



MONADNOCK QUAKER MEETING NEWSLETTER

First Month, 2018

Meeting for Worship each Sunday at 10:30am. Children join meeting for the first 15 minutes and then go to First Day School.

CALENDAR		
Jan 21	Noon	Meeting for Worship with a concern for business preceded by potluck
Jan 27	1 PM	Memorial Meeting for Andy Linn at Friends Meeting Cambridge (see article)
Jan 28	8:30 - 10 AM	Yoga class led by Mibs Pell - For information, call 603-567-7121 – class meets every Sunday
Jan 28	Noon	Second Hour: Faith & Practice revision
Feb 1	4 PM	Meeting House & Grounds committee meeting
Feb 2-4		Stillness retreat
Feb 4	9:45 AM	Singing (see article)
Feb 4	Noon	Second Hour: Travis Belcher shares his spiritual journey
Feb 7	6:30 PM	FCNL Advocacy Team potluck and national phone call
Feb 8	4 PM	Quaker Readers at Sandy Isaac's (see article)
Feb 11	Noon	Youth Religious Education committee meeting
Feb 11	Noon	Second Hour: White Supremacy
Feb 15	7 PM	Ministry & Counsel committee meeting
Feb 18	Noon	Meeting for Worship with a concern for business preceded by potluck
Mar 11	6:30 PM	Spring Interfaith Music Tribute – UU Peterborough (see article)
Apr 14		Living Faith Gathering – Portland, Maine (see article)

Singing

If you'd like to come and sing before Meeting, please join us at the Meeting house, 9:45-10:15 am on Sunday, February 4, Sunday, March 4, and the first Sunday of the following months. We will have songbooks, or bring your own songs. Instruments are welcome.

Questions? Denise and Jim (878-3702)/dginzler@mindspring.com

Living Faith Gathering

Dear Friends,

The next Living Faith gathering will be held Saturday, April 14, 2018 in Portland, Maine—and you are invited!

Living Faith is an initiative of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends (NEYM) bringing together Quakers from across our region to nourish our faith, grow our communities, and strengthen our witness.

These semiannual, day-long gatherings include large group worship, fellowship and community-building, workshops led by dynamic Friends, an integrated youth program, and opportunities to connect on shared concerns.

Our April 14th Living Faith Gathering will focus on how Friends are living—and can more fully live—our faith in the world, helping to bring about the Beloved Community for all. Through worship, workshops, small groups and more, we will be deepening our capacity to foster the relationships of healing and justice so needed at this time.

Living Faith provides child care for ages infant through 4 years, and a youth program for K through 6th-grade students. Seventh-graders through high-school students can choose to attend the youth program or participate in the adult program and workshops.

In keeping with our Quaker community's commitment to remove barriers to participation, this is a Pay-As-Led event.

Registration will open in early March, so save the date—April 14th!

Workshop Proposals Invited

We are looking for Friends interested in leading workshops at the event. We hope to offer a wide range of opportunities that explore and enrich how we share and live our faith, including the social, political, economic and communal dimensions of our spiritual lives.

Interested in leading a workshop? Click here to learn more and submit a workshop proposal:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSec7ZmQMdGxQY_BUUadJ_XNGZdp08OHFYzlgoGJkMpUQSA1xA/viewform

Questions? Contact a member of the planning committee at livingfaith@neym.org. We hope to see you there!

in faith and service,

The April 2018 Living Faith Planning Team

Lisa Graustein (clerk), Jay O'Hara, Sarah Cushman, Elizabeth Hacala, Hannah Zwirner Forsythe, Noah Merrill

Racism Discussion

An invitation from the clerk of NEYM Ministry & Counsel:

Join Friends exploring how racism has been a part of Quaker history, and how our faith offers us new possibilities today

Read and join the discussion of *Fit for Freedom Not for Friendship: Quakers, African Americans, and the Myth of Racial Justice* (by Donna McDaniel of Framingham [MA] Meeting and Vanessa Julye of Central Philadelphia [PA] Monthly Meeting).

Click here for more information: <https://neym.org/news/join-discussion-fit-freedom-not-friendship>

December-January NEYM Newsletter

New England Yearly Meeting's December newsletter, "Embraced by the Mystery", is at <http://mailchi.mp/neym/decemberjanuary-newsletter-embraced-by-the-mystery?>. Some of the topics it covers are ministry from Cuba, a Dinner Church, public witness, new publications, and opportunities to serve .

Quaker Readers

The Quaker Readers meet on the second Thursday of each month at 4 PM. The location varies. You can download a copy of the Quaker Readers' schedule for the next year from this URL:

QuakerReadersSchedule_Dec2017ToOct2018.pdf (39.8 KB) =>
<https://files.secureserver.net/0sNHantKIuHrKb>

On Thursday, February 8, Quaker Readers will meet at 4 PM at Sandy Isaac's house to discuss *Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis and Thomas Jefferson and the Opening of the American West* by Stephen Ambrose.

Book discussion starts at 4:00. Pot-luck dinner from 6:00 to 7; main course and beverage by host; bringing something is optional, do so only if it is easy.

Andy Linn

On January 27, at 1pm, there will be a memorial Meeting for Andy Linn at Friends Meeting Cambridge

Andy Linn's wife Janet sent a note saying he had struggled for four years with heart trouble so his death was not unexpected but still hard and that he was devoted to Monadnock Meeting Community. Janet and Andy lived in Peterborough for many years. Andy was involved as a leader in the Antrim Boy Scout Troop 2, in FCNL and in the Meeting.

Spring Interfaith Music Tribute

The Greater Peterborough Interfaith Council is excited to announce the upcoming Spring Interfaith Music Tribute!

Come share a Song or Musical Number in celebration of our commonalities amidst the diversity of our how and what we believe!

When: Sunday March 11, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Where: Unitarian Universalist of Peterborough

What: Each participating faith is invited to share a song or musical number of their choice

Good Will Donation: Voluntary donations will be accepted in the form of a check to The River Center in Peterborough in support of the work they do for our community.

Please print out the attached flyer to advertise in your faith communities; also, please encourage a choir or small group to participate!

"For my soul delighteth in the song of the heart" D&C 25:12

Eleanor is doing the MQM contribution.



Saturn
Photo: Cassini probe

**Monadnock Quaker Meeting
Meeting for Worship for Business
December 14, 2017**

Business meeting opened with silent worship. The following Friends were in attendance: Maria Krazinski, Doug Armstrong, Nan Beiter, Sheila Armstrong, JT Dorr-Bremme, Anita Mendes, Barbara Jo Kingsley, Anitra Sorensen, Jackie Stillwell, Peter Kingsley, Jim Giddings, Denise Ginzler, Travis Belcher, Sandy Isaacs, Sheila Garrett, Ed Kerman (assistant clerk), Eleanor Cappa (clerk), Margaret Hawthorn (recording clerk).

17-123: The clerk read from a letter from NEYM describing the work of Edward Baker, a New England Friend who died in October of this year.

17-124: JT Dorr-Bremme spoke about his experience so far with the NEYM Nurturing Worship, Faith, and Faithfulness program in which he and Doug Armstrong are participating. "Faithfulness groups" are a main component of the program. Each participant has a group they work with, addressing, in JT's words, the question, "How are we the individual members of the group serving the will of God?" Home-work involves bringing this practice back to home meetings.

Faithfulness group meetings are very structured, and are explicitly confidential. One person serves as convener, whose main job is to keep the group on task. Another person is the presenter. The presenter speaks for about fifteen minutes on whatever they are working with. Then other members of the group ask "evocative questions" to guide the presenter into the Light, to hold their concerns in that Light and see them more clearly. The experience is powerful, not just for presenter but for all members of group. The roles of questioner and presenter are different, but both are steeped in possibility for deep spiritual experience.

JT and Doug will form separate NWFF groups within Monadnock Meeting - anyone who can make the commitment to come is welcome to join. Relatively small groups of three to six people function best. Groups are meant to last at least through the duration of program, which is May 2018; the hope is they will continue beyond then. On January 7, 2018 a meeting will be held before meeting for worship to answer questions and assign people to groups.

17-125: Margaret Hawthorn reported for Ministry & Counsel committee, which met January 12. Kate Kerman (co-clerk), Bob Diercks (co-clerk), Eleanor Cappa (meeting clerk), Nan Beiter, Denise Ginzler, Craig Jensen, and Margaret Hawthorn were present.

The committee discussed possible names to bring to fill an opening on nominating committee as Judy Brophy's term ends.

Doug Armstrong and JT Dorr-Bremme are both participating in NEYM's Nurturing Worship, Faith and Faithfulness program. They will facilitate separate small groups to put into practice some of what they are learning. Friends still have opportunity to sign up to participate in a group.

We discussed pastoral concerns.

Friends accepted the report.

17-126: Margaret Hawthorn read the Finance Committee's report.

The Finance Committee met on Sunday, December 10th to review the Treasurer's report. At about halfway through our fiscal year, we have received about half of budgeted contributions. A concern was expressed that historically, we've received a disproportionate amount of our contributions in December due to cultural traditions around giving during the holidays. Based on that, we decided to make announcements reminding people to consider contributing. Our next task will be to distribute the annual letter and receipts for the year's contributions, and work is in progress on this.

Friends accepted the report.

17-127: Travis Belcher reported for Meeting House and Grounds Committee, which met on December 7, 2017. Eleanor Cappa, Travis Belcher, Mibs Pell, Maria Krasinski and Anitra Sorensen were present.

We were scheduled to meet with a roofer at the beginning of our meeting, but he did not show up and did not call and leave a message. Eleanor called and determined that he had changed his mind and had tried to call, but failed to leave a message. Eleanor will contact another roofing contractor.

We discussed suggestions about the deck that were brought up at business meeting. There was one suggestion to eliminate the deck entirely and make steps to go out to the lawn. There is quite an elevation drop from the door to the lawn, so this would require steps at two sliding doors that would entail new construction. Another suggestion was to shorten the deck. The committee felt this would not save much, because you could not cut off much without interfering with the ramp.

The committee discussed eliminating the ramp that goes down to the front lawn. This is awkward for wheelchair use as you must travel over the lawn to reach it. We already have two handicapped exits, so this ramp is not needed for egress. This option would save \$215 (pressure treated) or \$495 (Trex).

We would like to discuss the various options for the deck at the next business meeting.

Travis has contacted a water treatment person in Milford. He will arrange for a technician to come and evaluate our system for a cost of \$97. We may need to replace the green sand that is part of the filtration system. Travis learned that the blue crystals can provide more water quickly (for larger numbers of people), but are used up more quickly. The yellow crystals work more slowly and are used up more slowly. Both crystals are backwashed into the septic system, and we are unsure of the environmental impact of this. We hope the technician will explain the workings of the system. After the visit we will write up information about the system for the House and Grounds notebook.

Eight new tables have been delivered. The committee thought they were quite nice. They are all 8 feet long, and we found they were a bit challenging (but not impossible) for one person to handle. Mibs will look into seeing if we could swap 4 of the tables for six-foot tables.

Travis is working on installing an LED light for the parking lot, but has not yet completed the task.

Maria expressed a concern that we should have edging for the driveway where it drops off. Travis said we have this, but it gets dis-lodged every winter from plowing. We discussed using orange driveway markers to help make the drop off more visible.

Our next meeting will be January 4 at 4 pm.

Friends accepted the report.

Comments:

- It's fine to have circles or rectangles for tables, but in the space we have, half and half won't work. It would be good to have some smaller rectangular or square tables, but not a mix.
- Three Friends expressed an appreciation for the presence of the deck, and a preference for repairing rather than eliminating it.
- The committee recommends Trex over pressure treated wood for the deck floor. Trex is longer lasting and not prone to splinters as wood would be.

17-128: Friends agreed to retain the deck and to use Trex for the flooring. The committee will discuss any further questions at its next meeting.

17-129: Ed Kerman reported for Youth Religious Education Committee.

The Youth Religious Education Committee met on Sunday, December 10, 2017. Ed Kerman, Barbara Jo Kingsley, Phoenix Williams, and Robert Kerman were present. The Committee heard reports about the kids' programs of the last month and offered recommendations for improvements in the structure and content. Members of the committee continue to work on planning for programming for younger age participants.

The committee expects to meet next on January 14, 2018.

Friends accepted the report.

17-130: Nominations for Phoenix Williams and Robert Kerman to serve on Youth Religious Education committee were not acted on at this meeting.

17-131: Friends agreed that once the clerk has reviewed the minutes after business meeting, they are to be sent out promptly on the list serve. They will also be included in the newsletter.

17-132: Announcements:

A second hour on questions and concerns about Palestine/Israel is scheduled for January 14 after meeting for worship, with Sandy Isaacs leading it. Friends are asked to look ahead of time at NEYM-IP.org website.

A second hour discussion on 28 January will be a consideration of the two draft documents that the Faith and Practice Revision committee has asked each monthly meeting to comment on: "Membership" and "Personal Spiritual Practices". A couple of weeks beforehand, Doug Armstrong will send out via email more detailed information about what we will be considering.

In response to a concern about holding hands at the close of meeting during flu season, Hospitality Committee will provide a couple bottles of hand sanitizer, which Friends are encouraged to use.

FCNL new agenda for next year will be prevention of possibility for nuclear war with North Korea. Next meeting will be 6:30 on January 10 at the meeting house. Anyone interested in listening from home to the monthly FCNL phone call can speak with Barbara Jo Kingsley to arrange access.

17-133: Friends closed with with worship, intending to meet again on Sunday, January 21, 2018.

Monadnock Quaker Meeting
3 Davidson Road
Jaffrey, NH 03452 603-532-6203
<http://www.monadnockquakermeeting.org/>
Calendar: <http://bit.ly/rrWtIt>
Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/mcl637b>

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