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The *Ann Arbor Friends Meeting Newsletter* is published monthly by the Ann Arbor Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

Contents:

Meeting Announcements: 4
New Library Books on Display: 9
Among Friends: 11
Special Messages: 13
Larger Circles of Friends: 14
Community Events: 15



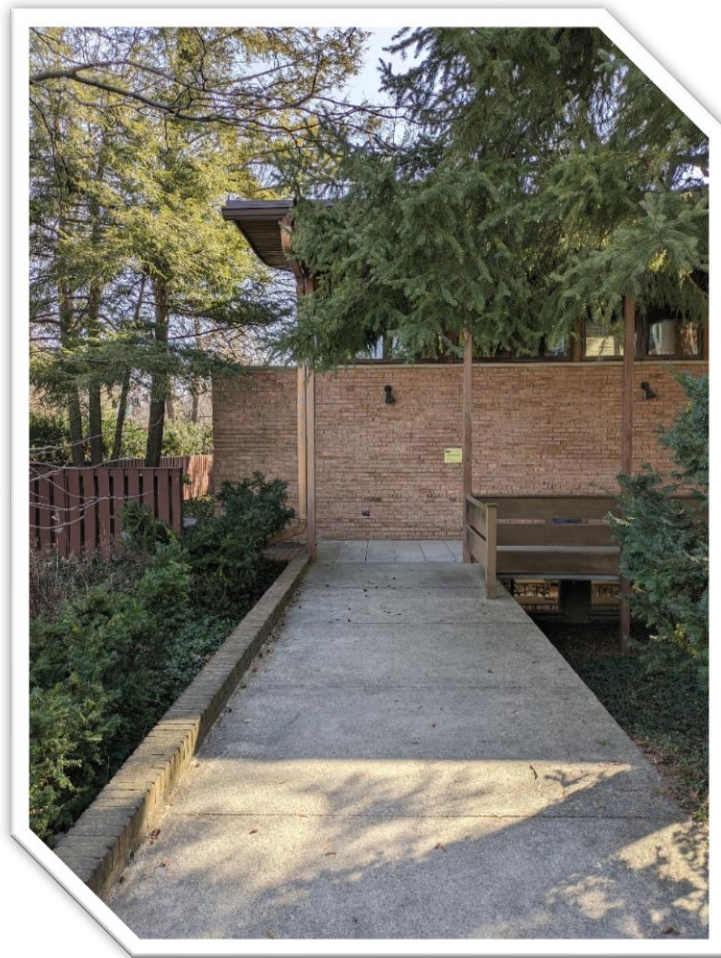
Elliott, Luiza & Aaron Caetano Brannon

To subscribe to the newsletter and weekly handout, email Eric Wozniak at publications@annarborfriends.org.

Please send any entries for the newsletter to Eric at least one week before the end of the month.

Photos by Eric Wozniak unless otherwise noted.

DONATIONS (Tax Deductible): Ann Arbor Friends Meeting relies on donations from members and attendees to cover over 60% of its budget. You can contribute by check via U.S. mail: c/o Treasurer, Ann Arbor Friends Meeting, 1420 Hill St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104. You can also contribute cash or checks in the Contributions Box (on wall next to Meetingroom door) and online at the Meeting's website at: <https://annarborfriends.org/wp/donate/>.



May Meeting for Worship schedule:

- May 3, 10:
 - The 9:30 a.m. Meeting for Worship will be **in-person**.
 - The 11:00 Meeting for Worship will be **blended** (both in-person and on Zoom).
- May 17:
 - The 9:30 a.m. Meeting for Worship will be blended.
 - The 11:00 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business will be blended.
- May 24, 31:
 - The 9:30 a.m. Meeting for Worship will be in-person.
 - The 11:00 Meeting for Worship will be blended.

AAFM March Event Calendar

* = See Meeting announcement for details

For all Meetings for Worship, including Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, the Zoom link is: <https://tinyurl.com/AAFM-Zoom> (Zoom Meeting ID 818 7021 4329) (* = See announcement).

Saturday, May 2

9:00 Property Work Day *

11:00 Finance Committee; Corner Room; email
Steve Morehouse for Zoom link

11:00 Meeting for Worship — Blended

Sunday, May 3

9:00 Singing *

9:30 Meeting for Worship — in-person

10:15 First Day School

10:30 Refreshments

11:00 CCF Meeting; Living Room

11:00 Meeting for Worship — Blended

12:30 PIAG Forum; Meeting Room *

1:30 Exploring the “Secret Power” Among Us
Workshop; Detroit Friends Meeting
House *

6:00 YAF Dinner *

Tuesday, May 5

2:00 Meeting for Walking *

Wednesday, May 6

7:00 What Does it Mean to be Quaker? Corner
Room & Zoom *

Thursday, May 7

6:00 YAF Common Hours Club; Fellowship Room

Saturday, May 9

2:00 Earthcare Committee; Zoom

5:00 Social Saturday; Fellowship Room

Sunday, May 10

9:00 Singing

9:30 Meeting for Worship — In-person

10:15 First Day School

10:30 Common Fellowship Time

Monday, May 11

7:30 Peace & Social Justice; Zoom

Thursday, May 14

6:00 YAF Common Hours Club; Corner Room

7:00 Membership & Outreach; Zoom

Saturday, May 16

5:00 Keira & Rosy’s Wedding *

Sunday, May 17

9:30 Meeting for Worship — In-person

9:45 First Day School

10:30 Refreshments

11:00 Meeting for Worship with Attention to
Business — Blended

Wednesday, May 20

6:30 Women’s Meeting; Meeting Room

7:00 What Does it Mean to be Quaker? Corner
Room & Zoom *

Thursday, May 21

6:00 YAF Common Hours Club; Corner Room

Sunday, May 24

9:30 Meeting for Worship — In-person

10:15 First Day School

10:30 Common Fellowship Time

11:00 Meeting for Worship — Blended

Tuesday, May 26

7:00 Reading & Discussion; Zoom

Wednesday, May 27

9:30 FCNL – Washtenaw Advocacy Team; Corner Room *

Thursday, May 28

6:00 YAF Common Hours Club; Corner Room

Sunday, May 31

9:30 Meeting for Worship — In-person

10:15 First Day School

10:30 Common Fellowship Time

11:00 Meeting for Worship — Blended

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting Worker on leave: Luiza will be on maternity leave from April 9 till July 19. During that time, **please continue to use the office's email address** (office@annarborfriends.org) for room reservations and other inquiries.

Kel Anders will be responding from the office's address. It will be easier to keep things organized if messages are sent there, instead of Kel's (or Luiza's) personal email. Thank you for your help!

We're looking for people to serve as Meeting closers. You can sign up at this link - https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1A-FQJSLbc62Vmwds57_i89unl_zM1BUEM9IjKKOD6E/edit?gid=1643896035#gid=1643896035 with your name and email and you'll get a reminder email a few days before when you've signed up. You can sign up for either the 9:30 screen-free worship or the 11 a.m. hybrid worship (there are "x"s for Business Meeting Sundays when there is no later Meeting for Worship) Instructions on what to do are here - [In person meeting closing instructions Laura version](#)

Quaker House Committee is looking for volunteers to help with an experimental solution for accommodating a resident with long-term disabilities in Quaker House, while maintaining equity in the workload for other residents. We need helping hands from the Meeting for about 30-60 minutes once a month, to do a deep cleaning of the Nursery and Children's Room. This would include tasks such as dusting, vacuuming, and sweeping. Regular volunteers are preferred. Please contact Jeff Cooper (cooperdaub@hotmail.com; 734-377-1676); Jan Wright (janwrigh@umich.edu; 734-652-5328); or Anna Hillaker (annahillaker@gmail.com; 734-645-1167) to find out more or to volunteer.

The Committee for Children and Families (CCF) is looking for a reliable and energetic person to join the AAFM childcare team. The position hours are every Sunday morning from 9:15 - 12:15 and the pay rate is \$20 an hour. If someone active in our Meeting is interested in the position, we would be open to negotiating ways that you might fill the position and also attend worship on occasion.

The person would work alongside our other childcare staff and volunteers, supervising playtime and story time, and leading activities for a mixed age range of children, from nursery age through upper middle school age.

We are looking for someone who enjoys working with children, is comfortable with a community-based multi-age environment, and is communicative, dependable and responsible. We ask for references, reliable transportation, and CPR certification or a willingness to become certified.

Contact CCF conveners if you are interested or have further questions.

Claire Tinkerhess, ctinkerhess@comcast.net, 734-883-9002

Molly Tinkerhess, mollymalc@gmail.com, 401-749-4986

Outdoor Workday: Property Committee plans an outdoor workday at the Meetinghouse on Saturday **May 2**, 9 am - 1 pm. Rain date is Saturday, May 9.

Singing

Sundays, **May 3, 10**; 9:00 a.m. | Meeting Room

Singing around the Meeting room piano with Peggy and Thomas. 9:00 – 9:30. Bring instruments and play along!

PIAG is hosting American Friends Service Committee's Work in Palestine Supporting Peace and Justice on **May 3** from 12:30-2pm in the Meeting Room. Then at 2pm, we'll move into the Fellowship Room for refreshments.

AFSC began working in Israel and Palestine in 1948 when asked by the UN to respond to the needs of those displaced during the 1948 War. Adam Shapiro, AFSC Palestine Strategy Director, will present on AFSC's work in Palestine supporting peace and justice. Join for the information, discussion, and some light refreshments.



American Friends Service Committee's **Work in Palestine** Supporting Peace and Justice

Sunday, May 3
12:30PM EST
1420 Hill St

AFSC BEGAN WORKING IN ISRAEL AND PALESTINE IN 1948
WHEN ASKED BY THE UNITED NATIONS TO RESPOND TO
THE NEEDS OF THOSE DISPLACED DURING THE 1948 WAR.

**Ann Arbor Friends Meeting is hosting AFSC
Palestine Strategy Director, Adam Shapiro, to
present on AFSC's ongoing work for Palestinian
human rights, peace and justice.**



light refreshments will follow



Exploring the 'Secret Power' Among Us workshop

May 3, 2026, 1:30 pm–4:00 pm | Detroit Friends Meeting House; 19309 Greenfield Road, Detroit

All members of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting are invited to a workshop sponsored by LEYM's spiritual formation program. The workshop, **Exploring the "Secret Power" Among Us**, will pick up on what Robert Barclay, 17th century Quaker publicist, named the secret power among us. Friends then, and Friends today, have had many names for this Inward Light and many experience it quite differently, if at all. During this two-and-a-half-hour workshop we will explore this power individually and together. How does it show up in our individual and corporate experiences? What difference does it make in our lives? How might we broaden and deepen our experiences and commitment to this Inward Teacher? The workshop will take place at the Detroit Friends Meeting House ([19309 Greenfield Road](#) in Detroit) on May 3 from 1:30 to 4:00. The workshop will be facilitated by Michael Wajda who will be in Detroit for the spiritual formation spring retreat held the day before.

Ann Arbor Friends Meeting Newsletter, May 2026 — Vol. 75, No. 5

Michael Wajda is a member of Goshen Friends Meeting (Philadelphia YM) who is currently sojourning at Bennington, VT Friends Meeting (New England YM). He is an active Friend who has traveled widely among Friends, leading retreats, giving talks, and helping to strengthen the spiritual life of meetings and Friends. Michael delivered the 2006 plenary address at LEYM, "Expectant Listening: Finding God's Thread of Guidance," which has been published as a Pendle Hill Pamphlet. Currently, Michael and another Friend in New England Yearly Meeting are convening full days of extended worship around the yearly meeting. Michael also serves as clerk of the Steering Committee for the Quaker Call to Protect Democracy.

Young Adult Friends, YAFS ages 18-35ish meet for dinner on the second Sunday of each month at the home of an older Friend. The next dinner will be on **May 3** at 6 pm at the home of Laura and Ben. For information on this and other YAF activities contact Lily Wiest at lily.wiest@gmail.com.

Message from Meeting for Walking:

In April we walked in the Botanical Gardens to see the extensive changes in the beaver habitat since last year. Then this week Bill led us on an educational walk around historic Ypsilanti. I would like for both those walks to be annual events. Many thanks to Bill for the walk this week. If anyone else is interested in leading a walk in your neighborhood or beyond, please let Thomas, Nancy or Naomi know.

The picture below is from the Botanical Gardens. Nancy identified the new beaver lodge on the far side of the creek and the Taylors played pool sticks over the bridge! We have fun, join us!

In May we plan to return to the woods to see the spring wildflowers. We will walk both on **Tuesday May 5 and 19** in Bird Hills, Ann Arbor's largest park at 161 acres. The "hills" are lovely glacial moraines and eskers and there are good views of the Huron river through both pine and hardwood forests. **These walks will involve some climbing on rough paths.** First and third Tuesdays at 2 pm, all are welcome and feel free to bring a friend.

We will meet in the Beechwood Drive parking area off Sunset. Parking is to the right immediately after you drive under the expressway. Entrance to Bird Hills is across the road from the parking.

If you have questions, please contact Nancy and Thomas (734-368-6555) as I will be in Europe for the first part of May.



What Does it Mean to be Quaker?

Wednesdays, **May 6, 20**; 7:00 p.m. | Corner Room and on Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/AAFM-Zoom>

This is an open discussion for both new and old members to learn and discern together on issues about how Quakerism impacts our spiritual practices and the way we live our lives. For new people, this is a place to ask questions about things that are not immediately obvious about our spiritual community. For other members, it's a place to explore something which has been on your mind or heart, where you wonder how other Friends might help you see clearer.

The Meeting is invited to the wedding

of **Kiera Christine Scott** and **Rosemary Ann Elizabeth Glos** under the care of Ann Arbor Friends Meeting, to be held at the Meeting House, **May 16, 2026, 5:00 p.m.** The Meeting for Worship will be followed by certificate signing and a community potluck. No gifts, but bring food (dishes requiring a fork only) if you can. The Meeting will also be available on Zoom through the Meeting's worship link. The planning committee (Kiera and Rosy along with Cassie Cammann, Ben Kuipers, and Laura Lein) are arranging the dinner (do let us know if you can contribute a dish), and seeking volunteers to help with parking, welcoming, set-up, and clean-up. Please call, text, or email Laura Lein if you can help out (512-626-5927, leinl@umich.edu). Thank you.

Please join us as

Kiera Christine Scott
&
Rosemary Ann Elizabeth Glos

Celebrate their Marriage under the Care of

Ann Arbor Friends Meeting

May 16, 2026 | 5 PM
1420 Hill St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Meeting for Worship will be followed by certificate signing and a community potluck.

No gifts, but bring food if you can!

*Unable to attend in person?
Join us on Zoom:*

<https://tinyurl.com/AAFM-Zoom>



Friends Committee on National Legislation's Washtenaw Advocacy Team

Wednesday, **May 20**, 9:30–11:30 | Corner Room

Join the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) Advocacy Team when we meet every month on the fourth Wednesday from 9:30 a.m.–noon. Because we have both Ann Arbor and Chelsea members, we toggle between the two locations for meetings. Our purpose is to build relationships with our members of US Congress, and to support bills promoting matters of peace and justice. Sometimes we meet with the staff of our Senators and Representative; more often we make phone calls, or write letters to the members or to newspaper editors. We are amply supported by the large, expert staff in the Washington DC office of FCNL and by other Advocacy Teams in Michigan.

Our elected officials need constituents who will encourage, teach, appreciate, and hold them accountable to work for the common good. Governed by members of the Religious Society of Friends, FCNL acts in faith to create a world free from war, a society with equity and justice for all, a community where every person's potential may be fulfilled and an earth restored. One current issue is urging congressional members to oppose the transfer of more weapons of war and military support to Israel.

Questions? Contact John Gourlay (john@weathervanefarm.net) or Nancy Taylor (netaylor@comcast.net).

Quaker Death Education, a series of events focused on the practical matters surrounding death and dying, started in February. This series is being hosted by Final Affairs, under the care of Ministry and Counsel.

These events will be facilitated by Robin and Kate. Robin is an End-of-Life Doula and NEDA-Proficient professional, as well as the President and Co-Founder of the Evergreen End of Life Foundation of Michigan. She has given numerous presentations on end-of-life topics, including legacy projects, the role of an End-of-Life Doula, advance care directives, and other aspects of death and dying. Kate has a long interest in death and dying and experience as a Funeral Services Representative.

All events will be hosted from **3pm–5pm** in the Fellowship Room and on Zoom. Please note, the event in August has been moved from the 1st to the 22nd.

Learn more at tinyurl.com/QuakerDE

Zoom Link: tinyurl.com/QuakerDEZoom

June 6th / July 11th - My Five Wishes - understanding and filling out key paperwork

Date TBD - Focus on Considerations for Parents

August 22nd - Funeral / planning for after your own death - leaving a simple legacy for loved ones

October 3rd - Life after Death - taking care of things after someone else dies

December 5th - Quaker Death Cafe 2 - a chance to revisit how we feel about death and dying

New Library Books on Display!

Recent Library acquisitions are on display on the west wall of the Meeting Library. Have a look! Friends are asked *not* to borrow them until June 21, so that everyone has a chance to browse. You may sign the slips (in each book) to reserve books you want to borrow in June.

Jeff Cooper thanks those Friends who suggested new titles and is always happy to answer questions about the Library. Books are listed below under broad subject categories, with brief descriptions.

Quakers and Quakerism

Quaker Quicks series. Any of these five short, readable books would be helpful to relative newcomers wishing to learn about Quakerism.

Geoffrey Durham: *What Do Quakers Believe?*
Introduces Quakerism, Inner Light, Testimonies, Meeting for Worship, and Business Meeting.

Tim Gee: *Why I Am a Pacifist.* Starting from Quakers and pacifism, branches out to feminism, anti-racism, and the global economy.

Pamela Haines: *The Promise of Right Relationship.*
These essays are "a thoughtful source of queries as we all embark more deeply in relationship with a quickly changing world."

Helen Holt: *Quakers and Chocolate.* Fascinating summary of the three major British chocolate-making families, their business models, and their enlightened treatment of workers.

Eleanor Nesbitt: *Open to New Light: Quakers and Other Faiths.* Concisely addresses a broad range of topics, including Quaker relationship with non-Christian faiths, Quakers and Native Americans, and Quakers with mixed religious identities.

Emily Provance: *Before the Resurrection: Transitions and Endings in Quaker Meetings and Churches.*
Addresses from various angles various changes in various sizes of Meetings, concluding with new ways in which Quakerism is practiced and Friends gather.

J. William Frost: *William Penn: A Radical Conservative Quaker.* This thorough and scholarly work tells the complex history of William Penn, "the best known ... yet least understood of all the founding fathers of 17th-century America," covering his activities as author and preacher, early Quakers in Pennsylvania and England, and even the city planning of Philadelphia.

David Chanoff: *Anthony Benezet: Quaker, Abolitionist, Anti-Racist.* A scholarly tome on a Philadelphia Quaker

contemporary with Benjamin Lay, John Woolman, and Benjamin Franklin.

Julian Brave NoiseCat: *We Survived the Night.* This wide-ranging work by a contemporary activist (born 1993) interweaves history/autobiography with issues important to Native Americans.

Christianity and Spirituality

Gregory Boyle: *Cherished Belonging: The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times.* An open-minded and humorous Jesuit priest presents Christianity as kindness, focusing on healing divisions in the U.S., community, compassion, and the nature of God.

Jennifer Powell McNutt: *The Mary We Forgot: What the Apostle to the Apostles Teaches the Church Today.*
This intensively researched book supports the conclusion that Mary Magdalene was a saint, not a sinner, and concludes by asking "Are we celebrating the gifts of women" for faith and ministry?

Mirabai Starr: *Ordinary Mysticism: Your Life as Sacred Ground.* A book about integrating the divine into our mundane lives. Each chapter concludes with a practice exercise and writing prompt.

Earthcare and the Environment

Jeremy Brecher: *The Green New Deal from Below: How Ordinary People Are Building a Just and Climate-Safe Economy.* Presents the Green New Deal as "a political strategy for integrating programs and people to realize climate [sustainability], jobs, and justice."

Ayana Elizabeth Johnson: *What if We Get it Right? Visions of Climate Futures.* Includes insightful interviews with 20 experts in various fields related to climate change. Optimistic about the future (but written before Trump was re-elected).

Robin Wall Kimmerer: *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World.* Describes an economy based on abundance, rather than scarcity,

through an exchange of goods and services. Asks what we can learn from Indigenous wisdom and the plant world.

Lydia Wylie-Kellermann: *This Sweet Earth: Walking with our Children in the Age of Climate Collapse*. "Weaving poetry, prose, and prayer," focuses on parenting during climate and political crises. Portrays a new way of life: one that can heal us and the Earth.

Social Justice and Politics

William J. Barber II, with Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove: *White Poverty: How Exposing Myths about Race and Class Can Reconstruct American Democracy*. Proposes that the tens of millions of poor people (Black and white together) can be a powerful voting bloc, lifting hope for a "moral fusion movement."

Nolan Finley and Stephen Henderson: *The Civility Book: A Guide to Building Bridges across the Political Divide*. Two Detroit journalists from opposite ends of the political spectrum describe how civil discourse has enabled them to become and remain close friends.

Joel Edward Goza: *Rebirth of a Nation: Reparations and Remaking America*. A racial history of the U.S.

* * *

To find previously acquired books, see the notebook on top of the cabinet, which contains an **Author Catalog** (on yellow paper) and a **Title Catalog** (on green paper), where most entries have subject descriptors in the bottom line. Otherwise, **broad subject access** is provided by the organization of the Library in 15 sections indicated by one or more strips of colored tape on book spines (see below). Within each section, most books are arranged alphabetically by author, though many sections begin with some authorless books arranged by title. Jeff Cooper has a detailed subject catalog (not printed) and can provide assistance in finding books on specific topics.

To borrow books from the Library, sign them out in the notebook on top of the cabinet. Books should be returned within a month – to the large "Returns" box on the window ledge.

Key to Colors and Sections (starting on east wall and proceeding clockwise and then into Living Room)

Yellow	Quaker Studies	2 Black	Earthcare
Yellow & Blue	Quaker Biographies	2 Blue	Social Concerns, Racism
Blue	General Biographies	Gray	Politics
2 Brown	Miscellaneous Topics	Brown	Peace, Nonviolence
2 Red	Bibles & Commentaries	All in living room:	
Red	Christianity	Green	Comparative Religion
3 Red	Prayer, Meditation	2 Green	Arts, Poetry, Drama
Black	Philosophy, Psychology, Ethics, Human Relationships	Green & Blue	Fiction

and its assumption of white supremacy emphasizes periods of slavery, Jim Crow, and prisons and poverty, leading up to a need for reparations.

Douglas Gwyn: *A Revolution in Common*. Five essays on capitalism and power, drawing on lessons from the Bible and guiding us toward a "more egalitarian, peaceful, and environmentally sustainable future."

Palestine and Israel

Max L. Carter: *Palestine and Israel: Understanding Encounters*. Letters, journal entries, and social media postings from 2006 to 2023, mainly written on annual service-learning trips, constitute this detailed sequel to a North Carolina Quaker's earlier book with the same title.

Juan Cole: *Gaza Yet Stands*. U-M Professor Cole's essays offer firsthand commentary on Palestine from 2004 to 2024.

Rebecca Vilkomerson and Alissa Wise: *Solidarity Is the Political Version of Love: Lessons from Jewish Anti-Zionist Organizing*. Focuses on Jewish Voices for Peace, 2010–2020, and seeking ways to support Palestinian freedom and rights and still resist antisemitism. The appendices include an impressive glossary of related organizations.

Oversize books are shelved together on the west wall, immediately below the books on earthcare (double black tape and social concerns (double blue). These books are indicated in the catalogs by an “OS” next to the subject color.

AMONG FRIENDS

We're so excited to share that **Aaron Caetano Brannon** was **born on Sunday April 19** at 1am. Thank you all for holding us in the Light and for all your support during Luiza's pregnancy and early motherhood. We can't wait to introduce him to you in person!.

—Luiza and Elliott

If you are interested in contributing a Meal Train meal, here is a link: <https://mealtrain.com/dek393>

On April 13 a few Friends were at Naomi Gilbert's home to meet Greg Stefanski (Executive Director) and Haley Castle-Miller (Development and Outreach Manager) of QUAKER VOLUNTARY SERVICE, a Fellowship program for young adults (21 - 30) who live in intentional community and work with social change organizations. QVS welcomes applications from folks who are self-motivated and able to thrive in dynamic work environments and in the everyday relationships of a shared house. While you do not need to be Quaker to apply, you should want to grow in the areas of spirituality, justice, community and simplicity. QVS houses are in Boston, Minneapolis, Philadelphia and Portland, Oregon. Contact: www.quakervoluntaryservice.org for more information and an application form.

Save the date: A Meeting for Worship to Celebrate the Life of Joan Sampieri, a member of our meeting, will be held in our Meeting Room on Sunday **May 17** at 3pm. Fellowship and refreshments will follow. Joan was active in women's causes, civil rights, and human rights. She served in leadership roles in Friends General Conference, Planned Parenthood, League of Women Voters, NAACP, Western Washtenaw Democrats, and was active on the board of Friends School in Detroit. For questions or to offer help for that day contact Becky Morehouse.

Celebration of Life

Friends mourn the death and celebrate the generous life of our dear friend Kellie Butler who died suddenly and unexpectedly last week at home, with Matt by her side. Her obituary can be found at: <https://www.ducro.com/obituaries/Kellie-Renee-Butler?obId=48199587>. There will be a celebration of life for Kellie in Ashtabula, Ohio, Saturday afternoon, **May 23**, including visitation and a ceremony. Details concerning the event are included in the obituary. Contact Margot Finn (in the Meeting directory) for details about travel to the funeral. The Meeting will work with Kellie's husband Matt to hold a celebration of life at the Meeting House in the weeks to follow. There will be future announcements with details.

There will be a "Final Friday lunch" this month, hosted by Susan Hartman. All Friends are invited to stop by any time between 11:30 am and 2pm for a simple lunch and unprogrammed fellowship and conversation. If you want to bring a poem to share, that is welcome as well! This month's lunch is on Friday, **May 29th** at Susan Hartman's home at 840 Starwick. No need to RSVP, but you can direct questions to Susan at 734-623-8255. We look forward to seeing you then.

Dear Family and Friends of May Watanabe: We would like to joyfully

celebrate the 103 years of her life with you, welcoming your presence in person or via the livestream on Saturday, **June 6**, 2026. It will be a Quaker style gathering that centers on the sharing of personal reflections of May, followed by carrot cake and a social time.

Location: Ann Arbor Unitarian Universalist Church, [4001 Ann Arbor Saline Road](#)

Doors open: 1:30pm

Beginning of service: 2pm

Wrap up: 4:30ish

There will be a spot for donations of canned food or checks to Food Gatherers in May's memory.

<https://www.foodgatherers.org/get-involved/donatepage/>

Don't leave without your own copy of May's Thanksgiving potato roll recipe!

Details on how to join the livestream are forthcoming!

Obituary: <https://www.niefuneralhomes.com/memorials/may-watanabe/5639570/index.php>

There will be a memorial service/celebration of lives for Nancy and Don Nagler on Saturday, **June 27**, in Mt. Pleasant. RSVPs are requested asap. Please consult Jeff Cooper (cooperdaub@hotmail.com) for details.

Save The Date for the Memorial in the manner of Friends for Rick Plewa's husband George Ferrell. **August 1st**, 3 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Ann Arbor.

Newer Friends, feel free to check out the [New Quaker Hub](#), a section of the Friends General Conference website geared toward new Friends.

New Mailing List: There is now a new mailing list/google group for Friends who participate online (in any capacity) to share community, information, and updates. Everyone in the AAFM community is welcome to participate. To request to be added to the group, go to this link:

<https://groups.google.com/a/annarborfriends.org/g/online-friends/about> and click on "Ask to join group".

If you need any help with the new google group/ mailing list, feel free to email Marni Rachmiel (sfsmarn@gmail.com) or Matt Butler (apooltoswim@gmail.com).

Refreshments and food allergies

Food for refreshments should not contain peanuts or peanut products. We have slipped away from requiring this, but we feel that this is necessary now. Also, gluten intolerant folks are again participating in refreshments—it would be great if we had at least one item they could eat. Thanks—the Refreshment and Potluck Committee.

How Does the Bible Speak to Us? Join a small group of Friends who meet weekly for about 45 minutes. We use the [Friendly Bible Study](#) method which is a uniquely Quaker approach to reading the Bible. We are currently working our way through the gospel of Luke. We meet via the AAFM worship link <https://tinyurl.com/AAFM-Zoom> on **Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.** All are welcome to join. If questions, please contact Bill (billriccobono@gmail.com) or Naomi (naomig@umich.edu)

[The Tools For Our Time Resource Deck](#) is a calendar of events, and a guide to publicly-accessible campaigns, programs, and organizations for people wanting to connect to programs and campaigns helping to support and protect our immigrant neighbors.

SPECIAL MESSAGES

Indigenous Action Group Update

Members of IAG are pleased to report a meaningful and productive collaboration with Uniting Three Fires Against Violence at the recent Dance for Mother Earth Powwow held at Skyline High School. Stacey Ettawageshik and Samantha Brown were surprised by the size of the event and the variety of onsite activities, exhibitors, and organizations. Many people stopped by the exhibit table to learn more about UTFAV and the types of assistance and programs it provides. In addition, they had opportunities to make or reinforce connections with representatives from other Indigenous organizations, agencies, and businesses. During the exhibit hours, Ann Arbor Friends joined Stacey and Sam at the table to show our support and learn more about them and their work. On Saturday evening, a meal was provided for our guests, followed by a very informative presentation and discussion period. Stacey was very positive about this first collaboration and expressed interest in making it an annual occurrence.

Another piece of encouraging news is that the Washtenaw County Commissioners have taken formal action to recognize May 5 as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Awareness Day. Upon informing Stacey of the commissioners' resolution, she expressed gratitude and noted that each "action helps bring greater visibility, accountability, and healing." Each of us can show our support on May 5 by wearing red, telling others about the significance of the day, and/or donating to UTFAV.

Turning attention to an issue of concern, the Trump Administration is fast-tracking uranium extraction in the Black Hills on Lakota treaty land above the aquifer that feeds Pine Ridge Reservation (SD), potentially destroying people and the sacred. You can learn more about this concern and submit a letter of opposition to Secretary of the Interior Doug Bergman at this link: <https://action.lakotalaw.org/action/black-hills-mining>. A pre-crafted letter is provided that makes voicing opposition easy to do.

Ways to further learn about and engage with Indigenous issues are: 1) attend workshops presented by Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples (Friends Peace Teams). There is one this Sunday, **May 3**, 4-6 pm ET; [REGISTER HERE](#) 2) attend IAG meeting May 21, 7:30 pm via <https://tinyurl.com/AAFm-Zoom>

[The American Friends Service Committee](#) asks you to write your Representative and ask them to cosponsor H.R.3565, the [Block the Bombs Act](#). By introducing this bill, Members of Congress are proactively trying to block the Trump administration from delivering major US weapons to Israel. If enacted into law, this bill would block the following weapons to Israel: BLU-109 bunker busting bombs, MK80 series bombs, GBU-39 small diameter bomb variants, Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAMs), SPICE gliding bomb assemblies, 120mm tank ammunition, and 155mm artillery ammunition, including white phosphorus munitions.

Ann Arbor Friends Meeting, along with the American Friends Service Committee and a number of other Meetings, is a member of the Apartheid-Free Communities organization. Here are some valuable resources that were shared at the Apartheid-Free Communities Quaker Affinity Group Meeting in June: [Introductory Materials for Apartheid-Free Communities](#). And here is the [Quakers Apartheid-Free Communities webpage](#).

Below you will find a link to the Podcast, Native America Calling. The topic of this episode is Assessing the Outlook for Domestic Violence Prevention and Justice. Two of the four guests are from Michigan; Stacey Ettawageshik (UTFAV) and Tribal Judge Melissa Pope. It is a very interesting and informative discussion.

<https://youtu.be/CmWtKh35obU?t=303>

LARGER CIRCLES OF FRIENDS

Online registration has opened for the **Annual Meeting of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting**, in Ashland, Ohio, on June 18-21, and there is a discount for those who register before May 8. The theme this year is "**Finding Hope, Joy, and Courage in Community**." The plenary speaker is [Joe Volk](#), and [Douglas Gwyn](#) will lead Bible study. The most recent [LEYM Bulletin](#) contains full registration instructions, as well as information on discounts for first-time attenders, young adult Friends, and youth. Also included are full descriptions of the [11 scheduled workshops](#). To learn more, visit the Annual Meeting webpage at <https://leym.org/annual/> and/or watch the short 2026 Annual Meeting Welcome Video, [available here](#).

Proposed Change in LEYM Database

At last year's Annual Meeting, Publications & Archives Committee was asked whether we need to maintain records for all members of constituent meetings in the LEYM database and how, if at all, their contact information should be accessible. P&A will bring to Annual Meeting a proposal that was previously considered and supported by Executive Committee, and was presented at Representative Meeting:

Annually, the database manager will ask monthly meetings for their directories in digital format and, unless otherwise requested, forward any that are received to the Friends Historical Collection at Swarthmore College and to Friends General Conference but not compile this data into a Yearly Meeting directory or add it to the database [as has been our practice]. Monthly Meetings can make their own decisions about what information they send to the database manager or can ask that their directory information not be forwarded elsewhere. In keeping with LEYM's privacy policy, Meetings will be asked either to identify or redact names and email addresses for people under 18, so these will not be forwarded to Swarthmore or FGC.

Note: The database manager will continue to collect and include in the database contact information for 1) officers, committee members, and other Friends with individual responsibilities in LEYM (e.g., the Bulletin editor); 2) those Friends who attend Annual Meeting; and 3) clerks and committee clerks of Monthly Meetings as well as contact people in worship groups.

If you have questions or concerns about this proposal, please speak with or write to Jeff Cooper, clerk of the LEYM Publications & Archives Committee (734-668-8063, cooperdaub@hotmail.com).

AFSC Action Hour for Palestine

Via Zoom | Every **Friday** at **12:00 p.m.**

Join AFSC staff every Friday at 12:00 p.m. to hear updates from Gaza. Then, take action with us as we contact our elected officials and call for humanitarian access to Gaza. Our elected officials need to keep hearing from us. [Register here.](#)

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Peace in Palestine & Israel

Via Zoom | Every **Thursday**, 7:30 p.m.

Join the AFSC to pray for peace in Israel & Palestine. [Register here!](#)

From AFSC

Increasing numbers of young people are finding that Quaker worship “speaks to their condition.” Do you ever wonder how or why? Perhaps this podcast will inform and inspire!

<https://quakerpodcast.com/finding-a-spiritual-home-what-does-quakerism-look-like-for-the-next-generation/>

SAVE the DATE: LEYM Annual Sessions in Ashland Ohio

June 18-21, 2026

The 2026 Annual Meeting will be held June 18-21 at Ashland University in Ohio. Our theme: “Finding Hope, Joy and Courage in Community.” Our plenary speaker will be Joe Volk, and our bible study leader will be Doug Gwyn.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Resistance Songs Sing-Along on Sunday, May 3, from 3:30 to 5 pm. We'll be at the **First UU Congregation, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Ann Arbor.** Everyone's welcome to sing along, play a rhythm instrument, or just clap! No experience necessary - just bring your love of peace and justice! We sing songs both old and new, including the songs coming out of Minneapolis and the new Singing Resistance movement. This event is co-sponsored by the [Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice](#), along with the three of us who organized it — Edith Lewis, Amelia Hefferlin, and Layla Ananda.

Addressing housing insecurity and homelessness in Washtenaw County is the focus of a new documentary called “**The Road Home.**”

Produced by the Ann Arbor Housing Commission in partnership with Detroit filmmaker Kameron Donald of Breyko, the film explores the underlying challenges and potential solutions to a [growing problem locally and nationally.](#)

It premiered at the Michigan Theater on April 23, followed by a repeat showing **May 7.**

Both screenings are free and open to the public and include panel discussions afterward.

[Watch the trailer.](#)

[Reserve free tickets.](#)

The Dispute Resolution Center will hold its 10th Anniversary Unity

Walk on Saturday, **June 6**, from 10am to 3 pm. This will include a 5-mile walk starting at the United Way Building, a 1.5-mile walk starting at Ypsilanti Community High School, and an after-walk celebration at Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church. Friends are invited to register for the walk and/or sign on as a sponsor. This year's walk proceeds will be used in support of the DRC's Restorative Justice Youth Services Program. More information about the walk and the program is available at:

<https://thedisputeresolutioncenter.org/events/unity-walk-2026/>. In past years, several Friends have arranged to walk together Contact Susan Hartman if you have questions about the DRC or its programs.

Again this year, the **Community Farm of Ann Arbor** is providing fresh, healthy, organic produce to our low-income and housing-insecure friends and neighbors, through their Community Farm Donated Shares Program. Last year, the program raised over \$5000, including a donation from our meeting, to distribute food through **Peace House** (one of our Restorative Justice recipients) and **Brown Chapel AME**. The farm hopes to double that amount this year and needs donations at this time to help in their planning for the coming growing season. Donations can be made at

<https://www.communityfarmofannarbor.com/donate/>. For more information about Community Farm of Ann Arbor, see their website at <https://www.communityfarmofannarbor.com/>