

Quaker Institute:

Beloved Community as Prophetic Witness

Schedule and
Conference Guide
2023



PENDLE HILL

A Quaker Study, Retreat, and Conference Center

Daily Schedule

Day	Time	Title	Description	Speakers	Location
Fri	4:00–5:30pm	Registration			Barn
	6:00–7:00pm	Dinner			Main House
	7:30–9:00pm	Keynote Address - Provocation to Love: A Prophetic Future for Friends	Margaret Fell asked Friends to "provoke one another to love." Is this what we practice in our meetings and other institutions?	Windy Cooler	Barn
Sat	7:15-8:00am	Musical Tai Chi	Spiritual movement experience.	Makaan Burt	Library Large Room
	7:30–8:30am	Breakfast			Main House
	8:30–9:15am	Meeting for Worship			Barn
	10:00–11:00am	Welcome Session	A session facilitated by Pendle Hill's Executive Director and Director of Education to welcome attendees and speakers, and to intentionally arrive together.	Francisco Burgos, Frances Kreimer	Barn
	11:00-11:50am	Seed Groups	See the back of your nametag for the small "seed" group with whom you will be convening each day for sharing and community building. Queries for consideration in Saturday morning groups: <i>Where have you witnessed beloved community and prophetic witness?</i> <i>What is speaking to you in this gathering?</i> <i>What questions are arising?</i>		Seed Pods <i>(see map on last page for meeting space)</i>
	12:00–1:00pm	Lunch			Main House

Day	Time	Title	Description	Speakers	Location
Sat	1:00–1:50pm	Affinity Space for White Friends	The White Affinity Group is for white people working to build antiracist practices and culture in themselves and their meetings.	Fran Brokaw	Upmeads
	1:00–1:50pm	Affinity Space for Friends of Color	Friends who are seen by the world as people of color are welcome to fellowship with one another in this space.	Rashid Darden	Waysmeet Living Room
	2:00–3:30pm	Anti-racist Practices for Beloved Community	Join Friends General Conference’s Ministry on Racism as we share about our practices for shaping an actively anti-racist organization and community.	Vanessa Juley, Hanae Togami, Linnea Halsten	Barn
	2:00–3:30pm	Everyday Spirituality, Everyday	Join FGC’s Spiritual Deepening Program in discovering strategies and tools for co-creating worshipful community, playful community, and virtual community.	Rachel Ernst Stahlut, nova george	Firbank Library Table Room
	4:00–5:30pm	Experimenting with Spirit in Our Lives: Discerning New Testimonies Together	What do you need to have or let go to stay aware of, and grounded in, Spirit in every moment? A Quaker, Mennonite, Catholic, and Muslim, traveling with Friends Peace Teams, will share how this approach to Quaker practice offers a universal foundation for creating loving, conscientious communities around the world.	Beth Collea, Nadine Hoover, with Kins Aparece, Nanik, Judith Nandikove, Petrus, and Ruwaidah	Barn
	4:00–5:30pm	Wait for It: Designing Quakerism for the Future <i>(This same workshop is also offered on Sunday)</i>	Learn how to use design thinking to facilitate continuing revelation. Spirituality and innovation will collide as participants discover tools (both new and timeless) to create a Quakerism that will last for generations, transcending the societal ills which plague us, namely racism and classism.	Rashid Darden	Firbank Library Table Room
	4:00–5:30pm	Ministry of Space <i>(This same workshop is also offered on Sunday)</i>	How can Quakers re-envision the spaces under our stewardship to make them dynamic tools of our mission and testimony? Join Friends in answering this query with hands-on activities, brainstorming, and discussions.	Todd Drake, Jen Newman, Anton Flores-Maisonet	Firbank Art Studio
	6:00–7:00pm	Dinner			Main House

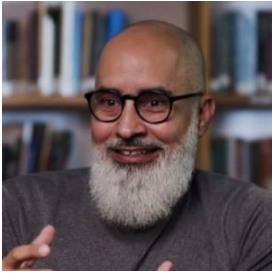
Day	Time	Title	Description	Speakers	Location
Sat	7:30–9:00pm	Art Session - Creatively Discerning and Navigating an Unfolding Journey	We will engage in a visual art experience to practice our spiritual discernment skills, and we will worship share on themes of safety, courage, curiosity, and how creative discernment can augment our good work in the world. This visual art program is for Friends of little-to-no art-making experience through advanced artists. All are welcome! Aprons/smocks available.	Jesse White	Firbank Art Studio
	7:30-8:15pm	“The Reluctant Patient”	The Religious Society of Friends is feeling depressed. Things just aren't working the way they used to. It's time to go see the Doctor at G.O.D Medical Associates, for another check-up. The troubled Quaker patient describes a long list of recurring symptoms to the Good Doctor. Some tests are prescribed to see what might be at the “root” of these problems. See what happens next in this original, tongue-in-cheek production.	The Pendle Hill Desperation Players. (Chris Stern, Galen Schram, and Yasmine Lee)	Barn
	8:30–9:30pm	Game Night	Explore Pendle Hill’s collection of games!	Spring Term Students	Main House Dining Room
Sun	7:15-8:00am	Musical Tai Chi	Spiritual movement experience.	Makaan Burt	Library Large Room
	7:30–8:30am	Breakfast			Main House
	8:30–9:15am	Meeting for Worship			Barn
	9:30–9:50 am	Quaker Coalition for Uprooting Racism Info Session (optional)	A brief information session about QCUR, a group dedicated to ending white supremacy within the Religious Society of Friends, in Quaker schools and organizations, and in our wider communities.	Linnea Halsten, Lauren Brownlee, Frances Kreimer and other QCUR members	Barn

Day	Time	Title	Description	Speakers	Location
Sun	10:00–11:30am	Immersion in Languages of Place and Signs: Baptism into the Tongues of Our Spiritual Home and Witness	What Language will be spoken and dwelt-in by A People To Be Gathered Today? How can we make it welcoming enough to seekers and newcomers to be worth their efforts of immersion? How could we immerse ourselves in the language needed to sustain a dynamic relationship to earlier Quakers?	Benigno Sánchez-Eppler	Firbank Library Fireplace Room
	10:00–11:00am	Quaker Coalition for Uprooting Racism Worship Sharing	Worship sharing with attention to the queries: <i>*How might my spiritual community deepen my connection and commitment to racial justice?</i> <i>* How might my racial justice journey help transform my spiritual community?</i>	Linnea Halsten, Lauren Brownlee, Frances Kreimer and other QCUR members	Barn
	10:00–11:30am	Open Art Session	All are welcome to explore the art studio at their leisure during this time.		Firbank Art Studio
	12:00–1:00pm	Lunch with Seed Groups	Queries for consideration <i>What is the role of breaking bread in community?</i> <i>How do we balance physical and online gathering?</i> <i>What is alive for you in this weekend?</i>		Main House Dining Room (at numbered Seed Pod tables)
	1:00–1:50pm	Affinity Space for White Friends	The White Affinity Group is for white people working to build antiracist practices and culture in themselves and their meetings.	Fran Brokaw	Upmeads
	1:00–1:50pm	Affinity Space for Friends of Color	Friends who are seen by the world as people of color are welcome to fellowship with one another in this space.	Rashid Darden	Waysmeet Living Room
	2:00–3:30pm	Creating Cultures of Beloved Community within Quaker Institutions	In this workshop we will explore how both within and beyond Quaker spaces, Quaker principles and practices can support the strength of communities.	Lauren Brownlee	Firbank Library Table Room
	2:00–3:30pm	The Spiritual Consequences of Scarcity Thinking	Join us as we explore how we can transform our relationship with money to nurture Beloved Community and Prophetic Witness among Friends and rescue Quakerism.	Lori Pineiro Sinitzky	Barn

Day	Time	Title	Description	Speakers	Location
Sun	4:00–5:30pm	Acting in Beloved Community with AFSC & FCNL	In this workshop, we'll offer and brainstorm different ways you can work with AFSC and FCNL to advance Quaker action grounded in shared vision and community. These opportunities for involvement are perfect for engaging your Quaker meeting or church in collective action.	Sofia Di Pietro, Bobby Trice	Firbank Library Fireplace Room
	4:00–5:30pm	Wait for It: Designing Quakerism for the Future <i>(This same workshop is also offered on Saturday)</i>	Learn how to use design thinking to facilitate continuing revelation.	Rashid Darden	Upmeads
	4:00–5:30pm	Ministry of Space <i>(This same workshop is also offered on Saturday)</i>	How can Quakers re-envision the spaces under our stewardship to make them dynamic tools of our mission and testimony? Join Friends in answering this query with hands-on activities, brainstorming, and discussions.	Todd Drake, Jen Newman, Anton Flores-Maisonet	Firbank Art Studio
	6:00–7:00pm	Dinner			Main House
	7:30–9:00pm	Art Session – Weaving a Beloved Community: Holding Space	In the context of the Beloved Community as Prophetic Witness program, workshop participants will engage in worshipful and communal circular weaving to create one woven symbol of holding space for one another in the beloved community.	Lynda Grace	Firbank Art Studio
	7:30–9:00pm	<i>The Seed: Conversations for Radical Hope</i>	Listening and feedback session with Pendle Hill's podcast host, Dwight Dunston.		Barn
	7:30–10:00pm	Coffee House	Share fellowship, music, and poetry as led!		Main House Dining Room

Day	Time	Title	Description	Speakers	Location
Mon	7:15-8:00am	Musical Tai Chi	Spiritual movement experience.	Makaan Burt	Library Large Room
	7:30-8:30am	Breakfast			Main House
	8:30-9:15am	Meeting for Worship			Barn
	10:00-10:45	Seed Groups	Queries for consideration <i>What has grown here that you want to bring to your beloved communities?</i> <i>What opportunities for further connection and collaboration might be possible?</i>		Seed Pods (see map)
	11:00-11:30am	Closing Session	A session to say goodbye and carry our learning forward.	Lori Pineiro Sinitzky, Frances Kreimer	Barn
	12:00-1:00pm	Lunch			Main House

Leader Bios – Alphabetical by First Name



Anton Flores-Maisonet is the founding director of Casa Alternativa, a ministry offering hospitality, accompaniment, and assistance to individuals and families from over 50 countries seeking asylum in the United States. Anton also serves as the Friend-in-Residence at the Atlanta Friends Meeting and is a spiritual director, writer, speaker, husband, and father.



Benigno Sánchez-Eppler (Carroll Scholar) worshiped with Quakers for the first time in 1981 and soon became a member of the Religious Society of Friends at Homewood Friends in Baltimore Yearly Meeting in the mid-1980s. During the 1990s he joined Northampton Monthly Meeting and worked with Friends in Cuba and New England to create a sister yearly meeting. Benigno has traveled in the ministry among Friends in Cuba, Peru, Bolivia, Central America, US Pacific Northwest, Rwanda, and Ireland. He teaches at Amherst College, and at the Cuban Quaker Peace Institute of Cuba Yearly Meeting. Together with Susan Furry he is a founding co-editor and translator for raicescuaqueras.org, an online library of Quaker classics in Spanish. Three decades of work as interpreter and translator for the Friends World Committee for Consultation led to his service as Co-Clerk and Field Elder for the 2014 Quaker Youth Pilgrimage in Peru and Bolivia, and to his work as Clerk for FWCC Section of the Americas from 2015-2019.



Beth Collea is a member of Dover (NH) Friends Meeting in NEYM and serves on the Steering Circle of the Quaker Religious Education Collaborative (QREC). She served New England YM as Religious Education and Outreach Coordinator for fourteen years and also served Wellesley Friends Meeting as Religious Education Coordinator for eight years. She carries a concern for Quaker families, faith formation in the home, and Quaker Outreach



Beverly Ward is the field secretary for Earthcare of Southeastern Yearly Meeting. She has taught several courses at the University of South Florida where she also worked as a faculty member in a research center. Her experience includes conducting research and providing technical assistance to communities and local state and federal agencies on environmental and social justice, housing, and transportation issues. Her publications include *Making Black Communities Matter: Race, Space, and Resistance in the Urban South*. She is the Equity in Transportation Committee research coordinator at the Transportation Research Board. Beverly is an experiential workshop facilitator trained in conflict transformation, mediation, and strategies on healing for trauma and the Alternatives to Violence Project. She is a member of Tampa Monthly Meeting and an attender of Deland Worship Group. Beverly lives on lands once inhabited by the Timucua (Ocklawaha River Watershed) and the Tocobaga (Hillsborough Bay Watershed).



Bobby Trice is FCNL's Quaker engagement program manager. In this role, he cultivates relationships with Friends and coordinates FCNL staff and volunteer engagement with Quaker communities across the country. Bobby is passionate about supporting Quakers' spirit-led advocacy, communicating across political divides, and building relationships to make change within and beyond Congress. Bobby is a member of Friends Meeting of Washington (Baltimore Yearly Meeting), attends Three Rivers Meeting (NEYM), and serves on the Board of Managers of the Beacon Hill Friends House.



Frances Kreimer is the Education Director of Pendle Hill. She previously taught and directed Villanova University Law School's Clinic for Asylum, Refugee, and Emigrant Services, focusing on mental health, trauma healing, and movement lawyering.



Francisco Burgos is the executive director at Pendle Hill and has facilitated spiritual retreats and *lectio divina* sessions for many audiences. Francisco was a De La Salle Christian Brother for almost ten years, serving in Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Costa Rica, and has been a Friend since 2004. He is a member of Harrisburg Friends Meeting and an attender of meetings including Monteverde Friends Meeting in Costa Rica and Adelphi Friends Meeting in Maryland.



Hanae Togami (she/her, White/Japanese descent) is FGC's Ministry on Racism as the Program Manager. She grew up attending Lexington Friends Meeting in Lexington, Kentucky, and was active in the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting teen program. She attended Haverford College where she majored in Biology and worked in the Quaker Affairs Office. She lives in Philadelphia.



Jennifer Newman is a Quaker, theologian, writer, activist, and currently the Program Manager at Beacon Hill Friends House. She is a member of Beacon Hill Friends Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting, holds a Master of Theological Studies from Vanderbilt Divinity School, and spent several years working in advocacy around human rights, the public interest, and the environment before coming to BHFH. In addition to her work, Jen writes for the Barclay Press Illuminate series and serves on the NEYM host committee for gatherings on spiritual life and ministry.



Jesse White is a narrative expressionist visual artist and writer. She is the author of Pendle Hill Pamphlet #468, *God's Invitation to Creative Play*. Her essay "Divine Creative Guidance and the Body" was published in the October 2022 issue of *Friends Journal*. A long-time teaching artist, she also has a work history in expressive arts therapy, and paper and books conservation. Jesse served as the Arts & Spirituality Coordinator for Pendle Hill from 2013-2020 and currently serves as the Director and Spiritual Arts Doula for Pigeon Arts. -Jesse currently serves as eldering clerk of Frankford Monthly Meeting of Friends (PA) and as clerk of the board of the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts.



Lauren Brownlee (she/her) is FCNL's inaugural Associate General Secretary for Community and Culture and the leader of the organization's new Community and Culture team. In this role, she offers strategic support to FCNL's young adult program, Quaker outreach, human resources, and Friends Place on Capitol Hill. She helps to steward FCNL's shared anti-racism, anti-bias, justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion commitments. Lauren joins the FCNL staff after serving on FCNL's General Committee beginning in 2017 and its Executive Committee from 2019-2022. She has also served on the boards of Sandy Spring Friends School, DC Peace Team, the National Farm Worker's Ministry, the Central Committee for Friends General Conference, and the Program Committee for Quakers Uprooting Racism. Before coming to FCNL, Lauren was the upper school head at Carolina Friends School and, before that, the director of social action at Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart.



Linnea Halsten (she/they, White) is FGC's Ministry on Racism Associate. She has been with FGC for just over two years. Her introduction to Quakerism was through being a Quaker Voluntary Service fellow after college in Atlanta where she worked at a Racial Equity nonprofit doing Equitable Development work. Her calling is to continue to live into, explore, and build community around the intersection of spirituality and racial justice. While she practices primarily Buddhism in Thich Nhat Hanh's tradition, she admires Quaker's practice of engaging their faith in social justice. She lives on Dakota and Anishinaabe land in Minneapolis, MN.



Lori Pineiro Sinitzky (she) is a Quaker, educator, and big-picture (over)thinker who's been designing and facilitating Quaker and antiracism programs for over 20 years. With experience in Friends schools' classrooms, as a First Day School teacher, workshop facilitator, and Quaker organization employee, Lori seeks to accompany Friends through understanding how racism and other kinds of bias are woven through North American Quaker practices. She works to help Friends develop ways to identify and interrupt harmful behaviors and practices in their Quaker community. Lori brings her identity as a white multiethnic, multicultural, cis-gender woman into her work. She lives with the privileges of a white woman but is enriched by her experiences as the child of a Puerto Rican mother and a Jewish father who is a survivor of the Holocaust in Europe. Lori has a BFA in Painting from Moore College of Art and Design and a certificate in K-5 education. She is a member of Green Street Meeting in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and lives in Philadelphia with her two children on the unceded land of the Lenni Lenape people.



Lynda Grace Black is a visual artist whose aesthetic is informed in part by her dad's activism and her grandmother's knitting and crochet lessons. Her crocheted vessels, paper collages and knitted assemblages are an expression of some of the stories we have yet to know and some of the ones we need to unlearn. Lynda's work has been shown in numerous Philadelphia area venues, including The Colored Girls Museum, Seed on Diamond Gallery, University City Arts League, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. An occasional DIY public space artist, she placed several crocheted vessels in trees in Philadelphia, St. Helena, Savannah, Berlin and London to represent lynchings and other government sanctioned brutality and murder. Among other publications, Lynda's work is featured in the book *Making Good: An Inspirational Guide to Being an Artist Craftsman*. Lynda serves on FGC's Friends of Color Worship Sharing Planning Committee, attends Cherry Street Monthly Meeting, Ujima Meeting and is a member of Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts.



Nadine Hoover is a longtime Friend, graduate of George School and Friends World College, former Secretary of Southeastern Yearly Meeting, manager of the FGC Bookstore, and Traveling Friend recognized by SEYM and then NYYM. Founder of Friends Peace Teams' Asia West Pacific. Author of *Walking in the World as a Friend with Quaker Religious Education Collaborative*; *Creating Cultures of Peace*, an Alternatives to Violence (AVP) special topic series; and AVP Manuals on Trauma Healing and Discernment; as well as editor of the *Power of Goodness*.



nova george (all pronouns) is a wonderer and poet interested in worship and the ways faith informs imaginings and realities regarding community, belonging, and inclusion. nova's eyes light up in conversation about the role of technology in spiritual education, liberation theologies, black literature as sacred text, and everyday ritual and spiritual practice. you might find nova lounging in a Brooklyn café having a cup of herbal tea, singing to a tree from their patio, or dreaming about the world they hope to co-create with all of you.



Rachel Ernst Stahlhut (she/her) is the coordinator of FGC's Spiritual Deepening Program and the presiding clerk of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. She has traveled in the ministry with a concern for outreach and deepening the spiritual vitality of meetings and individuals. Rachel lives with her family in Cincinnati, where she spends her time browsing antique malls, sitting on the porch, and hosting game nights with friends.



Rashid Darden is an award-winning, best-selling novelist of the urban LGBT experience, a seasoned leader of Black fraternal movements and nonprofit organizations, and a professional educator in alternative schools. He lives in rural Northeastern North Carolina. He worships with Friends Meeting of Washington (Baltimore Yearly Meeting). From 2021 to 2022, he convened the Transatlantic Friends Worship Group, which, for 52 consecutive weeks, centered the spirit-led leadership of people of color as an essential element of the Quaker testimony of justice. He has been Clerk of the Fellowship of Friends of African Descent since 2021 and works as Communications Manager for Friends General Conference.



Ruth Darlington is a member of Medford Monthly Meeting in New Jersey. Since retiring in 2017, she has made addressing climate change her work. Ruth has worked with Medford Meeting's climate change group, Phila. Yearly Meeting's Eco Justice Collaborative, Quaker Earthcare Witness, Medford's Green Team, the GreenFaith chapter of southern New Jersey, and several local non-profits to reduce GHGs, address environmental injustice, and protect vital habitat.



Sofia Di Pietro is AFSC's Quaker Engagement Coordinator. Through this role she manages the AFSC liaison program and fosters relationships with Friends, Meetings & Churches, and Quaker organizations. Sofia has a passion for social justice and amplifying & accompanying the voices of those in our most impacted communities. Sofia is not currently affiliated with a Meeting but grew up in the Quaker tradition and was an attender of Housatonic Friends Meeting (NYYM).



Todd Drake (he/him) is a Friend and member of Brooklyn Monthly Meeting. He is an artist, activist, and educator and currently co-manages the Penington Friends House in New York City along with his wife, Robin Drake (she, her). Together, they shepherded the Penington through the Covid Pandemic and consequentially discovered the hidden strength and value of living in community in times of crisis. Todd is also a practicing artist. His social justice focused art has taken him all over the world including the Middle East, Turkey, and Palestine. Drake's most recent work includes a linocut series on the Pandemic and on Global Warming. You can see his work at www.the-equalist.com.



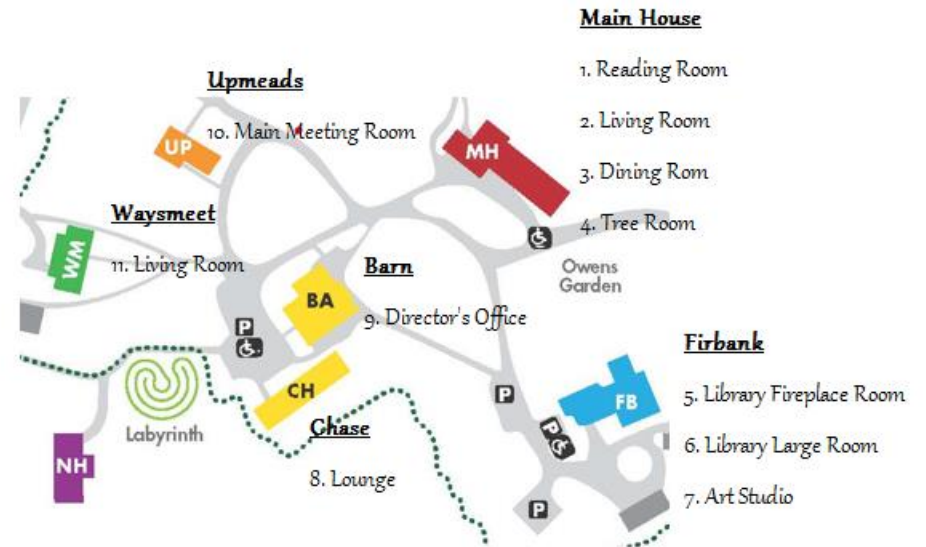
Vanessa Julye is the Ministry on Racism Program Coordinator and the Youth Ministries Program Coordinator at FGC. She first worked with FGC as a volunteer in 1994, she has been an FGC staff member for eleven years. She created the Ministry on Racism program within FGC which has expanded to offer retreats for Friends of Color, weekly virtual worships and spaces for Fellowship for Friends of color, public facing offerings for anti-racism work, internal programming and committees to address racism. In her time working for FGC she has been excited to see how the instigation of a Pre-Gathering People of Color retreat has built support for People of Color at Gathering.



Windy Cooler, assistant clerk of Sandy Spring (Md.) Meeting, describes herself as a practical theologian, public minister, good Quaker pirate, and cultural worker. She has been an embraced public minister since 2018, traveling widely among Friends with a concern for communities in crisis and Quaker family life. She is currently the convener of Testimonies to Mercy, a seven-part traveling retreat series on the future of Quakerism, as well as Life and Power, a discernment project on abuse. Along with her spouse, she is coeditor of Friends Journal's News section. Windy is the Pendle Hill 2020 Cadbury Scholar, a 2022 fellow of the interfaith NGO Odyssey Impact, and a current doctoral candidate at Lancaster Theological Seminary. She holds a master of divinity from Earlham School of Religion.

Seed Groups

As we experiment together with different modes of building community, we have assigned participants to seed groups, to accompany each other and share learnings and curiosities. Your seed group number is on the back of your name tag on a green sticker. On Saturday morning and Monday morning, we will invite your groups to meet in the locations marked on this map.



Continuing to Learn Together



Your feedback is invaluable to our experiment in spiritual learning community!

At the end of your time with us, please share your reactions in our survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QuakerInstitute>, or by scanning the QR Code.