

Annapolis Friends Monthly Meeting (AFM)
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MfB)
Third Month, Second Day, 2025 (3/2/25)

Present were: Ellen McBride (clerk), Phil Caroom (recording clerk), Ben Kilgore, Judy Brown, Jean Christianson, Diane Shandor, Barb Thomas, Canby Robertson, Margaret Holmes, Nan & Sky Elsbree, Kathy Trimmer, Dan Campbell, Martha Lurz, Jack Lahr, Jeanne Ward, Martha Baer, Alison Barrett, Ruth Slavin, Cairn Kraft, Kathleen Hudson, Sylvia Oliva, Fahima Gaheez, Joan P. Miller, Mary Barbera, Marjorie Kehoe, Nancy Jo Steetle, Nona McNatt, Dot Walizer, Jack Hogsten, Marcia Ormsby, Phyllis Singer, Kim Finch, Reece Benson, Ann Riggs, Angela Hicks, Tod —, Joe Miller, Annie Warneka, Karl Richmond, Mary Pratt, Carl Benson, Larry McNeely, Lisa & Jon Hall, and Betty Sue Salvia.

We met both in person and via Zoom, beginning with centering worship and screen-sharing of Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) Faith and Practice queries as to the Meeting Community, as well as a review of our AFM anti-racist queries. Our Clerk thanked Friends for our open-hearted participation in the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business process.

For Ministry & Pastoral Care (MPC) Committee, Nancy Jo Steetle reported that a clearness process has been completed on the request for membership of Reece Benson. (A written report of the Clearness Committee is attached as an appendix to these minutes.) Reece, she reported, is an example of someone whose inward growth gradually has developed into the outward manifestation of his Quaker identity. Reece has many gifts but he modestly describes his work as “just stuff that needs doing.” Asked who he most admired, Reece pointed to the family dog Osage, explaining “the world would be a better place if we all could just be like Osage.” Friends joyfully accepted his membership and Reece thanked Friends.

For Peace & Social Concerns (PSC) Committee, Canby Robertson relayed a request for AFM to host Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting (CQM) on June 8, 2025. She noted that the average number of non-local Friends participating in person in recent months has been about 20. The gathering would begin about 9:15 a.m., with visitors welcome and later participation in AFM Meeting for Worship; it also would offer opportunities for sharing between Meetings and, perhaps, a presentation by AFSC; it would close by about 2:30 p.m. She noted that this event would require a special potluck, possible First Day School, and extra time working on our OWL by our Tech Support Person, Ben. Friends approved AFM’s hosting CQM on 6/8/25.

For Communications & Outreach Committees, Alison Barrett reported that Bonnie Peregoy, as the single member of Outreach, has met with the Communications Committee for a number of months. Bonnie has requested that others take responsibility for participation in a number of festivals and community events, so that she (Bonnie) –as the sole current member of Outreach –could lay down administrative responsibilities for these. Communications could assist with online sign-ups, bulletin boards, and possibly a newsletter – with assistance from Ben. She proposed that a newly combined committee might be named the “Communication and Outreach Committee.” Martha Baer for Gifts and Leading Committee noted that ongoing discussions have been going on to ensure that all Outreach Committee responsibilities will be maintained. Friends approved the combination of the two committees – to be known as Communications & Outreach Committee.

For the Green Group (GG), Marjorie Kehoe reported that the Interfaith Partner of the Chesapeake (IPC) has requested AFM to sign on to a letter requesting establishment of an “interfaith environmental taskforce”; this would be set up via County government and would hold, perhaps,

monthly meetings to discuss local environmental needs and tasks that different congregations might take on. (See attached letter.) She also noted that AFM also might be asked to “contribute our time, energy & resources” to this process; no specific fees or fundraising are contemplated at this time. One Friend urged that we should be cautious about taking on new committee work when we already are consolidating committees to save labor. Marjorie suggested that this could be part of existing GG work and that she personally would be willing to participate. Friends approved the plan for AFM (via our Clerk) to sign on to the Letter of Support for IPC.

For Quaker Market Committee (QMC), Cairn Krafft reported that, during their discernment process for Quaker Spring Market 2025 beneficiaries QMC felt spirit’s leading to recommend causes that demonstrate Friends’ values by standing with the most vulnerable and marginalized, with a particular eye towards protecting youth, families and immigrants. Their recommendations for QSM proceeds include:

- The first \$250 to Young Friends for their own beneficiary discernment process; External (75%) to be divided evenly among three causes: Center of Help (Centro de Ayuda/COH), Citizens Climate Education, and GLSEN - the country’s leading LGBTQ+ education nonprofit; and
- the Internal (25%) to the BYM Camping Program. (See full report attached.)

Friends approved these recommendations. QMC also expressed gratitude to all who submitted beneficiary ideas, as well as others who contributed their knowledge and ideas for consideration.

For announcements, reports & updates, the following items were presented:

- Our Clerk noted that a blended AFM Committee Clerks meeting will be held on March 30 at 9:15 am in the classroom and via Zoom. She requested agenda suggestions and invited nonclerks to attend, as well.

(Belatedly our Clerk also invited Friends to identify themselves before speaking.)

- For Meetinghouse & Land (MHL) Committee, Jeanne Ward offered updates about projects including multipurpose room floor-replacement bid preparations, attempts to contact with AFM’s past architect Evan Lippincott about possible Meeting House renovations, and weather-delayed chimney repairs. MHL also plans to replace the current stove in the kitchen before Spring Market and, after Quaker Spring Market, to replace the hot water heater. (These latter two jobs, still later, will be followed by work to remove our old propane tank & the propane inside of it.) MHL also has received a quote of \$221 and is waiting for a “proof” to replace our AFM street sign at the corner of Dubois and North Bestgate. MHL continues to seek additional electrician bids to repair the homemade portion of AFM’s solar panel system, our EV car chargers, and some other electrical work on various parts of the meetinghouse. And MHL is making plans for a handicapped ramp on the side door & for replacement of some chairs and the round tables. Plus, MHL is looking for a Friend-lu consultant on composting. MHL also thanked Mark Taylor for his generous donation, recently replacing and installing the classroom video screen. Friends offered “huge gratitude” to MHL for these efforts. One Building Use Coordinator (BUC) noted that we need to clean up “all the junk next to the shed” and to stabilize the playground before a summer camp rental arrives in June; another Friend noted that AFM has an existing playground checklist via CREC that we might review. Bonnie said she plans to volunteer to help

review the playground's condition with the help of Mark Taylor and, perhaps, her nephew. MHL invited additional comments from Friends on all these plans after MfB and, if available, a Friendly donation of a replacement used-microwave.

For Communications & Outreach (C&O) Committee, Bonnie reported about a number of 2025 Festivals and an AFM Family Fun Day, noting some volunteers who plan to help with each. These include: i) an Easter morning event followed by a quiet waters event the next Saturday, 1) EarthDay will take place in April; 2) Pride Day the last weekend in May, 3) the Kunta Kinte Festiva; tentatively the second Sat in Sept., 4) an "all-ages" fall family fun day. One Friend asked what the age range is to be considered "a child."

(Another Friend asked if we later could get a report with more details on Meeting's plans for participation in these festivals and events.)

For Green Group (GG), Marjorie Kehoe offered an update regarding Earth Day event. An evening activity on 4/22/25 with a movie, trainer & more is planned. She also thanked friends who helped assemble and install two raised bed/garden carts that may be used with children at the Meeting House. Late winter sowing of seeds –with donated milk jugs–also is planned.

For Stewardship & Finance (S&F) Committee, Jack Lahr offered three progress reports: (see attached): 1) He announced a \$20,000 donation from the Melba Battin family and invited other committees' input for what do do with this donation; tentatively, S&F has considered making this a building fund donation. 2) S&F would welcome more input on our Quick Books system and on possibly moving the financial management system to Aplos which, it is hoped, might occur before September – with some overlap for an orderly transition.

Miscellaneous items:

-Annie Warneka thanked Friends for all the love and support after the recent passing of her mother.

-Dot Walizer, as treasurer, advised Friends that if one emails her seeking a check for some budgeted item via AFM email and receives no answer within 24 hours, she may not have received it due to occasional glitches. Friends should try again, perhaps using her personal email.

Friends approved the foregoing minutes. Due to the shortage of time, other announcements will be share via the AFM announced list including: a) Peace & Social Concerns (PSC) Committee's recommendations as to QMC guidelines and suggested further discernment as to AFM's priorities, fundraising guidelines, etc.; b) a reminder for Ministry & Pastoral Care Committee's Spiritual State of the Meeting plans to take place on March 16; c) a reminder about the Seekers - Foundation Series (see attachments and SFS summary below these minutes); c) Pastoral care initiatives that Marcia Ormsby is leading with sign-up sheets for Friends who want to help with visitations, driving, etc., as well sign up to cook for Light House breakfasts.

We concluded with brief centering silence. -*These minutes respectfully submitted.* - P.Caroom,
Recording Clerk

Report of Clearness Committee for membership of Reece Benson

If ever there was an example of Quaker membership being a public manifestation of something that had already inwardly happened, Reese Benson is that example. As an attender with his family from the time he was elementary school age, he supported experienced Quaker principles through participation in First Day activities, working with his family and AFM's Climate Stewards, active participant and supporter of his sister Kallan's ministry of climate activism.

He has always admired how Quakers "stand up and speak up for what's right." Now a young man, he feels he's always been a Quaker but feels the need to make it formal because for the next few years, it will be very important to "stand up and speak up for what's right."

Now, he's living out those testimonies with his family at the Friends Wilderness Center. Although still discerning his future path, his skilled hands already enable his valuable work, building and repairing buildings at the Friends Wilderness Center, China House and the Quaker Camp Opequon. His big heart skills show up when he patiently works with children and animals. His genuine modesty keeps him from naming the work of his hands, heart and presence as true gifts, calling it "just stuff that needs doing".

His clearness committee joyfully recommends this gifted man Reece for membership in our meeting and looks forward to his presence among us for years to come.

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Appendix - Reece's original (email) letter of 12/5/24 requesting membership:

I feel like I am already a part of the community
I like what Quakers stand for in the current uncertainty of the world
I want it to be clear that I am a Quaker, and I stand with Quakers.
For the most part I feel like I already do.

In the past, I didn't see much reason to officially become a Quaker because I already considered myself to be Quaker.

Now, I feel more of a reason to be officially recognized as a Quaker.
The process doesn't seem like as much of a barrier.

Annapolis Friends Meeting
351 Dubois Road
Annapolis, MD 2001
Clerk@annapolisfriends.org | 410-573-0364
March 2, 2025

Arundel Community Development Services, Inc.
2666 Riva Road, Suite 210 Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Sincerely,

Subject: Letter of Support for Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake's Community Support Grant Application

Ellen McBride
Clerk of Meeting
Annapolis Friends Meeting

Dear Arundel Community Development Services, Inc.,

On behalf of Annapolis Friends Meeting, I am writing to express our strong support for Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake's (IPC) application for the Anne Arundel County Community Support Grant. This funding will enable IPC to establish a much-needed Interfaith Environmental Task Force, bringing together diverse faith leaders to collaborate on pressing environmental challenges in our county. The decision to support IPC in this way is documented in the Annapolis Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business on March 1, 2025.

Currently, there is no formal task force in Anne Arundel County that unites faith leaders specifically to address environmental concerns. While individual congregations, including ours, have taken steps to care for the Chesapeake Bay watershed and broader environment through projects such as tree plantings, stormwater management, and educational initiatives, these efforts often remain siloed. A dedicated task force will provide a structured, collaborative space for faith communities to share resources, align efforts, and advocate for environmental justice, ensuring that our collective impact is both greater and more equitable.

Likewise, creation of an Interfaith Task Force of this nature will allow congregations, such as Annapolis Friends Meeting, with maintenance needs to elevate those needs to the task force community, and garner assistance in maintaining current projects.

As stewards of this 64,000 square mile watershed, Annapolis Friends Meeting supports the concept that faith communities have a moral and spiritual responsibility to protect the environment and uplift vulnerable populations disproportionately affected by environmental harm. This task force will create an avenue for faith leaders to work together, amplify their voices, and drive meaningful and positive environmental change in our local communities.

Annapolis Friends Meeting is committed to actively participating in the task force. We look forward to contributing our time, insights, and resources to this initiative, engaging in meetings,

helping to identify key environmental justice priorities, and working alongside fellow congregations to implement solutions that benefit both people and the planet.

We urge the grant committee to support this proposal, as it represents an innovative and essential step toward uniting faith communities in environmental action across Anne Arundel County. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Ellen McBride
Clerk of Meeting
Annapolis Friends Meeting

CC: Green Group, an Annapolis Friends Meeting team who are focused on environmental protection

Quaker Market Committee

Report to meeting for worship with attention to business

3rd month 2025

In these troubled times, Quaker Markets offer us as individuals and as a faith community, ways in which we can still do good in the world, and an opportunity to let our lives speak as to our values and beliefs. Although standing with the most marginalized and vulnerable is always one of the Quaker Market Committee's considerations during our discernment process, at this time in our country, this resonated as more imperative than ever. As you will see from our recommendations, committee members felt especially drawn to protecting youth.

Since the Quaker Market Committee (QMC) relies on the AFM community to submit beneficiary ideas to consider during discernment, we would like to thank those who submitted ideas, as well as additional Friends who contributed their knowledge and ideas for consideration to areas of interest that bubbled up during the discernment process.

As currently required by AFM's 2005 fundraising policy, P&SC Committee has reviewed QMC's beneficiary recommendations for Quaker Spring Market (QSM) 2025. P&SC has relayed that they are not in disagreement with QMC's recommendations.

QMC is seeking approval from mfb for the following allocation of proceeds from Quaker Spring Market 2025:

The first \$250 to Young Friends for their own beneficiary discernment process.

External (75%) to be divided evenly among the following three causes:

Center of Help (Centro de Ayuda/COH)

Citizens Climate Education

GLSEN

Internal (25%):

BYM Camping Program

Since QMC sees part of its mission as raising awareness of what recommended causes do as well as raising funds to support that work, we would like to provide some background on the causes and thoughts as to how they align with our Quaker values, beliefs and identity.

Center of Help (Centro de Ayuda/COH) is a small local non-profit that has served as a vital resource for immigrant families in Anne Arundel County for over 25 years. Their mission is to empower, educate and connect immigrants with resources to promote self-sufficiency and to

advocate for the successful integration of the immigrant community into Anne Arundel County

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and the surrounding areas. They provide programs in three main categories: Family Services, Educational Services, and Mental Health Services. They use an integrated approach designed to address the needs of the entire family in a holistic manner.

Recent information from Centro de Ayuda states:

“Right now, immigrant families in our community are living in fear. Parents are rushing to secure passports for their U.S.-born children. Families are avoiding hospitals, even in emergencies. Others are too afraid to send their children to school or even leave their homes... Every day, our team works tirelessly to guide families through these challenges—helping them access critical resources, navigate complex systems, and find the support they need to move forward. We provide mental health support to those struggling with anxiety and fear. We offer educational programs that empower immigrants to build a stable future.”

AFM’s own Mary Dadone has been involved with Centro de Ayuda for the last 3.5 years, and Chairperson of the Board for the last three years. She continues to work tirelessly to secure funding for this work, for example through a matching grant currently in place with the Hussman Foundation, or even through a possible merger of Centro de Ayuda with another small local non-profit that provides similar services, OHLA. Centro de Auyda has been doing critical work in support of the immigrant families now under direct attack by the current administration. QMC hopes that AFM will see approval of Centro de Auyda as a QSM beneficiary as a way to stand with immigrants, support a small local cause working diligently to support immigrants in these desperate times, honor the dedicated work of Mary Dadone and her late partner, Jim Hall, and align with Friends’ concerns for anti-racism, human rights, and vulnerable populations.

<https://centerofhelp.org/>; <https://ohlamd.org/>

Citizens Climate Education (CCE) is a nonpartisan grassroots advocacy organization founded in 2007 that empowers people from diverse backgrounds to educate key stakeholders, policy makers, and the general public about effective solutions to climate change. CCE is a 501(c)3 organization that provides training, tools, resources, and coordination to help volunteers become effective advocates for climate solutions. CCE’s sister organization, Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL), is a 501(c)4 non-profit organization that supports lobbying efforts on specific climate legislation. CCE actively works with both Democratic and Republican policymakers, to make climate change a bridge issue (rather than a wedge issue) in Congress. As the Friend who submitted CCE for beneficiary consideration stated, “Donations to CCE would support tried and true methods of advocacy to all sides of the debate. CCE would use funds to further their education and outreach. These days it will be particularly hard to accomplish the things we hope

to, but it is a particularly good year to reach across the aisle and encourage stewardship of our shared planet.”

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CCE’s website indicates that they seek to integrate Diversity, Equity and Inclusion practices through all levels of the organization, especially important since data indicate that people who are Black or Hispanic and children are more likely to be disproportionately impacted by worsening climate change. CCE provides youth-specific programming to support young people in becoming effective climate advocates. The inclusion of Citizens Climate Education in QMC’s recommendations speaks to Friends’ values of anti-racism, equality and stewardship, and our work to preserve the planet we are leaving to our children and future generations.

<https://citizensclimateeducation.org/>

GLSEN was founded by a group of teachers in 1990, who knew that educators play key roles in creating affirming learning environments for LGBTQ+ youth. For 35 years GLSEN has championed safe, inclusive K-12 environments where children can thrive and learn free from fear, worked to build acceptance and protection for LGBTQ+ students, centered and uplifted student-led movements, conducted extensive and original research to inform evidence-based solutions for K-12 education, and advised on, advocated for, and researched comprehensive policies designed to protect LGBTQ+ students as well as students of marginalized identities. At this moment in time, when there are currently 390 bills targeting LGBTQ+ rights in the United States (as reported by CNN) and, since 2022, GLSEN has itself been targeted by name in a number of hate incidents across the country, GLSEN will be responding by reworking their most tried and true methods: shaping the national conversation on systemic changes and education justice (informed by young people themselves), strengthening their national movement by working locally across the country, and equipping youth, families and educators with the necessary support, training, tools, strategies and networks to create change in their communities.

With Gallup recently reporting LGBTQ+ self-identification in 2024 at 9.3% of the US adult population at the same time that this population is under such widespread attack, QMC hopes that AFM will approve GLSEN as a QSM beneficiary as an opportunity to let our actions speak that we stand as allies with this targeted population. Gallup states that the boost has a lot to do with young people, who have been much more likely than older generations to identify as something other than heterosexual. Within the AFM community, one Friend speaking in support of GLSEN as a QSM beneficiary notes “the tremendous pressures on LGBTQ teenagers and young people, especially recently. The world they thought they would be entering is turned around and become much more dangerous... GLSEN is doing actual program work on behalf of educators and students.” By supporting GLSEN as a QM beneficiary, AFM would be following the earlier lead of Young Friends, when their 2020 discernment led them to support GLSEN.

When asked about the current decision in front of us, the CREC clerk of the time noted, “I think

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it is worthy enough that Young Friends discerned it [GLSEN] as worthy in 2020 and they are being proactive about responding to anti LGBTQIA efforts with students.”

<https://www.glsen.org/>

The **BYM Camping Program** has been recommended to QMC for consideration as a QSM beneficiary. Apparently, the way BYM runs summer camps, with a high staff to camper ratio and for the last three years a sliding payment scale designed to make it more feasible for all interested kids to attend, regardless of ability to pay the full actual cost, has left the BYM 2025 budget \$50K in the hole, even after major cuts all around the BYM system. BYM plans to send a fundraising appeal to all monthly meetings inviting them to make a donation in addition to the apportionment that monthly meetings chip in to support our yearly meeting expenses.

The BYM camping program (consisting of camps at Catoctin, Opequon and Shiloh, plus Teen Adventure) has benefited and transformed many AFM Young Friends over the years, as well as Young Friends from the broader BYM community, and campers from beyond the traditional BYM community. From the BYM website, “BYM camps provide opportunities for enrichment and leadership building in a wilderness environment and STRIDE is committed to ensuring that young people from all racial, geographical, and economic backgrounds have the opportunity to benefit from such an environment. In addition, we feel strongly that the young people we support contribute much to the communities they are a part of and that all benefit from their presence at the camp.”

At this moment in our country, QMC believes that the BYM camping program is needed now more than ever. As the new BYM Interim Camping Program Manager shared recently: *“This summer, many kids may need camp more than ever. I’ve been thinking a lot about courage and joy lately. The anticipation of camp may be what gives them the courage and resolve to persevere in a world that is daily becoming more hostile to the most vulnerable communities in our country... That courage needs to walk lockstep with a commitment to feel and experience joy, collectively, in a moment when the powers that be want us to shut down and give up—and our camps are a place where campers, families and volunteers can experience that joy.”* Friend Zora speaks QMC’s mind. We hope AFM’s mfb will find a sense of unity on including the BYM Camping Program as a QSM 2025 beneficiary.

**MEETING FOR BUSINESS UPDATES FROM
THE STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 26,2025**

S&F seeks to provide these updates and reports to keep you advised of developments and plans that are underway, but not yet far enough along for MfB action. To this end we encourage your input and suggestions sooner rather than later. We hopefully will end up with recommendations that already reflect input well beyond the committee members.

Disposition of our \$20,000 donation from the Melba Battin family. Before we make a recommendation to the MfB we welcome the benefit of any thoughts and recommendations from the clerks of all our committees, preferably by the end of March. We now have the suggestion that these funds be transferred to the Building Fund in the absence of significant alternatives. Meanwhile, this donation will be provisionally transferred in escrow to an existing account, likely undesignated reserves or a suitable alternative.

Engaging outside Quickbooks support. With the end of Karen Cunyningham's key S&F official participation on the S&F committee and no other in-house Quickbooks expertise we are considering hiring an experienced Quickbooks professional on a limited, part-time basis, to collaborate on quarterly reports and become sufficiently abreast of our system to aid our co-treasurer Dorothy Walizer as needed. Karen has graciously offered to make herself available in this transition time. To this end, our Jenny Isaacs has been in contact with Elizabeth (Liz) Delmar, an experienced bookkeeping professional, recommended by our Carl Benson and now assisting two other Friends organizations.

Moving our financial software program from Quickbooks to Aplos. Over the past 18 months expensive research and consideration was given to switching our accounting software from Quickbooks. We are exploring the financial software provider Aplos (see www.Aplos). This due diligence continues, with a tentative plan to seek a vendor quote that takes into account our historical financial data, expense projections and the like. We understand that such a transition should take place only at the beginning of a fiscal year, in our case January 1, 2026. If we proceed we would run Quickbooks in tandem with Aplos the last quarter of 2025. Jenny Isaacs is our Project Coordinator. We have a \$500 MfB authorization for expenditure of tech/engineering consulting services. MfB will be fully involved in the transition decisions if we proceed.

Your comments and questions are welcomed. Stay tuned for further developments.

Jack Lahr, clerk (jacklahr@gmail.com)

The suggested queries for this year's Spiritual State of the Meeting process have been shared:

- How does the Spirit prosper among you?
- In what ways are we tenderly eldering and educating adults and children in the manner of Friends to deepen our Vocal Ministry?
- How do we maintain the spirit of openness and humility as we proclaim our testimonies and live them?
- As we work for peace, are we nourished by peace and justice within and among ourselves?

Addendum: Describe specific ways your Meeting works to become an anti-racist and justice-seeking community.

- Ministry & Pastoral Care

ministry-pastoralcare@annapolisfriends.org

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ATTACHMENT:

Quaker Foundations: the Seekers' Series schedule

1. Introduction To Quaker Faith And Practice — Jan 26 Elise Albert/Margaret Holmes
Discussion of the foundation of Quaker faith and spiritual practice and the Quaker concept of divinity (The Light, the Inner Teacher, the Christ within, continuing revelation).
Query: What brought you to Quakerism? What keeps you coming?

2. Quaker Faith, Testimonies, and Social Justice - Feb. 9 Jenny Isaacs/Martha Baer
How do our beliefs translate to our actions in the world?
Queries: Have you been inspired by your faith or your beliefs to be engaged in any social justice actions? If so, how does your faith sustain you? Which testimony feels most challenging in your life now?

3. Quaker Christianity And Quaker Universalism - Feb. 23 Phil Caroom/Judy Brown
Many people ask if Quakers are Christian. Quaker faith and practice arose in a Christian context, and yet many of the beliefs and practices are relevant and helpful for those who are not necessarily traditional Christians. Quaker Universalism allows for a deep and genuine appreciation of the arising of Spirit in all religions and spiritual paths.
Query: What was the religion or religious orientation of your childhood; how has that shaped you?

4. Quaker Process - March 9 Ellen McBride/Mary Barbera
Meetings for Business, reaching unity, committees, membership, structure of monthly meetings and yearly meetings, list of other Quaker organizations.
Query: How do Quaker decision-making processes reflect the principles of Quaker faith?

5. Seekers And Finders: The Early Quaker Movement And The Experiences That Defined Quaker Faith And Practice - March 23 Ann Riggs/Barbara Thomas
This session will give more context and background for the understanding of Quaker faith and practice – why no ministers (in unprogrammed meetings)? The idea that we don't just take from the teachings of others but find our own truth in the context of a community of seekers. (story of James Naylor?), Clearness Committees to search for "truth."
Query: Are there any things about the experience of early Friends that speak to you?

6. Quaker Worship And Vocal Ministry - April 13 TBD
What has been your experience of Quaker worship; have you had a range of experiences; do you have questions? We'll explore the intentions and experiences of Quaker worship; we will also talk about how we discern whether to speak in Meeting or not – what is the nature of vocal ministry that distinguishes it from just sharing ideas? What do we mean by Holding someone in the Light? Is that different from praying for them?