

The Provident FRIEND May 14, 2024

News from the Providence Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

MEETING CALENDAR

Saturday, May 18, 10:00 AM to noon, Saylesville Book Swap (Saylesville Meetinghouse)

Sunday, May 19, Meeting for Worship: at Providence, 10:00 AM (Indoors and Zoom); at Saylesville, 10:30 AM (Indoors); at Conanicut (Weeden Lane, Jamestown), 9:30 AM (Indoors)

Sunday, May 19, 11:45 AM, Presentation by Detroit Friends Meeting (Zoom)

Thursday, May 23, 5:30 PM, Potluck followed by talk (at 6:30 PM) by peace activist Getry Agizah, Providence Meetinghouse

Sunday, May 26, Meeting for Worship: at Providence, 10:00 AM (Indoors and Zoom); at Saylesville, 10:30 AM (Indoors); at Conanicut (Weeden Lane, Jamestown), 9:30 AM (Indoors)

Sunday, June 2, Meeting for Worship: at Providence, 10:00 AM (Indoors and Zoom); at Saylesville, 10:30 AM (Indoors); at Conanicut (Weeden Lane, Jamestown), 9:30 AM (Indoors)

Sunday, June 2, 11:30 AM, First Day School Spring Cookout, Providence Meetinghouse

Friday, June 7, 6:00 PM (to 9:00 PM), Estate/Yard Sale Preview Party, Providence Meetinghouse

Saturday, June 8, 9:00 AM (to 3:00 PM), Estate/Yard Sale, Providence Meetinghouse

Sunday, June 9, Meeting for Worship: at Providence, 10:00 AM (Indoors and Zoom); at Saylesville, 10:30 AM (Indoors); at Conanicut (Weeden Lane, Jamestown), 9:30 AM (Indoors)

Sunday, June 9, Meeting for Business at Saylesville Meetinghouse, Noon (Indoors and Zoom, Hybrid*)

*Hybrid = the in-person and online meetings are combined.

**Providence Monthly Meeting for Worship
with a Concern for Business
12th of Fifth Month, 2024
Minutes**

Friends gathered at the Providence meetinghouse a little after noon with 10 present.

We began the period of silent worship with the following query taken from New England Yearly Meeting's *Advices & Queries*: "What does Love require of me today?"

The clerk reported that Kenyan peace activist Getry Agizah will speak at the Providence meetinghouse on Fifth month 23 in the evening, possibly preceded by a potluck dinner.

The following items of business were brought forward:

1. Rebecca Leuchak reported on plans for the Carla Dowben estate sale to be held on Sixth month 8 from 9:00 to 3:00 at the meetinghouse and possibly at Phebe Howland's garage, with a preview on the evening of Sixth month 7. Proceeds will benefit community and social justice causes. Additional items may be donated on Wednesday the 5th between noon and 5:00, and volunteers are needed. For more information, please contact Rebecca Leuchak.

2. For Adult Religious Education Committee, Laura Landon reported that an "Elements of

Quakerism” course was held by Zoom this spring with ten participants. It was judged successful and is intended to be repeated next spring. There are plans for a series of workshops on Quaker worship. There may also be some discussions on a variety of topics by Zoom or in-person,

3. For Ministry & Counsel Committee, Dan Lederer brought a draft State of the Society report for 2023. After discussion and suggestions of additional material, Friends returned the draft to the committee for further discernment.

No further business appearing, we closed with a period of silent worship at 1:15 p.m., intending to meet next on the 9th of Sixth month.

Respectfully submitted,
Ariana Steele, Clerk
Rebecca Smith, Recording Clerk

May Breakfast Was Held on May 4

The Special Events Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the recent May Breakfast. Special thanks goes to those who contributed food items and especially to those who labored through the event. From all accounts, it was a great success both socially and financially. We were pleased that several of our neighbors accepted our invitation to join us and, as an added bonus, we were able to contribute a significant amount of our unused food supplies to an organization in Pawtucket that provides much needed meals on a regular basis to individuals and families in the area.

Presentation by Detroit Friends Meeting May 19

At 11:45 AM Sunday May 19, representatives of Detroit Friends Meeting will provide a 20-minute video about the struggles of their meeting to stay active in Detroit. The presentation will be via Zoom on the same link that we use for Meeting for Worship.



**Providence Monthly Meeting to Host Kenyan Peace Activist
on Thursday, May 23, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM.
All are welcome!**

All are invited to the meetinghouse for a potluck dinner and following discussion with Getry Agizah, a visiting Quaker peacemaker from Kenya who was involved in addressing violence and mediating trauma healing in her home country after the elections of 2007. Getry is traveling to East Coast Friends meetings in advance of the upcoming meeting of the United Society of Friends Women International - Northeast Region.

Getry's experience with peace work and humanitarian aid in the wake of contested elections is relevant today. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn from her ministry. Potluck contributions are gratefully accepted! We'll gather downstairs in the social room at 5:30 to eat, then hear Getry speak at 6:30. For more information, contact Jen McFadden (jmcfadden@mosesbrown.org).

Here is a clip of Getry speaking to a group in 2011 at Philadelphia's Arch Street Meeting. She asks, provocatively, "Does peace mean that we have to be passive?" Getry Agizah-Friends Church Peace Teams in Kenya

First Day School Spring Cookout June 2

from Religious Education Committee

The First Day School (FDS) Spring Cookout will happen during coffee hour on Sunday June 2. All are welcome. Please feel free to contribute a side, salad, or dessert. FDS will supply drinks, hot dogs, burgers, veggie burgers, and fixings. The children will provide setup. Rain date will be the following Sunday.

Also, the First Day School will operate this summer with volunteers and paid student helpers. There will be no formal curriculum. The children can be taken to the Moses Brown playground, tend the garden beds out back, or do art and games inside. Please let a member of the Religious Education Committee know if you are interested in volunteering.

Big Estate/Yard Sale Coming June 7 and 8

from Rebecca Leuchak

Friends Preview Party

Friday, June 7th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Estate and Yard Sale

Open to the Public

Saturday, June 8th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Two locations!

Fine furniture, rugs, and lamps at Phebe's garage in Wayland Square

Beautiful housewares, appliances, cookbooks, artwork, garden tools and more at the Meetinghouse

Donations from Friends in the Meeting accepted on Wednesday, June 5th from noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Meetinghouse.

Volunteers needed!

Sign up [here!](#)

The catalyst for this fundraising event is the family of our dear departed Friend Carla Dowben, who wished after her passing to donate to our Friends Meeting much of the furniture and household/garden things that she and husband Robert owned. The intended purpose is for these items to be used, along with donations from other very generous Friends, to raise funds to support causes of social justice that reflect the values of our Quaker faith. Donations of sale items so far received have been stored in a Meeting member's garage in anticipation of the sale.

On Saturday, June 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. we will hold an Estate and Yard Sale at two locations: Furniture, lamps, rugs, etc. - much of it of very fine quality - will be sold at Phebe Howland's garage and driveway area near Wayland Square. All other items will be sold at the meetinghouse - the multi-purpose room designated for high quality estate items including art works - and the downstairs social room dedicated for everyday housewares, tools, toys, games, cookbooks, etc., all accompanied by refreshments and live entertainment. In fact, in response to popular demand, the SPICE Boys (John Lord, Steve Schwartz, and Dan Lederer) will be making an appearance at around 1:00 PM.

We plan to hold a "Friends and friends of Friends Preview Party" the Friday evening before the sale, that is June 7th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

We need Friends to help with planning, promotion, prepping and schlepping (with pick-up truck/van), unpacking and pricing, day-of/on-site refreshments and bake sale, entertainment (open mike), staffing the sale, and post-sale packing and driving (with pick-up truck/van) to deliver unsold items to local charities.

If you also have items you wish to donate for the sale - please for the near term hold onto them at home. That garage stored with stuff is full!

Bring your treasures on Wednesday, June 5th between noon and 5:00 p.m. to the meetinghouse. And thank you!

Contact Rebecca Leuchak (rleuchak@gmail.com) if you have things to donate and

especially if you wish to volunteer for any of the work roles listed above. We can't do this without your help!

Best -

Phebe Howland, Rebecca Leuchak, Ashley Marchesi, Erin Zimmer Strenio, Zona Douthit, Dede Carlsten

Message from Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)

Our Friends Committee on National Legislation Advocacy Team has been working with other teams across the country to shift our country's war economy to a peace economy. We work to build public awareness and lobby members of Congress to advocate for a more peaceful world. If your top concern is the environment and climate change, you should know that the U.S. military is the largest institutional greenhouse gas emitter in the world. And if your top priority is gun violence, consider how our reliance on military responses to problems encourages more violent responses to conflict at all levels of society. And if your main concern is affordable housing, education, mental health, etc., please know that the more we spend on our military, the less we have available for everything else.

Let's find ways to work together. We'd love to have you join us! We meet on Zoom and can find roles for those with little time or who are uncomfortable with the thought of lobbying. You can join us for a virtual lobby visit without having to say anything; just showing up as a constituent is enough.

Please contact Nancy Houston, Eugenia Marks, Steve Schwartz or Bob Watt for more information. FCNL holds monthly introductions to Quaker Advocacy. Register here for the next one on May 16th

https://act.fcnl.org/event/intro_to_advocacy/3268/?source=fcnlweb

This is useful no matter what level of government you are working with and whatever your issue of concern.

Art from Jules Burrowes

All of the attached are woodcuts that I have made prints from in the past - and now I am in the process of painting my old woodcuts and putting them in shows as paintings. I have a show lined up for late September and hopefully there will be at least 15 to 20 of the painted woodcuts in the show along with a few prints from when they were used for printing.



Spirit Vessels



Fence

Joys and Sorrows

Barb Zimmer's grandson, Colin Klein, is graduating from Oyster River High School, Durham, NH, on June 8. He will be attending the University of New Hampshire, majoring in health biology.

Address for Contributions

The address for contributions to Meeting is as follows:

Providence Monthly Meeting
c/o Peter Swaszek
P O Box 1787
Kingston, RI 02881