

The Daily Miracle

WELCOME TO THE 2022 ANNUAL SESSION OF
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING!

Friday July 22, 2022

Friday Schedule

3:00-5:15	Check-In
4:00-4:45	Parent Orientation – JYM (Orchard)
4:45-5:30	Parent Orientation – Children’s Program (Orchard)
5:00-5:30	Orientation for First Time Attendees (Maple/Conference Center)
5:30-6:15	Dinner (Dining Hall/Community Building)
6:30-8:00	Plenary I: Welcoming (Main Hall/Conference Center)
8:30-10:00	Affinity Groups Social Time (Lounge/Community Building)

Welcome to the Daily Miracle

The “Daily Miracle” is the bulletin that will miraculously appear each morning of the Annual Session, in the email inbox of each registered participant, as if by magic. Here you will find information about the day’s activities, upcoming events, articles of interest — and much more! The Daily Miracle will also be available on the [AS2022 Information Website](#). Friends attending in person at Mount Madonna can sign up at the Information Desk to receive a print copy. To submit an

announcement or article for the Daily Miracle, follow the instructions on the website [HERE](#).

Opening Plenary

6:30-8:00 Main Hall

The opening plenary is a joyful kickoff for our time together and not to be missed. The Clerk and others will share the vision for the gathering. Roll call of Meetings and Worship Groups is always a wonderful reaffirmation of our connection. And this is the first opportunity to see who you will be sharing Annual Session with, building community together.

Finding Your Way Around Annual Session

This year PacYM celebrates 75 years!

Remember to Please Mask Up!

For in-person folks, please remember to wear a mask at all times, except when actively eating. Please feel free to choose outdoor seating for meals and other outdoor locations for conversations and fellowship.

Using the Website

Much of the information that you may be looking for about this year’s session can be found on the [Annual Session 2022 Website Information](#) page. Specifics for attending Annual Session online can be found here [Attending Annual Session Online](#).

Information Desk

Please feel free to stop by the Information Desk in the Conference Center (CC). This is your go-to

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place for answers to all your questions! Can I get a site map to help me get around? Do you know where my worship-sharing group is meeting? Can I sign up for a ride down to the Seminar? May I borrow a pencil and paper? I need some first aid supplies, do you have band-aids? The answer to them all is “Yes.” The Information Desk will be in the Conference Center just inside the doors.

Phones and Internet

Wifi is available in our meeting spaces, in the dining room areas, and in most guest rooms. Campsites and cabins do not have wifi. Cell phone reception can be spotty, though texting works well. Verizon works best, AT&T is decent, and Sprint and T-Mobile are limited.

Meals and Snacks

Breakfast is 8-9 am, lunch 12:30-1:30pm and dinner 5:30-6:15pm. A snack will be served at 3 pm and again later in the evening. Drop by the Tea Bar in the Community Building (Dining Hall) any time for teas, instant coffee and hot chocolate. Baskets of oranges and bananas are always available in the Conference Center and the Community Building.

Golf Carts

Golf Carts with friendly drivers will be on hand to help Friends get around. Friends who are mobile, but perhaps a little less agile than they would like to be, will likely be okay getting themselves between the Conference Center (most covered lodgings and the Main Room where plenaries and other sessions are held) and the Community Center (the dining hall), but may appreciate the golf cart to get to/from the Seminar House (where some sessions are held) as it is down the hill from the main Conference and Community Center area. Check-in at the Information Desk to schedule a ride.

Hearing Enhancement

There will be headsets in the plenary room, but not in the meeting rooms in Seminar and Maple. However, these spaces are much smaller and will have microphones and speakers.

Events and Activities

Worship Sharing Groups

If you indicated on your registration that you wish to be in a Worship Sharing group, you should have been notified of a designated Room # to go to. If you don't know your Worship Sharing group, or would like to be added as a “drop-in,” please go to the Information Desk for assistance.

Meeting for Memorials

Meeting for Memorials is on Sunday the 24th from 3:00 to 5:30. The names of Friends who have died in the last year will be read so that remembrances of them can be spoken during this meeting for worship.

If you know of anyone whose name has been left off the list, or other corrections, please tell me.

Eric Sabelman, Ministry Committee member,
eesabelman@gmail.com

Affinity Groups

Affinity Groups gather Friends around a common concern or a common identity. These groups create safe spaces for sharing and meeting at different times during the Annual Session (often in the evenings). In the past, there have been Affinity groups for 12-Step programs, Friends of Color, LGBTQIA+, White Allies, and others. Since Mount Madonna's technical equipment will not be available for Affinity Groups, these conversations will not be able to be hybrid/blended unless Friends provides their own laptop.

For groups meeting in person at Mount Madonna, go to the Master Schedule chart (near the Information Desk) to select a time and place and make a welcoming sign to help Friends find the group. If this is an online meeting, ask the Zoom host to assign your group a breakout room. In either case, write up a welcoming message for the Daily Miracle to add to the basic information on name, time and place. Friends wishing to host a one-time conversation about a specific topic should also select a space or request a breakout room, announce it at a plenary and in the Daily Miracle and if in-person, make a sign for the location.

Friends of Color Affinity Group

Dear Friends of Color, the Friends of Color Affinity Group will be meeting on Friday night (and every other night) at 8:30pm following "Plenary I Welcoming and Worship." We will be meeting in a hybrid fashion in the Lower Orchard 1 and gathering on-line in the Friends of Color Lobby. We look forward to seeing you there.

Diego Navarro
diego.james.navarro@gmail.com

Interest Groups

These sessions will be held both in-person and online (hybrid). In the event of technical or connectivity issues, the onsite and online tech support teams will make every effort to correct the situation. However, if a solution cannot be found within 10 minutes, the session will continue in the modality where the presenter is located (in person or online). For a current listing of Interest Groups, visit the [AS2022 Interest Groups](#).

Services

In case of medical emergency or maintenance issues

During the day, go to the Information Desk. After dinner, find Bronwen in the "Lounge," at the end of the dining hall.

Opportunities

Volunteers Needed

Our Annual Session this year is all about bringing our Beloved Community together ... and what better way to build community than to help out at Annual Session and engage with your fellow Friends? We have numerous opportunities for you to volunteer here at Annual Session. Please stop by the Information Desk to get more information and hopefully sign up?

JYM Service Project

Please join us on Sunday morning, 9:30-12:30 to work on a Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) service project. We'll meet in the garden. Everyone is welcome! Contact: Keenan Lorenzato, JYM & YPC Coordinator, youth@pacificyearlymeeting.org

Did You Know?

Here's an interesting statistic...

We have nominated 12,500 in our 75 year history, benefiting from the service of 1,710 Friends.

Guidelines for Worship at Annual Session

Dear Friends:

As we prepare to gather in person and on Zoom for the annual session of Pacific Yearly Meeting, 2022, with the theme of Beloved Community, the Ministry Committee, working with the Racial Justice Subcommittee, is presenting augmented guidelines for worship and other spaces where two or more are gathered. We know that harm has been done to people of color in our meetings for worship and other spaces. What can we do to stop harm from being done amongst us?

Faith and Practice tells us: Meeting for Worship is different from solitary prayer. In the embrace of the Meeting, an individual may be more willing to be searched by the Light that exposes weaknesses and shortcomings, and challenges the worshiper to transformation. Together, we can more clearly see Truth; we can better receive and understand continuing revelation.

Our entire gathering is intended to be an experiment in discovering truth together. The Ministry Committee will devote its plenary session on Sunday morning to consideration of our central practice of meeting for worship, to see where we are led and how we might live into new ways of being the beloved community. Do we leave room for prophetic speech? Are we willing to be shaken? What kind of speech do our cultural norms forbid? Are we choking off the voice of Spirit? Please read the guidelines carefully, as often as you can, between now and our gathering, to help insure that our discernment is deep and Spirit-led. A copy is attached here and also available on the website in both written and audio versions. We look forward to learning and growing with you.

*Gail Eastwood, Clerk, Ministry Committee
Laura Magnani, Presiding Clerk*

Worship Guidelines (Excerpts from Pacific Yearly Meeting (PacYM) Faith & Practice's section on Meeting for Worship)

Meeting for Worship is at the core of Quaker practice. There, Friends gather together in expectant silence, waiting upon God. Friends come to worship to receive and to give, to speak when led, to be silent when that is what obedience requires. Vocal ministry is a vital part of the Meeting for Worship. It is a form of service in which a person (stands to) share a message from God delivered through the individual. During worship, all share responsibility for vocal ministry. No one is excluded from the possibility of such service just as no one is appointed in advance to preach or pray at a particular Meeting for Worship. When someone does offer vocal ministry, Friends seek to be open, notwithstanding any hesitations or imperfection in the speaker's words. The quality of each person's participation affects the entire community.

Regular and punctual attendance is helpful, as are attentive listening to the vocal ministry of others and the exercise of careful discernment in offering vocal ministry. As one sits in silence, a message may arise out of the depth of the soul that seems intended not simply for the worshiper, but for the gathering as a whole. Some Friends feel burdened with a sense of omission if a message is not expressed, but once it is faithfully uttered, a sense of inward peace may follow. Experience in Meeting helps to discriminate between private words and those that arise as true leadings of the Spirit that should not be silenced. Some worshipers called to speak feel an internal or external quaking, deep emotion, tears, an increased heart rate, or other agitation. Some have felt grabbed by the hand of God and held until after delivering the message. One person feels a profound stillness accompanied by a clear voice that is not her own.

Friends hope that all spoken messages during worship are in fact vocal ministry. The responsibility rests on each member of the group to be ready and willing to offer such ministry when called to do so. Meeting for Worship is different from solitary prayer. In the embrace of the Meeting, an individual may be more willing to be searched by the Light that exposes weaknesses and shortcomings, and challenges the worshiper to

transformation. Together, we can more clearly see Truth; we can better receive and understand continuing revelation.

Guidelines for Meeting for Worship

(and other PacYM Meeting spaces where two or more are gathered)*

As Friends, we believe that Spirit calls us to love one another and to help one another up “with a tender hand.” The spirit we seek is inclusive, not divisive. If we are divided, we are in a process that has not yet come to its spiritually inclusive conclusion. The unity we seek is a radical inclusivity that embraces all of us.

We recognize that none of us has the whole Truth at any given time, only part of it at best. We understand that ***together we can more clearly see Truth and its continuing revelation.*** This is our vision of the Beloved Community, and we will get there if we don’t let go of each other’s hands. If we remain open and are ***willing to be searched by the Light***, we will discover our disorderly walking and learn how our assimilation into the dominant society affects our ministry, including in Meeting for Worship.

In Quaker worship, we center on the Spirit, trusting it to wake us up by lifting the veil to our blind spots and behaviors that are out of integrity with Truth, so that Truth can be revealed. However, we need to acknowledge that ministries delivered during Meeting for Worship are not immune from inflicting harm on those present, even as we strive to be faithful vessels of God’s messages. Therefore, to deepen our worship and create an environment conducive to becoming a Beloved Community, we propose that Friends use these guidelines during the 2022 Pacific Yearly Meetings’ Annual Session:

1. We treat all our meeting spaces as places of worship, where we are led by the Spirit to come together as a Beloved Community. We gather ***to receive and to give, to speak when led, to be silent when that is what obedience requires.***

2. When we feel led to speak, we hold the message close to our heart and discern whether we have a ***true leading of the Spirit*** by asking these questions:

a. Did this message ***arise out of the depth of the soul?***

b. What am I feeling in my body? Am I feeling a fight, flight, freeze or appease response? ***Do I feel grabbed by the hand of God and held? Do I feel a profound stillness accompanied by a clear voice that is not my own? Do I feel burdened with a sense of omission when this message is not expressed?***

c. Is ***this message intended not simply for me, but for the gathering as a whole?***

d. The ways of Truth may reveal to us our attachments to our own ideas, inspirations and leadings that keep us from the emergent Truth. Am I open to learning from our Gathered discernment of Truth?

e. Have I considered the language that I would use to express the meaning of my message? Are there words or phrases in my head that come from dominant culture norms that I have internalized? Examples of cultural dominance include: being white in a racist culture, being strong and healthy in an able-body culture, being male in a sexist culture, being heterosexual in a homophobic culture, being young in an agist culture, being of settler ancestry in a colonizing culture, and being the species with dominion over the earth.

f. Each one of us has implicit biases and blind spots accumulated from our own lived experiences and assimilation into the dominant society. So we ask ourselves: will hearing the words that I intend to use in sharing my message bring harm to someone who is oppressed by the dominant culture?

3. Even after we have done this careful discernment, we know our words coming from the implicit biases that we have internalized from the dominant culture may still cause harm. For this reason, we seek the guidance of “ouch” and “whoa” spoken in love by anyone in our gathered community to help lift the veil and heighten our awareness of a greater Truth. We are willing to risk the discomfort of having our blind spots revealed in public

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both for our own edification and to understand what the Spirit is asking of us at this moment as we seek to learn and grow together as we practice the radical inclusion of the Beloved Community.

4. ***When we hear vocal ministry, we seek to be open***, to listen to Truth revealed. If we believe that a spoken message has delivered harm from cultural dominance, internalized assimilation, and/or implicit biases, then we speak up, with love, in order to let Truth be revealed. Through “ouch” and “whoa”, we are not creating shame, we are calling each other in with loving kindness.

5. When we hear a vocal ministry alerting us of harm being done, we treat it as any other vocal ministry, i.e, it is ***a message from God delivered through the individual***. We receive it with an open heart and with gratitude, seeking to follow the Spirit’s emergent agenda, to understand what just happened.

We call on Friends to embrace these guidelines for ministry that ***challenge us to transformation***, so that the emergent Truth may be revealed.

* *Words in Bold and Italic are quoted from Pacific Yearly Meeting’s Faith and Practice Worship Guidelines*