



SOUTH MOUNTAIN FRIENDS MEETING
THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
(QUAKERS)
 Unprogrammed Worship in Ashland, Oregon
Tenth Month 2018

543 South Mountain Avenue

Ashland, Oregon 97520

(541) 482-0814

ashlandquakers@gmail.com

www.ashlandquakers.org

(Near Southern Oregon University)

1st HOUR: Discussions & Meetings

2nd HOUR: Worship

Meeting for Worship:

11 am Sundays

Childcare During Worship

First-Hour & Rise of Meeting:

7 October

9:30 am: Committee Meetings

10:30 am: Circle of Light

14 October

9-10:30 am: Ministry & Counsel Committee Meeting

Rise of Meeting: Fellowship over lunch; core meal provided by Herb; all are welcome to bring ancillary dishes or just bring themselves

21 October

8:30-10:30 am: Business Meeting

10:30-11 am: Sing along with Lisa

28 October

9:30 am: Free Writing Friends will share their current Quaker practice of writing for inspiration

Able to donate a sleeping bag to a person without a home? Contact Bob at morse@mind.net

**Kathryn Roether's
 Life of Service & Community**



Kathryn Roether recalls that her maternal grandfather, who died before Kathryn was born, was “read out” of his Friends Meeting for marrying Kathryn’s non-Quaker grandmother. Yet it was her grandmother, in her later years, who would request, “Let’s have some Quaker silence.” Kathryn’s Methodist father and Congregationalist mother raised her and

her younger sister, Ruth, as Presbyterians. Despite the family’s four relocations for their father’s work, the Presbyterian Church stayed foremost in their lives, rendering the sisters’ primary takeaway from those years to be the message of stewardship. Along with the road trips during her youth, memorable for Kathryn were the love and harmony in her family, the sense of community in her church, and the myriad books in her home.

By the time Kathryn was 15, she recognized the moment of silence just before the minister gave his prayer as her favorite part of the service. That Kathryn chose to attend Swarthmore College should come as no surprise. It was Quaker, co-ed, and situated in Philadelphia, the city among her various childhood addresses that has always felt like home. Swarthmore had a Meeting House on campus where Kathryn attended weekly worship and taught preschool children at First Day School.

Kathryn, who so loves words, met Hermann Roether during her senior year at Swarthmore when they sat next to each other in poetry class. Raised in Germany, Hermann was educated in schools run by the Moravian Church, chosen by his parents so that his instruction would include more religious education than offered in public schools.

At Swarthmore both Kathryn and Hermann were involved in leading Quaker weekend work camps under the auspices of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). Following graduation, Kathryn remained a year in Philadelphia working for the AFSC while Hermann completed his senior year at Swarthmore. Hermann extended his student visa to enter into graduate studies in comparative literature at the University of Chicago. Kathryn moved back to her parents’ home in Cleveland and maintained daily written correspondence with Hermann, who visited her at Christmastime with the gift of an engagement ring.

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Kathryn Roether's Life of Service & Community

Continued from Page 1

During their five years in Chicago, the Roethers helped facilitate Interns in Industry--bringing in speakers on labor and management--and Kathryn was involved in AFSC's peace program and summer projects. For the Roethers, AFSC was their community. Kathryn admits that not typing Hermann's dissertation was a factor in his not obtaining his degree.

Upon their moving back to Kathryn's beloved Philadelphia, she volunteered with AFSC for a while until she became pregnant with Gordon in 1958 and her life became dedicated to motherhood. With Evelyn's birth in 1960, the family moved into their new and long-term home in Jenkintown, PA, and Abington Friends Meeting became their hearth for forty years. These four decades were especially colorful due to the 30+ German friends and relatives whom they hosted. Kathryn joined Hermann in living out a childhood dream and traveled to every US state except Alaska. In their later years, Kathryn and Hermann, along with two other couples from their Meeting, traveled the British canals by narrowboat. They so enjoyed themselves, in the subsequent two years they repeated this boating journey first in Canada, then in France.

After a couple of years of working for AFSC, Hermann re-entered graduate school, this time earning a doctorate in sociology from the University of Pennsylvania. His dissertation on sex offenders paved the way for two years of work in this field. Hermann then directed a county mental health, mental retardation, and drug/alcohol program for eight years.

With their first child's being developmentally disabled, the Roethers were keenly aware of available and unavailable support networks. Hermann resigned from his county administration post to work for a Lutheran agency that served the mentally retarded population (as the condition was then known), and Kathryn developed a newsletter on retardation. Over time she worked with three neighboring townships creating summer recreation programs that included mentally retarded people, as well as assisting community mental health programs and churches on their becoming more inclusive. In 1976, Kathryn began volunteering at a local women's center, and for twelve years she ran workshops and helped women's re-entry into the job market.

In the late 80's Kathryn's father died, her husband was diagnosed with lung cancer, and her mother moved to Philadelphia. Not surprisingly, the 90's were dedicated to caretaking. By 1987, daughter Evelyn had established herself in Williams, Oregon. During her initial visit to Evelyn's, Kathryn had an aha moment: "This is where I always wanted to live." Hermann, however, had had enough of small village life as a child. They did purchase land next to their daughter and son-in-law's home and fixed up a cabin for their yearly visits each summer.

Upon Hermann's death in 1999, Kathryn consulted Gordon, who was always up for adventure, and together they moved to Oregon in 2002. Kathryn was aware of leaving behind a centuries-old Meeting House, whose adjacent burial ground yielded a sense of ancestry, where she was so intimately a part of the Meeting and the Meeting itself was such a part of the community.

Living rurally and an hour away from the South Mountain Meeting House, Kathryn found community in the hamlet of Williams, where she continues to participate in a meditation circle and three different book groups. On her 90th birthday this past May, she was honored in celebration by local friends and South Mountain Friends.

Kathryn's dearest Quaker learning is that there is that of God in everyone, "even people with whom I don't agree or like, even when that person has not yet realized their own godliness. It's all about inclusivity."

--Bob Morse



We Gather in Silent Worship: Sometimes our Worship is Gathered

Recently, our vocal ministry and our rise-of-meeting joys and concerns discussions have resonated with a unifying tone. During post-worship fellowship, I've been asked whether we just experienced a *gathered*, or covered, *meeting*. Such questions initiated my pondering and researching the essence of gathered meetings.

I often think back to a Meeting for Worship on a day several years ago. It was the day after our very successful South Mountain Meeting yard sale at the end of May. South Mountaineers had shown up in droves toting re-sellables galore on set-up day and set the stage for a house full of items. On sale day Friends worked enthusiastically together, hosting a steady stream of bargain hunters. We raised \$800 to send our Southern Oregon contingent to the Friends General Conference in Colorado.

Perhaps it was the afterglow of that collective endeavor, or the aftermath of physically enacting community, but worship that weekend was different, deeper. I personally felt Spirit awaiting my arrival, ready to escort me into a dance with the Light. There was a satisfying enrichment in the vocal ministry that morning which seemed to cover all who were gathered in the warm awareness of shared union with Spirit. At the rise of Meeting, a Friend explained how early Quakers stayed in communal worship until that moment when they felt complete; the Friend concluded that this day's worship had reached such completion.

In the Quaker practice of group worship on the basis of silence come special times when an electric hush and solemnity and depth of power steals over the worshippers. A blanket of divine covering comes over the room, and a quickening Presence pervades us, breaking down some part of the special privacy and isolation of our individual lives and bonding our spirits within a super-individual Life and Power—an objective, dynamic Presence which enfolds us all, nourishes our souls, speaks glad, unutterable comfort within us, and quickens in us depths that had before been slumbering. The Burning Bush has been kindled in our midst, and we stand together on holy ground. —Thomas Kelly, *The Gathered Meeting*, Tract Association of Friends, Philadelphia, PA

Curious about what brings about a *gathered meeting*, I further explored Thomas Kelly's reflections. Seemingly, a collective experience of Presence might well be kindled when some of the worshipers enter into the silence already being *gathered*, having carried a sense of settlement into the room with them. Fortunately, in my mini-research I could find no criticism of those of us who arrive unsettled or even chaotic, a not uncommon experience within our busy, techy, pressured society. However, as we individually center down amidst those who are already deep in spiritual adoration, we collectively release our ties to the demands of day-to-day living.

Hmmm. I wonder, then, what need I do to step up a notch on the pre-worship preparedness scale? Just like personal hygiene, spiritual hygiene begins at home. Kelly's is one of many Quaker voices which encourage expanding one's spiritual practice beyond the Sunday meeting for worship. "A daily period of prayer, worship, and meditation furnishes food for the nourishment of spiritual life. So also does regular reading of devotional literature," suggests Howard Brinton.

Kelly contends that the bonding and uniting experienced in a *gathered meeting* is encouraged by our carrying "one another in inward upholding prayer." Thus, as part of our individual spiritual practice, we might hold one another in the Light. George Fox had encouraged Friends to "know one another in that which is eternal" and to be "written in one another's hearts." We enhance the Presence of Spirit within our worship by spending quality time in each other's presence. Serving together on committees promotes friends among Friends; serving on each other's clearness committees can seal lasting bonds. Breaking bread together is a time-honored route for hearing what's on one another's hearts. It seems like laboring together to pull off a major yard sale might have had a similar impact on the bonding scale.

I'm struck by the notion that within the *gathered meeting*, one need not labor. There's no expectation that worship should be all silent or that compelling themes need to be woven into the vocal ministry tapestry. Indeed, humble, unpolished personal expressions of life or love of God are often the most touching, melting the hearts of listeners, uniting the group at a satisfying depth.

Kelly notes that in a *gathered meeting*, words do not necessarily "break the silence, but continue it. For the Divine Life who was ministering through the medium of silence is the same Life as is now ministering through words." The vocal ministry articulates the unity.

Whew! A little bit of research added a lot to my spiritual to-do list. Am I ever pleased that Thomas Kelly provided this reminder about Divine Mysteries: Such an event as a *gathered meeting* is beyond our control.

--Bob Morse

Deciding the Future of Willamette Quarterly Meeting

A quarterly Meeting is a cooperative association of two or more monthly meetings in a given geographic area. It includes established and preparative monthly meetings, smaller worship groups, and isolated Friends. Historically, quarterly meetings met four times a year—thus its name. The purpose of a quarterly meeting is to strengthen the life and fellowship of regional Friends and to provide a link in transmitting business to the larger yearly meeting. Our South Mountain Monthly Meeting is part of Willamette Quarterly Meeting which covers Oregon, southwest Washington, and southern Idaho. The rest of North Pacific Yearly Meeting belongs to either Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting (Washington and northern Idaho) or Montana Gathering of Friends.

Participation at Willamette Quarterly Meeting (WQM) has been dwindling. During Annual Session this summer, a dozen of us Oregon and southern Idaho Friends met over lunch to discern the future of WQM. The discussion was initiated by folks on WQM's nominating committee who have been stressed and struggling to find planners for the gatherings. Friends who have repeatedly arranged the gatherings have burned out. The person who has been most instrumental for keeping WQM alive has now transitioned into becoming clerk of Yearly Meeting's Annual Session and thus has shifted his focus away from WQM. Monthly Meetings, as well, have shifted their focus. Portland's Bridge City Meeting are now "aging out," while Salem's Meeting has shrunk to just a few participants. Our largest Meetings—Eugene and Portland's Multnomah—lack the energy to continue organizing such gatherings. Reasons for the declining interest range from Young Friends feeling too busy to older Friends feeling less comfortable sleeping away from home to South Mountain Friends being discouraged by the travel distance to Florence or Corvallis or Portland.

While some folks say it's time to lay down our Quarterly Meeting, others still find it enriching. Corvallis, which traditionally hosts a one-day information-rich gathering each February, reports feeling vitalized by the experience. WQM remains an essential life-line for isolated Friends—individuals or small worship groups who otherwise have no routine contact with the Society of Friends. As well, WQM holds responsibility for discerning when preparative Meetings are ready to stand on their own and for collecting State of the Society reports and Memorial Minutes and routing them onto Yearly Meeting.

There are resources available to bolster the current structure and technology available to upgrade the structure. There is money that can be used to hire assistance. Video conferencing could be utilized to virtually bring together such alliances as clerks of meetings, leaders of worship groups, or conveners of ministry and counsel/oversight committees.

Our lunchtime discussion at Annual Session reflected how Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting has benefited from gathering in the same location for decades and pondered whether WQM might thrive if gatherings were reduced to only the wintertime educational and community-rich get-togethers in Corvallis.

South Mountain Friends have been asked to discern our sense of how to strengthen, streamline, or surrender WQM. Our clerk is open to setting aside time in a winnowing session and/or business meeting for us to share our views and feelings.

--Bob Morse

Pride Parade: A Worthy Way To Show FRIENDship

South Mountain Friends Meeting is again sponsoring Rogue Valley Pride, just as it has annually since the festival was founded in 2011 as Southern Oregon Pride. All Friends and friends of Friends are welcome and encouraged to participate on **Saturday 13 October** to swell the numbers of our contingent in the parade. Support from faith-based congregations is especially appreciated as LGBTQ people so often have experienced condemnation by self-styled religious people.

We form on **Union Street** close to where it tees into Siskiyou Blvd across from the Stratford Inn. From there it is a short and downhill walk down Main Street and through Ashland Plaza into Lithia Park, ending near the bandshell. The parade kicks off at 11 am, so try to arrive close to **10:30 am**. Look for the large SMFM banner.

For a full schedule of events and logistical details, please visit <https://en.lotusrisingproject.org/events/>, the web page of the festival's organizer. Friends are encouraged to make small donations to our Meeting to collectively cover our parade-entry feels

--Herb Rothschild

The Nominating Committee encourages Friends to consider serving as Corresponding Clerk during the coming year or term.

The job description has been simplified to make this key position less time consuming.

Corresponding Clerk

The Corresponding Clerk takes responsibility for all correspondence into the Meeting, out from the Meeting, and within the Meeting with help from the Presiding Clerk. Specific duties include:

- Receive and distribute Meeting's posted mail and e-mail
- Receive and respond to Meeting's phone calls
- Write Meeting-related letters
- Send out e-weekly news bulletins
- Collect (or delegate and oversee collection of) data on new and few-time comers; confirm data as a means of welcoming
- Maintain (or delegate and oversee maintenance of) a data base of members and attenders and distribute periodically as Meeting Directory; annually send census to Yearly Meeting
- Maintain (or delegate and oversee maintenance of) bulletin boards of Meeting-related news and announcements and mention these at rise of Meeting, as necessary

--Alex Reid, ralexandrareid@gmail.com

Our Meeting would like to sponsor one or two participants of our South Mountain Friends Meeting to attend this workshop at Pendle Hill, the Quaker Retreat Center in the Greater Philadelphia Area

Clerking: Serving the Community with Joy and Confidence

A Weekend with Arthur Larrabee and Steve Mohlke

16 thru 18 November 2018

This is an opportunity for both new and experienced clerks of Friends' meetings and committees to meet and think together about the role of presiding clerk. It is expected that each person will leave the weekend with new energy and enthusiasm for being a clerk, feeling well grounded in both the theoretical and the practical. There will be handouts, exercises, and opportunities to share experiences, with most work being done in a whole group setting.

www.pendlehill.org

Slate of Nominations for November 2018 - October 2019

INDIVIDUALS

Presiding Clerk	Melody Ashworth (19)
Assistant Clerk	Anna Monders (19)
Recording Clerk	Lisa Nichols (19)
Corresponding Clerk	Adam Thompson (19), assisted by Alex Reid
Treasurer	Herb Rothschild (19)
Newsletter Editor	Bob Morse, assisted by Pam Johnson, Sylvie Weaver
Web Page Administrators Web Page Contributors	Scott Plummer, Adam Thompson, Bill Ashworth Bob Morse, Pam Johnson
Joint Committee Reps	Steve Wells (19), Herb Rothschild (19)
NPYM Coordinating Comte Rep	Sylvie Weaver
Art Coordinator	Becky Hale
3rd Sunday Music Coordinator	Lisa Nichols
Archives	Pam Johnson

STANDING COMMITTEES

Ministry and Counsel	Rochelle Webster (19), Maureen Graham (19), Brent Howell (20), Gabrielle Leslie (21), Cathy McDaniel (21); Clerk/Ass't Clerk <i>ex officio</i>
Finance	Adam Thompson , Barbara Arrias, Scott Plummer; Treasurer <i>ex officio</i>
Peace and Social Justice/Concerns	Herb Rothschild , Ken Deveney, Javan Reid, Pam Allister
Hospitality and Friendship	Patricia Morrison , Crystal Bosbach, Cathy McDaniel, Kathleen Hering
Greeters	Sylvie Weaver, Steve Radcliffe, Bob Morse, Alex Reid, Javan Reid
Building and Grounds	Steve Wells , Merlin McDaniel, Raymond Scully, Glenn Allister, Hazel Ward
Children's Education and Spirituality	Ken Deveney , Cathy McDaniel, _____
Adult Education	Becky Hale , Lisa Nichols, Jim Phillips, Karen Roertgen

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES

Library	Jean Semrau , Becky Hale, Steve Wells, Heather Starbird
Warming Shelter	Alex Reid , Bob Morse, Beth Aspedon, Steve Wells, Heather Starbird, Denny Caraher
Nominating (appointed by Clerk)	Beth Aspedon (21), Adam Thompson (18), Jean Semrau (18), Alex Reid (20), Barbara Arrais (20)

NOTE: Names in bold are conveners until each committee chooses a clerk

Meeting For Worship For Business: 16 September 2018

Present: Marybeth Webster, Sylvie Weaver, Ken Deveney, Jean Semrau, Melody Ashworth, Bill Ashworth, Scott Plummer, Patricia Morrison, Alex Reid, Steve Radcliffe, Anna Monders, Bob Morse, Beth Aspedon, Crystal Bosbach, Henry Knutsen, Herb Rothschild, Kathleen Herring

Meeting opened with worship. Clerk Patricia Morrison read a quote from Lloyd Lee Wilson.

Nominating Committee: Alex Reid presented the slate of nominations for the coming year. The Outreach Committee has been laid down; Music Coordinator and Archivist positions have been added. The Treasurer's position will be taken by Adam Thompson following a new Corresponding Clerk's being named.

2018.9.1. Friends accepted for seasoning the nominations for 2019, with much gratitude to Alex Reid and the rest of the Nominating Committee.

Alex passed out some recommended changes to the job description for the Corresponding Clerk. It was pointed out that the Corresponding Clerk can currently sign checks; Friends were comfortable removing this from the job description. Bob Morse will revise the way Meeting collects our census data.

2018.9.2. Friends approved the changes to the Corresponding Clerk's job description.

Winter shelter: Bob Morse and Alex Reid reported that all players in Ashland dealing with the winter shelter for the homeless are now working together: This includes the six original faith communities, some additional faith communities, and city government. They are very close to having a new site, the old Rogue Valley Church on East Main, which will be available for up to three years. The Meeting will continue to be the host organization for Sunday nights. The goal is to have a shelter open

seven nights a week; UCC, who have been our co-hosts, may be stepping forward to host Saturday night. There will be a hired shelter coordinator this year. A website has been created, and volunteers are being sought. Funding is available to hire a part-time case manager. Homeless guests are now being screened; the shelter will shift from first-come-first-served to giving the most vulnerable individuals priority each night. There will be multiple rooms, so families and individuals can be separated. A washer and dryer may be purchased for the principle premises. The Meeting currently has a budget item of \$900 for the homeless shelter; this has already been approved. However, the budget is shifting, both because of new funding and because we may lose our co-hosts for Sunday nights. We will know more about the finances next month.

Treasurer's report: Herb Rothschild reported that we had a net loss of \$332.49 over the 2018 fiscal year. We raised 95% of our budgeted income and spent 89% of this, so the net loss was less than the budgeted net loss. Most budget items fell within their estimates. We finished the year with about \$23,000 in assets, most of that in our Friends Fiduciary Fund account. This fund has gained approximately \$2600 over our initial investment. The Treasurer was asked to prepare an analysis of the change in this account over the last year.

The first two months of FY 2019 have been in the black by \$218. There has not been a great deal of activity over the summer (this is normal). We have received only roughly 7% of our expected annual income in the first 17% of the fiscal year: Friends should consider donations.

Joint Committee's budget was also presented: The Meeting and Peace House each have to approve this budget. The Peace House office

manager manages the room rentals; her compensation has gone up. This and other factors have caused the budget to have an income deficit of \$2100. Most of this may be taken care of by the rising rental activity currently being seen.

2018.9.3. Friends approved the Joint Committee budget, with gratitude to our treasurer and our joint committee representatives, and with an assurance to Joint Committee that the Meeting will be willing to pay more if the need arises.

Ministry and Counsel: Crystal Bosbach reported that a membership request has been submitted by Beth Aspedon: A clearness committee has met with her. Her letter of application was read aloud.

2018.9.4. Beth Aspedon's application for membership was accepted for seasoning, with great pleasure.

Crystal reported that the Ministry and Counsel has noticed that we have many elders in Grants Pass who don't have access to transportation; the committee is working on a shuttle to make sure these elders can come to worship. The request that preferred pronouns be given during the "names" round at the rise of Meeting has been laid down; it was suggested that Friends put the pronouns they prefer to be addressed by on their name tags instead.

Josephine County Council of Elders: Crystal Bosbach reported that the JCCE includes two members of our Meeting, Steve Radcliffe and Marybeth Webster. The Council's purpose is to help people have civil conversations on subjects on which they disagree. They are asking the Meeting to become their fiscal sponsor, so they can use our 501(c)(3) status to allow their donors to take tax deductions. The requirements for a 501(c)(3) cannot be currently met by the Council, (**continued on p 8**)

Business Meeting Continued

as they are too small. A Friend pointed out that we are a religious organization, which is different from other 501(c)(3) organizations and has different rules. The Council grew out of a leading by Marybeth to which Steve added the focus of civil discourse, and the Meeting generally attempts to support participants' leadings. The Council will need to do its own bookkeeping and pay its own bills. We will become fiscally responsible to the Council's donors, so we will want regular reports. The Council will have to become a legal entity and open a bank account. An agreement will be necessary that spells out the details of the relationship between the Meeting and the Council. A Friend asked if there could be an exit strategy in this agreement. Generally, Friends support the sponsorship but wish to have more details before formalizing it. Ministry and Counsel has considered the issue and supports it as an example of Quakers acting on our testimonies in the community. Perhaps a support committee should be set up in the Meeting for this work. There is some urgency because a grant is available for a potential workshop this fall. We need to trust our process, even if it takes time. The sponsorship will be considered again at the October Meeting for Business. We trust way will open for the workshop to proceed.

Meeting closed with worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Morrison, Clerk
Bill Ashworth, Recording Clerk

A Time to Renew—or A Time to Start

Quakerism offers more than a friendly, supportive, and sometimes inspiring space for an hour of spiritual or personal renewal. One way for brand new or seasoned Quakers to keep discovering the rich offerings (and challenges) of this global community is through reading—at your own pace—Quaker periodicals.

For the benefit of all us collectively, South Mountain Meeting provides a subscription to one of three Quaker periodicals to all who attend our Meeting. The periodicals are *Friends Journal* and *Western Friend* magazines and Pendle Hill pamphlets, an ongoing publication series of inspirational Quaker essays. All of these publications are available in our library—to look over before signing up for a subscription, or to check out (and keep once they're outdated). The Meeting offers online subscriptions to the magazines as well, if you want to be paper-free.

I would like to have all requests to start, renew, switch, or terminate subscriptions by the time of the October Meeting for business discernment on Sunday 21 October. Talk, call, email, or write to me. (I'll also accept volunteers for taking over this responsibility.)

--Melody Ashworth

541-324-9824

ashworthmelody@gmail.com

ADVICES & QUERIES ON SIMPLICITY

Quaker simplicity is one of the fruits of a primary commitment to the Spirit of God. Writing of simplicity, Thomas Kelley reminds us, "Life is meant to be lived from a divine center – a life of unhurried peace and power. It is simple. It is serene. It takes no time, but it occupies all our time."

Friends are advised to strive for simplicity in their use of their earnings and property, and in their style of living, choosing that which is simple and useful. This does not mean that life is to be poor and bare, destitute of joy and beauty. All that promotes fullness of life and aids in service for God is to be accepted with thanksgiving. Each must determine by the light that is given what promotes and what hinders the compelling search for inner peace.

Do we center our lives in the awareness of the presence of God so that all things take their rightful place?

Do we keep our lives uncluttered with things and activities and avoid commitments beyond our strength and light? Is the life of our Meeting so ordered that it helps us to simplify our personal lives? Do we order our individual lives so as to nourish our spiritual growth?

Are we alert to the dangers of unfairness of gambling and of the games of chance?

Are our lives so filled by the Spirit that we are free of the need to indulge in the addictive use of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs, or excesses of any kind? Do we choose recreations which strengthen our physical, mental, and spiritual lives and avoid those which may prove harmful to ourselves and others?

Do we keep a single standard of truth, so that we are free from the use of judicial and other oaths? Are we punctual in keeping promises, prompt in the payment of debts, and just and honorable in all our dealings? Do we keep to simplicity and honesty in our speech, our manner of living, and our daily work?

SMFM CALENDAR

October 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat

	1	2	3	4 3:30-5:30 pm Free Writing Friends	5	6
7 9:30 am Committee Meetings 10:30 am Circle of Light	8	9 7-9 pm Ashland Song Circle	10 6:30 to 8:30 pm Light Meditation Group	11 3:30-5:30 pm Free Writing Friends	12	13 Ashland Food Project Pick-Up 10:30 am SO PRIDE Parade; Meet: At Union & the Blvd 1-4 pm Laundry Love at Henry's Laundromat
14 9-10:30 am Ministry & Counsel Committee Meeting Rise of Meeting: Fellowship over Shared Lunch: All are Welcome	15	16	17	18 3:30-5:30 pm Free Writing Friends	19	20
21 8:30-10:30 am Business Meeting 10:30-11 am Sing along with Lisa	22 SMFM Newsletter Deadline	23	24 6:30 to 8:30 pm Light Meditation Group	25 3:30-5:30 pm Free Writing Friends	26	27
28 9:30 am FREE WRITING FRIENDS will share their current practice of writing for inspiration	29	30	31			

"We can bring ourselves again and again to the Light that reveals, confronts, and heals all that obscures the truth within us, and we can do this with a steady commitment that refuses to allow prayer to become merely a comforting retreat. The key is honesty, not piety, and a willingness not to get hung up on problems of belief. I asked the class to suspend disbelief, to take the love of God as a working hypothesis, and then to submit to prayer's alchemy. Given that so much that passes for prayer is merely the rehearsal of an ideology, it is not surprising that so many intelligent people reject it. But Quakerism insists that belief find its ground and substance in direct experience. To come to that experience one must bring one's whole being, mind, heart, and body to an attitude of anticipation, intense listening, fierce engagement, and an insistent desire to be re-formed in the Creative Presence."

--Daniel Snyder, 2008, submitted by Patricia Morrison who considers Snyder one of her mentors

MEETING OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

Clerk: Patricia Morrison 520-390-0674

Assistant Clerk: Anna Monders 488-5577

Corresponding Clerk: Adam Thompson 215-350-1780, assisted by Alex Reid, Pam Johnson, Sylvie Weaver, Mary Ellen Gordian

Recording Clerk: Bill Ashworth 778-9470

Treasurer: Herb Rothschild 531-2848

Newsletter Editor: Bob Morse 482-8449, assisted by Pam Johnson and Sylvie Weaver

Web Administrator: Scott Plummer 303-523-1811

Grants Pass Worship Group: Colombe Leinau (convener) 479-4409; **Liaison:** Melody Ashworth

NPYM Coordinating Committee Contact: Sylvie Weaver 717-475-6940, assisted by Jean Semrau

Children's Education & Spirituality: Ken Deveney (convener) 488-5506, Melody Ashworth, Cathy McDaniel

Warming Shelter Committee: Alex Reid (clerk), Liz Olson, Becky Hale, Bob Morse, Steve Wells

All area codes are 541 unless otherwise noted

Newsletter submissions are due to Bob Morse (morse@mind.net) Monday after Business M'ting

Finance Committee: Melody Ashworth (clerk), Adam Thompson, Treasurer *ex officio*

Joint Committee Representatives: Herb Rothschild, Steve Wells

Buildings & Grounds: Lanita Witt (clerk), Merlin McDaniel, Raymond Scully, Steve Wells, Glenn Allister

Nominating Committee: Adam Thompson (clerk); Alex Reid, Barbara Arrais

Friendship & Hospitality Committee: Scott Plummer (clerk), Steve Radcliffe, Crystal Bosbach, Sylvie Weaver, Brent Howell

Peace & Social Concerns Committee: Herb Rothschild (clerk), Ken Deveney, Javan Reid, Liz Olson, Pam Allister

Library Elves: Anna Monders assisted by Steve Wells, Heather Starbird, and Bob Morse

Adult Education Committee: Gabrielle Leslie (clerk), Becky Hale, Colleen Graham

Outreach Committee: Ken Deveney (clerk), Steve Radcliffe

Ministry & Counsel Committee: Crystal Bosbach 930-4222 (clerk), Ken Deveney 488-5506, Melody Ashworth 324-9824, Rochelle Webster 201-8255, Brent Howell 841-8841, Assistant Clerk *ex officio*

South Mountain Friends Meeting

543 South Mountain Avenue

Ashland, Oregon 97520