

February 2020

The Friendly News

San Antonio Quakers

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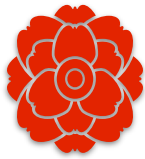
February Calendar

SUNDAY Feb 2	10 am—Meeting for Worship 11:15—Potluck Lunch and Conversation
MONDAY Feb 3	4:30-5:30 pm—Yoga with Greg 5:30-6:30—Community Engagement Committee
TUESDAY Feb 4	7-8 pm—“A Course in Miracles” discussion CANCELLED THIS WEEK resumes Feb 11
WEDNESDAY Feb 5	7-9pm—“Pub Theology with the Quakers” Friendly Spot Ice House, 943 S Alamo St
SUNDAY Feb 9	9am—Religious Education Committee, Library 10 am—Meeting for Worship 11:30—FORUM: “Setting FCNL Priorities for 2020”
TUESDAY Feb 11	7-8 pm—“A Course in Miracles” discussion (weekly)
THURSDAY Feb 13	5-6pm—Peace & Social Concerns Committee 6-7 pm—Soup and Conversation 7-8pm—Mid-Week Meeting for Worship
SUNDAY Feb 16	9:15am—Friendly singing 10 am—Meeting for Worship 11:30—Meeting for Worship w/ Attn to Business
MONDAY Feb 17	4:30-5:30 pm—Yoga with Peggy 5:30-7pm—Refugee lunch preparation
TUESDAY Feb 18	7-8 pm—“A Course in Miracles” discussion (weekly)
SATURDAY Feb 22	9:30am-2:30pm—Workday; bring a bag lunch
SUNDAY Feb 23	10 am—Meeting for Worship 11:15am—February Birthdays! 11:30— FORUM: “Preparing Documents for Last Wishes”
TUESDAY Feb 25	7-8 pm—“A Course in Miracles” discussion (weekly)
WEDNESDAY Feb 26	7-9pm—MID-WEEK WORSHIP at Joni & James’ home

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Note: Children may join in worship for the first 10 minutes then go to the children’s program



February Query

How do I demonstrate in my way of living, and in what I teach my children, that love of God entails acknowledging “that of God in every person”?

February Events:

Forums – February 9th & 23rd 11:30am

February 9: Forum topic: “Setting FCNL Priorities for 2020”, led by Peace & Social Concerns. Join us to answer the Friends Committee of National Legislation’s request for guidance. See more on page 3.

February 23: Forum topic “Preparing Documents for Last Wishes”, led by Ministry & Oversight. Sooner or later, we all die. Planning doesn’t hurry it, but it does make life easier for those left to handle our affairs. M&O has prepared a draft “Last Wishes” document for you to set down information that will help. See more on page 6.

Last Wednesday Midweek at Joni & James’ home – Feb 26th

Ongoing Events



1st & 3rd
Monday
of the Month

4:30 - 5:30pm



6pm - 7pm
Soup

&



7pm - 8pm
Silent Worship

2nd Thursday of the Month

Course in Miracles:

David H. facilitates a conversation about “A Course in Miracles”, open to Friends and others who are interested in the spiritual journey. Now meeting every Tuesday (February 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th) 7-8pm. In the Library.

Meetings for Weeding:

There will be no Thursday weeding this month. The Saturday weeding will be on February 22nd.

Other Upcoming Meeting Events

“Pub Theology with the Quakers”—February 5th, 7-9pm

Pub Theology is an organization devoted to interreligious dialogue and discussions on current affairs. Hosted each week by Pastor Gavin Rogers (Travis Park United Methodist Church) and Bekah McNeel (Christianity Today), it meets every Wednesday from 7-9 at the Friendly Spot Ice House from 7 - 9pm (in the Hidden Spot/Back Room – *i.e.*: indoors!).

The organizers say “We invite different community or faith leaders to share about various faiths, creating the common good, and our shared life together. Basically, we talk about what people talk about at bars and create a conversation. All perspectives are welcome.”

They have invited Friends to join them this coming Wednesday. Jim, Val, Gretchen, Megan, and others plan to go. Please join us.

There is more information on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/PubTheologySA/> . You can find an older Express-News article at <http://bit.ly/2GJzQqX>

Forum on FCNL Priorities – February 9th, 11:30am

The Friends Committee on National Legislation is a Quaker lobbying group that tries to promote issues of peace and justice in Washington, DC. They are non-partisan but uphold Quaker values. They seek to bring about a better world.

FCNL has asked San Antonio Quakers for our worship and discernment about FCNL’s legislative priorities for the next Congress, which begins January 2021. This is a process carried out every two years to guide the work of the FCNL staff.

On February 9, we will have a forum after worship to discuss and discern our Meeting’s priorities for federal legislation. We will share specific issues or concerns that can be addressed through the legislative process. For inspiration, these are FCNL’s four guiding Policy Statements:

- We seek a world free of war and the threat of war.
- We seek a society with equity and justice for all.
- We seek a community where every person’s potential may be fulfilled.
- We seek an earth restored.

Please come to the forum and help us think about these matters. If you cannot attend but would still like to contribute to the prioritization process, please write down your main policy concerns and hand them to Julia Hitz.

Rise Up Singing, Sunday Feb 16

This is the title of the book we’ll be singing from – with lyrics, but no music lines. We would like to practice “How Can I Keep from Singing,” “If I Had a Hammer,” and “Ripple.” You can find your own favorites among the 1200 songs of faith, freedom, love, struggle, and many more. So, lift your voice with us, *a capella* ‘til we get the piano fixed. 9:15 Sun. Feb 16. All voices welcome.

Making Lunch for Refugees on Monday, February 17, 5:30-7pm

Feb 17th will be the next lunch preparation for asylum seekers, following yoga. The new time will enable Friends who are working to join the fun. Last month, five volunteers took 45 minutes to make and bag 40 lunches. David H. is now coordinating the project, so if you would like to join in, just let him know. The more the merrier, and faster.

Workday at the Meetinghouse on Saturday, February 22, 9:30am-2pm

The Property Committee has organized a “Meeting for Weeding” at the Meetinghouse. Bring gloves and a bag lunch.

Quarterly Meeting on March 7th

Cielo Grande Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 7th, at our Meetinghouse. Quarterly Meetings stand mid-way between Monthly Meetings (like FMSA) and Yearly Meetings – in our case South Central Yearly Meeting (SCYM: www.scym.org). Cielo Grande includes Friends from meetings in Dallas-Ft. Worth, Waco, Georgetown, Austin, San Antonio, Hill Country, and Coastal Bend. We usually meet every year, though it has been two years since our last gathering.

The Quarterly Meeting will begin with worship at 8:30 and offer a program on Quakers Building Community. We will have a Meeting for Worship with to Business and lots of worship and fellowship with Friends from other Meetings. We plan to also have a children's program. The main program will end about 4pm. We will offer a simple breakfast and lunch to attenders. In the evening, we may go out to a local restaurant with those visiting Friends who choose to join us.

As some Friends travel a distance to get here, FMSA hopes to offer hospitality to those who need it. There will be a simple meal and fellowship on Friday, the 6th. Some attendees may join FMSA for worship on the 8th.

Registration and further details will be announced in February. See Greg K. or Val L. for details.

Spring Quaker Orientation

The popular series will meet again this spring for six weeks of exploration, explanation, and illumination. It will start on Wednesday, March 11 (from 7 to 9) and will continue each Wednesday until April 15. Following the valuable feedback from participants in the Fall series, it will include short readings in advance and ample time for questions and discussion. Topics are: 1) Worship, 2) Origins and Beliefs, 3) The Light, 4) Doing Business, 5) Living in the World [Testimonies], and 6) Quakers in the Wider World. While we know life can intervene, we hope that if you sign up, you'll try to make every session. And if you missed a session in the Fall, please come for that one now. A full program and sign-up sheet are posted in the Community Room, on the Religious Education bulletin board.

Notes from Recent Events:

Movie Night a Success!

Thanks to James M., we were able to assemble a working projection/sound system in time for the MLK Week movie on Jan 18. About 25 Friends and neighbors turned out, and Joni M. provided fresh popcorn for all comers. Gretchen H. led a spirited discussion focused on the lessons of *The Long Walk Home* for us today, particularly the role of white allies in civil rights struggles led by African Americans. While the movie was free, we put out a jar for donations and found \$72 at the end of the evening.



Friends on the March

The turquoise tee shirts with the big Q were counted among the 300,000 who marched for Martin Luther King, Jr. again this year. The big Q was proud on our large banner. Other banners announced church groups, youth groups, scout troops, unions, colleges, USAA, HEB, health care and welfare organizations, and a LGBTQ rainbow flag half a block long.



Faith & Play Training

On January 25th, a group of Friends learned the principles of Faith & Play and practiced the actual units, to be ready to lead the children in their spiritual development. We now have between five and twelve children in our care each week from age 2+ to 12. Their parents can attend worship secure in the knowledge that the young ones are engaged in age-appropriate activities. We have heard from parents that their own approach to child-rearing has been modified by Quaker principles. We appreciate the dedication of those Friends who volunteer to supervise learning of our children

Miscellany:

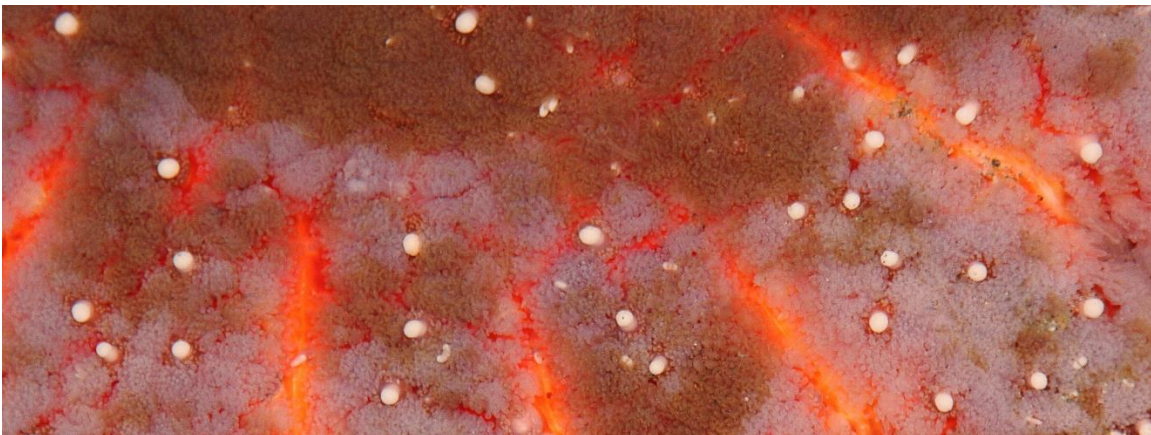
Opening, Greeting, Closing

We now have a chart for volunteers to sign up for these tasks for a month at a time. That is, two people will open for the month of February, then done. The same for two to close. Done. It takes about 30 minutes and is essential to the right order of the Meeting. Greeting take less time but is equally essential to welcome visitors and F/friends. The chart is on the counter next to the plates in the Community Center – with instructions for each task. You, too, can become a Hospitality Fairy. And THANKS.

Forum on “Last Wishes” – February 23rd, 11:30am

Working from recent experience, Ministry & Oversight committee members have prepared a form for F/friends who wish to have their information on file with the Meeting. This includes basic data of next of kin, medical and legal instructions, funeral or memorial meeting plans and other essential data that will be held in confidence. The matter will be dealt with tenderly and may be helpful to F/friends in talking their families about this sensitive subject.

What Is It? Solve the Mystery



A prize to the first person who identifies this. A hint: Worry if it shows up in your yard.