

PALO ALTO FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

Tenth Month, 2010

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Queries for Tenth Month: Home and Personal Relationships

The Meeting plays an important role in nurturing and supporting personal relationships, including families. In our homes, our lives as Friends speak immediately and lastingly.

Every member of the Meeting is responsible in some measure for the care of the children. When this spirit of common concern is present, our children gain a sense of belonging and commitment to the larger community and to their heritage.

Our first concern for our children and our households is to live in the awareness that we are all children of God. Trust and love and a constant search for truth strengthen the light that leads us to the love of God. Parents should provide for the healthy development of their children's minds, bodies, and spirits. The time and attentive energy needed for this central task should be shielded from less important activities.

Human sexuality is a divine gift, forming part of the complex union of body, mind and spirit that is our humanity. In a loving relationship, sexuality brings delight, fulfillment and celebration.

Sexual conduct can be exploitative or violent. Sexual contact between an adult and a child is exploitative of the child. Meetings should prepare themselves to deal sensitively, promptly, and effectively with incidents of physical or sexual abuse in the Meeting community.

Do I make my home a place of friendliness, joy, and peace, where residents and visitors feel God's presence?

Are my sexual practices consistent with my spiritual beliefs and free of manipulation and exploitation?

Do we open our thoughts, beliefs, and deep understandings to our children and others who share our lives and our hospitality?

Do we provide our children and young adults with a framework for active, ongoing participation in Meeting?

How are single people, members of non-traditional families, and sexual minorities welcomed and valued in our homes and in the life of the Meeting?

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 Business Meeting is on October 10, 2010.

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 Thursday at 7:15 AM

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SEP

26 Sun 12:50 pm Adult Ed. – Reading, Lecture and Discussion Series – NMH (see note below).
27 Mon 3 - 6:30 pm ? PAFM / Urban Ministry Meal Preparation – (see note below).
27 Mon 7:00 pm PAFM Women's Group – NMH (see note below).
29 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
30 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).

OCT

1 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.

- 2 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 3 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH (New series begins – see note below).
- 3 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 6 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 7 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 10 Sun 9:15 am ? Community Service Committee Meeting – NMH.
- 10 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 10 Sun noon Light lunch provided prior to Meeting for Business - OMH.
- 10 Sun 12:15 pm Meeting for Business – NMH (see note above).
- 11 Mon 7:00 pm PAFM Women's Group – NMH (see note below).
- 11 Mon 7:00 pm Stanford Research Project on Quaker Practice – NMH (see note below).
- 13 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 14 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 14 Thurs 7:00 pm Oversight Committee meeting – Library.
- 17 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH.
- 17 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 17 Sun 11:45 am Collection for Ecumenical Hunger by Community Service Committee – NMH (see note below).
- 17 Sun [Deadline for *submittal of Newsletter articles - if email send to moriii@yahoo.com.*]
- 17 Sun 12:15 pm Adult Ed. Readings on Quaker Eldership – (see detail below).
- 18 Mon 7:00 pm Stanford Research Project on Quaker Practice – NMH (see note below).
- 20 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 21 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 24 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 24 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch – (see note below).
- 24 Sun 12:15 pm Adult Ed. Readings on Quaker Eldership – (see detail below).
- 25 Mon 3 - 6:30 pm ? PAFM / Urban Ministry Meal Preparation – (see note below).
- 25 Mon 7:00 pm PAFM Women's Group – NMH (see note below).
- 25 Mon 7:00 pm Stanford Research Project on Quaker Practice – NMH (see note below).
- 27 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 28 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 31 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 31 Sun 12:15 pm Adult Ed. Readings on Quaker Eldership – (see detail below).?(Schedule uncertain at NL deadline)?

CALENDAR EXPANSION – DETAILS

*** STANFORD QUAKER ACTIVITIES: STANFORD QUAKER ACTIVITIES: Stanford students interested in on-campus Quaker activities should contact Hannah Popick hannapopick@gmail.com , 650-644-5130.

STANFORD RESEARCH STUDY ON QUAKER PRACTICE - NMH. Daniel Steinbock. Daniel is a PhD student in Education and past president of the Stanford Student Quaker Group. As part of a research study on 'cultures of collaboration,' he's holding a series of four reflective discussions, in Quaker dialogue format, about Friends' group approach to worship and how Friends have carried their practices outside the Meeting. Friends are invited to participate in any number of the four sessions, which will be recorded on video for research purposes. RSVP daniel@steinbock.org or 650-530-0703 This event happens on 4 consecutive Monday evenings between Oct. 11th - Nov. 1st, 7-8pm in the NMH.

*** ADULT EDUCATION DISCUSSION: **Reading and Discussion** led by Henry Jason each 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday at 9 am – NMH. We are reading and discussing Francis Howgill's 1655 work "The Inheritance of Jacob Discovered." Francis Howgill was an important early Quaker, one of the "Valiant 60 and the first, along with Edward Burrough, to preach in the city of London, England. He died in prison for his Quaker beliefs. No preparation is necessary. All are welcome. Contact Henry Jason.

Adult Education Programs in October:

Worship & Ministry committee is repeating the 3-part summer study series on Eldering in the 21st century, in which "eldering" takes the peculiarly Quaker meaning of nurturance, accompaniment, and discernment in the art of being a Friend. If you said you wanted to attend but couldn't in the summer, now is your chance.

October 17, 24 12:45 Readings in Quaker Eldership - Worship & Ministry has assembled a book of readings on the difficult practice of eldery (also available on CD; ask Eric Sabelman for one). Some readings deal with the historic practice of recording elders and the consequence of enforced conformity; others focus on eldery as a teachable skill that we all could learn. In our reading, we will come to see that eldery as it should be practiced is a form of accompaniment - like the elder who travels with a released Friend ministering under a concern, anyone who offers advice to another about their words or conduct takes on an obligation to be loving as well as truthful, a companion on a spiritual journey as well as guide and teacher. A few Friends have volunteered to read selected articles and will share their thoughts, others are welcome to do the same.

*** PAFM WOMEN'S GROUP: Meets the second and fourth Monday in the Library at the New Meeting House 7-9 pm. The group chooses different topics, readings, or spiritual exercises as the starting point for our discussions but no prior reading is required to join and enjoy the discussion. To be added to the distribution list for this group, please send an email to kmcclellx@comcast.net.

*** COLLECTION FOR ECUMENICAL HUNGER PROGRAM (EHP): Community Service Committee collects a monthly offering of cash donations to be given to the EHP after the rise of Meeting each third First Day – at the front door. EHP provides emergency food, clothing, case management, household essentials, and resource referrals to families in need in East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and Palo Alto.

*** HOMELESS MEALS - OPPORTUNITY FOR COMM-UNITY SERVICE – We help prepare the food and serve it to the Homeless at the First Methodist Church in Palo Alto as part of the Urban Ministry meal program. Contact Marie Simirenko for more information - 650-961-1724.

*** WEDNESDAY WORSHIP/SHARING OR DISCUSSION GROUP: Every Wednesday following the Meeting for Worship from 7-8:30. This time is available for any individual in the Meeting community to propose a topic for sharing or discussion. Those wishing to convene a group should first contact Worship & Ministry Committee, which will help with advance preparations. Eric Sabelman is clerk of W&M <esabelman@aol.com>, 650-322-2455.

*** THURSDAY MORNING MINDFULNESS MEDITATION: The Thursday morning meditation group meets in the New Meeting House, which is opened by 7:15 am; the practice time goes from 7:30 am to 8:30 am. All are welcome, including those new to meditation or experienced. Susan Murphy and Linea Stewart share the facilitation of the meditation group. Susan and Linea will draw on their backgrounds in both Buddhist meditation and Christian contemplative practices. For more information and a schedule of the practices, contact Susan Murphy, at somurphy@earthlink.net

*** 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 and activities, as well as an opportunity for us to know you better.. A member of Oversight will be at the table and 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.

*** 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

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 Old Meeting House. The regular staff for the preschool program, Jadranka Tanovic and Sangeta Tamang, will 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.)

OPPORTUNITY FOR MEETING SERVICE: Our Meeting has volunteered to work on one Monday each month from 3 to 6:30pm to help Palo Alto Urban Ministry prepare an evening meal. First Methodist Church - Hamilton & Webster Aves. Contact Marie Simirenko or sign up on the bulletin board.

RIDES TO/FROM MEETING: Oversight will keep 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 would like to be on either list.

NEEDS, OFFERINGS, OPPORTUNITIES, & ENTHUSIASMS

AFSC News: With the beginning of the new school year AFSC in San Francisco is welcoming new college interns. In addition, interns from the LEN Institute will be in the San Francisco office for the second year. The LEN Institute places young people for training to re-enter the work force. Interns bring a refreshing enthusiasm and perspective to the work of AFSC.

FULL PICTURE The program - Full Picture - is moving into high gear with the start of the school year.

Full Picture trains volunteers to go into schools and give the students all the information they need to make informed decisions about joining the military and the alternatives available. Right now they are busy creating the information kits the volunteers take with them.

Full Picture is a coalition of Mothers Against War, Bay Peace and AFSC. Sandra Schwartz of AFSC staffs this work. If you would like to become involved in this work, as a school volunteer or helping the creation of the Kits, you can contact Sandra at 415-565-0201 x24.

CORN FESTIVAL – STOCKTON For the 2nd year AFSC staff, Luis Magana, was the driving force in the Corn Festival. This festival coincides with the Mexican corn harvest and highlights the centrality of corn in the Indigenous communities of Mexico, emphasizing its multiple uses, eco-friendly ways of cultivation, demonstrating traditional dishes and reclaiming traditional practices.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: The Pacific Mountain Region is seeking people willing to be members of their varied committees. If you would like to know more about the different committees and the work they do call Laura Magnani 415-565-0201 x11. Service on these committees can be a wonderful way of service and having input in the work of AFSC.

The end of the AFSC fiscal year is fast approaching. Your generous individual and Meeting contributions are very much appreciated. - Ruth Fraser

THE PENINSULA PEACE AND JUSTICE CENTER: The Center's Calendar is at: [http://www. peaceandjustice.org](http://www.peaceandjustice.org)

HELP CENTRAL AMERICAN REFUGEES WHILE YOU HELP YOURSELF: Reliable, hard-working men and women need jobs while they rebuild their lives. SBSC has a Job Hotline (650) 494-8340. Workers can do: child care • elder care • gardening • window washing • moving • professional painting • cleaning of homes and offices • errands • carpentry • roof repair • gutter cleaning. (650) 494-8340.

BOOKS FOR STANFORD STUDENT GROUP: The group has shelf space in the Religious Groups Library of the Old Union at Stanford, and would love add your favorite Quaker book to the shelf. Here is a list of books we have already received.: http://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=pEJ3Q-pGqgEnf_0LgUUUVLGA

NEWS FROM SIERRA FRIENDS CENTER After studying various food production systems in our country, Woolman students went on their Food Intensive trip visiting northern California farms and cooperatives. They began right here on campus with the Cow-Op. The cows and calves are owned by a group of Nevada County residents who, along with the Cow-Op director Jerome Verchasselt, are raw milk enthusiasts. Jerome leases the pastures here on campus, which keeps the grasses low and healthy with all the interaction with the cows and sheep that he rotates through. The students have already begun preliminary work on their Sustainability Projects, which range from forest analysis and management to creating more habitats in the form of chicken tractors. We are doing a tremendous amount of harvesting at this time of year with over 125 pounds of green beans brought in over just one weekend recently! To celebrate, and get the extra help we need as the harvest comes into full swing, we are hosting a Harvest Day Celebration on October 23rd from 10am to 5pm with lunch and music as well as opportunities to help with the harvest. Please join us!

SOUTH BAY SANCTUARY COVENANT invites you to hear Voices on the Border Staff RODDY HUGHES, Executive Director & ROSIE RAMSEY, El Salvador Director speaking about The Faces of Solidarity - Fragile Democracy • Supporting Civil Society • Protecting the Environment. Roddy and Rosie inspire and give hope to thousands with their vision and commitment to solidarity with people in El Salvador and the US. They assure that SBSC funded projects are carried out effectively.

Rosie leads our delegations. They will reflect on successes of VOICES and SBSC and discuss issues contributing to violence. Delicious Salvadoran pupusa and enchilada dinner and crafts for sale. Sunday, October 24, 2010 at 4:00 PM. First Congregational Church Social Hall, 1985 Louis Road (at Embarcadero Road) Palo Alto 94303. Suggested donation: \$20/adult and \$5 - \$15/student for program including dinner (No one turned away for lack of funds). Please call 650-494-8340 or email steering@southbaysanctuary.org to RSVP.

Fund-raising benefit for grassroots empowerment in Salvadoran communities: Tax-deductible gifts may be made to U. Lutheran Church/SBSC and mailed to: SBSC, c/o St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, 3290 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA 94306.

March 19-27, 2011 EL SALVADOR DELEGATION - Orientation Saturday, October 23 from 2:00 - 4:30 PM. Now is the time to consider joining the South Bay Sanctuary Covenant Delegation to El Salvador. We have a marvelous treat at our first orientation. Roddy Hughes, Ex. Director of Voices on the Border, and Rosie Ramsey, who will lead our delegation, will be with us to talk with interested people. Please contact Arlene Schaupp at Schaupp@aol.com or 650-494-8340 for information and to RSVP.

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF IN ACTION – from Randy Mont-Reynaud: This is the one goat we were able to replace for Sonel, age 14. He had lost his animal on Jan. 12. The zone lost several other goats and a mule. "If Pigs" flew in with \$40 bucks to provide the kid goat. Sonel lives with his uncle and 8 cousins; his mother died when he was born and his father had worked in Guadeloupe.

GREG KERBER OFFERS: Large screen TV – 27" (?). Make offer. 100-CD changer with tuner and two speakers – free to good home. Contact Greg at (650) 853-0425.



Corrections to the Directory: The New Meeting Directory is out with an attractive bright yellow cover. Pick up your copy in the library. Already we know of changes. For example:

Corrections:

Jamie & Marion Newton's street address in Menlo Park is correct in the old directory but is incorrect in the new one. The correct phone number for Amy Fox and Ulysses Hui is 650-2802. Also Amy's cell phone number is 650-814-7973. The correct phone number for the Monterey Peninsula Meeting is 831-644-0331

Note: Unless otherwise directed, we no longer print full corrections in the newsletter, only the names of those whose information has changed. The full corrections will be posted in the office or you can get the information from Arden at ardenhram@aol.com.

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 jlmbridemail@yahoo.com 964-2869
