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Advices and Queries for Twelfth Month: THE MEETING COMMUNITY

Meetings for Worship and Business are the center of our spiritual community. There, as we come to know each other in the Spirit, we build the “beloved community.”

Mutual respect and care in the Meeting form the foundation from which we can test, support, and exercise leadings of the Spirit. At its best, the Meeting community provides a framework for us to learn and practice mutual care, which strengthens us as we act in the world.

All members of the Meeting community should share in the care of one another. While respecting privacy, we must be aware of and sensitive to each other’s needs. We must also be willing to ask for assistance when we are in need.

- Do I strive to be inclusive in my relationships within the Meeting?
- Do I care for the reputation of others, refraining from gossip or disparaging remarks?
- Am I committed to the difficult work of forgiveness, and affirming God's love for the whole community?

- How are love and unity maintained among us?*
- Do we practice the art of listening, even beyond words?*
- How have we been sensitive to the personal needs and difficulties of members and attenders, young & old?*
- Do we visit one another in our homes and keep in touch with distant members?*

† Some queries are intended for individuals.
 Italicized queries are intended for the Meeting collectively.

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

- 9:00 to 10:00 am Adult Education, New Meeting House (NMH), 1st & 3rd First Days & on 4th & 5th First Days by arrangement.
- 10:00 to 10:25 Hymn Singing at NMH.
- 10:30 to 11:30 Meeting for Worship at New Meeting House.**
- 10:30 to 11:15 First Day School for children in Old Meeting House (OMH – n.b., also now known as the “School House”).
- 11:15 to 11:30 Children join adults for Meeting for Worship in NMH
- 11:30 to 11:45 Introductions and announcements

MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS is held on the second First Day of the month, following light refreshments after Meeting for Worship. The next Meeting for Business will be held on December 14, 2014.

- WORSHIP SCHEDULE (in NMH):
- Meeting for Worship – each First Day at 10:30 AM.
 - Mid-Week Evening Worship – each Wednesday at 6:00 PM.
 - Mindfulness Meditation – each Wednesday at 7:30 AM.

~~ In this Issue ~~

Advices and Queries for Twelfth Month	1	Calendar Expansion — Details	2
Sunday Morning Schedule	1	News of People and Events	3
Calendar.....	1	Minutes of 11.9.14 Meeting for Business.....	4

CALENDAR

Nov (11th MONTH)

- 23 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 23 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch – potluck (see note below).
- 26 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 26 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 30 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH (see note below).

30 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.

DEC (12TH MONTH)

- 3 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
3 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
7 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH (see note below).
7 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.
10 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
10 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
14 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.
14 Sun noon Light lunch provided prior to Meeting for Business - OMH.
14 Sun 12:15 pm Meeting for Business – NMH (see note above).
17 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
17 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
18 Thurs 7:00 pm Care and Concerns Committee Meeting
21 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH (No session today).
21 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.
21 Sun 11:45 am Collection for Ecumenical Hunger by Community Service Committee – NMH (see note below).
21 Sun [*Deadline for submittal of Newsletter articles - if email send to moriii@yahoo.com.*]
21 Sun PREPARED LUNCH AND CHRISTMAS PARTY hosted by the First Day School – (see note below).
24 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
24 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
28 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.
31 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
31 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.

CALENDAR EXPANSION – DETAILS

*** ADULT EDUCATION DISCUSSION: **Reading and Discussion** led by Henry Jason each 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday at 9 am – NMH. We are reading a 1794 work entitled “Some Account of the Convincement and Religious Progress of John Spalding, Late of Reading”. In this work Spalding describes his conversion from Anglicanism to Quakerism and his reasons for doing so. The work gives a good description of traditional, classical Quaker principles and beliefs. All are welcome. No preparation is necessary. Please inquire, if interested in acquiring a copy. Contact Henry Jason.

*** COLLECTION FOR ECUMENICAL HUNGER PROGRAM (EHP): Community Service Committee the EHP after the rise of Meeting each *third* First Day – at the front door. EHP is a vital part of the local safety net providing emergency food, clothing, case management, household essentials, and resource referrals to families in need in East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and Palo Alto. Second Harvest brings a truckload of fresh produce 12 times a year.

*** VOLUNTEER MEAL PREPARATION FOR HOMELESS - OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE: We help prepare the food and serve it to the Homeless at the First Methodist Church in Palo Alto (corner of Hamilton & Webster) one Monday a month from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m. - 12/8/14. Please contact Janet Murphy <janeta.murphy@sbcglobal.net>; if you wish to volunteer. Thanks!

*** WEDNESDAY MORNING MINDFULNESS MEDITATION: (formerly on Thursday morning) - newcomers welcome. Doors open at 7:30 am with quiet music. At 7:30 am, we have a short Buddhist guidance, and a half-hour meditation. Afterwards, we discuss how the meditation was for us, finishing at 8:15 or 8:30. We are following the teachings of the Vietnamese Buddhist monk, Thich Nhat Hanh, similar to Quaker philosophy but with additional insights. We discuss meditation technique, which is also helpful to people on Sunday!

*** FOURTH FIRST-DAY PROVIDED LUNCH: PAFM provides a lunch on *fourth* First Day. This allows Friends an opportunity to get to know each other better. Friends, attenders, visitors, and newcomers are all welcome.

A special table is set aside for newcomers to meet with Friends and find out more about Quakerism and about our Meeting, its members & activities, as well as an opportunity for us to know you better. A member of Care & Concerns will be at the table. All newcomers are welcome - as are any Friends who might be inclined to join the gathering. The term "newcomers" includes those who have recently begun attending, as well as those who feel "new" to the Meeting, regardless of how long they have been attending.

FIRST DAY SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO A PREPARED LUNCH AND CHRISTMAS PARTY after Meeting on December 21st. We'll have food, activities, carol-singing and fun for all ages. See you all there!"

*** SUPPORT & CONCERNS: If you have wondered what Friends do when we are in distress or need help, given that we do not have a minister - the answer is that we turn to members of the Care and Concerns Committee. Be advised that the greeters you see each First Day are on the Care and Concerns Committee. Please feel free to talk to a member of Care and

Concerns about such concerns after meeting, by phone, or email. You may also join us to express concerns during the first segment of our usual meeting on the third Thursday of the month at 7 pm in the Meetinghouse Library. Please contact one of the co-clerks, Bill Bauriedel (bill.bauriedel@stanfordalumni.org, 650-493-1364,) or Hulda Muaka huldamuaka@hotmail.com to confirm that there are no meeting changes and ensure time on the agenda.

*** Friends are reminded that there are those among us who have allergies, often severe. We must avoid certain food products especially in the School House because of the allergies of children attending Friends Nursery School. Some among us are also allergic to artificial fragrances (perfumes, colognes, after-shaves).

NEWS OF PEOPLE AND EVENTS

HOTEL DE ZINK: As we have done for nearly 20 years, we will be welcoming Hotel de Zink to our Meeting House in the month of December. Hotel de Zink is a rotating shelter for homeless adults operated by InnVision. It is named for a police officer who worked in Palo Alto during the Great Depression.

We provide shelter in our meeting house for about 15 -17 people, a warm meal each evening along with breakfast and lunch food items. Members and attenders of our meeting share the responsibility of providing the food. Guests arrive at the meeting house each evening at 8:00 and a member of the Hotel de Zink committee is present to open up and greet them. The InnVision staff member arrives by 9:00 pm to take over responsibility and stay through the night until 7:00 am.

We need willing members and attenders to sign up to help provide food during the month. Dinner needs to arrive warm and ready to eat by 8:15 pm. Breakfast and lunch items are equally important and can be brought in the evening or earlier in the day for use on the following day. Suggestions for quantities and types of food needed can be found on the website www.pafm.org under "Hotel de Zink." We are a new online app for signing up -Volunteer Spot. The link for signing up can be found under "Hotel de Zink on our website.

We encourage those who bring meals to stay awhile and share some conversation with our guests. We have found over the years that our guests have much in common with us and their stories are enlightening about the holes in our community's safety net.

There are a couple of other ways to contribute to this effort across the month. We provide a small Christmas gift to each guest – a gift card to Target. Donations of cash make this possible. Money for the gift cards can be given to members of the Hotel de Zink Committee. We often also offer our guests travel size toiletries, warm coats, umbrellas (in years with rain), and sheets and blankets in good repair. Last year we were able to occasionally offer rides in the morning (6:45 am) for guests to area transit stops. When possible, we will offer this again this year.

By each of us contributing in a small way, it is possible for our meeting to accomplish this month of giving to a group in need in our community. Please consider signing up to help. You can do so online at www.pafm.org or after Meeting for Worship on Sundays.

Hotel de Zink Committee members: Mary Pat O'Connell, clerk, Jim Basiji, Bart Burstein, Barbara Maloney, Trudy Reagan, and Nick Selby.

SAVE THE DATE - ANTI-TRAFFICKING EVENT: The goal of the Anti-Trafficking Faith Leader Coalition of San Mateo County is to raise awareness of local human trafficking through Shabbat and church services as well as a combined faith-based community event on the weekend, January 9-11, [2015]. The Sunday afternoon community event is called "In Plain Sight: Modern Day Slavery in San Mateo County." <http://tinyurl.com/20150111HTinSM>.

ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH IN THE WIDER QUAKER COMMUNITY: Alyssa Nelson - Youth Programs Coordinator, Pacific Yearly Meeting (530) 563-6369 <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/>

2014 DECEMBER NEWS FROM BEN LOMOND QUAKER CENTER: Please join us from **Dec. 5-7th** for our **Music and Dance Retreat**, a low-cost, participant produced program with a **sliding scale of only \$60-\$140 per person** for a weekend filled with a variety of singing and playing punctuated by a few dancing opportunities. Bring your kids and grandkids or just yourselves for a few days of fun making food, music, and song together with a professionally called community dance on Saturday night. Get more information and register online at <http://www.quakercenter.org/music-and-dance-retreat/>.

We invite Friends of all branches of Quakerism to come to the well of our faith, to share the sweet waters of waiting worship and fellowship. This year end retreat from **December 27th to January 1st** will call on us to seek replenishment by opening ourselves to God and the inward Christ, deepening our connections and enlivening our spirits. Join us for **Spring Forth a Well: What Are We Waiting For?** which will be facilitated by **Dorothy Henderson**. Learn more and register before December.15th at <http://www.quakercenter.org/spring-forth-a-well/>

Job Opening: Maintenance Manager beginning February 1, 2015. The Maintenance Manager is responsible for performing routine and periodic maintenance tasks, making improvements to Quaker Center buildings and grounds, and implementing the preventive maintenance program. This is a full-time residential position. Please see <http://www.quakercenter.org/about-us/employment-opportunities/> for more information and to apply.

THE PEACE AND JUSTICE CALENDAR: A service of the Peace, Earthcare, and Social Witness Committee of Strawberry Creek Friends Meeting, this calendar is posted for easy reference: <http://groups.google.com/group/bayareaquakers>

CHILDCARE DURING MEETING FOR BUSINESS: During monthly Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, childcare will be provided for all age children from 12:15 to 1:45 pm in the School House. The regular staff for the preschool program, Jadranka Tanovic and Sangeta Tamang, provide the childcare. Advance sign-up is not required, but children should be in the program by 12:30. (If no children show up, the staff will leave at 12:45.)

RIDES TO/FROM MEETING: Care and Concerns Committee keeps a list of people seeking rides and a list of people who are willing to offer rides to and/or from Meeting on either a regular or occasional basis. Contact anyone on the committee if you or someone you know would like to be on either list.

HELP YOURSELF WHILE HELPING A WONDERFUL WORKER:! Call the South Bay Sanctuary Covenant Job Hotline: (650) 494-8340 Central American workers are eager to help you! childcare • eldercare • gardening • cleaning • professional painting • roof repair • gutter cleaning • personal assistance • Spanish lessons • moving • carpentry. Arlene Schaupp, Job Hotline Coordinator of South Bay Sanctuary Covenant (650) 494-8340

JOIN THE SOUTH BAY SANCTUARY COVENANT DELEGATION TO EL SALVADOR, MARCH 20/21 – 29, 2015: Events commemorating Archbishop Oscar Romero on the 35th anniversary of his martyrdom. Experience great hospitality - spend 3 nights in our rural partner community. Led by Voices on the Border staff: José Acosta, El Salvador Director of VOICES. With Luz Deras from SBSC as our Interpreter! COST: \$880 for lodging, food, transportation, and leaders; plus airfare. Some scholarship help for youth is available - request from Arlene. OPTION: Go a week early to excellent SPANISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL. Contact Arlene (650) 494-8340 or Schaupp@aol.com for info & RSVP. **Orientation Dates:** December 7, 2014, 3 – 5 pm, February 1, 2015, 3 – 5 pm.

To Submit Newsletter Items: See the Schedule on page 2 for the deadline for the next issue. You may *e-mail* Newsletter submissions to newsletter@pafm.org or moriii@yahoo.com If you wish to receive the newsletter by email - or wish to discontinue - please visit <http://lists.pafm.org/listinfo.cgi/newsletter-pafm.org>. [Ed.'s note: If you sign up to receive the Newsletter by email, make sure to put the following address in your email address book: moriii@yahoo.com. The NL is sent out from that address. Some email "Spam" filters may reject such a message if the sender address is unknown.]

If you have an e-mail address, please join our Meeting's e-mail discussion list. To subscribe - visit <https://mailman.stanford.edu/mailman/listinfo/pafriends>. To post a message to all on the list, send the message to pafriends@lists.stanford.edu. If you have any questions, contact Jerry McBride jlmcbridemail@yahoo.com 650-384-9817.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

[The actual data is posted in the office as usual.]

Carol Rose	new mailing address
Burt and Françoise Lang	new address
Diane Pasta	new address