

# Portland Friends Meeting Newsletter

Third Month, 2018

**Meeting for Worship:** Sundays 10:30a

**Adult Education:** 8:45a, 2nd and 4th Sundays

**First Day School:** 10:45a, 2nd and 4th Sundays



1837 Forest Ave Portland, ME 04103

[portlandfriendsmeeting.org](http://portlandfriendsmeeting.org)

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## Connections

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### Special Needs Funds

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*“When I took the leap, I had faith I would find a net:  
instead I learned to fly”*

John Calvi, 1994, Catherine Whitmire's Plain Living p.113

## Calendar

**March 11** 12:30-2p Privilege Walk, at PFM

**March 23-25** Junior High Yearly Meeting Retreat, Westport Monthly Meeting

**March 23-25** Young Friends Retreat, Hartford Meeting

**March 25** 12:30-2p Worship Sharing, Racism, Privilege & Quakers, at PFM

**April 1** 9-10:15a, Easter Breakfast

**April 29** Rise of Meeting, brown bag lunch listening, “Talking Race, Love, & Liberation”

**Every Sunday:** 10:30a Meeting for Worship

**1st Sunday:** 9a Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business (all welcome)

**2nd and 4th Sundays:** 8:45a Adult Religious Education  
10:45a First Day School

**2nd-5th Sundays:** 10-10:20a Intergenerational singing

**2nd Saturday:** 5-8p Youngish adults potluck  
Bart Czyz, [btczyk@gmail.com](mailto:btczyk@gmail.com), 207 899 5937

*Join us for the Annual Easter Breakfast!*

*Sunday, April 1st at 9am*

Please join the First Day School community for a delicious breakfast to celebrate Easter on April 1st from 9 to 10:15am. Donations collected will support Bradley at Kakamega Orphan Care Center in Kenya (a Quaker facility) and other projects the children have selected.



**Portland Friends Meeting  
Meeting for Business  
March 4, 2018**

We began in silent worship at 9:00 a.m. with 16 members and attenders present, during which co-clerk Jennifer Frick read from Catherine Whitmire's Plain Living p.113, a quote from John Calvi, 1994:

"When I took the leap, I had faith I would find a net:  
instead I learned to fly"

1. **Minutes** The February 2018 minutes were accepted.
2. **Treasurer's Report and Endowment Update Report**

*Treasurer's Report*

Kathy Beach presented the February Treasurer's report 17% of the way through the year. Here is the summary for the month of February as well as the Year-to-Date:

February:  
Income: \$3,888  
Expenses: \$5,320  
Balance: (\$1,432)

Year-to-Date:  
Income: \$10,151  
Expenses: \$11,404  
Balance: (\$1,253)

<b>Quick Summary of Income and Expenses 2 month — 17% of 2018</b>	
Year-to-date Income	\$10,151
Percent of Budget	15%
Year-to-date Expenses	\$11,404
Percent of Budget	17%
Balance	(\$1,253)

We donated to American Friends Service Committee (\$400) and Friends Committee on National Legislation (\$400) this month, along with our monthly pledge to NEYM (\$1,250). We had a specials fund request of \$500.

*Endowment Update Report*

At our business meeting in December, we approved the transfer of our endowment funds from Pax World to Friends Fiduciary Corporation. This is a Quaker organization and all our endowment funds are now in the Consolidated Fund at Friends Fiduciary. Our endowment funds have seen a good return this year. Our total assets have increased by \$51,778. We continue to meet our needs by using interest income from our endowment, preserving our principal for the future.

We made a loan of \$100,000 at 4% interest to Friends School of Portland in 2014. This is a 7-year loan, and the monthly payback of \$333 (interest only) goes back into Friends Fiduciary Corporation for re-investment.

We keep an account at TD Bank that is separate from our operating account. Here we keep track of Capital Improvement Funds, Cemetery Funds, Leadings Committee Funds, and general Meeting Funds. The balance at the end of February was \$45,555.

Finally, we have four basic funds within Friends Fiduciary: Barbie Potter endowment, cemetery endowment, Margaret Jones Youth endowment, and Meeting endowment. The total of these funds is \$556,610, as of 2/28/18.

The total for all our assets is \$702,166. This is \$51,778 more than last year. The details of the account balances as of 2/28/18 will be posted in the parlor on the bulletin board and appear in the newsletter on page 4.

A question was raised about more intense use of the Youth Fund. In fact, Financial Oversight is looking into this currently.

Discussion was also had about shareholder advocacy by Friends Fiduciary Fund. Daryl Renschler, who is on the board of Friends Fiduciary, gave us a positive report about what they do and how we could make concerns known. Kathy Beach reported she has had positive experiences in her contacts with Friends Fiduciary.

Friends accepted the Treasurer's reports

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(minutes continued from page 2)

3. **Ministry and Counsel** Chris Beach reported one item of business and passed around a proposed minute for our approval. The minute is recommended by Ministry & Counsel Committee.

Maggie Nelson is applying for an \$8,000 Legacy grant for one year from NEYM Legacy Future Fund in connection with inspiring and collecting artwork from Quakers based on the advices and queries of New England Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice. The grant would cover Maggie's time and travel expenses. NEYM requires our approval. Her proposal follows:

Faith & Practice: A Visual Collection

Maggie Nelson, of Portland Friends Meeting, is called to work with Friends to create a collection of artwork that expresses Quaker experience, guided by the advices and queries from NEYM's Faith and Practice. She plans to do so through an open call for submissions from Quaker artists, as well as a series of traveling workshops throughout New England. These workshops will aid Friends of all ages in creating artwork inspired by sections of Faith and Practice, all the while exploring art as a practice of faith and community-building. They may take place in many different Quaker institutions including Friends schools, at retreats, and at monthly meetings. For example, Maggie may travel to a monthly meeting's First Day School and lead an activity that asks the children to draw what they imagine when they think of holding someone in the light. With the consent of the artist, she will add works to a growing collection of 2D art work, which will exist digitally and physically, and will ultimately become available for curation, publication, and viewing by the Quaker community and beyond.

From Maggie:

"With this project, I want to make it possible for every Friend of every age to be able to look around at the breadth and depth of experience in the Quaker community. By interpreting Faith and Practice visually, Friends have the chance to experience what before may have only been accessible through text. Too long have Friends relied solely on the written word to project their ministries to the world, leaving out those who may not connect to that form because of age, language barrier, class, race, or ability. If we are to be ministers to one another in a way that is truly inclusive, we need to do so with all of our senses, and all the modes of expression we've been gifted."

PFM would oversee the disbursement of the funds. A question was raised whether we are expected to supervise or house the artwork in any way. Maggie answered that she will be doing that, and much will be submitted digitally as photos of works the creators keep. She is expecting 2D images rather than large works. If we approve the minute, a support committee will be formed which will include Dorothy Grannell. As the project evolves, the committee will handle further questions which arise. Friends recalled similar projects at Kendal, England, Pendle Hill and the New England Tapestry Project. Enthusiasm was expressed for Friends' growing recognition of how the arts nourish spirituality rather than distract from it. Sue Nelson and Kathy Beach will administer the funds.

We approved the following minute:

Portland Friends Meeting (PFM) fully supports Maggie Nelson's application to the New England Legacy Gift Future Fund for a grant "to create a collection of artwork that expresses Quaker experience, guided by the advices and queries from NEYM's Faith and Practice." PFM further agrees to receive and administer the funds, as they are needed to complete the proposed project, and to provide a support committee.

4. Other **Meeting piano** There is a possibility a rental group would like to replace our piano. Anyone with thoughts or concerns about this should see Lise Wagner.

We closed at 10:05 a.m., with 23 members and attenders present, purposing to meet again at 9:00 on April 8, God willing.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyn Ballou  
Co-Recording Clerk

## PFM Account Balances as of 2/28/18

Account	Balance
Allocation of Funds in TD Bank	
Capital Improvement Funds	24,144
Cemetery Funds	5,922
Leadings Committee	9,567
Meeting Funds	5,922
TOTAL	\$45,555

### Asset Account

4% loan to Friends School (7-year loan, taken out in 2014)	<b>\$100,000</b>
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### Allocation of Funds in Friends Fiduciary Corporation

B. Potter Endowment	200,380
Cemetery Endowment	77,925
M. Jones Youth Endowment	33,397
Meeting Endowment	244,908
TOTAL Investment Accounts	\$556,610

OVERALL TOTAL \$702,166

## Portland Friends Meeting Email Lists

We now have two email lists, sometimes referred to as "google groups." The first list is "PFM Life of the Meeting," for items directly related to Portland Friends Meeting or the wider Quaker world. The second is "PFM Wider Community," for any items of interest from the PFM community to share.

To send an announcement to PFM Life of the Meeting, email [pfm-life-of-the-meeting@googlegroups.com](mailto:pfm-life-of-the-meeting@googlegroups.com).

To send an announcement to PFM Wider Community, email [pfm-wider-community@googlegroups.com](mailto:pfm-wider-community@googlegroups.com).

Some guidelines:

- make the subject line of your email the subject line that will go out to the list;
- only include text to be sent to the list, do not include notes to the moderator; messages should be sent exactly as you want them to appear on the list.

For technical support or for any questions related to the lists please feel free to email [pfm.email.list.owner@gmail.com](mailto:pfm.email.list.owner@gmail.com).

## Peace and Social Concerns

Peace and Social Concerns has been deeply moved by the continuing mass-shooting massacres and other instances of gun violence in our country. We are also heartened to see high school students rising up to meet this challenge, and we want to support their efforts in a spiritual and meaningful ways.

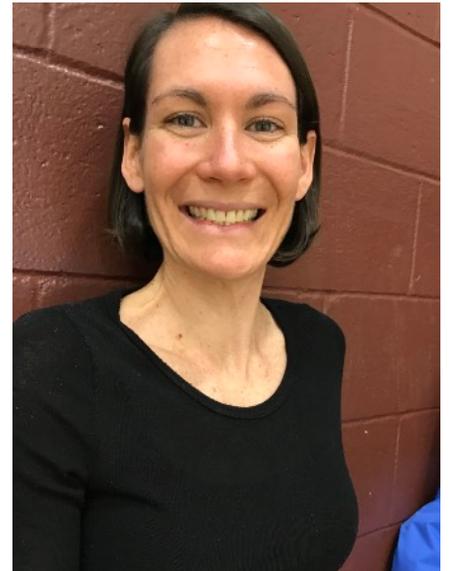
Here are some opportunities to join us in the coming days:

- Wednesday, March 14 – 9:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. – Enough: National School Walkout. College and high school students and staff from around the nation will be participating in a walkout. The event is officially timed from 10:00 a.m. – 10:17 a.m., one minute for each of the 17 people killed in Parkland. Come join us to support them. We'll be at the Portland High School right downtown. Meet Rob Levin and Nathan Broaddus at 9:45 at the corner of Cumberland and Chestnut, in front of the Halal Peace Market, and we'll hope to have our PFM banner with us. (No need to RSVP, just show up.) Or you can support other walkouts wherever you might be that morning – for more info and a searchable list of walkouts, see [https://www.actionnetwork.org/event\\_campaigns/enough-national-school-walkout](https://www.actionnetwork.org/event_campaigns/enough-national-school-walkout).
- Saturday, March 24 – 10:00 a.m. – March for our Lives – This is an international event, with marches and rallies taking place all over (507 different events, as of this morning, including 7 in Maine). In Portland, the event will be at Congress Square Park. If you'd like to join us, meet Hannah Colbert and dgenna ulrich at 9:45 in front of the Portland Museum of Art. Again, look for the PFM banner. (No need to RSVP, just show up.) For more info, see <https://event.marchforourlives.com/event/march-our-lives-events/9058/signup/?akid=&zip=>.
- Postcards to Susan Collins – We'll be coordinating a postcard session at the Rise of Meeting this coming Sunday. We'll be sending postcards to Senator Collins to ask her to support the following: (1) universal background checks, (2) comprehensive assault weapons ban, (3) ban on bumper stocks, and (4) ban on high-capacity ammunition clips. If you can't be a part of the session, you can always send her your own postcard or letter to: Senator Susan Collins, 413 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-1904.
- Monday, April 2 in Augusta - Gun Violence Prevention and Advocacy Day – Sponsored by Moms Demand Action – For more info and to RSVP: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1842199665814612/>
- Meeting w/ Collins – Hannah Colbert is also seeking to arrange a meeting with Senator Collins or her staff. No date is set at the present time, but if you'd like to be a part of this meeting, you can email Hannah directly at [hdcolbert@gmail.com](mailto:hdcolbert@gmail.com), and she'll keep you in the loop.

Many thanks for being a part of our Meeting's efforts towards peace and social justice,  
*Anna Barnett, Brooke Burkett, Nathan Broaddus, Hannah Colbert, Rob Levin, Jim Maier, dgenna ulrich*

## Attender Profile: Anneka Hohl

I was born and raised in Lakewood, Colorado. My family attended Mountain View Friends Meeting in Denver and regularly attended Inter-Mountain Yearly Meeting as well. Part of this experience was presenting my spiritual journey as part of a series of spiritual journeys presented by Young Friends. As best I can remember, mine focused on my struggle with an eating disorder and overcoming it. I went to the Jefferson County Open School, where I had the opportunity to travel and participate in programs such as Building Bridges for Peace (similar to Seeds of Peace from what I understand). Between high school and college, I lived in Germany for a year, then attended Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, where I majored in psychology with a concentration in peace studies and minor in German. I also met my husband, Patrick, in Worcester where he was a student at Holy Cross. While in college, I trained to be a mediator with Worcester Community Action. My interest in conflict resolution led me to complete an additional year at Clark during which I earned my Masters degree in Professional Communications with a focus on conflict management. From there, Patrick embarked on his medical studies at UNECOM, and we moved to Biddeford, Maine. We lived in Maine for two years before moving to New Jersey, then back to Colorado, followed by the Burlington, Vermont area. During our time in Maine, I attended Meeting a couple times—enough to see a flyer for AVP, and that became where I plugged in—participating in and helping with workshops at the women's prison in Windham. During that time, I also discovered a strong sense of community through yoga and that became a focus of my spiritual practice. While living in New Jersey, I trained to become a yoga teacher and taught for a number of years until our youngest child was born. Now that we are settled back in Maine with our two children, Liam (6) and Hannah (4), it was particularly important to me to reconnect with my Quaker roots. Prior to moving from Vermont, I had discovered Restorative Justice and was working most recently as the director of the Burlington Community Justice Center. Currently, I am not working outside the home and have been enjoying finding greater life balance and more time with our kids—especially Hannah who's just in school two days a week at the Friends School, but it certainly gives me more time with Liam who's in first grade in the Cumberland public schools as well. In my free time, I enjoy running, reading, writing and yoga, and am also forward to starting to volunteer with some of the restorative justice and mediation work happening here in Maine. Patrick and I also just returned from a trip to Rwanda with Team Heart, which we look forward to sharing more about!



## Portland Friends Meeting Racism, Privilege, and Quakers — Upcoming Programs

### **Privilege Walk** Sunday March 11; 12:30-2:00

A Privilege Walk is a group exercise enabling participants to investigate how a range of types of privilege manifest in their lives. Possible sources of privilege and identity include social, economic, gender-based, age-based, racial, and cultural. Participants will be invited to discuss their experiences of the Walk after the exercise.

### **Worship Sharing** Sunday March 25; 12:30-2:00

Join with others to both listen deeply and share as led on two key questions: "Racism, Privilege & Quakers - What have we learned personally and as a meeting? Where or what do we do next personally and as a meeting?"

*Child Care will be provided as needed for those planning to attend any of the series of programs offered through Portland Friends Meeting on "Racism, Privilege & Quakers" **To ensure that your child has care, please contact Susan Grannell at grannell8@gmail.com or call 401-413-5951. Indicate the dates you will plan to attend, your name and the child's (children's) name.***

### **Group Listening Gathering on Racism** April 29, Rise of Meeting

After listening to a spiritual presentation via podcast from the Deer Park Monastery's People of Color retreat, I was moved to consider deeply the pain racism has caused in my heart. I went on to read the book "Radical Dharma: Talking Race, Love, and Liberation," co-authored by the presenter in the podcast, Rev. Angel Kyodo Williams. Her message — that we must do our inner work of transformation before we can fully participate in the transformation of the wider world — resonates with me. I'm not sure how others might receive the podcast, but I'd like to invite PFM members, attenders, and friends to listen to it with me at the Rise of Meeting on April 29 (bring your own lunch, maybe some knitting?). —Heather Denkmire

## Adult Religious Education Class News

ARE Committee Members: Judy Spross (co-clerk), and Sandi Jensen (co-clerk), Muriel Allen, Arthur Fink and Rhoda Renschler

It has been a few months since we reported on our activities though you know from our twice-monthly classes we have been active. Snow has cancelled our meetings twice!

Thanks to conversations and collaboration with Anne Payson, Luke Hankins, and the Youth Religious Education Committee we are able to offer childcare during our ARE classes as long as a few days notice is given. Announcements for each class will include the contact information for planning for childcare. A big THANKS to the YRE committee and Susan Grannell, PFM childcare coordinator!

### Recent Class Summaries

*December 2017*

The first December class used a Quaker Speak video to explore Spiritual Disciplines. What follows here is the handout given to participants which aptly summarizes the introduction to the video and lists the queries we used to look into our own experiences with Quaker practices which enhance our sense of the Spirit in our daily lives. There was a lively exchange among the dozen or so people in attendance. Some of the practices that were expressed included many types of creativity, working with our hands, silent time at home, a walk outside in the morning, intentionally being more aware of what's around us/outside our own mind, reading inspirational or spiritual books at night, music-both listening and participating, journal writing, a gratitude practice, prayer. One aspect common to all of these is that to be a spiritual discipline there needs to be intention to connect with Spirit or to listen. Though people chose different forms or disciplines, most said the result was to create more equanimity to meet whatever comes in the day, to feel more centered, to feel a stronger connection to the Divine.

We recommend that if you couldn't be present you watch the video online (<http://quakerspeak.com/?s=spiritual+disciplines&submit=Search>) and sit quietly to consider your own answers to the queries. Perhaps you will be inspired to begin or try a spiritual discipline in your life, or maybe recognize one that has been there but you didn't name it as such. The more we nurture our individual spiritual lives, the stronger and more effective we are as a spiritual community. Here are the queries we considered in our December class on this topic:

1. In this time of gift-giving, you are invited to consider "gift-receiving"--the gifts you (and your communities) receive from your nurture of your spiritual practices/disciplines?
2. What keeps you spiritually grounded throughout the week?
3. What are your resources for giving yourself quiet (the discipline of retirement) at this time of year?
4. At the end of the video, Patricia points out that a spiritual discipline can be a small shift in attitude rather than a sweeping time commitment. What small spiritual disciplines have you tried? How did it change your experience?
5. Are there important Quaker disciplines that are not addressed in the video?

*January 14, 2018 class*

Attendees enjoyed the Adult Religious Ed program on January 14<sup>th</sup>. The topic was selected and shepherded by Arthur Fink.

What process helps us progress from a felt concern to one or a set of queries that will help you and others better understand and experience that concern? (a query on queries)

We started by introducing ourselves and describing our reaction to the 1985 Faith and Practice Queries, the ones most familiar to us. Some said that rather than finding them encouraging, these queries sometimes made them feel guilty, perhaps because of the yes or no nature of the expected answers.

One attendee thought that a good query elicited a soul response before a mind response, something that, as Palmer

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Parker says, "invites the shy soul to show up." Another suggested using more open-ended questions such as "In what ways do we?" "How can we?"

We felt we might be on the right track when Arthur told us he had spoken to Peggy McCusker of the Faith and Practice Revision Committee. She said they have only two criteria: The query cannot have a yes or no answer and must require some spiritual searching.

Then in an in-class exercise we all tried to form a query based on a concern we had chosen for ourselves. We quickly learned that a good query is not an easy thing to create! One must take care not to lose the heart of your concern in the phrasing, but also allow for the fact that everyone may have a different reaction to the words you use.

Try it yourself when a concern arises. One attendee suggested asking oneself what kinds of queries encourage "soulstorming" instead of brainstorming?

Muriel Allen for ARE Committee

*January 28, 2014*

The Quaker 101 series continued with a class on Rufus Jones, a Quaker mystic and Mainer. Muriel Allen made this historical figure come alive by having participants take turns reading summaries of relevant historical aspects of Jones' contributions to Quakerism punctuated by relevant quotes from Rufus Jones which Muriel had prepared, read by Andy Grannell, wearing a Jonesian hat. Muriel brings a magical touch to her presentations of Quaker history--her delight in the topic and her humor were evident. She immerses herself in reading--it is clear she loves studying our historical roots.

Judy Spross for ARE Committee

### **Request for committee participation**

The Nominating Committee in their activities this fall included a call for two members for our Adult Religious Education Committee. I thought I'd share a little more about our work in case there are those among you who are curious about what we do and how we do it and want to think about joining us next year. While Nominating Committee members help us by soliciting nominations in the fall of every year, our work actually occurs on an "academic year" schedule from September through June with one meeting over the summer to begin to plan our calendar of classes. In the January Newsletter we described our activities and the approximate time commitment. If you are interested in the Adult Religious Education Committee, please speak to Judy Spross, co-clerk, or one of the other members.

### **Upcoming classes**

Mar. 11, 2018 Contemplative Writing (Writing topic to be determined) Facilitator: Theresa Oleksiw

Mar. 25, 2018 Contemplative Writing (Writing topic to be determined) Facilitator: Theresa Oleksiw

Apr. 8, 2018 (note because of PFM's Easter Breakfast on April 1, Meeting for Business was moved to 4/8 so there will be **no class** today)

Apr. 22, 2018 Writing a spiritual memoir (tentative title) with Andy Grannell

May 13, 2018 Quaker 101: Threads of mysticism in Quakerism Facilitator: Muriel Allen

May 27, 2018 (Memorial Day Weekend) **no class**

June 10, 2018 To be determined but likely our traditional final meeting of eliciting feedback and ideas for the next year.

Let us hear from you!

We welcome your feedback. Is there a discussion you'd like to facilitate? A topic we should consider? Are you curious about joining our committee next year. Feel free to reach out to any member at meeting or send an e-mail to **Judy** at [jaspross@gmail.com](mailto:jaspross@gmail.com) or call her at 207-775-2570 (home) or 617-872-8817 (cell).

## Shaping the Maine Landscape: Wabanaki in Casco Bay

### Part of the Changing Landscapes, Shifting Tides: The Story of Falmouth Event Series

Featuring Joseph Hall, Associate Professor of History, Bates College

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 – 6:30pm, Lunt Auditorium, 74 Lunt Road, at OceanView, Falmouth

In this session, a study of place names offers clues for understanding how people inhabit a place.

Professor Hall explores the question of how Wabanakis cultivated their ties to their homelands even as European-American colonists dispossessed them of most of that territory.

Wabanakis, whose name translates as “the people of the Dawnland,” are the indigenous peoples of northern New England and eastern Canada. Their place names describe a particular set of relationships to Maine. Some names suggest how people moved over the land or—more likely—over the waters of Maine by describing the good portages and the dangerous rapids. Others mark good locations for gathering or growing food. Some of these names are still used today. Others have fallen out of use. All of them describe how Wabanakis made this place their home.

This event is FREE <https://www.falmouthme.org/falmouth-300/events/67903>

#### Spring/Summer Workshops — Two with Maine Friend, Doug Gwynn

Dear Friends in New England Yearly Meeting,

Greetings from Pendle Hill. A quick note to let you know of the weekend workshops and short courses coming up this spring – a beautiful time to visit Pendle Hill. Thanks to generous support from the Bible Association of Friends in America (BAFA), we are able to offer a number of programs at greatly reduced fees. Attached is a flyer with hyperlinks to our website for all of the BAFA-supported programs this spring and summer.

March 9-11 Join Quaker scholars Doug Gwyn and Brian Drayton in *From Mourning to Renewed Witness* for a weekend of exploring how we, as Quakers, transcend our grief over the injustices in the world to renewed witness service of the Spirit that calls us to mend the broken world.

March 11-15 Quaker scholar and author Doug Gwyn reprises his popular Pendle Hill course, *The Prophetic Faith from Moses to Martin* with John Meyer offering a look at Martin Luther King, Jr. in the prophetic tradition. When they saw their society becoming more militarized, exploitative, unequal, and immoral, the prophets of ancient Israel called leaders and people back to the equity and equilibrium of covenant relationship with God. Seeking to understand the spiritual formation that undergirds the radical social witness of prophets, ancient and modern, may help us find our own prophetic voices in our militarized, exploitative, unequal, and immoral society. Lowered fees thanks to support from BAFA.

March 17-19 In *Compassionate Communication*, based on the work of Marshall Rosenberg on Nonviolent Communication, learn and practice the basic flow of life in expressing and receiving communication with compassion and understanding of ourselves and others. With Stephen Michael Tumolo and Geraldine Scott.

March 26- April 2 *Present in Every Moment* invites you to take time away to experience the Buddha’s gift of mindfulness meditation in a weeklong mostly silent retreat with Mary Grace Orr, Anne Briggs, and Larissa Kitenko.

April 6-8 Quaker psychologist and teacher Daniel Snyder returns to Pendle Hill to lead *Sustainable Spirit-Led Activism*, which will draw on the richness of the Quaker tradition, insights from Depth Psychology, and a spirituality of Nonviolence to explore practices that will sustain us as we engage the powers of oppression, injustice, and violence.

April 8-12 In *Matthew, Mark, Luke and Us: Gospel and Community*, Doug Gwyn and Francisco Burgos team up to illuminate the life and teachings of Jesus as related in the Synoptic Gospels, inviting us to respond to Jesus’s perennial question: “Who do you say that I am?”

April 15-19 Marcelle Martin, author of *Our Life Is Love: The Quaker Spiritual Journey*, offers an opportunity to open more fully to God in *Nurturing Faithfulness*, where participants will learn practices for sensing the movement of the Spirit, clarifying discernment, responding with faith, and encouraging faithful action.

We look forward to welcoming you to Pendle Hill.

In Friendship, John J. Meyer

Communications and Outreach Coordinator,

Pendle Hill (610) 566-4507, ext. 129 [www.pendlehill.org](http://www.pendlehill.org)



# PENDLE HILL

## The Early Quakers of Greater Portland, Maine

*(From the author, Wayne Cobb: Hello Friends. For the past two years I have been researching the early history of Quakers in Portland, and in particular the activities of James Winslow, our first Quaker, and his family. I am grateful for the support of the Meeting and Obadiah Brown's Benevolent Fund in this work, which is ongoing. If you or a family member is acquainted with local Quaker history before 1850, please contact me at wcobb2@gmail.com.)*

### Part 4: Local Quakerism, 1771 to 1850

In 1771 the Court of General Sessions of the Peace, meeting in Falmouth, ordered a survey to “bound out a Highway or Road from Falmouth to Bakerstown [now Poland]...in the most convenient and proper place for the benefit of the King’s subjects according to the rules and directions of the law of this Province....” Because it passed directly past Quaker Benjamin Winslow’s home at Blackstrap, his travels to and from Falmouth Town (now Portland) would no doubt have been enhanced by its improvement.

That road became the present-day Allen Avenue, easterly to Washington Avenue, then to Washington Avenue Extension, Lambert Road and Blackstrap Road and across the Presumpscot River. The section from Allen Avenue to the River was shown surveys of 1752 and 1771 as “Quaker Lane.” Several houses appear as landmarks along the Lane, including those of Quakers Benjamin Winslow, Elijah Pope and John Morrell.

In the 1771 Town survey, a “Winslow's Bridge” is shown at the Presumpscot River crossing, very close to Benjamin’s home. It was probably built by the Winslow family, and would have been used by Quakers from the northern part of Falmouth to attend meetings. Benjamin replaced this bridge with a covered bridge in 1787. The Town paid him 180 pounds for its construction.

Later named Lambert's Bridge after a nearby tavern (see Part 5 of this series), the 1787 bridge had an unusually long lifespan. When it burned down in about 1910, a Portland newspaper made it front-page news, calling it “the oldest bridge probably in the county and the second oldest in the state.” It had withstood the flood of 1896, which had wiped out many on the River, including the one at the Auburn Street crossing. After the fire, the old bridge was replaced with a concrete one.

James Winslow's will was proved in 1773, the year he died. Presumably his remains lie in an unmarked grave in the burying ground at Blackstrap, beneath the acre he had once deeded to the Society of Friends.

Previous to 1774 the Falmouth Quakers had been required to pay taxes for the support of the Congregationalist ministry. But in that year the Town's annual meeting noted the injustice of compelling persons to contribute to the support of a mode of worship that provided them no benefit and of which their consciences did not approve. So in that year it was voted that thirty-six named Quaker families, half of which were Winslow-related, would be exempted from parish taxes.

In 1777 the number of male Quakers in Falmouth over sixteen years of age was sixty-four. Projecting this number to include women and children, it would be reasonable to estimate that the Town included three hundred or more Quakers. It is likely that most of these were still living near the Presumpscot River.

The peninsula portion of the greater Town of Falmouth separated and became Portland in 1786. A Friends Meeting was established there in 1794. Its first meeting house was built near what is now the corner of Pearl and Federal Streets. A bronze plaque in Lincoln Park marks the spot. In the following year, a portion of Eastern Cemetery on Congress Street was set aside for burials of Friends.

With increasing migration from the countryside to the commercial center of Portland, the number of Friends at Falmouth Meeting declined. On March 24, 1842, Falmouth Monthly Meeting records note the “dilapidated [sic] state of the meeting house and sheds.” Also, the burying ground was nearly at full capacity. It was decided to replace the meeting house with one in a “more central place.”

(cont-)

(continued from page 10)

The Quarterly Meeting disagreed, and sent back its recommendation that the Monthly Meeting repair the meeting house and outbuildings “where they stand.” Committees were formed and years of back-and-forth ensued, with contention about whether the Monthly or Quarterly Meeting should pay for the new construction and choose the location. Then in 1845, the Quarterly Meeting conceded to a payment agreement and decided that “the proper place for the Meeting house of Friends is the county road leading from Pride's Bridge (so called) to Portland” Construction was completed, and the first Quarterly meeting at the new meeting house was held June 4, 1846. This spot, which was granted by Caleb Jones from his large holdings along today's Riverside Street, is the site of today's Meeting House.

The one-acre Blackstrap lot, donated nearly a hundred years earlier by James Winslow, was sold in 1849 for \$2,300 and became “a place for the manufacture of gravestones and monuments.” Beams transported from the dismantled meeting house formed the structure of today's place of worship. Some of those ancient beams, overloaded for decades by attic storage, sagged and caused a ceiling collapse in the 1990s, necessitating replacement with a modern truss-roof system.

*(Next: A legendary tavern, right near the meeting house!)*

**Book Talk: *Our Beloved Kin: A New History of King Philip's War* by Lisa Brooks**

Thursday, March 22, 6:00 – 7:30 pm, Maine Historical Society, 489 Congress St., Portland

In *Our Beloved Kin*, Lisa Brooks recovers a complex picture of war, captivity, and Native resistance during the “First Indian War” (later named King Philip's War). Brooks's pathbreaking scholarship is grounded not just in extensive archival research but also in the land and communities of Native New England, reading the actions of actors during the seventeenth century alongside an analysis of the landscape and interpretations informed by tribal history.

Lisa Brooks is Associate Professor of English and American Studies at Amherst. Her first book, *The Common Pot: The Recovery of Native Space in the Northeast* (University of Minnesota Press, 2008), received the Media Ecology Association's Dorothy Lee Award for Outstanding Scholarship in the Ecology of Culture in 2011.

This event is FREE [https://www.mainehistory.org/programs\\_events.shtml#event\\_765](https://www.mainehistory.org/programs_events.shtml#event_765)

**Newsletter submission notes:**

When submitting photos (please do!) please also include text to go with (explain) the images.

Consider sharing a member/attender profile of yourself!

Plain text (no formatting) is ideal, but not required.

Email submissions: [pfmnewsletter@grantwinners.net](mailto:pfmnewsletter@grantwinners.net)

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**Contact**

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<https://goo.gl/forms/WkHdKdVKYczaoqi1>

**Refer a teen**  
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**Program cost** \$950

## The Power of Enough — March 23-25, 2018

Powell House, 524 Pitt Hall Rd  
Old Chatham, NY 12136

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:8

Are you seeking to simplify your life and take personal steps to create right order in our world? Together, we will consider some of the following questions and reflect on the implications of our personal choices and their ripple effects.

Do you:

*have faith that God has given us an abundance of all we need (time, energy, skills) to do the work we are called to do?*

*struggle to keep balanced and centered because you take on more than you are called to do?*

*faithfully make space for God to act in the work you've been given?*

*have too many things cluttering your life?*

Using queries, we will reflect and listen in small and large groups to how we approach these aspects of our lives. There will be very little lecture. We will experience new perspectives through storytelling, games and singing. We'll seek to experience God's abundant love in worship and workshop-sharing.

Participants are asked to bring a journal and writing instrument and maybe a song to share. We will leave with a deeper sense of self, connection and how our personal choices ripple forward to everyone.

Jacqueline Stillwell is a lifelong Friend and a graduate of Friends World College. She served as Head of The Meeting School (an experiment in education and simple living in Quaker community), and recently clerked New England Yearly Meeting. Jackie currently serves as General Secretary of Right Sharing of World Resources. Living with integrity and empowering others through affirmation and education are constants in Jackie's life. She has traveled widely among Friends with FWCC, FGC, and FUM, serving as an elder and workshop facilitator (Friends decision-making, clerking, Friends organizational governance) at monthly, quarterly, yearly meetings and Friends schools. She strives to understand how our social, cultural and class experiences influence our perspectives on need and want.

## A.C.T to End Racism: Awaken, Confront, Transform

*"It's time to finish the work."*

April 4th, 2018, marks 50 years since the assassination of Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, of which Friends United Meeting is a part, is gathering with other faith partners to launch the Truth and Racial Justice Initiative in Washington, D.C. Here's Christie Duncan-Tessmer, General Secretary of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, on how this initiative began:

"About a year ago the World Council of Churches sent a delegation to the U.S. to look into what they'd heard about racism in this country. They were appalled. They told the U.S. National Council of Churches that they must do something about this. The governing board came under the weight of that charge. As a result, we are launching a clarion call to the people of this country, and most especially to the people of faith of this country, to end racism now."

Christie Duncan-Tessmer, General Secretary, Philadelphia Yearly

### Schedule of Events:

Tuesday, April 3: Ecumenical Worship Service in the Orthodox Tradition

6:30 p.m.: St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 2815 36th St., NW, Washington, D.C., 20007

Wednesday, April 4: ACT to End Racism Rally on the National Mall

7-8 a.m.: Silent Prayer Walk to the National Mall

8-9 a.m.: Interfaith Service

9 a.m.-4 p.m.: Rally and Call to Commitment

Thursday, April 5: National Day of Advocacy & Action

More information about the event can be found at their website: [rally2endracism.org](http://rally2endracism.org). To support participation from Friends across the US, Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends are offering housing and facilitating local transportation for Friends attending the rally. If you're traveling to the D.C. area, check out [causes.annapolisfriends.org](http://causes.annapolisfriends.org) for hospitality options.



A Benefit for Friends School of Portland

# Auction & Iron Chef Tasting

- ✦ LIVE Auction
- ✦ Iron Chef Tasting and Awards
- ✦ B.Y.O. Entry: Ingredient Reveal April 5th
- ✦ Live Music
- ✦ Family and Kids' Activities



**Saturday, April 7th, 10am - 1pm**

**Plus, bid online March 30 - April 5**

The Auction is Friend School of Portland's most important fundraising event. Proceeds go directly to FSP's Annual Fund, which supports the most essential aspects of FSP - supplements the tuition assistance program and supports our amazing teachers' salaries and classroom activities. Last year, we had a successful auction because of all the generous donations of items and services. We hope that you will consider making a donation towards to auction this year!

We are beginning to collect auction items for this year's event! The deadline for donation items is Friday March 16th! Get the creative juices flowing! Think of a way you love to spend your time, build community and

being kind to others - is it sitting around a campfire? Donate a professionally built stone fire pit. Is it taking time to relax with family? Donate a week stay at a cabin. Is it enjoying delicious homemade food? Donate a homemade pie or cake! Is it spending time in nature learning new things? Donate a plant ID or mushroom walk. Is it making art? Donate a photograph, watercolor, piece of art made by you.

Feel free to fill out our online donation form here: <https://goo.gl/forms/eMw0ScqjJ1Fdp92> Or, print off your own donation form from page 13 of this newsletter.

The online auction will be "open" for 6 days, and will be full of wonderful, creative items to bid on. You will be able to invite family and friends near and far to bid by sending out links via email or social media. Our Live Auction and Iron Chef Competition will be held on Saturday April 7th from 10am-1pm.

The 1st FSP Iron Chef Competition: On Thursday April 5th, we will release a list of ingredients! Dishes can be created using any or all of the ingredients (but are limited to ingredients on the list). Dishes will be judged on creativity, presentation, taste, and many more! Teams make their delicious dish and bring to the event on Saturday April 7th. Entries can be made by individuals, teams of students, parents, and friends.

If delivering in person, please bring donations to the main office, or direct any questions to the Development Coordinator, Brooke Burkett at [brooke@friendsschoolportland.org](mailto:brooke@friendsschoolportland.org) or 207-558-6214.

**Donation Suggestions** The donation deadline is Friday, March 16th. Get creative and *have fun!*

Below you will find a list of suggestions for donations – please don't be limited by these, as they are only meant to get your ideas flowing. We hope that you will view this as a challenge that you can tailor to your individual abilities and schedule.

Our theme for our Auction Items this is year to be our values in the world.

Living Simply, Acting with the Intention of Peace, Understanding & Integrity, Supporting and being active in our Community, Striving for Equality, Being Good Stewards of our Environment.

Art – paintings, sculpture, photography  
Barbeque picnic for twenty in your backyard  
Camera equipment  
Restaurant or Brewery gift certificates  
Canned peaches  
Antique furniture  
Bus/train tickets  
Cat vaccinations  
Your CD  
Custom Woodworking  
Handmade clothes  
Dinner in Boston

Spinning wheel  
Home repair service  
A pie a month for a year  
Spring/Summer garden prep  
Getaway at your lake house  
Mushroom/ Wild Edible ID Walk  
Fifty pounds of cow manure  
Four hours of tree or rose pruning  
Fresh eggs from your chickens  
Frozen lasagna or homemade meal  
One cord of firewood  
Guest spot with your band

Acupuncture Session  
Letter press artwork  
Museum Pass  
Memberships to anything  
Use of your truck  
Architectural services  
A CSA Share  
Museum passes  
Pet sitting  
Guided hike, bike tour, kayak trip  
Something out of the ordinary only you can give



# Auction Donation Form

Our 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Silent Auction will be hosted online at [www.biddingforgood.com](http://www.biddingforgood.com) from

**9AM Friday, March 30th – 9PM Thursday, April 5th.**  
**Live Auction & Celebration on April 7<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 1pm at FSP!**

Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Value of Item: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ [Minimum Bid\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_]

\* A minimum bid does not need to be designated.

Please describe the donation and explain restrictions, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If form is not accompanied by the item, is it to be (circle one)

Picked-up or Delivered

**(Pick up/delivery should occur on or before Friday, March 16th, 2018)**

Donation Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor You Would Like Listed: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*Friends School of Portland is a tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) charitable organization (EIN 20-3299655). FSP did not provide any goods or services in consideration, in whole or in part for your contribution. Your gift is deductible to the extent allowable by law. A letter of acknowledgement will be sent to you and will serve as your receipt.*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION!**

Auction Committee Use:

Entered: \_\_\_\_\_ Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Category: \_\_\_\_\_

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Portland Friends Meeting  
1837 Forest Ave  
Portland, ME 04103

Address Service Requested

**Next newsletter deadline:**  
Tuesday, April 10, 11:59pm

submissions: [pfmnewsletter@grantwinners.net](mailto:pfmnewsletter@grantwinners.net)

