

The Daily Miracle

Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Tuesday July 26, 2021

Tuesday Schedule

7:30-8:00	Outdoor Worship
8:00-9:00	Breakfast
9:00-10:15	Worship (<i>Main Hall</i>)
10:30-12:15	Plenary V (<i>Main Hall</i>)
12:30-1:30	Early Quaker Writings (<i>Main Hall</i>) Worship Sharing
3:00-4:30	Affinity Groups Personal or Recreational Time
4:30-5:30	Storytelling + Skits (<i>Main Hall</i>) Community Cheers (<i>online only</i>)
5:30-6:15	Dinner
6:45-8:15	Community Campfire (<i>see below</i>)
8:30-10:00	Dance - Theme: Tie-Dye! (<i>dining room</i>) Worship Sharing Affinity Groups

Events and Activities

Early Quaker Writings

Early Quakers were different in many ways from any branch of Quakerism today. Some of the ideas expressed in their writings seem strange to us. Some things ring just as true for us today. We'll explore together a work that was popular among early Friends and try to find the timeless truth expressed therein. You will find the reading, *The Light Upon the Candlestick* on the 2022 [Annual Session Information page on the website](#). Print copies will be available for Friends attending in-person. (*Main Hall*) 1:30-2:45pm.

Community Cheers

Join Andrea on Zoom for an hour of online fun and games as we begin to close out Annual Session. 4:30-5:30 pm on the Annual Session Zoom link.

Community Sharing: Storytelling + Skits

Join Keenan for community time at the Conference Center 4:30-5:30 pm (*in-person event*). We'll be pairing and sharing in community story time.

Community Campfire

For our last night at Mount Madonna, we will celebrate our community with a closing ceremony at the amphitheater 7pm - 8 ish. There will be song, dance, silence and light, don't you want to know more...

Be outside the Conference Center 6:30-6:45 pm to get a ride up to the amphitheater, located near the Oaks campground and cabins. It might get chilly as the sun goes down, bring a jacket or a blanket.

Dance – Tie-Dye!

The dining room will come alive tonight at 8:30 pm as we clear out the tables, turn up the music and strut our stuff in our fabulous tie-dye! Hosted by the teens (JYM), the dance is a longstanding tradition of Annual Session. This all ages event is sure to be fun ... and colorful!

EarthLight Bookstore Events Today

The Bookstore is in Willow Room, and is open at 12:30 for lunchtime events and at 1:30 for browsing and buying books. Today's lunchtime event (in-person and Zoom) is an author talk by Susan B Inches on her book "Advocating for the Environment: How to Gather Your Power and Take Action." "I want a future that is compassionate, where all life on the planet is nurtured and supported. I want a future where people work

together to find practical solutions to social issues. I want a future where caring for the earth and its people is our highest priority." Another author talk will be at 3:30 pm, by Jennifer Bailey on "To My Beloveds: Letters on Faith, Race, Loss, and Radical Hope", which considers three central questions—what is dying, what wants to emerge, and what is already blooming beautifully.

To attend by Zoom, ask the host for the Bookstore breakout room. See the Annual Session information webpage for a complete schedule of events and a link to our partner bookstore, Reach and Teach.

Worship Sharing Groups (In-Person)

Worship sharing groups are listed on the wall next to the Information Desk. If you would like to join a "drop-in" group, please go to the Information Desk for assistance.

Worship Guidelines Lunch Table

Do you have questions about the worship guidelines shared in the advance packet and presented and discussed at Sunday's plenary? Want to learn more? Rita Comes Whitney and Deborah Marks invite in-person attendees to join the "Ouch-Oops-Whoa" table outdoors at lunchtime every day.

Russia, Ukraine and Friends House Moscow

Look for the red flag at a table during lunchtime. Julie Harlow will be answering questions about the current situation in Ukraine and how it affects Friends in Russia.

Crafts (In-Person)

Russian Crafts for Sale to Benefit Friends House Moscow

Russian crafts are being sold to benefit Friends House Moscow. Look for the tables displayed on the patio and in the Conference Center lobby. For any questions or to pay for purchases, text Julie Harlow at (530) 220-2993. The sale ends today at 10:00 pm.

Guatemala Crafts

There are still many beautiful Guatemala crafts for sale in the lobby of the Conference Center. Your purchases and donations help support our 90 scholarship students.

Take a look at our Spring Update 2022 on the round table to see the list of students and the many careers they are studying. You just might find one you would like to sponsor. You can sign up there to receive our semi-annual Update which is always full of uplifting stories. Mil Gracias for your support.

—Donna Smith
dforestvil@aol.com

Other things happening today

Friends of Color Affinity Group

The Friends of Color Affinity Group will be meeting this afternoon and evening during affinity group times. It will meet in a hybrid fashion in the Lower Orchard 1 and gather online in the Friends of Color Lobby. We look forward to seeing you there.

—Diego Navarro
diego.james.navarro@gmail.com

White Allies Affinity Group

The White Allies Affinity Group will be meeting this afternoon, 3-4:30 PM, in separate in-person and online groups. Meetings are drop-in; Friends identifying as white are welcome to attend. (*Lower Orchard House, Room 4*)

—Deborah Marks
deborahmarks@gmail.com

Meeting for Healing

Join us in the Seminar House from 4:30 to 5:30 pm for a Meeting for Healing, where we will seek to offer and receive healing of body, mind, heart, and soul.

—Allison Kirkegaard
amkd2015@mymail.pomona.edu

Woolman TODAY!

Come find out what is happening at Woolman today, 3:00 to 4:00 PM, in the 'Lounge' (deck outside the Dining Hall).

—Coleen Hedglin
coleenh@woolman.org

COVID Announcement

COVID Positive Friend

Our Friend, Roena Oesting, tested positive for Covid at dinner time on Monday. She had been having mild symptoms for less than a half day at the time of her test. She is aware that she spoke to a fair number of Friends throughout the course of the day in her role as a member of the Epistle Committee, albeit masked. She also attended the Monday Interest group in the Seminar Room. She is now quarantined in her single room with a private bath.

Please continue to mask, to physically distance and if you feel the need to test, please do so. If you need a test, go to the Information Desk. If you have a test or more to spare please label them with your name and leave them at the Information Desk should another Friend need one. Reclaim any unused tests on Wednesday.

Don't panic, we're all in this together. Keep loving your time and your connections here at Annual Session.

Contact Mico Sorrel, Jeff Richman, or Sandy Kewman if you test positive, or just wish to consult with any of us.

—Mico Sorrel
margaretsorrel@gmail.com

Announcements

Dress for Plenary Session

You may want to bring a sweater or jacket to Worship and Plenaries for the rest of Annual Session. The doors and windows to the main meeting room will be OPEN to improve air circulation. Ministry Committee has made this decision with the health and safety of all attendees in mind. Thank you for understanding.

Travel Reimbursement Reminder

As mentioned in the Treasurer's Report, PacYM provides travel reimbursements for officers of the Yearly Meeting, clerks of PacYM standing committees, and one official representative from each of PacYM's monthly meetings. If you are one of these, please add your name to the Travel Reimbursement sheets. Available at the Information Desk or from Sarah Tyrrell. Please do this even if you wish to donate back your reimbursement, so we can track the expense.

—Sarah Tyrrell
sarahtyrrell@alumnae.mills.edu

PacYM Epistle 2022

Please submit your suggestions/edits for the 2022 epistle to epistleclerk@pacificyearlymeeting.org or send a text to (213) 220-6113.

Leaving Today?

Please stop by the Information Desk before you go and leave your key in the basket.

After Annual Session

Interest Groups

The last three interest groups of this year's Annual Session will be held on Sunday, July 31, from 2-3:30 pm, and will be available using the Annual Session Zoom link.

The three groups are:

- Guatemala Friends Scholarship Program (*see description below*)
- As Way Opens – Creating a PacYM Climate Strategy
- Spirituality and Creativity

They are described on the PacYM website under [Interest Groups](#). Please send any questions to assistanttotheclerk@pacificyearlymeeting.org.

Guatemala Friends Scholarship Program - PROGRESA

What has happened in PROGRESA and Guatemala during the pandemic? Come to the PROGRESA Interest Group next Sunday, July 31, 2-3:30 pm to hear from Miguel Costop-Director; Hector Canto-PROGRESA alum, board member, and former Vice Minister of Education in Guatemala; and two of our current students. You will enjoy hearing how challenges were met and how based on Quaker principles PROGRESA became even more of a supportive family with our students and their families and communities. Hope to see you there (same zoom as the one used for Annual Session).

—Donna Smith
dforestvil@aol.com

Quaker Family Field Trips

Mark Your Calendar for these upcoming Quaker field trips:

- **Aug 13**, La Brea Tar Pits, in LA, 2-5 pm, led by Keenan Lorenzato
- **Aug 20**, Marin Headlands, near SF, 10 am to 4 pm, led by Nate Secrest and Sarah Ludwig
- **Aug 21**, Art in the Garden, 2-5 pm, in Santa Rosa led by Molly Bishop and Mary Miche
- **Sept 24-25**, Family Fall Fest Weekend at Sierra Friends Center, Grass Valley, led by Max Paris and Keenan Lorenzato
- **Oct 22**, Pacifica Beach and Grace's House, 10 am to 4 pm, led by Nate Secrest and Sarah Ludwig

More exciting events in Southern California are being planned You can register for these trips on the PacYM website in early August. Look for the Youth Programs tab and find the Children's Program in the drop-down menu. The form will be there soon after Annual Session.

—Mary Miche, *marymiche@jps.net*

Wisdom Jesus One-Time Book Discussion

You are welcome to join a one-time discussion of “Wisdom Jesus” by Cynthia Bourgeault. It will be via Zoom on Friday, August 26 at 6:30 pm Pacific Time. This book discussion will be facilitated by Humboldt Monthly Meeting.

From an HMM member who’s read the book: “The main thesis of the book is that Jesus did not come to

earth to save us from our sins and offer a bunch of new rules to live by, but instead was primarily a teacher to guide us to a higher level of consciousness (and union with Spirit) and serve as a model. (Bourgeault is part of the reawakening of the Christian contemplative tradition that included Thomas Keating and Thomas Merton.) The book contains both (1) theory about the teachings and mysteries of Jesus (including possible influences from Buddhist and Persian mysticism); and (2) contemplative practices (practical tips).”

Humboldt Monthly Meeting welcomes people to its book discussions even if they have not read the book. If you are interested, please contact Margaret Kelso, with a subject line that references “Wisdom Jesus” at Margaret.Kelso@humboldt.edu.

Resident Friend Position Available

Redwood Forest Friends Meeting, in Santa Rosa, is looking for a new Resident Friend (or Friends) starting January 16, 2023. Private living quarters (two rooms, wi-fi, and a bath) with a shared kitchen, living room, library, landscaped courtyard, vegetable garden, and off-street parking. Outdoor dog run available. All are provided at the meetinghouse which is located 60 miles north of San Francisco and 25 miles from the Pacific Ocean. One-year position with the option to renew. If you are interested, please write to: Resident Friend Liaison 1647 Guerneville Road Santa Rosa, CA 95403 or email: avboone@sonic.net.

Visit Honolulu Friends

Our meetinghouse is open for visitors again! Honolulu Friends Meeting (HFM) offers simple lodging for traveling Friends. A modest contribution includes breakfast, WiFi, and morning conversation with our Residents and other visiting Friends from the continental US and Pacific Islands. Located in green and cool Manoa Valley, we are near the University of Hawai'i, and on the city bus line. Find us at www.hawaiiquaker.org.

Friends General Conference Gathering 2023

The 2023 Gathering will be under the care of the Pacific Yearly Meeting and will be held at Western Oregon University in Monmouth Oregon July 2-8,

2023! The last time this Gathering was held in the West was in 2006. Plan to attend! And if you're interested in being involved, talk to Mico Sorrel. Would you like to present a workshop at the Gathering? Mico has information and submissions will be due in September. For more information, see [2023 FGC flyer](#).

—Mico Sorrel
margaretsorrel@gmail.com

Celebrate World Quaker Day

On Sunday, October 2, Friends around the globe will observe World Quaker Day. This is an opportunity to learn more about Friends from many different nations and cultures. The theme is "Becoming the Quakers the World Needs." You can find more information on the worldquakerday.org website.

Evaluating Annual Session

PacYM Yearly Meeting Evaluations We Want To Hear From You

The PacYM evaluations will be ready for distribution very shortly, and we will be sending them to the email address you listed on your registration form. We would really appreciate your responding with your positive and negative impressions of this annual session so that we can take action on your ideas and improve our session next year. Please send questions or concerns to: assistanttotheclerk@pacificyearlymeeting.org.

Miscellaneous

Simple [Diversity] Gifts Song Collaboration

We need alternative verses for "Simple Gifts" that relate to various kinds of diversity, such as sexual orientation, disability, people of color, etc. Write a verse for an identity that you have, and start it, "Tis the gift to be [of color, queer, etc.] Send your renderings to Carl Magruder (theearthquaker@gmail.com) and watch this space for a new instant classic!

Yarn from Friendly Sheep

Are you interested in Lopi Icelandic yarn from Maia's Friendly sheep? Maia and Erik run Dusk to Dawn Farm, a small family farm in Poulsbo, WA, using regenerative agriculture practices for our small flock of mixed Icelandic, Finn, East Friesian and Gotland sheep. Maia (she/her) is Shepherdess and manages the flock. Crafting with natural colored Lopi Icelandic wool is rewarding. Find Maia, she has the yarn. maia.wolff@gmail.com

Congratulations!

The co-clerks of the board of the Ben Lomond Quaker Center want to announce that Nico Wright has accepted a position as the new Quaker Center Director. Welcome, Nico!

Paying as Led

During registration, we were given guidelines based on what Pacific Yearly Meeting will pay Mount Madonna for lodging and meals.

It is wonderful to have such great attendance (including 1/3 of us under 35). A few Friends have asked if more funds are needed. To support youth attendance again next year, additional funds would help offset the Annual Session deficit from 2022. If you are "led to pay" more, Martha Hunkins and Doug Smith are the people to talk with. Look for them in the dining room at meals or email Doug at financeclerk@pacificyearlymeeting.org

Memorial Names

To improve the ventilation in the Conference Center at Mount Madonna, the names remembered at Meeting for Memorials have been removed and the windows opened. If you would like to take one of the names home, please ask at the information desk.

Apology

We apologize to our online Friends that due to technical issues, we were unable to share the film "The Movement and the 'Madman'" via Zoom.

Zoom Link for Annual Session

Zoom link to join all Annual Session events:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89450711843?pwd=N2hlenU4djIhZW55LzZtZ0E0MXJlZz09>
 Meeting ID: 894 5071 1843, Passcode: 1945

Lost and Found

Van key

Last night, at some time around the evening interest group in the Conference Center, the key to the van we rented for Annual Session decided to settle into a hiding place. It must be a very good hiding place because we haven't been able to find it. When found, please return the van key to Keenan or Bronwen.

Annual Session Lost and Found

Before you leave today or tomorrow, please stop by the Information Desk and take a look in the Lost & Found box. You may find something of yours in there that you didn't think you'd lost.

Celebrating Our 75 Years

Like any organization, our Pacific Yearly Meeting has ebbed and flowed in its membership and in the numbers of Friends in service.

In 1962-1963, 5.8% of our 1,364 members were in service to the Yearly Meeting. That's 79 Friends (23 from SCQM, 23 from CPQM and 33 from Meetings not affiliated with PacYM as it is configured today).

That percentage jumps to 10.4% in 2015-2016 when the membership was reported at 1,285 members. Of the 133 Friends in service to the Yearly Meeting that year, 86 were from CPQM, 37 from SCQM and 9 from Meetings not affiliated with a Quarterly Meeting.

From the Racial Justice Subcommittee

Harm Repair –Stepping Stones to Sacred

Creating Sacred Space Processing “Ouch, Oops and Whoas”

- The burden of educating is not the responsibility of the people harmed in the group. If you are a white person with anti-racist practices, your role is to educate other white people in the group to question their own centrality and listen to another's pain without defensiveness, judgment, or white fragility getting in the way. If you are a non-disabled person you have a role to play to educate other able bodied people about the needs of people with disabilities. (These are intended as examples, not a comprehensive list of targeted groups).
- Be in worship together holding the space and ambiguity. Trust that Spirit is here guiding us and that those who say “ouch, oops or whoa” are led to speak.
- The person who experiences the harm has the right to decide whether or not to address the issue.
- When someone is led to speak about a harm, slow down the dialogue, center around the ouch, oops or whoa.
- If you are confused or don't understand the harm, sit in silence and hold the sacred space.
- Go into sacred listening about the harm by focusing on the needs and concerns expressed.
- Pay attention to and speak about what's happening in your body. Be willing to expose your vulnerability and reach for healing the wounds.
- Don't create more pain for people already in pain. Our goal is to stop the harm that has been committed by becoming conscious of it and repairing the harm by seeking healing through Quaker Truth being revealed.