



Among Friends

*The Newsletter of the Richmond Monthly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)*

Eleventh Month 2011

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Proposed Queries on Meeting for Worship

In what ways do I prepare my heart and mind to receive the power of God's presence and love?

How does worship deepen my relationship with the Divine?

How is this inspiration carried over into my daily life?

Are our Meetings for Worship held in expectant waiting for divine guidance?

How do activities of our Meeting find their inspiration in worship? In what ways does worship uphold Meeting activities?

Meeting for Worship: Voices

For, when I came into the silent assemblies of God's people I felt a secret power among them which touched my heart; and as I gave way unto it I found the evil weakening in me and the good raised up; and so I became thus knit and united unto them, hungering more and more after the increase of this power and life, whereby I might feel myself perfectly redeemed....

Robert Barclay, 1678

As Catholic worship is centered in the altar and Protestant worship in the sermon, worship for the Society of Friends attempts to realize as its center the divine Presence revealed within. In a Catholic church the altar is placed so as to become the focus of adoration; in a typical Protestant church the pulpit localizes attention; while in a Friends Meeting House there is no visible point of concentration, worship being here directed neither toward the actions nor the words of others, but toward the inward experience of the gathered group.

Howard Brinton, 1952

Calendar (* indicates story in the newsletter)

October 27th – Quakerism 101, Barbara Myers on Quaker origins and history, 7 pm.*

October 30th – ASE First Day Series, Roni Kingsley and Jan Hampton, Spirituality and Photography, 9:30 to 10:40.*

November 3rd – Quakerism 101, Betsy Brinson & Al Simmons on Quaker social justice (last session), 7 pm.*

November 6th – Meeting for Muffins for parents at 9:30 am.*

November 6th – Singing First Day from 10:35 to 10:55 by the piano.

November 12th – Take a Second for Peace walk. Meet at The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts at 9 am.

November 20th – Singing First Day from 10:35 to 10:55 by the piano.

November 20th – Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business from 11 am to 12:30 pm.

November 27th – Potluck lunch at rise of meeting. Please come and bring a dish. All are welcome.

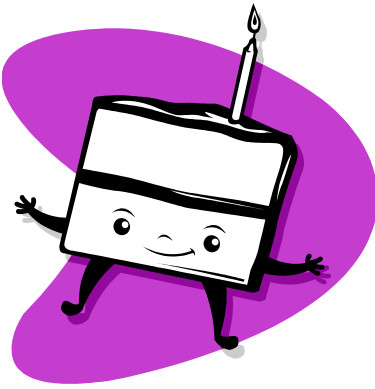
December 4th – Singing First Day from 10:35 to 10:55 by the piano.

December 4th – Carol Sing & Breakfast, 9 am, watch newsletter for location and bring a dish!

December 4th – Hull Street Meal, contact Paula Powdermaker to contribute food or funds.*

<p>Child care is available each First Day starting at 9:15 am for Bible Workbench, and 9:30 and 11:00 worship.</p>

Religious Education (RE) November Birthdays



Luke Manthey (10)	11/6
Holland Bressler (16)	11/14
Jordan Keller (13)	11/17
Nina Bartlett (11)	11/20
Max Thoburn (13)	11/20

News from Religious Education Committee

Meeting for Muffins/Parenting Workshop - Our next meeting for muffins will be First Day, November 6th from 9:30 -10:45 in the community room. Lee

Bloxom and Lynda Fleet Perry are coordinators. There will be pot luck breakfast food for all and activities for children while parents share time together. We had originally planned for the parent workshop on this day, but due to scheduling issues ASE has arranged for Harriet to come and lead the workshop on January 8, 2012 from 9:00 - 12:00, with an optional pot luck lunch. A big thanks to the ASE committee for their assistance!

The **RE Christmas Program** will be held First Day, December 11th during the first part of Meeting for Worship.

The RE-sponsored **Candlelight Christmas**, a family-centered Christmas experience, will be held Wednesday, December 21st from 7:00 - 8:00 pm in the meeting room. All are enthusiastically invited to attend this simple, sweet acknowledgement of Christmas.

Thrifty Quaker Donation to RPEC

Midlothian Friends Meeting sent nearly a \$4000 check to the Richmond Peace Education Center from the September proceeds of The Thrifty Quaker. The donation of gently used items to The Thrifty Quaker from Richmond Friends was largely responsible for this large check! The Thrifty Quaker is supporting FriendShare during the month of November. Richmond Friends can again help through their support. Nearly all of the beneficiaries from FriendShare (a Quaker run organization) are homeless and poor individuals who live within the Richmond city limits. Working with Social Services agencies and other trusted sources, FriendShare provides these unfortunate persons with one-time financial assistance for housing, medical, utilities such as electricity, transportation to work, and education that will help end their cycle of poverty. Please consider what gently used items you can contribute to The Thrifty Quaker in early November.



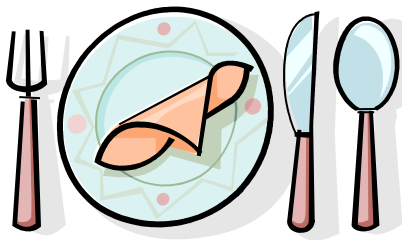
George Fox and his shaggy, shaggy locks (see the George Fox song in the hymnal)

Quakerism 101 Concludes on November 3rd

Quakerism 101 is a short introduction to Richmond Friends Meeting and the values, testimonies, processes, and history of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). The course is designed to be especially interesting and informative for newcomers to Meeting, and it serves as a refresher course for more experienced Friends. Each session will feature a presentation and leave plenty of time for questions and discussion. The last two sessions are on Thursday evening, 7:00 to 8:30 pm, on October 27 and November 3:

October 27 will be led by Barbara Myers on Quaker origins, history and our role in major social movements.

November 3 will be led by Betsy Brinson and Al Simmons on Quaker social justice advocacy today.



Hull Street Buffet Dinner December 4th

Please bring your delicious offerings for the next Hull Street Dinner to the kitchen by 5:15 pm on First Day, December 4th. Don't forget to label it for Hull Street! Make your dish large enough for eight servings. Questions? Contact Paula Powdermaker.

Help nurture the next generation of Quakers:

Serve as a Friendly Adult Presence (FAP) for middle or high school youth conferences that take place at meetinghouses throughout Baltimore Yearly Meeting. The next FAP training will be held on Sat. Nov. 5 at Tandem Friends School in Charlottesville VA. We expect to start at 9 am and finish at 4 pm. For more information, call Ted Heck after 7 pm on weekdays or any time on weekend days. Or email Ted. **Please RSVP by Tuesday, November 1** if you would like to attend.

Peace Center Auction and Dinner Scheduled for November 5



The Richmond Peace Education Center will hold its annual

Richmond Peace Education Center

fundraising auction and dinner on Saturday, November 5, 2011, beginning at 6 p.m. This year's event will again be held atop the Troutman Sanders Building, 1001 Haxall Point, overlooking the James River. During the evening's festivities, the Sacred Ground Historical Reclamation Project of the Defenders for Freedom, Justice & Equality will be honored as Richmond's 2011 Peacemaker of the Year. This grassroots organization has led one of the most successful organizing campaigns in Richmond history—resulting in the recognition and preservation of Richmond's African Burial Ground in Shockoe Bottom as an important historical landmark.

Items available for bid in the live and silent auctions include vacation getaways; ethnic dinners for four; gift certificates from local restaurants and other businesses; art and craft objects; clothing and jewelry; books by local authors; home-made treats and much more.

Tickets to the event are \$30 in advance; \$35 at the door. Reservations for children 5-12 are available for \$15. Children under 5 are free. Reservations are available by calling the Peace Center at 232-1002, emailing tickets@rpec.org, or clicking the Donate button at www.rpec.org and indicating "auction" on the donation form. Early reservation is highly recommended for this year's event.

As always, proceeds from this year's auction will support the programs of the Peace Center, including the Richmond Youth Peace Project, Racial Justice in Richmond workshops, public forums and conflict resolution training for both adults and young people.

- What: Richmond Peace Education Center's Annual Auction and Dinner
- When: Saturday, November 5, 2011, 6 p.m.
- Where: Troutman Sanders Bldg., 1001 Haxall Point, Richmond VA 23219
- Cost: \$30 in advance; \$35 at the door; \$15 for children 5-12. Reservations recommended.

For more information: Richmond Peace Education Center, 232-1002, rpec@rpec.org. For more information about the Sacred Ground Project, visit: <http://defendersfje.tripod.com/sacredgroundproject/>.

Richmond Friends Meeting

Minutes of Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Tenth Month 16, 2012

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWB) began at 11 AM with 36 people in attendance. Patricia Stansbury read the Tenth Month query from Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM). Friends were invited to respond from the silence in the mode of worship sharing. Christy Wooddy sat on the facing bench to hold meeting in the light. Jean Washburn was the greeter.

Denna began MWB with a quotation from Arthur Larrabee about the roles of those present for MWB.

Religious Education. Barb Adams noted several RE calendar items: November 6, 9:30 to 10:45 AM, Meeting for Muffins, a meeting for RE parents; December 11, 11 AM, Christmas program (in the first part of meeting); December 21, 7 PM, Candlelight Christmas program for families (not to be confused with Christmas Eve candlelight service).

Peace and Social Concerns. Martha Foster reported that the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) annual meeting will gather on November 3 - 6 in Washington, DC. Membership has already been paid on behalf of Richmond Friends Meeting, but Ben Hebner cannot attend. Friends interested in attending may contact Martha. Elizabeth Smith has decided to step down as coordinator of the local Eyes Wide Open memorial exhibit, and Tina Mellow has stepped up. Martha also announced the Peace Education Center annual dinner and auction, Saturday, November 5.

Financial Stewardship. Marjorie Bertolino, Treasurer, circulated copies of the Treasurer's report on year-to-date income, expenditures, and next year's budget, and pointed to the YTD income (contributions) numbers, which are strong. Monica Shaw, clerk of Financial Stewardship, reminded all committee clerks that 2012 budget requests are due October 16 (today).

Bob Alexander asked about a line item no longer listed, \$500 to city of Richmond in lieu of taxes. Monica answered that meeting has discontinued that payment because the city did not use the funds (did not deposit the checks).

Rita Willett asked about an expenditure item under Peace and Social Concerns. Marjorie confirmed that double contributions to several local outreach organizations had been made for 2011.

Nominating. Carolyn Moul reported that Nominating has been busy and successful at filling committees; people are still needed to serve on Hospitality; also, Nominating is still working to fill some member-only committees.

Care and Counsel. Frances Stewart conveyed the committee's recommendation, carried over from the previous month's MWB, for the membership of Jay Tubbs, and meeting approved. Care and Counsel's recommendation for membership of David Bartlett, according to custom, will be carried over to next month's MWB.

Adult Spiritual Education. Bob Rugg reported that the current ASE program sessions (Sunday mornings) will finish at the end of October, as will the Quakerism 101 sessions, which are being held on Thursday nights at 7 PM.

The committee, together with Religious Education, will hold an event on the topic of Quaker parenting in a non-Quaker world in January 2012, 9 AM-12 noon, followed by potluck.

Rita Willett reported that Friends gathered for fall retreat last Saturday, October 8, at the Clearing.

David Bartlett reported that a group coming from North Carolina from the Education Center will conduct a Bible Workbench program October 28-29th. The cost is \$50 including food for the two sessions. Financial assistance may be available; interested persons may contact David Bartlett.

Work Camp. Anne Gray reported that Work Camp happened on Saturday October 15, 2011. Ten Friends worked to improve the exterior of a house on Southside near 29th and Bainbridge. Steve Bricker further explained that meeting's Work Camp committee works cooperatively with HOME: Housing Opportunities Made Equal, a Virginia nonprofit that works against housing discrimination.

Hospitality. Denna Joy reminded Friends that potluck will be held next First Day, October 23 at the rise of Meeting.

Minutes. Ninth Month Business Meeting minutes were approved with the following changes: Delete “and lunch” from the Work Camp entry. Correct the spelling of “Counsel” in the Care and Counsel heading.

Clerk’s business, other business. Denna reported that Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s publication of Faith and Practice has been revised for the first time in a number of years, and that six or seven copies of a draft revision have been sent to RFM committees; in addition, there is a draft available for review online (<http://www.bym-rsf.org/publications/fandp/>). Friends are encouraged to review and respond to the

draft revisions through a committee, through the clerk, or directly to BYM.

Rita Willett announced that the School of the Spirit, a ministry group under Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, will visit Richmond Friends Meeting for a retreat on the weekend of February 11, 2012. Two volunteers are needed to make lunches, and volunteers are needed to provide overnight accommodations for three teachers. Friends interested in the School of the Spirit or in volunteering may contact Rita Willett.

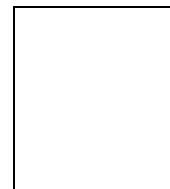
After moving into silence, meeting ended at 12:30 PM.

Denna Joy, Clerk
Kathy DuVall, Recording Clerk



Richmond Friends Meeting

4500 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23221-2301



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Richmond Friends Meeting
4500 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221-2301
www.richmondfriends.org
804-358-6185

Clerk: Margaret Edds
Assistant Clerk: Denna Joy
Treasurer: Marjorie Bertolino
Building Coordinator: Bob Alexander
Clearing Contact: Kathryn Beaton

Updates to the Directory and Mailing List should be sent to RFMdirectory@gmail.com

Meetings for Worship
9:30 and 11 am Every First Day
Singing
10:35-10:55 am 1st & 3rd First Days
Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business (MWB)
3rd First Day
Religious Education:
11:20 am First Day School
Pot Luck Lunch:
4th First Day, at rise of meeting

The Clearing
13941 Genito Rd
Amelia Court House, VA 23002
<http://www.theclearing.net>
Contact: Kathryn Beaton at kathryn.beaton@gmail.com

Midlothian Monthly Meeting Meeting for Worship
11 am First Days
900 Preservation Rd.
Midlothian VA 23113
www.MidlothianFriends.org
(Meeting website)
www.MeetinghouseRental.com
(to rent the meetinghouse)
www.ThriftyQuaker.com
(thrift shop)
Send news and events to Quaker_Town_Crier@msn.com



To receive our newsletter by email, send an email to enewsletter@richmondfriends.org
Give your name in the message if it is not apparent from your email address.

Among Friends is a monthly publication of Richmond Monthly Meeting. We'd like to remind Friends that the newsletter deadline is the same day as business meeting, the 3rd First Day. Business meeting-related documents may be sent as late as the following Tuesday evening. Please send all newsletter materials to NewsletterEditors@richmondfriends.org and RFMnewsletter@gmail.com.