Redwood Forest Friends Meeting invites you:

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

November 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
Saturday, Oct 30  11am  Conversation on Social Justice/Reparations

Sunday, Nov 7  10am  Meeting for Worship, both in-person and on Zoom
Noon  Worship Sharing on Advices and Queries
Committee Meetings—Committees are invited to attend the first 15-20 minutes of Worship Sharing

Wednesday, Nov 10  7:15-8:30pm.  Meal With a Theme

Sunday, Nov 14  10am  Meeting for Worship on Zoom
Noon  Meeting for Worship for Business

Sunday, Nov 21  10am  Meeting for Worship, both in-person and on Zoom
12:15  Quaker Working Group on Racism, on Zoom

Friday, Nov 26  7pm  Friendly Film Night on Zoom, title to be announced

Sunday, Nov 28  10am  Meeting for Worship on Zoom
noon  Second Hour, topic to be announced

Meal With A Theme
7:15 to 8:30 pm on the second Wednesday of the month. These sessions are organized and facilitated by Hubert Morel-Seytoux who will announce the readings. You can make arrangements with him to get the readings, but are also welcome to participate in the discussion whether or not you have read the material. The zoom link is:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88002288064?pwd=R1hvbkZnMEhwYmFGL1NjQzE4ak5VUT09
passcode: 12345

Friday Film Nights
These evenings are an opportunity to watch documentary and feature films on themes that are of topical interest to Quakers and/or may help us explore our testimonies. Recommendations are always welcome. We gather in our own homes, watch the film together on Zoom, and then engage in a discussion. Usually 4th Fridays, 7-9pm.
Zoom link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83603018106?pwd=dThEYVJ6WXIwUjArbZ2c3JKWG01Zz09
Hybrid (Blended) Meetings
The Coordinating Committee is exploring the extent of the Meeting’s interest in hybrid meetings. If you would be interested in experiencing worship with a meeting that is doing hybrid (blended) worship, please contact Molly Bishop.

Opportunities for Service to the Meeting
Barbara Babin is currently coordinating a few activities that are not traditionally part of the clerk’s role and she would love to share these responsibilities with others. If you are interested in helping out, please contact her to find out more about:

• Zoom hosting
• Second hours, planning and hosting
• Movie Nights, planning and hosting

Barbara is also having neck/shoulder issues which require her to spend limited time at the computer. If you wish to communicate with her, rather than sending email, please call 650-454-0216. Thank you!

Conversations on Social Justice and Reparations Resumes
Brian Lloyd is facilitating this conversation and has sent out topics for study and reflection between now and the next meeting, Saturday October 30, 11am-1pm. The Zoom link is: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84092966920?pwd=UXVCMTBiMWdzOW1pTCt1SnN2S1FvQT09
passcode: 54321
Molly Bishop, Acting Clerk
Paul Robbins, Recording Clerk

Opening Worship

Approval of Molly Bishop as clerk for this meeting

Minute 2021-10-1: The Meeting approved Molly Bishop to act as Clerk for this Meeting for Worship on Business.

Consideration of September Minutes

Minute 2021-10-2: The Meeting approved the minutes from September’s Meeting for Worship on Business.

In this month’s Meeting for Business, there is a change in the calendar for October. Instead of the Quaker Working Group on Racism meeting on October 17, the Meeting is invited to attend a multi-faith gathering for “Building the Beloved Community” at Christ Church United Methodist in Santa Rosa.

Quaker Working Group on Racism

Background Material from Tema Okun:

The obstacle of the belief in a “need for perfectionism”:

• little appreciation expressed among people for the work that others are doing; appreciation that is expressed usually directed to those who get most of the credit anyway
• more common is to point out either how the person or work is inadequate
• or even more common, to talk to others about the inadequacies of a person or their work without ever talking directly to them
• little time, energy, or money put into reflection or identifying lessons learned that can improve practice, in other words little or no learning from mistakes
• often internally felt, in other words the perfectionist fails to appreciate her own good work, more often pointing out his faults or ‘failures,’ focusing on inadequacies and mistakes rather than learning from them; the person works with a harsh and constant inner critic

The antidote to that obstacle:

Develop a culture of appreciation, where the organization takes time to make sure that people’s work and efforts are appreciated; develop a learning organization, where it is expected that everyone will make mistakes and those mistakes offer opportunities for learning; create an environment where people can recognize that mistakes sometimes lead to positive results; separate the person from the mistake; when offering feedback, always speak to the things that went well before offering criticism; ask people to offer specific suggestions for how to do things differently when offering criticism; realize that being your
own worst critic does not actually improve the work, often contributes to low morale among the group, and does not help you or the group to realize the benefit of learning from mistakes

**Queries:**

The query we are proposing for small group sharing (4 per group for 12 minutes total) is:
Please share where you recognize in yourself or in the Meeting any of these aspects of perfectionism: the difficulty in expressing appreciation of others, identifying and focusing on the inadequacies in others, failure to learn from mistakes (those of yourself or others), or the harsh inner critic.

The query we propose for the large group sharing is:
What can we do to create a culture of appreciation that might address a shortcoming that was expressed in your small group?

**Reflections of Friends following the responding to the queries in small groups:**

- We sometimes get caught up in the “perfect” wording of a minute at the expense of the rest of the Meeting’s agenda. How might we do this in a way that supports the work of our committees.

- Some of us may misinterpret the quotes about “perfection” that George Fox has used as a concept.

- Perfection is in God and not in ourselves. God is the idea of perfection. God’s command in Hebrew scripture concerning the need to be kind to the stranger.

- The author Brene Brown reminds us that progress is messy, and mistakes are learning opportunities for all of us. Each mistakes moves us closer to our goals as a community.

- Benito Juarez quote: “In respecting the stranger is peace.”

- The Meeting has lost attenders who have felt pain at receiving judgmental feedback about their vocal ministry.

**Finance Committee Announcement**

On Sunday October 24 at Noon there will be a threshing session for the Meeting to consider organizations to be included in distribution of the Meeting’s Stewardship Fund.

**Property Committee** (Keith Bridges)

Last month the Meeting approved the location of an office trailer temporarily on our property; however, the offer to the company developing the property next to us has been rescinded by mutual agreement due to the lack of appropriate permitting.
Coordinating Committee – Change in Job Description (Ann Boone)

The first reading of the job description was shared with the intention of starting a conversation so that the committee will combine the functions of what has traditionally been titled Ministry and Worship and Oversight. The document is attached.

Comments by Friends:
• There is a consideration to perhaps expand the size of the committee. However, the work before us right now is to seek agreement as to the job description for the work.

• The list of tasks seems overwhelming. How would approving this influence our work as being a Meeting committed to becoming an antiracist community?

• This committee seems all encompassing, so many of the tasks may be completed by various groups within the Meeting. How do we accomplish the work of this committee without resulting in burnout among those serving on the committee?

• The intention of this is to be an early first step toward how we restructure the Meeting.

• A concern that we may be moving away from simplicity in the complexity of the tasks included in the job description.

• Friends are encouraged to engage the current members of the Coordinating Committee in the coming weeks with suggestions.

• Above all, the goals of all the tasks are two: to foster and strengthen the spiritual growth and to care for the membership and the corporate life of the Meeting.

• A Friend suggested a possible name for the new committee: “Care and Spiritual Growth Committee”

Announcements

• October Meeting for Memorials on Sunday October 31

• Mike Halliwell Memorial on Saturday October 23 at 2:00pm

• Appreciation for the participation of people in today’s work of our Meeting

Closing Worship
Integrity and Personal Conduct

Integrity has always been a goal of Friends. It is essential to trust, to all communication between people and between people and God. Integrity grounds our beliefs, thoughts, and actions in our spiritual center and makes us whole.

Friends believe that we are called to speak the truth. A single standard of truth requires us to conduct ourselves in ways that are honest, direct, and plain, and to make our choices, both large and small, in accord with the urgings of the Spirit. It follows that we object to taking an oath, which presupposes a variable standard of truth. Be true to your word. "...let your yea be yea, and your nay, nay."

From early days Friends have opposed gambling and practices based on chance. These activities profit from the inevitable loss of others, promote greed, and conflict with good stewardship. Public lotteries have not furthered their purported benefit to the public good. All addictions are of concern. As the use of alcohol and tobacco all too often entail serious risks to self and others, Friends who serve alcohol at home should be diligent in offering alternatives. Alcohol should not be served at Meeting gatherings.

Find recreation that brings you joy and energy. Be aware of how your choices affect yourself and others.

_How do I strive to maintain the integrity of my inner and outer lives?_

_Do I act on my principles even when this entails difficult consequences?_

_Am I honest and truthful in all that I say and do, even when a compromised might be easier or more popular?_

_Am I reflective about the ways I gain my wealth and income and sensitive to their impacts on others?_

_Is my life so filled with the Spirit that I am free from the misuse of alcohol and other drugs, and of excesses of any kind?_

_Do we, in our Meeting, hold ourselves accountable to one another as do members of a healthy family?_