The Schedule Explained

Unless noted otherwise, contact Sharon Gates, Assistant to the Clerk (PYMassistanttotheclerk@gmail.com), for more information.

Early Quaker Writings, Worship Sharing, Bible Study, Morning Movement

In the mornings, Friends are encouraged to participate in either Bible Study or Morning Movement. In the afternoons, Friends are encouraged to attend the afternoon Worship Sharing session or Early Quaker Writings. An evening Worship-Sharing session is also available at the same time as Affinity Groups.

The Bible Study group meets to read selected Bible passages and consider these together in the Spirit. Contact person: Charles Martin, San Francisco FM (charles@innerlight.com).

Morning Movement: Ease into your body, mind, and spirit with gentle, meditative movement inspired by Qigong, the ancient Chinese form of exercise that honors the principles of grounding, balance, alignment, centering, flow, relaxed alertness, and equanimity. You will need a comfortable chair and a small amount of space within which to move. If you’re able to move outside that’s ideal. Wear comfortable clothing; shoes are optional. Contact person: Jane Blount, La Jolla MM (janeeb1018@gmail.com). If Qigong doesn’t appeal to you but you still want to move in the morning, this would be a great time for a walk.

Early Quaker Writings will read A Short History of a Long Travel from Babylon to Bethel, Stephen Crisp’s allegory of a traveler’s journey to the City of God, facing many adventures along the way. The book is available in print and audio online at http://www.gutenberg.org/files/15730/15730-h/15730-h.htm (English) and https://www.bibliotecadelosamigos.org/stephen-crisp/babilonia-hasta-bet-el (Spanish). Contact persons: Bob & Kathy Runyan, Chico FM (bobrunyan@hotmail.com and krunyan87@gmail.com).

Worship Sharing groups consist of 6 to 9 Friends who meet Saturday through Tuesday of Annual Session in open worship, speaking to prepared queries as they are led. For many, Worship Sharing is a deeply enriching experience. Note that the same queries will be offered for both the afternoon and evening Worship Sharing sessions. Worship Sharing groups will be assigned in advance and Zoom links will be provided. Drop-in groups will also be available during both the afternoon and evening time slots. Contact persons: Julie Harlow (fhmus@sbcglobal.net), Claudia Kirkpatrick (kirkmusic@hotmail.com), Kylin Navarro-Burger (Kylin.navarro.burger@gmail.com), Ministry & Oversight Committee.

Plenary Sessions

During the Welcoming & Worship Plenary on Friday evening, the Presiding Clerk will welcome Friends to the Annual Session. We will honor the lands on which we meet, introduce visitors, meet our Zoom Coordinator, and hear important announcements. Items of business such as the annual budget, nominations, etc. will be brought to other plenaries during Annual Session. Plenary agendas will be posted on the PacYM website. In the Closing Plenary on Wednesday morning, epistles from the Junior Yearly Meeting, Young Adult Friends, and the general Yearly Meeting will be read. In addition, we will complete any business that remains pending. Contact person: Sandy Kewman, Presiding Clerk (pymclerk@gmail.com).

First Reading of Decision / Discernment Items

The first reading of proposed minutes of action will take place during the Sunday morning plenary. Friends with questions or concerns about proposed minutes are strongly encouraged to talk with the committee proposing the minute during Open Committee Meetings on Saturday afternoon and Monday afternoon by talking with an individual member of the committee. It will not be good order to raise issues during the Tuesday plenary that were not discussed with the committee beforehand.

Keynote Address

Mica Estrada, Doctor of Philosophy in Social Psychology will give the keynote on Saturday, July 11 at 10:30 am. Mica is the Associate Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the Institute for Health and Aging at the University of California, San Francisco. Mica is also a member of Strawberry Creek FM.
The keynote will begin with a story appropriate for all ages. Children are invited to accompany their parents to the keynote for as long as they like. The session will be live and recorded for future reference and the recording will be posted to the PacYM website.

Meeting for Memorials
The names of Friends who have passed away since last Annual Session are read and Friends share from the gathered silence. Look on AS LIVE 2020 for a “guest book” where you will be able to write memories of recently departed Friends. 

Contact person: Valerie Nuttman, Ministry & Oversight Committee (vnuttman@gmail.com).

Racial Justice Spaces
Two breakout rooms, one for Friends of Color/ Culture and one for Friends identifying as White Allies, will be provided to discuss what has been learned during Annual Session about listening and communicating around racial understanding. A third breakout room will be available for the last 30 minutes if Friends wish to gather in one space. Facilitators: FOC/C Diego Navarro and Marlene Coach; White Allies Laura Magnani, Maryanne Michaels, Deborah Marks, Kylin Navarro Burger.

Interest Groups
A variety of sessions sponsored by the standing committees of the Yearly Meeting and by our representatives to Friends’ organizations are held on topics of interest.

Affinity groups
There is a long tradition in Pacific Yearly Meeting of convening affinity groups around a common concern or a common identity. These groups create safe spaces for sharing among themselves. Affinity groups have included 12-Step, Friends of Color, Friends of European Descent, among others. Contact Person: Jan Turner, Humbolt FM (yellowgateroad@gmail.com).

Open Committee Meetings
This is a time to meet with PYM committees about their work or decisions that they are bringing to our plenary meetings, e.g., the annual budget (Finance Committee) or the nominating slate (Nominating Committee). Please meet with these committees if you have questions or concerns about the recommendations they are bringing to our business sessions or their work. It is understood that any issues regarding the work of these committees will be discussed with the committees for resolution rather than raising the issue for the first time in the plenary. If an issue cannot be resolved then it is appropriate to raise in our plenary sessions.

Visiting Opportunities
No formal activities are planned for this time. The Zoom room will stay open after the Opening Plenary for Friends to catch up with familiar faces and start to get to know new f/Friends at Annual Session.

Children’s Program (ages 4-12 at time of Annual Session)
During the Children’s Program (the morning of Friday July 10, described more in the registration form), children will experience fun and energy with other young Quakers. In addition, the games night, keynote address all-ages story, and other events are opportunities for children to enjoy an intergenerational community. Children’s Program contact person: Suellen Lowry, Children’s Program Committee (suellenquaker@gmail.com).

Teen Program (ages 13-18 at time of Annual Session)
The teen program, or Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) will be held the week following Annual Session. Activities will include: JYM Business Meeting, AVP workshop, Respectful Relations, and a worship walk / scavenger hunt or worshipfully art activity. For more information on how you can participate as either a youth or a Friendly Responsible Adult Presence (FRAP), please contact Dan Strickland, JYM Adult Committee (danstrickland2001@yahoo.com) or Rebekah Percy, Interim Youth Programs Coordinator (pym.youthcoordinator@gmail.com).

Game Night
Online games hosted by JYM and Young Adult Friends (YAFs) including Jack-box games and Dominion. Contact persons Santiago Myers (eliasantagomymers@gmail.com) and Callum Standish (callumstandish577@gmail.com), JYM; Nate Secrest (secrestnm@guilford.edu), YAFs.
Meeting for Monthly Meeting Reps
Monthly Meeting representatives are asked to participate in a 45-minute meeting on Tuesday afternoon at 4:45 to touch base with other Reps about how they intend to report on the Annual Session to their Meetings. Contact persons: Jim Summers, Ministry & Oversight Committee (poozles@hotmail.com)

Evaluation Meeting for Yearly Meeting Clerks and Officers
Yearly Meeting Officers and Clerks of all PYM Committees who are able are asked to attend this 2-hour meeting on Saturday, July 18 at 10am to 12noon by Zoom to evaluate how the Annual Session went and make suggestions for future improvement. Information about the meeting, including the Zoom link and queries to consider in advance, will be emailed to Officers and Clerks.