welcome. Please contact Linda Coates at Lindajcoates@gmail.com or at 717-696-7914.

Retrospective Justice, Repair, and Community

With BYM's 350th, how can we bring retrospective justice to the painful parts of our history as a country and as Friends? This workshop will explore retrospective justice, reparations, and community, via Harold Weaver's Pendle Hill pamphlet *Racism, Systemic Violence, and Retrospective Justice*, then consider some initiatives Friends have begun.

Facilitator: Marcy Seitel and others, Co-clerk of the Reparation Action Working Group.

Continuing Revelation and the Future of Quaker Testimony

In the next decade the S.P.I.C.E.S. formulation of Quaker Testimony/Testimonies will likely be laid down by most Friends. WHAT might replace it? In particular, we will examine the longstanding but seldom named Quaker Justice Testimony.

Facilitator: Jim Fussell, a member of Langley Hill Friends.

HBCUs, Rooted in History, Continuing to Grow Toward the Spirit

Faced with funding inequities, bomb threats, and other social injustices for almost 200 years, historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) have survived. Though more often plain rather than dazzling, they have spread the seeds of their ministries across the ground; enriched and invigorated by their past they have always welcomed all peoples to their doors. For an introduction to HBCUs, see page 11.

Facilitators: Clinton W. Pettus and Kathryn L. Pettus, Clinton and Kathryn met at and graduated from an HBCU. They spent much of their careers working at HBCUs in various administrative as well as faculty roles.



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Spiritual Bounty in Nature: Foraging for SPICES at Friends Wilderness Center

Successful foraging depends on deep acceptance and appreciation for the gifts offered by nature. The treasure that blooms and grows is not always what we expect or seek. Current conditions, habitat characteristics, community association, natural history, disturbance, restoration, even anticipated change shape the bounty extended when we are open and accept the opportunity to harvest. At Friends Wilderness Center, foraging for SPICES yields Spiritual Bounty.

Facilitator: Kimberly Benson, Annapolis Friends, Kimberly Benson is the general manager of Friends Wilderness Center, a scientist, naturalist, climate and environmental activist.

Your Dreams and Two Dreams from the Bible

We will look at two dreams as interpreted by Joseph in the Bible, relating to the Butcher and the Baker. Each participant will work with one of their own dreams, through art and through imagination and see if we cannot ask God to interpret it for us in the here and now of the workshop.

Facilitator: Rose Longworth, Valley Friends, a licensed professional counsellor working with dreams for 50 years.

Faith, Philanthropy and Taxes: Making informed choices in your charitable giving,

This workshop will explore how several apparently disparate topics interrelate, namely tax planning, investment, charitable giving, and ethical concerns. We will consider tax-aware techniques for charitable contributions, but go beyond these to help workshop participants develop an approach that works for their individual situation.

Facilitators: Mary Braun, Development Director and Victor Thuronyi, Development Committee and Stewardship and Finance.

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS AT HOOD COLLEGE: SATURDAY, AUG 6TH, 2:00PM – 4:00PM ET

Creating Zines--Dandelion Seeds in the Wind

Zine is short for magazine. They are informal, underground publications focusing on--well--whatever YOU want to spread the word about. A hobby, sport, music, social or political activism. You write/draw it. Print it off a copier and leave them around town, school, etc. Think of them as dandelion seeds in the wind. Quakers have a history of creating self-published tracts.

Facilitator: Dierdre Foley, Patapsco Meeting, Artist and social justice activist. Taught First Day School to create Zines.

Transformative Internal Struggles in the History of Baltimore Yearly Meeting

We will explore past transformative conflicts among Friends over establishing Women's Business Meetings, ending Quaker Slaveholding, reunifying Baltimore Yearly Meeting after 140 years, ending Racial Segregation in Quaker Schools, and fully welcoming LGBTQ Quakers including embracing Marriage Equality. (A NEW topic for Annual Session marking BYM's 350th Anniversary)

Facilitator: Jim Fussell, a member of Langley Hill Friends.

Difficult Conversations: Listening and Talking Strategies

This workshop will focus on specific strategies for listening and talking with those who are different from us. They may have different political or religious views or may be from a very different society. We will focus on how to find God in the other person. In the end, it is we who will be enriched by doing this.

Facilitator: Ramona Buck, Ramona has a career of mediating, facilitation and dealing with conflict.

Chanting With Early Friends

We will sing chants by Paulette Meier, Quaker songwriter, who put to music the writing of Early Friends to help remember and understand them, discovering a deep spiritual practice. After learning each chant, workshop participants will engage in worship-sharing regarding: "In what ways do these seeds, sown by our forbearers, guide us today?"

Facilitators: Joan Liversidge, Sandy Spring Meeting, and Sarah Bur, Homewood Friends.

How's Pastoral Care Going?

How is pastoral care rooted in your meeting? How is it growing? Have the processes for providing pastoral care been working? What pastoral care resources might your meeting need? Members of the BYM Pastoral Care Working Group will facilitate discussion around these queries to see how we can work together to provide better pastoral care.

Facilitators: Erik Hanson and Becky Cromwell. Erik Hanson and Becky Cromwell are members of Sandy Spring and serve on the BYM Pastoral Care Working Group.

The Nuclear Threat: Pushing back against the world's most immoral weapons.

Allen Hester, Friends Committee on National Legislation's Legislative Representative for Nuclear Disarmament and Pentagon Spending, will explain recent developments which increase the risk of nuclear war. He will also explain how nuclear weapons are already causing environmental and humanitarian harms. Finally, he'll highlight actions that faith communities can take to tackle this existential threat.

Facilitator: Allen Hester, FCNL Legislative Representative for Nuclear Disarmament & Pentagon Spending.

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