

# The Daily Miracle

Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

**Monday July 16, 2018**

## Schedule

6:20-7:00am	Outdoor Worship (in front of Pine Lodge)
7:00-8:00	Breakfast
7:30-8:00	Quaker Center's online worship group (Plenary tent)
8:00-9:00	Worship (Plenary tent)
9:15-10:40	Worship Sharing or Aging in the Light (Carson) or Early Quaker Writings (Fireside)
11:00-12:30	Plenary V
12:45-1:30	Lunch
1:30-2:55	Worship Sharing or Bible Study (Fireside)
3:15-4:45	Interest Groups III
4:45-5:30	PYM Committee Listening Time
5:30-6:30	Dinner
6:45-8:15	Plenary VI
8:00-10:00	Dance (Theme: Radical 80's)
8:30-10:00	Tabling Fair

## Interest Groups 3:15-4:45

**Personal Relationships and the “Me Too” Watershed.** *Carl Magruder and Laura Magnani, co-clerks Faith and Practice Revision. Plenary Tent*

The Faith and Practice Revision Committee has been struggling with the language in the Advices and Queries on Personal Relationships. Walking in Spirit we are asked to reflect on how we relate to each other and how to build truly respectful relationships. Is the current language in the Discipline too explicit about sexual abuse? When boundaries are broken, how can healing happen in ways that do not create more brokenness?

**Friendly Tech Show and Tell.** *Members of Communications Committee. Carson Room*

Come learn about using our online virtual committee meeting service and hear what is happening on the tech front from Western Friend, North Pacific, Intermountain, and Pacific yearly meetings. We will also discuss the 'digital divide': as Friendly communications make greater use of the web, social media and other technology, how do we ensure that friends without internet access or who are challenged navigating 'the web' are not sidelined from important communications and information?

**Building an Intergenerational, Diverse, Inclusive Friends Community.** *Youth Programs Coordinating Committee. Fireside6*

An active, interactive opportunity for all ages, facilitated by members of the PYM Youth Programs Coordinating Committee and building on this year's PYM Annual Session theme of "Faithfulness, Radical Vulnerability, and Love." Includes some concepts reaped from attending the Reunión General / General Meeting of Friends in Mexico in May 2018, the theme of which was "Are our young people called to serve God?"

**Water is Life.** *Jessi and Graciela Martinez, Self-Help Enterprises (SHE). P&SO. Bobcat*

"Getting to the Roots of California's Drinking Water crisis." Come learn about what community leaders are doing to meet the challenge of delivering water to their rural communities across California's San Joaquin Valley.

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**The Fruits of 45 Years Working for Guatemala's Education.** *Miguel Costop. Latin American Concerns. Garden Room*

A summary of the work, challenges and successes of the Guatemala Friends Scholarship Program (Progresa) to improve the education of poor indigenous people in Guatemala. Come and learn how young Mayans are making changes to their families and communities to break the cycles of poverty and violence. The speaker will be Miguel Costop, current director and former student of Progresa, whose work is a testimony to the importance of this Quaker project.

## Plenary Agendas

### Plenary V: 11:00-12:30

Other YM Epistle Reading  
 Earthcare Witness  
 M&O Report  
 FGC Affiliation  
 Budget Approval (Finance) (if ready)  
 Communication Comm Items  
 Joint Proposal – CPC  
 Employment Issues  
 Nominating Update  
 Naming Comm. Update  
 Spirit Rising: Is anything becoming clear about witnessing? (if time permits)  
 Announcements

### Plenary VI: 6:45-8:15

Other YM Epistle Reading  
 Report from QM Coordinating Team  
 Homelessness (P&SO)  
 More Discernment: What are we learning about what we should be witnessing to?  
 Items for Approval (if needed)  
 Registrar's Report  
 Announcements

### Finance Committee – About Assessment

Finance Committee brings the following information in addition to what was presented

yesterday, to help Friends with their discernment about next fiscal year's budget.

The per-member assessment for mainland US is currently \$111; next fiscal year, with the budget as presented yesterday, it would be \$120, up \$9.

The current per-member assessment for Hawaii is \$49, next fiscal year it would be \$52, up \$3.

For Mexico City, the per-member assessment is stable, at \$30.

These increases are NOT primarily due to increased expenses—those are generally stable, too—but because membership is down. The assessment has increased this much because of an average of one fewer member per Meeting.

*Concerning the Youth Program Coordinator raise:*

The YPC has received annually a Cost of Living Adjustment, but in seven years of employment and valuable contribution to PYM has not received any merit raise.

The Youth Program Coordinator Committee has recommended a merit increase of 7.5%. If Friends approve that increase, it would add \$2 per member to the assessment for mainland US Meetings. Saturday's budget assumed a 2.5% increase for this year, with the expectation of similar increases in the subsequent two years.

*Concerning affiliation with Friends General Conference:*

If Friends approve the minimum option laid out by Shan Cretin of Ministry & Oversight, that would add an additional \$3.30 to \$3.50 per member to the assessment for all Meetings.

## Other Monday Events

### Meet Author Anne Nesbet

You are invited to hear Anne Nesbet at 8:00 pm Monday in the EarthLight Bookstore in Maple. Her two most recent books (originally for children, with historical themes relevant for

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Friends) are “The Orphan Band of Springdale” (based on family history and effects of the Alien Registration Act of 1940, among other things) and “Cloud and Wallfish” (about East Germany in 1989). The latter is based on her experiences living in East Berlin before the Wall came down; she will show slides from this period and places her family lived in rural Maine. We have asked Anne to add her thoughts on writing and publishing, and what readers' responses have been. Appropriate for all ages.

### **Convergent Quakers**

Are you curious about/interested in the various branches of Quakers? Join us for lunch on Tuesday in the dining room annex nearest the plenary tent. Come meet Yulieed Avila, traveling in the ministry for FWCC, and share your own experiences and questions.

## **Other Things To Do Here**

### **Community Night Sign-up**

Community Night (formerly Family Night) is an opportunity for Friends to share their fun and gifts with the community. All are welcome and invited! All performances must be 4 minutes or less. We ask Friends to practice and time yourselves. The sign-up sheet is available on a window on the side of the dining hall facing the tent. Please be sure to sign up by the end of lunch Tuesday. For any questions, please see Shayne Lightner, on behalf of Ministry and Oversight Committee. Thanks.

### **Epistle Committee**

Messages directed to the Epistle Committee should be shared in writing and emailed to [barbara@allen79.org](mailto:barbara@allen79.org)

### **EarthLight Bookstore**

Open afternoon and evening except for plenary sessions. Find us next to Guatemalan textiles in Maple. The Bookstore will close Tuesday before Community Night.

### **Bible Study Readings**

Friends who could not make it to Bible Study the first two days have asked me to list the passages that we looked at. Saturday was Mark, chapter 10, verses 17-27, and yesterday was Luke 10:1-12. Today we may venture into the Hebrew scriptures (aka Old Testament), with Judges 7:1-14, and Tuesday back to the New, with Romans 12:9-21. Be advised though, that the only selections not subject to change are those for sessions that have already happened; in other words, don't be unduly alarmed if you get there and it's something different, as we try to stay open to where the Spirit leads. — Stephen Matchett

## **General Announcements**

### **Rides**

Many thanks to those who have offered rides! However, there are still several Friends who need some help getting home! Please let Arrangements (Sarah or Bronwen) know if you have room in your car and/or can offer a ride. There are needs for rides at several different days and times to different locations. Also, please check in with us if you have told us you need a ride, even if you already have one, so we can verify that our list is up-to-date.

### **Hands Off Special Diet Foods**

Please leave the food in the kitchen for special diets. Unless you have an allergy or special need for which you had requested, your food selections are in the main dining area. If you take from the special needs area, people who need that food may not be able to eat.

### **Request from Camp Food Services**

Please be sure to arrive at meals well **before** the meal ends. As wonderful and accommodating as the staff are, they can **not** serve you once the food is taken back into the kitchen, out of concern for food safety and compliance with regulations.

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## **Dot Points from Friday's Ministry & Oversight Welcome + A Few More!**

If you need to talk to someone, please do not hesitate to talk to us. We are all wearing pink name tags and are excited to say "hi" to you and provide you with support.

Please note: there is a time each day when those taking on eldering roles will meet for mutual support, prayer and reflection. If you are accompanying someone, or have signed up to hold space and did not get the email about this daily meeting, please speak to Mica Estrada the Eldering Coordinator.

Do you hear the bell? That means we're 10 minutes away from the start of plenary! Please heed the bell and come on time to the tent.

Please wait for the mic to come to you before speaking in worship or plenary so that all Friends can hear you.

### **In Case of MEDICAL EMERGENCY**

9:00 am - 5:00 pm, go first to the information tent on the patio outside the dining hall; if no one is there to assist you, go to the Walker Creek office.

5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, go to the information tent or Teacher's Lodge, Room #3

10:00 pm - 9:00 am, go to Teacher's Lodge, Room #3

Emergency contact person - Bronwen Hillman

### **Maintenance Issues**

During the day - come to the information tent or find Sarah or Bronwen

After 8:00 pm - find Bronwen in Teacher's Lodge, Room #3

### **Hearing Enhancement**

If you find it difficult to hear during plenary sessions or Meeting for Worship in the big tent, there are some headsets available beside the stage, and the sound system can support up to 4 Bluetooth devices.

Questions? See Gary Wolff at the sound table in the big tent.

### **Golf Cart**

Would you like some assistance moving luggage from a vehicle to your lodging? Would you like to see the Walker Creek campus without having to walk a long way? Look for Sarah or Bronwen in the big tent or come to the information tent to arrange for a ride.

### **Submitting to the Daily Miracle**

We welcome your submissions by email (best) or on our paper form. Paper forms can be found, filled out, and left in a box in the plenary tent or at the Secretariat itself. Look on the web for email instructions (link below). Deadline is **9:00 pm (8:15 pm if submitted on paper in the plenary tent)**. This will give us time to do our work AND get some sleep.

## **Beyond Annual Session**

### **Bill Lovett**

Memorial service for Bill Lovett will be held July 28 at 10:30 am at Visalia Friends Meeting House, 17208 Ave 296, Visalia.

### **Western Friend Benefit Dinner**

Readers who appreciate Western Friend (magazine and web presence) and who enjoy the company of Quakers and their spouses, and who savor fine dining al fresco... are invited to a very intimate restaurant (Tom and Sandy Farley's patio) for a Balkan themed supper on Sunday July 22, 6:00 pm. Tom and Sandy live at 1301 Himmel Avenue, Redwood City (just 2 blocks south of Woodside Road).

Menu: Spinach-feta burek, tomato-cucumber salad, grilled trout with braised cipollini onions and summer squash, home-made baklava. Some of the food is grown on the premises, so you'll have a unique farm to table experience.

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Write a check to Western Friend or bring cash equal to what you might spend for dinner out. The amount is up to you. We're donating the food and labor.

RSVP required as there are only 15 seats available for this event. See Tom or Sandy Farley at the bookstore or e-mail farley@spont.com.

### **Attention Writers and Poets**

Are you a Quaker writer/poet or publisher? Join QUIP-Quakers United in Publishing. Website:www.quakerquip.com.

Last year England, this year the annual conference is in Canby, Oregon. A chance to meet others! Date: March 28-31, 2019.

Gail Thomas quakergail@gmail.com

### **Kenyan style Friends Worship in Santa Cruz**

Come and share in a unique worship experience. After an introduction about Quakers in Kenya, we will share unprogrammed worship; there will be Bible reading and a message, and then there will be singing and dancing. Worship will start at 1:30 pm on Saturday, July 28, at the Santa Cruz Meetinghouse (225 Rooney St., Santa Cruz). RSVP if you plan to attend. Children are also welcome, but again please RSVP. — Emelyn Buskirk (email Emelyn at em.pearson45@att.net)

### **Soledad Worship Group**

Amos Johnson, the inmate clerk of Soledad WG sends word that they are standing tall. – Emelyn Buskirk

### **News from Quaker Oaks Farm**

January 2018: Quaker Oaks Farm received grants from the Healthy Soils Initiative and Partners of Fish and Wildlife. The Healthy Soils Incentive Grant will help QOF build soil health, sequester carbon and reduce atmospheric greenhouse gasses. This will be done using practices such as cover crops, hedgerow plants,

mulching, compost applications and silvopasture areas.

The PFWL grant will enhance the Tule Tract, a wetland area on Quaker Oaks Farm. This restoration project will generate multiple benefits for federal trust species, while providing environmental and cultural learning opportunities regarding traditional ecological knowledge; enhancement of the natural floodplain and wetland habitat on QOF will provide hydrologic functions and wildlife use. www.quakeroaksfarm.org – Melissa Lovett-Adair

### **Release From Detention for Immigrants Requesting Asylum**

Samantha Vazquez from the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity is speaking Wednesday night at 7:15 at San Francisco Friends Meeting. We are particularly concerned about the recent decision to close the West Contra Costa County Detention Center to immigrants seeking asylum in the US. These immigrants will be moved out of state and away from their families. 100+ people need to be sponsored to be released until their hearings. Many of them have family in the area they can live with, but some will need temporary housing.

Friends have a long tradition of sponsoring people, including Rufus Jones asking Adolf Hitler for the Jews, Catholics and others in the concentration camps. Faith communities in San Diego sponsored Vietnamese refugees in 1973. Pastor Debra Lee's mother was sponsored by Quakers to get out of the internment camps in World War One. She is the head of this organization.

Samantha will be able to answer some of the hard questions that people have raised ranging from sponsoring of a person to leave detention, ways to get involved in the matter, and the value of collective action. Please join us for this important conversation.

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This is an opportunity for us to live our faith and make a statement about the treatment of immigrants.

When: Wednesday, July 18, at 7:15 pm (street parking on 9th is available after 7 pm)

Where: San Francisco Friends Meeting, 65 9th Street, between Market and Mission, near Civic Center BART and MUNI stops

You can also contribute to the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity online to help pay bail bonds for the detainees to be reunited with their families. Detainees have to pay a bond of \$1000 or more to get out, reunite with their families and work.

Please invite friends who are interested in this issue or who want information about how to become more involved. Rolene Walker, 415-805-6933 or rolenewalker@gmail.com.

### **March for Nuclear Abolition & Global Survival**

Monday Aug. 6 (Hiroshima Day), 8am, at the fence of the Livermore Nuclear Weapons Lab (about 40 miles east of Oakland) Vasco Road and Patterson Pass Road, in Livermore. Program features Daniel Ellsberg, Rev. Nobuaki Hanaoka (a survivor) and Prof. Christine Hong (an expert on Korea).

Free seats in a vanpool from the Dublin-Pleasanton BART station are available by calling 925-443-7148. Offer available only while seats last.

Much more info at [www.trivalleycares.org](http://www.trivalleycares.org), or contact Carl Anderson here at PYM or home at 510-654-4983

### **Advices on Unsheltered Neighbors**

Chico Friends Meeting has developed Advices on Unsheltered Neighbors which may be of help to other meetings with Unsheltered Neighbors. These advices are germane to the topic "Homelessness" on the agenda of Plenary VI today. The advices can be found on the PYM

website on the 2018 Annual Session page under Peace and Social Order Committee

## **Personals**

### **La Buena Onda**

Natasha Herrera, Bronwen's daughter, has a radio show Friday nights, 5 pm to 7 pm, called La Buena Onda. You can check it out live streamed at [cf.ru.ca](http://cf.ru.ca) or follow her on Facebook.

### **Advice from a Tree**

- Stand tall and proud
- Go out on a limb
- Remember your roots
- Drink plenty of water
- Be content with your natural beauty
- Enjoy the view

*(Thank you, Bronwen Hillman)*

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