

957 Colorado Avenue
 Palo Alto, CA 94303
 (650) 856-0744

Clerk: Bart Burstein
 clerk@pafm.org

Treasurer: **Forest Preston**
 650-839-1077 forest.preston@gmail.com

Advices and Queries for Eleventh Month: Peace

Friends oppose all war as inconsistent with God’s will. As every person is a child of God, we recognize God’s light also in our adversaries. Violence and injustice deny this reality and violate the teachings of Jesus and other prophets.

Friends challenge their governments and take personal risks in the cause of peace. We urge one another to refuse to participate in war as soldiers, or as arms manufacturers. We seek ways to support those who refrain from paying taxes that support war. We work to end violence within our own borders, our homes, our streets, and our communities. We support international order, justice, and understanding.

Become an instrument of peace. At every opportunity, be peacemakers in your homes, workplaces and communities. Steep yourself in the power of the universal Spirit. Examine your actions for the seeds of violence, degradation and destructiveness. Overcome the emotions that lie at the root of violence and nurture instead a spirit of reconciliation and love. Come to know the oneness of all creation and oppose the destruction of the natural world.

- Do I live in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all wars?
- How do I nourish peace within myself as I work for peace in the world?
- Do I confront violence wherever it occurs, even when my personal relationships are involved?
- Where there is distrust, injustice, or hatred, how am I an instrument of reconciliation and love?
- *What are we doing to remove the causes of war and destruction of the planet, and to bring about lasting peace?*
- *Do we reach out to all parties in a conflict with courage and love?*

†Some queries are intended for individuals. *Italicized* queries are intended for the Meeting collectively.

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

- 9:00 to 10:00 am Adult Education, New Meeting House (NMH), 1st & 3rd First Days & on 4th & 5th First Days by arrangement.
- 10:00 to 10:25 Hymn Singing at NMH.
- 10:30 to 11:30 Meeting for Worship at New Meeting House.**
- 10:30 to 11:15 First Day School for children in Old Meeting House (OMH – n.b., also now known as the “School House”).
- 11:15 to 11:30 Children join adults for Meeting for Worship in NMH
- 11:30 to 11:45 Introductions and announcements

MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS is held on the second First Day of the month, following light refreshments after Meeting for Worship. The next Meeting for Business will be held on October 12, 2014.

- WORSHIP SCHEDULE (in NMH):
- Meeting for Worship – each First Day at 10:30 AM.
 - Mid-Week Evening Worship – each Wednesday at 6:00 PM.
 - Mindfulness Meditation – each Wednesday at 7:30 AM.

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CALENDAR

OCT (10TH MONTH)

- 26 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 26 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch – (see note below).
- 29 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).

29 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.

Nov (11TH MONTH)

- 2 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH (see note below).
2 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.
5 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
8 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
9 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.
9 Sun noon Light lunch provided prior to Meeting for Business - OMH.
9 Sun 12:15 pm Meeting for Business – NMH (see note above).
12 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
12 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
16 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH (see note below).
16 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.
16 Sun 11:45 am Collection for Ecumenical Hunger by Community Service Committee – NMH (see note below).
16 Sun [*Deadline for submittal of Newsletter articles - if email send to moriii@yahoo.com.*]
19 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
19 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
20 Thurs 7:00 pm Care and Concerns Committee Meeting
23 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.
23 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch – (see note below).
26 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
26 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
30 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH (see note below).
30 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.

CALENDAR EXPANSION – DETAILS

*** ADULT EDUCATION DISCUSSION: **Reading and Discussion** led by Henry Jason each 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday at 9 am – NMH. We are reading a 1794 work entitled “Some Account of the Convincement and Religious Progress of John Spalding, Late of Reading”. In this work Spalding describes his conversion from Anglicanism to Quakerism and his reasons for doing so. The work gives a good description of traditional, classical Quaker principles and beliefs. All are welcome. No preparation is necessary. Please inquire, if interested in acquiring a copy. Contact Henry Jason.

*** COLLECTION FOR ECUMENICAL HUNGER PROGRAM (EHP): Community Service Committee the EHP after the rise of Meeting each *third* First Day – at the front door. EHP is a vital part of the local safety net providing emergency food, clothing, case management, household essentials, and resource referrals to families in need in East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and Palo Alto. Second Harvest brings a truckload of fresh produce 12 times a year.

*** VOLUNTEER MEAL PREPARATION FOR HOMELESS - OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE: We help prepare the food and serve it to the Homeless at the First Methodist Church in Palo Alto (corner of Hamilton & Webster) one Monday a month from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m. on 11/3, and 12/8/14. Please contact Janet Murphy <janeta.murphy@sbcglobal.net>; if you wish to volunteer. Thanks!

*** WEDNESDAY MORNING MINDFULNESS MEDITATION: (formerly on Thursday morning) - newcomers welcome. Doors open at 7:30 am with quiet music. At 7:30 am, we have a short Buddhist guidance, and a half-hour meditation. Afterwards, we discuss how the meditation was for us, finishing at 8:15 or 8:30. We are following the teachings of the Vietnamese Buddhist monk, Thich Nhat Hanh, similar to Quaker philosophy but with additional insights. We discuss meditation technique, which is also helpful to people on Sunday!

*** FOURTH FIRST-DAY PROVIDED LUNCH: PAFM provides a lunch on *fourth* First Day. This allows Friends an opportunity to get to know each other better. Friends, attenders, visitors, and newcomers are all welcome.

A special table is set aside for newcomers to meet with Friends and find out more about Quakerism and about our Meeting, its members & activities, as well as an opportunity for us to know you better. A member of Care & Concerns will be at the table. All newcomers are welcome - as are any Friends who might be inclined to join the gathering. The term "newcomers" includes those who have recently begun attending, as well as those who feel "new" to the Meeting, regardless of how long they have been attending.

*** SUPPORT & CONCERNS: If you have wondered what Friends do when we are in distress or need help, given that we do not have a minister - the answer is that we turn to members of the Care and Concerns Committee. Be advised that the greeters you see each First Day are on the Care and Concerns Committee. Please feel free to talk to a member of Care and Concerns about such concerns after meeting, by phone, or email. You may also join us to express concerns during the first segment of our usual meeting on the third Thursday of the month at 7 pm in the Meetinghouse Library. Please contact one of

the co-clerks, Bill Bauriedel (bill.bauriedel@stanfordalumni.org, 650-493-1364,) or Hulda Muaka huldamuaka@hotmail.com to confirm that there are no meeting changes and ensure time on the agenda.

*** Friends are reminded that there are those among us who have allergies, often severe. We must avoid certain food products especially in the School House because of the allergies of children attending Friends Nursery School. Some among us are also allergic to artificial fragrances (perfumes, colognes, after-shaves).

NEWS OF PEOPLE AND EVENTS

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON MEETING COMMITTEE STRUCTURE: In the February '14 Meeting for Business, the Nominating Committee was directed to form an ad hoc committee to consider the ideas that arose in the January '14 threshing session. There is a list of possibilities from that threshing session to serve as a starting point. This work was postponed due to the spring/summer workload for nominating committee; it is now time to proceed. We seek 4-5 Friends who can begin this work shortly and complete their work before the January '15 Meeting for Business. If you want to know more or are interested in serving, please contact Talley Kenyon, clerk of Nominating Committee.

SAVE THE DATE - ANTI-TRAFFICKING EVENT: Clerks have received a report of the last meeting of the Anti-Trafficking Faith Leader Coalition of San Mateo County. Their goal is to raise awareness of local human trafficking through Shabbat and church services as well as a combined faith-based community event on the weekend, January 9-11, [2015]. The Sunday afternoon community event is called "In Plain Sight: Modern Day Slavery in San Mateo County." The coalition intends to sustain its interest and involvement with this issue beyond the January weekend.

Not found much focus has been found in AFSC or FCL-CA's websites. If you have a leading to be present at this event or be involved in the planning and organizing of the event, please review the notes at <http://tinyurl.com/20150111HTinSM>.

ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH IN THE WIDER QUAKER COMMUNITY: Epistle XI, including an updated calendar for 2014-2015. The epistle and calendar are posted online: <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/2014/pym-docs/ypc/ypc-epistle-xi-october-2014/>. Did you miss an earlier epistle? They are all online along with our reports and other communications:

<http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/category/pym-docs/ypc/>

Also, if you know any Friends who would like to be added to my contact list, please send them to me. I'm especially eager to stay connected with youth who are relocating for work or school or family reasons, and I can probably introduce them to a Friend or two in their new location.

Alyssa Nelson - Youth Programs Coordinator, Pacific Yearly Meeting (530) 563-6369 <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/>

2014 NOVEMBER NEWS FROM BEN LOMOND QUAKER CENTER: Join us to explore the relevance of early Friends' experiences of personal transformation with Diego Navarro as we look at Leadings and Holy Obedience from November 14th – 16th. We will also consider the link between the inner growth of the Spirit and the external witnessing of Friends, and comprehending what is meant by turning one's life over to the Spirit: from "my will" to "thy will", and leading what Thomas Kelly calls a "God intoxicated" life. Find out more and register at <http://www.quakercenter.org/leadings-and-holy-obedience/>.

We are once again hosting our Music and Dance Retreat, a low-cost, participant produced program with a sliding scale of only \$60-\$100 per person for a weekend filled with a variety of singing and playing punctuated by a few dancing opportunities. Bring your kids and grandkids or just yourselves and join us from Dec. 5-7th for a few days of fun making food, music, and song together with a professionally called community dance on Saturday night. Find out more and register online at <http://www.quakercenter.org/music-and-dance-retreat/>.

We invite Friends of all branches of Quakerism to come to the well of our faith, to share the sweet waters of waiting worship and fellowship. This year end retreat from December 27th to January 1st will call on us to seek replenishment by opening ourselves to God and the inward Christ, deepening our connections and enlivening our spirits. Join us for "Spring Forth a Well: What Are We Waiting For?" which will be facilitated by Dorothy Henderson. Learn more and register before Dec. 15th at

<http://www.quakercenter.org/spring-forth-a-well/>.

WOOLMAN OPEN HOUSES IN SANTA CRUZ AND SAN FRANCISCO: Woolman is hosting two Open House events - Nov. 2nd in Santa Cruz and on Nov. 9th in San Francisco.

We are now accepting applications for Spring 2015 and Fall 2015! Please help spread the word to your network and give students the opportunity to live and learn at Woolman. Visit our website for event details.

Please contact Emily Wheeler, Admissions and Outreach Director, with questions about the Open House events or the Admissions process at Woolman. She can be reached at emilyw@woolman.org or (530) 273-3183 ext. 24.

THE PEACE AND JUSTICE CALENDAR: A service of the Peace, Earthcare, and Social Witness Committee of Strawberry Creek Friends Meeting, this calendar is posted for easy reference: <http://groups.google.com/group/bayareaquakers>

CHILDCARE DURING MEETING FOR BUSINESS: During monthly Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, childcare will be provided for all age children from 12:15 to 1:45 pm in the School House. The regular staff for the preschool program, Jadranka Tanovic and Sangeta Tamang, provide the childcare. Advance sign-up is not required, but children should be in the program by 12:30. (If no children show up, the staff will leave at 12:45.)

RIDES TO/FROM MEETING: Care and Concerns Committee keeps a list of people seeking rides and a list of people who are willing to offer rides to and/or from Meeting on either a regular or occasional basis. Contact anyone on the committee if you or someone you would like to be on either list.

FCL-CA: FCL-CA's recommendations on the six November 4 ballot measures are published at www.fclca.org.

HELP CENTRAL AMERICAN REFUGEES WHILE YOU HELP YOURSELF: Reliable, hard-working men and women need jobs while they rebuild their lives. SBSC Job Hotline: (650) 494-8340.

THE SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS PROTEST: will take place November 21-23 in Fort Benning, GA. For help with travel arrangements: 202-234-3440; FB/schooloftheamericaswatch; [Twitter@SOAWatch](#); #ClosetheSOA

To Submit Newsletter Items: See the Schedule on page 2 for the deadline for the next issue. You may *e-mail* Newsletter submissions to newsletter@pafm.org or moriii@yahoo.com If you wish to receive the newsletter by email - or wish to discontinue - please visit <http://lists.pafm.org/listinfo.cgi/newsletter-pafm.org>. [Ed.'s note: If you sign up to receive the Newsletter by email, make sure to put the following address in your email address book: moriii@yahoo.com. The NL is sent out from that address. Some email "Spam" filters may reject such a message if the sender address is unknown.]

If you have an e-mail address, please join our Meeting's e-mail discussion list. To subscribe - visit <https://mailman.stanford.edu/mailman/listinfo/pafriends>. To post a message to all on the list, send the message to pafriends@lists.stanford.edu. If you have any questions, contact Jerry McBride jlmcbridemail@yahoo.com 650-384-9817.

What's an American to do?

A conversation about peacekeeping.

Facilitated by members of the Palo Alto Friends Meeting (Quakers).

Sunday, November 2, 2014

7:00 – 8:30 PM

957 Colorado Avenue, Palo Alto

650-856-0774

Our nation seems to be committed to another war in Iraq, in the air if not (yet) on the ground.

At the same time, we remain militarily engaged in Afghanistan, and we send armed drones into Pakistan and other countries of the Middle East.

What convinces our leaders that these actions will result in a just and lasting peace?

What alternatives to military action exist, and why is it so difficult to employ them effectively?

* * * * *

These issues of national policy are important to every American, but we seldom if ever talk with each other about them. You are invited to meet with your fellow citizens who – like yourself – are concerned about the United States' reliance on military force and worried about the future if the escalation of violence cannot be stopped. We recognize these are world-wide problems; the United States is not solely to blame. But we are Americans, and if we have any hope of turning the world away from everlasting war, it is because we have hope that the United States of America can lead this turning.

The evening of discussion is planned to begin with short prepared statements from a variety of points of view about the current status and history of American involvement in the Middle East. If you want to present such a statement, please contact the organizers to be placed on the agenda.

The major part of the evening will be a conversation in the form of “Quaker dialogue,” in which everyone present is given an opportunity to speak. In “Quaker dialogue” one speaks from the heart, without argument or trying to address points made by others who have already spoken. All voices are respectfully listened to by all present. The goal is not to take a poll or arrive at a conclusion, but for everyone to gain a sense of where our local community stands on the issue at hand.

- Mary Klein <marycklein@yahoo.com>

- Eric Sabelman <eesabelman@gmail.com>

Co-sponsored by Multifaith Voices for Peace & Justice www.multifaithpeace.org