

Atlanta Friends Meeting Announcement Sheet

AtlantaQuakers.org

701 West Howard Ave, Decatur, GA 30030

(404) 377-2474

November 1, 2020

atlantaquakers@gmail.com

Query for Tenth Month

What spiritual practice helps me to be steadfast in the work I am called to do? How do I keep from giving up? What does it mean for me to not give up as a servant of God?

-- Southeastern Yearly Meeting

*In an abundance of caution and a deep and prayerful concern for the health of our entire community, Sunday meeting for worship at the meetinghouse continues to be suspended and the meetinghouse mostly closed. We are continuing Sunday morning Meeting for Worship online as our main worship. **Please see Zoom details for this and other online worship and First Day School opportunities below.***

We are also offering small, in-person worship groups on Thursdays at 2 pm and Mondays at 7 pm at the meetinghouse. Details below, but please confirm each week that these meetings for worship are happening. If you have any questions, please email atlantaquakers@gmail.com.

Funding our Work

This week, contributions to the meeting are \$22,700 behind where we were on this date in 2019 and \$35,702 behind where we should be on this date. Because we have lost rental income due to COVID-19, it is especially important this year that we reach our contribution goal. To help, please contribute as you are able. Monthly gifts or gifts given earlier in the fiscal year are especially welcome.

If you normally mail a check, the mail is still being collected and checks deposited.

You can also securely donate by Credit/Debit Card or PayPal at

<http://www.atlantaquakers.org/contact.htm> (scroll down to the DONATE button).

Thank you to those who have already donated!

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Announcements due by Thursday at noon to atlantaquakers@gmail.com.

The Office Coordinator is working from home while the meetinghouse is closed and will check email and voicemail each week day. If you need something notarized, she can meet you at the meetinghouse or if you are sheltering at home, she can come there. She will wear a mask and maintain social distancing.

~*~*~*~ **EVENTS** ~*~*~*~

NOVEMBER THEME FOR FIRST DAY SCHOOL

is Becoming Community. See below for Zoom details.

TIME CHANGE Sunday, November 1

On Sunday morning at 2:00 am, Daylight Savings Time will end, and many clocks will turn back to 1:00 am (for some clocks, you will have to make the change yourself).

We'll get an extra hour sleep or have time for an extra leisurely breakfast before meeting for worship or First Day School.

SPIRITUAL JOURNEY IN ADULT FIRST DAY SCHOOL Sunday, November 1

On the first Sunday of each month, those in Adult First Day School listen to a Friend telling about their search for community and a spiritual home, their spiritual journey. On November 1, Beth-Ann Buitekant will share her Spiritual Journey. Adult First Day School begins at 9:00 am. Zoom details below.

To hear Charlotte Flores' Spiritual Journey, heard October 4 in Adult First Day School, visit <https://tinyurl.com/yy4fsbfu>.

WORKSHOP ON POWER OF NONVIOLENT ACTION TO DEFEND THE ELECTION SYSTEM Sunday, November 1

Friend in Residence Anton Flores is teaming up with Lee and Jude Smithey to offer a participatory public workshop on defending democracy through nonviolent action on Sunday, November 1 at 2:00 EST. Lee is a Peace and Conflict professor at Swarthmore College and Jude is a Mennonite, an activist and a disability advocate. This workshop has four aims: 1) An introduction to nonviolent civil defense, 2) Learning the four keys to stop a post-election power grab, 3) Brainstorming possible nonviolent defense actions to defend democracy, 4) Exploring ways to de-escalate, expose, and contrast any potential violence of the opposition. From the facilitators: "We all hope the 2020 Presidential election process is democratic and the transition of power runs smoothly. Thankfully, many are working hard to that end. At the same time, there are enough warning signs to warrant organizing for nonviolent action that can help ensure that all eligible ballots are counted and the election results are respected. Do you feel like you still have much to learn about nonviolent action? Are you seeking tangible ways to help ensure democracy wins in 2020? Join us for a participatory workshop during which we will explore how nonviolent action works and how you can get involved." RSVP to get a Zoom link at <https://bit.ly/nonviolentdefense>.

SMALL IN-PERSON MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Monday at 7:00 pm (November 2)

Thursday at 2 pm (November 5)

These small, in person meetings for worship will last about one hour, and there will be at least two members of the working group on the use of the meetinghouse present to serve as greeters and manage the safety guidelines. Please review them carefully before you decide to come: <https://tinyurl.com/small-meeting-guidelines>.

Masks and social distancing will be required at all times. We ask that anyone thinking about attending carefully assess their own risk and the risk they may pose to others. Both are increased with the increased circulation of COVID in our state. Please do not come if you feel ill for any reason or if you think you have been exposed to COVID-19. CDC risk factors for severe disease can be reviewed here www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-increased-risk.html. If you plan on attending, it would be helpful if you could let us know by replying to atlantaquakers@gmail.com, but RSVP's are not required.

BOOKS BY AND ABOUT PEOPLE OF COLOR Thursday, November 5

The book group reading works by and about people of color meets at 1:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month via Zoom. On November 5, the book for discussion is *Everything I Never Told You* by Celeste Ng. For questions or the Zoom link, contact Susan Cole (cole2544@bellsouth.net).

FRIENDS SCHOOL OF ATLANTA VIRTUAL BENEFIT AUCTION Saturday, Nov 7

The 30th Anniversary Auction for The Friends School of Atlanta (FSA) will be virtual. Tune in at 7:00 to 8:00pm on Saturday, November 7, for the live stream event. In celebration of 30 years, the Indigo Girls will perform, and there will be pre-event zoom rooms organized by the FSA decades to meet up with old friends. You do not need to be present at the evening program to participate in the auction, but FSA would love for everyone to join them for a evening of community and celebration. To pre-register or preview auction items, visit the auction website at <https://tinyurl.com/yxvkejlw>.

MEETING FOR BUSINESS Sunday, November 15

Stay in the Zoom call for Meeting for Worship. Meeting for Business will be held after a short break. Minutes from the last meeting for business can be found in November's newsletter at http://atlantaquakers.org/_afm_newsletters/AFM_Newsletter_2020-11.pdf

UNTOLD AFRICAN AMERICAN STORIES Sunday, November 15

F/friend Adelaide Solomon-Jordan, former AFM attender now living in Maine, will be giving a virtual lecture on November 15 at 6:00 pm on "Untold African American Stories," focusing on three sisters in her own ancestral line: Cara, Nina Louise, and Mary Elizabeth Saunders. The Saunders sisters emigrated from Bermuda to the US at the turn of the 20th century, and each woman married into a historically significant family. Connections to the American Revolution, abolitionism, business, education, and culture are part of their unique narratives. To purchase tickets: https://hamiltonhall.networkforgood.com/events/24196-hamilton-hall-americana-lecture-2020?utm_campaign=dms_email_blast_801713.

MACON QUAKERS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM ON HINDUISM Tuesday, Nov 17

We are fortunate to have religious diversity in Middle Georgia! Join Macon Quakers and Hina Banit as she describes her spiritual journey incorporating many key elements of Hinduism. Hina says, "The beauty of Hinduism is in its diversity and flexibility. It has allowed me to find my own unique path to the Divine. Its practices, like meditative yoga, have helped me raise my inner 'vibration,' the source of all movement in the universe. Join me as I share my spiritual journey and how I found my way within Hinduism." Tuesday, November 17 at 8:00 P.M. on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84095899009?pwd=SFhhOGNnWHZFbDdKRUhlVnFqdFk0dz09>

Meeting ID: 840 9589 9009

Passcode: 542278

(See newsletter online for the Macon worship group's full schedule. Link below.)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER Friday, November 20

Send articles, announcements and info about December events to atlquakerltr@gmail.com. Please send files in word processing or text format.

~*~*~*~ **ANNOUNCEMENTS** ~*~*~*~

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER ONLINE AT

http://atlantaquakers.org/_afm_newsletters/AFM_Newsletter_2020-11.pdf

HELP WITH VOTER TURNOUT FROM HOME

Volunteers needed to assist with the Social Concerns Committee's non-partisan voter turnout effort in disenfranchised communities. This is something you can do from home. For more info, contact Mark Yates at yates77@bellsouth.net.

MESSAGES FROM QUAKER VOLUNTARY SERVICE HOUSE

1) We are so grateful for all the people who brought or made us food as we moved to Atlanta and got settled back in early September. We now have a large collection of tupperware and baking pans that we acquired during our first week and we would love to return them to their homes! Please contact Amanda (240-393-7201 or amanda.s.wessel@gmail.com) about getting your containers back if you brought us food. Thanks again!

2) We are also looking for one comfortable sitting chair for the living room/bedroom as well as a blender or food processor. If anyone has either of these items and is interested in rehoming them to the QVS house, let us know! You can contact the email or phone number above.

For info about QVS, visit: <https://quakervoluntaryservice.org/> or see the September newsletter at http://atlantaquakers.org/_afm_newsletters/AFM_Newsletter_2020-09.pdf

HELP NEEDED FOR RIDE TO AND FROM DOCTOR APPOINTMENT

Eric Glenn needs rides to and from Grady Hospital on Tuesday, November 17 from his house near the Meeting in Decatur. He won't know the exact time he will need to be there until after a Covid test. If you might be able to drive him one direction or the other (or both), please contact him by phone/text 770-899-3182 and let Karen Skellie know at 404-680-4524.

NEW MEMBERS NEEDED FOR ATLANTA FCNL ADVOCACY TEAM

If you'd like to join the Atlanta Advocacy Team for Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), this is an open invitation. Several of our members have had to take a leave from our Atlanta Advocacy Team due to the impact of the COVID crisis. They have had to focus on other responsibilities during the pandemic, so we are rebuilding our team and invite you to join us. We are currently focused on building relationships with incumbents and candidates for Congress regardless of their party so we can follow up with those who are elected. After the election we will work with FCNL to lobby for the national priorities. Please contact Sue May or Don Bender if you are interested in finding out more. *(If you need a directory, contact the office.)*

DONATING TO DECATUR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND

If you normally donate to DEAM's food pantry by bringing food items to the meeting house, you can still donate while the meetinghouse is closed. You can make a monetary donation by mailing a check, donating online at www.deamdecatur.org/contribute, mailing a check or designating them as your charity of choice when you shop at Kroger or Amazon Smile. You can also drop off donations of food at their office on Wednesday mornings only. See their website for address and details.

WAYS WE HELP EACH OTHER

Practical help and connections thru Caring Connections: If you need practical help or contact with others during this time or if you can help, Care and Counsel Committee has set up an online way to connect people, using something Gordon Shippey set up earlier in the year to create a general list of those willing to deliver meals, drive people to appointments, run errands, or visit people at home or in hospital. In response to social distancing, we've also added an option to connect people via email or phone. Visit <http://www.atlantaquakers.org/members.htm#CARINGCONNECT> (under Members and Attenders) to request help or to volunteer. If you have questions or suggestions, contact Karen Skellie at 404-680-4524 or kskellie@gmail.com.

Financial Help through the AFM Assistance Fund

This is a time to reach out and care for each other. Do you have a need for temporary financial assistance? Care & Counsel Committee maintains an Assistance Fund for Members and Attenders for providing temporary assistance with financial emergencies. If you have a financial need, don't hesitate to ask. The information about the process and an application form are on the AFM website: [Assistance Fund Description & Request Process](#) and [Assistance Fund Application Form](#) (both at our website at www.atlantaquakers.org/members.htm). Instead of filling out the paper form, you can email the information to the Clerk of Care & Counsel, Karen Skellie, kskellie@gmail.com. Care & Counsel is meeting regularly online and by e-mail.

Would you like to help others through the AFM Assistance Fund?

By mail to the meetinghouse address to the attention of the treasurer.

Make out the check to Atlanta Friends Meeting, and on the "for" line of the check, write "For Assistance Fund."

Through AFM website by PayPal or Credit Card:

www.atlantaquakers.org/contact.htm. Scroll down and click on the *Donate* button.

To designate an online donation for the Assistance Fund, please also send an email addressed to both the treasurer and the bookkeeper:

afmtreasurer1@gmail.com and afmbookkeeper1@gmail.com

WAYS TO STAY INFORMED

Email lists and Facebook page:

- If you would like to receive the announcement sheet via email, send a blank email to afmannouncements-subscribe@yahogroups.com.

- If you would like to be notified when the newsletter is posted online, send a blank email to afmnewsletter-subscribe@yahogroups.com.

- In either case, when asked, say you want to confirm via email.

And to join the meeting's Facebook page, search for Atlanta Friends Meeting and click the *+ Join Group* button near the top.

ANTI-RACISM RESOURCES

For a compilation of anti-racism resources (including resources for children) shared via the discussion list, announcement sheets and newsletters, visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/afm-arr>. Let Nina know at atlantaquakers@gmail.com if there are problems with any of the links or resources or to suggest additional links.

COVID-19 UPDATES AND OTHER USEFUL AND FUN LINKS

Links ranging from the latest information about COVID-19 and how to prevent it to voting information to links for kids and parents to links for museums, online performances and info about Quakerism are collected at <https://tinyurl.com/afm-ftoti>. Organized by categories with new links added each week. Let Nina know if there are problems with any of the links or suggest additional links at atlantaquakers@gmail.com.

LOOKING FOR A NOTARY PUBLIC?

Office Coordinator Nina Gooch recently became a Notary Public. If you need a notary and can come to the meetinghouse, please call or email Nina to arrange a time to meet, with masks and at a safe distance, outside if you would prefer. If you are sheltering in place and can not come to the meetinghouse, please call or email her, and she can arrange to meet you on your porch with mask and notary stamp to notarize your documents at a safe distance from you. 404-377-2474 or atlantaquakers@gmail.com. You may also call her directly on her cell phone.

***~*~*~ FIRST DAY SCHOOL AND WORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES VIA ZOOM ~*~*~***

(A excellent overview of meeting for worship over Zoom is "Can You Gather With God Over Zoom?" at <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/22/arts/quaker-meeting-zoom.html> Also see logistical details about using Zoom at end, especially if this is your first time using Zoom.

ADULT FIRST DAY SCHOOL via Zoom

9:00 to 9:50 am Sundays

On the first Sunday of each month, we will listen to the Spiritual Journey of one of our members/attenders, and on the third Sunday of each month, we will have worship sharing, usually on that month's query. Other Sundays, the class is discussing Parker Palmer's *On the Brink of Everything*. All are welcomed to our lively Zoom discussion. We will close the class each week in time to be in meeting for worship.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86235463217?pwd=VEhWeHZxZEh6aUNhVU1KLzArWGNyZz09>

Meeting ID: 862 3546 3217

Passcode: Quaker

FIRST DAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

Sundays 9:30 am

First Day Class for Families and Friends

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7279961727>

Meeting ID: 727 996 1727

Passcode: 679898

November's theme: Becoming Community

Fourth Sunday is intergenerational/family worship, and families as well as all members and attenders are invited to join us on this Sunday.

Families are invited / will have time to join meeting for worship afterwards.

YOUNG FRIENDS/HIGH SCHOOL GROUP

Sundays, usually at noon

Current high schoolers and students in upper middle school are meeting via Zoom.

Recent grads also welcome. Contact Emily Weyrauch at emily.weyrauch@gmail.com for more information and Zoom details

MEETING FOR WORSHIP via Zoom

10 a.m. Sundays

<https://zoom.us/j/908004190>

Meeting ID: 908 004 190

Passcode: 842962

You can call in via phone, using the instructions at the end.

On the third Sunday of the month , we will have meeting for business after meeting for worship. Otherwise, the Meeting will be "on" until 12:45 p.m. for people who may want to linger and chat.

Calling All Families:

We would like to issue a special invitation to all families with children to attend the first 15 minutes of worship, as usual. If your mike is muted, your children will not be distracting to others (even if we see them wiggle). And we really miss seeing you! Of course, if you wish to stay longer, that's fine too. But please join us. We miss you!

About meeting for worship by Zoom:

“Worship is our response to an awareness of God. We can worship alone, but when we join with others in expectant waiting we may discover a deeper sense of God’s presence. We seek a gathered stillness in our meetings for worship so that all may feel the power of God’s love drawing us together and leading us.” (From Advices and queries, Britain Yearly Meeting.) *Some things to keep in mind as we adjust to “the new normal” of worshipping via zoom:* Even though it is different and may feel strange, remember that this is a worship service. To help create the kind of shared space that allows all of us to listen for the Divine within us, please keep your mic muted unless speaking to us. If you’re eating or having a lengthy conversation with another member of your household, please also turn off your video temporarily or step away from the camera, to avoid distracting others. If your children are joining us for worship, please do leave your video on! (*See note to Families just above.*)

WEDNESDAY MORNING MIDWEEK MEETING FOR WORSHIP

9:30 am on Wednesday mornings

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84423208855?pwd=SFB2cHNUOXo1OjBmZjNlaS9BY3pxQT09>

Meeting ID: 8442 320 8855

Password: 153417

Contact Bert Skellie at 404-680-4799

DAILY AM WORSHIP WITH PENDLE HILL

8:30 am to 9:10 am. To join or for info:

<https://pendlehill.org/explore/worship/join-us-online-for-worship-in-the-barn/>

~*~*~ GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ZOOM ~*~*~

Zoom is a teleconferencing software that allows all participants to see and hear each other.

Instructions if you have not yet used Zoom:

It is easier if you sign up for a free Zoom account at <https://zoom.us/signup> and then use the link for each event, but if you don't:

From your smartphone or computer, click the link for your event (please note, depending on when you click the link, you may not be able to actually enter the meeting yet, but it will lead you to the place that will prompt you to download all relevant software or allow you to wait until the meeting begins).

From your computer, click the bottom link that says “start from your browser.”

From your smartphone, you will be prompted to download the Zoom App (you do NOT have to register, just download the app). When it asks for the Meeting ID, you will enter the number at the end of the link

You can also call in by phone. You won't be able to see or be seen, but you can hear and be heard: Dial 1-253-215-8782 or 1-301-715-8592 and enter the meeting ID and password if needed. (You can just hit # for any other numbers they ask for.) This may be a toll call for you from a landline.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ePBa90C4ig> is a great intro to using Zoom for the first time. Karen Skellie is happy to try it out with you if you want to test it before trying Meeting for worship. She can be texted/called at 404-680-4524.