

# BETHESDA FRIENDS MEETING

*Religious Society of Friends*

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*BFM newsletter June 2018 Version for web*

## Query for June: Stewardship

How do we cherish and protect the beauty and balance of the natural world? How do we demonstrate our belief that our lives, talents, and resources are gifts from God, to be held in trust and shared according to the Light we are given? How do we as individuals and as a Meeting support one another in nurturing those gifts and in our search for a simpler life?

## June 2018 Calendar

Meeting for Worship is held at 11:00 a.m. every First Day. The meeting room is also available at 9:30 a.m. for those desiring a smaller, quieter Meeting for Worship, except on the first First day of each month, when Meeting for Business is held at 9:00 a.m. We have a mid-week Meeting for Worship at BFM on Wednesdays, at 7:30 p.m., and a worship group in Boyds the second Sunday of the month at 11:00 a.m.

1 to 3			BFM at Camp Catocin, stay a few hours or a few days!
1 to 6			Pendle Hill: Continuing Revolution
2		10:00 a.m.	Adelphi Strawberry Festival, Adelphi Friends Meeting
3	Sun	9:00 a.m.	Meeting for Business (Child Care is Provided)
		11:00 a.m.	First Day School: Worship & Multi-age Activity
		12:00 noon	Potluck at Camp Catocin
		12:30 p.m.	Adult Religious Education Committee, Teachers' Lounge
		12:30 p.m.	Change Group Meeting, Teachers' Lounge Annex
9	Sat	10:00 a.m.	BYM Interim Mtg Day, Frederick Frds Mtg, Frederick MD
		1:30 p.m.	BFM Book Group in the BFM Library
		4:30 p.m.	Capital Pride Parade, meet at FMW
10	Sun	9:30 a.m.	ARE: Spiritual Formation Information Session, Music Rm.
		11:00 p.m.	First Day School: Worship & Classes
		12:30 p.m.	First Day School Potluck Picnic
		12:30 p.m.	Quaker Participation in the Capital Pride Festival

		1:00 p.m.	Library Committee, BFM Library
		7:30 p.m.	Experiment with Light Session
11	Mon	7:00 p.m.	Second Monday: Addressing Homelessness in Mont. County
13	Wed	8:30 p.m.	Summer Newsletter Deadline
15	Fri	7:00 p.m.	Silent Retreat for Friends at Dayspring, Germantown MD
17	Sun	9:00 a.m.	Committee Day: Pastoral Care and Ministry & Worship
		9:30 a.m.	Committee Day: Rel. Ed., O&C, & Stewardship & Fin.
24	Sun	9:15 a.m.	Peace & Social Justice Committee, Teachers' Lounge
		9:30 a.m.	ARE: Good Grief: Co-Creating Ourselves, Music Room
		12:15 p.m.	FMW: Muslim Responses in the US since 9/11 & Beyond
		7:30 p.m.	Experiment with Light
25	Mon	5:00 p.m.	BYM Annual Sessions Early Reg. Deadline (25% off)

### The Social Concerns Box

The Social Concerns Box for June is for Jubilee Jobs, which since 1981, has placed nearly 25,000 people into marketplace employment. Work for sustenance, dignity, and hope describes the common goals Jubilee Jobs shares with those in need, including those who are homeless, in recovery, ex-offenders, public welfare recipients, and recent immigrants. It provides continuing support for up to two years. See [www.jubileejobs.org](http://www.jubileejobs.org) to learn more and to volunteer.

**In April, we raised \$7,268 for Ramallah Friends School scholarships** in the Social Concerns Box.

### Religious Education

June 3: Junior Meeting for Worship with a concern for business and planning for the June 10 picnic and games. Outdoor play.

June 10: Worship and last day of classes, K-2nd and 3rd-8th. and please plan to join us for Family Potluck Picnic at rise of Meeting.

From June 17 to September 16, there will be supervised play with child care staff for K to 6th graders. Young people in 7th grade and up are encouraged to attend Meeting for Worship from 11:00 a.m. to noon or for 30 to 45 minutes before leaving the Meeting Room quietly to read in the library or visit with friends in the courtyard. For oversight, all young people must stay with or near child care staff until they join their parents at the rise of Meeting.

An online parenting workshop is now offered through the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Quaker Parenting Initiative. For details, see: <http://quakerparenting.org>  
The Religious Education Committee, through the Chevalier Fund, can cover tuition expenses.

### Report on Spring Fling

From the first notes of Clay Steinwinter's sax, Spring Fling 2018 flourished on the lift of your loving labor and great generosity. At the same time, we celebrated the possible arrival of spring for the third or fourth time in 2018. We made one another and our children happy. We worked through fatigue happily. And we honored ourselves and Palestinian friends we've never met by joining cause with Ramallah Friends School and especially its financial aid program. Many thanks to all.

As of May 13, the total proceeds were \$19,455.98:  
 Silent Auction, \$7,305.50  
 White Camel, \$1,128.70  
 Plant Sale, \$342  
 T-Shirts & Olive Oil, \$700

General Spring Fling contributions, \$2,711.78  
April Social Concerns Box, \$7,268

## Events

### **1st to 3rd: BFM Camp Catoctin Weekend**

Our weekend at Camp Catoctin this year will be from Friday, June 1 at 4:00 p.m. through Sunday, June 3 at 3:00 p.m. Come for part of a day or the whole weekend—or whatever works for you! There will be plenty of opportunity for relaxation, water play, and fellowship. Simple meals will be provided (sandwich fixings and lentil sloppy Jones for lunch, spaghetti and salad for dinner), and on Saturday evening we'll make s'mores by the fireplace. Feel free to bring additional food for yourselves or to share.

Catoctin Quaker Camp has 385 acres of beautiful wooded hills and a grassy meadow with a small lake for canoeing and a lovely rocky stream. An old stone lodge attached to a large camp kitchen and dining room provides a cozy place to gather. There are four cabins with electricity and 12 screened houses with bunks. There are places for tents as well. A new highlight is the recently renovated bathhouse! This is an unstructured weekend for all ages, so come prepared to enjoy the outdoors with family and friends. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Library. Friends are asked to contribute as they are able toward our rental and food expenses. The suggested contribution is \$20/adult. Catoctin Quaker Camp is at 12611 Tower Road, Thurmont MD 21788. See: <http://bymcamps.org/camp-rentals/calendar-of-catoctin/>

### **1st to 6th: Pendle Hill: Continuing Revolution: Building Intentional Lives**

Young Adult Friends and seekers (18-35) have a great opportunity to look at creating lives of intention and integrity by exploring justice, love, work, and spirituality. [The workshop](#) will be from June 1 to 6 at Pendle Hill in Wallingford PA. The list of facilitators is truly impressive. Register ASAP. or Ross Henessy (rhenessy@pendlehill.org)

### **2nd: Adelphi Friends Meeting Strawberry Festival**

On Saturday, June 2, Adelphi Friends Meeting will hold its 2018 Strawberry Festival from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at 2303 Metzert Road in Adelphi MD (between Riggs Road and Adelphi Road). The festival is a long-standing community event and day of fun for the whole family. The festival has a live-entertainment stage and outdoor grilled-food tent, an indoor cafe and sale of quarts and flats of just-picked strawberries from Oak Grove Farm in southern Pennsylvania. There is a large rummage sale, with additional areas for silent auction, clothing, plants, and a full room of used books. The children's area has a bounce house, train rides, face painting, and games. Come for the fun and leave with great bargain purchases of clothes, electronics, books, and more. The Strawberry Festival is a rain or shine event. To learn more: [www.adelphifriends.org/strawberry](http://www.adelphifriends.org/strawberry)

### **3rd: Meeting for Business**

On Sunday, June 3 at 9:00 a.m. Bethesda F(f)riends will consider various business items. How the Spirit will lead us in discernment of issues both large and small is part of the mystery that is the Religious Society of Friends. All who come to Meeting for Worship are welcome and encouraged to participate in our worship. On the agenda this month are reports from Spring Fling and William Penn House. The ad hoc Nominating Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee will be appointed. Child care up to age 12 is provided.

### **9th: BYM Interim Meeting**

Get to know Yearly Meeting committees and Friends from other Meetings! Be a part of important decision making. Join Friends for morning committee meetings and the afternoon's Interim Business Meeting. Frederick Friends Meeting (723 North Market Street) in Frederick MD is hosting the Sixth Month Interim Meeting. Friends will begin gathering at 10:00 a.m. Lunch will be provided. In the afternoon, Meeting for Business is from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner at the rise of Meeting. For details: 301- 774-7663, [www.bym-rsf.org](http://www.bym-rsf.org)

### **9th/10th: Capital Pride Parade & Festival**

BFM is again joining other Quaker Meetings in the area in supporting outreach at the Capital Pride Parade and Festival on June 9 and 10. Folks are encouraged to participate. Friends from area Meetings will meet at Friends Meeting of Washington (2111 Florida Avenue NW) to march as a group in the parade on June 9 (4:30 to 7:30 p.m.). At the Pride Festival on Pennsylvania Avenue on June 10, there will be a Quaker booth from noon to 7:00 p.m.; please consider signing up for a 2-hour shift. For details about the events, see: <http://www.capitalpride.org/events/parade-2018/>  
<http://www.capitalpride.org/events/festival-2018/>

### **9th: Quaker Book Group**

The Quaker Book Group meets monthly, in the BFM Library from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Newcomers are always welcome (even if you have not read the book!). Since the time and date can change on short notice, please join the Book Group List Serve. By joining the list serve, you can participate in the online discussions, read the post-meeting summary, and help choose the next book. For details:

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/bfm-book-group>

### **10th: ARE: Spiritual Formation Information Session**

Many people at BFM have expressed interest in a spiritual formation program. This is your chance to learn about spiritual formation programs and hear from people who have experienced them. We will also have people talk about their experience with spiritual friendship groups. We will have specific information about the spiritual formation program offered by Baltimore Yearly Meeting, for which registration opens this summer. Join us in the Music Room, across the patio, at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome.

### **10th: Potluck Picnic**

The Sidwell Friends Lower School kitchen will be closed and unavailable to us for the summer, beginning June 1, so the First Day School is planning a potluck picnic on Sunday, June 10, at the rise of Meeting. All are welcome.

### **10th: Up-County Worship Group**

Live up-County? Friends would welcome our attendance at the Up-County Meeting for Worship in Boyds MD at 11:00 a.m., the second Sunday of the month. Worship is followed by a potluck lunch.

### **10th/24th: Experiment with Light**

How do we quiet our brains enough to hear the still, small voice within us? How might we deepen our experience of Meeting for Worship? Experiment with Light is a meditative and centering

practice based upon Rex Ambler's book *Light to Live By*, which describes early Quaker meditative habits and translates them into a highly accessible process of clearness and understanding.

There will be two sessions on Sunday, evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.: June 10 and June 24.

### **11th: Second Mondays: Homelessness in Montgomery County**

On Monday June 11, BFM will sponsor a program on Homelessness in Montgomery County at the newly-named Connie Morella Library in Bethesda from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. The program will start with a short film from County Cable Montgomery called "A Place to Call Home," which focuses on the Point of Time Count that occurs every third week in January to count the number of homeless people in the County. Then there will be a panel discussion on problems and solutions for homelessness with John Mendez from Bethesda Cares, Christine Hong from Interfaith Works, Susie Sinclair-Smith from the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless and Betsy Bowman from EveryMind. BFM has been a long-time supporter of Interfaith Works and more recently Bethesda Cares. This event is free and open to the public. The library is at 7400 Arlington Road.

### **15th to 17th: Silent Retreat for Friends at Dayspring**

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 from the evening of Friday, June 15 to Sunday afternoon, June 17. 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. The Dayspring Retreat Center is located at 11301 Neelsville Church Road, Germantown MD 20876. You can arrive any time between 3:30 and 7:00 p.m. Friday. (Dinner at 7:00 p.m.) The cost of the retreat is \$220. The registration deadline is June 8.

### **24th: ARE: Good Grief: Co-Creating Ourselves by the Choices We Make**

On Sunday, June 24, at 9:30 a.m. in the Music Room (basement) of the SAM Building, across the patio from the Meeting House, we will have a facilitated discussion of the tasks of grieving and the practices that help us integrate our grieving (to prevent us from getting stuck in it). The presentation is called "Good Grief: Co-Creating Ourselves by the Choices We Make." The presenter is an LCSWC, practicing psychotherapist, retired Bereavement Counselor, and author of *My House Burned Down and Now I Can See the Stars: Reflections on Losing and Finding*.

### **24th: FMW: Muslim Responses in the US since 9/11 and Beyond**

The Friends Meeting of Washington Sanctuary Task Force has invited us to a presentation and discussion on the Muslim Responses in the US since 9/11 and Beyond. The Muslim community has been targeted since 9/11 by the government and society. What are the ways that Muslims have been targeted and how has this shaped their experiences? What is being done at the local and national levels to improve or exacerbate the problems? How can we support the Muslim community? Dr. Maha Hilal is Co-Director of Justice for Muslims, an organizer with Witness Against Torture, and a Council Member of the School of the Americas Watch. Dr. Hilal has worked extensively in the anti-torture field and is currently a Co-Principle Investigator with the Torture Treatment Initiative at Tulane University's Traumatology Institute. The presentation will be given on Sunday, June 24, at 12:15 p.m. in the Meeting room at Friends Meeting of Washington, 2111 Florida Ave. NW.

## **Into the Future**

### **July 1st to 7th: Friends General Conference (FGC) Gathering**

The FGC Gathering this year will be at the University of Toledo, in Toledo OH. The theme is “The Power of Truth.” The Gathering is a chance to be together with over 1,200 Friends. There are many opportunities to address spirit, mind, and body. Look up the program for this year at [www.fgcGathering.org](http://www.fgcGathering.org) You can enjoy lots of activities: singing, dancing, good food, and good conversation. You really ought to go to a Gathering at least once. There are both half-gathering and part-time attender options for adults. For details, see: [www.fgcquaker.org](http://www.fgcquaker.org)

### **July 30th to August 5th: Baltimore Yearly Meeting Annual Session**

Friends from this area will gather from July 30 to August 5 this year at Hood College in Frederick MD. The theme is “Radical Listening; Rooted in Love.” We will listen as Plenary speaker Joyce Ajlouny, AFSC General Secretary, and Carey Lecturer Colin Saxton, FUM General Secretary, each offer a perspective that draws on their own personal experience with spiritual formation and transformation. With Godly Play leader, Melinda Wenner Bradley, all ages will experience listening to stories as a tool for learning. A wide range of workshops and interest groups will also carry out various aspects of the theme or give us a chance to experience listening for new ideas and making connections. All children from birth through 8th grade can attend at no cost - for free! You can learn more about workshops and interest groups in the Spring Interchange which will be coming out very soon or at: [www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession](http://www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession)

Please note that the deadline for early registration, with a 25% discount on costs is Monday, June 25. BFM has \$50 certificates available to help you attend the Annual Sessions. For details, consult the Friendly Ear at the rise of Meeting.

## **Committee Notes**

### **Hospitality**

The Fellowship & Hospitality Committee is looking for volunteers to provide refreshments at the rise of meeting during the month of June. We would ideally like to have two volunteers for each first day to bring snacks. Different committees are responsible for hospitality during other months of the year, but in June we rely on volunteers.

### **Stewardship & Finance**

It's that time of year when we ask for your financial support of the Meeting and the charitable efforts the Meeting supports. In order to meet our budget goals, we need to receive your contribution before June 30, when the Meeting's fiscal year ends. The Meeting depends on individual financial contributions for its income. Therefore, your giving is an important affirmation of solidarity with our Friends community. Contributions, no matter what size, are greatly appreciated. Please make a contribution to the Meeting that is generous in relation to your means. When deciding how much to give, consider the value of our Meeting to you, to your family, and to the lives of others touched by the Meeting.

Our budget not only supports our own Meeting, it also unites us with our local community, with Quaker organizations more generally, and with the wider world. In addition to covering the Meeting's direct expenses and our support for Baltimore Yearly Meeting, approximately 35 percent of our funds go to other charitable causes, including the American Friends Service Committee and the Friends Committee on National Legislation.

There are five ways to make your financial contribution:

1. Write a check payable to Bethesda Friends Meeting, and mail it to our Assistant Treasurer.
2. Credit card via PayPal (no PayPal account required). At [www.bethesdafriends.org](http://www.bethesdafriends.org), click on “Support the Meeting” on the right side of the screen, and then follow the prompts.
3. The contribution box (for BFM) in the Meeting House can be used for cash or checks.
4. Automatic transfers from your checking account. First, decide transfer frequency (monthly or quarterly), the amount of each transfer, and the date for each transfer. Then contact the BFM Treasurer.
5. Donated securities.

## **Religious Education & Child Care**

During the summer months, there will be supervised play for elementary school-aged children. One of our new staff members will lead the playground supervision beginning on June 17. If the weather is not conducive to being outside, the supervised play will be in the Groome Building.

Child Care will continue during the summer for children who are 6 months through pre-K.

Can you help as a volunteer to assist these paid providers? [Please sign up here.](#)

## **Meeting Notes**

### **Peace Notes**

Last month’s Peace Note described the Poor People’s Campaign. Below is a preview of the thematic weeks of the forty days of action (from May 13 to June 23). Learn more at:

<https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/events>.

May 27 to June 2: The war economy: militarism and the proliferation of gun violence

June 3 to 9: The right to health and a healthy planet: ecological devastation and health care

June 10 to 16: Everybody’s got the right to live: education, living wage jobs, income, housing

June 17 to 22: A new and unsettling force: confronting the distorted moral narrative

June 23: Global day of solidarity and sending forth the call to action mass rally in Washington

DC.