

San Antonio Religious Society of Friends

March 2018

Calendar of Events

Sunday Mar 4	9:00-9:50 Spiritual Deepening in Library 10:00 Worship 11:15 Pot Luck lunch
Monday Mar 5	10:00 Tai Chi, (Gary & Vivian) 4:30 Yoga (Peggy)
Thursday Mar 8	6:00 Soup dinner followed by 7:00 Mid-Week Evening Worship
Sunday Mar 11	11:30 Forum: FCNL Current Issues(Bill S.
Monday Mar 12	10:00 Tai Chi, (Gary & Vivian)
Sunday Mar 18	10:00 Worship 11:30 Meeting for Business
Monday Mar 19	10:00 Tai Chi, (Gary & Vivian) 4:30 Yoga, (Greg)
Sunday Mar 25	10:00 Worship 11:30 Forum: TBA
Monday Mar 26	10:00 10:00 Tai Chi, (Gary & Vivian)

Wednesday Mar 28* 7:00 pm Concert (see flyer and info below-spread the word!)

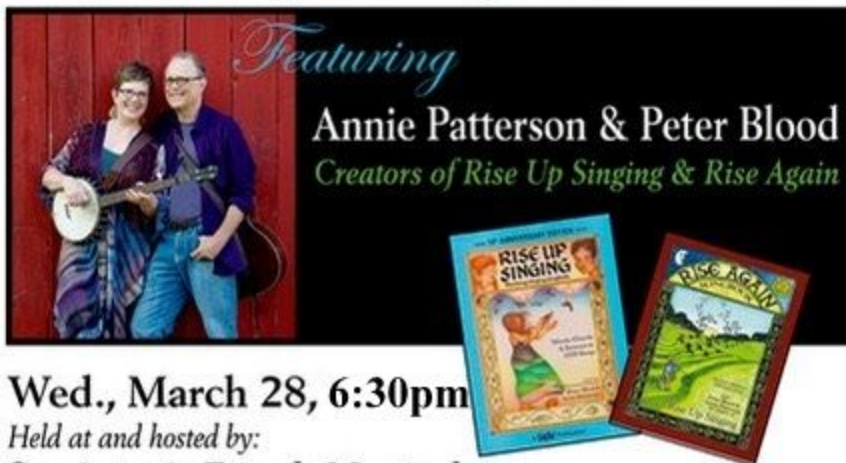
- Mid week Meeting for worship at Gary and Vivian's home will resume in April on the last Wednesday of the month (April 25th)
- All visitors are encouraged to participate in these forums
- Childcare is provided

QUERY FOR MARCH 2018:

How does the Meeting care for those who live alone, the sick, the aging, the widowed, the separated or divorced, and others with families affected by disruption?

HOPE & COURAGE

A Singalong Concert



Wed., March 28, 6:30pm

Held at and hosted by:

San Antonio Friends Meetinghouse

7052 N. Vandiver Rd, San Antonio 78209

Suggested Donation:

Adults \$10-20 ~ under 18 \$5 ~ All Ages Welcome!

Annie & Peter's songbooks have created a quiet revolution of group singing across North America. This concert offers a rare opportunity to meet the creators of these popular songbooks and experience Annie & Peter's gifts of nurturing community and resilience through song.

Sponsored by: Friends Meeting of San Antonio (Quakers) & Celebration Circle

Annie Patterson and Peter Blood, compilers of the massive songbooks, *Rise Up Singing* and *Rise Again*, will lead us in folk songs, hymns, show tunes, Beatles songs, and all-time favorites. We hope they will be joined by Rudi Harst of Celebration Circle and other local musicians in a joyous jamboree. The intent is to invite other organizations to set up info tables on the evening of the concert as well.

The two Quaker musicians have long led the Noon Sing at Friends General Conference Gatherings around the country. They take requests from the exhaustive songbooks, so all voices blend in their singing. The concert is part of a nation-wide tour that includes South

Central Yearly Meeting, Austin and Houston. The theme will bring us renewal in a time of turmoil.

Let's fill the Meetinghouse with our family, friends, neighbors and anyone ready to raise their voices. The modest cost will help defray their cost of transportation. and any amount over that will be donated to an organization to be determined by San Antonio Meeting. SPREAD THE WORD!! Contact Joni if you want to help on the night of the concert and with planning in the days ahead.

Afternoon at the Cathedral

Friends Meeting was represented in the Citywide Interfaith Service, part of the Martin Luther King, Jr Dream Week. I walked with the participants in the procession and got to sit in the front row. My Quaker t-shirt equivalent to a clerical collar. Laura walked in with the clergy and got to sit with the Mayor's family.

My part was reading the call and response. Never trust a Quaker with an open mike. You might get five minutes of total silence. I was followed by the Archbishop who spoke strongly about the dangers of inviting bigotry and inciting racial hatred. A later speaker compared him to a black Baptist preacher.

There were Muslim Imams, Buddhist chanters, Hindu dancers, a Baptist choir, a blast on ram's horn and several representatives of churches. The service ended with singing We Shall Overcome, filling the vast reaches of the Cathedral with the civil rights anthem, bringing tears to my eyes. [Gretchen]





Morning at the MLK March

The Friends Meeting banner led the way for eleven Friends and friends in the annual M L King March. We joined the 300,000 others in commemorating the 50th anniversary of Dr. King’s assassination. It was a solemn yet joyous affirmation of the principles he stood for. We saw many groups representing very diverse causes. All joined together for a wonderful peaceful morning. The walk was 2.75 miles, but it seemed to go very quickly. Consider participating in 2019 if you have never done so!

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New Programs

Spiritual Deepening met on Feb 4 at 9 a.m. in the Library. This group will meet **March 4, April 8**, and continue meeting on the first Sunday of each month. This month we discussed The Light, the Seed, the Christ Working in Us. This program explores ways

Friends differ from other faiths that depend on silence and meditation. Each session will include a brief reading, discussion of meanings and values for us. Next, we participate in a practice to experience the power of inner transformation. Participants will be able to search the Friends General Conference library of resources for future sessions. If this sound like part of your spiritual journey, please contact Gretchen to get the information.

“The Inner Light leads us into a way of moving through life with purpose and promise, even in those times when we may not sense with certainty what that purpose and promise are. In a grace-filled way, the Holy Discovery is that we are invited into a life of continuous experience of God and of transformation of ourselves and the world.” Brent Bill

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Tai Chi is offered by Gary and Vivian every Monday morning beginning Feb 5 at 10 a.m. for 6 weeks to help our rehabilitation and pain management. This will be a gentle practice of movement and breathing to limber us up. There is no charge and Friends are encouraged to bring others for the experience.

Yoga at the Meeting also begins Feb 5, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., led by Greg and Peggy. It will repeat on the first and third Mondays of each month and is free of charge. If you have a yoga mat, please bring it; some mats will be available. This class will be open to our neighbors as well as friends of Friends.

State of the Meeting report preparation invited us to fill in newsprint sheets with our thoughts on Strengths, Challenges and Wishes. These reflected a groundswell of hope and optimism about the direction Meeting has taken in the past year. Conflicts of the past have been addressed, with the help of South Central Yearly Meeting visitors, and have been laid to rest. Worship was noted as deeper and the silence richer and new attenders are being welcomed in. The persistent lack of a consistent children’s presence was included in Challenges and Wishes. Ministry & Oversight members will

consolidate the results into a Report for SCYM in March. The first reading was Feb 18, with a second reading coming soon.

Fourth Annual Friends Festival is set for **May 12**, so put that on your calendar and start planning. We'll welcome your attic treasures, bookshelf overload, kitchen sort out, and examples of your talent: art, photography, ceramics, stitchery, jewelry and anything you've created that isn't edible. In the edible department, the Health Inspector disapproved of our *home* baked offerings, so this year we will gather to bake in a certified kitchen. A list of Personnel will circulate soon, so think of what part you wish to play in this yearly community-building extravaganza. Ponies and the farm animals are signed up. Puppies? We're working on it.

Feb 25th Forum attendees



Looking Forward to Yearly Meeting the Easter weekend. Easter is April this year. It is an opportunity to meet Friends from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, and the rest. We exchange our experiences, concerns and hopes. There is time for worship, workshops, singing, star gazing, singing, a little bit of business and of course, singing. **This year we welcome Annie Patterson & Peter Blood**, compilers of Rise Up Singing and Rise Again, dare I say famed Friends singers. We gather at Greene Family Camp, just south of Waco [carpooling works]. More details coming – watch these pages or go to the SCYM.org website.

Work Day Sat Feb 24 from 10 to 1 was a huge success! Rogue shrubs and rowdy bushes were tamed, with the many-brought clippers. Property committee had lists of tasks. Coffee and donuts kept us going as we shared with each other's undiscovered talents.

The day was damp and dreary but spirits were shining brightly.

Weeds were pulled, trash was cleared, some minor repairs were attended to and the pathway landscaping was trimmed.

There was a strong sense of camaraderie and an appreciation for the hot coffee, Shipley's donuts and pumpkin muffins. -Peggy

"Out of gardens grow fleeting flowers but lasting friendships."

- Beverly Rose Hopper

We share our facilities during the week with several groups compatible with our Quaker objectives. See the wall chart in the foyer for these. In February, the Haven for Hope staff enjoyed a mindfulness retreat. University Presbyterian Church SOL Center, women's group had a meeting here in January. If you know of a **simpatico group that would benefit from our facilities, please contact clerk@saquakers.org**

This newsletter is a publication for the San Antonio Religious Society of Friends

San Antonio Friends Meeting is located at 7052 N Vandiver Rd, San Antonio, TX 78209

Email: webmaster@saquakers.org

Website: <http://www.sanantonioquakers.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/San-Antonio-Quaker-Meeting-Friends-Meeting-of-San-Antonio-120498151299104/>

Deadline for submissions for April Newsletter is March 18, 2018. Thanks for your consideration.