

Portland Friends Meeting Newsletter

Eighth Month, 2016

Meeting for Worship: Sundays, 5pm (summer schedule)
Sundays 10:30a (beginning 9/11/16)

Adult Education, First Day School: 2nd & 4th Sundays (resuming 9/25)

Connections

Co-Clerks

Lea Sutton 642-2327
Liz Maier 781-3009

Treasurer, Contributions

Sue Nelson 391-6116
60 Shadagee Road, #2
Saco, ME 04072

Treasurer, Operating Account

Kathy Beach 741-2940
14 Drew Road
South Portland 04106

Treasurer, Special Funds

Sara Jane Elliot 749-9706

Special Needs Funds

Chris Beach 741-2940
Elizabeth Szatkowski 772-1774

Ministry and Counsel

Kirk Read
207 782 3524
kirkdread@gmail.com

Pastoral Care Coordinators

Christina Davis 518-0784

Religious Education

Adults: Arthur Fink
arthur@arthurfink.com
207 615 5722
Youth: Sarah Peterson, 504-0974
Youth Religious Education Coordinator:
Anne Payson 781-2501

Use of the Meetinghouse

Dorothy Grannell 878-8698
dorothygrannell@maine.rr.com

e-group Coordinator

Mary Beth Walsh 797-8414
mbwalsh@mainelyaccess.com

Newsletter

submissions
Heather Denkmire
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1837 Forest Ave Portland, ME 04103
portlandfriendsmeeting.org
207-200-6544

"Do you maintain an appropriate balance among work, service, worship, family and recreation? Are you ready to rest if God asks it of you?"

Query #15, Interim Faith and Practice of NEYM of Friends General Advices and Queries

Calendar

Sept 11: 10:30a return to regular Meeting for Worship schedule

Sept 25: 10:45a First Day School resumes, all youth gathering

Monthly

Every Sunday: 9a Meeting for Worship (summers only)
5p Meeting for Worship (summer schedule)
6p potluck dinner

1st Thursday: 4-7p Preble Street Soup Kitchen
Aaiyn Foster 766-9762

2nd Saturday: 5-8p Youngish adults potluck
Bart Czyz, btczyz@gmail.com, 207 899 5937

Grand Start of First Day School!

Sunday, Sept. 25 10:45-11:45 AM

A Fun-Filled Gathering
for all First Day School Youth!

We always play
"Big Wind Blows!"
Food, singing!



Outdoors if the weather is good, otherwise downstairs

Questions? Anne Payson

annepayson10@gmail.com 781-2501

Portland Friends Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business

July 31, 2016

1. We began in silent worship with 14 members and attenders present, during which co-clerk Lea Sutton read Query #15 from Interim Faith and Practice of NEYM of Friends General Advices and Queries: *Do you maintain an appropriate balance among work, service, worship, family and recreation? Are you ready to rest if God asks it of you?*

2. The **Minutes** of June Business Meeting were accepted.

3. Financial Report

Treasurer Kathy Beach gave the financial report. The Treasurer's Report includes numbers for both June and July because our summer meeting is on the last day of this month.

Both adults and children will be able to attend NEYM sessions and summer camps due to our support of camperships and scholarships for adults needing assistance.

In June our Meeting contributions went to the City of Portland and the Maine Council of Churches. In July we contributed to the Quaker Ridge Building Fund and Preble Street Soup Kitchen. Friends donated generously to Grace Uwimana for her educational needs.

Our balance for the month of June was (-\$1254). The balance for July was \$566. This gives us a balance for the year of (-\$6167). Thanks were expressed to all who contributed.

Quick Summary of Income and Expenses 7 months — 58% of 2016

Year-to-date Income	\$27,917
Percent of Budget	42%
Year-to-date Expenses	\$34,084
Percent of Budget	51%
Balance	(\$6,167)

4. Ministry and Counsel Report

* Wedding of Colin and Rania Campbell-Bussiere.

Lise Wagner read the following minute: "On Twenty-fourth Day, Seventh Month, 2016, a called meeting for worship for marriage was held at Broadturn Farm in Scarborough, Maine, under the care of Portland Friends Meeting (Portland, Maine). Rania Campbell-Cobb and Colin Bussiere-Nichols exchanged vows to be loving and faithful before a large gathering of family and friends, including over 20 members and attenders of Portland Friends Meeting as well as friends from Guilford College and West Philadelphia Worship Group.

Sweet and loving vocal ministry, often tinged with tears of joy, broke the blessed silence. Friends spoke of Colin and Rania's very long relationship, with agreement that it was "about time!" The couple's faith, deep love for each other and their community, and commitment to social justice through teaching and farming, were described by those who love them. The outdoor setting on the farm where Rania once worked, with butterflies overhead adding to the color of the gathering, was the perfect spot for the couple deeply rooted in nature and joined in love.

After the period of worship concluded, the Oversight Committee and parents signed the certificate, followed by each guest. And the mystery of the many hyphens was solved with the reading of the certificate: the couple will now be known as Rania and Colin Campbell-Bussiere. "

The meeting then realized that several marriages had gone unminuted, and Lea Sutton offered to research, along with Lise Wagner, how minutes could be incorporated into our historical records in retrospect.

* World Quaker Day is October 2nd. Dorothy Grannell reminded us that this is only the third annual World Quaker Day. This year's theme is "Inspired by Faith – witnessing together in the world." They are asking every yearly meeting to consider a minute of sustainability, many of whose themes are things that many meetings have already done. However, arriving at a unified agreement among yearly meetings is new. The videos and presentations show how yearly meetings with differing theological views have nonetheless arrived at agreement about how to approach the problem of sustainability. It was agreed that we would show these at the rise of meeting for worship after the October business meeting.

5. Morning Worship Group report

Meetings have been attended by between 2 and 5 people, but the atmosphere has been cozy and peaceful.

6. Youth Religious Education report

There is still no new nursery co-ordinator. First Day School start date remains to be determined.

(cont-)

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6. Announcements

There was a discussion concerning the future plans of Grace Uwimana. She has been an attender since August last year, having gone to the George Fox High School in Rwanda. She has expressed her gratitude for all the help given her by meeting members. She hopes to stay here in Portland and attend nursing school. The meeting will hold her in the light.

Lise Wagner recommended that people with furniture to donate should contact Furniture Friends, who can be found online. They will collect it from you. This announcement will also be put separately in the newsletter.

There was a memorial service on Saturday July 30 for Chuck Norris, who died in Portland, Oregon. He was a long-time attender of Portland, Maine, Friends Meeting in the 1980s until 2003, and his ashes were interred in the cemetery here.

10:30 worship will resume on September 11. That will also be the date for the September meeting for business.

The meeting concluded at 7:50pm in silent gratitude.

Respectfully submitted

Jenny Doughty, co-recording-clerk.

Happy news! Jane and Bill's wedding on

August 20th is at capacity! While they are very grateful for all the people who have said they are coming, the numbers are already more than sufficient to fill our small meeting room. Rather than contribute to an awkward overflow, we are asked to refrain from attending if we haven't already given our name to Jane and Bill. It would be wonderful if those of us not in attendance would hold them in the Light, and if desired, attend the September Meeting for Business for a full report of the event.

Furniture Friends is a nonprofit organization that collaborates with faith-based organizations, social service agencies, the City of Portland and volunteers to deliver good used furniture to people in need. Lise Wagner reports they have a very accessible website to request a pick up or plan a drop off: www.furniturefriendsportland.org.

News from Arla Patch

Arla created a video appeal to President Obama for creating a nationally televised speech with our true history with native peoples and then, in that context, apologizing. Her video can be viewed here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbA5vij2NzQ>

Arla is also the speaker for the Bucks Quarterly Meeting coming up on August 21st hosted by Doylestown Friends Meeting, in Doylestown, PA. The name of the talk: "Casting Light on a Painful History: Truth, Healing and Change."

Part-Time Aftercare Teacher Early Childhood

Friends School of Portland is seeking a patient, caring individual to serve as the Early Childhood Lead in our Aftercare Program. This person must have ample experience working with children ages 3-6 years old. Experience could include camp counseling, babysitting, coaching, volunteer work, etc. Majors in Education are preferred, but not required. Ideally the applicant aligns with the Quaker values of simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality, and stewardship, as these are the cornerstones of our school and the Aftercare Program.

As the EC Lead you will be responsible for helping with snack set-up and delivery, as well as general support and supervision of children during free play time. The EC Lead will be supported by a very seasoned assistant, FSP's physical education teacher. Responsibilities will also include attending a weekly meeting with other Aftercare faculty members. Friends School of Portland works on an academic calendar beginning with faculty days on August 29 (including a mandatory Aftercare Faculty meeting); the year ends on June 9.

This is a part-time position, Monday-Thursday 3:00-5:30pm and Friday 1:45-5:30pm at the rate of \$13.50 per hour. There are no benefits with this position. We are seeking applicants who can make a commitment for the entire school year.

Please send your resume, contacts for three references, and any questions to Chelsea Joan Beliveau, FSP Aftercare Coordinator, at chelsea@friendsschoolofportland.org.

We look forward to hearing from you!

<http://friendsschoolofportland.org/job-postings/part-time-aftercare-teacher-early-childhood>



Save the Date!
**The 31st Annual
New England Gathering of War Tax Resisters
Friday, October 14- Sunday October 16th**

At Agape Community <http://agapecommunity.org/>
2062 Greenwich Rd, Hardwick, MA 01082



The annual gathering has traditionally brought together War Tax resisters and potential War Tax resisters from most of the NE states to provide support for one another and encourage non-resisters to learn more about WTR.

As our country struggles with the consequences of militarism here and elsewhere, including killing of Black residents, militarized police, terrorism and war, we need to expand our conversations to include others involved in challenging all aspects of this structure.

A special feature of this year's gathering will be a Saturday gathering of activists involved in a various forms of resistance to hear **Mandy Carter** and participate in a round table discussion about the challenges we all face, the strategies for change, and to deepen the intersectionality of our struggles. Our hope is that this dialogue could spark a joint effort for a larger, broader conference on WTR and Resistance in 2017 in conjunction with the Resistance Studies Initiative at UMass, Amherst.

We will car pool to a place in Amherst for the Saturday activities with other activists

Mandy Carter is a southern African-American lesbian social justice activist with a 47-year movement history of social, racial and LGBT justice organizing. Mandy has been on the staff of two War Resisters League regional offices and the national coordinator of the Bayard Rustin 2013 Commemoration Project of the National Black Justice Coalition. She lives in Durham, North Carolina, where she co-founded Southerners On New Ground (SONG), building transformative models of organizing in the South that connect race, class, culture, gender, ability, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

For more information, please contact:

- Mary Regan 617 838-7615 or maryregan@hotmail.com
- To register: Emilie Hamilton 413 362 5885 or emilie.hamilton@aol.com
- About Saturday's activities: Joanne Sheehan Joanne@warresisters.org



**NEW ENGLAND
YEARLY MEETING
OF FRIENDS
QUAKERS**

To help meetings who are seeking ways to practice their faith more deeply through engaging with racism and white privilege, the Committee on Racial, Social and Economic Justice of NEYM is curating a collection of resources that are available here: <http://neym.org/rsej>

New Newsletter Deadline

The newsletter deadline will be at 9pm on each Tuesday following Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business. In September, it will be on Tuesday, September 13th. Email submissions to pfmnewsletter@grantwinners.net



Come join us !

On September 25, 2016, a coalition of organizations will join together for the Concert Across America to End Gun Violence. September 25th is the Congressionally designated day of Remembrance of Murder Victims. Now is certainly the time to say no to more gun deaths and yes to the joy of living

The day's events will be anchored by a concert in Brooklyn NY, with grassroots events in communities across the nation. To date, there are over 30 community concerts planned that are as diverse as their communities. Performances range from a brass band in New Orleans to an a cappella group in Santa Barbara and reflect the diversity of individuals plagued by the national gun violence epidemic. Events will be connected through social media. For more information, see www.remembersept25.org.

The **Sept. 25 Concert in Portland** will be from 12 - 3 pm at **Congress Square Park**, sponsored by the local social justice singing group, **Phoenix Chorale**. Performers will include **Pihcintu, Lyle Divinsky, Ronda Dale**. It's a particularly exciting chance for **support the background check referendum on Maine's November ballot** while hearing some great music on a Sunday afternoon.

As the lead sponsors, Phoenix Chorale is hard at work preparing for their opening set, a combination of songs to honor the dead and others to energize the living. We practice on Thursday nights from 7 - 9 pm at the Woods at Canco, and we welcome other voices to add to this important event.

So - come join us ! Just call Music Director Deirdre McClure at 450-7850 or email her at dmccclure@maine.rr.com.

Hope to see you there.

Free Online Course — Radical Spirituality: the Early History of the Quakers

Learn about the beginnings of this radical religious group as it emerged in 17th century England, with this free online course: <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/quakers/1>

When you think of the Quakers, it might bring to mind porridge oats, or pacifism, or perhaps prison reform. But there is much much more to the Quakers than any of these things.

Through this course, we will be finding out about what lies at the heart of Quaker beginnings, who its main characters were, and how in a few weeks during the summer of 1652 the Quaker movement was formed in the north of England.



Explore exactly where the Quakers started — Almost from nothing, the Quakers were to become the most successful sect of the 1650s and 1% of the population of England were to become Quakers. It was a radical spirituality which appealed to thousands of people, hungry for new ways of thinking.

In this three week course, we will see how the events of 1652 unfolded and visit the key sites of Pendle Hill, Firbank Fell, and Swarthmoor Hall in the northwest of England. Each of these places marks a critical piece of the dramatic story of May and June 1652.

Annual Sessions

Aug 6 to Aug 11 • Castleton, VT

Permanent Board Meeting

Aug 11 • Castleton, VT

2016 Gathering, Fellowship of Friends of African Descent

Aug 12 to Aug 14 • Philadelphia, PA

Annual Women's Weekend

Aug 19 to Aug 21 • Old Chatham, NY

Friends Gathering with a Concern for Gospel Ministry

Aug 28 • Hanover, NH

Junior Yearly Meeting Retreat

Sep 16 to Sep 18 • Deerfield, MA

Young Friends Ministry & Counsel Training & Retreat

Sep 16 to Sep 18 • Framingham, MA

Junior High YM Retreat

Sep 30 to Oct 2 • Framingham, MA

Young Friends Retreat

Sep 30 to Oct 2 • Leverett, MA

Portland Friends Meeting
1837 Forest Ave
Portland, ME 04103

Address Service Requested

Next newsletter deadline:
Tuesday, September 13th, 9pm
new monthly deadline!

submissions: pfmnewsletter@grantwinners.net

