

Ann Arbor Friends Meeting Newsletter

June 2026

1420 Hill St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104 | 734-761-7435 | www.annarborfriends.org

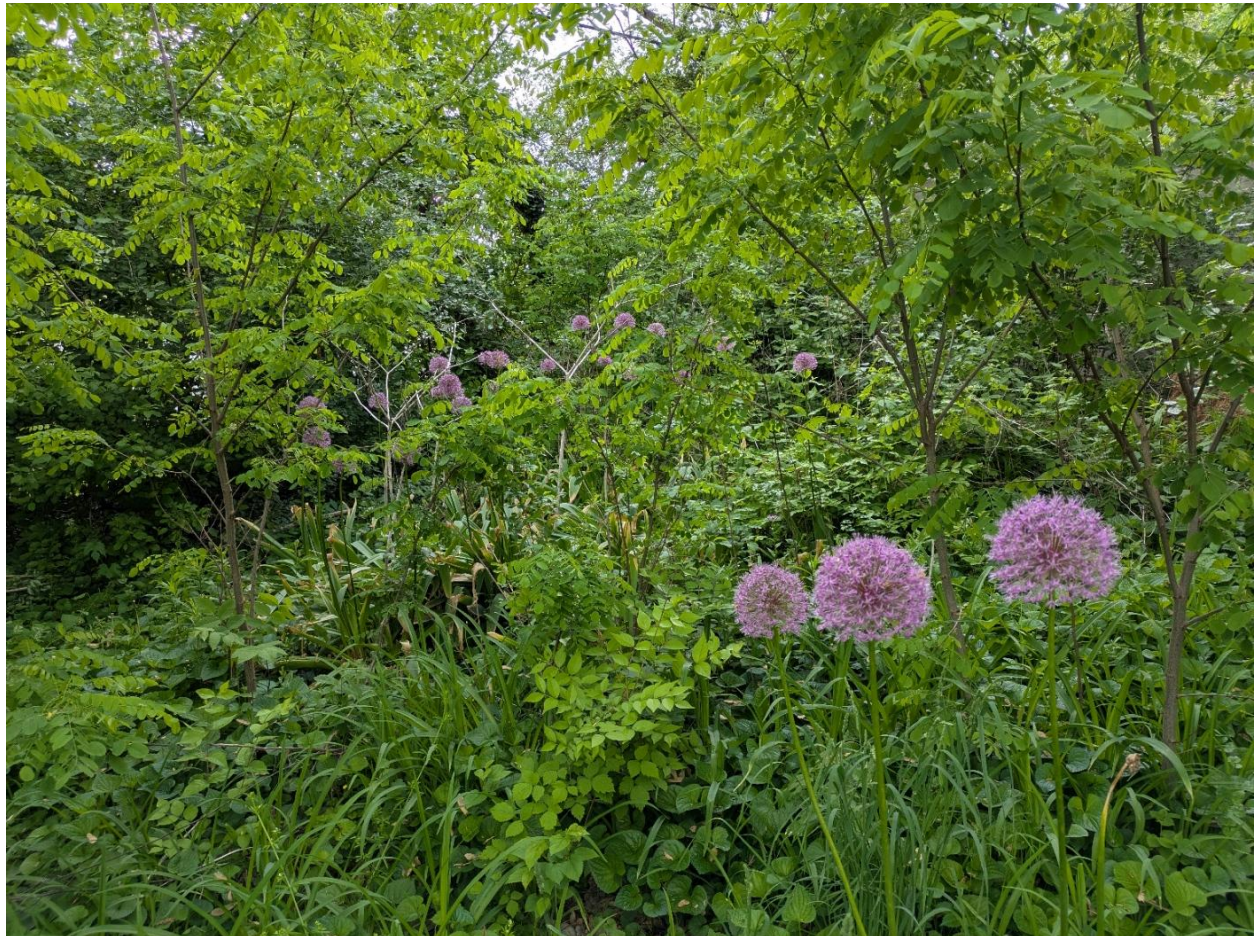
Vol. 75, No. 6

Clerk: Karen Connor	734-717-6353
Meeting Worker: Luiza Duarte Caetano	734-761-7435
Treasurer: Alex Houser	734-845-8706
Publications Coordinator: Eric Wozniak	734-985-5032
Quaker House Resident Host: Daniel Luzarraga	973-908-2612

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

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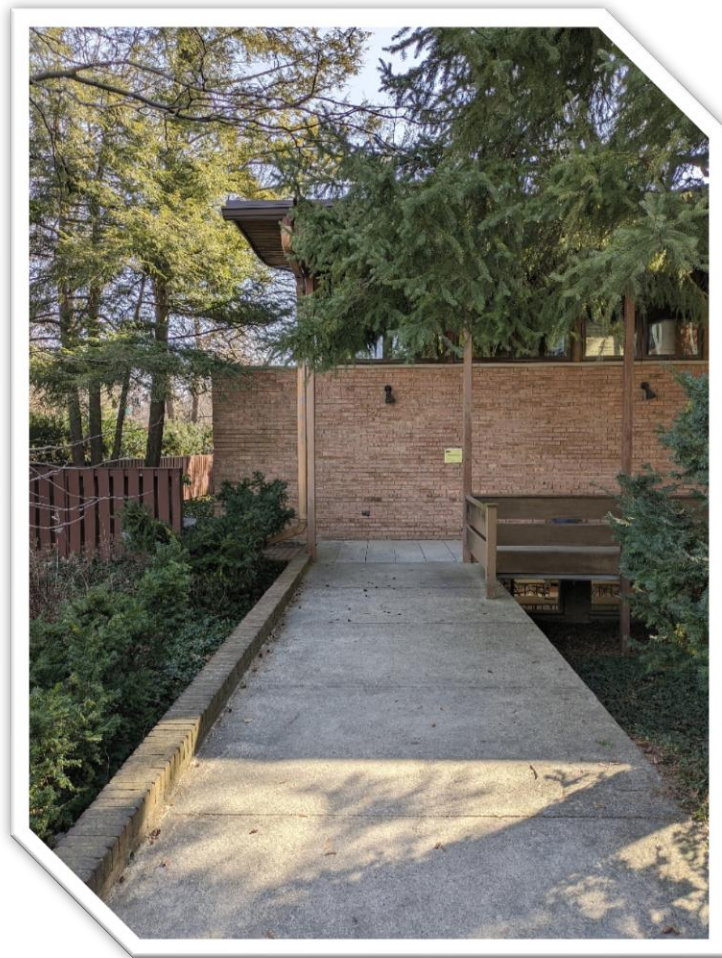


To subscribe to the newsletter and weekly handout, email Eric Wozniak at publications@annarborfriends.org.

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:

- June 7, 14, 21:
 - 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).
- June 28:
 - The 9:30 a.m. Meeting for Worship will be blended.
 - The 11:00 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business will be blended.

AAFM June 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).

Monday, June 1

6:30 Final Affairs Committee; Naomi's House and Zoom

Tuesday, June 2

2:00 Meeting for Walking *

7:00 Reading & Discussion; Zoom

Wednesday, June 3

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

7:30 Quaker House Committee; Zoom

Thursday, June 4

6:00 M&C Committee

Saturday, June 6

2:00 Celebration of May Watanabe; AA UU
Church; 4001 Ann Arbor Saline Road

3:00 Quaker Death Education; Fellowship
Room & Zoom *

Sunday, June 7

9:00 Singing; Meeting Room *

9:30 Meeting for Worship — In-person

10:15 First Day School

10:30 CCF; Living Room

10:30 Common Fellowship Time

11:00 Meeting for Worship — Blended

11:00 Property Committee; Fireplace Room

Monday, June 8

7:30 Peace & Social Justice Committee; Zoom

Thursday, June 11

7:00 Membership & Outreach; Zoom

7:30 Finance Committee; See online calendar for
Zoom Info

Saturday, June 13

2:00 Earthcare Committee; Zoom

Sunday, June 14

9:00 Singing

9:30 Meeting for Worship — In-person

10:15 First Day School

10:30 Common Fellowship Time

11:00 Meeting for Worship — Blended

12:00 Nokomis Anishinaabe Cultural Center talk;
Fellowship Room

6:00 YAF Dinner

Tuesday, June 16

2:00 Meeting for Walking *

Wednesday, June 17

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

Sunday, June 21

9:30 Meeting for Worship — In-person

10:15 First Day School

11:00 Meeting for Worship — Blended

Tuesday, June 23

5:00 ICPJ Annual Meeting; Fellowship Room

7:00 Reading & Discussion; Zoom

Wednesday, June 24

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

Sunday, June 28

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

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

Reading & Discussion redo, June 2, 7:00 | On Tuesday evening, May 26,

the link <https://tinyurl.com/AAFM-Zoom> on our website failed to connect, and people had great difficulty connecting to our monthly Reading & Discussion session. Some were eventually able to connect by typing in the ID (818 7021 4329) rather than using the link. One person kept retrying the tinyurl.com link and connected successfully. The problem has not recurred today.

We had an insightful group discussion among the five of us who made it to the meeting, and we would like to have a repeat meeting this coming Tuesday, **June 2**, at 7:00, using the same materials available at <https://tinyurl.com/3tmk63na>.

We look forward to seeing you then.

Dear Family and Friends of May Watanabe!

It's May and the first spring has arrived after May's departure last September. 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!

Below is the link to watch the livestream of the gathering to remember May **on June 6**. The start time is **2 pm Eastern time**. The livestream will start 10 minutes before the service begins.

<https://youtube.com/live/MHZSRf03hvk?feature=share>

Thank you for being part of May's lifelong, wide circle of love.

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

Singing

Sundays, **June 7, 14**; 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!

Meeting for Canoeing/Kayaking

Saturday, **June 13**, 2026, Launch at 10:00 am, Halfmoon Lake Boat Launch area off Hankard Road – Michigan State Park sticker required.

Bring with you:

Packed lunch (with something to share if you wish)

Sun hat and sunscreen, rain gear in case

Swimsuit and towel if you want – drinking water

Boat, paddles and floatation device

Available to borrow (contact Thomas Taylor to reserve):

Canoe: _____ & _____

Kayak: _____

Kayak: _____

*Arrive at 324 Hilldale Drive by 8:30 am to load and strap boat to your car.

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 **June 14** at 6 pm. For information on this and other YAF activities contact Lily Wiest at lily.wiest@gmail.com.

Message from Meeting for Walking:

In May we walked in Bird Hills to enjoy the extensive woodland and to see the spring wildflowers. Our June walks will be on **June 2** and **June 16** at 2 pm when we'll be returning to the Arboretum to see the peonies, rhododendrons and other flowering bushes. The Arboretum has unfinished paths and there's a fairly steep climb up to the peonies. Park and meet at the dead end of Riverview Drive off Geddes. All are welcome and feel free to bring a friend. If you have questions, please contact Nancy and Thomas (734-368-6555) or Naomi (734-476-4555).

What Does it Mean to be Quaker?

Wednesdays, **June 3, 17**; 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.

Friends Committee on National Legislation's Washtenaw Advocacy Team

Wednesday, **June 24**, 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

AMONG FRIENDS

When our Friends Grayson Moore, and Scott Neville moved out of state in September 2025, they generously offered to rent their condo, very affordably, to a family in dire need of secure housing, while they waited for a more opportune time to put their condo on the market. They had intended to put the condo on the market in May, but not wanting to disrupt the family's living situation during the school year, they agreed to let the family stay until June 15, and have postponed listing the condo with a realtor until that time. Grayson and family have requested if people in the Meeting could help spread the word about the condo's availability in the meantime, it would be much appreciated. The condo is at 2130 Pauline, unit #103, between West Stadium and Maple Road. It is a 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom first floor unit, 1173 sq. feet, with a somewhat enclosed patio, shared laundry and storage in the basement, and access to the community center in the adjacent building (pool, gym, etc.).

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



FCNL Washtenaw Advocacy Team

Members of the FCNL Washtenaw Advocacy Team delivered a request to Representative Debbie Dingell on May 29 to sign on as a co-sponsor of H. R. 8592, a new bill demanding No Funding for war with Iran. The team meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday at 9:30am, alternating between AAFM Corner Room and Chelsea Library. Interested in joining us? Next meeting is on June 24 at AAFM.

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. 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/>

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Ann Arbor Black Film Festival is occurring **June 5th through the 7th**. Check out their incredible work and the lineup of films [HERE](#).

June 14, 7:00-7:30 PM ET; the Royal School of Yoga offers its monthly Guided Meditation for World Peace via Zoom, second Sundays of the month. [Here is the link to the flyer](#) with the embedded Zoom link.

Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice updates, events, and invitations:

Wednesday, June 3, 6-8 Pm Network Convening focused on the alignment of ICPJ’s Mission, Vision, Values, Theory of Change, and the Proposed Structure, facilitated by Yodit Mesfin Johnson.

Monday, June 22 from 5:30-7:30 PM at 16 S. Washington, the **ICPJ VOTE** Caucus will be hosting a candidate forum focused on health and healthcare.

June 23, 5:30-7:30 PM, at Ann Arbor Friends Meeting, in the **Fellowship Room** the ICPJ will hold its Annual Meeting. [Here is the link to the register.](#)

The next **ICPJ Facilitator's Lab Cohort**, focusing on workshop opportunities related to de-escalation, conflict resilience, voting protection, and reimagining safety will be launching **July/August**. If you are interested in learning more and getting information about the dates feel free to contact Allie (asuffety@gmail.com).

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 Reparative 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/>