



# BROOKLYN MEETING NEWS

*A publication of the Brooklyn Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends*

*brooklynmeeting.org*

**APRIL, 2017**

## **Bearing Witness**

On March 8, Brooklyn Friends School and the Brooklyn Monthly Meeting collaborated on the second annual Quaker Witness Day, offering an opportunity for Friends and those working for Quaker organizations to let others know about the witness they bring to the world for social justice and environmental issues.

- Panel of Quakers Visiting Standing Rock: Friends who were called to support the Native American pipeline resistance shared their experiences as allies in an indigenous-centered community.

- Dr. Linnea Capps, Doctors for Global Health: DGH works in communities in El Salvador and southern Mexico, doing work they call “Liberation Medicine,” which is defined as “the conscious and conscientious use of health to promote human dignity and social justice.”

- Margaret Lechner, Alternatives to Violence Project: This project,

co-founded by Quakers and incarcerated men, works to heal individuals and communities impacted by incarceration, civil strife, and religious violence, in the U.S. and

Program at American Friends Service Committee NYC: Lewis shared the benefits and challenges of representing a Quaker organization in doing advocacy in the criminal justice arena.



around the world.

- Peter Blood and Annie Patterson, Standing on the Shoulders of Giants: Quaker Witness Through Song: The creators of the songbooks “Rise Up Singing” and “Rise Up Again” talked about how singing can be an integral part of justice movements.

- Lewis Webb, Jr., Coordinator of the Healing and Transformative Justice

- Mary Eagleson, Right Sharing of World Resources: For 50 years, RSWR has been working to more equitably divide resources around the world, helping very poor people in three countries start small businesses with capital donated by individuals in the United States.

*Interested in promoting a Quaker event? Then email [events@brooklynmeeting.org](mailto:events@brooklynmeeting.org)*

## **Bearing Witness** *cont. from page 1*

- Rachel Madenyika, Quaker UN Representative, and Anna Mijnlief, Programme Assistant, Quaker United Nations Office: QUNO seeks to transform the UN's work on peace-building, bringing together people from diverse backgrounds to peacefully resolve problems.

- Melissa Minnich, Providing Housing for the Homeless: Melissa works with Breaking Ground to give our homeless brothers and sisters the support they need in finding housing, as well as ensuring that they are treated with respect and their voices are heard.

During the day, BFS Middle School and Upper School students had the opportunity to learn from two 20-minute presentations each. In the evening, members of the community were invited to a potluck dinner and to hear the same presenters speak in a panel format, with opportunities to discuss and ask questions.

### **What does it mean to witness?**

Tom Rothschild introduced the presenters, noting, "People are

called to speak their truths in many different ways and forms, and there are many people here who are active in the world, and all of those are Quaker witness." He then asked the presenters to share their stories, framing the discussion with two questions: "Where does our witness come from? How are we called?"

It was the beginning of a very moving discussion, as presenters shared the details of their work as well as their calls to witness. Emmy Gay, who told the story of her experience supporting the water protectors at Standing Rock, said, "Answering a call is about getting to experience the world in a very different way.... When we truly sit and wait and listen and are examined by the light, we are given the opportunity to let go of everything we think we know. And I don't know what I don't know, and that's okay, because I am going to be given the opportunity to learn. And we have to do that

in community."

The Standing Rock panelists in particular noted the importance of the support they received from the New York Yearly Meeting in affirming their calling: "Quaker process really grounded the project in clearness and gave it the strength it needed to survive."

That support is crucial, because a calling can lead to challenging places. Peter Blood commented, referring to Quaker activists throughout history, "You may face difficulties. You may become poor. You may go to jail. But following your calling is a joy."

After everyone had a chance to present and those in the room asked questions, the program ended as it began – with all of the attendees lifting their voices in song and expressing their gratitude for the deeply personal stories of those who came to share their witness.

*-- Melissa Cavanaugh*

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## **Statement to Quakers, from Ladonna Brave Bull Allard**

This is a transcription of a video recording made at Standing Rock, North Dakota, by Brooklyn Meeting Member Emmy Gay:

"The United States had decided they were going to exterminate the Indians, a whole race. The Quakers started an organization called 'The Friends of the Indians.' I have always thought that I wanted to meet a Quaker to say "Thank you," because we alive.

When they went to Washington and told the President 'You cannot do this,' they saved our lives. I don't

know if you know that history. Although at that time they said, 'How do we do this?' They said the Quakers [could] assimilate them. That was kind of the bad part. But my point was they went and stood up and told them, 'You cannot do this.' That was in 1820."

"The commission proposed and Grant accepted a new approach to staffing the Indian agencies in the West. Because the Society of Friends or Quakers had historically pursued humane policies toward the Indians in Pennsylvania and because, as a group they appeared more honest than the typical Indian agents, Grant's

commission gave the Quakers charge of Indian relations in about half the western agencies."

Excerpt from "*Ulysses S. Grant, In War and Peace*" by H.W. Brands

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## March Meeting for Business: A Full Plate

### First Letter of Application for Membership

John Major, a long time Attender, read his first letter of application for Membership.

### Draft of State of the Meeting Report Considered

Friends listened to a first draft of the State of the Meeting Report to be sent to New York Yearly Meeting. A few suggestions were made and the revised report will be read at the next Meeting for Business.

### Many Activities Funded by the Socially Responsible Activities and Donations Fund

The Peace and Social Action Committee reported on the donations

made through the fund. They included the Wi-Fi Project for Standing Rock; co-Sponsoring a Brooklyn Peace Event on March 30; a Forum on Housing Challenges, to be announced; co-sponsoring a concert to fund a yet-to-be-identified sanctuary church or organization.

The Committee also installed a banner below our sign on the Meetinghouse welcoming immigrants and refugees. They also co-sponsored an event which enacting the Landing and Welcoming Ceremonies of the Hokule, a traditional Hawaiian voyaging canoe, making a world journey to encourage care for the earth.

**The Book Table Committee** reported that they continue to sell and distribute Quaker books and pamphlets on First Days

## Queries from Ministry and Counsel

- \* How does our attachment to a particular outcome derail Quaker process?
- \* Do we let our attitude to a particular conflict get in the way of our underlying loving consideration of each other?

-- Molly Rusnak

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## Minutes of Meeting for Business

*The assistant clerk of Brooklyn Meeting, Nancy Black, keeps an email distribution list of people who have asked to receive the minutes from our Business Meeting each month. If you do not currently receive the minutes, please send an email message with that request to [nbb@westne](mailto:nbb@westne)*

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## A Clerking Consortium

On March 7, more than two dozen clerks of committees and others interested in the joys and challenges of clerking gathered together upstairs in the meeting room.

I talked with a woman who had been to meeting for the first time. She liked it and planned to come back, but she was heading out the door. She had looked into the social room and was intimidated. I remembered my first meetings. I only began to get to know others when I joined a committee; some of my long-standing friendships date from those first involvements. Now the meetings of clerks are a further step in expanding my circle of friends. At these gatherings, we are seeking to find ways for committees to communicate and collaborate, to get to know each other and to counter the feeling of being alone in their work.

We asked what challenges committees have in common. The meeting must learn to value the work that clerks of committees do and support their work. Ministry and Counsel, in its concern for the spiritual life of the meeting, might reevaluate the role of each committee. The idea of a Jubilee Year was gingerly raised – close down all committees for a year and see what happens.

On the other hand, there are ways that committees could collaborate:

- Adam Segal asks how do we get older children (teens) involved? Bring them into committee work.
- The Child Care Committee and the Community Dinner Community collaborated in a canned food drive, much to the delight of the dinner guests.

-- Willie Watkins was happy to find out that the Library is being used more than we had thought and that it should respond to other committee needs for information and inspiration. Resources for Adult Ed discussions should be available in the library and the book table.

-- Intervisitation. Consider partnering with one of the small meetings (Staten Island comes to mind).

-- We are asked to look at the meeting web site and suggest improvements.

-- Welcoming committee asks, "How do we approach newcomers?" It is a delicate task to tell them about how they might get involved.

The next in this series of clerk gatherings will be in early June.

-- Lucy Sikes and Molly Rusnak, in consultation with William Carr and Yana Landowne

## How New York Quarterly Meeting Supports Brooklyn Monthly Meeting

Friends, when you are next at meeting for worship or at an activity at the Brooklyn Meeting House, realize that you are a guest of the Friends who went before us. All the expenses of maintaining the meeting house, of heating and lighting, of hiring a maintenance staff, etc. comes from accumulated funds and property mainly contributed by Friends in the late 19th and early 20th century. All of the money current Brooklyn Monthly Meeting members and attenders contribute goes to the social activities and outreach of Brooklyn Meeting. I should note that some years ago Brooklyn Meeting contributed to the budget of New York Quarterly Meeting. The Trustees, believing that charitable activities are more appropriate at the local level, told both 15th St. Meeting and Brooklyn Meeting to no longer contribute any money to NYQM. They suggested that the local meetings use the funds that they had previously contributed to NYQM for their local outreach. That is how the socially responsible donation/activity line in the Brooklyn Monthly Meeting was created.

My interest in writing this report is to create greater transparency in the financial operation of NYQM, which covers all the expenses of our meeting house. I will be simplifying the finances so that the numbers I use will not be exact; they will be rounded out. The numbers are drawn from the unaudited 2016 Statement of Operations.

The New York Quarterly Meeting, as of the end of 2016, had \$23,500,000. Of those funds,

<b>Income:</b>		
<i>Total income:</i>	\$1,996,500	
Rental of 112 Schermerhorn St to NYC Department of Education	\$865,500	43.3%
Other property rentals	\$250,500	5.5%
Investment Income	\$765,600	8.3%
Contributions, property use, and Miscellaneous income	\$114,900	5.8%
<b>Expenses:</b>		
<i>Total Expenses:</i>	\$3,226,500	
Personnel Expenses	\$823,300	
Property Expenses	\$292,400	
NYQM office	\$26,800	
Meeting worship space rental	\$11,000	
NYQM Committees, audit, miscellaneous costs	\$311,400	
Legal expenses related to separation from Friends Seminary	1,423,200	
Capital Expenditures	\$185,600	
Distributions to Beneficiaries	\$152,800	

\$3,350,000 are invested in loans to socially purposeful organizations such as those building low income housing. The remaining funds are handled by Friends Fiduciary, a Quaker-led socially responsive equity fund.

As you will note, there was a deficit of \$1,230,000. This can be completely explained by the legal expenses associated with the separation from Friends Seminary.

To look specifically at the costs of Brooklyn Meeting, I have used an average of the expenses related just to Brooklyn Meeting Property -- property expenses, custodian and staff costs, capital expenditures and insurance costs -- over the last five years. This amount of \$369,300 a year has been entirely paid from New York Quarterly Meeting funds. Capital Expenditures alone averaged

\$72,300 a year and in the 2017 year it is projected to exceed that. Brooklyn Monthly Meeting is comprised of 357 member and attender households. For each of the households NYQM contributes \$1,034 to make it possible to maintain our Quaker community.

One last comment: Many have asked how the separation from Friends Seminary impacts future budgets. Friends Seminar will be paying a yearly usage fee for use of the 15th Street complex of \$775,000. The will also contribute \$175,000, matched by a \$175,000 contribution by NYQM, to a fund to finance capital improvements. The income from Friends Seminary will enable us to address deferred maintenance issues at our facilities.

-- Michael Phillips

## Bystander Intervention Training 101

On March 15, about twenty people met at the Brooklyn Meetinghouse for an event presented by The Accompanying Project and the Arab American Association of New York. The event, Bystander Intervention Training 101, is the first of a three

part series currently being developed by the Accompanying Project and is a direct response to the rise in hate crimes that has occurred over the past several months.

The program explores de-escalation strategies for possible use while intervening in hostile situations and empowers participants with

a tool box for making appropriate choices about when and how to intervene. Participants, about half of which were members/attenders of Brooklyn Meeting, engaged in a vibrant discussion about verbal de-escalation strategies, when/how one might use each strategy, how to modulate voice and body language and how to utilize and/or accommodate one's personal station in life (gender, size, etc). Attenders engaged in a "No Circle" activity which allowed each person to experience what it is like to say no to another person while using direct eye contact and open body language and also to experience what it is like to have someone look you in the eye and say no. The activity is meant to humanize both victim and perpetrator and was an effective introduction to bystander intervention. The event was led by Rachel Levy, a volunteer licensed social worker.

-- Nadine Baldassaro



## Book Review: In Amos Oz's *Judas, the Plot within the Plot*

A perennial contender for the Nobel literary prize, Israeli Amos Oz is a peace advocate with occasional reservations about turning the other cheek. In his recent novel, 2016's *Judas*, he proposes that love and betrayal are two sides of the same shekel.

Without revealing Oz's ingenious reinterpretation of the Gospels, let's say he imagines a Judas who is Jesus' most fervent disciple, yet possesses greater free will than the man Jesus predicted would sell him out.

The story takes place in the Jerusalem of 1958. In retrospect, this might be the calm before the storm of 1967. The main characters (all Jewish) don't question Israel's right to exist; but, af-

ter the "victorious" wars of 1948 and '56, they are not cheering.

Micha was Gershom's son and Attalia's husband. He was killed fighting in the war of independence. Nothing relieves their bitterness until Shmuel stumbles into their lives as a boarder and caretaker.

Compared to Israelis grabbing their share of the promised land, Shmuel is a college drop-out, indifferent lover and disheartened socialist. This passivity calms his edgy hosts. However, he departs when their intimacy becomes too much for all three to bear. Shmuel buries his uncertainties by moving to a newly-built town in the Negev Desert, signaling Israel's future is built on shifting sand.

Both Jews and Arabs are guilty of fanaticism and Attalia's father, who advocated a bi-national state, was crushed like a grape between opposing forces. In parallel, Shmuel is drawn to Jesus the Jew and Judas, whom Shmuel considers to be the first Christian. He seeks historical proof that Christians and Jews haven't always been at each other's throats. So, here we are, all brothers and sisters, still fighting over that mess of porridge.

"Pilpul" is Hebrew for meticulous analysis of the Torah (Old Testament). In this tradition, Oz's descriptions of the outer world and his characters' inner workings can be as thick with meaning as their discussions of Jewish philosophy and law.

-- Carl Blumenthal

**JUSTICE FOR ALL** Concert & Sing-along

featuring **Lea Gilmore**  
Blues • Jazz • Gospel Singer Activist  
with David Keyes on piano

**Annie Patterson & Peter Blood**  
Creators of *Rise Up Singing* & *Rise Again* songbooks

...with the **Brooklyn Women's Chorus**

Suggested Donation  
**\$20 Adult**  
**\$5 (under 18)**  
No one turned away for lack of funds

A benefit for:  
**THE BROOKLYN DEFENSE COMMITTEE (BDC)**

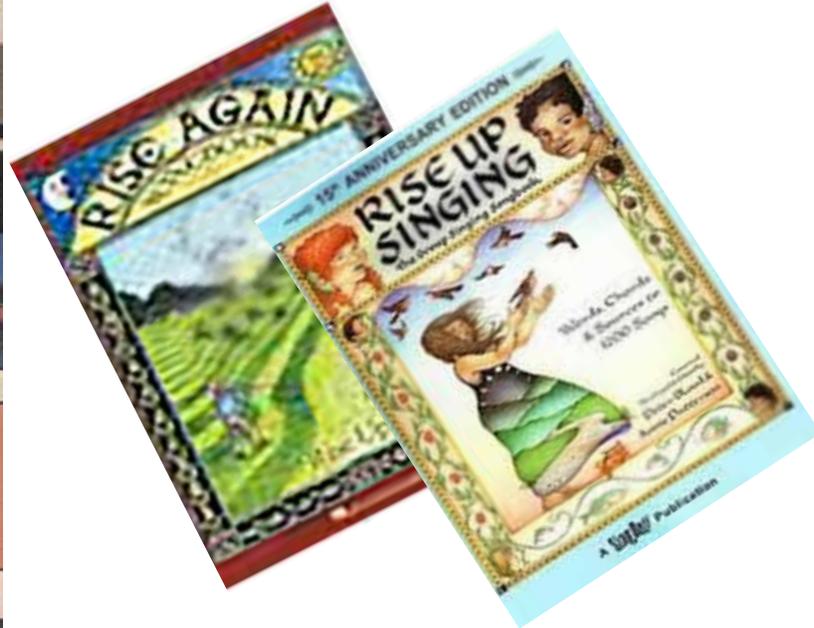
**Sat, April 8, 2017 ~ 7pm**  
Brooklyn Friends Meeting - 110 Schermerhorn St

Advanced Tickets & information: [www.riseupandsing.org/events](http://www.riseupandsing.org/events)

Sponsored by Brooklyn Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Brooklyn Friends School, Park Slope United Methodist Church, Brooklyn For Peace, American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), & Purchase Friends Monthly Meeting

**Save the Date - Saturday, April 8, 2017**

Come to Brooklyn Meeting for a fund raising concert featuring Blues singer Lea Gilmore, creators of *Rise Up Singing* Annie Patterson and Peter Blood, and the Brooklyn Women's Chorus. The concert is in support of the Brooklyn Defense League.



*Songbooks of the words of 1800 folk songs, protest songs, campfire songs, old favorites and many others*

**Alternatives to Violence Project Held at Brooklyn Meeting**

A workshop of the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) was held at Brooklyn Meeting on the weekend of March 17 – 19.

AVP is a volunteer-run conflict transformation program. Teams of trained facilitators conduct experiential workshops to develop participants' abilities to resolve conflicts without resorting to manipulation, coercion, or violence. Typically, each workshop lasts 18–20 hours over a two or three-day period. The workshop events place a strong emphasis on the experiences of the participants, building confidence that

everyone contributes something of value to violence prevention. AVP groups and facilitators are active in communities and prisons across the United States and in many other countries.

The fundamental objectives are to encourage individuals to take responsibility for themselves and the consequences of their behavior; to serve as one another's community; to find options other than fight or flight when faced with conflict.

AVP sessions end with an affirmation sheet. Each participant receives a sheet of paper which is passed around to the others. They write a positive evaluation, and so each of them gets a sheet with all the good evaluations

of everybody else, a beautifully affirming experience. The participants made this affirmation sheet for Brooklyn Meeting.



## April 23: An Invitation to Attend Staten Island Meeting

The most recent Quarterly Meeting, in which the focus was on reports from the five meetings of the Quarter, has encouraged one friend to think about "intervisitation." If anyone is interested in visiting Staten Island Meeting to join them for worship, let's meet at (the Manhattan side of) the Staten Island ferry terminal on April 23. According to the MTA trip planner, catching the 9 a.m. ferry and then taking the Staten Island train and walking four minutes will take approximately 45 minutes.

Also, consider an invitation to attend the next quarterly meeting. It will be held on April 16 at 15th Street Meeting at 1 p.m. Come early (12 p.m.) for a potluck lunch or earlier (11 a.m.) for meeting for worship. On the agenda: <http://www.nyqm.org/web/>

I think all but perhaps the very youngest of Brooklyn Meeting Friends (i.e. those who've grown-up knowing nothing but this meeting house) understand how unusually large and urban our

meeting is compared to typical Quaker meetings. I urge people to consider Staten Island Meeting in that light (pun intended). I knew it existed and confess it joined my "I really should..." list of things I'd like to do, but know in my heart it was going to take something more to move it up to actually plan on doing. Still, that won't stop me from encouraging others to add it to their lists too.

I was inspired by another item on my list, a resolution to become active in the quarterly meeting. I resolved to at least write a follow-up article on something from the quarterly meeting. I talked to Andy von Salis, clerk of the quarterly meeting. While he gave me thorough summary of undoubtedly all that happened, I decided to focus on the report from Staten Island because I loved the story of how the current clerk, Ted Lochwyn, so wanted to keep the meeting going that he took that extra step and became a member. I also believe the topic seems likely to inspire Friends either to attend a meeting there, learn a little about its history, or to join me in adding exploring Quakerism beyond Kings County to "to do" lists.

Attending a meeting in Staten Island is much easier now, thanks to the quarterly meeting's support of renting a meeting space. It's easier to find than when you had to make a phone call to find out when Mary - who offered her home for worship - was having Friends over. Meetings are now held the second and fourth first days of the month from 10 - 11 a.m. at 450-A Front Street. For more details go to: <http://www.nyqm.org/statenisland/>

Just two sparks for history buffs:

The Staten Island Executive meeting\* approved revising a 1991 minute on "relationships between same sex couples" to add the words "marriage," "bisexual," and "transgender."

Arthur Kill Prison Worship Group was very active until the prison closed in 2011.

\* essentially (my interpretation) a "smaller" monthly meeting. For details look-up Executive Meeting: Faith & Practice, New York Yearly Meeting | New York Yearly Meeting

-- Heather Loza

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## NY QUARTERLY MEETING April 16th at 15th St. Meeting

Friends, a day of community for Friends citywide is Sunday, April 16th, when all are encouraged to gather at Fifteenth Street meetinghouse (15 Rutherford Pl., 10003), for our Quarterly Meeting. We have worship at 11, potluck lunch at noon (which Fifteenth St Meeting is very good at doing!), and our meeting for business at 1pm. There's First Day School and

an afternoon childcare program. We'll hear how all six very different Meetings in NYC are doing, and handle business that affects us all, including our properties and other assets, and implementing our new vision plan for the long-term future. Our NYQM Corporation meeting, which takes a few minutes and makes it all "legal," is included, at 2pm. Come meet more Friends in fellowship than we usually see!



### Prayer Healing Meeting

Held in the meeting room on the fourth Sunday of the month at 10:00 AM.

*All are welcome to join us in learning about our Quaker way of holding people in the light.*

## **The World We Seek: Now Is the Time**

### **April 8, A Reception with Diane Randall of the Friends Commit- tee on National Legislation**

You are invited to a reception with Diane Randall, Executive Secretary of the Friends Committee on National Legislation,

who is traveling to New York to speak about the exciting future of Quaker advocacy and the opportunities ahead made possible by FCNL's capital campaign, *The World We Seek: Now Is the Time*. FCNL is a Quaker lobbying organization in the public interest bringing shared values for peace, justice, and a sustainable planet to our nation's leaders.

Although FCNL requires RSVPs, the event is open to everyone – including people new and interested in knowing more about FCNL. The event is on Saturday, April 8th from 2-4 p.m. at The Cornell Club (Cayuga Room) in Manhattan.

RSVP by contacting Andrew Silva [Andrew@fcnl.org](mailto:Andrew@fcnl.org), 202-903-2526.

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## **Love thy Friend: Providing Pastoral Care in all Kinds of Weather**

### **Powell House, May 12-14:**

Prepare to better serve your meeting community as a pastoral caregiver. We will consider care for Friends who are home bound, hospitalized, terminally

ill, newly bereaved or grieving. And we'll explore approaches to helping troubled or disruptive members, or those with mental health problems. This workshop will provide skill-building and experience-sharing opportunities, guidelines, and other resources. Participants may expect to leave the workshop feeling empowered

and better prepared to minister to individual Friends, and thereby support the Spiritual health of their meeting communities.

This workshop will be led by Bruce Heckman, M. Div., PhD., a recently-retired Hospice Chaplain. For more information, and to register, go to [powellhouse.org](http://powellhouse.org)

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## **Beyond White Privilege?**

Have you ever wondered what our society might be like after we get beyond the present structure based on racial hierarchy? What would it look like? What about the present structure, if anything, would you like to see remain? What values would prevail in the new structure? How would power be shared? What other questions might you ask?

The Center for the Study of White American Culture (CSWAC) will be presenting its visionary model for an equitable and nonracist society at an all-day workshop, *Decentering Whiteness*, on April 8, 2017 at the Calhoun School, 433 West End Avenue.

-- Linda Clarke

## **Undocumented in Brooklyn Meeting**

In the 1980s, when I was Clerk of Brooklyn Meeting, I received a telephone call. A woman asked if this was Brooklyn Meeting. When I told her who I was, she told me that she was at the airport, had come from Mexico, had no papers and no place to go. She asked if the Meeting would help her. (Later she told me that this was the last church she had called.) I thought a minute, then said I didn't know, but she could come to Meeting and be introduced and maybe someone would be able to put her up.

So this is what we did. And a member of the Meeting offered her a place to live in return for

watching the house when the family was away. She lived there for a while, got a job in a flower shop and disappeared. However, she did come back to Meeting once a year for several years. She had trained as a dental assistant and made a life for herself. She was always appreciative.

-- Molly Rusnak

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## **Worship With Mary McDowell Friends School**

Mary McDowell Friends School and our care committee invites Friends to visit the Upper School Meeting for Worship on Thursday, April 20. Coffee will be served at 8:15am and worship will begin at 9:15am. The Upper School is located on 23 Sydney Place.

## Beacon Hill Friends House Seeks Executive Director

The Beacon Hill Friends House seeks a visionary, community-oriented, organized person as Executive Director of our Quaker residential community of 21 people. The Executive Director will lead the House as a center for Quaker living, learning and social action. S/he lives in the

House and serves as the chief public voice of BHFH, building relationships and partnerships with other organizations in service to the broader community. S/he ensures the effective administration of the House, provides spiritual and practical leadership and supervision of two other staff and 18 residents, raises funds in collaboration with the Development Committee and collaborates

regularly with the BHFH Board and Corporation.

More details at [bhfh.org/about/employment/executive-director-of-bhfh](http://bhfh.org/about/employment/executive-director-of-bhfh). Send letters of interest and resumés to [personnel@bhfh.org](mailto:personnel@bhfh.org) and complete the residency application here. BHFH is an Equal Opportunity Employer

-- Pamela Boyce Simms

## Save the Date: Quaker Cemetery Workday

Friends & Brooklyn Friends School: Please Join Together for our Spring Visiting and Workday At Our Quaker Cemetery in Prospect Park. We will be joined by children and families of the Mary McDowell Friends School.

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**  
**10 AM - 4 p.m.**

Enjoy fellowship, work and fun. Help rake, plant and remove invasive plants. Bring rakes or gloves if thou have them. Visit the gravesites of family and friends.

Bring your lunch; beverages and cookies will be provided. For further information please call cemetery sexton Robert Wilbur at 718-938-1800.



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## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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The Communications Committee welcomes Brooklyn Meeting News contributions from all Meeting members and attenders. Our newsletter includes a variety of content which may be of interest to our community, including but not limited to:

- Recaps of recent Meeting events
- Previews of upcoming events
- Issues pertaining to our Quaker faith and history

The newsletter is published on the first Sunday of each month, and we request that submissions for the next issue be submitted by December 19th, so that we may briefly discuss your contribution, as regards its timeliness, appropriateness, and length.

General Guidelines:

- Please send an email to [newsletter@brooklynmeeting.org](mailto:newsletter@brooklynmeeting.org)

Contributions should generally be brief, between 150-450 words in length.

Please send your newsletter submission as an attached Word document.

Keep in mind that contributions will be copy edited, and may not appear in the newsletter in exactly the same form as how they were submitted.

Thank you for your interest - we look forward to your input!

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## REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

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### Meetings for Worship

9:00–9:50 AM and  
11:00 AM–Noon on Sundays,  
in the meeting room

6:30 PM Tuesdays,  
in the meeting room

### Outdoor Worship

6:00 PM, every Thursday, weather permitting spring through September, outdoor worship under the Quarterly Meeting's care in Battery Park (Manhattan) at the Labyrinth just north of Castle Clinton

### Childcare

Sundays during 11:00 AM worship, for children of 3 months to 3 years, in the care of an early childhood teacher and dedicated volunteers

### First Day School

10:45 am – 11:45 am, Sundays, September to June. Three classes, roughly related to age: Bodies (age 4-6), Minds (age 7-9) and Spirits (age 10-12).

### Social Hour

12:00 PM Sundays, Ground-level dining room

### Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

1:00 PM, first Sundays, in the meeting room

### Hymn Singing around the Piano

10:00 AM, first Sundays,  
in the meeting room

### Readings of Spiritual Texts

10:00 AM, second Sundays,  
in the meeting room

### Worship Sharing

10:00 AM, third Sundays,  
on the third floor

### Prayer Healing Meeting

10:00 AM, fourth Sundays  
in the meeting room

### Community Dinner

1:00 PM-3:00 PM Set-up  
3:00 PM-4:00 PM Meal/Serving  
4:00 PM-5:00 PM Clean-up,

come for some or all! Last Sunday of every month, ground-level dining room; volunteers appreciated for this monthly dinner for anyone who wishes a free hot meal. Children encouraged to volunteer. Contact: Andres Colapinto, [acolabus@gmail.com](mailto:acolabus@gmail.com)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### NY QUARTERLY MEETING

Sunday, April 16th, 2017, 1PM  
Fifteenth Street meetinghouse  
(15 Rutherford Pl., NY 10003)

### INTERVISITATION

Visit to Staten Island Meeting  
April 23 Worship begins at 10 AM  
For info, email: [btcp502@yahoo.com](mailto:btcp502@yahoo.com)

### CEMETERY WORK DAY

Saturday, April 22 10AM - 4PM  
We will be joined by the Mary MacDowell School  
For info call 718-938-1800

*Ongoing additions to upcoming Meeting events are regularly added to the Meeting website at <http://www.brooklynmeeting.org/calendar>.*

**To submit an event, email: [events@brooklynmeeting.org](mailto:events@brooklynmeeting.org).**

Send additions to Regularly Scheduled Activities or Upcoming Events to [events@brooklynmeeting.org](mailto:events@brooklynmeeting.org).

Send inquiries or suggestions about the newsletter to [newsletter@brooklynmeeting.org](mailto:newsletter@brooklynmeeting.org).

The Monthly Meeting Newsletter is published by the Communications Committee of Brooklyn Monthly Meeting.  
Current members: Melissa Cavanaugh, Ben Frisch, Ben Hill, Molly Rusnak and Heather Loza Drawings by Lucy Sikes