Redwood Forest Friends Meeting invites you:

10 am  Meeting for Worship on First First Days
in person and on Zoom—see schedule next page
To obtain Zoom link or join by phone please contact b_babin@yahoo.com

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 us. They will be screened by staff at the front door. Worship
is 10 to 11 with brief introductions, last thoughts, and announcements afterwards. For more
information, call 707-576-6673.

Lake County Worship Group every Tuesday, 7:30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/395822648?pwd=VmpMWm9QRTVaZ05uZzcwL2ZsVWNlQ09
If you will be dialing by phone: +1 669 900 6833 Meeting ID: 395 822 648\ Passcode: 222748
7:10 pm Singing; 7:30 pm Worship; 8:00 pm Socializing

Quaker Center Worship Opportunities

Wednesday Morning Worship Sharing  10 am – 11:00 am (PT)
Join Friends from around the world on Zoom as we respond to queries based on
short readings.

and Daily Online Worship 7:30 am – 8 am (PT)
Details at www.quakercenter.org
September 2021 Calendar Items

Sunday, Sept. 5  
8:45  Worship-Sharing on Advices and Queries, facilitated by Molly Bishop  
10am  Meeting for Worship, both in-person and on Zoom  
Noon  Committee Meetings

Sunday, Sept. 12  
10am  Meeting for Worship on Zoom  
Noon  Meeting for Worship for Business

Sunday, Sept. 19  
10am  Meeting for Worship on Zoom  
Noon  Quaker Working Group on Racism

Friday, Sept. 24  
7pm  Friendly Film Night on Zoom:  Two Rivers.

Sunday, Sept. 26  
10am  Meeting for Worship on Zoom  
noon  Second Hour TBA

RFFM September Worship
Because we are expecting a new baby in the Meetinghouse in September (due date September 9), we hold an in-person worship on September 5 and will meet by zoom for the rest of the month. This will give our Resident Friends a period of quiet to welcome their little person. Zoom link is always:  
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84554998509?pwd=aVNtaWVmdENsNUlRd3hvNkk1K3o5UT09

Friday Film Night
Please join us for a fun evening of viewing and discussing on Zoom on Friday, 9/24, at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome!  Two Rivers  is an award winning PBS documentary that tells the true story of a Native American reconciliation group in North Central Washington State. Zoom link:  
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83603018106?pwd=dThEYVJ6WXlwUjArbZ2c3JKWGo1Zz09

Hybrid (Blended) Meetings
Before we can take further steps towards hybrid (blended) meeting activities, we need to expand our internet so that it reaches into the Meetinghouse and the Youth Building. A small working group is looking into what would be needed to make this possible. If you are interested in helping with that group, please contact Jim Avera.

Meanwhile, we may try some experiments with a wifi hotspot and borrowed laptop and monitor. In addition, you may be interested in experiencing a hybrid (blended) Meeting for Worship on Zoom with a meeting that has already discerned what equipment is compatible their building and meeting community. This would be very helpful to all of us as you would gain an idea of what that technology is like and could share your experience with RFFM. If you would be interested in worshiping with a meeting that is doing hybrid (blended) worship, please contact Molly Bishop.
The meeting opened with Worship at 12 noon with Barbara Babin, Clerk, presiding. MINUTE 2021-5-1 Meeting approved the Minutes of the June 13, 2021, meeting as written.

Coordinating Committee Report
Molly Bishop reported plans to move forward with blended meetings (in person and Zoom participation simultaneously). Since this requires increased Wi-Fi network capacity, Gary Melrose and Jim Avera have formed a working group to research how this might be done and will ultimately present a proposal to Property Committee. Anyone interested in working on this should contact Jim. Molly included other items in her report:
- She invited RFFM attendees to share concerns/issues about blended meetings with Coordinating Committee.
- Thistle West was welcomed to RFFM after our first in-person gathering in July.
- Molly and Ruth Witchey welcomed new member, Margaret Lowery, with a visit in Fairfield. News of Margaret’s return to Friends House was celebrated by the meeting.
- The committee is forming an arrangements committee for Thistle West’s and Ben Hofvendahl’s marriage scheduled for spring of 2022.
- We’ll continue to alternate between in-person and Zoom meetings for August, and September will have Zoom-only meetings in the weeks after the birth of Ben and Thistle’s baby.

Clerk’s Remarks and Proposed Timeline
Barbara Babin reminded us of the work of the Coordinating Committee for this current year – a combination of the tasks of Worship and Ministry and Oversight as well as some decision making and committee coordination. She reviewed three goals she identified for our meeting for this year as we continue to discern the focus and structure of our meeting and its work.

Addressing the first goal (Develop an organizational structure robust enough to serve us but light enough to leave us the bandwidth to listen to Spirit and discern how we are led as individuals and as a faith community), she presented an updated clerk’s/meeting’s timeline (available on the website).

She acknowledged that we already have experienced some progress toward our second goal (Strengthen the ties that bind us into a strong, loving community) with the connections felt during recent in-person gatherings. Since future restrictions related to the pandemic are unknown, she encouraged our reaching out to fellow members, gathering in small, outdoor groups, hosting small groups for Quaker topics, fellowship, and/or play, and using the Meeting’s Zoom account for gatherings. For the latter, send an email request to Barbara to request a time for your Zoom.
In working toward our third goal (Begin to address how we might be a more welcoming, inclusive, and anti-racist community), she announced the Quaker Working Group on Racism will bring a topic with queries to Meeting for Business every other month (next in September). Also members are welcome to join this working group’s meetings on 3rd Sundays, 6 pm, on the Meeting’s Zoom link.

Barbara noted there were 15 in attendance on the Zoom Meeting for Worship today, 20 in attendance last week (in-person and Zoom combined), and 30 at our first in-person gathering (which included welcome to Thistle). In the past, the Nominating Committee worked to fill 40 positions, many more than our regular attendance numbers. We are tasked to discern those positions most important to retain and to define our work so it does not wear out members. Members offered comments about how we are doing so far on our goals.

**Property Committee**

Keith Bridges reported the Safe Parking Program, administered by City of Santa Rosa and Catholic Charities, has been in effect at RFFM for nearly a year. Seven individuals are registered with us, and 5-6 each night park in the Meeting’s parking lot. Outdoor toilet, cleaning facilities, and trash can are provided. The current residents, 3 women and 4 men ages 45-78, are getting along and are supportive of each other. Some of these individuals are working. Expenses have been reimbursed by the city, and Catholic Charities vets individuals and selects those referred to us. We then present our guidelines and the participant signs an agreement to follow the guidelines. Gary Melrose completed the work to get RFFM involved, and he, Ben, and Thistle are most involved with the program. Property Committee supports RFFM continuing to provide this service, and we are one of only two religious groups participating.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Paul Robbins reported on three documents: Profit and Loss – Previous Year Comparison, P&L Budget vs. Actual, and Balance Sheet (available on website). He noted several points related to our finances:

- Revenues were less this past year (e.g. donations and use fees), but so were expenses (e.g. no child care and cleaning expenses).
- A portion ($100/mo) of our increased trash expense is reimbursed from the Safe Parking Program.
- A donation ($21,915) came to meeting from a deceased individual’s trust and is found in item 7-7702 Rainy Day – Contributions. Meeting can decide use of these funds in the future.
- Finance Committee is working with the bookkeeper to come up with a different way to handle expenses and reimbursements related to the Safe Parking Program and to have a separate line item for the program. Currently the Good Samaritan Fund is used for these activities.
- Finance Committee proposes setting up a separate account for the Good Samaritan Fund which is currently embedded in the Sharing Fund.
The committee encourages members who make donations to write separate checks if members want various amounts to go to different accounts. This is best for the committee members and the bookkeeper.

Finance Committee gives attention to what accounts RFFM money is in (savings, checking, money market) to optimize needs and earnings.

The clerk explained the Coordinating Committee will discern a long-term decision-making process for dispersing Good Samaritan funds as currently one member of the formerly active Peace and Social Concerns Committee is delegated to make these decisions.

**Correspondence/Announcements**

The Clerk announced that she found a folder at the meeting house with thank you notes from recipients of RFFM stewardship donations. She provided a list of these (available on website). She highlighted a few from:

- AVP California which included a certificate of appreciation and stick-on ribbons
- Non-Violence Peace Force which focused on Iraq and South Sudan in 2020 and Myanmar in 2021
- Redwood Food Bank which served 82,000 children, families, and seniors
- VOICES which contained cards signed by young staff

Karen Morgan announced that next Sunday at RFFM from 2-6 pm Pacific Yearly Meeting Children’s Program will hold an Art in the Garden event. If members know of a child to invite, contact Molly Bishop.

Appreciation was expressed for the Finance Report, and the generosity of RFFM’s stewardship budget was acknowledged.

Gratitude was offered for Ruth Witchey’s work on the newsletter, and the deadline for items for the next newsletter was announced – September 18.

**Pacific Yearly Meeting Epistle and Closing Worship**

Ann Boone read the epistle from Pacific Yearly Meeting (on website) and this was followed by closing worship.

Clerk called for rise of meeting at 1:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Callahan, Recording Clerk

*Advices and Queries for September on last page.*
Reaching Out

Friend fellowship begins and is nurtured within the home and Meeting. It reaches greater fulfillment as we carry our beliefs into the wider community.

Share your Quaker faith. Take time to learn about other people’s experiences of the light and, as you learn, give freely from what you have gained. Respect the experiences and opinions of others, but do not be afraid to say what you value. Welcome the diversity of culture, language, and expressions of faith in your Monthly Meeting, the Yearly Meeting, and the world community of Friends. Encourage discourse with Friends of pastoral and programmed traditions, and with members of other faiths.

Friends have a long history of involvement in public and private education, sharing our values with the world and nurturing future generations. Be mindful of the needs of children in your community and of avenues for deepening understanding between peoples.

How does my life reflect Friends beliefs and thus encourage others to be interested in the Religious Society of Friends?
Do I respond openly to inquiries about Quaker experience and belief?
What does our Meeting do to make others aware of Friends principles and practices?
What are we doing to help people of various races, cultures, and backgrounds feel at home among us and we among them?
How do we encourage newcomers to return and participate in activities of the Meeting?
In what ways do we participate in the life of the interfaith community and in the wider fellowship of Friends?