

Interchange

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

WELCOME TO ANNUAL SESSION: 350 YEARS OF BYM!

I am pleased to invite everyone to join with Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting for our 2022 Annual Session. Many Friends will be appreciative that we are able to be in person together again at Hood College in Frederick, MD, on the ancestral lands of the Piscataway. We will also be inviting Friends who cannot be with us physically to join us virtually, and whether you join in-person or online, Annual Session will follow a Pay As Led model. With the many different options for participation, we hope this Annual Session will be accessible for more Friends as we commemorate our 350th year of being a faith community in this geographic region. Our theme - Consider the Wildflowers: Rooted in History, Growing Toward Spirit- asks us to consider our Quaker faith as “a meadow full of wildflowers” with each of us a bloom spreading the seeds of our ministry. We are asked to contribute to the tending of our communal field, that the earth does not become hard packed, and to repair those places so new flowers have space to join us.

Our time together will be enriched by many Friends who will be part of plenaries, workshops, worship sharing, Bible study, and other planned events. We will also be engaging in the business of our Yearly Meeting: the more earthly parts that keep us rooted, the blooms of Spirit that we see in each other, and the seeds we carry out into the world in our work. We will take time to look back on our 350 years - celebrations and challenges, where we find ourselves today, and what we hope to grow into as a faith community together. And we will enjoy and celebrate in the simple gifts of being present to each other, in community, in the spaces between events.

I hope that you will join us, for the first time or after many previous years, to broaden and deepen our community in its search for what we are asked to do as Friends searching for Truth, living in Love, and helping each other learn and grow.

Steph Bean, Presiding Clerk
(they/them or she/her)
Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
(Quakers)



*Annual Session 2019
Hood College*



REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 3RD!

Online Pre-Session Workshops * Tues, July 26th, Thurs. July 28th, Sat, July 30th
Opening Retreat * Mon, Aug 1st – Tuesday, Aug 2nd
Annual Session & Junior Yearly Meeting Begin * Tuesday, August 2nd after lunch

Children birth to 8th grade attend for free! Childcare provided.

BYM 2022 ANNUAL SESSION THEME: CONSIDER THE WILDFLOWERS ROOTED IN HISTORY, GROWING TOWARD SPIRIT

“The seed of the jack pine will not be given up by the cone unless the cone itself is subjected to sustained and concentrated heat. The forest fire sweeps all before it and there remain but the charred reminders of a former growth and a former beauty. It is then in the midst of the ashes that the secret of the cone is exposed. The tender seed finds the stirring of life deep within itself - and what is deepest in the seed reaches out to what is deepest in life - the result? A tender shoot, gentle roots, until at last there stands straight against the sky the majestic glory of the jack pine.” Howard Thurman, *Meditations of the Heart*

350 years is an achievement for any faith community, but especially so for one that actively encourages each practitioner to form their own personal relationship with the divine. If more organized faiths are well-tended gardens, then Quakerism is a meadow full of wildflowers. A riotously diverse but tightly interwoven ecosystem that is unified by its desire to turn towards the Spirit. Each bloom, whether plain or dazzling, can spread its seeds across the ground and change the garden, refreshing and enriching us to continue on into the future.

Even as we listen for and seek out continuing revelation as plants do the sun, we remain rooted in our past. We are enriched and invigorated by past Friends’ labors and spirit-led ministries, just as new growth feeds upon the old as it returns to the earth. Our history is rich with moments where we fully opened ourselves to the messages of the Spirit, but also with times where we did not. Times we were not ready or willing to do what we were asked. Places where the soil is packed so hard that only those already established can grow there.

Each of us plays an active role in the continual regeneration of our community, in the tending of our fields. When the diversity of our meadow is in decline, when the soil is packed too hard, we all bear the responsibility to reinvigorate it; to nurture the seeds of ministry that challenge us to turn away from the easy progression towards monoculture; to find the compacted earth and break it open so new growth can take root.

Queries:

1. In what ways do the seeds sown in our meadow by our forbearers guide us today?
2. Do we welcome seeds sown by those new to our community that begin to change our awareness and the landscape?
3. Are we able to acknowledge the impatience of those who have been excluded? Can we move ahead together and change?

HAVE A BUDDY—BE A BUDDY

Is this your first time at Annual Session? Would you like to meet an experienced Friend who can show you around, answer questions, and help you feel at home? If so, check the “Request a Buddy” box on your registration form. If you would like to help a newcomer feel at home, check “Be a Buddy” on the registration form. Before you arrive, we’ll connect you (via email) with your buddy, so you can get together when you get to Hood College or virtually. This will be available for online and in-person participants.

CLINTON PETTUS TO LEAD ANNUAL SESSION RETREAT



Since 2018, Clinton Pettus (Baltimore Monthly Meeting, Stony Run) has been working among Friends to develop Trust Circles. The purposes of the Circles are to reduce our tendency to engage in “othering”; to give space and voice to those who are reluctant to share their thoughts, feelings, beliefs, wants, and needs; to strengthen our individual and collective sense of “unity and wholeness;” and to increase our sense of belonging to our worship communities. During the retreat, Clinton will share the journey BYM has taken from discussing how to be more anti-racist to building trust across ethnocultural and other differences. Participants will engage deeply in trust circle exercises with one another and learn how to carry the practice forward in their lives and Meetings. To get a sense of what is involved, please visit Overview: Trust Circles (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f6cGLaJ9Yt0>)

2022 PLENARY SESSIONS

Tuesday Evening Plenary

RE-MEMBERING THE PAST: SEEKING LESSONS LEARNED RELATING TO RACIAL JUSTICE, NATIVE PEOPLES AND THE PEACE TESTIMONY

Tuesday's Plenary weaves together the roots and relationships among three areas of Friends' values and testimonies over the last 350 years. Our panelists explore how colonization affected our faith and our practice relating to racial justice, Native Peoples, and the peace testimony, and how it continues to affect our faith community today. How does Spirit lead us into a future that takes responsibility for the harm done and is welcoming to all people?

Bette Hoover served as Director of the DC Peace & Economic Justice Program of the American Friends Service Committee, participated in the early Friends Peace Teams in Africa and later Indonesia, co-founded CASA de Maryland, an immigration and advocacy organization. She is a member of Sandy Spring Meeting where she served as Clerk of Meeting, Clerk of Peace Committee and is currently co-clerk of Change Group (for racial justice).



Bette Hoover

Cynthia DeVries taught for many years at Juniata College in Pennsylvania as a sociology professor and mentor for students seeking to be change agents. Teaching in a variety of settings, from preschool to the college classroom, has given her a unique perspective on the ways in which Quaker faith and practice can engage the mind and heart in a call for social justice and structural change. Cynthia is a member of State College Monthly Meeting.



Cynthia DeVries

Ruth Flower served as a lobbyist with the Friends Committee on National Legislation for many years, carrying a portfolio of civil rights, criminal justice, economic justice, and Native Peoples' rights. She is a member of Adelphi Meeting, active there in the Change Group and in the Ministry and Worship Committee.



Ruth Flower

Wednesday Afternoon Plenary Program: MEETING OUR PAST: AN INTERGENERATIONAL, CREATIVE ENCOUNTER WITH EACH OTHER AND OUR HISTORY

Join us this year for an interactive session to get to know our BYM ancestors more personally. This will be an active, creative session designed for Elementary thru Adult levels. We will be connecting with each other through the lens of the past. Come, bring your imagination and learn more about the many aspects of Friend's experiences in the 350 years we have been working and worshipping together.

GOLF CART DRIVERS WANTED!

Program Committee is looking for volunteer golf cart drivers for Annual Session 2022. A driver's license is required. If you are interested in helping, please contact Martha Baer (mbar25@gmail.com). Please include your contact information (including cell phone number), the days you expect to be present at Hood College, and any prior experience ferrying people around in golf carts.

Saturday Evening Carey Lecturer: EMILY PROVANCE

Emily Provance is a member of Fifteenth Street Meeting and thinks of New York City as home, though she now travels in the ministry full time. She came to Friends after seventeen years of searching for a faith community. She understands the Religious Society of Friends to be a worldwide covenant community and has spent time with Friends from various branches of the tradition in Kenya, Belize, Britain, Ireland, Tanzania, Palestine, Mexico, Peru, and the United States. Emily takes joy in intergenerational groups, roasting marshmallows for s'mores, musical theatre, oceans, and studying new and often obscure things. Her website can be found at quaker-emily.wordpress.com. She is an associate of Good News Associates.



Emily Provance

SPECIAL EVENTS OF THE WEEK

FILM NIGHT

Join us for the film, *Quakers: The Quiet Revolutionaries* with filmmakers, Dick Nurse and Janet Gardner. Showing Thursday night, August 4, at 8:15 PM, after the All Ages Celebration, the filmmakers will follow the screening with a guided discussion of the film. To learn more about the history and contemporary status of Friends, visit their website to peruse a great deal of general and useful information. www.quakersthefilm.com



INTERVISITATION LOUNGE

The Intervisitation Working Group will be sponsoring evening gatherings each evening (except Friday) during the week when visitors to Baltimore Yearly Meeting can get together with members of BYM to discuss how Intervisitation has continued thru the pandemic, as well as concerns and joys that are rising up among various Yearly Meetings. We look forward to connecting with those that have joined us in the past and those new to our sessions. This is a great time to share what we have learned in our visits to other Meetings and from visitors to our own Yearly Meeting. All are welcome to join us for light refreshments.

GLOBAL MAJORITY HANG-OUT SPACE

Sabrina McCarthy will be the facilitator for a hybrid Global Majority Hang-Out Space on Tuesday through Saturday. Formerly known as the BIPOC Hang-Out Space, this year the Global Majority Hang out will take place in-person AND online from 1 p.m to 1:45 pm, bringing together Friends from far and wide.

The reason for the change is that “Global Majority” encourages those who are dual- or multi-heritage, Indigenous, Aboriginal, Black, Pacific Islander, Brown, and West, South or East Asian to see themselves as belonging to the global majority rather than as “minorities.” These groups represent about 80% of the world population. The term “People of Color,” by contrast, centers whiteness as the norm, while implying that white people have no race in a racialized world.

PROGRAMMED WORSHIP

New for 2022! Programmed Worship with Friends Church Baltimore, Saturday 6:15pm

BYM Ministry and Pastoral Care (M&PC) and Program Committees (PC) are happy to announce an expansion to our worship offerings at annual session this year. Ronald Moyia, co-pastor of Friends Church Baltimore will be leading Friends in programmed worship from 6:15 to 7:15 pm on Saturday, August 6th, directly before the final plenary of Annual Session.

A VEGANNUAL CHALLENGE AT ANNUAL SESSION 2022

This year, the Right Relationship with Animals Working Group invites Friends’ voluntary participation in our first Vegannual Challenge. Whether you are motivated by a concern for animals, the environment, the climate, or human health, we encourage participants to challenge themselves to be deliberate in selecting meals during Annual Session that do not contain animal products (meat, dairy, eggs).

Hood’s multiple dining options, which are communicated on the registration form, will be available, as usual. But we would like to build on that with a Vegan Friday option, and possibly a Vegan Week, for newcomers to plant-based eating. Our intention is to encourage participants to explore plant-based cuisine by choosing to partake in balanced meals created by Hood College’s knowledgeable culinary team. Our hope is to raise awareness of our daily intake of animal products and of the positive consequences of pursuing an alternative, plant-based path to nourishment.

Once a final number of plant-based meals, consumed during Annual Session, can be tallied, we will report on what our collective effort accomplished for animals, the environment, the climate, and human health.

We encourage Friends to draw on the spiritual wisdom of Peace, Stewardship, Simplicity, and Equality, and give plant-based eating a try in the interest of creating a better future for all.

ANNUAL SESSION BOOKSTORE NEWS!

This summer, the Bookstore can be found in the large, comfortable area on the first floor of Whitaker. Please stop in and browse. There will be many new titles to choose from, plus a wide selection of crafts. Plus, titles and book signings from BYM and Quaker authors.

Vendors: We are reaching out to all our artistic Friends in search of those interested in being a vendor in the Bookstore. We invite you to offer your items for sale. The application process is easy, and if you let us know that you plan to join us, we can provide enough table space for everyone to fit comfortably! Just contact the Bookstore Manager at bookstore@bym-rsf.org.

Register for Annual Session 2022 online at
www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession

ANNUAL SESSION 2022 EVENTS OF THE WEEK

REGISTRATION

Online Attendees: Friends who are attending any part of Annual Session online will do so through our new Annual Session Hub. After registration, Friends will receive a password to log into the online Annual Session Hub. The Hub is your one-stop location for all online aspects of Annual Session. From the Hub, Friends will be able to click-to-join Meetings for Worship and workshops, see the full Annual Session schedule, and interact with other attendees. Whether you plan to join Annual Session in-person only, online only, or a mix of the two – be on the lookout for more information about the Annual Session Hub in the weeks to come! The BYM Office will hold webinars leading up to Annual Session to debut the Hub and make sure all registered Friends are able to access it.

In-Person Attendees: Friends who have registered in advance and have completed their payment prior to arrival may collect their Welcome Packets (with room keys included) by going to the Registration Desk and looking in the marked container. All others need to stop by the Registration Desk during the hours listed below.

REGISTRATION DESK HOURS

Monday: 12:00 pm - 2:30 pm
 Tuesday: 12:00 pm - 2:45 pm and 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm
 Wednesday through Saturday: 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm
 and 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Unprogrammed Worship will be held Tuesday at 2:00pm and Sunday at 9:00am

Programmed Worship with Friends Church Baltimore, Saturday 6:15pm

WORSHIP SHARING

Wednesday through Saturday, our Annual Session day begins with bible study or worship sharing from 8:15-9:15am. This year, we will offer many ways to get ready for our days of worship, business, learning, and fellowship. You can sign up for a Bible Study or Worship Sharing group during online registration or when you arrive on campus. Bible Study focuses on different scriptures each day. The Worship Sharing groups invite Friends to share deeply around the theme and queries for Annual Session and is offered in several formats:

1. General Worship Sharing
2. Experiments with Light
3. “Family Friendly” worship sharing session will make space for laughter, movement, and other gifts of being in intergenerational community.
4. Unity with Nature committee will hold a worship sharing session out of doors.
5. A music focused worship sharing group will include song and chant.

Daily bible study and worship sharing are wonderful ways to start the day, nurture your spirit, and make new connections while at Annual Session.

WORKSHOPS

Workshops on a wide variety of topics of interest to Friends are presented online July 26th, 28th, and 30th and in-person at Hood College on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday afternoons from 2 to 4pm. Leaders come from BYM or represent other Quaker organizations. Descriptions of workshops begin on page 13. Sign up for one workshop or a Connecting Local Meetings (CLM) session each day. CLMs offer a chance to consult with Friends from other Meetings, and share challenges and successes on the topic. Some workshops limit attendance, so make sure you get the workshop of your choice! You are encouraged to indicate your workshop preferences at the time you register. Changes may be made later or when you arrive on campus as long as space is still available.

INTEREST GROUPS

Interest Groups provide a great way to gather informally to focus on topics of interest to Friends and can greatly enrich your Annual Session experience. They can meet Thursday or Saturday at 4:15, or Friday at 6:15. Topics and locations are announced in the Daily Minute. If you would like to hold an interest group, please make your request in advance at <https://bit.ly/BYMANNUALSESSIONINTERESTGROUPS> or call Linda Coates at 717-696-7914 to be sure to get an assigned space. Since we can only have a limited number of groups at a time, there is a priority list for subjects:

1. BYM business concerns;
2. BYM activities: committees, working groups, response to issues raised by speakers;
3. BYM Representatives to Quaker organizations;
4. Local Meeting concerns;
5. Other Quaker organizations.

ALL AGE CELEBRATION

Join us Thursday for an evening of intergenerational fun! This year we will be focusing on ways to harness the theme of Annual Session. Enjoy ice cream and cake while we engage in getting to know you activities!

COFFEE HOUSE

The Coffee House is an open-mic night emceed by Young Friends. It begins at 7:30 pm on Friday. Anyone may sign up to perform! Sign up notices will be posted in several locations around campus.

THE DAILY MINUTE

The Daily Minute is the newsletter of Annual Session. Each day it will be available at the dining hall and online, giving highlights and updates for the events of the day. Other messages can provide helpful information for campus services or other news. Submit your Daily Minute notice via email to dailyminute@bym-rsf.org OR drop off a legibly written announcement at the Information Desk. Whether submitted via email or in person, the deadline for the Daily Minute is 5 PM, and all submissions must have your full name and contact information.

EVENING SINGING

Gather ‘round, all! You can sing hymns around the piano from 6:15 to 7:15pm Tuesday through Thursday evenings.

Register for Annual Session 2022 online at
www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING ANNUAL SESSION FEES AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

In 2022, Annual Session will use a Pay As Led model. The suggested registration rate represents the true cost of participating in BYM's Annual Session. Please use the suggested registration rates to determine the total cost for your registration or the registrations of your entire group. However, Friends may register at the amount they choose - below or above the rate. We hope Friends who are able will consider paying at or above the suggested rates. Registration above the suggested rates helps ensure all Friends can attend, regardless of ability to pay, and will be recorded as a donation for tax purposes. Each lodging night includes three meals, beginning with dinner on the day of arrival, continuing through lunch the following day.

When registering online, you will have the choice to pay by credit card or check immediately or at a later date.

Checks can be sent to:

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING

17100 Quaker Lane

Sandy Spring, MD 20860

We accept major credit cards and debit cards

Checks, cash, and credit/debit cards

are accepted on campus.

2022 Annual Session Suggested Rates	
Adult Double	\$110/night
Adult Single	\$125/night
Young Friends	\$110/night
Children <i>Birth – 8th Grade</i>	Free Registration Required
Adult Commuter <i>with 2 meals</i>	\$90/day
Adult Commuter <i>without meals</i>	\$70/day
Online-Only	\$75
Single Event <i>in-person or online</i>	\$25

ANNUAL SESSION REGISTRATION WEBINAR THURS, MAY 5TH 3:00PM

Online at: <https://tinyurl.com/BYMRegTutorial>
Meeting ID: 856-4751-1242, Passcode: 243803

**Come learn how to use our NEW online registration system!
The tutorial webinar will be recorded and shared.**

ANNUAL SESSION GOES HYBRID

For the first time in 350 years, BYM's Annual Session will be offered in a hybrid format – with options to participate in-person and/or online. Plenaries, Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business, pre-session workshops, the Global Majority (formerly BIPOC) Hang-Out, and an exclusive social space will be available online via our new Annual Session Online Hub. In addition, all participants – online and in-person - will be able to access the Annual Session schedule, online event links, and social features in the “one-stop” Annual Session Hub. Online options will be limited in this first year of hybrid experimentation, and the full Annual Session experience will only be available in-person. Stay tuned for more details and a guided webinar tour of our new Annual Session Hub!

Register for Annual Session 2022 online at
www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession

HYBRID ANNUAL SESSION AT A GLANCE

During BYM's first-even Hybrid Annual Session, events will take place in 3 formats: in-person only at Hood College, online only via the new Annual Session Hub, and hybrid (with Friends participating both online and in-person). Use this guide to determine the format for all your favorite Annual Session events.

Event	In-Person Only	Online Only	Hybrid
Worship Sharing		*	
Bible Study		*	
Global Majority Hang-Out Space			
Intervisitation Lounge			
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business			
Unprogrammed Worship			
Programmed Worship w/ Baltimore Friends Church			
Memorial Meeting			
Retreat			
Pre-Session Workshops (July 26th, 28th, and 30th)			
Annual Session Workshops (Aug 4th-6th)			
Tuesday Night Plenary			
Wednesday Night Plenary			
Saturday Night Carey Lecture			
All Ages Celebration			
Film Night			
Coffee House			
Singing			
Committee Meetings		*	
Interest Groups		*	

***If you are interested in leading an online-only section for any of these Annual Session Events, please contact SarahG@bym-rsf.org.**

Register for Annual Session 2022 online at
www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession

REFUND POLICY

If you cannot attend Annual Session and want a refund, your request must be received by July 15. Your registration fees, minus a \$25 service charge, will be refunded as soon as possible after Annual Session.

In the event in-person Annual Session must be canceled due to Covid conditions, the refund policy will be communicated to all participants. It is our intent that all participants will have their fees fully refunded in the event of such cancellation.

ANNUAL SESSION EXPECTATIONS

At Baltimore Yearly Meeting, we are a community of Friends living in the discipline of the Spirit. Attenders of all ages are asked to observe conduct appropriate to Friends' principles and to take care that all of their personal behavior is bound by a respect for all, including those of the host community.

As a Religious Society, we profess a belief that God endows each human being with a measure of the Divine Spirit. (Faith and Practice, 1988) We will not permit violent physical, verbal, or other behavior that we find, through corporate discernment, violates that Divine Spirit. Those in our midst whose behavior disrupts program activities and/or threatens the physical and emotional safety and integrity of another will be asked to leave.

Parents and sponsors are expected to be actively responsible for their children at all times. Attenders are asked to help make a safe and supportive community for all children. The BYM Youth Safety Policy will be in effect, and all Friends are asked to be familiar with it.

If unable to function within the guidelines of the community, any attender may be asked to leave. Alcohol, illegal drugs, and tobacco products (including vaping) are not permitted at Annual Session.

COVID POLICY

BYM Annual Session Covid Policies are subject to change based on local, state, and national conditions. We hope conditions will improve by August, which may allow us to relax some policies. Any changes to the policy will be shared with registered participants via email. Friends are kindly asked to take a rapid Covid test before checking in at Annual Session.

- Masking protocols will prioritize safety over comfort. Friends who attend will need to be comfortable wearing masks in certain situations. Friends, of course, can wear a mask whenever they choose. Masking protocols are as follows:
 - Masks will be worn by Friends while passing and mingling in indoor, public spaces such as the registration area, bookstore, dorm lobbies, etc.
 - Masks will be worn for all indoor sessions with more than 20 Friends in attendance including all plenaries, Meetings for Worship, and business sessions. However, a small number of Friends will be unmasked during these events such as the Clerks, plenary speaker, etc. Friends will also be asked to briefly remove their mask when delivering a message.
 - For indoor gatherings of fewer than 20 Friends, Friends should expect to wear a mask. However, the group may unanimously choose to be unmasked.
 - Masks will not be required at outdoor events and gatherings.
 - Masks will not be worn during meals. There is some outdoor seating available on the patio of the Hood College dining hall. In addition, Friends should be aware that Hood College staff and other on-campus guests will be following local masking regulations, which may include not wearing masks at the time of Annual Session. Hood College's Covid-19 policies can be found here.
- BYM will have a limited number of rapid Covid tests on-hand at Annual Session but cannot guarantee their availability for all. Friends are encouraged to bring a rapid test with them in the event they begin to feel unwell or if there is a need to test due to reported exposure.
- In the event a Friend feels unwell, we ask them to test, either with a self-administered rapid test or through local medical care. BYM will maintain a list of urgent care providers offering PCR tests. Please call the General Secretary, number will be provided in your Welcome Materials, if you have a positive result. Every effort will be made to keep your medical information private while also protecting the community.

Annual Session and its participants will abide by any public health recommendations made by the Frederick County Department of Public Health that exceed the BYM Annual Session Covid Policy detailed above - up to and including cancellation of in-person Annual Session activities.

The Annual Session Covid Policies are subject to revision by the BYM Program Committee and General Secretary. Any revisions will be shared with all registered participants in advance. Young Friends and Junior Yearly Meeting may opt for their own Covid policies in their spaces, which will be communicated to all participants and their parents.

Register for Annual Session 2022 online at
www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession

MEDICAL INFORMATION FORMS AND LETTERS OF UNDERSTANDING

Everyone under the age of 18 must complete the medical information form available on the Annual Session website at www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession. No one under 18 can be allowed to participate in youth programs until a medical form is on file.

Young Friends who have attended a YF conference in the 2021-2022 academic year do not need to complete a new form. Young Friends also need to complete the Letter of Understanding, which is available in the same section of the Yearly Meeting website.

JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING

Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) welcomes families to a vibrant community of adults and children! At Annual Session, your child can meet and get to know children from other Meetings, have fun, and learn Quaker values and history. We will provide complementary programs virtually and in-person, as way opens, for children from infancy through rising 8th grade. The JYM program is divided by grade groups. The nursery provides child care during morning, afternoon and evening sessions in a play space with loving, creative adults. In the morning the elementary group divides into classes with varying activities and play focused on the YM theme, then during the afternoon and evening sessions come together for less structured activities and games both inside and outdoors. The rising 6th through 8th graders (JYFs) meet as their own community to learn experientially about Quaker process and participate in a wide variety of activities. Together they write an epistle to share with the Quaker community. Rising 9th graders may choose to stay with JYFs or join the Young Friends as they feel comfortable.

For safety reasons, children attending in-person Annual Session are expected to either participate in JYM programs or be under the direct supervision of a parent or other designated responsible adult during the event. A co-op aftercare will be offered after the JYM afternoon program on applicable session days from 4 pm until 5 pm. Parents or designated responsible adults who want their children to participate in the co-op care must sign up to work one aftercare shift. Please check the JYM schedule upon arrival to note the time(s) that adults can coordinate and organize so that all co-op shifts are covered. Virtual participants must have parent consent and age-appropriate supervision during participation in JYM activities.

YOUNG FRIENDS

During Annual Session, Young Friends (YFs) gather from Tuesday to Sunday and stay in dorm housing together. YFs have their own schedule that includes many elements of the general Annual Session schedule. On average, the schedule makes time to build the YF community through workshops, business meetings, committee meetings, worship sharing, and games. YFs integrate with the larger BYM community at meals, evening lectures, Produce Department, and Coffee House. Each year is different, depending on what the planners schedule.

The Young Friends program begins Tuesday afternoon. Anyone of high school age who arrives prior to this time should plan to participate in the Yearly Meeting Retreat and must stay with a parent or sponsor in their room until our programming starts.

EVERYONE must pre-register online. YFs are welcome to register for just a day, or a few days. Keep in mind that unlike conferences during the school year, Young Friends must have an adult sponsor present at Annual Session. Many adults from your Meeting might be excited to be your sponsor if you need one. PLEASE NOTE THAT to be on campus at all, you must GET YOUR NAME TAG from the registration desk. Please check the registration desk hours listed earlier in this Interchange. Please look for Sunshine if you show up on campus and have not checked-in yet at the BYM Registration Desk.

If you have never attended an Annual Session before, some of the information in the Interchange may seem confusing. If you have any questions, contact Sunshine Klein (youthprograms@bym-rsf.org) at the Yearly Meeting office or the Young Friends Annual Session Planners. Read through all of the information in this Interchange to learn more.

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS

Young Adult Friends (YAF) is an intentional community of Friends aged 18-35. At Annual Session, members take part in all aspects of the program, from attending business sessions and workshops to providing acts for the Coffee House. YAF also has its own programming: it does its own business, has a special dinner out, holds late night swims, takes the rising YAFs out for ice cream—and writes an epistle telling the rest of the Yearly Meeting and the wider Quaker community what it has been up to at Annual Session and over the course of the past year.

For more information about the YAF program, email yafs@bym-rsf.org.

Register for Annual Session 2022 online at
www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Annual Session Schedule for the Week

AUGUST 1 TO AUGUST 7, 2022

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
7:00		Breakfast (7:00-8:30)						7:00
8:00			Worship Sharing and Bible Study (8:15-9:15)				8:00	
9:00			Walking meditation to JYM & Business Meeting				Worship	9:00
10:00			Retreat (8:30-12:00)	Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business (MfW - B) (9:30-12:00)			MfW - B (10:00-12:00)	10:00
11:00								11:00
12:00	Retreat Registration	Lunch (12:00-1:00) <i>Tues - Sat Registration Open (12:00-2:00)</i>					12:00	
1:00		Siesta (1:00 - 2:00) <i>Global Majority (BIPOC) Hang-Out (1:00 - 1:45pm)</i>					1:00	
2:00		Worship	Plenary Session (2:00 - 4:00)	Workshops (2:00-4:00)			2:00	
3:00	Retreat (2:30-5:00)	MFW - B (3:00-5:00)						
4:00			MFW - B (4:15-5:15)	Interest Groups (4:15-5:15)	Committee Meetings (4:15-5:15)		Interest Groups (4:15-5:15)	4:00
5:00		Dinner (5:00-6:30) <i>Tues - Sat Registration Open (4:30-6:00)</i>					5:00	
6:00		Singing (6:15-7:15) Tuesday-Thursday		Interest Groups (6:15-7:15)	Programmed Worship (6:15-7:15)	6:00		
7:00	Retreat (7:00-9:00)		Committee Meetings	All Ages Celebration		7:00		
8:00		Plenary Session (7:30-9:30)		Film Night (8:15pm)	Coffee House (7:30-9:30)	Carey Lecture: (7:30-9:30)	8:00	
9:00							9:00	

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AN INTRODUCTION TO HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (HBCUs)

By Clinton Pettus

Anyone who wishes to better understand the struggles and resilience of a people who were brought to this country against their choice should turn to at least two social institutions: (1) the African American churches and (2) the historically black colleges and universities. People of African descent did not choose to attend segregated churches or schools. But they have made the best they could of what they had, to paraphrase Supreme Court Associate Justice, Thurgood Marshall.

In the case of the African American churches, many a person turned to that source for socialization, hope, and spiritual guidance, especially in some of the most difficult times of lynching, rape, police brutality, and other forms of social injustice. The churches have been a mainstay in the Civil Rights Movements and other struggles for social justice in this country.

Similarly, institutions of education have enabled people of color who were held back by a closed system of social stratification and various forms of social injustice to discover what was possible, to take advantage of opportunities for upward mobility, and to be forces in various social justice movements, including the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 60s.

It is not surprising in many ways to find that one of the oldest institutions of learning for persons of African descent was established as the result of a bequest from a Friend, Richard Humphreys. Richard Humphreys willed \$10,000 to thirteen members of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting to establish a school to instruct “. . .the descendants of the African race in school learning, in the various branches of the mechanic arts and trades and in Agriculture, in order to prepare and fit and qualify them to act as teachers in such branches of useful business as in the Judgment of the said society they may appear best qualified for, the Said Institution to be located not far distant from the City of Philadelphia and to be under the care, management, and control of such Persons only as are or may be members of the Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends commonly called Quakers¹.” The school, which was first known as the African Institute, then the Institute for Colored Youth, later Cheyney State College, and finally the Cheyney University of Pennsylvania has been around since 1837.

Historically black institutions in this country are noted for producing teachers, preachers, undertakers, doctors, nurses, military leaders, mathematicians, and many other professionals who contributed so much to this country despite many efforts to hold them back. There were times in this country when there were few places to turn to get professional and advanced degrees. There were times when certain states would pay the out-of-state costs for a person of African descent to attend some of the leading schools in the North rather than allow them to attend in-state schools in the South that

1 Charlene Howard Conyers (1990) *A Living Legend: The History of Cheyney University 1837 – 1951*. Philadelphia: Cheyney University Press, 1990.

are categorized as traditionally white institutions. Fortunately, many of those persons who went North returned to the South to work at historically black institutions.

What is an HBCU or historically black college or university? How did they come to be? What are some of the difficulties that they suffered, and continue to struggle against, to survive? Where are they located? Who are some of their well-known graduates? What are some of their noteworthy contributions to the uplifting of society? A workshop at Annual Session will be designed to share with members of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting some of the rich histories of institutions of higher education that have been categorized as historically black colleges and universities.

In the face of funding inequities, bomb threats, and other forms of social injustices, these institutions have survived. Though more often plain rather than dazzling, they have spread the seeds of their ministries across the Earth. Enriched and invigorated by their past, they beckon all peoples to their doors. Refreshing and enriching the lives of those who hunger for knowledge with a humane outlook, all people of goodwill must ensure that the HBCUs survive, and joyfully thrive.

BYM ANNUAL SESSION & HBCUs

Opportunities & Learning Await!

A subcommittee of Program Committee is currently exploring site options for Summer 2023 and beyond with a focus on holding Annual Session at an HBCU (Historically Black College & University).

This aligns with the commitment BYM has made to be an anti-racist faith community, offering us a unique opportunity to deepen our learning about the struggles people of color have encountered with access to education; build awareness of and celebrate the accomplishments of HBCUs; and direct financial resources in support of an HBCU through their conference services.

The subcommittee has approached the site search with a commitment to learning about the history and backgrounds of the schools. The accompanying article by Clinton Pettus is shared to provide all Friends an opportunity to begin to develop a deeper understanding of HBCUs. Please join us for our workshop at this year's Annual Session to learn more.

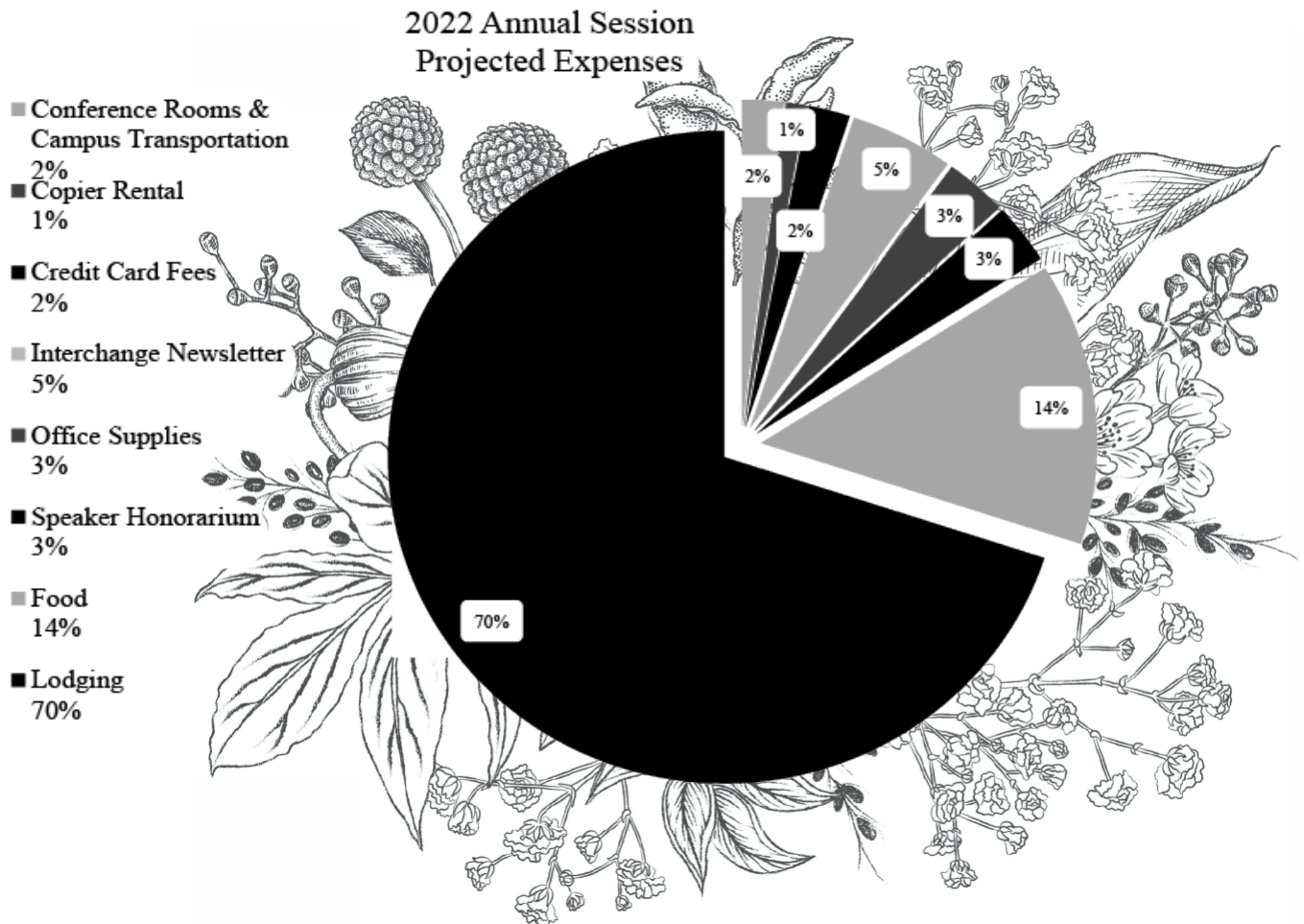
As the subcommittee's work continues, we will be seeking broad feedback from BYM. In the meantime, feel free to be in touch with us if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

HBCU Subcommittee: Rosemary Davis; Clinton Pettus; Jennifer DeLorge McKeown; Barb Platt, co-clerk (former Program Committee clerk); Martha Baer, co-clerk (current Program Committee members); and Sarah Gillooly (BYM General Secretary).

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Dear Friends,

It is an act of faith to cover the entire costs of our upcoming Annual Session with a Pay As Led (PAL) approach. Other Quaker events, such as the FGC Gathering, apply PAL to only a particular component of the programming costs (for example, PAL may apply to registration but not to food and lodging.)



Yet we are guided by faith and the inclusion of all Friends, regardless of their ability to pay, even in the midst of extended costs this year that include offering both in-person and online access to worship and programming. This hybrid approach ushers in an additional \$3,400 in expenses with another \$1,000 in increased tech support. Not surprisingly, the persistence of the pandemic also necessitates purchases of PPE and other health interventions; all this occurs amid higher inflation. With the generous support of Friends, we will gather online and in-person for all the joyful programming you've come to expect at Annual Session.

**Kindly bear all of this in mind as you discern your Pay As Led fee.
If you wish to make an added contribution, you can make a gift at
<https://www.bym-rsf.org/giving>.
Or explore other giving options at <https://www.bym-rsf.org/giving/giftoptions.html>.**

You are heartedly invited to attend this year so that you can enjoy the wider embrace of our broader community of Friends celebrating 350 years together.

Register for Annual Session 2022 online at
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2022 ANNUAL SESSION WORKSHOPS

**ONLINE PRE-SESSION WORKSHOPS:
TUESDAY, JULY 26TH, 7:00PM-9:00PM ET**

Black Resistance in Quaker Enslaver Households in Maryland and Virginia

We will explore examples and patterns of “slave resistance” by Black people enslaved by white Quaker enslavers. These actions helped precipitate an internal crisis and struggle among Chesapeake Region Quakers, who eventually disallowed slaveholders from remaining in membership as Quakers.

Facilitator: Jim Fussell, a member of Langley Hill Friends.

CLM: Issues that spring from the Spiritual State of Meeting

This is the Connecting Local Meetings (CLM) workshop sponsored by the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee. We will use the session to discuss spiritual issues that have arisen in the annual Spiritual State of the Meeting reports - to ground our committee deeper in the experience of our local meetings.

Facilitator: Greg Robb, a member of Friends Meeting of Washington, Greg has been co-clerk of the M&PC committee for the past three years.

FCNL Creation Care: Pursuing Transformational Climate Policies in an Era of Disruption

Focusing on Friends Committee on National Legislation’s advocacy for climate policies that will lead to a healthier planet, Clarence Edwards will discuss the latest efforts to reach FCNL’s vision of “an earth restored,” the sticking points of FCNL’s environmental policy priorities, and recommended actions to advance a sustainable low carbon society and just economy.

Facilitator: Clarence Edwards leads FCNL’s work on sustainable energy and environmental policy, bringing extensive experience in government relations, issue advocacy, and strategic communications to FCNL (full bio here: <https://www.fcnl.org/people/clarence-edwards>).

Enhancing Pleasure, Reducing Pain

We will worship share on Stoic practices to reduce negative emotions (like anger, anxiety, frustration, and envy) and to enhance positive emotions (like happiness, delight and joy). The Stoics, rooted in ancient history, were started in 300 BCE and their practices can help us grow into a Joyful Spirit.

Facilitator: Jerry Knutson, Jerry is a Minister traveling under the care of Orlando Monthly Meeting (OMM).



**ONLINE PRE-SESSION WORKSHOPS:
THURS, JULY 28TH, 7:00PM – 9:00PM ET**

Quakers and Anti-Lynching

We will learn about Quaker Anti-Lynching actions by four Yearly Meetings, by Black activists and individual Friends from the 1890s to the 1930s. And yet far too many white Quakers were silent in the face of these relentless white atrocity crimes.

Facilitator: Jim Fussell, a member of Langley Hill Friends.

Community Safety Beyond Policing: Building Community Alternatives

Communities across the country are calling for reduced spending on policing and reinvestment of those funds. Together, we will develop an understanding of current community-based responses to emergencies in communities across the country; learn how to do an assessment of the assets and needs for emergency response in our own community; and develop a plan to take concrete action toward building community alternatives to police response.

Facilitator: Jacob Flowers. Jacob is the Regional Director for the U.S. South at the American Friends Service Committee and is based in Atlanta, GA.

CLM: Change Groups Working to Reduce Racial Barriers

Many BYM local Meetings have small groups (sometimes called “Change Groups”) dedicated to lowering racial barriers in their Meetings. Friends doing this work will share with each other what they have been doing, what they plan to do, and what challenges they face.

Facilitators: David Etheridge, Clerk of the BYM Working Group on Racism and Peirce Hammond is Clerk of the BYM Growing Diverse Leadership Committee.

The Power of Enough

What is essential? How much is enough? How is my use of time, energy, and “things” in right balance to free me to do God’s work, and to contribute to right order in our world? Through personal reflection, discussion, and worship sharing, we will explore queries to discover our power of enough.

Facilitator: Jackie Stillwell is the General Secretary of Right Sharing of World Resources, a Quaker organization that facilitates opportunities to learn about right sharing, and provides micro-enterprise grants with educational support to women around the world; she has traveled widely among Friends with FWCC, FGC and FUM, serving as an elder and workshop facilitator.

Is your Meeting House a “Healthy Building”??

How safe are we in our Houses of Worship? Many lack fresh air that nourishes us, and removes contagion. Learn how to stay healthy inside, and avoid the spread of Covid-19 and other pandemics.

Facilitator: Adrian Bishop, a BYM Friend experienced in construction, property inspection and maintenance, as well as managing Quaker Meeting Houses.

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PLANNING TO SET UP A DISPLAY AT ANNUAL SESSION?

Here's What you Need to Know:

Display space is available on a first come-first serve basis.

Tabletop spaces are limited to 3 feet in width.

To reserve your space, please complete the form at <https://bit.ly/BYMAAnnualSessionDisplay> or call Linda Coates at 717-696-7914.

ONLINE PRE-SESSION WORKSHOPS:

SATURDAY, JULY 30TH, 10:00AM – 12:00PM ET

Quaker Response to Enslavement in BYM Territory

We will explore the history of how Quakers living on the lands that are now part of BYM responded to the existence of enslavement from 1672 to 1865.

Facilitator: Sabrina McCarthy and David Etheridge. David Etheridge is Clerk of the BYM Working Group on Racism.

The Many Faces of Wildflowers

Wildflowers work at many levels in our lives. We will share how they connect us to each other, the planet and the Divine. Bring your stories, art, crafts, writing, music, healing and gardening tips, recipes, conservation and sustainability ideas. I will provide inspiration with photos and quotes.

Facilitator: Friend Fran Palmeri, a naturalist and nursery co-owner, works to educate people about the beauty and fragility of Mother Earth.

The Lost Quaker Voice in Making America's Experiment

The Revolutionary Quaker Voice arising out of its Holy Experiment (1682) in the Mid-Atlantic was instrumental in design of the American Experiment and our Constitution. What was the transformative logic in social change of the Quaker Voice? What does the consequence of loss of its distinctive culture today mean for the Future of Democracy?

Facilitator: Lowell Christy Jr., Sandy Spring Meeting. Seven year cultural anthropological research on letters, ideas and influences forming America's Founding Thinkers. Forthcoming book, "UnCommon Sense: Making of the American Experiment" (2023).



A Young Adult Friend's Engagement with an End-of-Life Adult
Bob Rhudy, a member of BYM's End-of-Life Working Group, will introduce Martin Krafft, a Young Adult Friend, who has produced a documentary video of his relationship with a 46 year old woman dying of cancer, with their discussions on the interactions between young adult Friends and end-of-life persons and the invitation to Quakers to answer that of Spirit in those who are different from us.
Facilitators: Bob Rhudy, Facilitator; Member, BYM End-of-Life Working Group; elder law attorney; executive director, Senior Mediation and Decision-Making, Inc., Martin Krafft, Presenter, Annapolis Meeting; BA, Emory University; MFA, University of Arizona.

A Quaker Family Burial Ground Preservation in NE Baltimore
Neighbors are trying to preserve a Quaker family burial ground in NE Baltimore from depredation by a local developer. Learn about their efforts, their plans for the future, and how you can help.

Facilitator: Linda Rabben is an associate research professor of anthropology at the University of Maryland, a sometime attendee of Adelphi Friends Meeting, and a member of the Westfield Neighborhood Improvement Association in NE Baltimore.

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS AT HOOD COLLEGE: THURSDAY, AUG. 4TH, 2:00PM – 4:00PM ET

Creating Collage Wildflowers

Participants will create an 8" x 10" wildflower collage; a visual reminder of this year's theme. No "artistic" skills required. I guarantee you will have fun and take home a charming piece of art. Materials list will be sent. Intro zoom session prior to Annual Session (optional).

Facilitator: Dierdre Foley, Patapsco Meeting, Full-time Artist who taught Art at elementary, middle school and college levels, and considers Art as a spiritual practice.

Welcome to Friends Place!

Join us for a conversation about the exciting updates to the Friends Place space, programming, and operations. This workshop offers the opportunity to learn about the organization and guest house (formerly known as William Penn House), and to consider how we might fit into your next group trip to DC!

Facilitator: Sarah Johnson, the director of Friends Place on Capitol Hill.

Standing in the Way, Standing Aside, and Making Decisions that Include Everyone

Quaker Community may be a meadow of wildflowers, but we sometimes find ourselves sitting in a thicket in business meeting. How does it help our community when individuals "stand in the way" or "stand aside?" How do we make decisions that include everyone even when we don't all individually agree?

Facilitators: Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco) served as Presiding Clerk of Baltimore YM from 2014-2020. Rebecca Richards (Gunpowder) served as clerk of Gunpowder for 3 years.

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Becoming Comfortable with Our Mortality: Living and Dying Well as Friends

Ria Hawkins will share her experience where frequent and open communication about aging and dying contributed enormously to the deeply spiritual death of her beloved husband Ted. The workshop consists of presentations, an experiential exercise and worshipful sharing on queries from the End of Life Working Group's new publication.

Facilitators: Ria Hawkins and Ted started preparing for death when they started their family, by making a will and finding a relative who would care for their children in the event they both died. Patti Nesbitt is clerk of End of Life Working Group and a retired palliative care nurse.

Why is the shortest verse in the bible the most powerful?

Let's take a look at the shortest verse in the bible and consider its implications. It may be possible to see the words of a Jewish carpenter from Nazareth as wildflowers; bringing beauty and hope to an occupied land in a time of turmoil.

Facilitator: John Yost, Little Britain Monthly Meeting, Clerk of Eastland Preparative Meeting.

Exploration of the book *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson

Reading *Caste* together can help our Yearly Meeting become an actively anti-racist faith community. Isabel Wilkerson's writing style is personal and engaging, and the material can arouse our emotions. Gather with others who have read or are reading the book to share our experiences and ways we may feel stuck.

Facilitator: Members of the Working Group on Racism have been preparing to lead a study of this book, focusing on cultivating a brave space to explore uncomfortable truths.

Pronouns Practice

Growing towards Spirit and changing well-rooted habits takes practice. We will be going over the basics of how to talk about gender and how to help each other grow towards creating an inclusive space. You will leave this workshop with concrete ways to practice using someone's pronouns.

Facilitator: Sunshine Klein and the Young Friends Community.

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS AT HOOD COLLEGE: FRIDAY, AUG 5TH, 2:00PM – 4:00PM ET

A Walk in the Woods at Catoctin

(This workshop will leave campus at 1:30 to allow for driving time) We will see some flowers of the field and some trees of the forest as we meander through the woods at Catoctin Quaker Camp. We will explore some of the unique and beautiful places on the 385 acres the Yearly Meeting uses for its camping program. We will also take some time to stop and discuss some of the natural history and forest ecology in the area. Transportation will be provided from Hood College to Catoctin Quaker Camp and back again (about 30 minutes each way.)

Facilitator: David Hunter has been the BYM Camp Property Manager since 2003, has a deep interest in forest, forest ecology and in the lands that provide sites for our camping programs.

ZOOM ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Are you looking for a way to serve the BYM community this year? The Program committee is looking for volunteers to assist with the Zoom sessions. Training will be provided to all volunteers. We are looking for assistance for our presenters in managing simple things such as screen sharing, break out rooms (the computer does most of the work), and assisting with managing the chat and who has hands up during discussions. All levels of experience are welcome. Please contact Linda Coates at Lindajcoates@gmail.com or at 717-696-7914.

Retrospective Justice, Repair, and Community

With BYM's 350th, how can we bring retrospective justice to the painful parts of our history as a country and as Friends? This workshop will explore retrospective justice, reparations, and community, via Harold Weaver's Pendle Hill pamphlet *Racism, Systemic Violence, and Retrospective Justice*, then consider some initiatives Friends have begun.

Facilitator: Marcy Seitel and others, Co-clerk of the Reparation Action Working Group.

Continuing Revelation and the Future of Quaker Testimony

In the next decade the S.P.I.C.E.S. formulation of Quaker Testimony/Testimonies will likely be laid down by most Friends. WHAT might replace it? In particular, we will examine the longstanding but seldom named Quaker Justice Testimony.

Facilitator: Jim Fussell, a member of Langley Hill Friends.

HBCUs, Rooted in History, Continuing to Grow Toward the Spirit

Faced with funding inequities, bomb threats, and other social injustices for almost 200 years, historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) have survived. Though more often plain rather than dazzling, they have spread the seeds of their ministries across the ground; enriched and invigorated by their past they have always welcomed all peoples to their doors. For an introduction to HBCUs, see page 11.

Facilitators: Clinton W. Pettus and Kathryn L. Pettus, Clinton and Kathryn met at and graduated from an HBCU. They spent much of their careers working at HBCUs in various administrative as well as faculty roles.



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Spiritual Bounty in Nature: Foraging for SPICES at Friends Wilderness Center

Successful foraging depends on deep acceptance and appreciation for the gifts offered by nature. The treasure that blooms and grows is not always what we expect or seek. Current conditions, habitat characteristics, community association, natural history, disturbance, restoration, even anticipated change shape the bounty extended when we are open and accept the opportunity to harvest. At Friends Wilderness Center, foraging for SPICES yields Spiritual Bounty.

Facilitator: Kimberly Benson, Annapolis Friends, Kimberly Benson is the general manager of Friends Wilderness Center, a scientist, naturalist, climate and environmental activist.

Your Dreams and Two Dreams from the Bible

We will look at two dreams as interpreted by Joseph in the Bible, relating to the Butcher and the Baker. Each participant will work with one of their own dreams, through art and through imagination and see if we cannot ask God to interpret it for us in the here and now of the workshop.

Facilitator: Rose Longworth, Valley Friends, a licensed professional counsellor working with dreams for 50 years.

Faith, Philanthropy and Taxes: Making informed choices in your charitable giving,

This workshop will explore how several apparently disparate topics interrelate, namely tax planning, investment, charitable giving, and ethical concerns. We will consider tax-aware techniques for charitable contributions, but go beyond these to help workshop participants develop an approach that works for their individual situation.

Facilitators: Mary Braun, Development Director and Victor Thuronyi, Development Committee and Stewardship and Finance.

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS AT HOOD COLLEGE: SATURDAY, AUG 6TH, 2:00PM – 4:00PM ET

Creating Zines--Dandelion Seeds in the Wind

Zine is short for magazine. They are informal, underground publications focusing on--well--whatever YOU want to spread the word about. A hobby, sport, music, social or political activism. You write/draw it. Print it off a copier and leave them around town, school, etc. Think of them as dandelion seeds in the wind. Quakers have a history of creating self-published tracts.

Facilitator: Dierdre Foley, Patapsco Meeting, Artist and social justice activist. Taught First Day School to create Zines.

Transformative Internal Struggles in the History of Baltimore Yearly Meeting

We will explore past transformative conflicts among Friends over establishing Women's Business Meetings, ending Quaker Slaveholding, reunifying Baltimore Yearly Meeting after 140 years, ending Racial Segregation in Quaker Schools, and fully welcoming LGBTQ Quakers including embracing Marriage Equality. (A NEW topic for Annual Session marking BYM's 350th Anniversary)

Facilitator: Jim Fussell, a member of Langley Hill Friends.

Difficult Conversations: Listening and Talking Strategies

This workshop will focus on specific strategies for listening and talking with those who are different from us. They may have different political or religious views or may be from a very different society. We will focus on how to find God in the other person. In the end, it is we who will be enriched by doing this.

Facilitator: Ramona Buck, Ramona has a career of mediating, facilitation and dealing with conflict.

Chanting With Early Friends

We will sing chants by Paulette Meier, Quaker songwriter, who put to music the writing of Early Friends to help remember and understand them, discovering a deep spiritual practice. After learning each chant, workshop participants will engage in worship-sharing regarding: "In what ways do these seeds, sown by our forbearers, guide us today?"

Facilitators: Joan Liversidge, Sandy Spring Meeting, and Sarah Bur, Homewood Friends.

How's Pastoral Care Going?

How is pastoral care rooted in your meeting? How is it growing? Have the processes for providing pastoral care been working? What pastoral care resources might your meeting need? Members of the BYM Pastoral Care Working Group will facilitate discussion around these queries to see how we can work together to provide better pastoral care.

Facilitators: Erik Hanson and Becky Cromwell. Erik Hanson and Becky Cromwell are members of Sandy Spring and serve on the BYM Pastoral Care Working Group.

The Nuclear Threat: Pushing back against the world's most immoral weapons.

Allen Hester, Friends Committee on National Legislation's Legislative Representative for Nuclear Disarmament and Pentagon Spending, will explain recent developments which increase the risk of nuclear war. He will also explain how nuclear weapons are already causing environmental and humanitarian harms. Finally, he'll highlight actions that faith communities can take to tackle this existential threat.

Facilitator: Allen Hester, FCNL Legislative Representative for Nuclear Disarmament & Pentagon Spending.

Register for Annual Session 2022 online at
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YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS CONFERENCE ANNOUNCED

The Young Adult Friends (YAFs) will be hosting a conference for our community the weekend of June 3-5, and we would love to see as many of our wonderful YAFs there as possible. We will do some (short) business, and then there will be plenty of shenanigans and splendid free time to enjoy within the company of fellow Friends. With zero fees and free food, as well as some virtual activity opportunities, and consent-based COVID-19 precautions, we aim to be an utterly accessible space. So, follow the details below and please reach out if you have any further questions. We look forward to seeing each other in June!

Date: June 3-5, 2022

Price: \$0

Location: To be announced broadly soon, and virtual

Contact: yafs@bym-rsf.org

FRIENDLY ADULT PRESENCE (FAP) TRAINING

The best way to support the Junior Young Friends and the Young Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting is to serve as a Friendly Adult Presence, (also known as a “FAP”). These adult chaperones are dedicated volunteers that help foster a loving community for our young people through healthy relationship-building and supportive mentoring.

If you're interested in being trained as a FAP, reach out to Sunshine Klein at youthprograms@bym-rsf.org for more information.



SPRING WORK DAYS AT CAMP

Join us for a weekend of fun, friends and fellowship!

It's time to get our camps cleaned up and ready for the spring and summer seasons! We will have 1 work day each for Shiloh (5/7), Opequon (6/4) and Catoctin (6/11). If you can join us for any or all of the days, please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/BYMCampWorkDays>.

On your work day/s please bring a water bottle, snacks and a lunch, clothes that are appropriate for the weather, work gloves, etc. We will provide hot water for tea so please bring your own mug or insulated cup.

If you have any questions please contact Anne Honn at anhonn@gmail.com.



MINISTRY AND PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE WORKSHOPS

Among the many projects that the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee organizes are occasional workshops. We would like to let you know about three upcoming M&PC or M&PC-connected workshops.

During Annual Session in August, Greg Robb of the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee will offer a Connecting Local Meetings workshop on the Spiritual State of the Meeting reports.

Also during Annual Session in August, Ken Stockbridge and Rebecca Richards will lead a workshop on the term, “Standing in the Way”, as used in Meeting for Business. After a discussion at the 2022 Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee retreat about this term, we asked Ken and Rebecca to hold this workshop.

The Pastoral Care Working Group is planning a pastoral care workshop, date and time to be announced. The Pastoral Care Committee is one of the six Working Groups we support.

Gary Sandman
M&PC Co-Clerk



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www.bym-rsf.org/events/annualsession

EVER WONDER WHY

Many of us had the “...” Around our names, as in (page randomly chosen in yrbk 2021 p. 369) While some do not? There’s a reason for this, hidden away in BYM’s past. This, and other history/mystery revelations may come forward during this year’s annual session. During the early years of our consolidation (January 1st, 1968), we worked our way forward, grew ourselves into ownership of camps, learned about the use of computers for staff, and all of us, managed moving the whole show to college campuses within our geographical boundaries, and much more. There are lots of memories to unpack! Please bring some of yours to share. We’re planning Oral History Adventures. You, too, can face the camera, speak in a mike, bring in others for gathering. Celebrate BYM as we recall it: Foibles, Fun, Innovation, and Creativity

MEETING NEWS

ADELPHI FRIENDS MEETING

As a Meeting, we started the year with a very sad event: the rapid decline and death of our beloved long-time member Mosi Harrington. She was a spark of fun and joy, and of social conscience in our Meeting and for area Quakers. We miss her a great deal. She leaves behind her spouse, Molly Parrish; three adult children; and three grandchildren. Her Memorial Service is set for May 14 at 2:00 pm at Adelphi.

On a much happier note, the long-planned for and awaited renovation of our Meeting House was finished a bit ahead of schedule in February and we are excited to have new floors, windows, air conditioning (!), and insulation. In addition we replaced aging play equipment for our children with a lovely new set. A few adults tried it out to make sure it was as much fun as it looked. (It is.) We are still hoping to be able to find the money yet needed to make possible a long-planned addition to our Meeting House that would add a new social space, an elevator, and new classrooms.

We returned to in-person worship in March with a Zoom connection for those who preferred to stay on-line. So far about half have come in person, with some preferring to stay outside - so we are actually split into three groups at times. Each week we tweak our set-up and get closer to a desirable hybrid situation. We are also able to have our weekly potluck with modifications, including eating outside. First Day School formally reopened April 3! Although we have seen some of our families and children for occasional activities, we have not had our usual program for two years and are excited that it is starting up again.

Other on-going activities include assistance to a large Afghan family resettling in this area, an excellent climate crisis talk from a member of our Meeting, and continued anti-racism work through our Continuing Quaker Education Committee. The latter has featured monthly explorations of aspects of Bayard Rustin’s life as they reflected Quaker testimony.

Submitted by Carole Hoage

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS MEETING

In the last several months, we have expanded our Meeting for Worship opportunities. We now are holding weekly blended (in-person and Zoom) Meeting for Worship at 11 am, using an Owl, laptop, and large television monitor in the meetinghouse. We are happy to stay connected with each other through technology, and sometimes struggle to find enough tech volunteers each week. We also now have weekly in-person 8 am Meeting for Worship, a particular joy for longtime regular attenders of Early Meeting. In March,



Hopewell's new picnic shelter

we laid down the pandemic protocols we adopted when transmission rates were high, including our indoor mask requirement. We encourage each other to make individual choices, and respect others’ choices, about mask wearing and physical distancing, and have high quality masks available for anyone attending a Meeting event.

We have appreciated several recent in-person events organized by committees. In March, our Meetinghouse and Lands committee held a very successful Spring Work Day, focusing on outdoor chores and projects. In April, our Outreach and Pastoral Care committees sponsored a well-attended gathering to meet and welcome newcomers who joined us during the pandemic, reconnect with each other, and take tours of the meetinghouse and Memorial Garden. We enjoyed the warmth and connectedness of these gatherings, as well as the delicious refreshments.

After several months of discernment, our ad hoc Assisting Afghan Refugees Committee proposed co-sponsoring a family resettled through Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSSNCA) for one year, in partnership with Annapolis Unitarian Universalist Church and with some financial and volunteer assistance from Collington Retirement Community. The committee carefully detailed what the commitment would entail, including helping locate and furnish an apartment, providing rental assistance, providing transportation to appointments, and assisting with other needs. Annapolis Friends enthusiastically embraced this work. The ad hoc committee has initiated the process with LSSNCA and expects we will be assigned a family to work with in April or May. Thanks,
Karen Cunnyingham

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CHARLOTTESVILLE FRIENDS MEETING

Charlottesville Friends are getting more comfortable returning to in-person worship, and we are pleased that visitors are joining us. We have resumed our potluck meals on the second Sunday of the month following the later worship. At the March potluck \$500 was gathered to send to UNICEF for their work in Ukraine. We also co-sponsored an event, on the downtown mall, in support of Ukraine. First Day School is ending the year with a unit combining the testimonies and cooperative games.

Linda Goldstein

HOPEWELL CENTER MEETING

STORAGE/SHELTER READY FOR EASTER DEDICATION

As early as 2018, the vision came to a few of us at Hopewell Centre: surely our aging carriage shed could be replaced by a more useful structure, one that would serve our Meeting's needs as well as those of the wider community and BYM. Now, after many prayers for way to open and the steadfast, spirit-led work of our Shed Committee, a brand new shed has arisen, in time for Easter, on the footprint of the old carriage shed. And not just a shed, but a combination picnic pavilion shelter and storage room under one metal roof.

While others may have been asking, What's happening with the shed? our Shed Committee was busy threshing out (as only Quakers can do) weighty considerations: Were we obliged to preserve the 1923 carriage shed? Can it even be restored? How do we pay for a new structure? It's easy to see why this project was slow to come to fruition.

Finally, we were advised that the old shed was unsalvageable. Then it was all hands on deck with a flurry of preliminary sketches, a 3-D model, cost estimates, meetings with contractors, local zoning issues, and fundraising plans. Once we had builder and money in hand, way opened — fast. The old shed came down and the new structure went up in less than two months.

Although we were not able to preserve the old shed, its dismantling was handle-with-care. One member pulled boards down, one by one. Others removed the contents to be stored, recycled or sold. Still others carved out lovely bookends and storage boxes for fundraising. Dead trees and brush were removed along the fence line revealing a magnificent view.

Of course, it was well worth the wait. Now we have a serviceable outdoor shed plus an inviting, open-air picnic shelter — a gathering place where neighbors, youth, visitors to Hopewell Meetinghouse, and others, can stop to picnic, play, rest, and take in the quiet beauty of our peaceful grounds. A space we can open to local community groups and the wider BYM and Quaker meetings as a place for fellowship and shared activities.

Only landscaping remains to be done. We envision a patio surrounded by a peaceful garden of native plants, trees and quiet paths — a place to be still and look inward and out on our scenic view. A fire circle is a possibility.

Commemorative Patio Bricks to honor loved ones are now available. In future, they will be part of a walkway or decorative wall; right now their sales will help with further fundraising.

Who was it that said, If you build it, they will come? Come spend time with us this summer. We've reserved a special prayerful place for you.



Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting Members cook acorn patties over a fire

PATAPSCO FRIENDS MEETING

Seldom does it happen that the community surrounding a Friends' Meeting presents an opportunity for outreach. But with Ellicott City's Sesquicentennial Celebration (250th), this opportunity has presented itself to Patapsco Friends. During the pandemic, Deirdre Foley-Citro of the Advancement Committee noted the upcoming anniversary and starting making plans.

In seeking ideas from the 250th Commemoration Committee, Deirdre was encouraged by historian Ed Lilley to hold a tour of the Meeting House—Hebron House, built by Judge Thomas Beale Dorsey as a family home in 1808. Patapsco Friends held one open house in March, and repeat performances will be held on June 12 and October 2, from 2-4 p.m.

Ellicott City was founded by three Ellicott brothers, Quakers who emigrated in 1771 from William Penn's colony in Pennsylvania to grow and mill wheat. After choosing their site on the Patapsco River, the Ellicotts built a mill for the community, a Quaker meetinghouse and houses of worship for other denominations, and founded schools for all children, including Native-Americans. They also helped recognize African-American Benjamin Banneker. Over the years Friends left the Ellicott City area to relocate to the West, or in large cities, partly due to the difficulties of farming in a slave-holding culture.

In 1996 an energetic group of Friends from Sandy Spring Meeting started a preparatory meeting in Howard County, settling in the historic, beautiful Hebron House, Judge Dorsey's manor house, now owned by Mt. Hebron Presbyterian Church.

Come to one of the open houses and learn more about this history, including the history of Ellicott City, the house and how Friends' beliefs and practices are now practiced by Patapsco Friends. We expect a special appearance by George Ellicott, one of the town's founders.

The street address is 2330 Calvin Circle, Ellicott City, MD 21042. Directions are at <https://ec250.com/event/patapsco-friends-meeting-open-house-2/>. The tour is free of charge.

Serendipitously, Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting was scheduled for June 12, the same date as the next open house. Patapsco Friends is opening its doors to the Quarterly Meeting and will share the house tour as its afternoon program.

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PATUXENT MONTHLY MEETING

We have been quite busy. Hard working Friends have done much renovating on our apartment/First Day School building, in preparation for a new family's arrival. We have welcomed them to their home. They and us are pleased that they will be doing some maintenance on our Meeting House grounds.

We have had the Meeting House open this past year for Meeting for Worship using health department recommendations. Several Friends do not have equipment to be able to participate remotely. We do still continue to provide access to Meeting through Zoom. Zoom has also let our "Friendly Eights" (often more) group, have rigorous discussions, even though some members are hundreds of miles away.

Our small Meeting continues to do much in the community. We participate with several anti-racism programs, food pantries and homeless shelters. We appreciate the words of local Baptist Pastor Ben Holland, "Though you are small in number, you are large in impact and effectiveness."

Several Friends have been researching the history of Quakers in Southern Maryland, as the first Patuxent Meeting was established nearby in the 1600's and was visited by George Fox.

We have welcomed some young families to Meeting. Our new website, developed by a Meeting Friend, may have encouraged them. Give us a visit- www.patuxentfriends.org/

RICHMOND FRIENDS MEETING

Spring 2022 begins with Richmond Monthly Meeting participating in blended meetings for worship (in-person at the meetinghouse and also on Zoom). We are grateful to return to the meetinghouse.

Our committees are active and nourishing our community. RE program is busy with toddler to elementary age children who now participate in the first 15 minutes of meeting for worship before they go to their classrooms for programs. Recently the RE Committee had a successful children's book drive. The book donations will be given to Helping Hands and FRIENDS Association for Children.



Baby Blue Birds found at Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting



Adult RE continues to host a monthly one-hour "Reading Between the Lines" (formerly know as Bible workbench) as well as a spring series "On Being a Quaker" on Saturday mornings through May. This series is offered at 9:30 am on Zoom. Topics include: That of God in Everyone, Integrity, a Foundation of Quakerism, Silent Worship and Vocal Ministry, Prophetic Voices, and Quaker Corporate process. ARE also has scholarship funds available for FGC. Care and Counsel has organized Friendly Eights themed groups that meet monthly to enjoy getting to know each other and participate in the chosen topics/activity such as Board Games, Climate Change Learning and Sharing, Helpful Quaker Outdoorsmen, Nature Cycles and Creativity, Old Friends New Friends, Quaker Stitchers, Water Color and Writers Group. Our community continues to focus on environment concerns through the RFM Earthcare working group and the Climate Change Friendly Eights. Both groups are teaching us how to develop greener habits and what we can do to confront the climate crisis.

Buildings and Grounds Committees for both the meetinghouse and The Clearing are busy with workdays and projects this spring. A new HVAC system and solar panels are being installed at the meetinghouse. The Clearing Retreat Center is being prepared to soon open to outside users as the pandemic restrictions are lifted. After two years of virtual retreat, Richmond Friends are looking forward to an in-person Spring Retreat at The Clearing, May 27-29, 2022. The theme is Enlighten Up! The program will provide exercises to deepen our connections to the natural world and see how we can help shift our awareness and follow the leadings that come from that shift.

On Thursday, March 31, 2022, Richmond Friends joined FRIENDS Association for Children for its in-person and live stream celebration of their 150th anniversary. Our rising clerk, Linda Fleet Perry, represented RFM at the celebration. On behalf of Richmond Quakers, Linda accepted a certificate from the FRIENDS Association in recognition of Quaker support to establish the Association 150 years ago. Representatives of local Baptist churches also received certificates.

Shortly after the civil war ended in 1865, a group of black civic workers, the Ladies Sewing Circle for Charitable Works recognized the need for an orphanage for children of slaves who

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were left homeless. The war and the abolition of slavery left many Richmond children without parents, relatives or guardians. Mrs. Lucy Goode Brooks, the leader of the Sewing Circle contacted the Quaker Society of Friends in Richmond and asked for endorsement and financial aid for the orphanage. Mrs. Brooks, her husband, Albert Royal Brooks and their nine children had been slaves. A while before slavery ended, her oldest daughter, Margaret Ann, age 17, left for work and never returned. The family never saw Margaret Ann again and several years later learned that she had been sold and died in Tennessee.

John Baker Crenshaw, the Quaker minister of the Richmond Society of Friends at that time, became active in the effort to find relief for these orphans. The Richmond Quakers agreed to sponsor the orphanage project and raised money in Virginia and the northern states. On August 12, 1867 the lot where the new orphanage would be built, was deeded to the trustees of Richmond Society of Friends. Construction of the Friends Asylum for Colored Orphans was completed in 1871.

On March 26, 1872 the Virginia General Assembly incorporated the orphanage and the composition of the Board of Trustees of FRIENDS Association was altered to include only representatives of Richmond area black Baptist churches. At that time the property was deeded to the Friends Asylum for Colored Orphans. The name of the Association was eventually changed to FRIENDS Association for Children. Since 1872 the FRIENDS Association has provided numerous services for children/families: adoption service, counseling service, community day nursery, foster program, pre-adoption boarding home and services for pregnant women.

Now in 2022, the FRIENDS Association for Children is a well respected part of the Richmond community serving children six weeks to 12 years old at centers in some of Richmond's most opportunity-challenged neighborhoods. These centers offer programs in child development, youth development & enrichment, family development, music and performing arts and health education. Today FRIENDS Association for Children partners with numerous Richmond resources: United Way of Greater Richmond, area colleges and universities, corporate partners, VA Department of Social Services and more.

The mission of FRIENDS is to help children and families

in the metropolitan Richmond area achieve their potential and become productive citizens. Richmond Monthly Meeting continues to include funds for the FRIENDS Association for Children in its budget each year.

SANDY SPRING FRIENDS UNITY WITH NATURE COMMITTEE

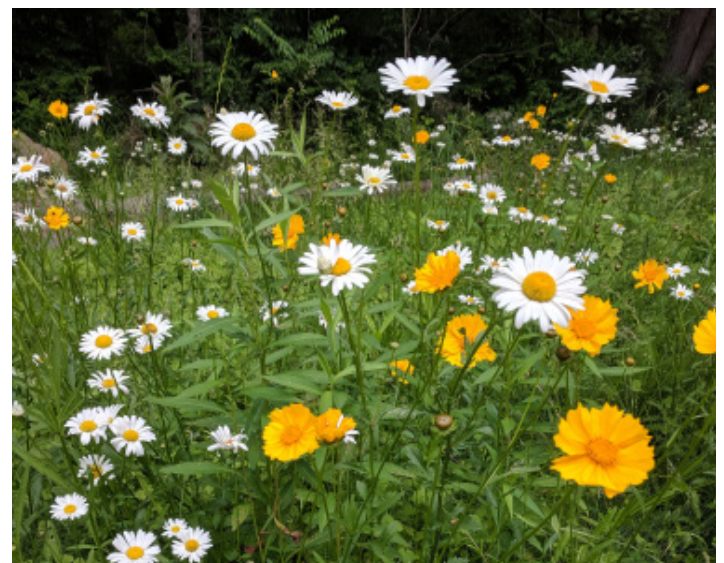
Covid restrictions and the ensuing isolation began in March 2020, and members of the Religious Education community had to change, to avoid a poorly-understood and potentially lethal sickness. "Our meeting community is favorably inclined with regards to supporting environmental issues," says a Friend on the UwN committee, so it was natural to change by moving RE outside.

Margo Lehman of the RE committee was led to move classes and activities outdoors and over the next 2 years, Friends extended environmental work such as rain gardens, bird houses, and a pollinator garden begun by the Unity with Nature committee.

With advice of the FUN committee (Friends United with Nature), the kids created a Certified Wildlife Habitat as defined by the National Wildlife Federation: shelter, water, food, a place to raise the young and other sustainable practices. The certification dovetailed with work already started by the adults. Newly-planted native flowers provided nourishment to insects; a watering hole was created by chiseled-out dead ash tree (which Margo says is more difficult than it sounds!) More wildlife nesting areas were created with an enhanced brush pile and more bird houses added.

The children added "weed warrior" skills by learning to identify and remove invasive plants such as garlic mustard, stilt grass, and raspberry bramble. Field trips to a conventional farming operation and a perma-culture/foraging farmette led to discussions on seeing forests as a food source and a meal of acorn pancakes.

In 2022, RE will continue to meet outdoors at least once a month to maintain and improve the wildlife habitat. The testimony of Stewardship, simplicity, and community demonstrated by the environmental work provided Quaker philosophy for First day School discussions. Many Sandy Spring Friends feel that being driven outdoors by the pandemic for two years was a blessing to the children, their parents and teachers.



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BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING UPCOMING EVENTS

[See the Yearly Meeting Website for Details and Other Events \(bym-rsf.org/events\)](http://bym-rsf.org/events)

May

- April 29 - May 1 – Junior Young Friends Conference at Opequon Quaker Camp
- 7 – Camp Work Day at Shiloh Quaker Camp
- 7 – Young Friends’ Picnic for BYM’s 350th and Camp’s 100th Anniversaries at the BYM Office
- 13 - 15 – Spiritual Formation Retreat at the Claggett Center
- 14 – Camp Work Day at Opequon Quaker Camp
- 15 – Warrington Quarterly Meeting at Warrington Monthly Meeting
- 27 - 29 – Young Friends Conference at Goose Creek Friends Meeting
- 30 – Yearly Meeting Offices Closed

June

- 5 – Nottingham Quarterly Meeting
- 3-5 – Young Adult Friends Conference
- 11 – Sixth Month Interim Meeting, location TBD
- 11 – Camp Work Day at Catoctin Quaker Camp
- 12 – Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting at Patapsco Friends Meeting

July

- 4 – Yearly Meeting Offices Closed
- 31 - August 2 – YF Nuts and Bolts Committee Conference (Steering Wheel), location TBD

August

- 1-7 – Annual Session 2022 at Hood College and online

2022 BYM CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

STAFF AND OFFICERS OF BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING

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Jim Riley	Treasurer treasurer@bym-rsf.org	Sunshine Klein	Youth Programs Manager youthprograms@bym-rsf.org
Sarah Gillooly	General Secretary sarahg@bym-rsf.org	Khalila Lomax	STRIDE Coordinator khalilalomax@bym-rsf.org
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