

# Ann Arbor Friends Meeting Newsletter

May 2021

1420 Hill St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104 | 734-761-7435 | [www.annarborfriends.org](http://www.annarborfriends.org)

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Clerk: Kevin Miller 734-926-8426 Communications: Rabindar Subbian 314-322-6184

Meeting Worker: Pat Micks 734-761-7435 Treasurer: Karla Taylor 734-668-6877

The *Ann Arbor Friends Meeting Newsletter* is published monthly on the first Sunday of the month by the Ann Arbor Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

## CALENDAR

[\* = See "Weekly Handout" link on AAFM website for further details]

All meetings online via Zoom, unless otherwise noted. Zoom connection information available on AAFM website.

MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP FEATURE **FELLOWSHIP** AT RISE OF MEETING.

### Sunday, May 2 [1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY]

9:00 Meeting for Worship  
10:05 Earthcare  
Property  
10:30 Family Check-In  
11:00 Meeting for Worship  
First Day School. Online \*  
12:45 Worship Sharing: Ministry & Counsel  
2:00 Care and Visitation

### Tuesday, May 4

7:30 (pm) Quaker House Committee

### Saturday, May 8

9:00 Membership & Outreach

### Sunday, May 9 [2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY]

9:00 Meeting for Worship  
10:00 Finance  
10:30 Family Check-In  
11:00 Meeting for Worship  
First Day School. Online \*  
12:30 Committee for Children & Families  
12:45 Reading & Discussion \*

### Monday, May 10

7:00 (pm) Ministry & Counsel

### Sunday, May 16 [3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY]

7:45 Meeting for Worship  
9:00 Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business  
(no Fellowship after business meeting)  
10:30 Family Check-In  
11:00 Meeting for Worship  
First Day School. Online \*  
7:00 Seekers' Session \*

### Sunday, May 23 [4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY]

9:00 Meeting for Worship  
Fellowship at rise of meeting.  
10:30 Family Check-In  
11:00 Meeting for Worship  
First Day School. Online \*  
12:45 Reading & Discussion \*  
4:00 Meeting for Canoeing \*

### Sunday, May 30 [5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY]

9:30 Family Check-In  
10:00 Meeting for Worship (combined)  
First Day School. Online \*

## ADDITIONAL EVENTS & WORSHIP

### Tuesdays

10:00 Meeting for Worship  
6:00 Justice Action Group (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays)



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**DONATIONS** (Tax Deductible): Friends can donate to the Meeting at [www.annarborfriends.org/Donate.shtml](http://www.annarborfriends.org/Donate.shtml) via PayPal (which takes 1.9% plus 30c per transaction). You can also contribute by mailing a check: c/o Treasurer, Ann Arbor Friends Meeting, 1420 Hill St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

To subscribe to this newsletter or to send announcements, contact Rabindar Subbian, at [comm-cood@annarborfriends.org](mailto:comm-cood@annarborfriends.org).

[Deadline for announcements: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month by 12 noon ET.]

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SAVE THE DATES:** Committee for Children and Families (CCF) calls four **Meetings for Canoeing** this summer at Argo Livery, on the fourth Sunday in May (5/23), June (6/27), July (7/25), and August (8/22) at 4:00 pm.

**Young Adult Friends** and others will restart gathering in-person in May outside of the **Injustice Center** (301 E Huron Street) in downtown Ann Arbor for worship and connect to our Meeting's 11:00 am Sunday Zoom meeting for worship. Anyone is welcome to join and you can contact Elliott at [esbrannon@gmail.com](mailto:esbrannon@gmail.com) or 773-580-4833 if you'd like more information.

**Ministry and Counsel (M&C) Worship Sharing** will be held on Sunday, May 2, 12:45 pm (same Zoom as meeting for worship). Query considered will be "what can we learn about ourselves and others through hearing the stories of those who have been neglected, marginalized or hurt". It further examines issues and leadings that may arise from the April business meeting's consideration of a clearness committee with Palline Plum on her experiences with our Meeting in the past.

**Membership and Outreach** welcomes Friends to join us for our committee meetings (second Saturdays at 9:00 am), to let us know your ideas or just to listen. Next meeting is on May 8. Qs.? Contact co-conveners, Cassie Cammann ([cassie.cammann@gmail.com](mailto:cassie.cammann@gmail.com)) and Naomi Gilbert ([naomig@umich.edu](mailto:naomig@umich.edu)).

**Reading & Discussion** features the following discussions on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 12:45 pm.

- **May 9:** Britain Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice: "Conflict Resolution Skills": 20.71

Please see this month's "Reading and Discussion" page (<http://annarborfriends.org/wp/rd-2021-04/>) for reading text, Zoom connection info, and other details.

**Membership and Outreach (M&O)** invites Friends for a **Seekers Session** on Sunday, May 16, 7:00 pm. Zoom Link: <https://tinyurl.com/AAFM-MfW-Zoom>, Meeting ID: 227 076 571. This is the same link used for Sunday meetings for worship.

**State College Friends Meeting** series on Adult Religious Education with Friend **Windy Cooler** from Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting, and a recent graduate of Earlham, who presents **The Parable of the Good Samaritan: Developing a Common Language for Pastoral Care**. The workshop "explores pastoral care in the context of traumatic experience ... through the art of Edward Hicks' Peaceable Kingdom as well as the Gospel parable of the Good Samaritan". The workshop seeks to help Friends increase their "emotional literacy and develop a common vocabulary" to "engage with difficult pastoral care needs in our community of Friends". As our meeting "works to respond to the concerns raised by Palline Plum's letter to the Meeting and clearness and ongoing concerns about how we uphold and practice racism and white supremacy, Windy's ministry may help us think about how and why we may fail to respond to

painful situations adequately--especially as she says, "in response to cultural violence, victimization, or abusive relationships." Recording of Cooler's workshop is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/Windy-Cooler-part2> (passcode 2W\$Lf0a0).

**Membership and Outreach (M&O):** Meeting now has a supply of yard signs in support of the Black Lives Matter movement. Signs are near the back entrance of Quaker House. If you cannot pick one up for yourself, please contact Naomi Gilbert ([naomig@umich.edu](mailto:naomig@umich.edu)) for assistance with delivery to your yard. Donations appreciated but not required (\$10/sign or more as you are led). Checks can be sent to Ann Arbor Friends Meeting, 1420 Hill St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 with memo line "BLM yardsign" or made through the Meeting website <http://annarborfriends.org/wp/donate>.

## CHILDREN & FAMILIES

**Family Check-In:** half hour prior to Sunday 11:00 am (10:00 am on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays) meeting for worship. Families with children are invited to share a little about how they are doing, and, if they wish, to share a story or song or activity or recipe they've been enjoying. **First Day School:** features online **Storytelling** and discussion with Ben Kuipers, Sundays at 11:00 am (10:00 am on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays). Contact Margot Finn [smargot@gmail.com](mailto:smargot@gmail.com) for Zoom information.

Two resources that may be of interest to parents and other caregivers are the newly relaunched **Quaker Religious Education Collaborative** website, including a wonderful resource library always accepting new submissions: <https://quakerrecollaborative.org>, and **Quaker Parenting Initiative**, a site for conversations and resources related to nurturing children and spiritual growth: <https://quakerparenting.org>.

**Young Adult Friends (YAF):** Want to join? Have a question? E-mail us at [aa-yaf@googlegroups.com](mailto:aa-yaf@googlegroups.com) to be notified of our events.

Friends are encouraged to participate in **Membership & Outreach's "smallworld"** project, designed to widen our connections. Friends are paired for casual conversation (at time and place of their choosing) every three weeks with a 'partner'. For more information visit: [smallworldapp.org/aafm](http://smallworldapp.org/aafm).

**Communications & Website:** Friends can opt out of having their name, or contact information, or image being published in the Meeting's external communications (handout, newsletter, website etc.). To opt out, please send email to [comm-cood@annarborfriends.org](mailto:comm-cood@annarborfriends.org) with the communications (weekly handout, monthly newsletter, website etc.) and the selective information (name, phone, email, photo etc.) you want to opt out.

## AMONG FRIENDS

**Phil Volk** and **Bill Riccobono** will be facilitating a 'Bible Hour', **Thursdays**, 9:30 am for "an open discussion on various Bible verses" to "discuss [the Bible] with other

Quakers". (Zoom: [us02web.zoom.us/j/87284937438](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87284937438) | Meeting ID 872 8493 7438).

#### DEATHS

**Patricia (Pat) Campbell**, who was at one time active in Detroit Meeting, Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting, and Lake Erie Yearly Meeting, died suddenly from a brain aneurysm at the age of 72. She served as presiding clerk of LEYM in 1992-93. At one time a forensic psychiatrist in Ann Arbor and, later, Morgantown, NC, she recently was an active volunteer with North Carolina's Nature Conservatory. Her spouse of 32 years, NancyLynn Sharpless, resides at 105 Elk Mountain Rd., Asheville, NC 28804.

**Joanne M. Bell-Trees** of Ann Arbor died peacefully at Arbor Hospice on March 22, 2021. For a number of years, Joanne attended the potlucks before our Meeting's Quaker House Committee meetings with her partner, Bob Trees, who was on the committee. Condolences can be sent to Muehlig Funeral Chapel. Also, donations may be made in Joanne's honor to the American Cancer Society and Southern Poverty Law Center.

Friends Peace Teams community is deeply saddened by the news of the death of **Gladys Kamonya** and her husband, **David Zarembka**, both from COVID. David was the founder of the African Great Lakes Initiative. David's obituary, tributes, remembrances, photos, and details for several memorial services are posted at <https://mykeeper.com/profile/DavidZarembka>. Virtual memorial meeting will be on Saturday, May 8, 10:00 am (ET). RSVP and details are at: <https://mykeeper.com/event/gladys-kamonya-and-david-zarembka-memorial-minute>.

An in-person memorial meeting by the Lumakanda Friends Church of Lugari Yearly Meeting, Kenya, is planned for April 2022, on the anniversary of David's and Gladys' passing.

#### LARGER CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

##### FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE (FGC)

**FGC Gathering 2021** will be held virtually from Sunday – Saturday, June 27 – July 3. Standard registration starts Thursday, May 6. Workshops available on a first-come, first-served basis. *The Gathering 2021* schedule is at: <https://fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering/2021-schedule-glance>. To register and for more information please see: <https://fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering>.

##### GREEN PASTURES QUARTERLY MEETING (GPQM)

**Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting** Spring business meeting will be held Saturday, May 15, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm, via Zoom (<https://umich.zoom.us/j/91769618384> | Meeting ID: 917 6961 8384). In addition to business items, Friends will hear updates from the Michigan Friends Center and the Michigan Quakers for Environmental Action. To add an item to the agenda, please contact Co-Clerks, Deb Wickering ([wickedeb@aquinas.edu](mailto:wickedeb@aquinas.edu)) or Elliott Brannon ([esbrannon@gmail.com](mailto:esbrannon@gmail.com)). GPQM monthly newsletter is

at: <https://leym.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/GPQM-newsletter-2021-04-20.pdf>.

#### COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

##### ANN ARBOR DISTRICT LIBRARY (AADL)

**Ann Arbor District Library** offers contactless lobby or locker pickup for library materials, including books, DVDs, magazines, and more. AADL has expanded their online and remote services to offer print-job pickup ([aadl.org/printing](http://aadl.org/printing)), a no-computer help line, shelf service ([aadl.org/shelfservice](http://aadl.org/shelfservice)), new database subscriptions ([aadl.org/services](http://aadl.org/services)), and more. For more information about AADL services contact **Hanna DeMarcus** (she/her/hers), Library Technician - Outreach and Neighborhood Services at [demarcush@aadl.org](mailto:demarcush@aadl.org).

**AADL** also offers a **Homebound Service** and **Washtenaw Library for the Blind and Print Disabled (WLBPD)**. For those eligible, the Homebound Service provides for no charge home delivery of library materials via mail. WLBPD makes available, free of charge, audio and large print books (4000+ titles), talking book players, DVDs with descriptive narration, Ebooks/E-audio/E-video, books in Braille, and the BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) service with access to thousands of books and dozens of magazines. Those interested can call the Outreach team at 734-327-4224, or [outreach@aadl.org](mailto:outreach@aadl.org) for more information.

**Heat Pump Workshop:** The City of Ann Arbor's **Office of Sustainability and Innovations** is hosting a workshop for residents to learn more about heating and cooling their homes with heat pumps (air and ground source) as an alternative to gas-burning furnaces and less efficient AC units. Come learn about this greener and more efficient option. Wednesday, May 12, 7:00 pm. <https://a2gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYscu6hqTgtGNTmiqQvhCNNOsRA8z1f1N89>

##### INTERFAITH COUNCIL FOR PEACE & JUSTICE (ICPJ)

**Human Rights Iftaar**, Tuesday, May 4, 6:00 pm (online) will be held by **Amnesty International USA**. Mohamedou Ould Salahi, a former Guantanamo detainee who was held for 14 years without any charges, will share his experience of fasting in detention as well as the steps we can take to ensure the 40 Muslim men who are currently detained are released and receive justice. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/AIUSA-Iftar-2021-0504>.

**ICPJ** joins **Bend the Arc: Jewish Action of Greater Ann Arbor** and **Washtenaw Interfaith Roundtable (IRT)** to present "**Compassionate Community Conversations: The Flores Exhibit**", Thursday, May 6, 6:30 pm to bring "visibility to the testimonies of migrant children and young adults held in detention at the U.S. / Mexico border." Join to "hear the experience of these youth in their own words and share our reflections, particularly in the light of faith traditions and spiritual and moral values. Register at <https://bit.ly/3wuCXld>. For more information contact [info@icpj.org](mailto:info@icpj.org).

**ICPJ Latin America Caucus – Virtual Movie Series.**

The Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice presents movies and discussion the second Tuesday of each month this spring at 7:00 pm. The screening on Tuesday, **May 11** will be of two short films: **Brazil: Guardians of the Amazon** and **Brazil: Impunity in the Amazon**. These will be followed by a discussion with conservationist, legal scholar, and extinction researcher, Ethan Shirley. Register to view the films at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/brazil-guardians-of-the-amazon-brazil-impunity-in-the-amazon-tickets-150971713459>.

**Delegation to Honduras.** A member of our steering team, **Mary Anne Perrone**, along with others locally and nationally, will be joining a solidarity delegation to Honduras **July 2 – 12**. The delegation will be accompanying the Hondurans who are developing new efforts towards food security through growing basic foods organically and sustainably, feeding their families and communities in the context of the human rights and environmental crises in their country. To learn more about the effort *Vamos a la Milpa* (Sowing Seeds of Hope), or to donate to this worthy cause, please go to <https://vamosamilpausa.org/>. If you are interested in joining the delegation or have questions, please contact [maperrone@ameritch.net](mailto:maperrone@ameritch.net). This is one way we can address the root causes of forced migration from people in desperate circumstances in their home country.

**INTERFAITH ROUNDTABLE (IRT)**

**Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County (IRT)** invites all for their events for the month. All events virtual via Zoom. For RSVP, Zoom information and Questions: Renee Roederer at [roederer@umich.edu](mailto:roederer@umich.edu).

- **Book Study: *The Book of Joy* by Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu** (Wednesdays, **May 12, 19, 26**, 7:00 – 8:00 pm). Three-week book discussion of *The Book of Joy*, co-authored by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama. These two men are among the most respected spiritual leaders of the 21st century. In an intimate discussion, the book study will help us learn to experience sustainable joy even amidst pain and confusion. In a series of three virtual evening discussions, we will consider concepts shared in their best-selling book. It is not necessary to have previously read the book before coming, but it will enrich your perspective to do so. <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYvd-6orz4rHt1nZ0nTD29U0ZYqPWf-Gb2y>. This book study will be led by **Dwight L. Wilson**, IRT Board Member and former Co-Director.
- **IRT Day Forum: Grow and Tell** (Tuesday, **May 18**, 11:45 am – 1:00 pm). On the third Tuesday of each month, the Interfaith Round Table invites the wider Washtenaw County community to join us for interfaith dialogue and friendship over the lunch hour. This month, we'll give a nod to our growing years (we mean this in more than one way!) Remember when we had show-and-tell as children? We'd like to do that

together as adults. For this session, we invite you to bring something – an object, a symbol, a photo, something you've created, a story, or something else – to share a time when you've grown spiritually, emotionally, or socially. We will show these to one another and share our stories of growing personally. <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rd-iopjwrE9aWsTIQhE4zRa1SXna1CzvU>.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**47th Annual Ann Arbor CROP Walk**, Sunday, **October 3**. Every Fall since 1975, Ann Arbor congregations have walked together with a common mission to help the hungry and impoverished here and throughout the world, with leadership from Church World Service. Several local groups rely on a share of the proceeds to assist needy families. In the 2020 Virtual Walk, Ann Arbor Friends raised \$1,457.58 towards a total of \$33,407.98, well above our goal of \$30,000. Many small gifts make a BIG difference, one step at a time! More information at [crophungerwalk.org/AnnArborMI](http://crophungerwalk.org/AnnArborMI).

**COVID-19**

**VaccineMI** is offering a community-driven effort to help Michiganders learn accurate, up-to-date, verified information about the coronavirus vaccine, and to learn about when they will be eligible and how to take their place in line. Volunteers call potential vaccination sites daily, asking them if they have the vaccine and how to get an appointment. Information collected is published at: <https://www.vaccinemi.com/vaccination-sites>

**COVID Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA):** The Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) is administering the COVID Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA) Program through its network of local nonprofit agencies since March 15, 2021. CERA can provide rental and utility assistance for eligible renter households so that they retain their housing stability. For more information: <https://michigan.gov/mshda/0,4641,7-141-5555-533463--,00.html>.

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS****JUSTICE ACTION GROUP (JAG)****What Justice Looks Like**

The Justice Action Group (JAG) believes incarceration is inhumane, ineffective, disproportionately imposed marginalized groups and obstructs justice. We urge you to take some time this month to read some Michigan specific updates pertaining to prisoner vaccination, state laws to reform policing, and the Detroit Will Breathe lawsuit.

- **State:** Vaccination of detained individuals in Michigan Department of Corrections facilities through 4/16/21. [https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178\\_103214-547150--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_103214-547150--,00.html)
- **Article:** Michigan hasn't passed any police reforms since George Floyd's death. *Bridge Michigan*: <https://www.bridgemi.com/michigan->

[government/michigan-hasnt-passed-any-police-reforms-george-floyds-death](#)

- **Article:** Detroit Will Breathe scores win in legal fight with the city. *Detroit Free Press* <https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2021/03/10/countersuit-dismissed-against-detroit-will-breathe/6943347002/>
- **Article:** Why Michigan is trying to take some prisoners' stimulus checks. *Detroit Free Press*: <https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2021/04/14/michigan-prisoner-stimulus-checks-covid-coronavirus/4818300001/>

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## QUERY OF THE MONTH

Query on UNITY WITHIN THE MEETING

Are love and unity maintained among us? Can we disagree without feeling a need to prevail? Do we forgive one another and quickly move to settle differences? Do we care for the reputation of others, and avoid gossip and detraction?

Are we able to hold together in love, despite wide differences in experience and belief, without losing our basic commitment to the teachings of Jesus?

Do we cooperate with other groups of Friends and with other religious bodies in the furtherance of common ends?



Pages 6 – 27 redacted in web version of newsletter.