Redwood Forest Friends Meeting invites you:

10 am  Meeting for Worship on First First Days
in person and on Zoom—see schedule next page

January Worship

Zoom link is always:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84554998509?pwd=aVNtaWVmdENsNUlRd3hvNkk1K3o5UT09

Friends House Worship Group

Friends House Worship Group is able to meet in person, with one group inside in the Library and one outside on the patio behind the Lobby. Vaccinated and masked non-residents are welcome to join. They will be screened by staff at the front door. Worship is 10 to 11 with brief introductions, last thought, and announcement afterwards. For more information, call 707-576-6673.

Lake County Worship Group

Meets weekly on Tuesday evenings via Zoom. 7:10pm Singing; 7:30pm Worship; 8pm Socializing  Zoom link is always:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85240624938?pwd=UDRUT1dWSUZyeVo0czQxVkJvcStFZz09

NEWS from QUAKER CENTER

WEDNESDAY MORNING WORSHIP SHARING
10 A.M. (PT) WEEKLY

Find the Zoom link on our website: www.QuakerCenter.org
Password: Quaker
Redwood Forest Friends Meeting  
January 2022 Calendar Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day, Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, Jan 2</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Meeting for Worship, both in-person and on Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Committee Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Jan 9</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Meeting for Worship on Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Meeting for Worship for Business</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Jan 12</td>
<td>7:15pm</td>
<td>“Meal with a Theme” (see below)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Jan 15</td>
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<td>College Park Quarterly Meeting on Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Jan 16</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Meeting for Worship, both in-person and on Zoom</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:15</td>
<td>Quaker Working Group on Racism, on Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Jan 23</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Meeting for Worship on Zoom</td>
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<td></td>
<td>noon</td>
<td>Second Hour, topic to be announced</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Jan 30</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Meeting for Worship on Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>noon</td>
<td>Second Hour, topic to be announced</td>
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Care and Spiritual Growth Committee meets next on January 20, 2022, and would love to hear from you if you have questions or concerns. The contact person is Ann Boone: avboone@sonic.net

Revised COVID guidelines for events held at the Meeting House have been sent out via the RFFM email list and will also be posted on the Meeting’s website.

Finance Committee reminds Friends to send their contributions in soon in order to be credited to the 2021 tax year.

“Meal with a Theme” meeting in January
The next meeting will be on Wednesday January 12, 2022 from 7:15 to 8:30 pm. The reading will be an article by Robert Griswold with title “Quaker Peace Testimony in Times of Terrorism”. It appeared in Western Friend (formerly Friends Bulletin) in 2003. The zoom link is: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88002288064?pwd=R1hvbkZnMEhYmFGL1NjQzE4ak5VUT09
The discussion will start promptly at 7:15 and it is recommended to sign in at least a good few minutes earlier to start with a Quaker moment of silence.
To know how to secure a copy please contact Hubert (hydroprose@sonic.net or (707) 576 6600
Barbara Babin, Clerk
Paul Robbins, Recording Clerk

**Opening Worship and Reading of Queries from Pacific Yearly Meeting’s Faith and Practice**

**Approval/Correction of November Minutes**

**Minute 2021-12-1:** The Meeting approved the minutes of the meeting for business of November 2021.

**Finance Committee** (Paul Robbins) Report attached in archives.

**Minute 2021-12-2:** The Redwood Forest Friends Meeting approved the donation of $5000 to the Friends Committee on Legislation of California in response to immediate financial needs of the Committee. This one-time donation, in response to immediate need, is to come from the Rainy-Day Fund.

**Information Items:**

- Finance Committee reminds Friends to mail their donations to arrive at the Meeting's Post Office box no later than the first Tuesday in January. By doing so, Friends have a better chance of
- Now that Friends House is managed by an organization separate from the Friends Association for Services to the Elderly (FASE), the Finance Committee recommends dropping FASE from the Stewardship Fund beginning this June. There will be plenty of opportunity for Friends to respond to this item before a decision is needed.

**Participation in the Pacific Yearly Meeting’s Data Base** (Jim Avera, Archivist) Report attached.

As announced last month, Pacific Yearly Meeting (PacYM) is building a database of members and attenders and has asked us to upload data from RFFM's database.

We have several choices:

1. Don't upload anything but ask people to fill out an online form offered by PacYM.
2. Provide an Opt-OUT period, then upload subscribers to our email list and/or newsletter (excluding those who opt out).
3. Provide an Opt-IN period, then upload information about those who opted in.
4. Something else.

**Responses from Friends:**

Is there an underlying service, such as Mail Chimp, that provide support for clients?

Success Package by Salesforce is the software that will be used. It has not yet been decided what software to use for email integration.
What kind of security protections are provided for the database?

The database is protected by dual backdrop authentication.

Will withholding information from the database mean that Friends who opt out will not be listed in the Redwood Forest Meeting’s directory?

No, the Redwood Forest Meeting’s directory still be produced locally, so all Friends will be included, regardless of whether their information is in the Yearly Meeting’s database.

Will the information result submitted to the database be presented with all the information?

There will not be customized categories of information. However, if Friends indicate that they wish to not receive email and/or telephone communication, that will be noted in the database.

Will there be an option to unsubscribe from certain email lists, or will opt-out for all email be required?

Email will be distributed through separate email lists by groups (e.g., Monthly Meeting representatives to Yearly Meeting) that would include the option to unsubscribe.

A Friend suggested testing the system on a small scale before launching the system to all Yearly Meeting.

Friends with further questions may contact Keenan Lorenzato from Yearly Meeting’s Communications Committee at youthprogramscoordinator@pacificyearlymeeting.org.

FYI, there are other yearly meetings that have used the system for its needs, so Yearly Meeting is not needing to develop tools from scratch.

**Minute 2021-12-3:** Redwood Forest Friends Meeting approved uploading the Meeting’s database of members and attenders to the Pacific Yearly Meeting’s database. The Archivist will provide Friends an invitation to opt-out during a period of one month, after which he will upload our email list and/or newsletter subscribers (excepting those who opt out).

**Coordinating Committee** (Dinah Bachrach) Report attached in archives.

The memorial minute for Michael Halliwell was read by Donna Smith. The Meeting accepted the minute and the clerk will send it to Western Friend and Friends Journal.

**Minute 2021-12-4:** Redwood Forest Meeting approved the transfer of membership of Mary Rankin to Santa Cruz Monthly Meeting.

**Minute 2021-12-5:** Redwood Forest Friends Meeting approved the nominations of Ann Boone, David Hoffman, and Paul Robbins to serve on the Nominating Committee.
As a first reading, Paul Robbins’ name was brought forward as clerk of the Nominating Committee. Approval will be sought in January.

The proposed job description of the committee was presented a second time for consideration for approval.

**Minute 2021-12-6:** Redwood Forest Friends Meeting approved the job description for a committee to coordinate the work formerly accomplished by the Oversight and the Worship and Ministry Committees, and recently called the Coordinating Committee. The new committee fully expects to establish task teams and working groups and will use the skills and talents of Friends throughout the Meeting to accomplish its work.

**Minute 2021-12-7:** Redwood Forest Friends Meeting approved the naming of the combined committee, formerly known as the Coordinating Committee, to be the Care and Spiritual Growth Committee.

Information Items:

- **Greeters and Risers:** The Committee has contacted all those who greet people coming into the Meeting, and who rise at the end of Meeting to help us close Meeting well. We appreciate the work of all of these people, whether they are doing this on Zoom or in person, to help build a welcoming community here at Redwood Forest Friends Meeting.
- **Socializing on Zoom:** Following virtual worship on November 28, breakout rooms were provided for worshipers to have time and space to socialize. Because that was well-received, for the future an invitation to join such rooms will be made by the riser.
- **Blended Worship:** We are reserving a second hour to discuss the future of worship at RFFM. We have agreed that virtual worship -- in one way or another-- will be with us for the foreseeable future.
- **Advices and Queries:** We will continue reading the Advices and Queries at the beginning of Meeting for Worship on the first Sundays of each month, both at our in-person and our Zoom Meetings

**Correspondence**

The Clerk read a letter by Paul Harris requesting his transfer of membership to Chico Monthly Meeting. The Clerk has forwarded the letter to the Care and Spiritual Growth Committee.

The Meeting received letters of thanks from Voices, the Quaker United Nations Office, Ben Lomond Quaker Center, VIDAS, and Pendle Hill for donations by Redwood Forest Meeting.

**Joys and Concerns**

A Friend expressed appreciation for the inspiration of being part of this community of Friends.
A Friend expressed gratification that the Meeting grappled with many issues and came to unity without personal contention.

A Friend expressed a concern that there be no war and no NATO in the Ukraine and that Friends speak out for peaceful resolution of the conflict. The Clerk invites Friends who feel led to participate in such work to get together to form an interest group.

**Closing Worship**

**Update on “our” Afghan Refugee family.......**

A big thank you to all who responded so generously in helping to support the Afghan family of 9 who are making their new home in Santa Rosa. Friends along with the Interfaith Refugee Committee and Friends House residents have made it possible for the family to rent a very nice 3 bedrooms house. We are subsidizing their rent until the social security cards arrive and more of the family can get jobs.

The youngest son, Ismail, has been enrolled in Proctor Terrace Elementary School and was unaccustomed to having girls in his classroom! Two of the older sons, who were on the National Soccer Team in Afghanistan, have enjoyed playing amateur soccer in our parks. Daughter, Khadija, and her husband, Yahya, are excited about the prospect of having their first baby arrive March 7th. (They are eager to get a crib and place it next to their bed.)

Folks often ask what is needed....The house has been well furnished by a non-profit called "Welcoming Home". The only items they request now are a small rug and a crib. Of course, if anyone would like to contribute to the rent that would be wonderful. Checks can be made to "Interfaith Refugee Sponsors" and sent to Interfaith Refugee Sponsors c/o 684 Benicia Dr. #71 Santa Rosa, CA 95409.

For more information contact: Chula and Hubert Morel-Seytoux 707 576-6600

*The newsletter editor welcomes submissions of short verses, poems, prayers, etc., for possible use in the newsletter when there is space.*

Send submissions to rffmnewsletter@gmail.com.
Peace

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

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

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

Do I live in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all wars?

How do I nourish peace within myself as I work for peace in the world?

Do I confront violence wherever it occurs, even when my personal relationships are involved?

Where there is distrust, injustice or hatred, how am I an instrument of reconciliation and love?

What are we doing to remove the causes of war and destruction of the planet, and to bring about lasting peace?

Do we reach out to all parties in a conflict with courage and love?

Interest group “No war, No NATO in Ukraine”

The US government is pursuing a policy in Ukraine that ultimately will lead to a war in Ukraine which, though of little consequence for the US except humiliation, will lead to many deaths on the Ukrainian and Russian sides and a significant amount of destruction in Ukraine. As Quakers we should endeavor to prevent that war. The goal of this interest group is to seek ways our Meeting could help to prevent it from happening.

There is an article worth reading in the magazine The Nation, November-December issue with title: “UKRAINE, The Most Dangerous Problem in the World”. Would you be interested to join this group?

Hubert Morel-Seytoux  (707) 576 6600 or hydroprose@sonic.net

“We are a people that follow after those things that make for peace, love and unity…and bear our testimony against all strife and wars and contentions” (Margaret Fell, 1660)