

# ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING NEWSLETTER



## JANUARY 2022

Current and back issues of the newsletter are always available at <http://atlantaquakers.org/archive.htm>

Meeting for Worship  
Each First Day (Sunday)  
In Person & via Zoom  
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

### UPDATES ON WORSHIP AND FIRST DAY SCHOOL

Given the rapid spread of the Omicron variant of COVID 19, and its increased transmissibility, the Working Group on the Use of the Meeting House is holding a listening session at rise of meeting on January 2nd. We would like to share our thinking as we move forward with hybrid meetings in 2022, and to hear comments and concerns from our community. The session will be held in our usual hybrid format. Same Zoom link as Meeting for Worship; details below.

Please check your email and/or the announcement sheet at [atlantaquakers.org/\\_announcements/Announcement\\_Sheet.pdf](http://atlantaquakers.org/_announcements/Announcement_Sheet.pdf) regularly for updates or contact the office for more info.

At December's Meeting for Business, we approved continuing Sunday morning Meeting for Worship at 10:00 am as a blended meeting, with in-person meeting for worship at the meetinghouse combined with worship via Zoom, through at least June 2022. Nursery care for children under three will continue to be available at the meetinghouse. First Day School for both adults and children and teens also continues both in person and via Zoom.

**Notes: Sunday, January 2, First Day School for children will be via Zoom only at 10:00 am, and there will a vaccinated teacher present for teens. For January, Wednesday morning meeting for worship will be Zoom only. (See below for Zoom details.)**

Things to know:

- Please wear a mask inside the meetinghouse, even if you are vaccinated. If you speak during worship, please leave your mask on. (Children under two do not need to wear a mask.)
- Children can continue to join Meeting for Worship for the first 15 minutes or can go directly to Religious Education, as they and their parents / guardians prefer.
- Please sign in **every week** so we will know who was present in case we need to do contact tracing. Please include contact information so we can reach you if needed.
- There will be no coffee hour or potluck, but you are welcome to socialize after Meeting for Worship. Just bring your own beverage in your own container.
- Please do not come if you do not feel well, have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 10 days, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the previous 14 days.

For more details about in-person worship and for more info about First Day School and childcare, see <https://tinyurl.com/52u3waus> or contact the office: [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com) or 404-377-2474.

### QUERY FOR JANUARY

What binds us together as Friends? What weakens or strengthens us on our path toward a stronger community?

*source: Southern  
Appalachian Yearly Meeting  
and Association's  
Faith and Practice*

## DETAILS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP AND FIRST DAY SCHOOL AT ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING

For the most up to date information, [www.atlantaquakers.org/\\_announcements/Announcement\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.atlantaquakers.org/_announcements/Announcement_Sheet.pdf).

MEETING FOR WORSHIP (with new Zoom info as of September 5)

Combined in person and Zoom

10 a.m. Sundays

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89686276751?pwd=M29EYlIFWEhSQUtZRVPaIFFYmVDQT09>

Meeting ID: 896 8627 6751

Passcode: 789456

ADULT FIRST DAY SCHOOL (see under Events for more details for each Sunday)

Combined in-person and Zoom

9:00 to 9:50 am Sundays

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86063665797?pwd=Nms0Vm5MSW91UXdWRGJSOXA5NWRjZz09>

Meeting ID: 860 6366 5797

Passcode: 013191

FIRST DAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH (with new Zoom info as of September 5)

Zoom for younger children: Sundays 9:30am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7279961727?pwd=ck1ROVZIRWRCVDgzdGRocFhQWEduUUT09>

Meeting ID: 727 996 1727

Passcode: Quaker!

**January 2: Zoom only for children at 10:00 am. In person for teens at 10:15 am.**

*In-person for all ages, with blended option for teens: most* Sundays 10:15 am

Children and teens may join Meeting for Worship for the first fifteen minutes or go directly to Religious Education, as they and their parents / guardians prefer. The teens will meet in person with an option for a blended FDS class from 10:15-11:00. For more info, contact Laura MacNorlin.

### **Atlanta Friends Committees and Other Contacts**

Clerk of the Meeting: Jennifer Dickie, [afmclerk1@gmail.com](mailto:afmclerk1@gmail.com)

Office Coordinator: Nina Gooch, [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Judith Greenberg, [afmtreasurer1@gmail.com](mailto:afmtreasurer1@gmail.com)

Ministry & Worship: Bill Hooson, [bhooson@aol.com](mailto:bhooson@aol.com)

Finance: Paul Mangelsdorf, 770-677-4280

Social Concerns: Glenn Plyler, 207-522-5295

Administration: Steve Collins, [shcollins75@gmail.com](mailto:shcollins75@gmail.com)

Care & Counsel: Karen Skellie, [afm.care.counsel@gmail.com](mailto:afm.care.counsel@gmail.com)

Quakers for Racial Equality: Susan Firestone, [susanfires@gmail.com](mailto:susanfires@gmail.com)

Religious Education: Laura MacNorlin, [laura.norlin@gmail.com](mailto:laura.norlin@gmail.com)

Library: Cal Gough, [calgough@bellsouth.net](mailto:calgough@bellsouth.net)

Nominating: Eugene Jennings, [eugene@eugenejennings.com](mailto:eugene@eugenejennings.com)

Newsletter Editor: Nina Gooch, [atquakerltr@gmail.com](mailto:atquakerltr@gmail.com)

Webmaster: Aaron Ruscetta, [arxaaron@gmail.com](mailto:arxaaron@gmail.com)

Bookkeeper: Jonah McDonald, [afmbookkeepe`ail.com](mailto:afmbookkeepe`ail.com)

For information about these committees, download the **AFM Handbook** from <http://atlantaquakers.org/members.htm> (scroll down to the bottom to AFM Documents to Download) or contact the Clerk of the committee.

### **RECENT DEATHS**

Nita Hinely, long time member of the meeting. died on December 5.

Cards can be sent to her daughter Lisa Hinely, 874 Verona Drive, Clarkston, GA 30021.

Bette Turlington, another long time member, died December 23.

Cards can be sent to Maggie Turlington, 1010 Scott Blvd, Unit C-8, Decatur GA 30030.

### **HOLDING IN THE LIGHT:**

Bette Turlington's family

Susan Firestone and family

Lisa Hinely and family

Kelli Divis and family

Mary Bartlett and Peter Schantz

*Those wishing to have requests for holding in the light included in this monthly newsletter may give the names to a member of Care & Counsel.*

## FROM FRIENDS JOURNAL

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The theme for December's *Friends Journal* is “the Language of Faith.” To read the issue online, visit <https://www.friendsjournal.org/issue-category/2021/language-of-faith/>. It includes:

- an article by Mary Ann Downey about what it means to walk in faith and about finding “the right use of scripture” (<https://www.friendsjournal.org/walk-by-faith/>),
- an article about holding people in the light (<https://www.friendsjournal.org/to-hold-in-the-light/>)
- this poem about God and gender (<https://www.friendsjournal.org/pronouns-for-god/>)

Pronouns for God  
by Patricia Crosby

Finally you have a name for it,  
that distant, other, eternally-plural presence.  
Not a beetle-browed patriarch or an earthy queen,  
Not male, female, gendered at all.  
Just an all-encompassing *they*.  
On your left, on your right, in the center, outside, they.  
Hallowed be their name.

As usual, the November's issue is *Friend's Journal's* annual book issue, but this year, it features Quaker Speculative Fiction and Sci-Fi. Read the stories as well as many book reviews at <https://www.friendsjournal.org/issue-category/2021/speculative-fiction-sci-fi/>

You can read issues going back to the 1950's at <https://www.friendsjournal.org/issue-archive/>.

## SURVEY FOR SAYMA YEARLY MEETING – please fill out by January 14

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*Jennifer Dickie, Clerk of SAYMA's Yearly Meeting Planning Committee (YMPC@SAYMA.org), writes:*

The yearly meeting planning committee (YMPC) has begun to think about ways to accommodate our annual sessions and retreat in 2022. We are not yet sure we will have a physical location for our gathering and are working on that aspect. In the meantime, we need to be prepared for the possibility of another year of virtual gathering.

We invite ALL Friends to fill out the YMPC survey to let us know your thoughts and share your ideas: <https://tinyurl.com/YMPCsurvey> **Please complete the this brief survey by January 14, 2022** so that we may consider your responses at our next YMPC meeting.

## MINUTES FROM SAYMA'S 2021 YEARLY MEETING SESSIONS NOW ONLINE

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The minutes from Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association's (SAYMA's) Yearly Meeting Session 50 (June 2021) and Representative Meeting 149b (December 2021) are posted on the SAYMA website at [www.sayma.org](http://www.sayma.org) under the heading "Documents" and then the headings Representative Meeting and Yearly Meeting.

## FCNL's SPRING LOBBY WEEKEND FOR YOUNG ADULTS – March 12 to 15, register by January

*from meeting attendee Julia Rademacher-Wedd:*

“Calling all young adults (ages 18 to 30) to lobby among Friends in Washington, DC this Spring! We will be joining hundreds of others from across the country to advocate for protections for undocumented immigrants. Whether you are new to political advocacy or have lots of experience, this will be a great opportunity to learn, build relationships, and make a collective impact in Congress. Financial aid applications to Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) are due in mid-January, so contact Julia Rademacher-Wedd at [jfrwedd@gmail.com](mailto:jfrwedd@gmail.com) ASAP if you are interested or even just curious.”

*more info from Larissa Gil Sanhueza, FCNL's Young Adult Program Manager:*

“For the last two years during Spring Lobby Weekend, Friends Committee on National Legislation's (FCNL's) young adult conference and day of action, we have virtually met with hundreds of lawmakers. We demanded meaningful change on issues of climate policy and policing. Even over Zoom, we have continued to prove that we are stronger and louder when we come together. I am so excited to announce that for Spring Lobby Weekend 2022, March 12-15, we plan to reunite in person in Washington, D.C.! In 2022, we'll be lobbying on immigration and refugee policy. As young constituents, we have a unique role to play in the policymaking process. We can help determine the priorities of our legislators and urge them to support equitable policy. I hope you will advocate with us, and look forward to seeing you in March!

“To ensure that we are able to gather safely, we will continue to monitor and adhere to the health guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control. We will, of course, let you know if there are any changes. But for now, stay tuned for more details and visit our website at <https://act.fcnl.org/survey/spring-lobby-weekend-2022> to register, view a tentative schedule, and learn how you can bring along some friends.”

## APPLY FOR FCNL's PAID YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

Applications are now open for the [Program Assistant Class of 2022-23](#) (due February 7), and their [summer internship](#) program (due March 25). These programs give you the chance to work on advocacy and policy and grow your professional network. They will be held in-person in 2022. <https://www.fcnl.org/act/young-adult-advocates>

## GENERAL RESOURCES FROM FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION

- FCNL is a Quaker lobbying organization in Washington, DC: [www.fcnl.org](http://www.fcnl.org)
- FCNL's report on Dismantling Militarism is at (<https://www.fcnl.org/dismantling-racism-and-militarism-us-foreign-policy>) and accompanying queries (<https://www.fcnl.org/dismantling-racism-and-militarism-us-foreign-policy/queries>)
- Read about advocacy from a Quaker perspective at <https://www.fcnl.org/resources/ffriends-unlikely-places-engaging-those-who-dont-agree-you>
- To join Atlanta's local FCNL Advocacy Team, contact Sue May. For general information about FCNL's Advocacy Teams, visit <https://www.fcnl.org/act/join-advocacy-team>.
- FCNL advocates on a variety of issues: Economic Justice, Environment, Gun Violence Prevention, Immigration and Refugees, Justice Reform, Native Americans, Middle East and Iran, Nuclear Weapons, Peacebuilding. See <https://www.fcnl.org/issues> for more details.

## FRIENDS SCHOOL SEEKS LEAD AND ASSISTANT TEACHERS FOR SUMMER CAMP apply by February 1

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The Friends School of Atlanta is seeking capable, experienced lead and assistant teachers to share their special skills and interests with our summer campers for the six weeks of S.T.E.A.M.-inspired programming from June 6 to July 22, 2022. (No camps the week of July 4.) The campers range in age from five to 14. We invite lead teachers to create camp sessions for as little as one week or as many as six weeks. You can offer the same session for more than one week or provide a variety of offerings. Lead teachers must have experience working with children and young teens. Deadline for applications is February 1st. For questions and more information about the application process, please contact Hannah Ellwood, Summer Camp Director at [hannah.ellwood@friendsschoolatlanta.org](mailto:hannah.ellwood@friendsschoolatlanta.org).

## APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR 2022 – 2023 QUAKER VOLUNTARY SERVICE – due February 28

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*note from Christina Dunbar, an alum of and recruiter for Quaker Voluntary Service (QVS):*

Grounded in the Quaker faith tradition and open to people of all backgrounds, QVS is a year-long Fellowship program in which young adults (age 21-30) build intentional community, work full time at social service and social change agencies, and explore themes of spiritual and personal growth with local Quakers. QVS addresses racial, economic, and gender justice by helping partner organizations increase capacity to fulfill their missions and provide young adults with invaluable experience and training that equips them for a lifetime of social change work. QVS currently has houses in Atlanta, Boston, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, and Portland OR.

Applications for the upcoming 2022-2023 year (beginning in late August 2022) are due February 28, 2022. Read more and apply: Check out QVS' website (<https://quakervoluntaryservice.org/>) where you'll find a Fellow [job description](#), Fellow [testimonials](#), current service [partners](#), and the application [portal](#). If you have any questions please email Christina Dunbar at [christinad@quakervoluntaryservice.org](mailto:christinad@quakervoluntaryservice.org)

## GRANTS FOR THE STUDY OF CHRISTIAN MYSTICISM – due March 1

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The Elizabeth Ann Bogert Memorial Fund for Study and Practice of Christian Mysticism, administered by Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas, makes annual grants of up to \$1,000. (Mysticism is the direct experience of God.) Proposals for 2022 are due by March 1, 2022. Recently funded projects include grants for scholars doing research work on Therese of Lisieux and Quaker Douglas Steere; a grant for presenting materials on traditions of prayer and contemplation over the internet; and funding for a retreat on "Silence, Contemplation and Scripture" sponsored by a residential retreat center. Proposals should be no more than two typed pages and should include the following: a full description of the project, including an indication of how the project relates to the study and/or practice of Christian mysticism; the specific amount of money requested; the way the grant will be spent; an indication of any other resources expected to be called upon; and plans for communicating the results of the project to others. Two or three letters of reference from people familiar with the work of the applicant should be mailed directly to Kathleen McVey, Professor Emerita, Princeton Theological Seminary, 272 Mercer Street, Princeton, NJ 08540. Email inquiries to [kathleen.mcvey@ptsem.edu](mailto:kathleen.mcvey@ptsem.edu). Application deadline for proposal and references is March 1, 2022. Awards will be announced by July 1.



## WHAT CANST THOU SAY? A QUAKER PUBLICATION ON THE MYSTICAL EXPERIENCE

*What Canst Thou Say?* is an independent Quaker publication focusing on mystical experience, the direct experience of God, and the growth that comes through contemplative practice. They also have a website, email lists and blogs. <http://www.whatcanstthousay.org/> Judy Lumb, meeting member, is one of the editors. The title comes from the George Fox quote: "You will say, Christ saith this, and the apostles say this: but what canst thou say? Art thou a child of Light and hast thou walked in the Light, and what thou speakest, is it inwardly from God?"

## QUAKER HOUSE IN FAYETTEVILLE, NC SEEKS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Quaker House is a manifestation of the Friends' Peace Testimony. Based in Fayetteville, NC, home of Ft. Bragg. Quaker House provides counseling and support to service members who are questioning their role in the military; educates them, their families, and the public about military issues; and advocates for a more peaceful world. For more information about Quaker House and the position and to apply, visit [www.quakerhouse.org](http://www.quakerhouse.org).

## RECORDING AND MATERIALS SHARED DURING FORUM ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

If you missed the Quakers for Racial Equality (QRE) forum on Indigenous Peoples and AFM on November 28, here is a link with links to the recording of the forum, materials shared, and further resources. QRE sees this forum as a first step and hopes that we will join in follow-up in AFM and in supporting work already being done in the Decatur and Atlanta area to connect with Muscogee people. [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zLvazDB2iCYQWWu1\\_J\\_4JRLaa5LhwXPM/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zLvazDB2iCYQWWu1_J_4JRLaa5LhwXPM/view)

## OPPORTUNITY TO HELP PROVIDE HOSPITALITY FOR CASA ALTERNA AT AFM

Many of you are familiar with the work of Casa Alterna led by our Friend-in-residence, Anton Flores-Maisonet. As of last week, Casa Alterna welcomed its 400th guest to Atlanta Friends Meeting. If you would like to support the work of providing hospitality to Casa Alterna guests at AFM by purchasing groceries and other needed items, please sign up here: <https://bit.ly/33zyhAD>. We invite you to stay current with news of Casa Alterna at <https://casaalterna.org/>. For more information and questions about this volunteer opportunity, please contact Cathy Amanti (cbamanti@gmail.com).

## AFM DIRECTORY / REACHING OUT TO OTHERS

- If you would like to reach out to others in the meeting community and need an electronic or printed copy of the directory, please contact [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com) or 404-451-5974.
- If you would like to be in the directory or need to change or correct your information, please send an email to both [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com) and [afmdirectory@gmail.com](mailto:afmdirectory@gmail.com).

## QUAKER QUOTE

*"Hope is holding in creative tension everything that is with what could and should be, and every day taking some action to narrow the distance between the two."*

- Parker J. Palmer

## REGULAR OFFICE HOURS RESUME ON MONDAY, JANUARY 3

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As of January 3, the Office Coordinator will return to regular office hours: 10 am to 1 pm Mondays thru Thursdays and by appointment on Fridays.

## SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS AND ADULT FIRST DAY SCHOOL – Sundays, January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

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Adult First Day School will meet in person at the meetinghouse, and people will continue to be able to join via Zoom. (See above for Zoom details.)

Each first Sunday of the month in Adult First Day School, we listen to how a Friend in our meeting answers questions of God's leadings as well as questions about what brings them to this meeting, what led them to become a member or not, and what they believe now. We call these stories spiritual journeys, stories where Friends describe their understanding of God and religion in their life. On December 5, we will hear the spiritual journey of Larry Foster, focusing on what brought him to Friends. To hear the Spiritual Journey of Clare Hannapel, shared December 5, visit <https://tinyurl.com/2djc9dha>. To hear or read previous spiritual journeys, contact Mary Ann Downey.

On second Sundays (previously third Sundays), Adult First Day School will have worship sharing, usually on that month's query. On other Sundays, we will discuss *The Great Conversation, Nature and the Care of the Soul* by Belden C. Lane. Please join us, even if you haven't read the book.

## WEDNESDAY AM MEETING FOR WORSHIP ZOOM ONLY FOR JANUARY

Wednesdays, January 5, 12, 19, 26

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8:30 am. **January will be Zoom only.** Contact Bert Skellie at 404-680-4799 for more info.

<https://zoom.us/j/92038862952>

Meeting ID: 92038862952

Password: 726229

## WEDNESDAY EVENING WORSHIP WITH MACON WORSHIP GROUP – January 5, 12, 19, 26

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The Macon Worship Group, which is under the care of Atlanta Friends Meeting, worships via Zoom every Wednesday at 7:00 pm.. They invite us to join them!

For more information, contact Bill Holland and Mary Ann Downey.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84095899009?pwd=SFhhOGNnWHZFbDdKRUhIVnFqdFk0dz09>

Meeting ID: 840 9589 9009

Passcode: 542278

## BOOKS BY AND ABOUT PEOPLE OF COLOR – Thursday, January 6

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The book group reading works by and about people of color meets at 1:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month, still via Zoom. On January 6, members of the group will discuss *Everyday People: The Color of Life*, edited by Jennifer Baker. Upcoming books include: February 3, *Homeland Elegies* by Ayad Akhtar; March 3, *La Rose* by Louise Erdrich; April 7, *The Wrong End of the Telescope* by Rabih Alameddine. For more info or the Zoom link, email Susan Cole at [cole2544@bellsouth.net](mailto:cole2544@bellsouth.net).

## QUAKER "HIKE" – Saturday, January 8

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Please mark your calendars for the next Quaker "hike" - we will meet at AFM parking lot at 9 am on Saturday, January 8. We usually walk about 3 miles on easy trails. Children welcome. For more details, contact Bert Skellie at 404-680-4799 or check the announcement sheet.

## MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS – Sunday, January 16

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Meeting for business for December will be a blended meeting, combining in-person and Zoom. Simply stay after Meeting for Worship, whether you attend Meeting for Worship in person or via Zoom. See above or announcement sheet for Zoom details. Minutes from last month are below. For more info about meeting for business, see these guidelines approved by the meeting in 1996: [http://atlantaquakers.org/\\_site\\_pdf\\_docs/Guidelines\\_for\\_Meeting\\_for\\_Business.pdf](http://atlantaquakers.org/_site_pdf_docs/Guidelines_for_Meeting_for_Business.pdf)

## PETER SONDERBERG'S MEMORIAL RESCHEDULED – Friday, January 21

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The service will now be held Friday, January 21, 2022, at 2:00 pm at Rutledge Chapel at the University of South Carolina with a reception following.

## FORUM: NEEDS FOR ATLANTA QUAKER YOUNG FRIENDS PROGRAM – Sunday, January 23

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Are you a parent, grandparent, or friend of AFM youth? Are you a young Friend who is in 3rd-12th grade? We want your ideas: *What are the most important needs for an Atlanta Quaker Young Friends Program? What Program activities could best meet those needs?* We invite you to come hear from others and share your thoughts with the ad hoc committee working on the future of the AFM Young Friends Program. January 23 after the rise of Meeting. Join us in person or via Zoom at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89686276751?pwd=M29EYlIFWEhSQUtZRVVPalFFYmVDQT09>

Meeting ID: 896 8627 6751

Passcode: 789456

## QRE GUEST SPEAKER JOHN BLAKE ON

### "THE MISSING INGREDIENT IN A TRUE RACIAL RECKONING" – Sunday, January 23

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On January 23 at 1:00 pm, join Quakers for Racial Equality (QRE) via Zoom to hear guest speaker John Blake, award-winning CNN journalist and senior author, discuss "The Missing Ingredient in a True Racial Reckoning." John Blake has been honored by the Associated Press, the Society of Professional Journalists, the American Academy of Religion, and the National Association of Black Journalists. He is the author of *Children of the Movement*. John Blake will share how his experiences as a Black man reconciling with his white mother's family shaped the way he writes and thinks about race. He will welcome questions and conversation. You can read an article where John mentions some of the ideas that he will share in his talk at

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/04/18/us/george-floyd-racial-reckoning-blake/index.html>.

Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Susan Firestone at [susanfires@gmail.com](mailto:susanfires@gmail.com).

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89280242149?pwd=VjlOR0t6QndaY281ZmpiaTdRL2Nndz09>

Meeting ID: 892 8024 2149

Passcode: 670251



## LET'S TALK ABOUT RACE – Wednesday, January 26

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Our monthly online, drop-in forum about race meets at 7:30 pm on the fourth Wednesday (the third Wednesday in November and December). Each meeting starts with a quote from anti racist literature or other media to be the springboard for the evening's conversation. All are welcome whether you have attended before or not. No special knowledge or background needed.

We contribute from our personal experiences and backgrounds. We learn from the stories and questions we are willing to share. Questions? Please contact Lissa Place, 678-793-9260.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84678045805?pwd=cFdhcEd4UmdlLWwNlDFpMm1mOEVTQT09>

Meeting ID: 846 7804 5805

Passcode: LTAR

## JOINT FORUM FRIENDS SCHOOL & AFM: RACIAL EQUITY IN HOUSING – Sunday, Feb 27

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The annual joint forum for the Friends School of Atlanta (FSA) and Atlanta Friends Meeting's (AFM's) Ad Hoc Reparative Justice and Right Relations committee will be Sunday February 27, 2022.

It will be online at 1 pm ET, via Zoom link. FSA and AFM, with local Decatur speakers, will jointly explore values, hopes, and leadings for racial equity and justice action in this forum focused on discriminatory housing policies and practices, such as redlining and restrictive covenants, that have harmed and continue to harm Black people, and look at positive steps toward repair. Look for more information soon about speakers and a zoom link.

## MINUTES FOR TWELFTH MONTH MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS

December 19, 2021

held as a hybrid meeting with both in person and Zoom attenders

Minutes Recorded Pending Approval

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**Attendance:** Bill Hooson, Teri Key-Hooson, Mary Ann Downey, Bill Holland, Bert Skellie, Karen Skellie, Allison Mawle, Anton Flores-Maisonet, Caroline Morris, Mike Aland, Don Bender, Free Polazzo, Glenn Plyler, Georgia Lord, Henry Slack, Jennifer Dickie, Judy Lumb, Julia Ewen, Karen Morris, Kevin Moran, Lynn Leuszler, Mark Bryant, Myrna Trapp, Nina Gooch, Paul Mangelsdorf, Steve Collins, Susan Firestone, Susan May, Richard Allen, Wesley Morris, Lissa Place (Clerk), Coryn Murphy (Recording Clerk)

Friends gathered near the appointed hour with opening worship. A member of Ministry and Worship shared the Twelfth Month Query out of the worship: How does awareness of the living conditions of people in your local and global communities affect your purchasing choices? In turn, how do these choices affect the well-being of others?

### **Discernment:**

Karen Skellie presented a quilt by Denny Webster with a George Fox quote. The quilt will be hung in the meeting house.

**Anchoring Committee Description:** Bill Holland Ministry and Worship committee to ask meeting to formally introduce a process for guidelines for anchoring committees. These were published in the newsletter last month, and we are asking for approval today.

**Minute 12/19/2021:01:** The Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the Anchoring Committee Description changes for the handbook.

**Finance:** Paul Mangelsdorf reported for the finance committee. There was a concern about the line item for SAYMA from the floor. We decided to approve the budget as it stands except for the SAYMA budget and wait until for the concern to be brought more fully to next month at Business Meeting.

**Minute 12/19/2021:02:** The Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the budget with the exception of the SAYMA Assessment.

The clerk will alert SAYMA that the meeting is going to hold over the assessment due in January until after next month's business meeting.

**Memorial Minute:** Don Bender read the memorial minute for Freer Jarvis

**Minute 12/19/2021:03:** The Atlanta Friends Meeting approved the following memorial minute for Freer Jarvis.

Freer Jarvis grew up a farm girl and lived in the same house until she left home. Her days on the farm started early, since they raised goat and sold the milk. She was a high school graduate but she had an abundance of common sense, her son Vince said. She had one son, Vince and was a home mom when he was young.

She later owned and ran a child care center for 10 years which got Vince through school. When Vince was a young boy he developed a love of building and flying model airplanes, which was to lead him to meet David Jarvis, who was an expert. Vince was so impressed with him that he invited him to dinner where David met Vince's mother Freer.

She was blessed to meet David and they had their own adventures. She liked to take care of all the home maker things taking care of family. "She loved us". Vince said. She loved all the pets though the years. She liked to bring life to plants. She could make anything grow and be happy, a trait, her son, Vince said he wished he had gotten. Vince said that what he missing most were their long conversations.

Her parents went to church early in her life but then stopped going. She raised her son with Christian values and to just try to do the right thing. When David came into their lives he brought a strong background in religion. It took some time but they were blessed to find the Quakers. Vince expressed his appreciation "For all you guys have done."

Shortly after David and Freer began attending Atlanta Friends Meeting, Freer needed a wheel chair for mobility and a trach tube for breathing. David became her devoted caregiver. It became increasingly difficult for them to attend meeting because of Freer's disability and soon a small worship group of 4-8 Friends began meeting weekly in David and Freer's house. One unique feature of this worship was settling into quiet worship by David's striking his Tibetan Singing Bowl. Worship was also ended by the striking of the bowl.

After David's death other members continued this tradition. These Meetings continued until David's death after which she moved to a nursing home, where she soon died David and Freer's ministry after her disability was to work with the Care and Counsel Committee to send cards to people who were ill or who had lost loved ones in death.

These cards often included David Jarvis' photographs. One of these cards was his photograph of the interior of the worship room of the Meeting House which was on the cover of a card of appreciation sent to long term members of the Atlanta Friends Meeting. After David's death other members continued the tradition of worship but then the Covid Pandemic made it necessary to stop and a short time later Freer moved to a nursing home, where without the special care of David, her partner and caregiver, she soon died.

**Memorial Minute:** Mary Ann Downey read the memorial minute for Suzan Kenworthy

**Minute 12/19/2021:04:** The Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the following memorial minute for Suzan Kenworthy

Suzan Treadwell Kenworthy died on September 6 at Park Springs Retirement Community in Atlanta, Georgia.

She was born June 26, 1938, in Suffern, NY and grew up in Pasadena, CA. She attended Jackie Robinson High School and graduated from the University of California-Berkeley. Suzan met her husband, Tom, in 1960 at an American Friends Service Committee work camp in Mexico. They were married in 1962 and lived in Vancouver, Toronto, and New York City before settling permanently in Atlanta in 1967.

Suzan had an infectious smile and a gentle good-natured manner. She was beloved by nearly everyone she knew, from family to friends and neighbors to members of her assorted lunch groups (a neighborhood gardening group, a Quaker women's group, a group of parents and teachers from Hawthorne Elementary School, and more) to nurses at the retirement home where she spent her last two years.

She also was tough as nails. Suzan was diagnosed with no fewer than four life-threatening illnesses — lupus in 1985, breast cancer in 1991, ovarian/uterine cancer (stage 4) in 2003, and breast cancer again in 2013 — and beat each one.

Suzan was a consummate sports mom, driving her four children to thousands of soccer, swimming, basketball, and football events, along with girl scouts, piano lessons, referee classes, and much more. She also was an active civic volunteer. She participated in school PTAs, taught ESL classes to immigrants, tutored remedial students in computer skills at a neighborhood elementary school, and was a member of the nationally renowned Dynamo Swim Club.

Suzan became a member of the Atlanta Friends meeting in 1967, served as clerk of meeting from 1974-1977, taught First Day School and was on Ministry and Worship Committee several times as well as other committees at the Atlanta Meeting. When she offered her spiritual journey, she spoke of coming to Quakers through work with the American Friends Service Committee during summers in college, as well as her struggles to settle in silent meetings. She quoted the words of Douglas Steere, "On Being Present Where You Are" as her guide for meditation in meeting, and Friends remember how she gave the gift of being present and attentive to all who knew her.

She was a member of multiple boards including the Friends School of Atlanta. She learned calligraphy and frequently prepared invitations and thank you cards for friends and for the Quaker Meeting.

Suzan was extremely handy around the house — an early do-it-yourselfer. She built bookshelves, cabinets, beds, a doll house, swim meet starting blocks, and a rabbit cage, reupholstered sofas and chairs, stripped and stained tables, installed flooring, painted and wallpapered rooms, installed ceiling fans, and made and mended clothes.

In the 1980s, Suzan joined Tom in running School Media Associates, eventually working full-time as the Operations Manager. She handled the company's move from paper to computers, an important transition as the company modernized its operations to maintain its growth toward an increasingly nationwide customer base.

Late in adulthood Suzan decided to learn how to play piano. She took lessons for several years and became quite adept, and for a decade or so Suzan and Tom held annual Christmas parties and recitals at their home with Suzan showing off her steadily improving piano skills.

Suzan is survived by her children Lane (Kim), Randy (Ellie), Owen (Marti), and Lauren Jarrell (Jonathan), and 10 grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Tom, parents Dorothy Cooper and Ralph Treadwell, brother Tommy, and grandson Noah.

## **Ministry and Worship**

**Minute 12/19/2021:05:** The Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the following Minute: Ministry and Worship recommends we continue our hybrid form of worship for the next six months. During this time Ministry and Worship will continue to work with the responsible bodies in meeting to explore ways to make the audio in the meeting room clearer to those on zoom. Ministry and Worship will continue to review the hybrid worship format over the next six months and report with another recommendation at the Sixth Month 2022 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

**Minute 12/19/2021:06:** The Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the following Minute: AFM charges the administration committee with coming up with technological recommendations to make hybrid worship more satisfying to those on Zoom.

**Minute 12/19/2021: 07:** The Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the following Minute: On the recommendation of Ministry and Worship Committee, Atlanta Friends Meeting asks Minneapolis Friends Meeting to accept Mary Bosserman into your meeting. Mary Bosserman is a member of our meeting in good standing. We will miss her presence. We ask that you take her membership into your tender care.

*(Reports continued on next page)*

## Reports:

**Ministry and Worship** Bill Hooson reported for Ministry and Worship Committee as follows.

1. Recommendation on Form of Meeting for Worship. Bill Hooson reminded us that in September business meeting approved our recommendation that we continue hybrid meeting format through 2021. It is now time for us to reflect on our experience and bring a new recommendation.

a. The hybrid form has been working fairly well. Ministry is being shared in both forms and is available to the full body. The technology is less obtrusive to those in the meeting room than some had feared. We do not know how the pandemic will develop and keeping the hybrid form permits easy transition back to zoom if needed. At this point, recommending a 6-month extension seems prudent.

b. Aaron Ruscetta has also requested that we use a 6-month time frame to permit planning and scheduling for the technological support.

c. Some of us are not comfortable adopting hybrid form as a long-term format for our community.

d. There has been some concern about the “staffing” of the technology side of the zoom meeting. Mary Ann reported on her conversation with Alison Mawle, four volunteers are now trained, and Alison feels confident this will cover current operations. More can be trained.

e. There are some Friends who are no longer participating either on Zoom or in person. We have heard from some of these Friends that the zoom format does not meet their spiritual needs. We may need to follow up and more directly inquire on their condition.

f. There is a problem with hearing vocal ministry and the introductions/comments made by those in the meeting room at the rise of meeting. This is both a technological and behavioral problem that, if addressed, will help those on zoom feel more included in the spirit of meeting.

g. We approved bringing the following minute to 12 th Month Meeting for Business: Ministry and Worship Committee recommends we continue our hybrid form of worship for the next six months. During this time Ministry and Worship will continue to work with the Ad Hoc Committee for use of the Meeting House during the pandemic and their technical committee to resolve any technological issues. We ask that the responsible bodies in meeting explore ways to make the audio in the meeting room clearer to those on zoom. Ministry and Worship will continue to review the hybrid worship format over the next six months and report with another recommendation at the Sixth Month 2022 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

h. A concern was raised that a query from SAYMA seemed to imply the meeting is monoracial/monocultural. We reworded the query to read: “How do I interact with cultural/racial groups other than my own in my community and in the wider community?”

i. Another concern was raised regarding the wording of a query that includes a reference to God (“the peace and refreshment of God’s presence”). There was a general sense that the meeting is a generous, theologically diverse space, and while some Friends do not find this useful language, others do. We use a variety of names to express the ineffable. We can trust the members of meeting to make “translations” of language that make the query useful to their condition.



j. We approve the 10 queries offered as revised. We ask Mary Ann and Bill Holland to identify two additional queries and recommend the months in which each will be considered. We will return to this in January.

1. How do we support those who serve our meeting?
2. What binds us together as Friends? What weakens or strengthens us on our path toward a stronger community?
3. How do I interact with cultural/racial groups other than my own in my community and in the wider community?
4. Are you able to contemplate your death and the death of those closest to you? Accepting the fact of death, we are freed to live more fully. In bereavement, give yourself time to grieve. When others mourn, let your love embrace them.
5. Do you recognize the needs and gifts of each member of your family and household, not forgetting your own? Try to make your home a place of loving friendship and enjoyment, where all who live or visit may find the peace and refreshment of God's presence.
6. Does our Meeting provide opportunities for all in the Meeting to learn about:
  - o the Inner Light, the living Christ within, the Bible, the writings of Friends,
  - o our Christian heritage, other religious traditions and their respective
  - o roles in the history and formation of Friends' principles?
  - o the common testimonies Friends declare?
  - o the variety of expression Quaker faith takes today?
7. Do I faithfully attend meeting with heart and mind prepared for worship, clear of any predetermination to speak or not to speak, expecting that worship will be a source of strength and guidance?  
Do I regularly attend meeting for business? If unable to attend, how do I fulfill the responsibility to understand and embrace the decisions made?
8. When differences arise, how do we settle them in a spirit of love and humility? • How can we demonstrate a forgiving spirit?
9. How do we make space to experience and share gratitude in our lives for joys, blessings, and wonder?
10. How do we lift up our own joy and gratitude, and that of those around us, even in the face of distress, pain or trauma in our lives?
11. To be determined
12. To be determined

Bill Hooson also stated

1. Committee Membership. In January, the committee will have 9 approved members and three vacancies.

a. Mary Ann Downey shared Advice 28 from Britain Yearly Meeting's Faith and Practice: Every stage of our lives offers fresh opportunities. Responding to divine guidance, try to discern the right time to undertake or relinquish responsibilities without undue pride or guilt. Attend to what love requires of you, which may not be great busyness. ("Advices and Queries" Quaker Faith and Practice, 5th edition. <https://qfp.quaker.org.uk/chapter/1/> )

**Naming Committee:** The Clerk reported for Naming Committee.

The naming committee brings forward the names Jim Tolmach for Nominating Committee and Lissa Place as Clerk of Nominating Committee, both for a term of 3 years beginning January of 2022 until December of 2024. These names will be brought back next month for approval.

## Cabin Committee

Friends enjoyed the Ferguson Cabins for over 160 days this year, including most of May and September, most weekends in October and November and every day in June, July and August.

At least 65 people used the Cabins with about 15-20 people for the first time.

In addition to regular maintenance, special projects included an updated survey of the Cabins property, recoating the metal roof on Dwight Cabin's screen porch, flooring installation and new cabinet doors in Irene Cabin. Members of the Cabins committee worked with neighbors on legal issues related to proposed commercial development of property on the hill above Treetops Cabin. The committee has made a report to Business Meeting about this and has been working with others in the Meeting to address legal issues. The committee will continue to report to Business Meeting as there are developments.

Future project plans are to re-grade and gravel the driveway, install a new roof on Treetops Cabin and continue working with the Meeting and Ferguson Cabins neighbors on the proposed development of the forest adjacent to cabin property. The Committee is looking into having an internet calendar set up so Friends can view Cabins availability with actual scheduling made by contacting the scheduler. As of this writing, a mini-split system was installed so we can look forward to humidity management in Irene Cabin next season.

Rental Income and Donations	\$3,692.00
AFM Budgeted Line Item for Property Insurance	\$1,135.00
Expenses (Lake Burton Civic Association, Habersham EMC, Survey, Supplies and a donation to cover legal costs of commercial property development)	\$6,496.08
Difference	-\$1,669.08
Balance on 10/31/2021	\$10,050.05

## Committee Corner:

**Administration Committee:** Steve Collins reported for the Administration Committee and offered an update on Meetinghouse Solar Panel Project. The City of Decatur has not yet issued our permit; Creative Solar, the firm we selected to install the panels, anticipates another two weeks, with installation to begin in February/March 2022.

Georgia Power is processing our application for service connection. The cap for monthly "net metering" has been reached, but there is talk of expanding the program in 2022. Net Metering occurs when a customer's solar panel array is connected to a public-utility power grid and surplus power is transferred onto the grid, allowing customers to offset the cost of power drawn from the utility.

**QVS Support Committee** The QVS Fellows could use another bench for their Grant Park house front porch. Contact Steve Collins if you have one to donate.

## Announcements:

Lissa asked that everyone please send any items for the State of the Meeting Report.

**Approval of Minutes for November 2021:** The minutes were approved.

## Events in the life of the Meeting:

Nita Hinley, long time member, died December 5, 2021.

Elizabeth Tolmach and partner Walter Smith, married December 18, 2021.

## Closing Worship

Atlanta Friends Meeting  
701 W. Howard Avenue  
Decatur, GA 30030-2902

#### ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday, 10 am to 1 pm and Friday, by appointment

web and email: [atlantaquakers.org](http://atlantaquakers.org), [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com)

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Clerk: Jennifer Dickie, [afmclerk1@gmail.com](mailto:afmclerk1@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Judith Greenberg, [afmtreasurer1@gmail.com](mailto:afmtreasurer1@gmail.com)

#### Ways to communicate and share information:

- You may receive the announcement sheets and other announcements relating directly to the life of the meeting. This is the announcement email list. (The announcement sheet is also posted online.)
- You may receive announcements AND posts about a broader range of topics relating to being a Quaker via email. This is the discussion email list.
- You may receive notification that the newsletter is online. This is the newsletter email list.
- To join any of these email lists above, please email the office at [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com)
- To receive weekly emails with details about Zoom and in-person meetings for worship and First Day School, email [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com)
- To join the meeting's Facebook page, search for Atlanta Friends Meeting & click the + **Join Group** button.

#### If you need a directory:

Email [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com) or call 404-377-2474

#### Would you like to appear in future AFM Directories?

#### Do you need to correct your directory information?

Send your name and contact information to Brent Wolff at [afmdirectory@gmail.com](mailto:afmdirectory@gmail.com).

#### What does investing in your spiritual community look like for you and your family?

Atlanta Friends Meeting accepts contributions of your time, resources, and money! You can place a financial contribution in the slot marked "Contributions" in the greeting area of the Meetinghouse or mail to the Treasurer at our mailing address. To donate online with a credit card or paypal, visit [atlantaquakers.org/contact.htm](http://atlantaquakers.org/contact.htm). Thank you!

#### Want to submit an announcement, letter, article, and anything else of interest to Friends for the newsletter?

Send to [atlquakerltr@gmail.com](mailto:atlquakerltr@gmail.com).

Submissions may be edited for length and format.

THE DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS IS THE 20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF EACH PRECEDING MONTH.

*This newsletter is a publication of the Atlanta Friends Meeting.  
Views expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily that of the Meeting.*