**Homewood Friends Meeting Announcements**

Third Month (March) 15, 2020

Our website is: [http://www.homewoodfriends.org](http://www.homewoodfriends.org)

To place an announcement, call the office, 410.235.4438, or email it to homewoodfriends@gmail.com. The deadline is 11 a.m. Tuesday.

Office hours are 8:30-3:30 Monday & 8:30-2:30 Tuesday through Thursday.

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*Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting*, the Third Query: **The Meeting Community:**

Are love and harmony within the Meeting community fostered by a spirit of open sharing? Do you endeavor to widen your circle of friendships within the Meeting, seeking to know persons of all ages and at all stages of the spiritual journey? Does the Meeting provide for the spiritual refreshment of all members and attenders? Do Friends provide spiritual and practical care for the elderly, the lonely, and others with special needs?

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Friends,

Homewood Friends’ clerk, assistant clerk, and Ministry and Counsel Committee have agreed, after consultation with public health experts both within and outside of our Meeting, that **meeting for worship will be canceled for March 15 and March 22** as a precaution against spreading COVID-19.

We will monitor developments during that period and consult again in time to make a decision before March 29 about reopening.

In the meantime, the Homewood office has acquired an account with Zoom, an online meeting site for up to 100 people, and we will be consulting with experienced Zoom users in the Meeting to try to set up an online alternative for worship.

At this point, Mina expects to be in the Homewood office on scheduled work days.

Please watch email and Silent Announcements for news about all of that.

We take this action for protection of the Homewood Friends community as well as for the good of the greater community. If precautionary measures are not observed and the virus spreads exponentially, vulnerable populations will be particularly at risk not only of contracting the illness but of being shut out of overcrowded medical facilities.

I hope that everyone is aware and observant of the recommended precautions.
Please consult the CDC Website for that and other information about COVID-19: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

To subscribe to a daily COVID-19 email update from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, you can click the link on the following page: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

George Amoss
Presiding Clerk

UPCOMING EVENTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: Sunday, March 29, 12:15 p.m. in the Susan B. Anthony Room.

QUAKER ARTS COFFEE HOUSE: Saturday, April 4, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. in the dining room. Yet another delightful evening sponsored by the Working Group for the Arts. Enjoy a potluck and hot beverages, songs and poetry, games and jigsaw puzzles, and - above all - good fellowship!

QUAKER BOOK CLUB: Sunday, April 5 (note date change), 9:15 in the dining room. The next text for Quaker Book Club is Pendle Hill pamphlet #460, On Vocal Ministry: Nurturing the Community through Listening and Faithfulness by Crossno and Bill. Copies will be available for purchase on the PH pamphlets table. The cost is $7.00.

HOMEWOOD FRIENDS RETREAT: Opening to the Light, led by Marcelle Martin, Friday April 17 (7-9 p.m.) and Saturday April 18 (9 a.m.-4:45 p.m.). Please join us for this special retreat.
To Register: https://forms.gle/271AvCcUFrWEMJZk6 or sign up on the sign-in sheet at Meeting. More information in the March newsletter.

MEN’S RETREAT: Friday, April 17 - Sunday, April 19 at Camp Catoctin. If interested, contact Stan Becker, John McKusick at Homewood or Chris Giannella (cgiannella@mitre.org) at Stony Run.

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_I give myself this advice: Do not fear truth, let it be ever so contrary to inclination and feeling. Never give up the search after it; and let me take courage, and try from the bottom of my heart to do that which I believe truth dictates, if it lead me to be a Quaker or not…._

Elizabeth Fry