

## STONY RUN MONTHLY MEETING TIMELINE

- 1681** First minutes appear regarding Friends in the Baltimore region (meeting in houses)
- 1699** First record appears of a formal Patapsco Preparative Meeting, still gathering in homes
- 1713-1714** Land is bought on Harford Road, where the Burial Ground is now located. Patapsco Preparative Meeting builds a log meetinghouse there. Local native people visit and welcome a place of worship. The Burial Ground is a Baltimore City and National Register landmark and still in use.
- 1762** A separate meeting is established for “negroes,” to be monitored closely by white Friends.
- 1776** Formal minutes begin for Patapsco Preparative Meeting, under the care of Gunpowder Meeting (established 1739).
- 1781** Oldtown Meetinghouse is built at Fayette and Aisquith streets, a Baltimore City Landmark still standing. Patapsco Preparative Meeting moves there.
- 1784** Baltimore Friends School is established and holds classes in the Oldtown Meetinghouse.
- 1792** Baltimore Monthly Meeting is established at Oldtown, replacing Patapsco Preparative Meeting.
- 1805** Lombard Street Meetinghouse is built, large enough to accommodate Yearly Meetings. Over the next decades most Baltimore Monthly Meeting Friends begin worshipping there.
- 1808** Very elderly Meeting member Elisha Tyson joins with other Friends to travel into the Indiana wilderness in support of native American tribes forced out of their Maryland homes.
- 1819** Eastern District (Oldtown) is demoted by Yearly Meeting to a preparative meeting, subordinate to Lombard Street Meeting.
- 1821** McKim Free School opens, founded by a bequest from meeting member John McKim. In 1835, the school moves to a new building, modeled on classical Greek architecture, a Baltimore City landmark, which still sits a few feet from the Oldtown Meetinghouse.
- 1824** Thousands of Baltimore’s African Americans fill Pratt Street, initiating a funeral march to honor prominent meeting member Elisha Tyson, who had worked for decades to protect free blacks from being kidnapped into slavery.
- 1826** Johns Hopkins is disowned from Lombard Street for dealing in alcohol but continues throughout his life to worship with Friends. He will later go on to give Baltimore the enormous gift of Hopkins University and Hopkins Hospital.
- 1828** Clerk of Meeting Philip Thomas joins signer Charles Carroll of Carrollton to break ground for the country’s first commercial railroad, the B&O. He will act simultaneously as the first president of the B&O Railroad and Monthly Meeting Clerk. Many other meeting members will go on to become important in the development of Baltimore City business and commerce.
- 1828** Division: Orthodox Friends leave Lombard Street Meeting.

**1864** Eli Lamb is appointed Principal of Friends School; classrooms are located in the Lombard Street building. He adds a secondary school program and welcomes non-Quaker children, who become the majority.

**1865** Meeting members who fought in the Civil War are welcomed back in the Meeting after a private interview with elders.

**1889** Lombard Street Meeting moves to Park Avenue and established a small elementary school.

**1899** Friends School merges with the Park Avenue elementary school and moved next to Park Avenue Meeting.

**1918** The Meeting opens the School's facilities over the summer for lodging and recreation to servicemen during World War I.

**1921** Park Avenue Meeting appoints Bliss Forbush executive secretary, a position he is to hold until 1943.

**1922** Friends establish a summer camp, Keewadin, located on South River in Anne Arundel County, which operates until 1953. It is the beginning of today's Yearly Meeting camping program.

**1926** Oldtown Meeting is laid down, after 145 years of continual worship. The Meetinghouse is sold to Baltimore City. Park Avenue Meeting takes over responsibility for the McKim Center, which runs a free kindergarten for neighborhood children.

**1926** The Taylor-Townsend Home for elderly Friends opens, named after the benefactors, located on Park Avenue.

**1928 - 37** Friends School, still under the oversight of Baltimore Monthly Meeting, moves to its current Charles Street location in stages.

**1943** Bliss Forbush steps down as Park Avenue's executive secretary to become headmaster of Friends School. He serves until 1960.

**1944** Park Avenue Meeting sold the Meetinghouse to Baltimore City; it changed its name to Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, and for a few years held Meeting for Worship at Friends School.

**1950** The Stony Run Meetinghouse opens, adjacent to Friends School.

**1950** Stony Run Meeting agrees to open the Meeting to all races.

**1954** Friends School decides to integrate the kindergarten starting in 1955, with the purpose of integrating the next grade each year.

**1957-58** The Taylor Home is sold to the Norwegian Seamen's Home and moves to a location on Roland venue, in the vicinity of Stony Run.

**1960** Byron Forbush is appointed headmaster of Friends School and serves until 1998.

**1963** Friends School integrates the entire School at all levels.

**1965** On November 2, Executive Secretary Norman Morrison burns himself to death in front of the Pentagon to protest the Vietnam War. For the next two decades, the Meeting had no executive secretary.

**1970** The Meeting begins serving a convivial simple lunch every First Day, where conversation turns to friendship and commitment.

**1973** Friends School legally separates from SR Meeting, establishing its own Board of Trustees with significant Quaker representation on the Board.

**1979** Funds from the earlier sale of the outdated Taylor Home are used to start the Broadmead Retirement Community in Cockeysville.

1980s Stony Run Friends become significantly involved in Friends organizations beyond Monthly and Yearly Meeting. These include AFSC, FCNL, and FGC.

**1985** Stony Run re-establishes the position of executive secretary.

1985 Meeting members start an Extended Family community building effort, tying older and younger members and attenders together.

**1991** Heralding fifty years of traditional Sunday evening carol sings, Stony Run publishes a new revision of *Christmas Carols*. Carol sings become festive occasions, with cookies baked by Young Friends.

1991 A joint peace vigil with Homewood Meeting is held every Friday and continues for decades.

**1992** An account of Baltimore Quakers, *Minute by Minute*, is published as a joint venture by Stony Run and Homewood meetings to celebrate 200 years of shared history.

**1995** A significant addition to the Stony Run Meetinghouse provides classrooms upstairs and downstairs, new bathrooms, an accessible lower entrance and a dining porch overlooking Friends School.

**1996** FRAUC (Funds Review and Use Committee) is established to recommend uses for the Meeting's uncommitted budget funds each year, with priority given to elder care, schooling, Meeting needs beyond building or staff, requests from charitable organizations and projects furthering Quaker testimonies.

**2000s** Stony Run's First Day School serves some 30 to 40 children on a typical Sunday, including babies and toddlers in the nursery, several classrooms of school-age children, and Young Friends who help develop their own program.

**2010-2012** To support a significant transformation at McKim, FRAUC organizes a Task Force to offer financial support and to work with the Board of Directors to better position McKim to live out its historic mission.

**2012** Following a workshop led by Friends Fiduciary Corporation, the Financial Soundness Working Group charges the Meeting to devise a system of oversight to manage the work of the Meeting, its financial condition and the support needed to sustain its mission.

**2013** Volunteers from Stony Run and Friends School plant a Community Garden adjacent to the Lower School where food and flowers are grown for Friends School outreach.

**2014** Stony Run Friends creates the Stony Run Working Group on Racism. This sparks initiatives like Court Watch, Unified Efforts, a commission to review public Confederate monuments, and participation in the Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform. Working with Ministry and Counsel the group writes anti-racism queries for use by committees and the Meeting.

2015 Sparked by a leading of a Stony Run member and with strong backing from the Meeting, Unified Efforts begins an after school and summer program in the Penn-North area of West Baltimore

**2018** Stony Run welcomes a programmed Quaker Meeting of African Friends to gather at Friends School on Sunday afternoons.

**2020** COVID closes down in-person First Day worship for our large Meeting that has always sought community through Meeting for Worship, “simple lunch,” its hospitality and welcoming committees, educational events for newcomers, and endless other gatherings to cement ties. Friends meet on Zoom, on the front porch of the Meetinghouse, and, eventually, with “owl” hybrid technology in the Meetinghouse and simultaneously in our homes.

2021 An ad hoc Structure in Transition Committee (SIT) presents a report on how to balance historic committees, short-term working groups and ad hoc committees with responsive employee structure.

**2022** The Meeting uses the time of COVID restrictions to renovate the kitchen, approving an upgrade for commercial license, allowing use by groups the Meeting supports.

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